Tennessee River Civil War Trails

Sources Guide

Prepared by the Center for Historic Preservation
Middle Tennessee State University

TENNESSEE
CIVIL WAR
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

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1. Battle of Johnsonville (two associated state parks, Nathan B. Forrest SP in Benton County and Johnsonville State Historical Area in Humphreys County)

Date(s): November 4-5, 1864


Forces Engaged: Supply depot garrison (approx. 4,000) [US]; Forrest’s Cavalry [CS]

Estimated Casualties: Unknown

Description: In an effort to check the Union army’s advance through Georgia, Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest led a 23-day raid culminating in an attack on the Yankee supply base at Johnsonville, Tennessee. Swinging north from Corinth, Mississippi, toward the Kentucky border and temporarily blockading the Tennessee River at Fort Heiman, Forrest then moved southward along the Tennessee River’s west bank, capturing several U.S. steamers and a gunboat which he later had to abandon. On November 4, Forrest began positioning his artillery across the river from the Federal supply base and landing at Johnsonville. The Union discovered the Confederates finishing their entrenchments and battery emplacements in the afternoon of the 4th. The Union gunboats and land batteries, across the river, engaged the Confederates in an artillery duel. The Rebel guns, however, were so well-positioned, the Federals were unable to hinder them. In fact, Confederate artillery fire disabled the gunboats. Fearing that the Rebels might cross the river and capture the transports, the Federals set fire to them. The wind then extended the fire to the piles of stores on the levee and to a warehouse loaded with supplies. Seeing the fire, the Confederates began firing on the steamboats, barges, and warehouses to prevent the Federals from putting out the fire. An inferno illuminated Forrest’s night withdrawal, and he escaped Union clutches without serious loss. Damages totaled $2.2 million. The next morning, on the 5th, some Confederate artillery bombarded the depot in the morning but then left. Although this brilliant victory further strengthened Forrest’s reputation and destroyed a great amount of Union materiel, it failed to stem the tide of Union success in Georgia. By this time, Forrest often harassed the Union Army, but, as this engagement demonstrated, he could not stop their operations.
2. Camden City Cemetery
While most residents of Camden and Benton County were unionists, with the majority of men joining the Union Army, the Camden City Cemetery features a mass burial of Irish immigrants who served in the Confederate Army. This grave has both a historic and a modern marker that tells their story.

3. Holladay Cemetery
This is a large cemetery about ½ mile west of Holladay at the intersection of Cemetery Road and the Bible Hill Road. Cemetery Road bisects the cemetery into northern and southern sections. Gates to each section note that the cemetery was established in 1851. The cemetery is divided into three sections: northeast, northwest, and southern. There are Confederate Veterans buried in the southern section of the cemetery.

4. Mathews Cemetery
Located two miles east of Holladay, in what was once Chaserville, TN. The cemetery is one of the few remaining pieces of evidence that this community ever existed. The cemetery has Confederate veterans.
Decatur County

1. **Brownsport Furnace (which is a county owned park and is fully accessible, very rustic)**

   The first iron furnace (which no longer exists) was built by Samuel Vanleer in 1838 on the west bank of the river. The son of Vanleer's sister Hettie, Felix Lanier, inherited a half interest in the operation and took on a partner, Alexander Fall. In 1850, these two young men oversaw a thriving business that employed 90 people, most of them slaves, which produced over 2,000 tons of pig iron and realized a profit of $15,000. Three year later, Lanier sold 6,000 acres of land to the partnership of William Ewing, David Dick, and Robert McClure. The furnace itself and the surrounding buildings were not part of the transaction.

   Ewing, Dick, and Co. built a steam powered hot blast furnace on a new site three miles from the river, and by the end of 1854 the operation had made over 2,100 tons of metal. Ewing died soon afterwards and the Chancery Court ordered the business sold in 1857. After resolving this matter, Dick sold the furnace and lands to ironmaster John W. Walker, the former owner of an ironworks near Forty-Eight Creek in Wayne County.

   Unlike many Western Highland Rim ironworks, Brownsport escaped destruction during the Civil War. Lieutenant-Commander Leroy Fitch listed the presence of the furnace on a U.S. Navy reconnaissance report in March 1863. He identified the facility as a foundry and noted that the owners were known to be Unionists. After the war, Walker sold a 2/3 interest in the business to Charles B. Young.

   Information from the 1870 census schedule of manufactures identifies the partnership of Walker and Young as running the only furnace in Decatur County.

2. **Decaturville Courthouse and Cemetery**

   The county seat, Decaturville was the site of guerilla warfare during much of the war. The courthouse grounds feature numerous monuments to honor events of the Civil War and the county's veterans.

   This cemetery, located on the hill three blocks north of the courthouse square, has long been the principal cemetery serving white families of Decaturville. It also seems to be the largest cemetery in the county, at least in terms of carved markers, though Pleasant Hill and Union may be larger in terms of total burials. Decaturville City Cemetery dates to the mid-1840s. The area at the top of the hill west of the stairs (formerly an access drive) is the oldest. Most burials here
would have been marked by fieldstones. However, the fieldstones have been removed and the space has been reused. All burials in this area since 1950 are reusing space, as can be seen as the post-1950 markers (Alexander, Butler, Holt, Howard, Johnson, Taylor) are surrounded by markers a century older. The new burials and future burials overlie older burials. This cemetery has several Civil War veterans buried here.

3. Clay Cemetery, Pentecost St., Parsons

Clay Cemetery is a black cemetery located on Pentecost Street in Parsons and until at least the 1980s was the only place African Americans were buried in Parsons. It takes its name from Edward Clay, one of the black Union soldiers who is buried here. Clay Cemetery is labeled as "Parsons Cem" on the U.S.G.S. Jeanette quadrangle (1986). In 1991 the cemetery was badly overgrown. By 1996 it had been cleared and was being mown on a regular basis. As is characteristic of many African American cemetery, many graves have not received permanent markers. There may be over 100 unmarked graves. David Donahue recorded this cemetery in late spring 1991; updated it December 26, 1996; and checked and updated it October 25, 2003.

The cemetery was recorded by Margaret Alexander and Bobbie Bartholomew on June 17, 1976. Their record appears under the name Parsons City Negro Cemetery in Decatur County, Tennessee Cemetery Records published by the Captain Nathaniel A. Wesson Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Parsons, Tennessee, 1984, pp. 346-348. Reference is made to this earlier record where appropriate. Alexander and Bartholomew estimated 33 unmarked graves but note that they were not able to locate all the graves because of the poor condition of the cemetery.

4. Parsons Cemetery

Parsons Cemetery, third or fourth largest cemetery in Decatur County, is bounded by Fourth Street, Perryville Road, Fifth Street, and Carolina Avenue. It is shown on the U.S.G.S. Jeanette quadrangle (1986) as the unnamed cemetery between the label "Water" and the label "Parsons." The cemetery designated on the quadrangle as "Parsons Cem" to the southeast is Clay Cemetery, the city's old negro cemetery.

Parsons Cemetery is divided into two sections. The newer western section originally was to have been a memorial garden type cemetery with flush-to-the-ground markers for easy mowing. However, this plan has not been enforced. This section may be called Parsons Memorial Gardens in some obituaries from
the 1970s and 1980s. All black burials in Parsons Cemetery are grouped together in a small area within this section. The older section contains Civil War veterans.

5. Doe Creek School and Cemetery, Scotts Hill

The Doe Creek School was built during the Reconstruction Era as a meeting place for a Baptist congregation. The building still contains many of the original, hand hewn, white poplar logs which were snaked to the site by a team of oxen making it Tennessee's oldest existing original one-room log school. The building was restored in 2007 and is currently a museum of its earlier existence.

The cemetery contains the bodies of two Confederate veterans who were murdered by local Union supporters when the men tried to return home. Both the school and the cemetery have state historical markers.
Hardin County

1. Shiloh National Military Park

Shiloh National Military Park contains a wide array of historic sites. In addition to the battlefield of Shiloh itself, the park contains a separate unit at Corinth, Mississippi, that preserves and interprets the Siege and Battle of Corinth. Located within the boundaries of Shiloh park is also a United States National Cemetery, which contains around 4,000 soldiers and their family members. A National Historic Landmark in its own right, the Shiloh Indian Mounds are also located with the park boundaries. Click on the links below for more information on the history of each of these areas.

Congress established Shiloh National Military Park on December 27, 1894 to commemorate the April 6-7, 1862 battle that raged around Shiloh Church and Pittsburg Landing. Producing more than 23,000 casualties, the battle was the largest engagement in the Mississippi Valley campaign during the Civil War. Originally under the War Department, Shiloh National Military Park was transferred to the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior in 1933. Currently, the park has over 4,200 acres.

2. Savannah Square, Courthouse and Tennessee River Museum

The historic downtown of Savannah is a National Register historic district. On the grounds of the courthouse are several historic and modern monuments honoring Civil War veterans. Located within a historic post office building, the Tennessee River Museum is adjacent to the Hardin County Courthouse. The exhibits chronicle prehistoric times, life of the Mississippian mound builders, the tragic story of the “Trail of Tears,” the Civil War on the River, the Golden Age of Steamboats, and the Tennessee River today.

3. Cherry Mansion, Savannah

Circa 1830. Built by David Robinson and presented as a wedding gift to his daughter & son-in-law, W. H. Cherry. Located on the banks of the Tennessee River. Served as headquarters for General U. S. Grant in the spring of 1862. Grant’s breakfast was interrupted by couriers with news that the battle of Shiloh had begun. Grant Headquarters Monument is located one block east.

4. Saltillo

An early river town with homes dating from the 1840s, the town of Saltillo saw a great deal of activity during the Civil War. It was an important port for moving
troops and goods, and its strategic importance led to numerous skirmishes throughout the war. Styles of architecture range from Greek Revival and Italianate influences to country farmhouses. Two cemeteries and a church predate the Civil War.
Henderson County

Battle of Parker’s Crossroads. A large city park that is at the crossroads of I-40 and TN Hwy 22

Date(s): December 31, 1862


Forces Engaged: Two brigades (approx. 3,000 men) [US]; expeditionary brigade [C]

Estimated Casualties: 737 total (US 237; CS 500)

Description: As Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest’s expedition into West Tennessee neared its conclusion, Union Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, with the brigades of Col. Cyrus L. Dunham and Col. John W. Fuller, attempted to cut Forrest off from withdrawing across the Tennessee River. Dunham’s and Forrest’s march routes, on December 31, 1862, brought them into contact at Parker’s Cross Roads. Skirmishing began about 9:00 am, with Forrest taking an initial position along a wooded ridge northwest of Dunham at the intersection. Confederate artillery gained an early advantage. Dunham pulled his brigade back a half mile and redeployed, facing north. His Federals repelled frontal feints until attacked on both flanks and rear by Forrest’s mounted and dismounted troops. During a lull, Forrest sent Dunham a demand for an unconditional surrender. Dunham refused and was preparing for Forrest’s next onset when Fuller’s Union brigade arrived from the north and surprised the Confederates with an attack on their rear; Confederate security detachments had failed to warn of Fuller’s approach. “Charge ’em both ways,” ordered Forrest. The Confederates briefly reversed front, repelled Fuller, then rushed past Dunham’s demoralized force and withdrew south to Lexington and then across the Tennessee River. Both sides claimed victory, but the Confederate claims appear to have more credence.
Henry County

1. Henry County Courthouse Square
   Junction of U.S. Highways 641 and 79, Paris

The courthouse square was a center of activity throughout the war and Reconstruction. The Fifth Tennessee Infantry, CSA, was organized in the summer of 1861; it included the first of some 2,500 Henry County volunteers who joined Confederate forces. However, with the fall of the Confederate forts of Henry, Heiman, and Donelson in spring 1862, Paris soon became a fortified, occupied federal town. The presence of federal soldiers on the town square infuriated many white citizens; federal commanders until the end of the war worried about partisan and guerilla activity. In the fall of 1863, for instance, they estimated that 300 guerrillas were raiding and taking conscripts between Paris and Murray, Kentucky.

African American contrabands and emancipated slaves felt differently about federal troops. A large black neighborhood, centered around Mt. Zion Baptist Church, soon developed north of the courthouse near the railroad tracks and the present-day U.S. Highway 641 N. To protect black voters, along with white Unionists, after the war, Governor William G. Brownlow sent a detachment of the Tennessee State Guard to Paris, who stayed there during the summer of 1867.

The National Register-listed Henry County Courthouse dates to the 1890s; its hallway includes a portrait of Governor Isham G. Harris, who led the state to secession in 1861. Harris had built his business, legal, and political career in Paris in the 1840s and 1850s. The courthouse grounds also include a monument to Henry County Confederate soldiers, erected in 1900.

2. City Cemetery & Quinn's Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church
   Church Street at Ruff Street, Paris

The historic City Cemetery designates the early settlement history of Paris. Several Confederate veterans are marked by simple rectangular stones inscribed “CSA.” Two brothers, Colonel Jonathan J. Lamb and Samuel H. Lamb, were reinterred under a single tombstone in late 1866. Jonathan Lamb died in Georgia fighting in 1864; Samuel Lamb died in the summer of 1863. Confederate officer and later Tennessee governor James D. Porter is buried here as well as General John D. C. Atkins, who helped to form the 5th Tennessee Infantry before he served as a Confederate congressman in Richmond. After the war, he returned to Paris and co-founded the Paris Intelligencer, an anti-Republican Reconstruction newspaper. He was elected to Congress in 1873 and later served as Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
One sizeable corner of the cemetery was for the burial of African Americans but few grave markers remain in this section. Adjacent to the black section of the cemetery is Quinn Chapel AME, this Gothic-styled church building dates to 1917, but the congregation dates to the post-Civil War years as one of the first in Paris established by missionaries in the wake of emancipation. Ever since the congregation has shaped African American institutions and lives in Paris and Henry County. Church members, for example, sent their children to the Paris’ first public school for blacks, taught by an unidentified black teacher from Paducah, in February 1868.

3. Lee School Center for the Arts
   402 Lee Street, Paris

The front portion of this former public school, now a cultural center, dates to 1848 and served as the Paris Male Academy to the Civil War years. The largest section of the building dates to the 1890s and was named in honor of Robert E. Lee, the Confederate commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

4. Battle of Paris site
   State Highway 54, Paris

Located about one mile west of the courthouse, a state highway historical marker locates the Confederate position during the battle of March 11, 1862. Standing along this ridge, 450 Confederates, led by Major H. Clay King, repelled an advancing Federal column, sent by General Ulysses S. Grant to quell pro-Confederate support and to establish a federal garrison in the town. The Confederates suffered about 20 deaths; while the Federal troops experienced three times that number of losses. The battle was the largest armed conflict to take place in Henry County.

5. Barr’s Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
   5560 Briarpatch Lake Road, Como vicinity

This National Register-listed historic district is one of the county’s most significant emancipation sites. In c. 1864 Henry County planter John Barr verbally donated the land on which Barr’s Chapel CME Church, cemetery, and school developed. He stipulated that if the church ever closed, the land would revert to his heirs. According to a church history, the property “was a refuge during the period after slavery during reconstruction [when] many men who were born into slavery became landowners.” Families such as the Freemans, the McWherters, Cowans, Taylors, and Teagues formed a group of black landowners
who situated their farms around the site of the church and cemetery. The historic school building dates to about 1902; the church building dates to 1953. The cemetery is the oldest part of the district, with burials dating to the 1860s and 1870s.

6. Skirmish at Mansfield
   Tennessee Highway 114, Mansfield

Located at the Mansfield Baptist Church cemetery, this small engagement took place in March 1864. Former Tennessee Governor Isham G. Harris was attempting to visit Paris, escorted by the 7th Tennessee Calvary (CSA), when federal soldiers encountered his party. A small firefight broke out; Harris escaped and both sides experienced few casualties.

7. Paris Landing State Park
   U.S. Highway 79 at Tennessee River (Kentucky Lake)

In late October 1864 Paris Landing played an important role in Gen. Nathan B. Forrest's campaign against the federal supply post named Johnsonville on the Tennessee River. His troops placed a battery here, as well as more cannon downriver at the site of Fort Heiman, and attacked several federal naval vessels as they moved upriver toward the Johnsonville base. Forrest's men succeeded in destroying two steamboats, capturing a steamboat and a federal gunboat, and taking 43 prisoners. On November 3, the federals counterattacked and six gunboats shelled the position near Paris Landing.

The state park is one of the region's premier recreational facilities and is open year round.
Perry County

1. Mousetail Landing State Park. Located on the Tennessee River, and a good place to talk about military activity during the Civil War on the Tennessee River

Tradition has it that Mousetail Landing received its name during the Civil War period when one of the area's tanning companies caught fire. The exodus of mice fleeing the burning tannery was so profuse that the area in proximity of the park became known as Mousetail Landing.

2. Craig Century Farm, Linden vicinity

The first black-owned property in the county after the war (c. 1869-70) is a good place to talk about the freedmen and the new worlds they built out of slavery. The current owner McDonald Craig is a great interview.

3. Linden Square

This National Register listed courthouse is from the early twentieth century. The courthouse that stood here during the Civil War was burned to the ground during fighting between Union and Confederate forces. In May of 1863, Union forces moved in to chase out Confederate forces, which had fortified their position in the courthouse and on the courthouse square. The Union forces surrounded the courthouse, burned it and the arms stored inside of it.

4. Cedar Grove Furnace

Cedar Grove Furnace, located on the Furnace Branch of Cedar Creek in Perry County is the only remaining double stack charcoal furnace within the Western Highland Rim region of Middle Tennessee. The stacks were constructed of limestone and then lined on the inside with handmade firebricks.

Wallace Dixon, the builder of the Cedar Grove Iron Works, came from Dickson County after selling his interest in Cumberland Furnace and the Jones Creek Forge to his former partner, Anthony Van Leer. Dixon constructed the furnace first with one stack in 1832, but then rebuilt it as a double stack by the following year. This furnace is a single structure in the shape of a truncated pyramid, roughly 31 feet by 52 feet by 30 feet tall, housing two boshes and two chimneys side-by-side. When one furnace was in blast, the other one was being prepared for use.

The furnace at Cedar Grove was possibly the first in the state to smelt iron with the "hot blast" technique. Discovered by Scotsman James Neilson in 1828, the
procedure consisted solely of heating the contents of the blast before it was loaded into the furnace. Through this procedure, the rate of combustion was intensified and more iron could be reclaimed from the same amount of ore with less fuel. This method would eventually revolutionize the iron industry.

The Cedar Grove Furnace plantation encompassed numerous buildings, such as the large ironmaster’s house, kitchen, smokehouse, storehouse, blacksmith shops, workers’ houses, large stables and corn cribs. At least a hundred people, black and white, called the self-contained village home. Many of the workers were enslaved, either owned by the ironmaster or hired out from nearby slaveholders. A good number of the hands were white, such as Anderson Bunch, a Virginian who had left his native state on account of hard times. Bunch, his four sons, and four of his slaves worked around the furnace at various times of the year.

Cedar Grove Furnace operated until 1862, when the fall of Fort Henry opened the Tennessee River to Flag-Officer Andrew H. Foote’s muddy water fleet. Shortly afterwards, Federal gunboats lobbed cannonballs almost two miles from the river toward the furnace. This bombardment frightened and scattered the workforce and operations ceased. Bradley was ambushed and killed as he crossed the Spring Branch one day, and was buried at the top of a small hill, a short distance west of the furnace. After his death, everything deteriorated rather quickly, and by 1883 nothing remained as a witness to the life and industry of the place but the old limestone furnace stacks.

