

CIVIL WAR ARTICLES

-taken from the Wabasha Herald

*compiled by
Ron Manzow*

Forward

The following booklet was compiled using articles from the Wabasha County Herald newspaper. Several letters were written home from the Civil War and published by Mr. Stevens, editor of the Herald. Those letters, along with several news accounts, make up this booklet.

Although some of the writers were identified only by an initial, several were signed, among those being several letters by James Kirkman who was a hospital steward for the First Minnesota. His insights add to the drama of the war from a unique perspective of a hospital worker.

There are letters from the Minnesota 1st , 3d, and 5th, along with others included. Most of them are from the early years of the war due to the fact of the many missing issues of the paper in the later war years.

It is my hope that this data can be of value to those interested in this time period.

Ron Manzow
February 2002

Civil War Articles

-taken from the Wabasha Herald Newspaper

May 1, 1861

Departure of the Wabashaw County Volunteers

Although the steamer Milwaukee arrived at our wharf two hours before the usual time, all the members of the company from this portion of the county, 42, were ready and took passage for Fort Snelling, under Capt. Pell, who had been indefatigable in exertion every moment since his arrival from Washington last Tuesday.

The following is a list of the officers of Co. A. Wabasha Co. Volunteers

Capt. John H. Pell- Elgin

1st Lie. Joseph Harley- Lake City

2nd Lie. Charles B. Hallsey- Minneiska

1st Serg. James Kirkman- Wabasha

2nd. Serg. Geo. Atkinson- Lake City

3rd Serg. L.M. Phillips- Central Point

4th Serg. Thomas Moore- Wabasha

Corporal- J.E. Foorow-Lake City, Daniel Weaver- Minneiska, Elias Howard-Wabasha, John C. Stout- Lake City and Butler Geo. H. Ollins-Lake City.

May 11, 1861

Full list of the Volunteers Wabasha County

May 15, 1861

Capt. Pell will be in town in a few days to establish a recruiting office, to receive volunteers for three years service.

Plainview item- The people of Plainview have raised a liberty pole with a flag eight by 16 feet, streaming from its peak. The flag was made by the union ladies of that town.

An independent company to be called the "Plainview Guards" is about being formed under the auspices and command of Capt. F. Trace.

May 22, 1861

Capt. Pell returned to St. Paul yesterday morning, without having accomplished his purpose of filling his company. We fear Wabasha County will not be represented in the regiment by a full company.

May 29, 1861

The Company Full!

We are happy to learn that Co. I, Capt. Pell, is now full. We are sorry that its ranks were not filled from our own county, but since that could not be done at present until after harvest, we are glad that it's ranks are filled and the company accepted.

September 18, 1861

Army Letters

The following letters were received Chas. Nunn, Esq., who has kindly favored us

with copies for publication. The first is from a private in Captain Pell's company of the Minnesota 1st., and the other from the Orderly Serg't of the Dunn Co. Wis. rifles and though intended for private perusal, will be found highly interesting to the general reader:

Camp Stone, Headquarters 1st Minn.

Regiment, Edward's Ferry, Upper Potomac, Md. September 5th, '61

FRIEND NENN:- Having just come off from outline picket, and having nothing to do today, I thought I wo'd "drop you a line." I am getting lonesome to hear from home. You cannot imagine how much it inspires a soldier with courage to hear from his friends, especially from those to whom he has long been bound by ties of love and association.

I live well, am well clothes and fed, and am much more happy than I tho't I should be, enjoying good health and always fit for duty. We are on the eve of another great battle, which will probably take place in this vicinity. If I live through it I will write you the news immediately.

Thirty of our men had a fight with a hundred seceshers on the 25th ult. at Conrad's Ferry. They had two cannons, and commenced firing across the Potomac, but our guns were too long shotted for them, and in three hours they had to run and leave their cannon, after having had two killed and several wounded. We had no boats to go over after their guns and they came back under cover of night and took them off. Kirkman, John Hickey and Duke, of Wabashaw, and Ben Lent, of Lake City, were among the sharp shooters who drove them off. I wanted to go but was too late, as they were all picked out. We had only one man slightly hurt, tho' the shot fell among them thick and fast.

The men of our regiment are in good spirits, and with the exception of the measles which prevails to some extent, in good health.

The rebels sent over a flag of truce the other day, and both agreed not to fire on each other's pickets, so we talk together across the river. Their pickets have a seine and not having men enough to draw it, they told our pickets they would give them half the fish if they would go over and help them. They were politely informed we were after bigger game.

Herman Lawson.

September 18, 1861

Virginia, Near Chain Bridge

September 7th, 1861

FRIENDS NUN AND SMITH:- I wrote you on the 3d that we were not expecting to advance, but soon after I mailed my letter the long roll was heard, which is the call for us to rally and march, which we did all night, going through Georgetown, crossing the Potomac over Chain Bridge, to our present encampment, about two miles from the bridge, where we were fortifying ourselves and planting the big guns, which command the country for miles around. Our division is engaged in cutting down timber and digging entrenchments. We have really commenced in good faith for a big fight. The secessionists are on the forward march for this point, and are now within five or six miles of us.

Gen. Smith has command of this division and he has selected from our regiment one Lieutenant, a Mr. Bennett, one sergeant, myself, and seven privates as scouts, whose business it is to go in advance of our picked guard and take observations to find out the enemy's quarters. We have run onto their pickets and calvary and know just where they are and preparations are being made to surround them and take them. (Here follows a graphic description of Capt. Strong's recent escape, substantially as we published it last week.-ED)

We have been within four miles of Fairfax Court House, across the enemy's lines, and have seen 15 to 30 of their cavalry, but were not seen by them.

We have plenty of artillery, infantry, and cavalry, and good officers and there is no doubt but we will come off victorious every time. We are called out in line of battle every night and sleep on our arms and are always in readiness to march at any time.

Yours truly,

M.W. HELLER

October 2, 1861

Yesterday about noon, a company of 24 men under the leadership of E.B. Eddy of Plainview, composed of residents of Plainview and Elgin, came into this city and left for St. Paul today to join E.Y. Shelley's light cavalry company. An attempt was made to induce them to join the infantry company, which would then have been full to the maximum number, but they preferred to go with the cavalry. Though we certainly should have been pleased if they had joined our own county company, we appreciated their patriotic motives none the less. The following is a list of the cavalry recruits:

E.B. Eddy, Frank Messer, Howard Goss, Z.C. Goss, J.R. Smith, M. Smith, E.J. Oakes, C.D. Gibbs, J.D. Flanagan, Louis Smith, W. Barnard, E.F. Andrews, M. Cross, A.T. Dearborn, James Clarkson, Jasen D. Rowe, J.S. Howe, L. Fosdick, A.C. Leavith, G.W. Mack, A. Bigham, W. McGee, Abraham Miles, Jas. Gilbert.

November 16, 1861

DEPARTURE OF THE THIRD REGIMENT

The Third Regiment was to have started from Fort Snelling for Louisville, Ky. on Thursday, as we announced in our Wednesday's issue, but Government failed to secure transportation; but the St. Paul papers announce positively that they will take their departure from the Fort this morning on board steamers provided for that purpose, and will proceed down the river without unnecessary delay. This will probably bring them to this point in good season this evening. The boat having Capt. Foster's company on board will stop at our levee long enough to allow the friends of the volunteers to bid them good-bye. Our loyal-hearted ladies have prepared a bountiful supply of eatables for our boys and before the campaign is ended they will testify through the Ladies' Volunteer Aid Society, that though absent they are not forgotten. Large numbers of people are in the city from Highland, Plainview, and the Western portion of the county, waiting to bid farewell and God speed, perhaps for the last time, to those who have gallantly volunteered to protect our liberties.

November 20, 1861

DEPARTURE OF THE THIRD REGIMENT

On Saturday, according to previous announcement, the Third Regiment took their departure for Louisville, Ky. on Saturday last. Owing to the delay occasioned by one of the boats sticking on a bar between the Fort and St. Paul, they did not reach St. Paul till noon. For this reason they did not reach this city till one o'clock Sunday morning; but notwithstanding the unreasonableness of the hour, a crowd of at least three hundred persons had assembled to greet them. A large bonfire had been prepared and as the boat approached it was fired and spread a cheerful glow over surrounding objects, and lighted up scene, rendering it easy for friends to distinguish one another. The boat stopped but fifteen or twenty minutes, but those few minutes were well improved by the boys in taking leave of their fathers, mothers, sisters,

brothers, wives, children or sweethearts, and many were the tender partings a description of which we shall not attempt. While the members of the company were thus engaged, a committee appointed for that purpose, conveyed on board sundry boxes of provisions prepared by our ladies for the comfort of Capt. Foster's company on their trip, together with a barrel of apples contributed by the gentlemen. The partings over, the good byes said, and the boat pushed out into the stream with her precious burden, while on the clear night air run out from our gallant company "three cheers for Wabashaw," which were returned from the shore by "three cheers and a God speed for the Wabashaw company." Though the manly tear glistened in many an eye, all left with a cheerful alacrity which bespoke an earnest determination in the work before them.

Though the Third has not enjoyed the advantages of the First and Second Minnesota Regiments, we are now sure that it will sustain the world wide reputation for brave deeds and gallant bearing achieved by them, and certainly Captain Foster and his company will not be out done by any of their compeers.

November 27, 1861

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT

Particulars of their Journey- Presentation of a Sword to Captain Foster by his Company- Arrival at Louisville, Ky. &c, &c.

Camp Todd, Ky. November 21st

EDITOR HERALD:- We arrived here day before yesterday, (Tuesday), and this being the first leisure moment I have had since arriving, I will through your columns inform our friends in Wabasha county, where we are and the particulars of our journey hither.

We left Fort Snelling last Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Everything was placed on board, and were on the "Northern Belle" steamed away, leaving the other boats behind. We soon arrived at St. Paul, the other boats having overtaken us, the Regiment left the boats and marched from the upper to the lower levee, where we again took the boats. Nothing of importance to our company transpired until reaching that place so dear to many of us and to see so many at the landing at that time of night, told us that we were still and should be remembered. Our boat did not land again until reaching La Crosse the next morning at 8 o'clock. Before going farther, let me here mention that the officers of the Northern Belle have the thanks of the members of company "G" for furnishing them with breakfast on the morning of our arrival in LaCrosse.

About 12 o'clock everything was in readiness and we marched aboard the cars and started on our journey. At every town we passed, crowds stood at the depots waving handkerchief and cheering at the top of their voices and at one or two places cannon were fired off.

About 6 o'clock PM we arrived at Portage City, where we were to receive our supper and such a supper it was too. I will warrant that no church was held there on that day. The citizens came through the cars with hot coffee, bread, sandwiches, pies and cakes, which, to us, after having fasted since morning, was most welcome. God bless the Ladies of Portage, they will always be remembered by the "3rd" and when we return I think some of the young ladies of that place can have an opportunity of joining for life with any of our single men. When we again started, night had come on, and each one fixed himself for a sleep. I of course did the same, and on waking up in the morning, we were just entering Chicago. We were soon at the Depot of C. and N.W. R.R., and leaving the cars formed in line, and with the Chicago Light Guard Band as an escort, we marched through the city to the Depot of the Michigan Central Railroad.

After taking seats in the cars, hot coffee was distributed to the men while the officers breakfasted at the Sherman House upon an invitation of the officers the road.

By 10 o'clock we were underway again. Shortly after leaving Chicago, a pleasing incident occurred, which by the members of company "G" will always be remembered. It was the presentation of an elegant sword, sash, and belt to our worthy Captain, by the members of his company. A few remarks were made by Lieut. Devereaux and J.K. Arnold and Captain Foster, who was somewhat surprised and overcome with emotion, replied in a few remarks which have now escaped my memory else I would give them. The sword is superior to any in the Regiment and the only one that has been presented by a company.

Our next stopping place was at Michigan City, Indiana, thence to Lafayette, where we again received some hot coffee and bread. The citizens were sorry they had not known of our coming sooner, as they would have given us another Portage supper. We were soon under way again, and passed Indianapolis during the night. Morning found us coming into Jeffersonville, Indiana, opposite Louisville, Ky. We had come from LaCrosse and changed cars but once, that at Chicago. At Jeffersonville we received more coffee, bread and broiled beef, after which we proceeded to the ferry boat and crossed to Louisville, Ky. Would that I could describe the many incidents which transpired on the march through the city. At every house men, women, and children, Negroes, included, stood waving handkerchiefs, flags, sheets (not shirts remember), &c, &c, and cheering for the Union. One old colored woman stood on a corner, hanging to a lamp post with one hand, in the other waving a tin pan and shouting "The Union or Death" caused considerable laughing in our ranks. We were marched to the grounds of the Louisville and Nashville Road, where we received coffee, warm bread, &c, &c-

After we were filled to the brim, our knapsacks were slung and we resumed our march to this camp, which is four miles from the city. Near us are camped the 19th Ohio Regiment, the Michigan City Battery and a Cavalry company. Our first night here I was on guard, and for weapons we had Colt's Revolvers, there being but two muskets in the Regiment, as yet-

While on guard it rained and blew as though all "secesh" was bound to be blown away and the 3rd along with it. The next morning however, it came off clear and beautiful and while I write the sun shines into my tent, making it quite warm and pleasant. The first night we passed here, the box of good things received on our passage down was opened and distributed to the company for supper, first giving three cheers for the Ladies who donated the same.

I have drawn my letter to some length, and will close till some other time when I will try and describe our camp, camp life &c, &c. We shall probably remain here a month or more. To those friends at home who wish to write to us, I will say that our address is

Care Capt. Foster 3d Reg.
Minnesota Volunteers.
Louisville, Kentucky
Will write again soon.
Hastily Yours, PRIVATE

December 18, 1861

FROM THE FIRST REGIMENT

Camp Stone, Md., Dec. 7th, '61

EDITOR HERALD:- A plentiful shower of commissions fell on this regiment last evening. The recipients were sergeant Major C. Ed. Davis, to be 2d Lieut. in company "I", vice C.B. Halsey resigned. Lieutenants Holzbaur and Perriam of company "K", the former to be Captain vice Lester promoted; the latter to be 1st Lieut. vice Holzbaur, the First Sergeant Ball to be 2d Lieut. vice Perriam- Second Lieut. Muller of company "B", to be 1st Lieut, vice Thomas promoted. There was a general rejoicing in Camp over the

good fortune of the parties interested. Our Sergeant Major is John Peller from company "A", said to be a fine business man. There is no position in the Regiment more responsible than that of Sergeant Major, nor one where so much work has to be done.

The full strength of our Regiment at present is 951, officers and men.- The effective strength, (exclusive of teamsters, extra duty men and others) is 773 enlisted men. We are now in the most effective condition we have been at any time since the battle of Bull Run. Our company numbers 91 enlisted men, and three commissioned officers. We have only one sick man in the Hospital, and he is rapidly recovering.

We are having the most disagreeable kind of weather, freezing hard at night and thawing out during the day, making drilling a bore and coughs and colds the fashion. If we are put on double quick for only five minutes, and then brought to a halt, you hear nothing but a continual barking, as the boys call it, for the next five minutes. The roads are also in bad condition, and the teamsters who now have to haul forage for fifteen to twenty miles, find it the hardest kind of work to be able to take anything like a respectable load.