In 1976, in order to commemorate the bicentennial of the United States of America, Koppers, Inc., who owned the old furnace stack as well as the surrounding land, gave the historic structure and three and a half acres to Perry County for use as a park. The dramatic ruin is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
Stewart County

1. Fort Donelson National Military Park

Date(s): February 11-16, 1862


Forces Engaged: Army in the Field [US]; Fort Donelson Garrison [CS]

Estimated Casualties: 17,398 total (US 2,331; CS 15,067)

Description: After capturing Fort Henry on February 6, 1862, Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant advanced cross-country to invest Fort Donelson. On February 16, 1862, after the failure of their all-out attack aimed at breaking through Grant's investment lines, the fort's 12,000-man garrison surrendered unconditionally. This was a major victory for Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and a catastrophe for the South. It ensured that Kentucky would stay in the Union and opened up Tennessee for a Northern advance along the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. Grant received a promotion to major general for his victory and attained stature in the Western Theater, earning the nom de guerre "Unconditional Surrender."

2. Dover Tavern (Surrender House).

Located on the river, the Tavern is operated as a historic site by the National Park Service where NPS interprets the "unconditional surrender" demand by Grant. An outstanding visual site.

3. Battle of Dover (the town square and historic cemetery are the best resources)

Date(s): February 3, 1863


Forces Engaged: Detachments of two regiments: 83rd Illinois Infantry and 5th Iowa Cavalry Regiments and some artillery (approx. 800) [US]; cavalry division (approx. 2,500) [CS]

Estimated Casualties: 796 total (US 126; CS 670)
Description: Under orders, in late January 1863, Confederate Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, commanding two brigades of cavalry, had taken position on the Cumberland River at Palmyra to disrupt Union shipping. The Federals, however, apprised of Wheeler’s intent, refrained from sending any boats up or downriver. Unable to disrupt Union shipping and realizing that he and his men could not remain in the area indefinitely, Wheeler decided to attack the garrison at Dover, Tennessee, which informers reported was small and could easily be overwhelmed. The Rebels set out for Dover and between 1:00 and 2:00 pm, on February 3, began an attack. The 800-man garrison, under the command of Col. A.C. Harding, was in and about the town of Dover where they had chosen camps that commanded the area and had dug rifle pits and battery emplacements. The Confederates mounted a determined attack using artillery fire with great skill, but were repulsed with heavy losses. By dusk, both sides were mostly without ammunition. The Confederates surveyed the Union defenses and decided that the enemy was too well-placed to allow capture. Wheeler’s force retired. The Federals did send out a pursuit but to no avail. The Confederates had failed to disrupt shipping on the Cumberland River and capture the garrison at Dover. This Confederate failure left the Union in control in Middle Tennessee and a bitter Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest denounced Wheeler, a favorite of Gen. Braxton Bragg, saying he would not again serve under him.

4. Bear Springs Furnace, TN Hwy 49, about 4 miles south of Dover. Listed in the National Register and accessible from the road right of way

The Bear Spring Furnace and Forge was put into blast in 1832 by Woods, Yeatman & Co. Located near large deposits of ore, the Bear Spring Furnace became one of the most important charcoal iron producers in Stewart County. The manufacturing facility here was an integral part of the owners’ sprawling Cumberland Iron Works operation and provided pig iron for the rolling mill that was located on the west bank of the Cumberland River, six miles from Dover.

After the death of one of the principals, Thomas Yeatman, in 1834, the company reorganized and John and Samuel Stacker became partners in the firm. The following year, Woods, Stacker, & Co. held over 12,000 acres of land and owned over 100 slave workers. In 1842, the company’s engineers fitted the furnace with an innovative device that utilized the waste heat in order to generate considerably more blast. This improvement provided enough additional power to drive another run-out fire and also to run the associated grist mill.

In the years following the death of the other founding partner, Joseph Woods in 1847, several new investors bought into the thriving company. In 1850, the 110 person workforce at the furnace produced over 2000 tons of metal. Four years later the machinery was removed and installed at the newly-improved Dover
Furnace at Carlisle. The furnace then stood as an abandoned ruin for almost 20 years.

During the Civil War it used brown hematite ore from local deposits. Destroyed by Union forces in 1862, the present stack was built in 1873, with a railroad to Tennessee Ridge, on the route of the present day highway. The rebuilt furnace was operated for a time by Woods, Yeatman & Company, but financial difficulties soon overtook them. Successively owned by various companies, the enterprise was strapped by financial problems in the postwar years. In 1928, the furnace closed. The limestone stack and a bridge support pillar are all that remain of what was once a busy and integral part of an antebellum industrial complex.
Wayne County

Clifton, at the city park by the river (the old ferry site)
According to the city’s website, “The Civil War was the most traumatic event in Clifton's history. While most surrounding communities remained loyal to the Union, Cliftonians enthusiastically allied themselves with the Confederacy. This led to many unhappy consequences. In the second year of the war, the Tennessee River became a vital invasion route for Union forces. Clifton, to its great misfortune, was located in a strategic position on that river. Early in 1862 Union forces occupied Clifton, and they stayed here for most of the remainder of the war. The Union stronghold in Clifton was Stockade Hill, and the officers’ headquarters were located in what is now the front yard of Frank Hughes School.”

Forrest used the Clifton ferry during his winter 1862 campaign against the federal railroad supply line in West Tennessee. His troops crossed into West Tennessee at Clifton and at the end of the campaign, and the end of the year, they escaped back into Middle Tennessee via the same ferry. “The Presbyterian Church is the only public building still standing from that unhappy era. At various times during the war it was used as a hospital and misused as a horse stable by the occupying Union forces. The front of the church still bears the scars of where Union soldiers pulled out part of the brick wall to make a wider opening.”
Supplemental Sources
March 31, 1863 - April 3, 1863 - Scout from Lexington to mouth of Duck River

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Maj. Thomas Saylor, Third Michigan Cavalry.
No. 2.-Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.
No. 1.

LEXINGTON, TENN., April 3, 1863.

CAPT.: On the receipt of the order from headquarters Cavalry Division, date March 30, I immediately moved my command to Lexington; and although I had reliable information relative to the state of affairs this side of the Tennessee River that did not agree with the report received by Gen. Hurlbut, I, on the morning of the 31st instant, sent Capt. Adamson with Companies C and B to scout the country in the neighborhood of the mouth of Duck River, as per instructions. The expedition returned to-day, after a successful scout, in which they captured 14 prisoners, the most of whom were armed, destroying a number of boats, and establishing beyond a doubt the falsity of the report of the crossing of a large body of the enemy to this side.

I herewith send the prisoners captured. For their names and cause of arrest I respectfully refer you to the inclosed report of Capt. Adamson. To-morrow I will send one company in the neighborhood of Huntingdon, to intercept, if possible, McClanahan and his men on their return. I will also in the morning send one company in the vicinity of Decaturville and Mathenes's Ferry, to attend to the small parties roving around in the neighborhood. I succeeded in arresting three of the men of the Second West Tennessee Cavalry, as per order by the man Elliott. I put them in charge of Capt. Hays, with the assurance from him that he would be responsible for their appearance at Jackson.

I am under the impression that the rations for this detachment are far below the allowances, for, after the greatest economy, they fail to hold out for the time intended.

The Union meeting to-day was a success, and very numerously attended. In connection with this report, I would say that a private of Company F, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, who was wounded at the fight at this place some four months ago, has been left here since, and has suffered severely for the want of proper medical treatment. I think he ought to be removed to Jackson. His name is Thomas Dungan.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

THOMAS SAYLOR, Maj., Cmdg.

No. 2.
Report of Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.
LEXINGTON, TENN., April 2, 1863.

SIR: Pursuant to your instructions, I left Lexington on the morning of the 31st ultimo, with Companies C and B, commanded, respectively, by Lieut.'s Wirts and Bingham, to scout the country in the vicinity of the mouth of Duck River, and ascertain the truth of the report as to the crossing of any force of the enemy in that vicinity. Passing through Buck Snort, I reached a point on the Camden road some 8 miles from the river, where I learned with certainty that no force had crossed in that vicinity; but ascertaining that McClanahan had crossed near Rock Quarry with some 30 men, I proceeded in that direction, passing through Howesville, and thence east to the house of a noted secessionist named Conrad. I arrested him and his three brothers on the evidence of Dr. Ganess, who states that they have been aiding and abetting the parties of guerrillas in the vicinity.

In the morning I proceeded toward the river, upon reaching which I sent parties in different directions. One squad of 4, under Corporal [Samuel P.] Harvey, of Company C, met 7 of McClanahan's men, well armed with pistols and carbines (dismounted), going to the river with the intention of crossing. The corporal succeeded in capturing the entire party. We also discovered three large flat-boats, which we destroyed completely, as also a small skiff, and on searching some houses in the vicinity found three shot-guns, two rifles, some belts, several boxes of caps, &c., which had been secreted by the guerrillas. The men captured had been in the direction of Clarksvill, with McClanahan and some 20 more. The rest had gone to Trenton, with the intention of conscripting and seizing horses, &c., as McClanahan had received authority to raise a regiment from Gen. Forrest. All those captured had left their horses some 5 miles east of the Tennessee, at the houses of citizens. I learned from reliable sources that there were parts of two regiments of cavalry (some 600 of Van Dorn's command) at Linden, and scattered in small parties near the river, consequently I did not think it best to run the risk of crossing over to secure the horses.

Returning to Conrad's, I found that Lieut. [Melvin] Stillson, whom I had left there with 10 men to scout that vicinity, had met a couple of guerrillas, and after a long chase captured one, with complete equipments, and the horse of the other. I then move my command toward Lexington, on the Broady's Ferry road, scouting the country thoroughly for some miles on both sides of the road, arresting one man named George Moore, armed with rifle and pistol, and mounted. I also arrested his brother, James Moore. Both of the men bear bad characters, and are strongly suspected of being connected with the guerrillas. I stayed for the night at the house of Los. Moore, and reached Lexington next day at noon, according to instructions. The result of the scout is the ascertaining with certainty that there is no force within 25 miles of the vicinity scouted, excepting some 30 of McClanahan's men, and a squad of 15 who had been robbing in the vicinity of Decaturville; the capture of 9 guerrillas and 5 citizens, 2 horses and saddles, 4 carbines, 4 revolvers, 2 single-barreled pistols, 5 shot-guns, and 4 rifles...

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,
June 15, 1863 - C. S. A. occupation of Camden, Lexington, Jackson, Humboldt and Trenton reported

COLUMBUS, KY., June 15, 1863.

Maj.-Gen. SCHOFIELD, Saint Louis, Mo.:

By sending six regiments of infantry and seven companies of cavalry to Vicksburg, my command was very much weakened. There are no United States troops between here and the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. The rebels have crossed the Tennessee River in several places, occupying Camden, Lexington, Jackson, Humboldt, and Trenton, threatening my district. I am compelled to request you to assist me at once, if possible, with two regiments of infantry, until re-enforced by orders from Washington.

ASBOTH.

F. C. ADAMSON, Capt. Third Michigan Cavalry.


**Note 1:** There is reference to this action in neither the *OR* nor *Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee.*
July 15, 1863 - Skirmish on Forked Deer Creek

JULY 15: 1863.-Skirmish on Forked Deer Creek, Tenn.

Report of Col. Fielding Hurst, First West Tennessee Cavalry.

LAGRANGE, TENN., July 20, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report:

In compliance with your order bearing date Jackson, Tenn., July 15, 1863. I proceeded with the regiment to Montezuma; thence to Purdy and Camden, where I ascertained the bridge across Big Hatchie River, near Bolivar, was destroyed. I then moved to this place, by way of Pochaun. On leaving Jackson I marched up the Forked Deer 8 miles, and found the trail of 1,500 to 1,800 rebels, under Biffle, Forrest, and Newsom. They fled before us in great haste, destroying all the bridges they crossed on, giving me such difficulty in crossing streams in 40 miles travel that I found myself 10 or 12 miles in their rear without any hope of overtaking them this side of our lines.

We took about 20 prisoners; paroled 8 and brought in 7. Some 5 or 6 fell back and made their escape, my rear guard being worn out with fatigue from hard marching and crossing streams by fording, swimming, &c.

I beg leave to state it as my belief that the entire rebel force which we met at Jackson fled by way of Shiloh in a badly torn up and demoralized condition, and could have been easily captured by a small force if thrown out from Corinth.

The prisoners all concur in stating that they were out of ammunition and low-spirited.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

FIELDING HURST, Col., Commanding Regiment.

December 20, 1862 - A brief description of Camden, [Benton County] Tennessee

Today we marched through Camden. Camden is one of the most miserable looking places I have seen. Its houses are almost all tumble down concerns only one or two good houses in town. It is a village of about 600 inhabitants.

Alley Diary
Benton County/Humphreys County
GUERRILLAS AND BUSHWHACKERS
in Middle Tennessee
during the Civil War

(HUMPHREYS)

by
Jill K. Garrett
III  IN HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Local legend has preserved the story that Humphreys County furnished more soldiers for the Civil War than it had actual voters. The county was overwhelmingly Southern in its feelings and on the vote for secession the county voted 1,042 "for the separation from the Union" with no votes for remaining in the Union. The county earned the distinction of being the only county in this section to give secession the unanimous nod.

At the outbreak of the war there were no military objectives in the county, other than the Tennessee River which forms the western boundary. From the beginning of hostilities it was apparent that a natural path for the invasion of the state would be the two rivers which cut through the state. Forts were hastily constructed at strategic points on the rivers—at Fort Henry on the Tennessee and opposite it Fort Heiman; and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland—both in adjoining Stewart County. (This was before Houston County was formed from both counties.)

The two forts fell to Union assaults in February 1862 and from that time daily patrols were sent out through the adjoining counties. These patrols were warned by their superior officers not to plunder the area, but such warnings were often ignored and the people of Humphreys County began to feel the heavy hand of the conqueror. Troops at both forts were eventually given permission to forage upon the country by General Grant, but they were required to give receipts for anything taken.

On January 27, 1863, General William S. Rosecrans ordered that the railroad, the Nashville and Northwestern, be completed to a point on the Tennessee River destined to be named Johnsonville. He sent out an order to occupy Waverly immediately and for the troops to hold the country.

Stock had been sold in the county as early as 1853 for the organization of a railroad company. By 1860 the construction had been started, only to be
interrupted by the war. The line had only been completed from Nashville to Kingston Springs when Rosecrans ordered it finished.

From October 22, 1863, until May 10, 1864, Federal troops were in the county to build the railroad and to guard it. For the most part these troops consisted of the 12th and 13th U. S. Colored Infantry. In December 1863, the 8th Iowa Cavalry was stationed to guard the line and the 1st Kansas Battery was at Waverly and part of the time at Dry Creek, and at other points throughout the county.

That the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad was ever completed is a tribute to the tenacity of the Union officers in charge, for the workers were under continual harrassment, from the beginning, by the guerrilla bands, some of which seemed to have been spawned overnight.

At the terminus of the railroad on the Tennessee River at old Lucas Landing, the Federal Army established a giant supply depot, a storage and transfer point which was considered the very lifeline for General Sherman's troops in Georgia. There were extensive arrangements for the transfer of freight from steamboats to railroad cars, powerful hoisting machinery, and ample buildings, platforms, and storage space. There were acres of open storage, some supplies arranged in piles as high as ten feet and covered with tarpaulins.

Although so far I have been unable to find any recorded guerrilla attacks on the vast supply depot, the steamboats which supplied the depot and the railroad which transferred the material were under attacks from almost the beginning. (Junction destroyed Johnsonville Nov. 1864, regular C.S.A. Troop)

River vessels had been ordered, as early as 1862, not to "lie up to a bank at any time." The crews were alerted to keep guns loaded and be ready for instant action. If any Federal boat were fired upon from the bank, the command of the boat was to destroy everything in that neighborhood.
Captain Alexander Duval McNairy of Nashville commanded a company of independent scouts which operated between the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers from 1862 until 1865, and he was considered a terror to Federal Army. "His dashes were vigorous and his execution phenomenal," recalled Bromfield Ridley in 1900. McNairy's gang specialized, or so it seems, in harassment of the railroad workers. On October 18, 1864, the track repairers were captured by McNairy and his men somewhere on the railroad between White Bluff and Sneedsville (now Dickson). Three days later "bushwhackers", no doubt McNairy again, burned nearly all the dwellings and workers' huts along the railroad.

On July 29, 1863, Colonel William P. Lyon, 13th Wisconsin, wrote of this area:

"This gang have their headquarters near Waverly; and they are supported by the whole community in that vicinity. Waverly is the nest of the vilest and most pestilential set of traitors that ever lived and the place ought to be destroyed." (A History of Houston, Co., Tenn., page 37)

Whether at Colonel Lyon's suggestion or not, Waverly was pretty well destroyed by the Federal troops before the end of the war.

McNairy's attacks, although worrisome and costly at the time, did not stop the completion of the railroad. The Nashville Daily Union of May 21, 1864, reported:

"The completion of the road to the Tennessee River was made the occasion of a celebration Thursday last. A train of cars was provided and under the charge of Capt. F. H. Ruger, A. Q. M., an expedition was made to Reynoldsburg, and back. The train left this city at 5 minutes to 7 a.m. and returned just before 12 o'clock at night.

"Gov. Andrew Johnson, Gen. R. S. Granger, Gen. A. C. Gillem, Mayor Smith, Hon. M. M. Brien, Attorney General Stubblefield, Recorder Shane, Councilman Cheatham, and other gentlemen formed a part of those who "made the trip." Refreshments had been provided, and were liberally dispensed. At Reynoldsburg the guests partook of a sumptuous dinner which had been prepared, and the utmost hilarity and good feeling prevailed. A sentiment from Mayor Smith crew Gov. Johnson to his feet, he intending only to make a casual remark, but once up, the people of whom there was a
large number present, insisted upon a speech. The Governor
constrained to assent, and spoke for about an hour, making
an able and effective speech.

At 4 p.m. the expedition started on its return to Nashville,
and arrived as stated above, all having enjoyed themselves
finely.

The completion of the Railroad to the Tennessee River—a dis-
tance of 76 miles—is an occasion for rejoicing amongst all
loyal men. It affords the Government another line of communi-
cation between the Ohio river and Nashville—one which can be
kept open at all seasons of the year, when the Ohio is navigable.
To the untiring energy and persistent determination of Gov.'
Johnson, more than to any other man, is the country indebted for
this result. He continued to urge the enterprise on the
Government until it ordered the work done; and has labored
assiduously since to secure the faithful prosecution of the
work to a completion."

(The mention of Reynoldsburg is puzzling. It was located about two
miles down the river from the site of Johnsonville. The site is now
covered by the buildings of the aluminum company. In a report in the
official records there is one of an officer (U.S.A.) who visited
"Runnelsburg" during the Civil War and described it as deserted. This
had been the original county seat of Humphreys County.)

By the end of the war, the losses on the Nashville and Northwestern
Railroad were:

- 15 miles of track destroyed
- 700 feet of bridging destroyed
- 1000 feet of trestles destroyed
- 2 depots burned
- 1 engine house burned
- 5 wood sheds and water stations destroyed.

(Page 197, Appendix to House Journal, Tennessee, 1865-66.)

The Perry County Jayhawkers made periodic raids through both Humphreys
and Hickman counties. They would rob, beat, and burn. There had been two
union groups raised in Perry County—one under the command of John Taylor, who
raised a company for the 2d Tennessee Mounted Infantry in Perry County, and
another company for the same regiment raised by R. A. "Rufe" Guthrie. Both
these groups became known as the Perry County Jayhawkers and it has been said
that before the end of the war these mounted men ceased to take prisoners.
In a small family cemetery in Elizabeth Hollow, along the river, are
the graves of two brothers, grandsons of the first settler of Humphreys
County, Moses Box. Washington Box, age 30, was arrested at his home one
night by "a party of Jayhawkers from West Tennessee," and taken to a hollow
near his home where he was shot and his body hastily buried near a tree. His
tombstone inscription shows that he died April 10, 1864. His brother Henry
Box was arrested by the Federals and carried to an old mill on Big Richland
Creek where he was shot on November 3, 1864.

James F. Leonard, a private in the 1st Kansas Battery, was killed by
guerrillas on Dry Creek while on his way to Waverly Landing. Another private
in the same outfit, Fletcher A. Willey, was also killed by guerrillas about
three miles east of Waverly in June 1864.

Edward (sometimes Edmund) Barnes, a Federal sympathizer, was sitting
on his front porch of his home near Waverly when the guerrillas visited him.
He was holding his youngest child on his lap when the guerrillas fired and his
entire jawbone was blown away by the blast. One of his daughters remembered
all her life seeing someone pick up the jawbone off the porch.

In February 1865, Thaddeus Holland was arrested by the Federals for
supposedly guerrilla activities, and shot at some point on the river. James W.
Britt, a merchant at Buffalo, was killed by bushwhackers early in the war.

William Knight was killed at Hurricane Mills on July 23, 1863. His son
Henry C. Knight served under Thomas A. Napier and it is wondered if his death
had anything to do with the fact that his son was considered a guerrilla by
the Federal troops.

A tombstone in old McKeel Cemetery on Blue Creek-Tennessee River shows
that Joshua W. Nance, age 27, was killed by the Federal cavalry near Cuba
Landing on June 10, 1864, "while bearing important papers for the Confederates."

In 1863, W. J. Kemp, who lived on Hurricane Creek, was killed by the
Federals.
Sometime during the early part of the war, about 1863, Bob Edwards
and Wright Price, remembered as two notorious characters, were caught stealing
horses from farmers in the Big Bottom. Goodspeed's history says they
were summarily hanged by "Judge Lynch."

Robert Fall, of the 2nd Tennessee Mounted Infantry (possibly a member of
a company known as the Perry County Jayhawkers), engaged in robbery while he
was in the county. Colonel Murphy reported in July 1864 that Fall had robbed
a lady at Johnsonville.

Margaret Brown Knight, who lived in the ridgeland along the Tennessee
River, between Fort Henry and Johnsonville, often recalled in her later years
that she and her family suffered as much, or more, at the hands of "them old
gorillas" as they did from the actions of the Yankees. One favorite trick was
to descend upon an unsuspecting household at mealtime, force their way into
the home, and eat everything that had been prepared—leaving nothing for the
family. These irregulars would take everything in sight, whether they had any
conceivable use for it or not. She remembered once they stole a pair of socks
belonging to her two year old son—very small, very useless to them. But they
just had to steal something! As this was an area without men (most of them were
away fighting), the women could do very little to protect themselves from these
depredations.

Young Ben Brown of this same neighborhood, and brother of Margaret Brown
Knight, was criticized for some for taking the oath after his release from prisoner-
of-war camp. He said he had a blind widowed mother, six unmarried sisters, a
wife and children, three sisters whose husbands were off fighting, the Yankees
were everywhere around and his womenfolks were at the mercy of the guerrillas,
and he felt that if anyone were ever needed at home, he was. He had been
captured when he came home on furlough to his family in the first place, and
narrowly missed being shot as a guerrilla. His life was saved by the slave
of a neighborhood who identified him as a "regular soldier" and not a "gorilla."
Bruce Lee Phillips organized a group of independent scouts in Humphreys County about which little is known, but some members of the family have thought that it was some sort of "scout" or guerrilla operation, possibly for home defense. He did also have regular Confederate service as muster rolls show that he was for a time a captain in the 14th Tennessee Infantry.

In 1850 Phillips reported to the census enumerator that his occupation was steamboat pilot. If so, he was a natural leader for irregulars in their war against the Federal river traffic. He would certainly be familiar with the overhanging bluffs, dense canebrakes, and heavily wooded thickets along the river where a guerrilla could hide with ease and safety. He would know the river channel and the points where the channel ran close to the shore.

The Pension Record Application of H. M. Lane, of Tennessee Ridge, Tenn., (No. 2479) reveals that Lane enlisted May 1861 in the 14th Tennessee Regiment with Capt. Bruce L. Phillips as recruiting officer. His particular company saw action against the steamboats at Cumberland City:

Greenberry Summers, age 72 in 1919, said that he said Mr. Lane in a company the day before the capture of gunboats at Cumberland City...about 15 or 16 December 1864.

Mery J. McIntosh made a deposition in 1919 that General Lyons' command did capture and sink three steamboats on last day of November or first of December 1864.

D. E. Largent said that General Lyons' command passed through Houston County on their way to Cumberland City and pressed into service boat that belonged to him...they were carrying all skiffs and flatboats from the Tennessee River to the Cumberland River.

One of his brothers-in-law, Charles Sullivan, according to some family information, served as a scout with Phillips and was killed in the war. Young Sullivan's deathdate as found on his stone is January 9, 1865. There is no recorded Confederate service for the young man.

Federal troops did burn to the ground the home of Mrs. John L. Sullivan, Phillips's mother-in-law. The cause for the seemingly wanton destruction of this home, some miles out in the country—but not far from the Tennessee
River—is not known, but Phillips did make his home here for a time.

Today B. L. Phillips is buried on a hillside in the woods of Humphreys County and the impounded waters of the river come to the foot of the hill. His young brother-in-law is also buried in this small cemetery. Phillips's stone reads:

**BRUCE LEE PHILLIPS**  
born 29 Feb. 1836  
died 30 Nov. 1896

William Nelson of Humphreys County was out plowing in the field one day during the war when the bushwhackers appeared and delivered an ultimatum. Either he join their ranks within 48 hours or be shot. He took his horse and fled over the hills and joined the first Confederate cavalry group he met. While in service he contracted yellow jaundice and was sent home half-dead. He never fully recovered and died of the disease a number of years later. He is buried in the Nelson Cemetery:

**WILLIAM NELSON**  
born 1 Nov. 1847  
died 4 July 1877

Harris Wyly, scion of a family of great wealth, is buried in the Wyly Cemetery which is on a high hill overlooking Waverly. He is an unlikely candidate for a guerrilla.

His father John Wyly came to the county about 1819. For $5,000 he purchased 5,000 acres adjacent to the Tennessee River, near Johnsonville and Reynoldsburg. Much of this land has since been flooded but in the remaining tract is the present site of New Johnsonville. At the same time of this purchase John Wyly also acquired all the property in Waverly, Tennessee, from Cooley Avenue east to Trace Creek, lying between the line of the same creek to the north and the hills to the south. Within this tract he built his home, which was burned by the Federal troops during the war. He built another home which still stands and is now known as the Luff-Bowen Funeral home. John Wyly became a man of great wealth.
Family records, and his father's biography in Goodspeed, has this statement about Harris Wyly—"supposedly murdered by an assassin."

The Nashville Daily Union of April 2, 1865, has the following:

"Dispatch from Clarksville yesterday dated Friday says Lt. Col. Brott with a force of mounted infantry had Friday attacked a party of guerrillas, killed Hargiss Wiley and two other noted guerrillas. His own loss was one killed and one wounded. A. A. Smith, Colonel." Wyly's stone has April 9, 1865, as the death date, according to a WPA listing of the cemetery made in the 1930s. When we visited the cemetery in 1965 to ascertain the date, we found that the stone had fallen. It was a large stone and we were unable to turn it to see if the death date were correct. Thomas Alonzo Napier is buried only a few feet away from Wyly.

The only other reference to Wyly's guerrilla activities comes from the fragments of a letter written by Babbitt Hinchey of Henry County, Tennessee, across the river:

Sept. 8, 1896

In the spring of 1865, when the troops were stationed at Corinth, Miss., the men of West Tenn. were paroled. A party of 14 or 15 returning to the army were met by an officer with orders to keep them back until the movements of the enemy would allow a safe trip. This party then quartered at the residence of Colonel H. W. Wall, near old Caledonia, and selected a leader, Capt. Yowell, a wounded officer. One morning they were visited by Thomas and others, who complained that Thomas and Lewis had been robbed and cruelly tortured by red hot wires the night before, and describing the offenders. The men were called up, word sent to Capt. Claiborne, who had charge of an irregular company in the neighborhood, to report to duty—P. R. Orr was sent ahead to Paris.

He came and found Harris Wiley, Pudd Diggs, and others in town, gathered in the street expecting an attack. He counted their number and returned to report meeting the force just beyond S. C. Dobbins—a dash was made into town from three streets, but the guerrillas escaped after a hot chase, with the exception of Lieut. Lucas of Wiley's Co., who was captured in Wiley's house by Claiborne and Mitchell. The prisoners were taken back and tried by Court Martial. They were
The Wyly-Lankford Home

Home of John Wyly, father
of Harris Wyly, still standing in
Waverly, Tennessee, now Luff-Bowen
Funeral Home.
remanded into Claiborne's Co., the first night pending examination, he reported next day that they had escaped. He shot them.

The soldiers made another trip to Paris but were driven out by guerrillas--Jack Underwood and Moore were killed by Petty John's men on some road while attempting escape--buried in Harmon's (John) graveyard in same grave. Tom Watson hung to locust tree in northwest corner of Court House yard--he was red-headed, was an ex-Texas Ranger--whiskey $3 per canteen.

(signed) Babbitt Hinchey

No attempt has been made to check out Wyly's service. Jerome Spence in his "History of Hickman County, Tennessee," gives a Harris Wiley of Humphreys County as a member of a company commanded by Alonzo Napier. The company was composed of Humphreys and Hickman men.

Muster rolls show that H. K. Wiley was a private in Company D, Napier's Cavalry Battalion; Harris K. Wyly was 2nd Lt. in Company D, 10th Cavalry (which had men from Napier's in it); and Harris K. Wyly was a private in Company A, 11th Infantry. Company A, 11th Infantry was formed in Humphreys County and in the beginning Hugh Ross Lucas was an officer of one of the companies of the 11th Regiment. He later became Major in the regiment.

Hugh Ross Lucas married Missa Wyly, first cousin of the Harris Wyly buried in Wyly Cemetery. H. R. Lucas had served in the Tennessee General Assembly before the war, and Lucas Landing (where Johnsonville was built) was named for his brother, who had married another first cousin of Harris Wyly.

Harris Wyly also had a first cousin named Harris K. Wyly, who was of an age to have been a soldier during the Civil War. So it is uncertain which service record found in muster rolls belongs to which.

Petty John mentioned above was Andrew Pettyjohn, who operated in this county and other counties. Muster rolls show that Andrew J. Pettyjohn served as a private in Company A, Greer's Cavalry. He will be discussed more later.
Patrick O'Mair, age 30, native of Ireland was sentenced to five years from Humphreys County for manslaughter on 21 June 1861. (Pen. Records, Table of Convicts.) Don't know if this had any guerrilla overtones or not.

Among the prisoners who took the oath yesterday was Capt. Bruce L. Phillips, 14th Tenn. Inf. (Nashville Dispatch 4 June 1865)

O. R. Vol. 39, part 1, page 463
16 August 1864 - As I anticipated, a raid was made on the Northwestern railroad last night and 600 cords of wood destroyed, as well as some of the employees carried off, and perhaps murdered. We have a large number of horses and cattle now at Johnsonville, and it is exceedingly important that they should be brought here (Nashville). How is this to be effected? Unless the Northwestern railroad is properly guarded we shall have terrible disaster and stoppage of supplies. A regiment of troops must at once be placed at important points on the road, and men sent to Johnsonville to drive cattle here. J. L. Donaldson, Chief Quartermaster.

Ibid, page 465
16 August 1864 - ...I am well aware of the importance of sufficiently guarding the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad, but am at a loss from what part of my district troops for that purpose should be taken, since almost everyone is asking for more troops. The only forces now on the road are the 12th and 13th and detachment of the 40th and 100th U. S. Colored Troops, detachments of dismounted cavalry, and one battery at Johnsonville. Every man that can be spared in the vicinity of the post of Nashville is now escorting stock, and all the posts on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad are depleted by details for that purpose. Lovell H. Rousseau, Major General.

O. R.
4 October 1861
Man from Capt. Bifle's company of cavalry from Humphreys County was killed and another wounded at Hopkinsville on Monday...they were going in advance and were surprised by 17 armed Union men.

O. R. XVII, part 1, page 182
22 Aug. 1862 -- to Grant in Corinth: "You will take all possible measures to put down the guerrillas operating on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. Act wherever you can...H. W. Halleck."


O. R. XVI, page 463
29 October 1862
"I have the honor to report an engagement near Waverly with Napier's guerrillas by a detachment of the 83rd Illinois Volunteers and one piece of artillery and thirty cavalry under Maj. E. C. Brott from Fort Donelson, assisted by Lt. Col. Patrick, 5th Iowa Cavalry; and infantry from Fort Heiman. Our forces amounted to about 500; the enemy 800. We killed 12, wounded several, took 15 prisoners, and destroyed 12 barges and rowboats of the enemy, who would make no further fight. Thos. A. Davis, Brig. Gen."
O.R. XVI, page 798
16 Jan. 1863
During snow storm Col. Lowe sent expedition to Waverly which captured one
major, two captains, one quartermaster, one sergeant, seven privates
belonging to different regiments of the Confederate army...with horses. As both."

O.R. XXIII, part 2, page 20
29 Jan. 1863
Rosecrans to Halleck: "Enemy shows signs of withdrawing from the line of
the Elk River, near or across the Tennessee. Believe they fear gunboat expedi-
tion up the Tennessee"...The Northwestern road south of Cumberland...to be
completed to a point on the Tennessee below Waverly...country to be covered
by occupation of Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte and Waverly without delay."
Gunboats capable of ascending the Tennessee above the Shoals should be prepared.

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Clinton, Tenn.
1 July 1864

Robert Tate, Co. D, 2nd Tenn. Inf. Capt. "Here notified that
lady you heard of at Johnsonville and also William Biddle,
citizen,...was recently engaged in stealing and
selling mules...together with John Edwards and
others. Arrest a citizen named John Simmon and
escaped from here. Keep Biddle & Edwards.

A. O. Murphy
2nd Tenn. Inf. Capt.

(Copied from draft copy in Maj. Daniel's notes - from
a letter in archives somewhere.)
November 4, 1864 - November 5, 1864 - Action at Johnsonville


TUSCUMBIA, November 8, 1864.

(Received 12th.)

Gen. Forrest reports on 5th instant that he was then engaged fighting enemy at Johnsonville, having already destroyed 4 gun-boats of eight guns each, 14 steamers, and 20 barges, with large quantity of quartermaster's and commissary stores, on landing and in warehouses, estimated at 75,000 to 120,000 tons. Six gun-boats were then approaching, which he hoped to capture or destroy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.


HDQRS. FORREST'S CAVALRY, Near Johnsonville, November 3, 1864.

GEN.: Having advised you, by previous dispatch, of the capture of U. S. gun-boats 55 and 3 transports and barges, and also of the damage to steamer Anna, which, in consequence of damage from our batteries, is reported to have sunk, I have now the honor to state that my command is in front of Johnsonville, at which place there are three gun-boats, seven transports, and quite a number of barges. I have batteries above and below the boats, and am to-night fortifying and placing a battery directly opposite them, and will to-morrow endeavor to sink or destroy them. Johnsonville is strongly fortified with heavy siege pieces in their works, and is garrisoned by a heavy force. There are several boats and barges yet unloaded for want of room; the landing and banks (several acres in extent) are piled with freight for Sherman's army; all the houses are full, and trains are running incessantly night and day in removing them. I regret to state that the transport Venus was recaptured by the enemy. In moving up from Fort Heiman orders were misunderstood and the boats got in advance of our land batteries, were come upon suddenly, and vigorously attacked by two gun-boats of the enemy; the transport was disabled and abandoned; the crew escaped. having only my ordnance train and a few wagons for carrying cooking utensils with me, I found it impossible to remove the stores captured from steamer Mazeppa, at Fort Heiman, and had them placed on transport Venus, with a view, if possible, of carrying them up the river by Johnsonville or hauling them out from Reynoldsburg to Camden. Owing, also, to the condition of the roads and the fact that the horses attached to the 20-pounder Parrott guns were worn out, the guns were also placed upon the Venus and have fallen into the hands of the enemy. We still have the gun-boat in possession, but she is out of coal, and her furnaces being built for coal, and it being impossible to supply her or get her by Johnsonville, I may have to burn her. Will make the attack on the transports to-morrow at Johnsonville, and will, day after to-morrow, if necessary to do so, burn the gun-boat and move to join Gen. Hood.
Have received an order from Gen. Beauregard to move my command and report to Gen. Hood, north of the Tennessee River, and will obey the order unless it is countermanded. I am of the opinion, however, that blockading the river here will be more detrimental to the enemy and advantageous to Gen. Hood than to move my command into Middle Tennessee; nevertheless, I shall go there as soon as the scattered condition of my command and worn-out condition of my horses will permit.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. B. FORREST, Maj.-Gen.

HDQRS. FORRESTS CAVALRY CORPS, Verona, Miss., January 12, 1864.

COL.: Continued active service in the field for two months has prevented me from reporting at an earlier day the action of my troops on the expedition along the Tennessee River. I avail myself, however, of the first leisure moment, and have the honor of submitting the following report:

On the 16th of October I ordered Col. Bell to move with his brigade from Corinth and to form a camp at Lavinia. On the 18th Brig.-Gen. Buford was ordered to move with the Kentucky brigade to Lexington for the purpose of watching Gen. Hatch, who was reported to be in that direction. I moved from Corinth on the morning of the 19th, with my escort and Rucker's brigade, to Jackson, Tenn. At this place I was joined by Brig.-Gen. Chalmers with about 250 men of McCulloch's brigade and 300 of Mabry's brigade, which, with Rucker's brigade, constituted his division. On the 29th I ordered him to proceed to the Tennessee River and there co-operate with Brig.-Gen. Buford, who was blockading the river at Fort Heiman and Paris Landing. On arriving at the river I found it most, effectually blockaded by a judicious disposition of the troops and batteries sent for this purpose.

On the morning of the 29th, the steamer Mazeppa, with two barges in two, made her appearance. As she passed the battery at Fort Heiman, supported by Brig.-Gen. Lyon, she was fired upon by one section of Morton's battery and two 20-pounder Parrott guns. Every shot must have taken effect, as she made for the shore after the third fire and reached the opposite bank in a disabled condition, where she was abandoned by the crew and passengers, who fled to the woods. A hawser was erected on this side of the river and she was towed over, and on being boarded she was found to be heavily loaded with blankets, shoes, clothing, hard bread, &c. While her cargo was being removed to the shore three gun-boats made their appearance, and commenced shelling the men who were engaged in unloading the Mazeppa. They were forced to retire, and fearing the boat might be captured Brigadier-General Buford ordered her to be burned.

On the 30th the steamer Anna came down the river and succeeded in passing both the upper and lower batteries, but was so disabled that she sunk before she reached Paducah. The Anna was followed by two transports (J. W. Cheeseman, the Venus) and two barges under convoy of gun-boat Undine. In attempting to
pass my batteries all the boats were disabled. They landed on the opposite side of the river and were abandoned by the crews, who left their dead and wounded. Lieut.-Col. Kelley, with two companies of his regiment, was thrown across the river and soon returned to Paris Landing with the boats. The steamer *J. W. Cheeseman* was so disabled that she was ordered, with the two barges, to be burned; the gun-boat was also burned while moving up the river to Johnsonville. The *Venus* was recaptured by the enemy on [November 2,] but was destroyed the next day [November 4] at Johnsonville by my batteries.