It is still an unsettled question whether we go into winter quarters.- There are two rumors in camp in regard to our destination, both of them from reliable sources of course. The first, that we are to go to Kentucky to take part in the campaign as soon as spring opens; the other, that we are to go to South Carolina. In regard to the first, we would all like to go there, as the other Regiments from our own loved state are there, for among them we all have friends and brothers, by whose side we would like to fight; but the second I think would, as a general thing, suit and please the men better. We would sooner have an opportunity of once more meeting our foes and then South Carolina, the first State to secede, would have a chance to know and feel how much we hate and despise her treachery and falseness to the Flag of our Country. Of the two, I believe the latter rumor, which we hope will prove true, finds the most supporters; but I think that Spring will find us doing duty on the banks of the Potomac.

There is a large oven being built; also a building for hospital purposes and several other improvements going on indicating, if not for a certainty at least for an unsettled fact, that we are to remain here.

There has been an order issued instructing the building of block houses along the line of pickets on the Potomac, for comfort and defense. The Potomac freezes hard enough to allow persons to cross it, and doubtless there will be attempts made by both parties to annoy each other as much as possible.

Everything in warlike remains in quietness, and there will not be any fighting done around here for some indefinite time.

The boys are in the best of spirits,

Yours,

WABASHAW

January ?, 1862

LETTER from Ass't Surgeon Milligan.- Mrs. J.J. Stone, corresponding secretary of our Soldier's Aid Society, hands u the following letter from Ass't. Surgeon Mulligan, in reply to her note announcing the shipment of our box of goods to the Third Regiment. It will be read with interest by all:

Head Quarters, Camp Dana, Belmont

Furnace, Nashville and Louisville

R.R. December 28th, 1861

My Dear Madame: Your letter of the 23d last, referring to the shipment of a box of goods for the hospital of the Third Minnesota Regiment has just reached me. The goods which the ladies of your society have so kindly furnished are well selected, and

when they arrive I know they will be highly valued by the sick of our Regiment in the Hospital.

Allow me, my dear madam, to thank the ladies of your society for their prompt action in endeavoring to relieve some of our wants, and I assure you that I feel a glow of pride in coming from the town that was the very first to respond to aid those who have left friends, home and the endearments of civil life to aid in the protection of the laws of our glorious Union. Such women are worthy to be the descendants of the mothers of the Revolution.

We have 18 sick in the hospital, and 20 in quarters, but thus far, through the kind providence of God, we have lost none of our men.

Dr. Butler and myself have concluded to remove all our sick in the Regiment where we can better attend to their cases. Other regiments, however do not do this, but when they get a serious case send it immediately to the General Hospital, where the poor sufferer too often ends his earthly career.

We have the measles in camp but they are of a very light type. We use for our hospital a church and taking everything into consideration, I am happy to inform those who have friends in the Third that the health of the Regiment has been remarkable good. Far better than Dr. Butler and myself had anticipated.

You will present my very kind regards to the ladies of your society and believe me to be your friend.

FRANCIS H. MILLIGAN

Assistant Surgeon, Minn. Third

January 22, 1862

Wabasha, January 17th, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- Before leaving Louisville for home, I paid "our boys" (Company G) a visit. I found them, or rather a part of them, at Belmont, Furnace, which is 24 miles from Louisville on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and at present the Head Quarters of the Regiment. Twenty-four of our company, under Lieut. Devereaux, were at Bardstown Junction, 2 1/2 miles this side of Belmont, guarding a bridge at that place. The members of the Company with one or two exceptions, were all well. None were in the hospital; and those sick, had nothing more serious than the Mumps. Our Captain (Foster) had been very sick, but when I left, he was gaining his strength rapidly, and under the care of our old friend Dr. Milligan, will soon be in command of the company.

From four to six companies are away at different points on the road guarding the bridges, depots &c. &c. all the time. One company goes out and remains a week, when they are relieved by another and the first return to Head Quarters, and then the companies are under strict military discipline, drilling two hours in company drill every morning and the same length of time in Battalion drill in the afternoon. Evenings are devoted by the officers to instructions in drill from Col Lester.

The health of the Regiment is good; but fifteen patients being in the Hospital when I was there, while the Regiments from Ohio and Indiana have a great amount of sickness. Our Minnesota boys are all in good health and spirits.

The box of Hospitals stores from the Ladies of Wabasha had been received and just in time. Our sick were laying without pillows under their heads and nothing over them but a blanket. Many were the thanks from the sick when a pillow was placed under their heads and a blanket over them for the ladies of Wabasha. This was the first box received and we hope it will not be the last. Yours, &c. A.

February 1, 1862

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT- CAPT. FOSTER CONVALESCENT- A private letter from a member of Capt. Foster's company, brings the grateful intelligence that he is convalescent, and though yet weak, has paid his company a visit in camp, where he was almost overwhelmed by the joy of his men. Capt. F. is justly held in the greatest esteem by his military associates. An intimate acquaintance of more than three years enables us to bear cheerful testimony to his many good qualities.

The same letter brings the news that Perry D. Martin, Orderly Sergeant of Company G. has been reduced to the ranks on account of his drunkenness. Sergeant Major Phillips has also been reduced to the ranks for the same offense. Stephen Rhodes, formerly of this city, is acting Orderly.

The health of the Regiment is good at present, though there has been some two hundred cases of measles in camp.

They have received their Sibley tents and are now quite comfortably situated.

In speaking of the weather, the writer says; "The weather for three or four days past has been spring-like. The sun shines, the birds (robins) sing, the hens cackle, maple sugar comes into the camp and everything looks gay."

THE SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY is persevering in the good work before it, and have now another box of hospital stores nearly ready to send, similar in its contents to the first one. This is designed, we believe, for the Minnesota Second, which was so recently engaged in the fight at Somerset, and consequently must be much in need of the hundred and one necessaries it contains. Everything is completed and but little remains to be done but pack and send them. The ladies have contributed everything thus far, and now that it is to be sent off, a few dollars in money is rendered necessary to pay freight on it to its destination. We trust the gentlemen will not allow its departure to be hindered one moment for want of the needful.

We shall publish in our next a list of the articles in the box, together with the names of the donors.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at the residence of Mayor Lyon, on Thursday evening next. Every friend of the soldier is invited to attend.

February 1, 1862

RECRUITS FOR THE FIRST REGIMENT.- Burbank's coaches took down thirty-four recruits for the First Regiment this morning, and will bring twenty more tonight.

Lieut. Harley, we understand, has some fifteen or twenty recruits for Captain Pell's Co. where he is drilling at City Lake, and will send forward soon. H. Ash, of this city, is enrolling names for Lieut. H. and has already several. A visit from the Lieut. would greatly promote the enlistments here.

WAR CORRESPONDENCE- We have on file a communication from James Kirkman, formerly of this city, who is now Hospital Steward of the First Minnesota Regiment. It represents the health of the regiment as being good. He predicts an immediate advance, as he has been packing instruments, bandages and other hospital stores necessary for field service for two days before writing. He promises us a regular series of letters, giving a list of all hospital patients, as well as a general summary of news pertaining to the regiment and army. We shall publish his letter in our next issue.

February 15, 1862

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT

Head Quarters 3d Minn. Reg.

Camp Dana, Belmont, KY

February 4th, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- In the dull moments of camp life one can find but little to write about, which is either amusing or instructive, but in journeying from day to day, one continually sees something new which keeps up a kind of excitement and thus disposes of a great part of the time.

We have been in camp all winter. This town is our head quarters; it is an old manufacturing town and now nearly forsaken of its inhabitants. The manufacturing of Iron was commenced here about twenty years ago. It was found that the quality of iron produced was excellent and eight years ago the property passed into the hands of a company who improved the works, built new furnaces on larger plans, erected a large rolling mill, &c. The use of colored labor was changed and help from England and Germany was introduced. Neat cottages for the families of workmen, to the number of fifty were built, and everything went on swimmingly until about one year ago, when the steady decline in iron compelled the company to suspend. The workmen went to Louisville, and none but the agent and two families stayed. The place is in one of the pleasantest little nooks I ever saw. It is near the head of a little brook; the valley is about a 1/2 mile wide and on each side tall knells about 200 feet in height appear. The Louisville and Nashville Rail Road runs about 3/4 of a mile to the west. These cottages are all of similar style and shape. The chimneys are built on the outside which gives room to the house. The gardens now rank with grass and weeds, contain about 1/4 of an acre of land. Everything looks neat and tidy. A large brick building formerly used as an office and store house, is now occupied by the Col, and field officers. The streets are wide and some of them filled up with the rough, brittle and sharp pointed iron cinders, the intention being to cover with gravel sometime. The water of the brook here is considered very wholesome, fed as it is by numerous springs. We have occupied these houses and cottages until recently, an order has been issued to make this place a General Hospital for the sick. About 200 sick are expected here tomorrow. The companies have to live in tents after this.

Our work during the winter has been to guard the bridges, tanks, &c, &c, of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, from the town of Shepardsville on Salt River to Colesbury, at the foot of Muldraugh's Hill, also several miles of the LeBanon Rail Road; the extent is about 18 miles. It requires 4 companies and about 1/2 of another at a time, leaving nearly six companies here- while here the companies are instructed in drill, parades, &c. Battalion drill is especially attended to and strict discipline is also enforced. The companies are relieved from guard duty every week, and by changing around they remain here about 10 days each time. The regiment is therefore now pretty thoroughly drilled.

The health of the regiment has been good, except that the measles, mumps, &c. have prevailed to considerable extent. Company G were astounded to hear that Oliver O. Shurtleff was dead. He died last Monday morning. He was taken with the chills on Saturday, Sunday was quite sick; but we were not prepared to hear of his death Monday morning. He died of a congestive chill,- he was buried with military honors. This makes the third death in the regiment.

We have not been paid off yet, but expect to be this week. Uncle Samivel ought to be more punctual.

The 2d Regiment have covered themselves with glory. I reckon our turn will come sometime- we all hope so anyhow. We are expecting to change arms, soon. This

looks like moving on. The weather here for the last month has been alternately wet and dry, cold and warm, some rain, snow, and pleasant weather and looks like spring again, but it may rain tonight and freeze up tomorrow.

Well, I am out of word.

Yours, E.

February 19, 1862

FROM FIRST REGIMENT

Headquarters 1st Minn. Reg.

Camp Stone, Md. February 8, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- There has been no stir in camp since I last wrote.- The rain has continued every since and we are getting tired of being cooped up in houses that are very small. The roads are in such a condition that it is barely possible to draw subsistence for the troops and if the Ohio and Chesapeake canal had not been kept clear of ice by two steam tugs, from this place to Georgetown, I do not think that the Government could have kept the troops in supplies. A forward movement of any kind, will be impossible until the roads dry up. Lieut. Hammond arrived here last night with fifty-two recruits for the 1st. He had to leave two on the road on account of sickness, one at Harrisburg and one at Washington. I will give you their names in my next letter.

The sick report is much the same as the last one, only two have been admitted since last report. Peter Hall, Co. B. residence, Stillwater; and C. H. Gove of the same company, Complaint, pleurisy, residence Lakeland, Washington county. He is getting better. Returned to duty, Ole Nelson, Peter Hall, and Lafayette Snow. Total remaining in Hospital, six and all doing well.

Lieut. Col. Stephen Miller who has been absent on sick leave at Harrisburg for some time, has returned to duty, but is not very well yet. He talks some of returning to Minnesota for his health. Dr. Morton has returned today from a short visit to New Jersey, where he was called on account of sickness in his family. I am afraid if Gov. Ramsey does not hurry up his commission as full Surgeon of this regiment, he will leave us, as he is offered charge of one of the Hospitals in Washington City. If he leaves us it will be hard to fill his place and a great loss to the regiment. Dr. Le Blond of Houston county, arrived here about eight days ago as acting Asst. Surgeon. He seems to be much of a gentleman and a good physician, so we are well off for Doctors. If we have an engagement, where will be use for them all.

It is with regret that we see the name of our worthy Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Neill, used in the N.Y. Tribune by some correspondent to that paper, who says that the funds that are sent by the people of Minnesota for the use of the sick of the 1st Regiment have been used for other purposes &c., &c. I can assure the people of Minnesota, that such is not the case. That our chaplain has money in his hands for the use of the sick is true, and whenever we want it we get it once on the Surgeon's order. I also certify that he is always ready to help the sick and wounded with any means at his disposal. The thanks of the Regiment are due to our Chaplain for his bravery at Bull Run and it is due to him that several of our wounded were taken from the field. There are some men in the Regiment who dislike him because they cannot get commissions; therefore they must vent their spite on Gen. Gorman and Chaplain Neill- Chaplain Neill is not going to throw the money away that he has in his hands to satisfy the few in the Regiment who have got sore heads. The Hospital is well supplied with all necessaries as all the sick will testify, and they are the best judges.

JAMES KIRKMAN

Hospital Steward,

1st. Minn. Reg.

February 19, 1862

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT

Louisville, Ky. February 12, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- Since I last wrote you another battle has been fought in our Department, another victory gained, and now Gen. Buell only awaits the settling of the roads for an attack on Bowling Green, the stronghold of the Rebels in Kentucky. He is, I understand, already for action and we are of course confident of success to our arms.

We of the "Glorious and Bloodless" Third did not have the pleasure of participating in the routing of Zollicoffer, but we are anxiously waiting and growing a little impatient, for our time to come and to have a taste of powder. The Second have done nobly, and deserve more honor and attention than they have received. They were in the hottest place during battle and in the center of the line at the bayonet charge. Several officers from the other Regiments, with them at the fight, say that the 2d gave cheer to their own men, and had it not been for them, the battle would hardly have been won.

In our own regiment, everything is about the same. Our company go out and guard some one of the bridges for a week and then return to Belmont Furnace. The houses which we used to occupy, have been thoroughly cleaned and repaired, and are now used as a General Hospital for the convalescent; this drives us to our tents, which are of the Sibley pattern and nearly as warm and convenient as the houses.- There has been a great deal of sickness in the regiment the last month, but no very severe cases. The measles have been through camp, and every man who has not had them before, is or has been down with them. They have just taken hold of our company, and several of the boys are down with them now. We have lost one who was liked by all, and who would have shown himself to be true to the old Flag, could his life have been spared. I refer to the death of Oliver C. Shurtleff, of Wabasha. He died very suddenly; being taken sick on Saturday and on Sunday morning his spirit fled, leaving at home an aged father and mother and a family, all of whom were dependent upon him for their support. We miss him very much and all sympathize deeply, with those at home who were so dear to him. When our company was started, he was one of the first to join, and the last one we expected would die so unexpectedly.- He is gone. We miss him from the mess, and no longer is his always smiling face seen at drill, while at roll call his name is called no more. His gun &c. all remain to remind us of him and his; and will not the citizens of Wabasha do something for her who is now left alone to do and care for herself. We hope so, and will do all we can to assist her.

Our Captain has nearly recovered so that he is able to travel, and left Tuesday evening for a short visit home. Our other officers are well and liked by nearly all the boys. I am exceedingly sorry to learn that two or three of the boys in the company have been writing home and trying to injure Lieut. Eddy, and hope the citizens and readers of the Herald will consider the source they come from. Lieut. E. is liked by all the men in the company; is a perfect gentleman, a good officer, and is doing all he can for the good of the company. I notice in your last issue of the Herald, brought by private Arnold, who has returned well, that you have Lee M. Phillips reduced on account of drunkenness. This is a mistake, as Mr. Phillips resigned his position for reasons not known by me. Perry D. Martin, the late Orderly was reduced on that account, together with several other minor offenses.

Everything is quiet here at present, but troops are constantly passing down the river, and I hope shortly to have some news to write; until then adieu. **Yours &c. A.**

March 5, 1862

FROM THE THIRD- We received this morning a communication from our regular

correspondent "A", dated Louisville Ky. 27th. The news has been mostly anticipated and we therefore condense it, presenting those portions of most interest.

Tuesday last Gen. Thomas came to this city with his force some 12, 000 strong, and embarked on boats going down the Ohio and on the Cumberland, as far as they can and thence march to Nashville, meeting General Buel and the remainder of the troops at that point. By this you can see that we are after them and you can look out for some more good news from our 'Western Boys' soon.

The Second Minnesota, or what were able to endure the march, (some 600 the remainder being in the hospital at Lebanon) were with Gen. T. They looked hale and hearty, ragged and dirty, as though they had seen some service. I saw the Kelsey brothers, Jones, Hale and Capon from Wabashaw. They look well. One of them remarked that they started on the march on the 1st of January and had been on the march every since, stopping but once and that was to have a little brush with Zollicoffer, but that did not last long enough to give them a resting spell." They all had some trophy of a fight. One had a pair of secesh pants, another a haversack which showed where a bullet had gone through and killed the former owner. I obtained from one of them a calvary saber, made from an old H.S. blade with a new guard and handle, bearing the letters C.S. A. and the words "Nashville Plow Works". It is a rough thing and I should hate to wield it. The regiment left here on the Jacob Strader yesterday for Nashville, where you will soon hear from them again.

We of the Third are still at Belmont and surrounding country, guarding railroad bridges, and killing off our men- no's as they should died, on the battle field, but of camp fevers, chills, &c. Why cannot we be put forward among the rest? Cannot our staff officers do something towards placing us in the lead?- The rest of our division (Gen. Crittenden's) are in the advance, and why are we to remain behind to do the dirty work. Our boys are almost crazy to be led forward they say they did not enlist to guard bridges, they could do that for Rail Road Companies at home, but that they came down here to fight and wish to do it. The old game of leaving us in the rear because we are not long enough in the service has "played out." We are well drilled and have seen nearly six months service, while regiments just formed are shoved ahead, we remain behind. I hope the commander of the department will soon find our worth and put some green regiment where we are and lead us on to Nashville. We have received new guns (the Prussian Rifle) and our boys are a little better satisfied, and the prevailing opinion now is that we are to go ahead. Be it so, and the sooner the better.

March 8, 1862

FROM THE FIRST REGIMENT

Head Quarters 1st Minn. Reg.

Harper's Ferry March 1, '62

FRIEND STEVENS:- Gorman's Brigade, which is composed of the Minnesota 1st, New York 2d and 34th, and the Massachusetts 15th, left Camp Stone on the 24th of February, which is about thirty miles from here. The roads were very bad, and it took us until the 27th to get to this place.-

Banks' division crossed on the 26th. We have over thirty thousand men, besides a large amount of artillery and cavalry. Yesterday we took six pieces of artillery with thirty rebels, besides five or six spies. The rebels are fortified at Winchester, about thirty miles from here. They say the roads are good to that place and we expect to have quite a fight, as they are strongly posted and have about thirty thousand men. The Minnesota 1st and the Massachusetts 15th are assigned to the advance to support Rickett's and other batteries, which will be a hard place, but the men feel rejoiced that so much

confidence is placed in them, and it is certain, that if the rebels get the batteries, it will be over a pile of dead men. We feel confident of success.-

Gen. McClennan is present, and the troops put every confidence in him.- We have orders to advance to Charlestown about six miles from here, and will start in about an hour. We left six of our sick at Poolsville, and we are going to leave five here. There is none of the Wabashaw boys on sick report. The health of the Regiment is good, and the men are in fine spirits. The weather is cold, but dry and clear. I will write to you as soon as anything of note occurs.

**Truly yours,
JAMES KIRKMAN
Hospital Steward.**

March 22, 1862

Berryville, Va. March 11th, 1862

Friend Steven:- The brigades of Gen's. Gorman and Burns, which compose Gen. Sedgwick's Division, took possession of Bolivar Heights on the 1st of March, where we established a general hospital where all the sick of the division is to be left. On the 7th of March we took Charlestown, Va., a town of about three thousand inhabitants, where we remained until the 10th inst., when we took up the line of march of Berryville, a distance of 12 miles, where we arrived at 3 PM and royted about three hundred rebels, taking 6 prisoners. This morning Van Allen's cavalry took 4 prisoners with their horses and killed one. The road is now clear of rebels for seven miles towards Winchester. We are now twelve miles from Winchester, and twenty miles from Harper's Ferry. They are strengthening Winchester, and have about 35 to 40 thousand men. They say the position is a strong one; but we will be able for them.

The troops are in good spirits and only want to see the enemy, which I think will not be long, as we advanced toward Winchester tomorrow. Gen. Gorman took the Berryville Conservator, the only paper and press in this town. The editor left with one side of the paper struck off, and the typos of the 1st Minnesota Regiment, are now striking off the other side, a copy of which I hereby send you; I also send you an old piece of manuscript which I picked up in a house at Bellvar Heights. On Sunday last, I visited four different burying grounds. I saw where one of the victims of John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry was buried. The inscription on his monument was as follows: Dedicated to the memory of George W. Turner, who fell at Harper's Ferry Oct. 17th, 1859 nobly defending the rights of his state; aged 45 years."

It was very cold last night. We dare not keep fires and our shin shoddy blankets without tents did not protect us much against the cold and wind. The 1st Minnesota is in high repute, and is the leading regiment being in the advance with Rickett's battery. The duty is very hard, but the men do not grumble. We have 4 sick at Bolivar's general hospital; one only is dangerous, private Henry Parsons, of company "I" of typhoid pneumonia, but I think he will recover,

Yours. James Kirkman

April 5, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA THIRD

Camp Minnesota, Tenn.

March 26th, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- Our Regiment passed through Louisville one week ago today (Wednesday) and embarked on the steamboats, Denmark and Undine, for this place. We left that city Wednesday night and arrived here on Sunday. Monday morning

we marched to our present camp, which is about three miles from the capitol and in view of a portion of the city. It is a beautiful spot, situated on a rise of ground and within the lines, is a clear running spring of the best water I have seen since we left home. Nearby, the rest of the Brigade are encamped, consisting of the 9th Michigan, 23d Kentucky, the 3d and the 8th Kentucky, all under command of Col. Duffield of the 9th Michigan, he being the Senior Colonel.

From Louisville to Nashville we had a very pleasant trip. Our Co., with four others, were on board the Undine, Co. G., taking the Hurricane roof during the day and the cabin floor at night, which latter arrangement pleased us much.

On Saturday afternoon we arrived at Fort Donelson; our boat landed at Dover, a small town just above the fort, and gave us time to look around the late scene of battle. I walked over the battle ground, around the outer work and through the main fort, everything was scattered around in the utmost confusion, here was a cannon spiked, there was cannon balls, grape shot, canister shot, &c. Cellars hastily dug had answered for powder magazines. Dead horses and mules, new made graves, &c. were everywhere to be seen. To attempt a description of the Fort, the water batteries, &c. would take too much time now, and I will defer it until some other time.

The city of Nashville is situated very pleasantly and has been in its time a wealthy and beautiful city; now everything is deserted. Stores and dwelling houses are closed, and but few citizens remain to be seen, all having fled at the approach of our forces under the belief that we came to destroy and murder. But little business is being done, and prices are very high. Flour \$10 per bbl., sugar 20 cts., butter 80 cts., coffee none, but corn and rye, eggs 25 cts per dozen, potatoes 4 for 6 cts. 25 cts. a pack or \$1 per bushel and everything else in proportion.

Gen Buell's headquarters, or that part which has been at Louisville since he has taken the field, has been removed to this place, and he has gone on towards New Orleans, or some other place, where no person knows-. Look out for a hard fight soon, though, as the rebels are preparing for us not far from here.

Where our Regiment will move next, we do not yet know, but hope we will be pushed forward. All letters should be addressed Nashville, Tenn. The health of the Regiment is good, but few being on the sick list and those will soon be up. Thanks to Gov. Ramsey in giving us Dr. Milligan for Ass't Surgeon. He is the right man in the wrong place, for he should have a gold leaf in his shoulder straps instead of two bars. Will write again soon.

Yours, & A.

April 9, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA THIRD

Nashville, Tenn. April 1, '62

EDITOR HERALD:- Since my last letter, written shortly after our arrival here, we have been and still continue to have beautiful weather, warm sun shiny days and cool evenings, with an occasional shower to lay the dust. The gardens in the city are already green and the flowers are all budding, reminding me of my own Northern home during the month of May.

Business in the city is brightening up very fast, and there is much more doing than there was a week ago. The principal stores are opening, and the people seem to have come to their senses at last, and concluded that we "Lincolnites" as they call us, are not so bad after all, this is the male portion of it. The opposite sex are very backward, and on meeting a person with "brass buttons" on the street, a saucy toss of the head, a very unlady like twitch of the nose, or a hastily dropping of a veil is all the notice a soldier receives both private and officer; which to the latter class must be very annoying.

The ladies here are all secesh, and much more to be feared than the male portion of the South. The city, as well as the State, is under Martial Law, and they have but little to say. Large quantities of pork, flour, &c. have been confiscated, having been found here on our arrival.

General Johnson has taken hold of the State affairs and seems to be in earnest, and will allow nothing in the shape of treason or disloyalty to go unpunished. Last week he ordered the city authorities to take the oath of allegiance, which they refused to do. What disposition has been made of them I have not been able to learn.

Gen. Buell left here on the 24th of last month for Columbus, Tenn., where his army is; how long he will remain there or which way he will go is known only to himself and staff. The recent order of the President throws the department of the Ohio into that of the Mississippi under Gen. Halleck. This does not deprive Gen Buell of his command however, only changing the name Department to that of District, and he has the same force as heretofore, and will probably carry out his former plans and obtain a new Department. A fight is certain to come off soon, and a hard one it will be, as the rebels have had large reinforcements and are strongly fortified.

As to our own regiment, it is about the same. We are still encamped about three miles from the city at Camp Minnesota, and are acting as body guard to Gen. Dumont; one Co, coming into the city and relieved by another every 24 hours. We are rising by degrees and will soon get in the advance. Col. Lester is cleaning out the regiment of all sick and other unable to do duty, by discharging them from the service ; being determined to have none but sound men his command. He is a good officer and beloved by all in the Regiment and should Minnesota be honored with another Brigadier General, we earnestly hope Col. L will be appointed, though we should regret to have him leave us and suffer by a change. He is proud of the Regiment, and well he may be, as wherever we go, we have the name of being the best drilled, most intelligent, and finest looking regiment in the District.

Col. Duffield, our Brigade Commander, was present at a Dress Parade the other day, and after Parade was dismissed, he went to Col. Lester and made the remark "that he thought that he had a good Regiment, but that we were far ahead of him." When parading the streets, the question is always asked, "What Regiment of regulars are those?" which is a compliment. This is the name the 3d Minnesota have now, and such we intend to maintain. Lieut. Col Smith has been away on sick leave for fifteen days, but has now returned recovered from a severe attack of rheumatism. Major Hadley is absent somewhere in Kentucky; we have not seen him since we left Camp Dana. The other officers of the Regiment are all we could wish for. Several promotions have been made lately, but I have not learned the names of those so promoted. Allow me to mention our noble, kind, and attentive surgeons, Drs. Butler and Milligan, they deserve the thanks of all interested in our welfare, for their kind attentions to all our sick. Nothing which the sick can wish for is wanting, but what they procure if possible, and the good health of the Regiment will speak for them.

In our own Co., we have lost several men by being discharged and two by death. Three or four were left behind in Louisville being too unwell to follow us. Our Captain is very kind and attentive to the wants of the men, and if ever we have an opportunity we will show him that we, all of us, know how to appreciate his kindness. Lieut. Eddy, I am happy to say, is converting those who were so much against him some time ago, by his uniform kindness and attention to all. Our 2d Lieut. John C. Devereaux, is a perfect gentleman, tip top officer and the pride of all. Coming into this company, as he did, it is surprising how he has changed the minds of those who swore vengeance on him, but who now would die for him if need be.

I am taking too much time and will close. **Yours, &c. A.**

April 12, 1862

The town meeting in Plainview resulted in the election of N.S. Tefft, Ch's. W.W. Wright and G.W. Sylvester for supervisors. H.P. Wilson and H.A. Buck for Justices. S.H. Smith and David Ackley for constables. G.M. Melendy for Assessor, A.H. Burton, Town Clerk. J.D. Jaquieth for treasurer and Wm. Thompson, overseer of the poor. Queer, for Plainview. Seven of eleven said to be of Democratic antecedents, and four have been in town scarce a year. Well done. Union times, those.

April 26, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA FIRST

**Headquarters Minnesota First
near Yorktown, Va. April 11th, '62**

FRIEND STEVENS:- The Minnesota First has been moving about so fast of late that I have not had time to write. The last time I wrote you we were at Berryville, under marching orders for Winchester, where we went on the 13th of March, but had not time to take dinner before we were ordered to Harper's Ferry, where we arrived on the 15th and on the 22d we took the cars for Washington, where we arrived on the 23d. On the 29th we marched for Alexandria, and encamped on the same ground where we encamped on the 3d of July last. On the 29th took shipping arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 1st inst. At this place we left four sick in the General Hospital and started for the once thrifty and enterprising city of Hampton, which is now a vast ruin, but two buildings- the residence of Ex. President Tyler and the Seminary- being left. Hampton must have contained about three thousand inhabitants, and the loss to the citizens must have been immense. The place is famed for its great oyster and fish trade. The country around here is poor, the land being level, wet and sandy. The timber is red pine and chestnut, with a little mixture of oak.

On the 4th of April Gen'l. McClellan, with about one hundred thousand men, started for Yorktown. On the same evening we encamped on the battleground of Big Bethel. On the 5th we took up the line of march and bivouacked about a mile from the enemy's batteries, after driving in their pickets. We have had some skirmishes and both sides have lost some men; but our regiment has lost none as yet.

We are now engaged in building roads in order to get our cannon up, the mud being so deep that we cannot haul empty wagon, without corduroy bridges.

The Minnesota First is engaged in road making and has to work very hard. In two or three days I think we will be ready to commence operations. Professor Lowe made a balloon assession a day or two since and reports the rebels about fifty thousand strong, and still reinforcing. We have already taken two of their forts. The whole county is one network of forts and breast works. I think this will be the largest battle of the war. It is about twenty miles from here to Fortress Monroe. The houses along the road between the two points have been burnt except two or three. The rebels have burnt houses and fences, and took everything. You cannot hear the crowing of a chicken nor the barking of a dog in the whole country around. No sound breaks the stillness of the day except the singing of the birds and an occasional shot from our sharpshooters.

This is a hard country but our troops are in good health, and I am in hopes we will get out of these swamps before long, or our sick reports will be large. We have to sleep without tents as all are turned in at Hampton. It rained on the 6th, 7th and 8th without intermission, which made it very disagreeable with no covering but the canopy of heaven. The men are in good spirits and perform their duty with clarity and cheerfulness. The boys from Wabashaw, Lake City, and Read's Landing are in good health. Our hospital is well supplied with stores; indeed we cannot take all our stores

with us; so you see we do not need any help from the Aid Societies of Minnesota. All they send hereafter will be lost, as we cannot get transportation for it.

We have a new Colonel. Colonel Dans, as you are aware, was promoted, and his place has been supplied by the appointment of Capt. Sully of the Regular Army. Col. S. is loved by his men and in turn is proud of them. He says their discipline is equal to the Regulars. Our regiment stood dress parade twice in Capitol Square, Washington, and elicited the admiration of all who witnessed their soldierly bearing.