On the 1st of November I ordered my command to move in the direction of Johnsonville, which place I reached on the 3d. At this point Col. Mabry joined Col. Chalmers with Thrall’s battery. The wharf at Johnsonville was lined with transports and gun-boats. An immense warehouse presented itself and was represented as being stored with the most valuable supplies, while several acres of the shore were covered with every description of army stores. The fort was situated on a high hill and in a commanding position, and defended by strong works.

All my troops having arrived, I commenced disposing of them with a view of bombarding the enemy. As he commanded the position I designed to occupy, I was necessarily compelled to act with great caution. I planted most of my guns during the night, and while completing the work the next morning my men worked behind ambuscades, which obscured everything from the enemy. Thrall’s battery of howitzers was placed in position above Johnsonville, while Morton’s and Hudson’s batteries were placed nearly opposite and just below town.

I ordered a simultaneous assault to commence at 3 o’clock. All my movements for twenty-four hours had been so secretive the enemy seemed to think I had retired, and for the purpose of making a reconnaissance two gun-boats were lashed together and pushed out just before the attack opened. The bombardment commenced by the section of Morton’s battery commanded by Lieut. Brown. The other batteries joined promptly in the assault. The enemy returned the fire from twenty-eight guns on their gun-boats and fourteen guns on the hill. About fifty guns were thus engaged at the same time, and the firing was terrific. The gun-boats, in fifteen minutes after the engagement commenced, were set on fire, and made rapidly for the shore, where they were both consumed. My batteries next opened upon the transports, and in a short time they were in flames. The immense amount of stores were also set in fire, together with the huge warehouse above the landing. By night the wharf for nearly one mile up and down the river presented one solid sheet of flame. The enemy continued a furious cannonading on my batteries.

Having completed the work designed by the expedition, I moved my command six miles during the night by the light of the enemy’s a burning property. The roads were almost impassable, and the march to Corinth was slow and toilsome, but I reached there on November 10, after an absence of over two weeks, during which time I captured and destroyed 4 gun-boats, 14 transports.
20 barges, 26 pieces of artillery, $6,700,000 worth of property, and 150 prisoners. Brig.-Gen. Buford, after supplying his own command, turned over to my chief quartermaster about 9,000 pairs of shoes and 1,000 blankets.

My loss during the entire trip was 2 killed and 9 wounded; that of the enemy will probably reach 500 killed, wounded, and prisoners.

On this expedition my division commanders, Brig.-Gen.'s Chalmers and Buford, displayed the same prompt observance in obeying orders, the same kill, coolness, and undaunted courage which they have heretofore exhibited, and for which I thank them.

My brigade commanders, Col.'s Bell, Rucker, Crossland, and Mabry, are deserving of the highest commendation for their conduct on this as on all former occasions.

Brig.-Gen. Lyon, who had been assigned to another department, reported to me on this expedition and rendered much valuable service at Johnsonville and Fort Helman.

To Capt. John W. Morton, acting chief of artillery, and the brave troops under his command, my thanks are especially due for their efficiency and gallantry on this expedition. They fired with a rapidity and accuracy which extorted the commendation of even the enemy. The rammers were shot from the hands of the cannoneers, some of whom were nearly buried amid the dirt which was thrown upon them by the storm of shell which rained upon them by the enemy's batteries.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. B. FORREST, Maj.-Gen.


NASHVILLE, November 4, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Col. C. R. Thompson, commanding at Johnsonville, telegraphs this p. m. that three gun-boats were disabled at Johnsonville to-day and abandoned, and destroyed by fire by rebel batteries on the western bank of the Tennessee River, and that rebel batteries opposite the town on the other side of the river were engaging his batteries at that place. He also reports that the gun-boat and transports captured by enemy a few days since were all destroyed.

In addition to the above I have just received the following from Lieut. Commander E. M. King, to Commander Shirk, Paducah:

At daylight this morning the Undine camp up through chute at Reynoldsburg Island, loaded with rebels, who fired and left. At 8 a m. the Paw Paw and three other gun-boats came in sight. I went down with Elin and Tawah and engaged a battery of 20-pounder Parrots above Reynoldsburg Island, west side; it was
too much for us. The Key West received ten shells through upper works, seven through berth deck, and two through hull; guns disabled on my vessel and Elfin; shell of Tawah, received from Nashville, mostly too large. At 10 a.m. we returned here. At 2 p.m. the enemy's batteries opened on us at this place, above and below. The three boats and forts engaged; in shipping cable got foul of stern-wheel. Anchor was weighed and Tawah took us in tow and we moved to bank opposite upper battery. Both batteries now opened on us; after firing away mostly all our ammunition I gave orders to get ready to fire boats. Tawah's starboard-box Parrott disabled by enemy's shell; my boat's wheel disabled. Seeing it was impossible to hold out longer we burnt the boat reluctantly. Paw Paw and other boats are below, with batteries above and, I think, below them. My officers and crew I have ordered to the fort. Johnsonville can only be saved by a large force and iron-clads. Seven transports and our prize Venus are set on fire. We have done what we could.

Gen. Granger reports from Decatur 10.05 a.m. to-day that he had sent scouts out on the Moulton and Courtland roads last night. Party on Moulton road saw no enemy, and was informed by citizens no troops had passed that road since October 31. Party on Courtland road drove back some Texas cavalry, which they ascertained to be part of the Texas Legion, of which three regiments are encamped between Decatur and Courtland. Citizens reported to them that they were told by soldiers, and others who came up from Tuscumbia, that main part of Beauregard's army had gone to Corinth. He put one corps across river at Florence, and commenced fortifying, but had moved on himself, and had also withdrawn part of that force. Above statement is corroborated by citizens living on Moulton road, who say this is general impression in that section.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Maj.-Gen.


An inquiry was held by the U. S. Navy regarding the Undine. According to the evidence of Acting Master of the Undine, J. L. Bryant, at the time of its capture:

At 3:10 the enemy opened with a cross fire of artillery and musketry. I opened upon them with my broadside guns and returned the fire with rapidity. I used at that time canister, the range not being over 100 yards, which apparently had good effect among the enemy concealed in the bushes on the banks. At 3:45 the main steam pipe in the doctor room was cracked, and filled the place with steam, and drove the engineer from his station. The vessel became entirely unmanageable. I headed her for the east bank, in order to save as many of the crew as possible. About 4 o'clock, knowing that I could not get off from the enemy, I struck my flag, which the enemy did not respect, but kept up an incessant fire upon me. I fired my broadside guns, ordered all the guns spiked.
and the ship fired, knowing I had fought as long as I could. I ordered the men to save themselves. At this moment I was knocked senseless and when I came to I got on shore and followed after the crew. That afternoon we hid in the woods and at night made the best of our way for Pine Bluff, which we reached at 4:30 in the morning of the 31st.

_Navy OR_, Ser. I, Vol. 26, p. 603. _Note 1_

Report of Col. Reuben D. Mussey, One hundredth U. S. Colored Infantry, relative to action at Johnsonville.

HDQRS. COMMISSIONER ORGANIZATION U. S. COLD. TROOPS, Nashville, Tenn., November 14, 1864.

CAPT.:

The behavior of the colored troops at Johnsonville, Tenn., during the recent attack upon that place was, I am informed by several eye-witnesses, excellent. A section of Meigs's battery, temporarily there, made excellent practice, dismounting one of the guns of a battery placed by the rebels on the opposite bank of the river and causing the battery several times to change their location. The rebel battery devoted its attention to this section, shelling it furiously. The men stood their ground well. Some of the Thirteenth U. S. Colored Infantry, who were at Johnsonville, were upon the river-bank as sharpshooters, and armed with the Enfield rifle, and did good execution. The affair was slight, but it has gained credit for the colored troops.

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


_Note 1:_ See also map, _Navy OR_, Ser. I, Vol. 26, between page 630 and 631.
Dear Jan:

I have several letters from my GGReat father that he wrote while at Shelbyville. His name was Thomas Martin Webb, b. 1829, d. 1863, married to Jane McAuley b. 1832. He lived in Humphrey County on Long Branch at the time of his enlistment. If the information in these letters could be of use, I would be glad to share it. His youngest son was Cullen Flint Webb, who lived all of his life in Stewart, on a farm just south of Stewart.

Jerry Webb Stone: Port Orange, FL: Stonepegs@aol.com

Thanks Jerry! I am sure many will appreciate this very special contribution to Houston and Humphrey County genealogy! -jan

These letters were written home from Thomas Martin Webb, b. 1829 in Maury City TN, d. 1863 of pneumonia at a Confederate Hospital in Shelbyville TN. Was Married Sept. 5, 1850 to Jane McAuley b. 1832. Had 4 children, Fannie Webb, married a Spurgeons, Thomas Webb, John Webb and Cullen Flint Webb b. Nov. 22, 1861.

I have a cover letter, written by a Don A. McDonald, I think that it's a forward for a newspaper article.

Here, told in the letters a 35 year old Tennessee Confederate soldier sent to his wife and three children, is a new kind of Civil War story. Only one battlefield is referred to - and that briefly - in letters Thomas M. Webb of Long Branch Creek, Humpreys County, Tennessee, wrote with a home-made pen and "elderberry" ink on brownish paper. They are, rather, the thoughts of a husband and father, caught up in the swirl of the war, who walked with a group of neighbors 110 miles to enlist in the South's cause. What caused this wholesale enlistment? A short time before General Grant had issued that everyone in that part of the country sign an oath of allegiance to the Federal Government. This was to much, these men were sons of the south. They came from every part of the country, between Yellow Creek and Tennessee River to make the march.

Thomas M. Webb and John Wilson McDonald, my grandfather, married sisters. Webb married Jane P. McAuley of White Oak Creek on Sept. 5th, 1850. They had two sons, Lawrance and Billy, and one daughter, Fancy, when the war broke out. In fact they married first cousins. John Wilson McDonald married Nancy A. McAuley on Oct. 29th, 1854. They had two sons, William
A. McDonald and Daniel Wilson McDonald, my father. Now back to the letters. They deal with the thoughts and observations during his stay at a camp near Shelbyville, Tennessee in the winter of 1863. Webb and most of the people mentioned in the letters were assigned to Co. B. 4th. Tennessee Infantry. Some were taken prisoners shortly after these letters were written, among them John Wilson McDonald. He was released from Camp Chase, Ohio, prison camp on May 13, 1865. I have his prison release. There were more of these letters, but they were stolen from my home years ago. By a woman that lived up North.

Some of the spelling in the following letters has been changed for clarity's sake.

Signed: Don A. McDonald

State of Tennessee
Bedford County
6 miles from Shelbyville
Jan. 5, 1863

Dear Wife and Children

We have just arrived here and do not know how long we will stay here. We are all well at present. I have stood the trip very well. Walked 110 miles the way we came and I am well and hope that these lines will find you all well. We stayed at Beever Creek three days waiting for the company, and then had to come up through Hickman County, Williamson, Columbia, Farmington and Shelbyville. We met our army here. They had a severe battle at Murfreesboro and are on the retreat. Our men claim the day and are talking of going back.

Jan. 6th

We have moved eight miles today and are going on tomorrow toward the east. Our men say they killed seven Yanks to one of our men. I am not acquainted with but one that was killed, and that was John Aklas. I am with the 11th Regiment today. Jim Webb is fat and not hurting. Sam Wilson was shot, but is not hurt. Boone Croswell was shot through the arm but not hurt much. All the boys are well from our neighborhood. I write you today for fier I will not have time soon. We are seeing hard times at present owing to the confusion of the times. Our men say they left Murfreesboro on account of the mire and we know not up here where we are going. Had I have new as much before I left home as I know now, I could have stayed at home. But as I am out I am not coming home until I can come honorable. Our men got 42 cannons from the Yanks and as many guns as they could bring away. Jim Webb lost his new clothing on the battlefield. Said he had never put them on. You must write when you can. Tell Lawrence (his son) to be a good boy. Tell Billy (another son) I recollect his goodbye. Tell Fancy (a daughter) she was gone to her grandmother's when I left. Tell her to be sweet. I think John McDonald and Jim Brown will come home as soon as we get settled. If Jim is discharged I am to get his coon skin cap.

T.M. Webb
Camp near Shelbyville, Tenn
Mar. 2, 1863

Dear Wife,

I assume the present opportunity of dropping you a few lines so as to let you know that I am yet able to go and am better than I have been in some time. My knees is very weak and I have been dim of sight for 10 days, but think I will be all right in a short time. As for coming home, I can not tell anything about, but I hope I will come sometime and hope to find you all doing well. What we get is very rough for new beginners, and if we buy anything it costs us all we have. We have to be sharp or we will come out in debt. If we eat anything that is fit to eat. We have to give 50 cents for a little pie as big as my hand and everything else is just as high. We are so hungry sometimes we will buy, but I have not bought but two since I have been here. And I don't expect to buy many as I know you will need my money at home. I can not write much for I am writing by guess because I can not see the lines. But do not let this trouble you. I will tell you the truth. I don't like to stay here for there is too much devilment carried on for me. A man can not live well unless he can steal and lie. There is plenty of preaching here but it does no good, as I see here a man preaching and there is one swearing and over there is one singing a song to suit himself and right out there is a gang of them playing cards, and in fact everything is doing here at one time. So I will do the best I can and you must do the same. Tell the children to be good and do the best they can. I expect you will have to let Lawrence work with his Uncle (McDonald). My eyes is so bad I will have to cut it short. So farewell my loving wife, grieve not for me.

T.M. Webb

P.S. Tell Larvincy Lockart to send me a mess of eggs for recollection.

Camp Near Shelbyville, Tenn
March 2, 1863

Dear Brother,

I hope these lines will find you all in good health. You must do the best you can for we have been hard times out here. We are very badly fed and it is rough fare and we can not buy anything unless we pay five times the wirth of it. I wish you could see Elisha Croswell and know of him what he will take of that place where Jane and the children is living. If he will take anything under $200 for the old tract and the slip that lies between it and Rogers and if he will trade that way, you can tell him I will take it if he will take Confederate money. I think I can raise the money in a short time for I can raise $100 here in one hour. Some time I have my pocket full and some days I have none. Just as the trade goes. So I will have to bring my letter to a close. Farewell my brother.

T.M. Webb
Camp near Shelbyville, Tenn
March 13, 1863

Dear Wife,

I again assume the present opportunity of writing you a few lines in order to let you know the condition of my health. At present I am not to say sick and am not well. I am up all the time, but I am not able to drill and have never been on drill but one time. You say you wish to know just how I was, but you seem to think I was worse than I let on to be. But I have never been bad off. At this very time, I am able to cook for the tent. I get up every morning and get breakfast before the rest get up and I got dinner today. They all are glad to get me to cook, for I can cook first rate. We had a fine breakfast yesterday and a fine supper last night and we had a fine breakfast this morning and a dinner today. I will tell you what we have. We had a good hash and coffee for breakfast; and turnips, salted for dinner, and me and John has had butter for some time. It was just like eating Confederate money to eat it. We give seven dollars for three balls of butter and we give two dollars for one pect of Irish Potatoes and $1.50 for one pound of stuff call coffee. And so I have been buying all I have eat for some time. I am nearly out of money, but if my health will admit of it I will not stay in this fix, for this is the easiest money and spend it I ever saw. I have sold out my tobacco and have nothing to sell at present but some ink. I am not going to buy anything is heavy, for I run a risk of loosing it and if we have to move when I had that box of tobacco, I would had to lost it. There is all sorts of things here from the size of a pin to a cannon. I couldn't write all of them down in a week. It may be that I will get to come home this spring, but that is something we don't know. If I do not, I want you to plant a good Irish and sweet potato patch. I wish I was at home to eat salted turnips, for we have to pay for all we get. We have to go five or six miles after it and pay for it. You said to tell Jim White howdy for you. He has never been here and never will be, for he is nere enough dead at home and if he had come here when we did he wold bin in his grave. Jo Scott has grieved himself nearly to death. I have some of the best mess mates in camp. There is no better in camp than Jim and Jo Brown and Perry's a very nice man. there is only seven of us in and what we buy to eat, and if one of the mess don't pay his part, he don't eat it. This is the place to try a man. You said if I was where you could wait on me you wold do it and I think you wold, but the boys is just as good to me as they can be. I am under the storngest sympathies to Lucetia Jane Brown and Mary Brown for they sent me the best kind of cap. I am truly sorry for Puss. Tell all the children that they are all as fresh in my memory as they were when I left them. I herd today that the Yanks were in Columbia, but Dr. Brown can tell you about that when he gets home. You said Billy Webb was letting you have Irish potatoes and molasses. That is very good and you must pay him when I send you money. Tell him to take Lawrence. He can make plenty of corn with him and tell him not to pretend to plow himself, but to see to the boys and make them plow and make corn and give you some of it. Just what he thinks is rite. You plant your Irish potatoes like they were last year and put all the manour on them you can get for they are half of a living. You can see that there is something the matter with me from the way I write, for paper without lining is as good for me as any for my eyes are nearly smoked out. I will write more tomorrow if I have the chance. So I will quit this or the the present. Weep not for me for I ever remember the beloved wife.

THIS IS A LETTER FROM JILL K. GARRETT TO DON MC DONALD

Don,

I was delighted over those letters you all put in the paper. That man, T.M. Webb, was a member of Company B, 24th Battalion of Tennessee Sharpshooters -- you know your Maneys Battery was Company A.

For some reason, so many of the men in this outfit will be found in the 4th Tennessee. But if you have received your copy of part II of "Tennessee in the Civil War", you will find T.M. Webb in the 24th Bn. S.S.

Here is a what muster roll says about T.M. Webb:

Private. Company B

Enlisted 13 Dec. 1862 at Waverly, Tenn. For 3 years

Died 3 June 1863 in hospital at Shelbyville, Tenn.

His description says he was 34 years old, 5 ft. 11 inches; fair complection, blue eyes, light hair. Died of Pneumonia.

Or, at least that is what the muster roll says, I am not making this up!

Jim White was James White, Private Co. B, 24th Tenn. Bn. S.S. Who enlisted 13 Dec. 1862 at Waverly, Tenn. His record show that on the muster on 28 Feb. 1863 he was absent______ joined his outfit for is marked "Deserted". "In Humphreys County--has never reported for duty since enlisted."

John W. McDonald was in Co. B, 24th Tenn. S.S. Enlisted 13 Dec. 1862 in Waverly for 3 years. And shows as being present through all the musters of the 24th S.S.


who was Private, Co. B, 24th Bn. S.S. Enl. At Waverly, Tenn. (He was lived on Long Branch, White Oak Creek in Houston Co. and was related by marriage to the McDonalds). He survived the war.

I am still surveying the Civil War newspapers, but have found no more about Fort Donalson in the later part of the war. Thanks again for the papers you send. I do hope you are putting copies in the State Library and Archives.

Jill K. Garrett
Decatur County
February 17, 1863 - February 21, 1863 - Anti-guerrilla expedition from Lexington to Clifton

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Col. John K. Mizner, Third Michigan Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry, District of Jackson.

No. 2.-Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 1.


JACKSON, TENN., February 22, 1863.

CAPT.: To add to the pleasurable remembrances of the anniversary we have today celebrated, I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that the cavalry I sent toward the Tennessee River have succeeded in capturing Col. [J. F.] Newsom, with 7 of his officers and 60 men, besides all their horses, arms, accoutrements, &c., together with a large amount of supplies. This splendid achievement was accomplished by Capt. Cicero Newell, of the Third Michigan Cavalry, who, with 60 picked men, crossed the Tennessee River on the night of the 19th instant, and surprised and captured Newsom and his whole party at Clifton. He recrossed to this side with all his prisoners, when our gunboats came in sight, and gave them valuable assistance in discovering boats and small craft which the enemy had concealed and had continually used in crossing the river. Capt. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry, was second in command, and he, as well as all of the officers and men, deserve the highest praise for capturing a force of the enemy exactly equal to their own.

I regret to inform you that Capt. Newell was wounded in the action at Clifton.

I inclose Capt. Adamson's report, which gives a full account of the affair.

The prisoners were turned over to Lieut. Fitch, commanding gunboat fleet. Capt. Newell, being disabled, was also taken on board the gunboat.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. K. MIZNER, Col. and Chief of Cavalry.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

LEXINGTON, TENN., February 21, 1863.

SIR: On behalf of Capt. Newell, I would respectfully submit the following report of the operations of the detachment of cavalry under his command from the 17th instant until the present date:

On the 17th instant he started for Clifton, with 23 men of Company A, under Sergeant [Thomas] Dean; 14 men of Company L, under command of Lieut.
Leonardson; 24 men of Company K, under command of Lieut. McIntyre; 23 of Company B, commanded by Capt. Adamson (all of the above of the Third Michigan Cavalry), and 14 men of the Second Tennessee, commanded by Sergeant Mize.

We reached Johnson's house, 8 miles from Clifton, about sundown, without any adventure worth noting, having scouted the country thoroughly for some miles on either side of the road. At midnight our pickets sent in two Confederate soldiers, who had just crossed from Clifton, from whom we gained some valuable information in relation to the force at Clifton.

At daylight we started for the river, leaving a small party at Johnson's. We struck the enemy's pickets on the river bank, 2 miles from the point opposite Clifton. We then dashed down, hoping to capture the ferry. The pickets had evidently signaled their confederates on the opposite shore, as they greeted us with a volley. We got our horses under cover immediately, and, dismounting the men, led part of [Companies] A and K to the bank and returned their fire. The firing was continued on both sides for a short time, resulting in no damage to men, but wounding two of Company B's horses, which, we supposed, had been placed entirely out of danger. Capt. Newell left his company to watch the enemy and cover our retreat. We then returned to Johnson's, where we found a conscript who had come in to surrender himself. From the information given by him, Capt. Newell went with his company to Turnbull's Creek, leaving orders with me to proceed with the remainder of the command to Decaturville, and secure quarters for the men, &c.

The captain's scout resulted in the discovery of an old flat-boat, some 40 feet long and 10 wide. He immediately conceived the idea of crossing the river and making an attack on Clifton, and left Sergeant [Henry C.] Vowles and 6 men, with orders to make a pair of oars, bail out the boat, and take her down the river, under cover of the night, to point 4 miles above Clifton, and there await our coming. He then joined me at Decaturville, where we decided, from the information collected, upon a plan of attack to be carried into effect that night. Information of the discovery of the boat having reached the citizens, through the indiscretion of some of Company K's men, we feared they might guess at our intention and prepare the rebels for our coming, so we announced our departure for Lexington, and started off on that road (leaving at 2 p.m.).

Getting out some 4 miles, we struck into the woods, under the guidance of Mr. Dow White; remained concealed in the woods until night, when we started for our boat, some 10 miles off; found everything all right. The river was very high and full of drift-wood, which the strong current drove along at fearful speed. It was now 12 m. We could not take all the men at once, and we knew, in the state of the river, that we could not take all the men at once, and we knew, in the state of the river, that we could not make a second trip in time to carry out our plans. So we told off 60 men—22 from A, 10 from L, 14 from K, and 14 from B—under command of their respective officers, as before noted (Lieut.'s Bingham and Drew accompanying their companies). We left the reminder of
the men, under command of a sergeant, to take charge of our horses. We got our living freight aboard our crazy craft, the boat's gun wale being just 6 inches above water-mark, made the men lie flat in the bottom, crossed over, and drifted down about 2 miles; then landed, after considerable difficulty and danger, and wended our way through the woods for town. After marching some 2 miles through the brush along the river bank, we encountered a serious obstacle to our farther progress, in the shape of an extensive bayou, which we could not cross in any direction. Not being discouraged at our failure, we marched back to the boat, shoved off, and drifted down within half a mile of town, again landed, reconnoitered cautiously, marched within sight of town, found everything quiet, lay down on the ground, and sent our guide to a house to ascertain with exact certainty the strength and position of the enemy; found it just as we expected and no more. We waited some two hours anxiously for the proper moment to arrive. The night was very dark and cold. Our men suffered considerably, having left their overcoats in the boat, but they bore it in silence, as not a murmur was heard among them.

Day just breaking, we crept cautiously into town, Company B in advance. Their only guard now espied us, and, calling "treason" at the top of his voice, started for the quarters. We soon secured him, sent a couple of men to their ferry, surrounded the houses, which we knew contained the men, dashing in the doors and windows, thrusting in our guns, and pointing them at the heads of the astonished, half-awake, and undressed occupants, demanding with loud shouts their instant surrender. Considerable resistance was shown in some of the buildings, but we bore down everything before us. Some thirty shots were fired; the second one, I am sorry to say, disabled Capt. Newell, stricken him in the leg, under the knee, making a painful, but not dangerous, flesh wound. Col. Newsom had his right arm fearfully shattered and Lieut. Shelby was struck in the shoulder, which were all the known casualties that occurred on both sides.

The command now devolving upon me, and the town being fully in our possession, I instantly mounted a few men, and [sent] them on the different roads to pick up runaways, and turned my immediate attention to getting the prisoners on the other side of the river, as I had reliable information that there was an Alabama regiment of cavalry camped at Ague Creek, only 7 miles east, and a strong force at Waynesborough, 17 miles distant. Some of our men left with the horses now made their appearance on the opposite bank, according to instructions, so I sent 50 over (in the ferry just captured) with a strong guard, commanded by Lieut. Bigham, putting Capt. Newell in the same boat; signaled our own boat, which the guard immediately brought down; loaded her with the rest of the prisoners, a party of our men, the captured saddles, guns, &c.

We plied both boats briskly for some time, carrying from four to six horses a trip. It was severe work, as the current would carry the boats a long distance down stream; consequently we had to haul them up along shore, so that they might reach the landing on the opposite side. In the mean time I had crossed over; and fearing the co-operation of the prisoners in case of an attack, I directed Lieut. Drew to move them to Hughes' house, 2 miles distant. We were
about getting over our last load of horses when we were most agreeably surprised by the appearance of a fleet of five gunboats. The Lexington, in advance, put out her guns, intending to shell us, but a cheer from this side and a white flag from the other checked her intention. Lieut. Fitch, flag-officer of the fleet, gave our tired men a capital dinner, which they much needed, having eaten nothing since noon of the day before.

Before the arrival of the boats, I had ordered the firing of the buildings that had been occupied by the enemy, as they were well filled up; with bunks, &c., and the hotel in which we found over 30 men contained a quantity of commissary stores, which I could not transport, so was compelled to destroy.

Our raid was entirely successful. The result was the capture of 8 commissioned officers and some 60 enlisted men, 40 splendid horses, some saddles, about 40 stand of arms, principally old shot-guns, many of which we threw in the river, some Sharps' and Smith's carbines (four of the latter), a few Enfield rifles, several old muskets, flint-locks, &c., and a few Colt's pistols (how many I cannot ascertain, as the property has not yet been collected from the men). I regret to say that many of the old guns were carried off by the officers and men of the gunboats during my absence, as their men were all allowed to come ashore.

Capt. Fitch offered to take the prisoner off our hands, and, upon consulting with Capt. Newell, who had been moved to Hughes', he decided it would be best to get rid of them, as several were unable to ride, and I could not mount them all. I fear that I have erred in this matter, but did it for the best. The horses are distributed among the companies, subject to the order of the colonel commanding.

Having had information that Wright's Island contained several horses belonging to the Confederates, I took a small party on the gunboat and searched the island. The horses had been removed several days before, but we found two boats, one of which we destroyed; the other was one of Francis' metallic life-boats, which I also turned over to Capt. Fitch. It was now dusk, so we crossed in our old boat, which we had towed up, entirely destroyed it, and marched on foot to Johnson's, to which place I had ordered the command.

Early on the 21st, I started for Lexington, through a drenching rain; reached there at 3 p.m., and reported to Maj. [Thomas] Saylor, whom I found in command.

I am thoroughly satisfied that there is no force anywhere in this vicinity, on this side of the Tennessee River. Van Dorn is at Columbia; parties of his cavalry are stationed at different points, close to the river, and it seems to be the impression that it is his intention to attempt to hold the river at these points.

I inclose a list of the prisoners and Capt. Fitch's receipt for 54; one of the slips containing their names was mislaid, which accounts for the difference between the list and receipt, and 4 were released on parole. I must apologize for the length of this report, but in justice to the men and officers, who all, without
exception, conducted themselves bravely on our rather dangerous expedition. I could not do less than tell the whole story.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. C. ADAMSON, Capt. Third Michigan Cavalry.

P. S.-Net result of expedition: Prisoners, 61; horses, 40; saddles, about 40; stand of arms, 40; flat-boats destroyed, 2; yaws destroyed, 2; skiffs destroyed, 2; life-boat found, 1; 4 barrels flour, 3 barrels salt, 10,000 ponds pork and bacon, a quantity of corn-meal, beans, &c., burned.

Col. Newsom and Lieut. [M. T.] Shelby were dangerously wounded and paroled.

I neglected to state that captain Newell went on the gunboat Fairplay, as, owing to the state of the roads and the lack of transportation, we could not [take] him to a suitable place.


Excerpt from the Detailed report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding operations in the Tennessee River from February 18 to 24, 1863.

. . . Just above Fort Henry we met a rise (in the water level of the river), which enabled the boats to go on up the river without hindrance. It was reported that the rebels had batteries at Clifton, but when we arrived there early in the forenoon of the 20th, I found the town in flames and out forces from Lexington in possession. They had managed to find a small flat somewhere during the previous day, and during the night Captain Newell managed to cross a squad of some 60 men unobserved by the enemy. Just before day the town was surrounded, and the guerrillas completely surprised. Most of them were taken before they got out of bed. By request of Captain Adamson I lay by and assisted him back across the river. I also took his prisoners, numbering 54, on board the gunboats, as he had little means of getting them to Lexington. After getting on board the prisoners 40 of his men were taken on board the gunboats and landed on Eagle Nest Island, where it was reported the rebels had stores, but we did not find any . . .


Note 1: Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee labels this as a skirmish.

Excerpt from the Summary report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding operations on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, from December 16, 1862 to March 17, 1863.

On the morning of the 20th reached Clifton, [Tenn.]; found our forces in possession and the town in flames. Assisted the land forces back to the west
side of the river and took charge of their prisoners, as they had no means of disposing of them.

_Navy OR, Ser. I, Vol. 24, p. 57._

Excerpt from the Report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding naval operations in the Ohio, Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, August 23, 1862-October 21, 1863

When we arrived at Clifton we found the town in flames and a squad of our cavalry under command of Captain Fred'k. C. Adamson in possession of the place, having crossed the river in a flat during the night, surrounded and captured a squad of 54 guerrillas, and set fire to the town.

March 31, 1863 - April 3, 1863 - Scout from Lexington to mouth of Duck River

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Maj. Thomas Saylor, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 2.-Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 1.


LEXINGTON, TENN., April 3, 1863.

CAPT.: On the receipt of the order from headquarters Cavalry Division, date March 30, I immediately moved my command to Lexington; and although I had reliable information relative to the state of affairs this side of the Tennessee River that did not agree with the report received by Gen. Hurlbut, I, on the morning of the 31st instant, sent Capt. Adamson with Companies C and B to scout the country in the neighborhood of the mouth of Duck River, as per instructions. The expedition returned to-day, after a successful scout, in which they captured 14 prisoners, the most of whom were armed, destroying a number of boats, and establishing beyond a doubt the falsity of the report of the crossing of a large body of the enemy to this side.

I herewith send the prisoners captured. For their names and cause of arrest I respectfully refer you to the inclosed report of Capt. Adamson. To-morrow I will send one company in the neighborhood of Huntingdon, to intercept, if possible, McClanahan and his men on their return. I will also in the morning send one company in the vicinity of Decaturville and Mathenes's Ferry, to attend to the small parties roving around in the neighborhood. I succeeded in arresting three of the men of the Second West Tennessee Cavalry, as per order by the man Elliott. I put them in charge of Capt. Hays, with the assurance from him that he would be responsible for their appearance at Jackson.

I am under the impression that the rations for this detachment are far below the allowances, for, after the greatest economy, they fail to hold out for the time intended.

The Union meeting to-day was a success, and very numerously attended. In connection with this report, I would say that a private of Company F, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, who was wounded at the fight at this place some four months ago, has been left here since, and has suffered severely for the want of proper medical treatment. I think he ought to be removed to Jackson. His name is Thomas Dungan.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

THOMAS SAYLOR, Maj., Cmdg.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.
LEXINGTON, TENN., April 2, 1863.

SIR: Pursuant to your instructions, I left Lexington on the morning of the 31st ultimo, with Companies C and B, commanded, respectively, by Lieut.'s Wirtz and Bingham, to scout the country in the vicinity of the mouth of Duck River, and ascertain the truth of the report as to the crossing of any force of the enemy in that vicinity. Passing through Buck Snort, I reached a point on the Camden road some 8 miles from the river, where I learned with certainty that no force had crossed in that vicinity; but ascertaining that McClanahan had crossed near Rock Quarry with some 30 men, I proceeded in that direction, passing through Howesville, and thence east to the house of a noted secessionist named Conrad. I arrested him and his three brothers on the evidence of Dr. Ganess, who states that they have been aiding and abetting the parties of guerrillas in the vicinity.

In the morning I proceeded toward the river, upon reaching which I sent parties in different directions. One squad of 4, under Corporal [Samuel P.] Harvey, of Company C, met 7 of McClanahan's men, well armed with pistols and carbines (dismounted), going to the river with the intention of crossing. The corporal succeeded in capturing the entire party. We also discovered three large flat-boats, which we destroyed completely, as also a small skiff, and on searching some houses in the vicinity found three shot-guns, two rifles, some belts, several boxes of caps, &c., which had been secreted by the guerrillas. The men captured had been in the direction of Clarksburg, with McClanahan and some 20 more. The rest had gone to Trenton, with the intention of conscripting and seizing horses, &c., as McClanahan had received authority to raise a regiment from Gen. Forrest. All those captured had left their horses some 5 miles east of the Tennessee, at the houses of citizens. I learned from reliable sources that there were parts of two regiments of cavalry (some 600 of Van Dorn's command) at Linden, and scattered in small parties near the river, consequently I did not think it best to run the risk of crossing over to secure the horses.

Returning to Conrad's, I found that Lieut. [Melvin] Stillson, whom I had left there with 10 men to scout that vicinity, had met a couple of guerrillas, and after a long chase captured one, with complete equipments, and the horse of the other. I then move my command toward Lexington, on the Broady's Ferry road, scouting the country thoroughly for some miles on both sides of the road, arresting one man named George Moore, armed with rifle and pistol, and mounted. I also arrested his brother, James Moore. Both of the men bear bad characters, and are strongly suspected of being connected with the guerrillas. I staid for the night at the house of Los. Moore, and reached Lexington next day at noon, according to instructions. The result of the scout is the ascertaining with certainty that there is no force within 25 miles of the vicinity scouted, excepting some 30 of McClanahan's men, and a squad of 15 who had been robbing in the vicinity of Decaturville; the capture of 9 guerrillas and 5 citizens, 2 horses and saddles, 4 carbines, 4 revolvers, 2 single-barreled pistols, 5 shot-guns, and 4 rifles...
F. C. ADAMSON, Capt. Third Michigan Cavalry.


Note 1: There is reference to this action in neither the OR nor Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee.
September 19, 1863 - Confederate conscript sweep in Madison, Decatur, McNairy and Henderson counties

LAGRANGE, September 19, 1863.

Lieut.-Col. BINMORE, Assistant Adjutant-Gen.:

Information just received that Col. Wilson with 400 to 600 cavalry, also Newson with 200 cavalry, crossed the Tennessee at Saltillo on Tuesday, supposed to be on a conscription tour in McNairy and Henderson Counties.


LAGRANGE, September 19, 1863.

Brig.-Gen. GRIERSON:

A citizen, K. M. Harden, who lives 6 miles east of Purdy, reports this afternoon that Col. Wilson, rebel, crossed the Tennessee River at Saltillo on Tuesday, the 15th instant, with about 500 men: swam their horses. On Wednesday Col. Wilson passed near Purdy, going toward Jackson. His avowed purpose is to conscript.

They shot the father of one of the officers of the Sixth Tennessee Cavalry. That regiment asks permission to go after Wilson.

Your obedient servant.

L. F. McCULLIS, Col., Comdg. Cavalry Brigade.

September 30, 1864 - January 15, 1865 - Operations of the Second Iowa Cavalry in West Tennessee, N. Alabama and Middle Tennessee\textsuperscript{Note 1}


MAJ.: In compliance with circular from division headquarters, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command from the 30th day of September, 1864, to the 15th day of January, 1865:

September 30, my brigade (Second Brigade, First Division, Cavalry Corps, District of West Tennessee), consisting of the Sixth Illinois Cavalry, Maj. Charles W. Whitsett, the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. William C. Blackburn, the Second Iowa Cavalry, Maj. Charles C. Horton commanding, and Company K, First Illinois Light Artillery, Capt. I. W. Curtis commanding, was engaged during the morning in making preparations for a ten days' scout. At 12 m. the column was in motion on the Germantown road. The rain fell in torrents for two hours. When within on miles of Germantown turned north and crossed the Wolf River at Patten's plantation; the crossing was upon poorly constructed bridge, which delay my wagons and artillery until after dark, and caused much trouble in passing through the heavily timbered bottom on the opposite side. The command was in bivouac by 11.30 p.m., seven miles north of Germantown. October 1, left camp at daylight, marching in rear of First Brigade; passed Macon at 12 m., and took Somerville road; camped three miles from the former place. October 2, moved at 4 a.m., reached Somerville at 7 a.m., and took Bolivar road; arrived at that place at 4 p.m. I immediately made a heavy detail from Second Iowa Cavalry to finish a bridge across the Hatchie, which the Seventh Illinois Cavalry had been in advance to construct. At 8 p.m. the bridge was completed and the whole command over and in camp.

October 3, moved out of Hatchie Bottom at daylight, taking Mount Pinson road; crossed the Forked Deer River at sunset, and camped one mile north of the river at 8 p.m. and near the above named town; heavy rain all night.

October 4, left bivouac at 3 a.m., and reached Mifflin, Henderson County, and fed horses while the men made office. At 10 a.m. moved on, taking the road leading down the valley of Beech River, leaving Lexington to our left north some eight miles. Camped at Jones' plantation, three miles from Scott's hill.