Yours,
JAMES KIRKMAN
Hospital Steward, Minn. First.

April 26, 1862

From the Wisconsin 12th Lawrence April 8th, 1862

Mr. Stevens: The Lance expedition has exploded. Of that fact the major portion of the newsreading public were informed, while the troops in Kansas, ignorant of what had taken place, were anxiously awaiting a forward movement. We knew that troops on their way to join Hunter, had been detailed by him to Halleck to aid him in his campaign in Tennessee, and judged from that, that the Cherokee expedition was deferred but we did not know that it was abandoned until Hunter and Lane went Eastward, the former to take a new Department, and the latter to resume his seat in the Senate. By this change Halleck's command was made to include Kansas.

About this time we received orders to march. We left Leavenworth on the 1st of March, with orders to report at Fort Scott as soon as possible.

The 9th Wisconsin accompanied us. The object of the movement was to reinforce Curtis, but we were kept in ignorance of it. Nevertheless we had an intimation that our destination was Arkansas and we went forward with alacity and a good will.

The distance from Leavenworth to Fort Scott is 135 miles. We made the distance in six days and a half.

The weather was cold and windy, our fare was poor and our marches hard, sometimes going thirty miles in a day. We marched twenty miles through a beautiful belt of timber on the Delaware reservation and that was nearly all the timber we saw. After leaving this wood we marched thirty miles before we saw as much as a tree by the roadside, though clumps of trees were to be seen, now and then, in the distance.

We passed the villages of Shawneetown, Olathe Paoli, and Osawatamie. The latter is the most lonely and uninteresting place I ever saw. It is partially deserted, and its empty cabins, like dove cots, stare at the passerby, through sashless windows. From this place to the Fort, the country was almost uninhabited. There was nothing before us but the almost limitless prairie, more rolling and broken than the prairies of Minnesota, and stretching away before us till its farthest swells were scarcely visible in the distance, and when we had gained these nothing was to be seen but other swells beyond.

We crossed several fine streams of water which I learn are usually dry in the summer. The timber which we found in narrow strips along the water courses is gnarled, seared and warped by the hundred fierce fires. The soil is very rich and the growth of vegetation is very rank. We often kindled fires as we marched along and the fury of the flames accounted for the total absence of bush, tree, or shrub. The want of wood and water must always be a great drawback to the country.

Stone for fencing and building is abundant, however, not only in ledges, but everywhere over the prairie and about Fort Scott, coal is abundant.

We remained at the fort or rather in camp near the place which bears that name, twenty days. There were eight regiments there and in the vicinity and a more

lonesome, dull and peaceful place for warriors could not be found. We grew impatient for removal, anywhere, we cared not where, so that we were taken out of that place. After two weeks sojourn there, orders came for a forward movement. Two Kansas regiments took up the line of march for Carthage, Mo., the rest of us waited for supplies. Two days after, orders came for the Kansas 1st, 12th, and 13th Wisconsin to repair to Lawrence unless they had already started southward. As soon as we could get ready we turned our faces northward, not without some grumbling, and began our countermarch.

We left Fort Scott, the 9th Wisconsin, 2nd Ohio cavalry and Robb's Indiana Battery. They have probably gone forward to reinforce Curtis before this time.

We started one the morning of the 27th of March. The weather was warm with a fine breeze from the south; for the first four days we were reused at 4 o'clock, got breakfast, packed up and started at daylight and marched leisurely until one or two in the afternoon, when we halted, pitched our tents, usually in a strip of timber by a stream, and spent the rest of the day in hunting, bathing, writing or loafing as we felt inclined. When night came our band waked the forest and neighboring bluffs with the music of their silver horns and often too,

"The sounding aisles of the dim woods, rang with the anthems of the free."

We reached Lawrence on the 2nd of April. The three last days of our march was rain and mud. We straggled along, wet to the skin, wading the bottoms which had become a lake and camping in the mud at night while the storm raged fiercely around our frail dwellings.

The country we passed over on our way up was more beautiful and better settled than that we saw on our way down. I never saw a more beautiful sight than that presented by the valleys of the Kaw and Waukonsha, which unite here. Thank God the slave driver does not curse the soil!

We are camped here on the banks of the Kaw. On the one side of us are the 18th Wisconsin, on the other the Kansas 1st and Jennison's Jayhawkers, (Kansas 1st Cavalry,) John Brown Jr. is a captain in that regiment.

An expedition is fitting out here for New Mexico and the troops here are detailed for that purpose so you see I am elected to cross the plains. The boys who wanted to go anywhere to get away from Fort Scott are no better satisfied. We expect to start in three days for Fort Riley. The weather here is very changeable. Yesterday we were in our shirt sleeves, lelling and panting, today a great coat is necessary, and I can hardly hold my pen, for the cold

I will write again when I get anything worth communicating.

B.B.C.

May 7, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA FIRST

Head Quarters 1st. Minn. Regt.

Camp near Yorktown, Va. April 20th, 1862

FRIEND STEVENS:- The 1st Minnesota Regiment is bivouaced within three hundred yards of the rebels' works and has been so for the last five days. Gen. Bogwick's division, of which we are apart, is on the advance, supporting the batteries that are occasionally firing on the rebels works and has done them considerable damage in the way of leveling their front batteries and barracks and killing a number of the enemy. Two companies of our Regiment go on picket duty and post themselves behind trees within one hundred and fifty yards of the rebel batteries, and pick off their

gunners as soon as they attempt to load or fire their cannon, so that our artillery have it all their own way. Yesterday the rebels sent in a flag of truce, asking us to take off our sharp shooters and stop our firing so that they could bury their dead. The truce was agreed to on the ground that they would allow us to bury our dead and get our wounded which were close to their batteries, which they consented to.

There was a most unfortunate mistake happened to us on the 16th inst.; the 3d and 5th Maine regiments were ordered to storm the batteries on our aft, which they done with a bravery not to be excelled by any in the history of the war. They took at the point of the bayonet, two tiers of breast works, bayoneting the rebels in their ditches and driving twice their number before them without hardly losing a man, but this was not to last long, as the rebels on their flanks poured a murderous fire, and no reinforcements at hand they were obliged to return, leaving nearly two hundred dead and wounded on the field, most of them inside of the works of the enemy. There were fifteen wounded left on the field three days without help.

We have had skirmishes every night, except last night, the rebels always coming out second best. I think they got tired of such work and gave us a good chance to sleep, which we needed very much. So you see we have lost about two hundred men and the battle has not commenced yet. The enemies loss is more than double ours and we feel confident of success, but it may be some time yet before a battle.

Our regiment has lost none yet. Though many of them have had narrow escapes, and have done the rebel cause terrible harm by sharp shooting. The Regiment is in good health and most of the sick that we left behind at the hospitals have joined us in good health. William Worthington, known in Wabashaw by the name of "Duke" is the sickest man we have. His complaint is pneumonia, we have sent him to Shipping Point, and he is recovering but will not be able to take part in the coming battle, which he will regret very much as he is a good soldier. We have here about a hundred thousand men, they are stretched out from the York to the James River. Piles of cannon and ammunition are only hid from the enemy by the pine woods. If it was not for the occasional booming of artillery and the few skirmishes we have, the most casual hearer could not detect that there was a single man in the vicinity. All is silence, no sound but the croaking of frogs and the singing of birds.

It has been raining for the last 24 hours and there are no signs of it stopping yet. Is so close proximity to the enemy, we are often alarmed. The regiments falls in without noise, with their brave Colonel at their head, whom they think the world of, and wind their way through the woods as solemnly as a funeral procession. The Hospital department brings up the rear carrying instruments, bandages and medicines, followed by the band, carrying wounded off the field, the men eye the stretchers with horror, but still they are satisfied that it is necessary and if it will be their turn to use them, that it will be an honorable wound in an honorable cause. Our new Colonel is a gentleman and a soldier, he has served his country in the regular army nearly twenty years. He has served at Fort Ridgley and Fort Ripley for the last eight years in the 2nd U.S. Infantry, the same regiment that the lamented Gen. Lyon belonged to.

We have Gen. Dana to thank for this selection, and he has doubly endeared himself to this regiment for recommending to us so good an officer. The man say they have made two Generals already and that if Col. Sulley is spared to them they will make him a General also.

I am sorry to see by the report of the Chaplain of our Second Regiment that they have suffered so much by sickness in Kentucky and Tennessee. They certainly were not exposed to a worse climate than the Potomac Valley. I am afraid the gallant Second has seen some hard times. The First has had measles, mumps, and billious complaints to contend against and has lost only three by sickness. They have been exposed to picket duty on the Potomac all the fall and winter, through rain and mud

without tents. We have been under heavy marches through rain and mud to Winchester and back. The 7th Michigan regiment camped along side of us since last September and is with us yet. They have lost seventy-two by sickness. This regiment is as fine a body of man as is in the service; consequently something is wrong, men ought not be made do duty when they are unable they ought to be left behind at good hospitals when heavy marches are to be made, with good nurses of the same regiment and not among strangers who are careless. A regiment of six hundred able bodied men in good health will do more than a regiment of eight hundred men encumbered by fifty sick. I may have said too much on this subject and it may give offense to some officers, but nevertheless this is my experience, and I am glad that our regiment has had two good experienced officers of the regular army as Colonels, who have brought us to a standard with the regulars. All the ways have shown that volunteers have suffered more from sickness than regulars, we live to thank Colonels Dana and Sulley for this efficiency and also Governor Ramsey for sending us good and experienced Surgeons. There is more that I could write you that would be of interest, but regulations forbid it, at some future day if I am spared it shall be written. Enough for the present.

JAMES KIRKMAN

Hospital Steward 1st. Minn. Reg't.

May 7, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA THIRD

Nashville, April 21st. 1862

EDITOR HERALD:- We have had another fight and as usual, the Stars and Stripes came off victorious; though this was a victory, defeat and rout, this is not the fight which is to kill rebellion in the West. One more is necessary, and that we will soon have. It will be a terrible one, and it chills ones blood to think how many lives have been lost and how many who are today living, but tomorrow may be ordered into battle at Corinth and be slain. God forbid that our army shall be cut up as it was on the Sunday fight, at Pittsburgh Landing. Thousands of lives were there lost through the carelessness of some of our leading Generals, and who can tell what might have happened had not our brave General Buell, came up with a portion of his tired army and reinforced Grant. 'Twas he that saved our country from another Bull Run disgrace, aye worse than that, for the whole command of Gen. Grant would undoubtedly have been captured.

I was talking with a person who was present at the fight and who passed over the battleground two or three days after. He said that the fight was terrible and the sights which he saw were enough to freeze one's blood and satisfy any one of the horror of civil war. Dead bodies were everywhere, some without a particle of clothing on, all having been burned off by the bushes taking fire and some bodies were actually burned to a crisp. At one place he saw upwards of an hundred bodies piled up in a square space of twenty five feet laying just as they fell. On portions of the field he could not walk without stepping on the body of some lifeless being. Friend and foe were sometimes clasped in each others embrace, having fell and breathed their last together.

Gen. Nelson's division, composed of at least 6,000 men, were at work one whole day burying the dead, and when night overtook them, they were not near done. Such is a portion of what was related to me. I could relate much more, but it is too shocking and heart rending to write or even think about.

This was the hardest battle ever fought on this continent, but I fear if we have another at Corinth, it will be far worse. The rebels are drawing all their available force to this point, but with Gen. Halleck in command and Gen. Buell and Grant over their divisions we will have a large force, but whether we will be equal to the enemy, remains

to be seen.

I visited the State capitol, some days since, passing all through it, and ascending the stairway to the dome, had a magnificent view of Nashville and the surrounding country. The State house is the finest building I have ever seen. It stands on an eminence in full view from all parts of the city, is built of granite and is a splendid piece of architecture throughout; it is not quite finished, but when it is, will stand a proud monument and an honor to the State of Tennessee.

The Third Regiment were honored with an invitation to visit the city by Gen. Dumont, some days since and on Thursday last the celebrated Bugle Band was heard all over the city, announcing the arrival of the Regiment, and drawing a large concourse of people to witness their maneuvers. They marched to Gen. Dumont's headquarters and from thence to the State House; the Regiment marched up and into the house filling the large hall on the first floor. After resting a few minutes the Governor was introduced to them and made a few remarks welcoming "the sons of Minnesota beneath the roof of the Capitol of Tennessee, as one of the proudest acts of his life," apologizing for not making a speech by saying that he intended to and should visit the Regiment at their encampment, the first pleasant day and that then he would talk to them. His remarks were very appropriate and satisfied each and every man in the Regiment that he was a man of great talent and would bring Tennessee out right.

I have to announce the death of another member of our Company, Mr. _____ Knapp, who died on Thursday. He was a fine young man and beloved by all who knew him. He was buried near the city, attended by an escort from our Company.

The weather for the past three days has been very wet and rainy and today it is the same; this will probably raise the Cumberland again to its former height.

Yours Truly, A.

May 7, 1862

WOUNDED SOLDIERS RETURNED.-Nearly every St. Louis steamer brings home numbers of the wounded at Pittsburgh Landing. On Thursday the Hawk Eye left several members of the Wisconsin 16th at Read's Landing, all disabled at the above mentioned place. They belong in the Chippewa Valley, and were all more or less disabled. One poor fellow had to be carried off, another used a crutch, a third had his hand shot through and all looked sad and worn out. Government can never do justice to these patriots who have thus manifested their attachment for their country. What hosts of maimed will fill our country at the end of the war.

May 14, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA THIRD

List of the Dead, Sick, and Discharged of Company G.

Camp Minnesota, near Nashville, Tenn

April 26, 1862

Mr. N.E. STEVENS Editor Herald:

Dear sir:- The Third Minnesota Regiment are under orders to unit with the brigade at Murfreesboro immediately, and then to march for Pittsburgh Landing and join the Grand Army, under Gen. Buell.

We leave tomorrow morning and expect to give a good account of ourselves, and if we get in battle, we will show what the use of discipline and drill is.

Owing to the bad weather lately, there will be a great many left behind who are not able to march. They will be left at the general Hospital at Nashville, where the best of care will attend them, in fact it is impossible for men to be better treated than our sick

are at Nashville. The Soldiers Aid Society of Cleveland, Ohio, have a branch here and they send good nurses and physicians.

Out of Company G, the following will be left:

Serg't. Deville C. Ford- Mazeppa- very sick. Typhoid fever, will not recover, been sick sometime.

Corp. David Levitt-Highland- convalescent, able to be up all the time, had the liver complaint.

Corp. George L. Fisk-Mazeppa- Billious intermittent fever, convalescent, is on duty in hospital

Lewis H. Barr- Wabashaw- lately taken down with intermittent fever, not very sick.

George Campbell- Wabashaw- Typhoid fever, been very sick, is now convalescent, doing well.

Robert R. Evans- Mazeppa- Lung Fever, convalescent, able to be up nearly all the time.

John S. Howe- Elgin- Lung fever, convalescent, will be up soon with good care.

Frederick Messer- Plainview- Lung fever and Jaundice, convalescent, up most of the time.

Albert R. Pierce- Plainview- Fever, lately taken sick.

Erriek Peterson- Highland- Typhoid fever, just taken down, think he will be up soon.

John K. Smith- Plainview- Pneumonia, quite low and not gaining much.

Edward L. Sharpe- Wabasha- Swollen ankle, otherwise perfectly well, not able to march.

Ezra T. Sargent- loss of appetite and debility, not very sick.

The following were left behind at Louisville and Belmont, Ky.

At Belmont- James Clarkson and A.E. Johnson.

At Louisville, Edgar L. Holcomb, Norman J. Prior and Francis M. Jerry.

The latter are all at the "Park Barracks" Louisville.

Letters to the first list should be directed to General Hospital No. 2, Nashville, Tenn.

We have lost three by deaths and five by discharges.

DEATHS: O.C. Shurtliff, Congestion, Dexter Chaddock, Typhoid Fever, Albert D. Knapp, Typhoid Fever.

DISCHARGED- Elbridge F. Andross, Charles F. Wyman, Elisha T. Oaks, John Negus, Abraham Miller.

The papers are in for several other discharges, but it is difficult to get them through.

With kindest respect to all,

Yours truly,

E.W. FOSTER

May 21, 1862

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT-

Nashville, May 13th, 1862

EDITOR HERALD:- I have delayed writing you for some time past, having been waiting for something to transpire worthy of notice in our regiment, but as yet nothing has occurred, save their leaving this place and marching to Murfreesboro, where the remainder of the Brigade are. Twice since their arrival there have they been called out with the expectations of having a fight and with guns loaded and bayonets fixed, stood in line of battle till morning when they were ordered to return to quarters. On each

occasion rumor spread that "somebody had been sold by a contraband," but not being on the ground I could not tell who had been dealt with in this manner, though I should judge it was the Commander of the Brigade.

Col. Duffield has gone to Kentucky, having been called there to command a Brigade, I believe, and on Saturday last Col. Lester assumed command of our Brigade. He is capable of filling the position, and we all hope to see him soon promoted. We shall miss him very much, and we part with him with regret, at losing so good a commander; but it is his gain and an honor to the Regiment and we will try and be contended. Lieut. Col. Smith has command of the Regiment, he is a good man and will lead the Regiment wherever they may be ordered. He is the only field officer we now have, Major Hadley still being absent somewhere.

A great many rumors have been afloat about the moving of the Brigade, and everyone has his own opinion as to where they will go. The general opinion is that they will join Gen. Mitchel in Alabama, while some few think they will go into East Tennessee. To the latter place, I do not think they will go, as that portion of the State is in the "Mountain Department" under Gen. Fremont and our troops would be trespassing on "forbidden round," and that is something Gen. Buell, will not do. They may join Gen. Mitchel some time but there is work to be done by some troops nearer this city and they will probably do it.

Since my last letter another of our company has been carried away by death. Sergt. Deville Ford of Mazeppa, died in one of the Hospitals in this city on the night of the 1st inst. He had been long sick and received the best possible care and attention from kind ladies, who acted as nurses in the Hospital, and through them a metallic case was procured to send his remains to his friends at home. He was loved by all and we miss him very much and deeply sympathize with his relatives who will see him no more. We miss him, the same as though he had been a brother to us and we had now lost him, so kind and gentlemanly was he to all, and his name will always be held sacred by the members of our Company. Lieut. Eddy, who had been absent in Ohio, on a visit to his family returned the day before the Regiment left here for Murfreesboro; he relieves Capt. Foster of a great many duties.

Since they arrived in Murfreesboro, Lieut. Devereux has returned sound and well, from an overland trip to Pittsburg Landing, where he has been in charge of a supply train for the Army. He has had a hard and tedious trip but has returned very much improved both in health and spirits.

The notorious John Morgan with his band of thieves and murderers was shipped at Lebanon in this State, and supposed to have been effectually cleaned out, but he has turned up again, up in Kentucky, resuming his old tricks, of tearing up railroad tracks, taking possession of trains, burning cars &c. How long he will be allowed to remain in this cause is hard to tell, but it is an insult and outrage on the Union citizens through the country where he passes, that he is allowed to commit these outrages upon them and their property. Let an armed force well mounted be sent after him and chase him till captured, and in the meantime, issue orders that all persons found harboring him or anything belonging to him, or in any way injuring the public roads and highways all be hung, as Halleck did in Missouri, and they will soon put an end to his career.

Yours, A.

January 4, 1862

ANOTHER REGIMENT CALLED FOR
General Headquarters,
State of Minnesota, Asst. Gen's office
St. Paul May 22d 1862

General Order No. 6

The Secretary of War has made an urgent call upon the Governor of the State for a Sixth Regiment of Infantry.

Confident that patriotism will in future as heretofore distinguish our citizens, and that whatever necessity for additional troops may now or hereafter exist, every Minnesotan will cheerfully and promptly rally in the defense of liberty and the country. The commander-in-chief directs the immediate organization of a Regiment of Infantry, to be mustered into the services and pay of the United States for three years, or during the war, to be designated as the Sixth Minnesota. Volunteers, and to consist of ten companies each constituted as follows,

Minimum- 1 captain, 1 first lieutenant, 1 second lieutenant, 1 first sergeant, 4 sergeants, 8 corporals, 2 musicians, 1 wagoner, 64 privates, total 83

Maximum- 1 captain, 1 first lieutenant, 1 second lieutenant, 1 first sergeant, 4 sergeants, 8 corporals, 2 musicians, 1 wagoner, 82 privates total 101

All companies and parts of companies raised under this order will report at Fort Snelling.

Subsistence and lodging of recruits from the time of their enlistment and prior to their muster into service, will be paid for by the General Government at a rate not exceeding 40 cents per day.

Necessary transportation of recruits will be paid for at the current rates of stage and steamboat fare.

Companies and officers of companies will take position and rank according to the date of being mustered into the United States service,

Clothing, arms and equipments will be supplied before the Regiment leaves the State.

The Regiment will be moved to the seat of war as soon as full.

By order of the Commander-in-chief.

OSCAR MALMROS

Adjutant General State of Minnesota

June 7, 1862

LETTER FROM THE MINNESOTA THIRD

Visit to the Hermitage- Health of the Regiment- Resignation of Field Officers.

Nashville, June 2d, 1862

EDITOR HERALD- Nashville is noted for its romantic scenery and beautiful drives, but none so delightful and pleasant as the one to the "Hermitage", the residence and tomb of "Old Hickory". It was my fortune to visit this much loved spot, a short time since, and this shall be the subject of my present letter.

In company with a friend, I procured a fine horse and buggy, one afternoon and we bent our steps towards the hallowed spot so reverently enshrined in the hearts of the American people. We soon lost sight of the city, and at last the dome of the capitol faded from our view. The road on either side is skirted by country residences and well cultivated farms, and the luxuriant vegetation, of this semi-tropical region, the gay plumage and sweet songs of the beautiful birds which inhabit the forests almost makes one forget that this region is in a state of insurrection and held by military force; in fact I don't know but these surroundings may account for the feeling of security which seems to pervade the secession element in this vicinity.

The buildings are nearly all built of brick, and with their beautiful lawns in front, and flower gardens on one side of which every family has one, and flowers are to be seen in endless profusion and any variety, tend to make the ride very agreeable and

pleasant. We drove on for some time, gazing at the different scenes, admiring the country and conversing of war, home, friends, &c., and before we were aware of it, we were at the gate of the Hermitage. On the right, as we turned off, we caught a glimpse of the church built by Jackson. We drove down a lane, through a gate and around the beautiful lawn, in front of the Mansion, and hitching our horse, were conducted by a Negro through the grounds to the tomb. I will not attempt a description, for so many have been given that it would be mere repetition. The slab over the remains of the General bears no inscription save that of his name, birth and death, while that of his wife contains a beautiful epitaph. On one side of the tomb is the grave of an intimate friend of Jackson, an artist, but whose name I do not remember.

Leaving the tomb we retraced our steps sending the Negro ahead to see if we could enter the house, and on arriving at the front door, found him awaiting us. We entered the hall and the first object of interest pointed out to us was General Washington's office chair, one which he used for upwards of forty years, and we, like all other visitors took a seat in it. Several other minor things were seen in the hall, but we passed onto the parlors which were fitted up in splendid style. Here was the chair in which Jackson spent his last days, a painting of him taken three weeks before he died, and one of his wife on the opposite wall, and on a stand is a marble bust of the old Hero from Italy. But what attracted my attention most was a mug, formed of a hickory knot, handle and all, just as nature made it. This knot was found by an English gentleman some time after the Revolutionary war. It had been shot from a tree by a cannon ball from an English gun and being discovered by him, he had it finished and inscribing the words "Old Hickory" upon it, presented it to the General. Several other things of interest were there to be seen, but I am taking too much time and space in your paper, and will hasten to close. We came out of the house, picked up a small hickory cane as a memento, and jumped into our carriage and were soon riding briskly along toward the city. The scenery along the road was made more beautiful on our return by the sun which was setting. I felt myself amply repaid for my time and should you or any of the readers of the HERALD ever visit Nashville, do not fail to visit the Hermitage.

Our regiment is still at Murfreesboro. Since my last Lieut. Col. Smith has been obliged to resign on account of his health, which was rapidly failing him. The best wishes of the Regiment accompany him. Maj. Hadley has also resigned, for what reason I will leave your readers to guess. He is not missed much I will assure you. This leaves us without a commissioned field officer, (Col. Lester having command of the Brigade) and Capt. Griggs of Company B has command of the regiment. He being the senior Captain, will probably be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

The health of the Regiment is good, but few of those who went to Murfreesboro being on the sick list. A large number were left here when the Regiment left, but the majority of those have joined the Regiment.

But I weary the type setter and will once more say, Adieu.

Yours Truly, A.

July 2, 1862

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT

Murfreesboro, June 21st, 1862

To the editor of the St. Paul Press:

He who imagines that all the difficulty and danger of military life consists of fighting knows but little about the matter.

On the 11th of June we were ordered to march, none of our business where and about 6 o'clock we were in motion for East Tennessee.

We passed along a fine turnpike road to Reedyville, the site of a recent raid of

the rebel Sternes, in which he caught about sixty of our cavalry, doing their duty, we hope. After killing some he ran off with the others, but soon let them go for want of means to feed them.

We reached Woodbury in the evening, our regiment leading. The people seemed surprised. The two Surgeons and Chaplain went to a large farmhouse to get supper and we found ourselves at an old squire's, whose wife was sick and expected to be killed by the Yankees; but assured everyone that she had no bad intentions, and that her first husband was from Massachusetts. Assured that our object was not to massacre the family, all became satisfied and we had a good supper.

Returning to camp we prepared for rest, and had almost begun to dream when our "mess" was aroused by the order to be prepared to march at eleven o'clock. It was a forced march then, intended to catch somebody.

We fixed up, mounted and rode all night, over a country, hilly, tolerable well cultivated, but yielding no fruits to us, except what our men stole.

Speaking of stealing, a part of our army cannot be beat. If they were organized to steal all they could, and promotion depended upon skill and daring in plunder, they would scarcely be better. Our army steals everything from a thousand dollar horse to a pewter platter or broken saucer. The stealing is only incidental, just as our mention of it, and is no part of the general design.

We reached McMinnville, hoping to find an enemy, but finding friends instead.

The conduct of the people towards us was uniformly kind, and contributed in every way to render our stay pleasant. We begin to think that the Southern Ladies are by no means the haughty Jezebels described by some writers.

On the 13th at five o'clock Col. Lester with the Third Regiment and a battalion of cavalry, was commanded to march to Pikeville, across the Cumberland Mountains.

It was to be a rapid march, wagons enough were detailed to carry the men. The sick and weak could not go, the Chaplain must stay with them. Our regiment was selected for their powers of endurance, they had already marched forty-five miles in about thirty hours, and were the only men sufficiently recruited to go on this trip.

They moved at the time, the Chaplain and about twenty-five sick remaining. We took possession of a College building by order of Gen. Dumont.

The General summoning me to headquarters, said he would leave all the sick in my hands at the College, that he would march with the whole army at four o'clock and back the next morning; that I would have men enough to hold the town and must defend it until he returned.

We thought our old friend had really overrated the military qualities of the Chaplain of the Third, as it seemed funny to be put in command of a place like that with only about one hundred men to defend it.

We begged, the General, insisted, and ordered that means of defense should be instantly taken. Mustering the men, we found eight or ten already there who could stand on guard. We that is, a sergeant and myself, established our sentinels, gave out the countersign, and were quietly relieving the crippled recruits constantly coming when midnight brought another order to me to repair to general headquarters. The General feared he was placing me in too great hazards; would not have me and my men captured for anything in the world; couldn't trust the rebels; would not be laughed at by them; believed he would fight but thought it possible we should be whipped; ordered the regiments to be informed that they must take their sick, and I must take general charge of the halt, maimed, sick and lazy on the march.

Reader did you ever ride through the lines of an army at midnight, bearing orders, and hear every few minutes the stern command, "Halt!" followed immediately by "Who comes there?" "A friend," the answer.

"Advance and give the countersign". Advance- a bayonet at your breast, a

loaded musket in the hands of an awkward sentinel, ready to blow you through if you make a mistake or are misunderstood. Thus we passed, often going through this ceremony. One fellow made us dismount and use his gun as though he was scared. The work done, we turned toward headquarters and never till then felt any special sense of danger nor wished for arms of some kind.

The most dangerous weapon we have carried yet is a small pocket knife. The night was spent in getting the men ready; at four o'clock we were on the road; finally all move to the foot of the mountain. A double log house stands there, having for occupants, women that reminds us of primitive days. Women innocent of hoops but abounding in whoops, with voices unnaturally coarse and uncultivated, tall, gaunt, hungry creatures, "borned thar" as they said, and never "seed no other place." The contrast of civilization and barbarism are here starting. We have seen at McMinnville, but just now, ladies of the highest culture; here are some in inconceivable degradation, and yet of the same race.

Slavery makes the appalling distinction. Up! Up! Up we ascend over rocks rough and smooth. The artillery horses struggle way, up the mountain, the infantry slowly up the trains go as they can, many hours will pass before they all reach the summit.

All night we rode and worked getting ready; all day we were on the road and found a bed crosswise in a wagon loaded with sick, about 11 o'clock Saturday night.

Sabbath morning, walking to seek a secret place, we met a wearied soldier, who seemed scarcely able to walk.

"Where is the 21st Kentucky?" said he. "Just ahead," I answered. He quickened his pace and sighed out, "Thank God."

Poor fellow, he had been all night by the roadside, was quite young and his hearty "thank God!" touched my heart.

If ever I worshipped God, the father of all, it was that morning.

A message from Col Lester reached the General just as we started, and we were commanded to return to McMinnville. Another night in the saddle, gathering up and urging forward the sick and lame, and we are back again at McMinnville.

The Third, after visiting Pikeville, and finding no enemy, returned over the terrible mountain roads and reached McMinnville early in the afternoon.

The matter most to be regretted in our visit to McMinnville was the unparalleled vandalism of some of our own men.

Before the Minnesotans took possession of College building, some drunken miscreants of a well known set, broke into the building, scattered the books, tore many of them, broke all the looking glasses and clocks, broke into the laboratory and smashed a fine celestial globe and utterly destroyed a splendid telescope with \$650.

Our men, were exceedingly indignant, and had any of the rascals been caught, they would have punished them summarily. We took as good care as we could of everything while there and should have shot without ceremony or trial any scoundrel attempting any injury to an edifice devoted to learning. Gen. Dumont was exceedingly indignant, but we could do nothing but prevent like occurrences.

From McMinnville we marched to Murfreesboro, in two nights resting during the day. Dr. Butler and Dr. Wedge went the whole round with the regiment, enduring with all the rest, and manifesting no disposition to complain.

We mess with the surgeons and Howlett the quartermaster, the embodiment of fun, and a good fellow all over.