Rained very hard all day. October 5, moved at daylight, passing Scott's Hill and taking Decaturville road, at which place we arrived at 2 p.m.; halted an hour to feed; at sunset reached the Tennessee River, opposite Clifton, where we found the fleet, under command of Maj. Gen. C. C. Washburn. October 6, steps were taken early for crossing by means of transports. At 2 p.m. all were across; and in accordance with orders from your headquarters moved out on the Nashville pike ten miles, and camped for the night. October 7, marched all day on
Nashville pike; passed Waynesborough, county seat of Wayne County, and at 10 p. m. camped for the night on the Nashville pike, within seven miles of Lawrenceburg. October 8, resumed the march at 3 a. m., and owing to the extreme darkness of the morning were misled and marched some five miles out of our way; halted at 9 a. m. for breakfast and to feed; reached Lawrenceburg, the county seat of Lawrence County, at 1.30 p. m. After a short halt moved out on military road leading to Florence, Ala., when three miles out took the road leading down the valley of Shoal Creek and camped ten miles from Lawrenceburg. October 9, left this encampment at daylight, returning to the military road, and moved in the direction of Florence until we reached Bough's Mills, where I received orders to encamp for the night. At this point we learned that Forrest had crossed the Tennessee River and encamped unharmed.

October 10, at 4 a. m., were again in motion toward Florence; on arriving at Wilson's Cross-Roads received orders to move toward Waterloo; passing to the north of Florence some six miles reached Waterloo at 4 p. m., and camped for the night. October 11, remained in bivouac until 4 o'clock, when we moved down the river some ten miles, with the hope of finding the gun-boats and fleet of procuring rations for the men. To make this move certain Maj. C. C. Horton, Second Iowa Cavalry, had been sent in advance, with his regiment, to the fleet with dispatches; unfortunately, however, the fleet had dropped down the river a few hours previous to their arrival, opposite Eastport, Miss. October 12, reveille at 4.30 a. m. My brigade was on the road for Savannah at daylight. The brigade was snugly encamped one mile below Savannah at 2 p.m.

October 13, still in bivouac. There being no visible means of procuring rations for my men, who had now been subsisting on the country at a poor rate some three days, I made application for and obtained permission to gather up corn and wheat and take it to a mill five miles distant, where I supplied my command scantily for the next four days. October 14, 15, and 16, during this time each day was industriously spent at the mill by parties grinding meal into flour, while others rode the country to procure salt, bacon, &c., to make it palatable. It great anxiety we waited of the boats till the evening of the 16th, when orders came to move in the morning. October 17, at 7 a. m. moved on the Waynesborough road a distance of some ten miles, when we turned toward Clifton, at which place we arrived at sunset, having marched some thirty miles over an extremely rough road. October 18, on arriving at Clifton found no boat, went the grand rounds on a large scale (some 150 miles), and returned to the starting point very hungry, ragged, and tired. During the afternoon, while unwelcome feelings were causing us to cast about for some means of subsistence, the steamer Duke hove in sight to the great satisfaction of the whole command. Our fine hopes were soon blasted, for we learned that it had only short rations of hard bread and meat; these were equally distributed among the different regiments, the balance to be gathered from the country during the absence of the steamer to Johnson's Landing. From the 18th the 27th of the month the officers and men were industriously employed in shoeing horses and making necessary preparations for an active campaign. Owing to the scarcity of blacksmiths and blacksmith tools, I sent to the country and
pressed sufficient to supply the deficiency in part only. Many of the horses were shod by the use of the common pocket-knife and hatchet; the horses, however, improved, as the forage obtained from the country was abundant. October 28, received orders to be ready to move to-morrow. October 29, left Clifton at 3 p.m., taking the Nashville pike, and camped three miles out. October 30, at 9 a.m. the general commanding came up with the First Brigade, which passed through my camp in the advance, when all moved along to Lincoln Creek, twenty-four miles, and camped for the night. October 31, resumed the march at 7 a.m., reached Lawrenceburg at 3.15 p.m., and camped one mile beyond.

November 1, left bivouac at 6 a.m. and reached Pulaski, eighteen miles distant, at 3 p.m., and camped for the night. November 2, 3, and 4, during these three days the time was occupied in procuring clothing and rations for the men, while shoes were being fitted on the horses, and preparations made for a heavy campaign. November 5, at 8 a.m. were again in motion on the Lamb's Ferry road, which leads to a ferry by that name on the Tennessee River. Camped for the night on Sugar Creek. Heavy cannonading was heard in the direction of the Tennessee River during the afternoon, which gave undoubted evidence of Hood's advance into Tennessee.

November 6, leaving bivouac before daylight enabled us to reach Lexington, Ala., before 11 a.m., where we halted for an hour to learn the whereabouts and movements of the enemy. Getting no satisfactory information, moved on to Bough's Ford, on Shoal Creek, the Second Iowa Cavalry in advance. On arriving within two miles of the ford the advance met the enemy's pickets, driving them across the creak rapidly, when the whole command came in full view of a heavy line extending along the bluffs on the opposite side. By direction of the general commanding I detached a portion of the Second Iowa to burn the flouring mill above the factory. Lieut. George W. Budd, commanding Company G, was sent for that purpose. After a lively skirmish of nearly an hour it was ascertained that the mill was on the opposite side of the stream, and that the water was too high to admit of crossing, mounted or dismounted, besides the enemy was some 300 strong, and a large number posted in and about the mill, rendering the position almost impregnable, to say nothing of the difficulty of crossing the stream. These facts being exported to me I conveyed the same to the general commanding, who directed that I withdraw all my brigade except the Second Iowa Cavalry, which should hold its position until further orders. At 9 p.m. all were in camp in a most unpleasant rainstorm. November 7, at daylight found ourselves with mud and water under foot and a drenching rain still falling. By direction from division headquarters, I took a demonstration on the enemy's pickets with my whole brigade, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. William C. Blackburn commanding, in advance. A persistent and heavy skirmish took place, when the enemy was driven from the bluff on the opposite side. The regiment reached the ford, but the stream was too much swollen to admit of crossing, the water carrying horse and rider down the stream. During an hour spent in skirmishing and an
unfruitful effort to cross and destroy the mill, it was ascertained beyond doubt that the enemy had re-enforced the picket heavily, and that Shoal Creek was much higher than on any day previous. I withdrew, fell back to Stutt's Cross-Roads, and camped for the night.

November 8, remained in bivouac during the forenoon, giving opportunity to the Second Iowa Cavalry to vote for Lincoln, which was done almost anonymously. At 2 p.m. moved to Bough's Ford, where I arrived at 5 p.m. in a heavy rain-storm. Detachments were immediately sent to reconnoiter the ford on the main road, also the one below, while a company was sent to the mill above. All reported, as on the three days previous, that the stream could not be forded. An effort was then made to construct a raft to cross at the mill, which failed for the want of material. During a skirmish of an hour the rain fell in torrents, and soon night came on, closing all operations for the day, when I withdrew to a point near the bivouac of the previous night. Sent Maj. C. P. Moore, Second Iowa Cavalry, with detachment of 100 men, to the rear of the enemy on the Tennessee River, with instructions to strike the river ten miles below Florence. Rained steadily all day.

November 9, during the night received orders from Gen. Hatch to make another demonstration on the enemy at Bough's Ford. Moved out promptly at 7.30 a.m.; reached the ford at 9 a.m.; roads nearly impassable from mud and water; found, as usual, the enemy's pickets heavy and well posted on the opposite side. The stream still too high to admit of fording from either side, withdrew at 12 m., and camped at Watchinks' house. Rained during the afternoon, but cleared away at sunset. Maj. Moore, Second Iowa, returned with his command safe, having passed around in rear of the enemy's line, a distance of forty miles, and striking the Tennessee River ten miles distant below Florence, making distance in going and returning of eighty miles' travel in twenty-four hours. The object of the expedition was to bring in seven men of Gen. Croxton's command, who had been three day's pontoons at Florence. If the object of the expedition had not been accomplished, they were to complete the work of destruction and meet this party below, but after diligent search and careful inquiry the major returned. November 10, remained in camp all day, the first pleasant day since leaving Pulaski. Owing to the extremely inclement weather, bad roads, &c., my command was again entirely destitute of rations. Two mills were taken possession of, and a regular system of foraging off the country was adopted, which, with the most careful management, could but poorly supply the men. Received orders during the afternoon to be ready at 9 a.m. of the 11th to make another demonstration on the enemy's picket, in conjunction with the entire command. November 11, reached the ford and opened upon the enemy's picket at the precise moment designated. The Sixth Illinois Cavalry, Maj. Charles W. Whitbit commanding, having the advance, were deployed as skirmishers, dismounted, forming a line from the main road up the stream to the mill, while a section of artillery was put in position on the military road. The skirmishers soon drove back the advance picket, while the artillery was put in position on the military road. The skirmishers soon drove
back the advance picket, while the artillery caused their reserve, at first in plain view, to scatter to their rear. A company of mounted men were in the meantime to try the ford on the main road and ascertain its condition for crossing. After a thorough trail it was found to be too deep even for mounted men. The Second Iowa Cavalry, Maj. C. C. Horton commanding, succeeded in finding a ford near a quarter of a mile below the main crossing, where I ordered him to commence crossings rapidly as possible. This order was obeyed in a most gallant manner by Company G of that regiment, with Lieut. George W. Budd commanding the advance. The First Battalion, Maj. Gustavus Schnitzer commanding, was soon over and engaging the enemy in a lively skirmish. when Maj. Horton reported the ford impracticable for the passage of more troops, from the quicksand and miry soil on the opposite shore, and that it was impossible to cross the artillery in any event. I ordered him to dismount the remainder of his regiment, place them in line along the shores, and recall Maj. Schnitzer. While the First Battalion was crossing and recrossing the stream the enemy kept up a heavy fire from a barricade some 300 yards distant, on a high bluff. Another effort had been made in the meantime to cross at the mill, which had been unsuccessful on account of high water. The Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. Blackburn commanding, which had been sent, on leaving camp, to make a flank movement to the right of this position, by crossing Shoal Creek above the pond and mill and moving down on the opposite and west side of the stream, now appeared in sight, frightening the enemy's pickets to such an extent that they fell back so far as to allow this regiment to cross the stream in safety by swimming their horses, with the exception of Company A, Lieut. David Hillier commanding, who, by a misunderstanding of orders, took the back track until severely pressed by a brigade of the enemy's cavalry, when he coolly took to the timber and hills, evading their main force, and after much difficulty succeeded in recrossing Shoal Creek, reporting with all his men in camp at dark. The cool, undisturbed manner of this officer in relieving himself from the snare of the enemy is at least highly creditable. At 1 p.m withdrew my command and went into camp again at Watkins' house.

November 12, remained in camp all day. Issued a very light ration of meal ground at the mill. November 13, remained in camp during the day; received orders during the evening to proceed immediately to blockade all roads leading into the military road. November 14, the detail a fell trees reported all roads effectually blocked in compliance with orders. November 15, at 4 a.m., moved out on military road toward Lawrenceburg, and camped at Wilson's plantation, five miles distant. November 16, left the military road at 8 a.m., passed down the valley of Wolf Creek, and crossed Shoal Creek at Wolf Ford; moved from the opposite side to Aberdeen, thence to Big Butler, and down to Little Butler, from which place moved directly south toward Wilson's Cross-Roads. After passing a mile, the advance, the Second Iowa Cavalry, found the enemy's pickets and dashed at them furiously, and ran them into their reserve pell-mell, which created a stampede of the whole command, composed of Gen. Roddey's brigade, which, in turn, ran back to their infantry camps in great confusion. Through the gallant conduct of Lieut. Griffith, of Company D of the
above-named regiment, we captured several prisoners, who informed us of many important facts touching the movements of the enemy. After having forced Roddy within the infantry lines, I became satisfied that the enemy were continually receiving re-enforcements, and that Forrest had recently joined Hood (on the 14th), and that the location about the two Butler Creeks was not the most safe for the camp of a cavalry command. I therefore took the responsibility of recrossing Shoal Creek at the Savannah Ford, and went into camp at Hains' plantation, three miles from Cowpen Mills. November 17, moved camp to Cowpen Mills and sent patrols three miles across Shoal Creek. Found the enemy in force. November 18, made reconnaissance across Shoal Creek. Found the enemy in force. November 18, made reconnaissance across Shoal Creek with sent the entire brigade three miles to Butler Creek and Florence road, and sent the Second Iowa Cavalry as patrols to the Florence and Waynesborough road four miles distant, returned to Cowpen Mills and camped.

November 19, in compliance with orders from division commanders, moved my brigade across Shoal Creek at Cowpen Ford, for the purpose of camping on Butler Creek. On reaching the Butler Creek road, three miles west, drove in the enemy's picket, and sent Capt. A. R. Mock, of Ninth Illinois Cavalry, commanding battalion, to patrol the Waynesborough road. The main column turned north to Butler's Creek, while Capt. J. W. Harper, with the remainder of his regiment (the Ninth Illinois Cavalry), stood picket on the road running south toward Florence. I remained with my escort at the cross-roads to see the train safely closed up for three-quarters of an hour, when I was informed by an orderly that the Second Iowa had met the enemy in heavy force, and that Buford's division was in their front, on Brig. Butler Creek. At about this moment Capt. Harper reported the enemy pressing his picket from the south, and that they had the appearance of being infantry. Leaving an orderly to close the column I sent another to inform Capt. Harper that he must hold his position at all hazards until the pack train and artillery had passed, as it was impossible, from the bad condition of the road, to halt or return by the same route. I then rode rapidly to the Second Iowa, and found them engaged with a superior force. I immediately sent the train and artillery down the valley of the Little Butler, accompanied by the Sixth Illinois as escort, Maj. Whitst, commanding, who was instructed to take all axes and spades and make a crossing on Shoal Creek at all hazards, as this was the only place of escape from a well devised trap of the enemy. The next thirty minutes were passed in great anxiety, as Buford, on the north, was pressing the Second Iowa hard in front and flanking on their right and left with vastly superior numbers, while the Ninth Illinois was heavily pressed in the rear by a force from the south. During this time a messenger was sent to Capt. Mock, informing him of his situation, and that unless he returned soon I would be compelled to abandon the last place left for his escape. As the Ninth Illinois came up they passed to the right and rear of the Second Iowa, down the Little Butler, and forming a line dismounted at the junction of the Big and Little
Butler, where the high and abrupt bluffs on either side made the valley quite narrow. This made a good support for the Second Iowa when compelled to fall back. By this time the situation of the Second Iowa became truly critical, in consequence of the rapid movements of the rebel flanking column, which reached nearly to their rear on the right and left. Seeing it was impossible to hold the gap until Capt. Mock could be heard from I ordered Maj. Horton to fall back and form again in rear of the Ninth Illinois. Each regiment then fell back alternately and formed lines for two miles, when we reached Shoal Creek, and I found, to my great surprise, the Sixth Illinois pack train, artillery, and ambulances all safe on the opposite side, and the regiment dismounted to cover the crossing. A lively skirmish was kept up by the rear guard while the command passed down the steep that land banking file obliquely 150 feet. The mortification and apparent chagrin of the rebels when they found their prey had unexpectedly escaped was made known by those hideous yells, such as only rebels can make. I carefully placed my pickets on all practicable roads and encamped at dark at the same place I had left in the morning, with the firm conclusion, as previously reported, that Butler’s Creek was by no means a desirable location to encamp. The day had been one of incessant rain.

November 20, moved from Cowpen Mills at 3 a.m., going toward the military road. On arriving at that place halted for an hour, when I received orders to move to Bluewater Creek and camp, leaving pickets on military road. Capt. Mock, of Ninth Illinois Cavalry, reported on military road, having traveled all night to reach the command. He succeeded in reaching the Waynesborough road, but in returning found himself and command completely surrounded by the enemy, and took to the hills by meandering neighborhood roads. By accident he came upon Gen. Chalmers’ division wagon train and made a charge on the guard, capturing several wagons and prisoners and fifty mules, besides much plunder which he could not bring away. While in the act of destroying the train he was attacked by a superior force and compelled to leave all and take to the woods again. By the assistance of Union men and negroes he was guided by circuitous routes until he reached the column. His loss was thirty men, most of whom were taken prisoners. Papers conveying important information were captured with the train, information which must have been of infinite importance to Gen. Thomas, as they detailed the movements about to be made, giving timely notice to all of what was to take place. Capt. Mock is entitled to much credit for the skill displayed in bringing out his command with so little loss. At sunset the pickets on the military road were attacked and compelled to fall back. Patrols sent to the military road and the front on all roads during the force part of the night found the enemy advancing in force.

November 21, ordered to take the rear on the Lexington road at daylight. Reached Lexington at 10.15 a.m., when the division joined Croxton’s brigade and was ordered to take the Lawrenceburg road in rear of command and train. Reached Lawrenceburg at 5 p.m. and camped for the night. The day was cold and much snow fell during the afternoon and night following.
November 22, morning cold and the ground frozen hard. About 12 m. the enemy commenced skirmishing with our pickets, when Capt. Jacob F. Bandy, Second Iowa Cavalry, with one battalion was sent to ascertain their force. At three miles distant from town the enemy was found in force and strongly posted on bluffs and behind well-arranged rail barricades. After an hour's skirmish he fell back to the picket. At 2 p. m. the enemy moved up in heavy force, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and encamped in line in plain view of town and of our bivouac. In compliance with orders I immediately put my command in line of battle on north side of town. The enemy soon opened with one section of artillery when my battery replied. An hour was spent in firing by the artillery on both sides with no result, when we were ordered to fall back on Pulaski road, Second Brigade to take the rear. My pickets and command withdrew in good order, though heavily pressed by superior force. Halted and camped seven miles east of Lawrenceburg, leaving Gen. Croxton's command in our front.

November 23, left camp at 4 a. m.; halted at Richland Mills to feed and issue rations to the men. Gen. Croxton's command, in the rear, was heard skirmishing heavily. At 3 p. m. moved three miles toward Pulaski and took to the left up the valley of Dry Creek, camping five miles south of Campbellsville.