At McMinnville the American flag was raised and eloquent speeches made by Colonel Lewis Campell, of the 69th Ohio and General Dumont.

We have moved our camp a little, are doing well generally and ready to march anywhere. Our regiment Colonel Campbell calls "the flying infantry"

I say but the truth when I state that we can march one third faster and faster than

any other regiment here.

From McMinville to Woodbury we marched ahead, the distance twenty-two miles. We marched about 6 o'clock PM and reached Woodbury at 2 AM and went to bed and slept till the other regiments came in, which they succeeded in during about four hours behind us. The next night they marched ahead over a better road on not so great a distant and kept our men "footing along" as they said, all night.

All the officers agree in saying that the march just ended is the severest military duty they have had to perform.

Colonel Lester commands the brigade, and Colonel Griggs the Regiment.

B. F. CRARY

July 2, 1962

FROM THE FIRST REGIMENT

Headquarters First Minn. Reg.

Camp Fair Oaks, June 15

FRIEND STEVENS:- I have not had time to write to you since leaving the White House shortly before the battle of Fair Oaks, of May 31st and June 1st. After battle, persons connected with the Hospital Department have no time to write and but little time to sleep. This has been the case with me up to this time. A history of the battle I will not attempt to give, as the correspondents of papers in the East give them more correctly and quicker by one week than you could received them from me, even if I was to write immediately, as they have time to gather information. I was an eye witness to that portion of the battle where Sumner's Corps was engaged, composed of Gorman's Dana's and Burns' Brigades under Gen. Sedgwick supported by the famous Rickett's Battery. The battle raged with awful fury. The 1st. Minnesota had the advance of Sumner's corps, but was not much exposed, as they had a rye-field that was nearly ripe to hide them, and could see the enemy without being seen. Their firing was steady and did awful execution to the rebels. Gen. Gorman and his whole Brigade behaved like heroes. Col. Sully, of our Regiment, was on his horse and behaved as cool as if he was on dress parade, to him is due the credit of so small a loss in the Minnesota First, under such a desperate fire, as the official reports will show when they come out. It is useless to say which was bravest in Gorman's Brigade. Regiments vied with each other to be the best. The horrors of the battle field of which you have read, are not half told nor can they ever be painted.

A battle is nothing; the field afterwards is the horror of all horrors. As we had not much to do in our regiment, I went on the field to help Surgeon Morton to do what we could for any sufferer and for three days and three nights, we worked dressing wounds, amputating, and giving water to the dying. All the Surgeon's of the army were at work and did all they could for the rebels as well as our own.

Our nurses worked with a will, carrying the wounded to us, and it is a wonder to me how they stood so long without anything to eat but hard crackers, (no time to cook.)

In the battle of Fair Oaks, the 1st Minnesota lost two killed and five wounded the names of the killed are Henry Hammer, Co. F. of Red Wing; and Ornesdorf Co. C. of St. Paul. The wounded were not severely hurt, and are all again on duty.

Died by sickness since last report Joseph Olden Co. B. at Hampton, Irvin W. Northrup 1st Sergeant Co.G. at Yorktown and Corwin Pickett Co. I at Washington, the latter is a son of Daniel Pickett, of Cochrane's Valley. The dates of their deaths I cannot give, as they were all left behind. The sickness has increased to twenty in Hospital,, but it is not considered unhealthy for the season.

Augustus Ellison, Bugler of Co. I was killed by a stray shell from the enemy while he was on duty in the hospital on the 13th inst. I was talking to him at the time he was

struck down. He was killed by a 12 point spiral shell which hit him on the back of the head, killing him instantly. He was much regretted by all that knew him. He was severely wounded at Bull Run, and was slightly wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, on the evening of the 31st of May, but still continued to do duty as a nurse until he was killed. He has two sisters living in St. Paul, and was a nephew of Col. Nobles of the same city.

**Respectfully yours,
JAMES KIRKMAN
Hospital Steward 1st Minn. Reg.**

July 19, 1862

The Minnesota Third Captured

We announce with pain that the Minnesota Third are now prisoners of war in the hands of the rebels.

It was by no fault of their own they are in this position for all accounts show that they fought bravely until the overwhelming numbers of the enemy made it useless to contend longer. Their strongest arm, the artillery, was rendered useless by the giving out of the ammunition and exhausted by continuous fighting for several hours, they reluctantly yielded to what they saw was inevitable.

We contemplate no great harm will befall them further than being deprived of their arms and being turned loose on parole.

July 19, 1862

Capture of 3d Minnesota

Full account by an Eye-Witness

The affair at Murfreesboro, Tenn.

We had an interview last evening with Lieut. C.H. Blakely, Adjutant of the 3d Minnesota, one of the regiments attacked at Murfreesboro on Sunday morning by Forrest's cavalry. the force at Murfreesboro, as we learn from Lieut B. consisted of six companies of the Michigan Ninth, two companies of the Fourth Kentucky (Company A, Capt. Chillson, and Company C., Capt. Unthank,) nine companies of the Minnesota Third, and four pieces of Hewitt's First Kentucky Battery.

The Ninth and the cavalry were encamped in the edge of the town, and the Third and the battery a mile and a half outside, on the Nashville pike. The force are a part of the 23d Brigade, which is commanded by Col. Duffield, lately of the United States forces of Kentucky. Gen. T.T. Crittenden assumed command of the post on Friday last.

The attack was made on Sunday morning at 4 o'clock upon the cavalry and the Michigan Regiment, they being completely surprised. so large was the attacking party that the infantry could not form in line of battle, and after fighting for several hours, the Michigan regiment surrendered. Our cavalry was of no assistance whatever; not a man mounted his horse, and but one or two escaped.

In the meantime, the enemy burned the railroad depot, freight-house, containing Commissary stores, and a large warehouse, containing forage and Quartermaster's stores. Having compelled the surrender of the cavalry and infantry in town, they broke for the battery. Col. Lester had been advised of the attack, and placed the battery upon a knoll a quarter of a mile from his camp, with his own regiment to support it. The rebels passed around to the north of the camp, and driving through it, burned the officer's tents and killing or wounding the guards. As they came out of the woods to make the attack, Col. Lester retained his fire until they were within forty paces of him, when the battery was opened upon them. They were completely disorganized, and retired in the greatest

confusion. Upon the next charge the infantry and battery both fired, and the enemy was thrown into confusion a second time.

Not relishing such treatment as portion of the rebels went round to the rear for the purpose of attacking us in the rear as well as in front. This however was of no avail, for Col. Lester formed his men in a square, and Capt. Hewitt directed his pieces both ways.

A third attempt was made to cut the brave men to pieces, but the result was the same as before. The rebels retired for a while and Capt. Hewitt turned his pieces upon the town, shelling it in the most approved style. It is said the town was badly damaged, and at last accounts was on fire in several places.

The fighting commenced again at noon, and continued unabated until three o'clock, when a flag of truce from the enemy appeared, stating that the Michigan Ninth had surrendered early in the day, and demanding an unconditional surrender by the remainder of the forces. It is said that a threat was also made, that if Col. Lester did not surrender, Gen. Grittenden and Col. Duffield, who were taken out of their beds by the enemy at the outset- would be immediately shot. Col. Lester rode into town, under protection of the flag of truce, and ascertained that he had to encounter a force of about four thousand, and that he could rely only on his own little handful of men to sustain himself. His ammunition, too, had nearly given out, the battery having only sixty-five rounds of case and shot and the infantry but a few rounds of cartridges left. He returned and after a consultation with Captain Hewitt, and his own officers, it was determined to surrender, which was done at about five PM.

The only loss that we can learn among the officers is the killing of Capt. Rounds, of the Michigan Ninth. Neither the Battery nor the Third Minnesota lost any officers. About twelve men of the Third were killed. It is thought that at least one hundred and fifty of the rebels must have been killed.

The strength of the rebels was about 4,000 cavalry- two Georgia and one Texas regiment being of the number.

Lieutenant Blakely informs us that the rebels burned the railroad bridge at Murfreesboro and the bridge near by.

July 19, 1862

RETURNED SOLDIERS- J.K. Arnold of Co. G. Third Regiment arrived here yesterday morning, looking hale and hearty. H. left the Third about six hours before the attack upon it which resulted in their capture. He says the story of their being entrenched is untrue. They were on an open field skirted with timber, and in a very exposed position.

W.S. Paine Esq. and L.C. Paine, his son, both of Co. G. Fifth Regiment arrived on Monday. They were off on sick leave and look pretty well used up.

July 26, 1862

FROM THE THIRD MINNESOTA REG.

Nashville, Tennessee

Sabbath July 29th, 1862

Dear ones at Home;

It has been just one week since the Federal forces at Murfreesboro, including the Minnesota 3d were surprised, surrounded and surrendered, to an overwhelming force of Rebel Guerrilla Cavalry, and you have already read many accounts of the disaster better than I shall be able to give. But that part of it which I was directly cognizant of, I will tell you correctly, and the rest I will tell you as I believe it to be.

I was on picket duty with six guards nearly one mile from the city, the same

distance from the camp of the Michigan 9th and two miles from our own camp or what is called the "Woodberry Pike." I kept three of the guards with me as a reserve to the other three I stationed thirty rods in advance. One guard was kept on the watch two hours at a time at each post while the rest slept close at hand to be awakened instantly at the least demonstration or noise. I was up myself until nearly 12 o'clock, walking from post to post, then I got over the fence out of the road, spread my blanket on the soft side of a sod under a tree and laid myself down but did not sleep.

Then the town clock struck two, I took the gun and kept good watch, myself until fifteen minutes past four o'clock. It was daylight but considerable foggy, in a few moments I heard the tread of cavalry very near to us coming from towards the city. I supposed it was our cavalry (as they came from that way) going into the country scouting. (It was usual for our scouts to go out at that time of the morning.) I knew it was the duty of the sentinel to halt them before they come so near and I called to Barber three times to have him do so, but he did not hear me, for then I called to him the fourth time he commanded them to halt but they were within ten yards of us. It was too late, there twelve or fifteen of them each armed with a double barreled shot gun and 2 naval revolvers. They pointed them at us and commanded us to surrender immediately. I gave no answer but reached behind me for my guns. The movement was noticed and bang-bang went two revolvers shot one at me and the other at Barber who started to run. I could see that it would be instant death to all of us to make further demonstrations so I dropped my gun throwing up my arms and surrendered, believing that it was only a band of guerrillas come to run off the pickets as they had frequently taken off small squads of our men recently before. I had no more than surrendered when I looked up the road to the advance pickets and saw them surrendering to a force about equal to the one we had just surrendered to. Then those that were in the fields each side of us came to the road, and were hurriedly marched up the road away from the camp and the city. Very soon we met a force of Cavalry between two and three thousand strong, riding towards the city and the camps at full speed gesturing and yelling in the most revengeful manner. We had gone out about a mile and halted when we heard a firing commenced on the Michigan camp, when there were but four companies; one company being at the Court House in the city, their other five companies being on detached service at some other town. The rebels fired their short guns into the tents killing and wounding many before they could get out and get together, which some of them did, and fought bravely for a while, but were soon obliged to surrender to much superior forces. Our cavalry were camped by the side of the Michigan 9th and attacked at the same time and surrendered. By this time our camp became alarmed and with the exception of the guards around the camp, were in line of battle and had come partway to town to meet their hellish foe, with half of the battery on each end of the line. After the surrender of the 9th Michigan and the cavalry, the guerrillas divided, some attacking the Court House, some attacking the Minnesota 3d and the battery.

There were several charges made on our battery and infantry lines, but were mostly repulsed by our boys every time. During this time the Company at the Court House, after doing good execution, surrendered and also our Generals Duffield and Critenden and nothing was left but the battery and Minnesota boys, who sustained their position, until 8 o'clock, when after a council of war decided to surrender, Capt. Foster voting to fight.

They were marched 14 miles that evening and camped 2 miles beyond Reedyville, without having any supper, most of them had had nothing to eat that day. Myself and those that were taken prisoners in the forepart of the day was obliged to go to McMinnville, 42 miles, where we halted and had some bread and meat for supper, the first we had that day; then we were taken in wagons to the foot of the Cumberland

mountains, 6 miles beyond, where we camped and the next day at noon were taken back to McMinnville. Towards night we were taken a few miles out of the city and camped, some time after dark all the rest of the prisoners came up and we joined them and went a mile or so further and camped together.

The next day, Tuesday, we were all paroled except the commissioned officers. The next day we were allowed to make our way back to Murfreesboro the best way we could. This afternoon some Federal cavalry came in and took possession of the town which had for two or three days previous, been in the full possession of the citizens.

The next morning, Friday, we started on foot for Nashville, had marched half way, 15 miles, when we ascertained that two trains of cars had gone up to Murfreesboro with a battery and two reg'ts commanded by Gen Nelson. We waited until the first train came back and arrived at her long before dark. And here we are detained as paroled prisoners. The boys are not to blame but I fear some of the officers are.

L.S. Hancock.

July 26, 1862

**Letter from Sergt. O.M. Knight
Haryison's Landing, Va. July 15**

DEAR BROTHER: My last to you was dated at this place July 4th, just after our arrival here, since that time the weather has improved and the roads are now in good order, the weather is very pleasant, at present only at about 106 deg. in the shade. Our division is relieved from duty for the present, to allow us to recuperate after the wear and tear of the last engagement. Since the "Grand Charge" there has been two deaths in our regiment, one in company H and one in company I (Francis Hendricks) making in all, nine deaths in our regiment from disease since we left Minnesota. The sanitary condition of the First is not very good at present, there are only about one hundred able men in it, being nearly all sick or nearly so with the diarrhea. If the long roll should beat, however, you would see about 450 or 500 turn out. James Kirkman, our Hospital Steward has received his discharge since we came here and has received the appointment as Sutler to the 69th N.Y. regiment. I understand sutlers are the ones who make this war pay, many of them making \$25 to \$50 per day; even daily papers sell at 15 cents each.

Yours, &c, O.M. Knight.

October 8, 1862

**FROM THE MINNESOTA FIRST
Camp near Sharpsburg, Mo
Sunday Sept 21st, 1862**

DEAREST MOTHER:- Six weeks ago today we marched from Falmouth, Va. to Cedar Mountains where we stayed two days and then marched for Rappahannock Station. About two miles from the station was a ford, which our regiment was detailed to guard, and being attacked by a regiment of rebels, we gave them battle and put them to flight or in other words, made them "skedaddle". The last morning we were here, just as we had got ready to "fall in", a spherical case shot burst a little ahead of us and hundreds of rifle balls came singing by, fortunately aimed too high to do us any damage. We now advanced through a storm of shell and grape, and laid down at the base of a small hill, the elevation of which partially protected us. For two hours solid shot and shell rained in near us; and the incessant roar of cannon- the crashing and bursting of shells on the hill near our heads, the snapping off of limbs and falling of trees rendered our situation one of extreme excitement, though not imminently dangerous. The firing of the rebels

became irregular until it finally ceased, when our batteries opened upon them and completely scouted them. We then retired a mile and breakfasted. Receiving orders to report at Warrington, we took up the line of march and camped two days about a mile from town. We learned that the rebels intended to cross at White Sulphur Springs, to which place our Division was ordered early in the morning. As we approached a rebel battery opened on us, the first shot passing directly over our regiment. We were immediately deployed along the river. The rebels at the same time deployed along a fence on the opposite side of the river. We soon opened a hot fire on them, which made them lay down by the fence. We had a full play at the road where the rebels had to cross. All who attempted to cross were fired upon and we afterwards learned there were about a dozen killed and many more wounded. During the engagement I fired 29 times. Several of us opened fire on a rebel gun, about 900 yards distant. In a short time the gunners were seen to leave their place and take shelter under a hill. When we ceased firing they came and took the gun away.

In the evening the rebels sent down a flag of truce and took away their dead and wounded numbering over one hundred. Our loss was one killed and one slightly wounded.

The next day we started for Manassas; and at night camped near morning we marched on the pike, when our regiment was deployed on each side of the road until we came on a rebel battery which opened fire upon us. We retaliated fighting for four hours driving them back at all points and then withdrew from the woods to the road. Three others, besides myself, were placed on picket duty and before we were relieved captured a Sergeant Major. From him our officers learned that Jackson had just come up with forty thousand men, and that they were in the woods directly opposite our division.

We now retreated back towards Manassas, taking the road we came, stopping about half way between the road and Manassas. This was Friday. Heavy cannonading was heard in the direction where our division fought the evening before, continuing all the forenoon. We were ordered once more to advance towards Bull Run, and when within a mile of that place, halted. Here we formed in line of battle and lay down till about four o'clock, when orders came for us to hurry to the battlefield. We hastened forward and found that our men had succeeded in driving the enemy. We were ordered to advance up the road, in the direction of the place we fought the evening before our fight in the woods. We marched along for a mile, firing at intervals at rebel skirmishers, when suddenly we came upon a whole division of rebels, who opened fire upon us. I never thought bullets could fly so thick without hurting somebody. War is truly a game of chance, and we were in luck. The rebels followed us up closely, attacking the rest of our brigade, and driving them back.

I stopped by one of our guns, our regiment being somewhat confused, and watched the rebels coming after us. They were soon so close upon us that the battery men commenced to haul off their guns. I thought I had better leave, so I ran down the hill in the road and stopped just as the rebels gained the top of the hill. They now poured another volley down upon us, which fell short of their aim, the bullets throwing the mud all over me. I thought I was a goner, and ran across the road and hid behind a bank for half an hour. It was now getting quite dark, and the rebels had come up to the road. The only chance I had to escape was to run across the road towards the rebels and then down towards Centerville, which I did and got off all save.

The next day we fought all day till dark, the rebels beating us on our left wing, and we beating them on our right wing. At night, however, we started for Centerville, where we remained two days; and then were ordered to Upton Hill and thence through Georgetown and Washington to Frederick.

On this march I was detailed as one of the cattle guard, on the 7th of this month,

so I was not at the battle on Tuesday, the 14th nor the battle at Sharpsburg on the 17th.
We are not a little west of the battle field.

Your affectionate son,
HENRY O'NEIL

February 26, 1863

THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY- The following is the list of officers of the different military districts of the county, according to the returns of the county Auditor's office

1st Dist. Wabashaw- Capt. H.H. Slayton, 1st Lieut. Thomas Moore, 2d Lieut. R.P. Andrews

2nd Dist. Pepin- Capt. F.S. Richards, 1st Lieut. Chas Nunn, 2nd. Lieut. (blank)

3rd District. Lake City 1st Co. Capt. G.S. Kent, 1st Lieut. E.J. McGroth, 2nd Lieut Perkins Russell

2nd Co. Capt. Asa B. Doughty, 1st Lieut A.T. Guernsey, 2nd Lieut. Benj. Smith

4th Dist. Mt. Pleasant- Capt. A.J. Fowler, 1st Lieut G.W. Hathaway, 2d Lieut. J.N. Wilson

5th Dist. Chester- Capt. O. Jay Smith, 1st Lieut. G. Maxwell, 2d. Lieut. M.J. Fuller

6th Dist. West Albany & Hyde Park- Capt. L. B. McCollum, 1st Lieut Berl Fanning, 2nd Lieut. J.A. Thompson

7th Dist. Glasglow & Highland- Capt. A.T. James, 1st Lieut. A.M. Koeny, 2d Lieut. Thomas McDonough

2nd Co. Capt. W.S. Baxter, 1st Lieut. A.W. Lathrop, 2d Lieut. L.H. Evans

8th Dist. Pell & Zumbro- Capt. J. Simpson, 1st Lieut E.G. Culver, 2d Lieut. Louis Steinbern

9th Dist. Greenfield- Capt. Michael Quigley Jr., 1st Lieut W. Hayes Jr. 2d Lieut. I.B. Collier

10th Dist. Minneiske & Watopa- Capt. J.M. Douglas Minneiska, 1st Lieut John Gage Watopa, 2d Lieut And. Jacobson, Minneiska

11th Dist. Plainview- Capt. E.B. Eddy, 1st Lieut J.D. Ross, 2d Lieut. H.J. Buttes

12 Dist. Elgin- Capt. Geo. Farrar, 1st Lieut. J. Leatherman, 2d Lieut J. Marshall.

July 2, 1862

FROM THE MINNESOTA FIFTH

The following letter from Captain O. Eddy of Co. G. 5th Minnesota to his family in this city, though not intended for publication, contains much that will interest the general reader, particularly those whose friends have accompanied him through the scenes which he so vividly portrays:-(ED. HERALD)

Camp near Vicksburg June 10

MY DEAR ONES AT HOME:

You will evidently see by this letter that I have been around the "gool" and ought to (unreadable) as we school boys used to say, "I (unreadable) that forty six days have passed since I have been afforded an opportunity of writing you, and I too, know how much solicitude and anxiety my silence must have caused you, but the delay was not from any negligence of mine, but owing to circumstances over which I had no control. I received several of your good letters in the mean time and I assure you it was as manna to the worn and weary one. You little realize, I presume, the healthy influence such letters have upon us soldiers, far from the endearments of home. We were ordered to march from one old camp at Young's Point, on the 2d day of May, where we left all our

baggage excepting what we wore away.

This morning I took leave of the shirt, I wore away 46 days ago in which time I have made no change. I think that pretty well for a man accustomed to a triweekly change. Me thinks I hear you ask where have you been all this time? I will tell you. We were first ordered to Grand Gulf below Vicksburg, on the Louisiana side, that place however, was captured a few days before our division arrived there. At that point we crossed the Mississippi River and made our way towards Jackson, Mississippi. Our progress was necessarily slow, with a vast army stretching full twenty miles in length- the weather intensely hot- the dust suffocating, blinding- with great scarcity of water in many places, save it was from standing, stagnant pools which really was more injurious than no water at all. Well, I was saying we moved on towards Jackson, and when we reached the Big Black River, our forces were divided, part turning their faces towards the Big Black, while the rest pushed on for Jackson. The next day we began to find the enemy's pickets on both routes. Then the fun commenced in earnest. Our progress from this point was still more slow than before; but on we went, our boys growing more and more excited at the crack of every musket the want of good water, and the cloud of dust that hovered around us like a pall, we noticed no more, for our real enemy was in front. We had marched about two miles one morning, nearing Jackson, with our cavalry in front, when word came that the rebels would make a stand about five miles ahead, at or near Rocky Spring. Our column was halted and ordered to rest and we lay there until about two o'clock PM. Our brigade was then ordered to the front, we being at that time in the rear. Col Hubbard said to me, "Capt. our regiment is ordered to take the front as skirmishers; can we do it?" I replied, "We can try it sir!" This was the first time we had been placed in so trying a position. Everything being ready, the column moved forward. We had advanced about three miles when we met an old Negro, who told us the rebels were in the woods just the other side of the "big farm" and it was full, for they had been at his master's all day. Three companies of cavalry were ordered out to feel of them. They crossed the field, but came very near being all taken prisoners, the rebels making a flank movement on them, but they discovered their danger in time to avert it. Then we were ordered forward and we marched by the flank to within forty rods of the timber, when we were deployed as skirmishers. My company being the color company and center of the regiment, was held as the reserve to rally on in the case of danger, and most nobly did our regiment do their work; as Gen. Sherman remarked, there were few regiments that could form in battle line as quickly in the face of danger, as we did. Everything being all ready, the bugle sounded, and in an incredibly short time, our whole line scaled the fence, (didn't tear my pants this time, though) and was out of sight in the woods. But imagine our disappointment when the cowardly rebels broke and scattered in every direction. We did not take any of their sneaking lives, but we did take some prisoners.

We came out of the woods just at dark and marched to Rocky Springs, the rest of our force being ordered to camp where they were. One of Gen. Sherman's staff went to him and said; "General, the 5th Minnesota have gone on to the Springs alone, and they are in a very great danger". "Never mind that regiment," answered the General, "They are the fighting boys- they'll come out all right."

That night we rested within eighty rods of the rebel lines. The next day we were kept in front and skirmished all day, until we reached within two miles of Jackson, when our artillery took position and the fighting became general. The infantry formed line of battle, and charged their works which were surrendered to us a little before sundown. We took a large amount of prisoners, and there were very many killed. Our loss was very light, only two or three killed and a few wounded. The following day I was on provoguard duty. All the public buildings were burned, and the town was literally sacked and robbed of everything of value, the poor people and Negroes helping themselves

generally. Millions of dollars worth of cotton, sugar, tobacco and liquors were rolled into the streets and there destroyed. Verily I believe the rebels will not desire another Yankee visit. The next day we took up our line of march for Vicksburg, our army having forced the enemy across the Big Black, after a desperate and bloody fight. We bent our course to strike the river higher up than the first army, and succeeded in capturing two divisions of rebels with 12 pieces of artillery.

They surrendered to us without a fight. From the time we crossed the river at Grand Gulf, until we reached their works back of Vicksburg, we captured over 180 pieces of artillery and a vast amount of small arms and ammunition and hundreds of prisoners.

But when we reached Vicksburg we ran against a snag. Their works are too formidable. We can never scale them. We tried them twice, but was obliged to fall back. Our Brigade was in the last charge we lost two hundred men in less than one minute. It was a charge by the whole line and we lost heavily.

We reached their breast works but could go no farther. About 30,000 troops have since that been stationed upon the outside to keep off the rebels who are trying to cut off our supplies. Should they succeed in that they would force us to raise the siege. As it is now a mouse cannot get out of Vicksburg. That is why our brigade, with the rest are here. Our supply boats are constantly menaced here by some four or five thousand rebels. They are immediately in our rear, and we have been planting our guns and making a good ready for them since midnight. I hardly think this will be very interesting to you for I am so tired and worn out. We have been on the march for forty-six days; have not slept in a house or tent during that time; but with a blanket wrapped around me I have trusted the canopy of heaven for my shelter. I cannot complain, however, for my life and health are spared, but I must confess, hoping it will not detract from the qualities of a good soldier, that I long for the society of my dear ones at home. When that time will come, God only knows, and until then, I remain yours devotedly.

O. EDDY

P.S. The Wabashaw Company are all well.

July 9, 1863

FROM THE THIRD REGIMENT

Haines' Bluff, Miss. June 15th, '63

EDITORS HERALD:- Though not personally acquainted with you, I have long been a constant reader of your paper which often finds its way into our camp away down here in "Dixie", and I assure you, it is a welcome visitor. Company G. always has a rough and tumble to see who shall have the first peep at it, on its occasional visits, and its "local" is devoured with the greatest gusto. I have noticed that your old patrons, since they have been transplanted from civil to military life, have forgotten, in their headlong career after the laurels to be plucked from the battle field, the duty they owe their editor.

Feeling this most deeply, I have been induced to offer my feeble services, as mitigation of their negligence. Supposing also, that you, as well as your many readers, have an interest in the welfare of the old and unfortunate "Third", I write, hoping to be able to interest you, though should I fail you may lay it to the small amount of material I have to work on.

You are probably aware that since we arrived in the "sunny South" we have until very lately been stationed at Fort Heiman, Ky. at which place and during which time scarcely anything worthy of not occurred. Still, our regiment performed good service in clearing the country of "bushwhackers" and "Jayhawkers," a large number of whom were scattered during our stay there. Our regiment was continually on the scout, which

afforded an abundance of sport. On several occasions we took no provisions, but threw ourselves entirely upon the tender mercies and kind hospitality of our southern friends, always being careful to patronize those most noted for their secession proclivities. Three or four companies were generally sent out together, striking out afoot bright and early some fine morning and returning before night all well mounted. This done, they separate into small squads, scatter out and watch for game. Four companies of our regiment, Co. G. included, when we received notice from Grant that our presence was essential to the success of our arms at Vicksburg; so as soon as our jaded horses could convey us to the Fort, we packed our little kit, and after shedding a stray tear of two, as we crossed for the last time the threshold of our little log cabins which had sheltered us from many a pelting storm- which, by the way, only the senior company sported- we went on board the two little steamers which were awaiting us, and on the morning of the 3d of June, we dropped off and steamed down the river. At Paducah we changed our boats for one more commodious, when we again continued our Journey. We stopped at Columbus several hours on the following day, and replenished our stock of "Lincoln Greens." Without further interruption we pursued our journey, making Memphis on the morning of the 6th. Here we stopped for orders tho' the regiment remained on board. This was a grand day at Memphis. A grand celebration was in progress, the day being the anniversary of the occupation of the place by our troops. The citizens seemed to enter into it with much spirit. We remained but a short time and then continued on our journey. On the afternoon of the 8th we were off Young's Point, and before sundown we landed at Haine's Bluff, some fourteen miles up the Yazoo River; and here we are today the "luckless Third" and harmless little creatures who were brought up to guard railroads, right here in the face of the enemy. You cannot imagine the awkwardness of our position, but they say we will outgrow it in a short time. Yet here we lie in the shade of our fly tents, when not working on the fortifications, with great drops of perspiration rolling down our faces, fanning ourselves with a hard cracker, but without the slightest satisfaction.

Haines' Bluff is a range of hills making up gradually in some places, in others abruptly from the Yazoo River. It is covered with a heavy growth of timber consisting of Oak and Locust. The surface of the surrounding country is very uneven being cut up by deep gorges, through which ingress can be gained in no way except by the regular thoroughfares. Holding as we do this position, it is almost impossible for any force to drive us from it. Yet, as one of our spies report, who came in this morning, Johnson is going to undertake the job, (bad luck to him) as he left Yazoo City yesterday morning and is moving in this direction. But I am quite confident he will rue the day he fell in with the Minnesota Third and others of our brigade, which consists of the 25th and 27th Wisconsin, the 40th Iowa and our own regiment.

I must close this time, but if kind providence favors us with a brush, I will let you know how the Third meets them. C

July 16, 1863

THE FIRST MINNESOTA

We are under obligation to our friend Dr. G.F. Childs, of Minneiska, at present in Washington, for a list of killed and wounded in the First Minnesota at the battle of Gettysburg. We have only room for the Wabashaw company I, which we append:

Killed- Lieutenant W. Farrer; Sergeant C. Woodward, Privates C.P. Ellis, B. Welch, J. Fry

Wounded- Lieut. G. Boyd Jr. leg, Sergeant O.M. Knight, Arm. Corporal W.R. Richardt, leg; A.J. Roe, leg, E. Miller, leg; G.A. Milliken, foot amputated; A. Hayden hand; W. Wellman, leg, H. Lawson, hand; Wm. Peck, leg. Privates Ed. Paul, foot

amputated; H. Abbot, leg; J. Dunnevan, wrist; J. Freese, foot; W. Howell, hand; E.P. Hale hip and leg; B. Jackson, leg; C. Mason, leg; B. Philbrook, thigh; H. Widger, hip; D. Weaver, leg.

On the morning of the battle the regiment mustered for duty 325, killed 47, wounded 121, missing 70-238 Leaving all told after the battle 87.