November 24, moved at 6 a. m., taking the rear. Arrived at Campbellsville at 9 a. m. Received orders to follow the First Brigade and camp one mile above and north of the town on the creek. Sent patrols went one mile, who soon returned, reporting the enemy moving on our left, with vedettes standing on every high bluff in sight. This information was promptly conveyed to Gen. Hatch, who ordered patrols strengthened and sent back to watch the enemy. Had not proceeded half a mile when I was informed that the First Brigade, a short distance ahead, had met a heavy column, supposed to be Buford's division. I immediately ordered the regiments along the column to throw down the fences, and two regiments, the Sixth and Ninth Illinois, to form a line dismounted. This was not fully accomplished, however, when I was ordered to fall back to the east side of town, and hold the Lynnville road until the First Brigade, reported in a critical situation, could be recalled. My line of battle was soon formed, the left, the Ninth Illinois, resting near the church, the Second Iowa in the center, and the Sixth Illinois on the right, extending north, the entire line facing to the west. The regiments had barely time to dismount. The battery was soon put in position near the center of the line, when the enemy's infantry made its appearance in heavy force on the south and west side of the town. By direction of Gen. Hatch the battery commenced firing at a range of one mile and a half. The effect of the cannonading was excellent, causing the whole rebel column to halt for at least once hour and deploy in heavy force. During this time a flanking column of the enemy was discovered moving to our left, threatening the Lynnville road, when I ordered the Second Iowa, Maj. C. C. Horton commanding, to guard and check that movement, who soon reported the force engaging him vastly superior to his. I immediately sent the Ninth Illinois as support. These regiments were both immediately in a heavy
skirmish, their position soon became intolerable, as the enemy was undoubtedly moving their main column by the right flank, to get possession of the road in their rear. These facts I communicated to the general commanding, who ordered me to fall back and hold the road regardless of the First Brigade. When three-fourths of a mile from town I found the enemy in strong force on the left, with a battery playing at 1,000 yards distance upon my column. The men were deployed on foot on the left while the led horses and artillery was quite lively, but on casualties occurred, save the killing of two horses. Two miles from Campbellsville my flanking column and patrols from the left were suddenly driven is as the road turned to the left through a narrow gorge, and just at the time Gen. Hatch was passing, Capt. E. T. Phillips, Company M, Sixth Illinois Cavalry, commanding his escort, discovering the rebels, charge in an instant with his company and saved the gallant commander from capture. This gallant act of Capt. Phillips is worthy of special compliment here, as well for his daring as for the good result. Unfortunately, the captain received a wound in the left hand, which disabled him for the campaign. The Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. J. W. Harper commanding, following immediately in rear of the general’s escort, was ordered by him to dismount and hold the gap at all hazards. Capt. Harper had scarcely dismounted his men, when they received a heavy fire from a brigade of the enemy. Not particle daunted the captain ordered his men forward until it became a hand-to-hand fight. In the meantime I was notified of the perilous condition of the regiments, being then one-fourth of a mile in advance. Not knowing that nature of their orders I directed Capt. Harper to fall back slowly, but was soon informed that their ammunition (sixty rounds) was nearly exhausted. I then formed the Second Iowa across the gorge to protect them while they withdrew. The loss of this regiment was thirty killed and wounded in less than that number of minutes; among the number were four orderly sergeants killed. It is with pride that I mentioned the fact that Capt. Harper brought his men back in good order, although the loss was heavy. No sooner had the Ninth Illinois passed through the line of the Second Iowa than the rebel brigade came at double-quick up the hollow, colors in front, and in another instant was in line of battle. Three hundred Spencers from the Second Iowa drove them back in confusion; but a moment, however, intervened when the rebels rallied. Maj. Horton in the meantime retired and mounted by battalions, under fire, leaving one officer and five men wounded on the field. I then sent Capt. Bandy, Second Iowa, with two companies as rear guard, to Lynnville, three miles distant. The whole brigade was here thrown out in line of battle, and held the enemy in check until after dark, when I was ordered to withdraw and march in rear to Columbia. Put my command in bivouac within the infantry pickets at 11.30 p. m.

November 25, crossed Duck River, and encamped three miles above the City. November 26, at 10 a. m. moved out on the Murfreesborough road, and encamped eight miles east of Columbia. Rained continually during the day and that night. November 27, remained in bivouac all day; still raining very hard. The Seventh Illinois Cavalry having been assigned to this brigade. Maj. John M. Graham, commanding regiment, reported for duty. I sent Capt. Glass, of
Sixth Illinois Cavalry, and 400 men, to Shelbyville, ascertain the enemy's movements in that direction.

November 28, rained until 12 m. At 2 p. m. received orders to move immediately. While "boots and saddles" was being sounded the enemy opened with a volley upon the picket on the Shelbyville road. By aid of a glass the enemy could be seen in heavy force through the thin fog, about two miles distant. I ordered a battalion of the Second Iowa, Capt. Foster commanding, to support the pickets, while the command made preparations to move. By direction of the general commanding I sent the artillery and train on the Spring Hill road. This order, however, was soon countermanded, and the train sent to Huey's Cross-Roads, on the Lewisburg pike, where the brigade erected a slight barricade of rails, and slept on their arms during the night.

November 29, took up line of march at 4 a. m., passing Croxton's and Harrisons commands and moving toward Franklin, my brigade marching in rear of division to Mount Carmel, where it halted and fed in line of battle to the left of the pike. At 9 a. m. Gen. Croxton's command passed my brigade, heavily pressed by the enemy. The light rail barricades previously prepared served as temporary breast-works and enabled my brigade, then dismounted, to check the enemy's movements. But a few moments passed until the whole line was engaged in a heavy skirmish, which continued for an hour, when I received orders to withdraw slowly, which was done by alternate numbers in line, dismounted, for two miles, when I ordered the brigade mounted. I then withdrew by brigade in line of regiments, each regiment in line of squadrons in column of fours. The enemy, discovering this formation, charged down the pike, in column of fours, on a small company of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, which was acting as rear guard. In accordance with previous instructions from me the company did not halt, but continued to fall back, leading the enemy between the flanking columns right and left, who opened upon them a raking fire, throwing them into confusion, and ending the pursuit for the day. The command arrived at Nolen's plantation at 12 m., and halted in line of battle until 4 p. m., when it moved toward Franklin two miles, and, turning to the right, crossed Little Harpeth River and moved north to the Nolensville and Franklin road, where the brigade was encamped for the night.

November 30, the Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry, Col. George Spalding commanding, having been assigned to this brigade, reported for duty. Remained in bivouac till 12 m., where the enemy were reported to have driven our pickets in at the ford on the Little Harpeth. I received orders to put my brigade in line of battle dismounted, and I sent the Sixth Illinois to support the picket in front, and the Second Iowa to guard the left on the Nolensville road. After some thirty minutes I received orders to move my line forward, which was done promptly. At the distance of half a mile the enemy made his appearance in force on a high bluff in front, when by order of the general commanding, I ordered the brigade to charge the hill and drive the enemy back, which was performed in a most gallant style, until he was driven back across the Little Harpeth River. The enemy's force making the attack was supposed to
be Buford's division of cavalry and mounted acquitted to be from 5,000 to 6,000 strong. My entire command acquitted itself in a most creditable manner, and camped for the night on the ground occupied the night previous.

December 1, at 5:30 a.m. marched with the division to Brentwood Station, where I was ordered to form in line of battle on the Franklin pike. I remained here until 2 p.m., when I moved on the Nashville pike in rear of the command, crossed over to Murfreesborough pike, and camped for the night. December 2, marched with the division at 5 a.m., on the right flank, to Nashville, and crossed the Cumberland River during the afternoon, and encamped at Edgefield. During the time from December 3 to December 11 the brigade was encamped at Edgefield, making preparations for active duty again. December 12, moved camp across the river, and camped two miles south of the river between the Hardin and Charlotte pikes. December 13 and 14, in camp.

December 15, by the direction of the general commanding the division the brigade moved out at daylight from camp across the field, on the right of the Hardin pike, two miles, forming dismounted on the right of the infantry under Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith. The led horses were placed in the rear of their respective regiments, with the exception of the Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry, Col. George Spalding commanding, which regiment I kept mounted for a charge, should an opportunity present. An hour was spent in regulating the line of infantry and cavalry, when the advance was ordered, and all moved forward, presenting a most magnificent spectacle. We had not proceeded far when we crossed the Hardin pike, where a wagon train was discovered still in sight moving south, and Col. George Spalding was sent in pursuit. After traveling eight miles he came upon the rear guard and charged on it, capturing some twenty wagons, with teams, &c., complete, some forty prisoners, and a large amount of plunder, belonging to the rebel Gen. Chalmers' headquarters. My brigade formed on the extreme right of the infantry, with directions to conform to their movements, which were in a large circle and caused lively marching for the men, as the distance traveled by them was much farther than that of the infantry. After marching for three miles much of the time at a double-quick, I formed by brigade on the left flank of the enemy, one mile and a quarter to the left of the Hardin pike. Passing my battery to my right flank, where a favorable opportunity offered to enfilade the enemy's lines, the Seventh Illinois and Second Iowa were directed to support the battery. My artillery had discharged but a few shots at the redoubt when it was rapidly replied to. A lively fire was kept up on both sides for an hour with but few casualties. The command moved forward until within 500 yards of the enemy's works, when Gen. Hatch directed me to charge and take the nearest redoubt. The regiments engaged in this charge were as follows: Seventh Illinois Cavalry, Maj. John M. Graham commanding, on the right; the Second Iowa Cavalry, Maj. C. C. Horton, and Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. Joseph W. Harper commanding, in order, on the left of the Seventh Illinois; and the Sixth Illinois Cavalry, Lieut. Col. John Lynch commanding, on the left of the brigade and closed up to the right of the infantry. In making the charge the right wing of the brigade had an open field.
with nothing to impede their progress save two stone fences, while the left wing had a heavy thicket to pass through. At the word "Forward!" stone fences and thickets were very slight impediments in the way of this veteran brigade. The enemy, discovering the movement, changed their little messengers of shell to grape and canister, accompanied by heavy musketry from the infantry support behind their works. As I rode along the line I found each regiment competing with the others to reach the redoubt. So near the same time did each regiment reach the redoubt that it was difficult for some time to ascertain who was the first to reach the prize. All acted nobly, and are entitled to the highest praise, under the circumstances, for there are to be the first. The evidence, carefully examined, awards to Second Lieut. George W. Budd, of Company G, Second Iowa Cavalry, and his company, the honor of being the first to scale the rebel works and take possession of the rebel cannon, which were four in number-Napoleons. On reaching the inside of the works he drew his saber upon the cannoners and forced them to discharge the last load intended for the Federals on their own friends, then in plain view on the east side of the fort, not 500 yards distant. As the command took possession of this point a rebel battery opened from another redoubt, 600 yards distant, situated upon the top of a bluff some 200 feet high and protected by strong earth-works. Gen. Hatch ordered me to charge the hill without delay. This order was promptly obeyed by all my command, officers and men. The "charge" was sounded, and in twenty-minutes the colors of the Second John F. Hartman, of Company F, who was mortally wounded by a musket-ball passing through the abdomen. During the charge the enemy kept up a brisk cannonading, accompanied by heavy musketry firing from the infantry within the redoubt. The long march previous, the charge in taking the first redoubt, and the short time given until the charge of the second, rendered it almost impossible for a cavalryman to move faster than a walk. The long march previous, the charge in taking the first redoubt, and the short time given until the charge of the second, rendered it almost impossible for a cavalryman to move faster than a walk. So eager were the officers and men to reach the second redoubt that many fell to the ground exhausted. Lieut. Col. John Lynch, Sixth Illinois Cavalry, while at the head of his regiment gallantly leading his men, fell exhausted and was carried from the field. Many soldiers, when too tired to walk, crawled upon their hands and knees up the steep bluff to the foot of the redoubt. While my men were in the act of charging this last fort the infantry had reached within supporting distance, when I ordered my officers to pass the words, "Second Brigade, take those guns before the infantry get up!" and in less than ten minutes the work was done. Lieut. John H. carpenter, Company L, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, was the first man who entered the redoubt, killing the officer in command of the fort, while at the same moment Sergeant Hartman planted the colors of his regiment inside the works. In honor to the brave who have fallen I should say that on arriving within some twenty yards of the redoubt I found this brave color-bearer completely exhausted and halted in advance of the line. I asked him, "Sergeant, can you put those colors upon the works?" He replied, "I can, if supported." When I called for the Second Iowa to support
their colors it was done with an iron will, but the sergeant fell and was soon borne from the field. In this fort were two pieces of artillery (12-pounders), a large quantity of ammunition, and 150 prisoners. In ten minutes these guns were turned upon the enemy with such effect as to cause great confusion in their retreating columns. The prisoners and plunder had not been collected when I was ordered to continue the pursuit, leaving them in charge of the infantry. On quitting the fort, having previously instructed my regimental commanders where to form and collect their men, I mistook two regiments of the First Brigade for those of my own, and had the distinguished honor of leading them to the summit of a third hill, and shall ever remember with pleasure the gallant conduct of these men in holding that place, under almost galling fire from the enemy in front and on both right and left flanks, until the infantry came up, when they moved forward and took three pieces of artillery, from which they had driven the enemy a few moments before. These regiments. I am informed, were the Twelfth Missouri and Eleventh Indiana Cavalry. At dark I bivouacked my command near the redoubts on the Lewisburg pike.

December 16, at 10 a.m. was ordered to move my brigade out on the Lewisburg pike and support Gen. Knipe. After advancing a mile I halted one hour, when I was ordered to move my command to the east of the pike, form in line dismounted, and move forward, in conformity with the infantry, toward the Granny White pike. The steep hills, rising abruptly from 100 to 200 feet high, and covered with thick undergrowth, rendered it almost impossible for the movement of troops even dismounted. By putting the brigade by regiments (Sixth and Ninth Illinois, Second Iowa, Seventh Illinois, and Twelfth Tennessee) in line, successively, in order from left to right, and each upon a hill, I was at last able to move forward nearly one mile, when the whole line became engaged. The brigade was skirmishing heavily when I received orders to halt and hold my position. The line was upon a high, narrow ridge, thinly wooded, but affording an excellent point to defend. During the first hour here the Seventh Illinois charged a rebel work, driving the enemy away, capturing seventy-five prisoners and a large number of small-arms, bringing the prisoners safely away and destroying the arms. About 3 p.m. I ordered the Sixth and Ninth Illinois and Second Iowa, on my left, to commence firing at will on a fort some 500 yards distant, while two pieces of my artillery played upon it from the valley below. This, I am satisfied, had the desired effect, for the enemy commenced evacuating in a very few minutes. The whole line was then moved forward, and the Twelfth Tennessee captured some 150 prisoners. Three stand of colors were left in the hands of the infantry. On reaching the Granny White pike I was ordered to follow the enemy south, and, if possible, charge them before dark, as they were retreating in great haste. Col. Spalding, of the Twelfth Tennessee, took the advance, and had not proceeded more than one mile when he made a charge, which threw them into confusion, and, by the assistance of the Ninth Illinois, who were brought up dismounted, I soon drove them from a strong position protected by a barricade of rails. The Twelfth Tennessee and Sixth and Ninth Illinois followed them to another strong
position, half a mile distant, when a hand-to-hand fight took place, and lasted an hour after dark. At this place Brig.-Gen. Rucker was captured by Capt. Joseph C. Boyer, Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry, who received a severe blow on the forehead from the hand of the rebel general. In this personal contest Capt. Boyer wrenched the rebel general’s saber from his hand, who in turn seized and took his, when a Federal soldier, name unknown, shot the general in the arm, causing him to surrender. It was in this melee, amidst intense darkness, that the two regiments of Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry, Federal and Confederate, met and mixed in and confusion, neither knowing the other save by the usual challenge, "Halt, who comes there?" Col. Spalding, who was foremost in the charge, was halted by two Confederate soldiers, who, on hearing his answer to the challenge, grasped his horse by the reins on either side and demanded his surrender, when the colonel put spurs to his horse, and with one bound the noble animal took himself and rider beyond danger. Private Berry Watson, Company G, Twelfth Tennessee, captured and brought away Gen. Rucker’s division flag, and was promoted to sergeant by Col. Spalding, the same night, for gallant conduct. Maj. Kirwan and Bradshaw, of the Twelfth Tennessee, charged entirely through the rebel lines with their battalions, and afterward returned by passing themselves as belonging to the Twelfth Tennessee Confederate of Granny White pike, Cavalry, and in great anxiety to meet the Yankees. Camped for the night eight miles south of Nashville.

December 17, moved at daylight and continued the pursuit, following in rear of the cavalry command to Franklin, where I was ordered to move to the left on the Lewisburg pike three miles and cross over to the Columbia pike. When three miles south of Franklin we met the enemy, and I immediately formed the whole brigade and charged mounted. On reaching and driving in the rebels' left the Second Iowa pressed its way around to their rear, when a hand-to-hand fight ensued, resulting in the capture of one stand of colors and several prisoners. In this engagement Sgt. John Coulter, Corporl. A. R. Heck, and Private Black, of Company K, captured and brought off a stand of divisions colors, after which Private Black and Corporl. A. R. Heck were killed and Sgt. John Coulter was severely wounded. The sergeant, however, succeeded in bringing away the rebel standard. Sergeant Margarretz, of Company F, same regiment, the second color-sergeant, was killed at the same place, but not until he had killed the rebel who demanded his colors. On burying the dead three Federal and five Confederate soldiers were found dead within three paces of each other. The firing in the rear, in conjunction with the brisk engagement in front, caused the enemy to fall back, and with detached portions of the brigade I continued to press his flank until dark, when I dismounted the Ninth Illinois, formed in range, and fired upon him by volleys, driving him from another position, and, in co-operation with other troops, capturing three more pieces of artillery. One of these pieces was brought off the field by the Ninth Illinois. The darkness prevented further movements, and we camped for the night seven miles below Franklin.
December 18, moved at daylight, continuing the pursuit to Spring Hill, where
we found a considerable force of the enemy, and fired but a few shots, when
they fell back in confusion. Camped for the night three miles south of Spring
Hill. December 19, resumed the march at 7 a.m., and continued to Rutherford's
Creek, where are dismounted, marched by the right flank one mile, and
succeeded in crossing the Sixth Illinois on the wreck of the burnt railroad
bridge, when the fragments floated away and the balance of my command were
compelled to ford the stream some distance above. Moved two miles below on
the enemy's flank, the Sixth Illinois skirmishing until dark; then the command
encamped for the night. December 20, at daylight were again in motion down
Rutherford's Creek. Marched nearly two miles, when I was ordered to
dismount my command and construct a crossing from the fragment of a
railroad bridge which the rebels had destroyed the day previous. This works
was completed, and my command across at 12 m., and the pursuit again
resumed. The Seventh and Ninth Illinois were dismounted and deployed on
foot, while the remainder of the brigade followed mounted to Duck River,
opposite Columbia. On arriving here found the enemy had crossed his rear
guard in comparative safety at 4 a.m., leaving a small party, with a piece of
artillery, as rear guard in the town upon the opposite side. A light skirmish
between the above-named regiments and the enemy, accompanied by light
cannonading from both sides, closed the operations of the day, when the
command encamped to await the arrival of the pontoons. During the skirmish
the Seventh Illinois discovered where the enemy had abandoned four pieces of
artillery by tumbling it into Duck River over the abutment of the old bridge. It
was afterward taken out by the infantry.

December 21 and 22, the main part of my command remained in camp two
miles northeast of Columbia. One battalion of the Second Iowa, Capt. Samuel
Foster, Company M, commanding, was sent on the Shelbyville pike in pursuit
of a party of rebels, who were reported escaping with two pieces of artillery.
The captain succeeded in capturing them without resistance, after a day's
march, and also found six ambulances and three wagons in poor condition.
December 23, crossed the Duck River, and encamped five miles south of
Columbia on the Pulaski pike. December 24, marched with the division, in rear
of Gen. Croxton's command, as far as Lynnville, when my brigade was
ordered to march by the left flank, to gain the rear of the enemy's lines, and
drive him from a strong position on Richland Creek, but was prevented by the
unfordable condition of Richland Creek, when I dismounted by command and
engaged the enemy at long range for half an hour. During this skirmish the
rebel Gen. Buford was wounded by the seventh Illinois. Camped for the night.
December 25, marched with the division, in rear of Col. Harrison's and Gen.
Hammond's commands, reaching Pulaski at 11 a.m., and passing beyond some
six miles, when the enemy was found in force. A light skirmish ensued when
the advance was repulsed. My brigade was immediately dismounted, and after
a heavy skirmish of an hour drove the enemy from a strong position protected
by a barricade of rails, and encamped for the night. December 26, Marched in
rear of Gen. Hammond's command to Sugar Creek, and encamped for the
night. December 27, sent Col. Spalding, of the Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry, with a detachment of the best mounted men of each regiment (500 men in all), in the direction of Bainbridge, to ascertain the movements of the enemy. December 28, moved with the command to Blue Water, via Livingston, where we encamped for the night. Remained in camp during the 29th and 30th, having learned that the enemy had effect a crossing of the Tennessee River at Bainbridge. December 31, marched to Elk River on the Huntsville road; camped on opposite and east side, after much difficulty in crossing. The stream [too] high for fording.