The First Minnesota regiment was mustered into the service April 29, 1861. It then numbered 1,041. Since then it has received over 700 recruits, making 1,800 men all told. It went into the battle at Gettysburg 325 strong, and lost (besides 70 yet missing) in killed and wounded, 168 men.

The regiment has participated in the following battles (besides several skirmishes of lesser note): Bull run, first, Ball's Bluff, Yorktown, West Point, Fair Oaks, Peach Orchard, Savage's Station, Allen's Farm, White Oak Swamp, White Oak Bridge, Nelson's Farm, Glendale, Malvern, South Mountain, Sharpsburg, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorville, and Gettysburg.

Colonels- W.A. Corman, Brigadier General; N.J.Y. Dans, major general; Alfred Sully, brigadier general; G.A. Morgan, invalid corps. William Colville, present colonel.

June 2, 1864

List of drafted men in Wabasha County

Glasgow-14: Julius Hansen, Hugh Chalmers, John Cummings, Pat McGowan, Danild Stewart, Nicholas Klein, Friderick Stahman, Geo. W. Hall, Jacob Ellinger, Lewis Hubre, Isaac D. Vicket, John Stewart, Hugh Cochran, A.P.C. Fetzer

Greenfield-6: Patrick Hollins, Michael Mahoney, Wm. Albertson, Michael Riley, Patrick Hunter, A. Ellison

Highland 12: Volney Crundell, George Martin, William Harlan, J.P. Robbins, James Howett, L.H. Evans, John Wales, E.F. Andrus, Edward J. Dugan, A.G. Hawes, David Liddell, Patrick Norton

Hyde Park-8: John Funk Jr. Jno. R. Baldwin, John Collins, Russell Warren, Henry Tolcien, Richard Grear, James Barnes, William Hickley

Minneiska 13: Patrick Lahmay, John Peterson, Nich. Bartholomew, John Saltening, Howard Ingalls, Thos. Pal Freeman, Valentine Jacobs, Thomas Mallony, John Cannon, Alvin Pomeroy, J.M. Douglas, J.G. Swart, Frank Harpam

Mount Pleasant-11: Ephraim Selby, A.C. Bower, George Adrian, A.J. Fowler, Alfred Betterly, E.P. Fowler, Wm. Sprague, Joel Clark, Wolcott Church, Frederic Hart, Henry Arnold

Pell-9: Vincent Wurst, John Simpson, John Berhues, Owen Ellthorpe, S.B. Robinson, Zimri Fogg, J.H. Blattner, Thomas Tuft, Michael McGraw

West Albany-33: Fred Sasse, Henry Fake, Christian Lephardt, Gotlieb Gephardt, John C. Thompson, Michael McGillion, Christian Bloohm, Mathias Berg, Christian Riester, John Haasse, Elisha Harris, James McCuller, Henry Martin, James Carroll, Henry Schmuzer, Frederick Take, Thadeus Burg, Jospeh Schmidt, Charles Furman, Thomas Purcell, Richard Purcell, John Masoher, John Marlett, O.M. Thomson, Garret McCord, Wm. Box. William Sexton, Edward Wise, Owen Kennedy, James McPike, Dennis Hays, William Wilson, John O'Donnell

Wautopa-16: Michael Dady, John Fitzgerald, Jerry Shea, Thomas Lynch, Charles Jenks, Thomas Sullivan, Patrick Lee, Michael Costello, John Gage, Patrick Drury, John Overman, J.P. Falider, Henry Wagner, Morris Darrigan, Andrew Johnson, James H. McRae

Zumbro-18: Geo. Price, Frederick Hoffman, John Arnold, Robert Hauge, C.F. Schultz, Samuel Chapman, Charles Cruger, James Jenkins, Amos Warring, Lewis Warwick, Simeon Rand, John Potter, Henry Deckman, Charles Bloom, John

Schuckhard, James Hague, John Dale, Geo. D. Hill

June 23, 1864

A Complete List of the Drafted Men in Wabasha Co.- Cause of exemption &c.

The proportion of men in this county who are crippled, deaf, blind and diseased is truly fearful. If other countries in the State contain the same percentage of unsound men, we are a poor set indeed. The conclusion, however, is forced upon us, that the reputed wholesomeness of this climate has induced the "halt, lame and blind" of all other countries to emigrate thither. Yet these same imbeciles managed to perform as much hard manual labor as the citizens of any other State.

Physical Disability

Howard Ingalls, Minneiska, neuralgia and debility; Walcot Church, Mount Pleasant, varicose veins; John Peterson Minneiska, feebleness of constitution; John Arnold, Zumbro, ascites; Wm. Box, West Albany, loss of sight.; Patrick Hollins Greenfield, varicose veins, Wm. Wilson, West Albany, scrotal hernia; Robert Hogue, Zumbro, entire loss teeth upper jaw.; James McCuller, West Albany, inguinal hernia; Oscar M. Thompson, West Albany, chronic dysentery.; Lewis Warwick, Zumbro, hernia, A.P.C. Filger, Glasgow, sciatica, Wm. J. Harlan, Highland, epilepsy; Thomas Paul Freeman, Minneiska, partial ankylosis right ankle joint; Feredrick Take, West Albany, hernia; James Jenkins, Zumbro, relaxation capsular ligament shoulder joint; Thomas McDonald, Greenfield, one arm; Dennis Hays, West Albany, ankylosis fingers left hand; Frederick Haffman, Zumbro, varicose veins; Patrick Pendus, Greenfield, greatly reduced vital capacity; A.G. Hawee, Highland, loss of sight of right eye; J.H. Blattner, Pell, partial ankyloses elbow and shoulder joints; John Fitzgerald, Wautopa, apoplexy; E.F. Andrus, Highland, consumption; V. Wurst, Pell, deafness; Henry Schmuser, West Albany, deafness, Christian Riester, West Albany, injury to chest; Thos. Sullivan, Wautopa, Chronic eczema; Matthias Berg, West Albany, opacity both eyes; J.P. Robbins, Highland, loss of sight right eye, F. Melchion, medina, deafness, Jacob Ellinger, Glasgow, hernia; Patrick Crury, Wautopia, deafness; Henry Dickman, Zumbro, fractured leg.; John Schuckhard, Zumbro, badly united fracture right leg. Jeremiah Spea, Wautopa, scrofulus ulceration of legs; Frederick Sasse, West Albany, deaf.

Non residence- Richard Purcelle, West Albany

On account of age- A. Ellison, Greenfield, Elisha Harris, West Albany, Henry Fake, West Albany, Michael Costello, Wautopa, Edward J. Dugan, Highland, E.P. Fowler, Mount Pleasant, Nicholas Klein, Glasgow, C.F. Shults, Zumbro, Patrick Lee, Wautopa, Joseph Schmidt, West Albany.

Aleinage- John Maysheer, West Albany, Christian Lephardt, West Albany, William Hickey, Hyde Park.

Commutations- William Sexton, West Albany, John Gage, Wautopa, John Berhues, Pell, Charles Bloohm, West Albany, John Hase, West Albany, Charles Furman, West Albany, S.B. Robinson, Pell, Zimri Fogg, Pell, J.G. Swart, Minneiska, N. Bartholomew, Minneiska, Donald Stewart, Glasgow, Henry Martin, West Albany, John C. Thompson West Albany, Gotlieb Gephardt, West Albany, Thomas Maloney, Minneiska, James Howatt Highland, George Price, Zumbro, A.J. Fowler, Mount Pleasant, Volney Crundall, Highland, R. Warren, Hyde Park, A. Betterly Mount Pleasant.

Furnished substitutes- Owen Elthorp, Pell, Frederick Stahman, Glasgow, Richard Grear, Hyde Park

Mustered into Service- James Hague, Zumbro, Simon Rand, Zumbro, Orrin S. Elthorpe, Pell (sub.), David Liddel, highland, John Potter Zumbro, Charles Blum, Zumbro, John R. Baldwin Hyde Park, Michael Casy, Glasgow, James Carroll, West

Albany, John Commings, Glasgow, John Funk Jr. Hyde Park, M.J. McGrath Pell, John Wales, Highland, John Zigler, Hyde Park (sub), John Collins, Hyde Park, L.H. Evans Highland, Valentine Jacobs, Minneiska, Owen Kennedy West Albany, John Salenting, Minneiska, John Stewart, Glasgow, Thadeus Burg, West Albany, Samuel Chapman, Zumbro, Charles Jenks, Wautopa, Charles Kruger Zumbro, John Murllett, West Albany.

June 30, 1864

THE FIFTH MINNESOTA- Yesterday morning, the Fifth Minnesota Veterans, 265 strong, arrived at our Levee per Savannah, enroot for St. Paul, from whence after a grand reception, they will repair to their respective homes on furlough.

This regiment was recruited and organized during the winter of 1861-62. No finer organization of men has ever been sent into the field.

In the spring of 1862 seven companies were ordered to report to Major General Hallock at Hamburg Landing, Tennessee, the remaining force having been assigned to duty on the frontier of Minnesota. Leaving St. Paul on the 13th day of May, the regiment made the entire trip to Hamburg Landing on transports, arriving May 23d. It was at once assigned to General Plummer's Brigade of General Stanley's division, then operating before Corinth under General Rosecrans. In the advance of Corinth, May 29th, the regiment was actively engaged, suffering many casualties, and participated in the pursuit of the enemy after the evacuation, June 3d, it went into camp at "Camp Clear Creek." During the summer it participated in an occasional scout and skirmish, and on the 18th of August moved with General Rosecran's column into Northern Alabama, and from that time for several months was almost constantly moving. At Tuscumbia, Cherokee Station, luka, Jacinto and Burnsville, it was engaged in numerous skirmishes. In the battle of Corinth, October 3d and 4th, 1862, it bore a conspicuous part, as also in the pursuit of General Price, after that great victory. The regiment was with General Grant in his campaign through Northern Mississippi, during the months of November and December, 1862, and after the capture of Holly Springs was sent into Tennessee with the column sent in pursuit of Forrest. A tedious campaign followed, which did not close until the middle of January, 1863.

Meanwhile the three companies in Minnesota found work to do. In August 1862, companies B. and C. were at Fort Ridgly, which was attacked by the Indians under Little Crow. These companies repulsed six hundred Indians in two engagements, each five hours in duration. Two attacks on Fort Abererombie were repulsed by company D. In November, 1862, these companies were relieved, and joined their regiment at Oxford, Mississippi, then about starting for Tennessee in pursuit of Forrest. During the month of February, 1863, the regiment remained on duty on the line of the Memphis and Charleston railroad and in March were ordered to join the army then operating against Vicksburg. At Young's Point, La., the regiment became a part of the 3d division, 15th Army Corps, at that time commanded by Major-General W.T. Sherman.

During the eventful Vicksburg campaign, the regiment marched forty-five days, was engaged in action at Mississippi Springs, Jackson, Mechanicsburg, Richmond, Louisiana- was one of the assaulting regiments on the 22d of May, shared the hardships of the subsequent siege, and was complimented by General Sherman for gallantry during the campaign.

After the fall of Vicksburg, the regiment encamped on Black River, remaining until November when the entire division was ordered to Memphis, having been transferred to the 16th army corps, and was assigned to the duty of protecting the Memphis and Charleston railroad. The 5th was stationed at Lagrange, Tenn., where it remained two months. In February, 1864, it was stationed at Vicksburg, and sent with supply train to

Gen. Sherman, then at Canton. On the return from Canton, nine-tenths of the eligible men of the regiment were mustered as veteran volunteers. It was then designated to form a part of A.J. Smith's command, ordered to cooperate with General Banks on the Red River expedition. During this expedition the regiment was engaged in seven actions, and marched almost continually for seventy days. On the return from Red River, the regiment was hotly engaged in the action with Marmaduke, near Columbia, Ark. June 10th it arrived at Memphis, Tenn., when it received the order to proceed to Minnesota to receive its furlough.

August 4, 1864

The Soldiers' Festival

Pursuant to prior arrangements, a grand festival was given in honor to the Veterans of Co. "G" Fifth Minnesota Regiment, on Monday evening last. The occasion was a happy and brilliant one, and undoubtedly inured to the mutual benefit and happiness of all present. "It is better to give than to receive," saith the old proverb, yet on this occasion, the donors and recipients seemed alike pleased.

The members of Co. G., about twenty-five in number, - brave veterans of many a hard fought battle, in the front at luka where shot and shell fell thick and fast, the first in Vicksburg after its surrender, where welcomed by the beauty and chivalry of this city. Nor were their fallen comrade forgotten, whose blood has made fat many a hotly contested field in that land accursed by slavery, and whose bones are now mouldering in the tropical land of secession and wickedness. Their wives and children were placed around the festive board, and their deep sorrows assuaged with the unction of sympathy and melodious tears.

The board was spread by B.F. Hurd, in his spacious hall, and well laden with substantials and delicacies, and ornamented with flowers. The Star-Spangled Banner, our national emblem of Union and Liberty, was gracefully festooned near the head of the table, and the walls hung with devices indicative of loyalty and words of welcome and sympathy. On the north side were the words in letters of evergreen, "We Mourn for the Absent." On the west end of the hall were the words in large blue letters, "Wabasha welcomes her Brave Volunteers". On the south side of the room were the words in highly ornamented letters, "Vicksburg" "Co. G." "luka" placed equidistant apart, over which was suspended a very fine portrait of Lieut. Gen. Grant.

After the supper, patriotic toasts and speeches were in order. W.T. Dugan, Esq, was chosen Generalissimo of the occasion and read the regular toasts as follows:

The President of the United State. Responded to by Rev. M. Woodruff, in a terse, patriotic speech, at the conclusion of which three rousing cheers were given for the president

Lieut. Gen. Grant, "I propose to move immediately on your works" - Responded to by Judge Dawley, who with his usual clearness of intellect and philosophy did great honor to the occasion, followed by three cheers for Gen. Grant, which made the old hall ring.

"Our Guests- Co. G. Fifth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers." Eloquently and prettily responded to by the Rev. Mr. Batterson.

"Our Army and Navy", Responded to by Pierre Dufour, in a patriotic style, pleasing to the audience and creditable to himself.

"Our Country's Flag- the Star-Spangled Banner." Very eloquently and beautifully responded to by Gen. A.T. Sharpe, whose terse remarks elicited long and continued applause. After the cheering had subsided, General Sharpe stepped forward and sang the Star Spangled Banner. By the way, the General is a good singer, and the effect of that song at that time was truly wonderful. The audience joined in the chorus, and the

hall rang with the patriotic strains.

"Women-Co-worker with man in the great Union cause." Response by H.F. Rose, during which he paid a very pretty compliment to ladies for their patriotic efforts through the Sanitary Commissions, and as nurses in the army, followed by three cheers for the patriotic women of America.

"The United States Soldiers- the defenders of human rights." Responded to by the Rev. Mr. Wilford. We would like to review this gentleman's remarks, as they seemed so appropriate to the occasion, but space forbids. Suffice it to say, they were fitly spoken and enthusiastically received.

"The Union- It must and shall be preserved," Responded to by W.T. Dugan, Esq, by the recitation of a very pretty poem bearing the title of the above sentiment. The ladies volunteered to sing the very popular song, "Rally round the flag, boys."

"Woman- By her patriotic efforts in behalf of our soldiers, she has established another claim to our admiration and love." Responded to by J.R. 42, in an eloquent and pathetic style, very creditable to himself, and much to the gratification of the patriotic ladies.

The entertainment concluded with a sentiment "THE HONORED DEAD" responded to by the exquisite melody of "home, Sweet Home, " the audience rising.