January 1, reached Athens, Ala., at 2 p. m., and camped five miles beyond. January 2, left bivouac at 4 a. m. for Huntsville, but were halted by a staff officer five miles on the road, who informed me that our destination had been changed from Huntsville, Ala., and Waterloo, opposite Eastport, Miss. I countervanced my command and camped...

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DATUS E. COON, Col. Second Iowa, Cav., Cmndg. 2d Brig., 5th Div., Cav. Corps.


Note 1: The operations of the Second Brigade, Second Iowa Cavalry from September 30, 1864 to January 15, 1865, encompass scouts, skirmishes and participation in the battle of Nashville. The report here presented is lengthy, but gives the reader a good deal of insight into the broader movements of one unit during the war. Some of the action took place in northern Alabama, although most was in Tennessee.
Hardin County
March 12, 1862 - "At most of the small plantations the people were out waving their handkerchiefs, and cheering us." Excerpt from a private letter in the Chicago Times from Savannah, Tennessee

Savannah, Hardin County, Tenn.

March 12, 1862.

Dear Brother—We left Fort Henry at noon and ran up to the railroad bridge, sixteen miles distant... We then proceeded on up the river.

... At most of the small plantations the people were out waving their handkerchiefs, and cheering us. I have no doubt but that the part of Tennessee through which we have passed is strongly loyal. It was really a charming sight to be greeted with so much good feeling. The negroes would be out among the rest and cheered right lustily. If the owners were not loyal they would not allow their negroes to do this. We ran until about midnight, and had to lie by on account of the fog until morning. We started late. It was a most beautiful morning, just like our June at the North, the birds singing and the canebrakes looking so fresh and green. The scenery reminded me much of the Upper Mississippi. It is the same broken ridges, rising abruptly, only in as regular form as there.

We passed several iron furnaces and one extensive stone quarry. The villages are all small on the river, and from this fact I should judge the country not to be a very good one, or the landings would show more business. We passed Decatur and Brownsville, and came to Patriot, Perry county. Here we saw the nicest white house in our journey. The owners, a lady and gentleman, were out on the porch, well dressed, and gave us a handsome greeting, which we returned with cheers for our beloved Union. We stopped a short distance above the town to wood.

The fleet of boats in our division also stopped. The man who had care of the wood, and another young man came down to see about matters... I asked him about the Union feeling. He said Perry county had always voted for the Union. At the election held on the first of March, the unconditionally Union candidate for Sheriff named Jesse Thompson, received a large majority.

Coffee is one dollar per pound: no powder to be had; salt, four dollars per bushel; corn, two dollars and a half per bbl.; and wheat, one dollar per bushel. The principal crops were corn and wheat, but little tobacco, and some cotton. The farms are very small. The winter wheat looks splendidly well. You can hardly imagine a better sight to one from the North than the fields clothed in living green. We saw a deserted cabin which some of our boats had fired. Another one some unruly soldier had broken into and destroyed everything. This is inexcusable, and is directly chargeable to the officers in command. It will, if not stopped, hurt us beyond measure. Some of the boats called along on [illegible] soldiers jerked all the chickens &c. that they could find. One of our boats, the Argyle, with the Fifty-seventh Illinois, were fired into by a [body?]
of rebel cavalry at a place called Clifton, one man killed and two wounded. A squad of our forces landed and took ten of the inhabitants as hostages. They say it was a stray party, and they had driven them off during the day.

Savannah is a place of six hundred inhabitants. At the election the Union candidate had over 100 votes, and the secession candidate, 13. I conversed with an intelligent gentleman, and feel assured that the Union sentiment here is strong. They could not procure any salt, and had to cure their pork with ashes and sugar. We have now here over sixty steamers and two gunboats.

Pittsburgh, where they had a fight a few days since, is only four miles above. We hear the enemy are in strong force along the line of the railroad. If so we shall shortly have a fight.

Our army have enlisted about one hundred men here already. The numerous regiments drilling and the busy preparations of various kinds, with the country and town people and darkeys gazing with astonished wonder, are a sight never to be forgotten. The weather is very mild. It is now, at noon, too warm for comfort with a coat on.

I don't think the opening of the rivers will actually help the price of produce much in the end. The reign of terror has left the South with no means to buy.

Chicago Times, March 19, 1862. Note 1

Note 1: As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts.
March 25, 1862 - Union sentiment along the Tennessee River, Savannah environs, and a Confederate conscript sweep.

Tuesday morning the fog having cleared away about 9 a.m., started for Savannah, meeting many demonstrations of loyalty along the shore, and without accident, except that just above Clifton a man rose up behind a cedar bush and fired at the boat, fortunately injuring nothing but the collar of a soldier's coat. . . Landed on the west side of the river, opposite Savannah, at the plantation of Mr. Cherry, a loyal citizen, who has narrowly escaped hanging two or three times on that account. His residence is in Savannah. He is the owner of some forty slaves. Here some of the officers were presented with bouquets of hyacinths and other early spring flowers. Savannah is a pretty village, situated on the bluff on the east side of the river, the plantation above alluded to being opposite in the "sandy bottom," and bounded by a large cane brake, to which the soldiers betook themselves, returning with thousands of fishing rods, which of course were of no use to them. At night saw the light of a conflagration to the southwest of Savannah.

Note.-The conflagration mentioned turned out to be the burning of forty bales of cotton by the rebels. The cotton belonged to Mr. Cherry, of Savannah. It was within three miles of that place. We learned at Savannah that on the day previous to our first arrival, there had been a squad of rebel cavalry there, pressing every able-bodied man into their service. Many fled to the woods and got aboard the gunboats, and some 160 enlisted for the war.

Daily Missouri Republican [St. Louis], March 25, 1862

Note 1: As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts.
March 28, 1862 - Description of activities at Purdy and Savannah, Tennessee

Special Dispatch to the Cincinnati Gazette.

Savannah, Tenn., March 28.

Via Cairo, March 29.

... Purdy Court-House is now full of Union men of that place. The latter are fearful of having their houses and all their property destroyed. Squads of rebel soldiers are already seizing all their provisions and everything that can be of use to the army. Owners of cotton are particularly alarmed... A man named Morris, one of the Jessie Scouts, was hung at Savannah on Sunday for horse stealing, and other depredations, from private citizens thereabout.

Chicago Times, March 31, 1862. Note 1

Note 1: As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vabetts.
April 20, 1862 - Death of Wisconsin Governor Louis P. Harvey at Savannah, Tennessee

CAIRO, ILL., April 20, 1862.

President LINCOLN:

Governor Harvey, of Wisconsin, was drowned last night about 11 o'clock at Savannah, on the Tennessee River, while passing from one boat to another. All search for his body had proved fruitless up to the time dispatch left. Note 1

W. K. STRONG, Brig.-Gen., Cmdg.


Note 1: Apparently the governor's remains were never found.
April 25, 1862 - Confederate report on Southern Unionism in the Savannah environs

We take the following from the Savannah, (Tenn.) correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette:

... Accounts of Southern Tennessee Unionism have been highly rose-colored, from those of the first exploring gunboats on down. There are warm Union men here, and in far greater proportionate numbers than at Nashville, but the great mass of the people, and all the leaders are, as they have been, secessionists. Savannah itself is Union; I do not think the same can be said of the county, and I am confident (after careful examination and inquiry,) that it can at any rate be said of none of the adjoining counties.

The better classes here, except perhaps in Savannah, are all secessionists. Where you find one intelligent, educated man on our side, you will find fifty against us. I know no reason for blinking at such facts, or for exciting delusive hopes, by exaggerating the Union sentiment. Continued successes, I make no doubt, will develop abundance of new-born loyalty.

[Houston] Tri-Weekly Telegraph, April 25, 1862.  

Note 1: NO FOOTNOTE TEXT
May 29, 1862 - Savannah's Irwin sisters, Confederate spies

From the N. Y. Tribune of Thursday [29th].

It is now well understood that "unauthorized hangers-on" were excluded from the Army of Tennessee by Gen. Halleck, because the rebels managed to obtain intelligence of the disposition of our forces through some one with the army. The leaky individual, according to the correspondence of the Cincinnati Times, is a brother of Gov. Yates, of Illinois. The rebel agents, two fascinating sisters named Irwin, whose father owns any amount of broad acres and almost countless contrabands, and who have the enviable reputation of being the "most elegant ladies in Tennessee," reside at Savannah, and since the occupation of the lace they have professed strong Union sentiments, and their parlor has been a general rendezvous for all the young gallants in the service.

No one questioned their loyalty, and in course of time they became as familiar with our position and strength as our own Generals. The principal portion of this intelligence was imparted by a brother of Gov. Yates, of Illinois. Immediately after an introduction to the Misses Irwin, he became fascinated, and from that moment his attentions to both in general, and one in particular, became unremitting, and the consideration he received, which he attributed to the high position of his brother and his own personal charms, led him to an indiscreet, not to say criminal, revelation of all he knew about the plans of the campaign and the strength of the army. He is reported as a vain man, and flattery rendered him loquacious, until the whole story was known to the sisters.

In the meantime the "erring brother" found the means of visiting his "loyal sisters" nightly, and what they learned during a day was known to Beauregard before a second dawned. Our authorities soon discovered that there was a leak somewhere, and the result was, a sort of persecution was instituted against newspaper correspondents, who are made to shoulder all the fatherless sins floating about the army. But after a while the whole matter was revealed, and the gallant young man found it very convenient to omit all further attention to the damsels, and seek a healthier climate further north.

Chicago Times, May 31, 1862. Note 1

Note 1: As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts.
July 7, 1862 - July 8, 1862 - Depredations in and about Bethel,\textsuperscript{Note 1} against civilians by 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry

HDQRS. POST, Bethel, Tenn., July 7, 1862.

Col. J. C. KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-Gen., Corinth, Miss.:

The Seventh Regt. of Kansas Cavalry passed through this place yesterday and to-day on their way to Corinth, and ever since their first appearance I have been afraid to take from them horses they have stolen from the citizens along the route they have traveled from Jackson. I have recovered some of them and handed them over to the owners, but some have eluded me and have gone on to Corinth.

The conduct of this command since it came in this vicinity has been such that it makes one feel ashamed of the volunteer service of the U. S. Army.

Complaints come to me of their having robbed the farmers of all their stock and in some cases of their watches and money. I have arrested a corporal of Company F of that regiment who went into a farmer's house and broke open his trunks and stole from them a watch and some money, and will send him to you as soon as I get the testimony in his case.

They have in some instances attempted to force the women to cohabit with them when found at home alone.

Their conduct in this vicinity has been disgraceful to the Army of the United States.

Maj. Herrick, commanding the regiment, has done all in his power to restore to the owners such property as his men have taken, as have also some others of the officers.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. SANFORD, Lieut.-Col., Comdg. Post, Bethel, Tenn.


\textbf{Note 1}: There are nine communities in Tennessee with the name Bethel. It seems clear, however, from the mention of Corinth, Miss., that this incident took place in Bethel, Hardin county.
December 3, 1862 - Attack on Union forage train on the Hardin pike near Nashville

DECEMBER 3, 1862.-Attack on Union forage train on the Hardin pike, near Nashville, Tenn.


HDQRS. ROBERTS' BRIG., 11TH DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS, Camp Sheridan, December 21, 1862.

MAJ.: I have the honor to report in the cases of Brigade Quartermaster D. B. Sears, Regimental Quartermaster S. B. Hood, and Lieut. O. A. Clark, formerly of my command, but now prisoners of war, that on the 3d day of December, 1862, they were on duty in attendance with a forage train from my brigade, under command of Lieut.-Col. Walworth, which proceeded 10 miles on the Hardin pike, then turned to the left and loaded, about 3 miles from said pike. Before starting, I placed General Orders, No. 17, in the hands of Quartermaster Sears, and enjoined strict obedience in regard to all points, and specified particularly the recepting for property. I learn from direct testimony that Quartermaster Sears was very active to see that all the wagons were well loaded; that the exact number was ascertained, and that he then insisted that Quartermaster Hood, of the Twenty-second Illinois, Foragermaster Bruce, of Gen. Palmer's division train, and Lieut. O. A. Clark should go with him to the house of the proprietor and receipt. They went. The house was distant (as I am informed) from the guard of the rear of the train about 300 yards.

Quartermaster Sears did not ask for a personal guard; in fact, as he says, did not think of it. While Quartermaster Sears was recepting, the others were invited to take dinner, which they did. Before Quartermaster Sears had completed his receipts, a force of Texan Rangers, of about 200, began firing on the train and escort. Bruce, who was first out of the house, mounted his horse, and escaped with a ball through his coat and another in the hip of his horse. The other officers, seeing the Rangers between them and the train, remained at the house, and were taken.

The Rangers charged on Sergeant [Edward] Huerson, of Company E, Forty-second Regt. Illinois Volunteers, and 17 men, of same regiment, who were posted as a lookout or vedette. But the sergeant formed his men, and fired into them by volley, advanced on them, still firing, dared them to come on, and completely drove them back. The Rangers wounded 8 mules, and Quartermaster Sears states that they declared that if it had not been for the "little major," as they called the sergeant, they would have captured part of the train.

I think that Herson deserves notice. He has been with me in several close matters, and is brave beyond question. I sent forward a recommendation for his promotion, but it is returned, refused.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. W. ROBERTS, Col., Cmhd.

December 25, 1862 - Citizens of Savannah fend of Confederate guerrilla attack

CORINTH, December 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. U. S. GRANT, Holly Springs:

My scouts are in from east of Tennessee River; left Waynesborough and Clifton yesterday. At former place are about 500 Mississippi cavalry; at Clifton, about 100. At Old Town a large lot of hogs are collected in charge of Robertson's cavalry. Yesterday the citizens at Savannah had a fight with some of Robertson's company; wounded 2 and took 6 prisoners, which the scout brought here. Some of my cavalry crossed to-night to help through. In Wayne County are some 200 armed Union men, whom the Mississippi cavalry have been sent to put down. At Old Carrollsville Forrest has his trains and what he has captured. A good regiment of cavalry could capture the lot, or a force up the river from Fort Henry could catch them. Men from Clifton who saw Forrest cross say he did not cross over 3,500 men. No movement of Bragg that I can discover. Jeff. Davis in Chattanooga last Sunday: Johnston with him.

G. M. DODGE, Brig.-Gen.

February 2, 1863 - February 5, 1863 - The 5th Iowa sent to Hardin County environs to stop Confederate conscription sweeps and to Fort Donelson

Today we got orders to be ready to march at 4 o'clock. Went on board the steamer *Bon Accord* at that hour and went up the river [i.e., south].

Feb. 3rd — About 2 o'clock this morning we landed about 70 miles up the river and then found that we were sent to break up a band of rebel cavalry that was employed in recruiting and enforcing the conscription act. They were reported five miles out and about 200 strong. This was about our own force. A union man living out half way was to be our guide. On reaching his house we found we had our labor for our pains, the rebels having left on the previous Saturday. Came back to the boat and were enjoying ourselves as best we could before our good fires by daylight [i.e., February 4th]. About noon having waited for our guide's family, we started down the river reaching home [i.e., Paris environs] just at dark. The day was cold and had some snow the night before. Immediately on touching the bank we were ordered to Fort Henry to be ready to march to Donelson which was attacked.

We crossed, land and fed our horses, and waited for orders, which did not come till next morning [i.e., February 5th], when we started [for] and reached Dover before noon. The enemy had retreated having about 200 of his dead—some 40 of his wounded and one hundred others prisoners. Our company was sent to gather up some of the wounded and found 22 in three houses about a mile from Dover. The defence [of Fort Donelson] was one of the most gallant affairs of the war. Part of the 83rd Illinois Volunteers some 450 effective men and five guns defended the place successfully against some 2500 men and eight guns. The rebels were according to their own account 7000 strong and 14 guns, was half attacked the post the others moving west to stop our advance. They kept back the 13th Wisconsin and part of our regiment several hours, as they had to advance cautiously skirmishing a good deal of the way. Our loss was about 13 of the 83rd killed 2 of Flood's Battery — It certainly was a glorious victory as the rebels acknowledged a loss in all of 1000 men. Thank God for his goodness to us, surely the race is not always to the swift not the battle to the strong. . . There being no more need of us at Dover, as about 15,000 men were there who had come up before we got there, on their way to Rosecrans.

Alley Diary, entries for February 2-5, 1862.
April 21, 1863 - Ellet's Marine Brigade destroy mills and commissary supplies near Savannah

No circumstantial reports filed.

Excerpt from the Itinerary of the Mississippi Marine Brigade for April, 1863.

On the 21st, was forced to leave Eastport, in consequence of the water falling rapidly. Landed at Savannah, and sent scouting parties out to burn mills used by the enemy. Destroyed the mills, with large amount of commissary supplies. Captured 3 of the enemy's pickets, and returned without loss.

May 17, 1863 - May 31, 1863 - Report on Naval operations on the Tennessee River at Savannah and Clifton

Report of Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, U. S. Navy, regarding operations at Savannah and Clifton, Tenn.

U. S. GUNBOAT ARGOSY, Tennessee River, May 24, 1863.

SIR: On the 17th I received notice from General Oglesby that a considerable force of the enemy, with artillery, was at Savannah and Clifton, shelling the opposite shore and crossing the river. I hurried up the river, but the rebels retired from the banks on our approach. General Dodge, at Corinth, advised me that he wished to cross a heavy cavalry force at Hamburg. When I reached there he informed me that he could not send the force immediately, on account of rebel movements along his front, but he would do so the coming week, crossing over 1,500 cavalry. I left three gunboats to cooperate in this movement and came down the river for the purpose of looking after the Duck River section and to send two of the heavy-draft boats to exchange for lighter ones. The river is falling rapidly and is low already. Most of the gunboats can not go high up after eight days more at the present rate of falling.

The rebel force that has been at Savannah and thereabouts, I learned was a part of Forrest's command on its return after capturing Colonel Streight near Rome, Ga.

The Robb, being then the sternmost of the boats, was fired into on the 19th below Duck River and 2 men were slightly wounded.

Since my last communication, we have destroyed immense numbers of boats of every conceivable construction, showing great activity on the part of the enemy in making them. He holds the right bank from near Fort Henry up, and is active in crossing in small parties to surprise our pickets and to plunder the people, who on the left bank are mostly Union.

S. L. PHELPS, Lieutenant-Commander.


U. S. GUNBOAT COVINGTON, Fort Henry, June 3, 1863.

SIR: Beginning with the date of the last report I had the honor to forward, I have now to inform you that the three gunboats left to cooperate in a movement across the Tennessee at Hamburg effected that purpose.
On the 24th the *Covington*, at Savannah, crossed and covered a small force which proceeded a few miles back and destroyed a cotton and woolen factory and a mill used by the rebels.

On the evening of the 26th, cavalry, with four howitzers, under Colonel Cornyn, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, arrived at Hamburg from Corinth, and the gunboats safely crossed the force over the river.

Meanwhile 150 cavalry had landed at Savannah under cover of the guns of the *Covington*, intended to operate in that neighborhood, and keep open communication between Colonel Cornyn and the gunboats. The *Fanny Barker* and *Robb* covered the landing opposite Hamburg. The force at Savannah had captured some stock and brought it in, but on the 30th, while returning from an expedition with considerable stock, the commander found himself pressed by a rebel force and was obliged to abandon his stock and he barely succeeded in getting into Savannah, where I found him on the river bank, protected by the *Covington*. Colonel Biffle, the rebel commander, had invested the town, demanding a surrender of our forces, and giving an hour for the removal of women and children, if this demand were not complied with. He received for an answer from both our commanding officers, a short and more expressive than civil reply to come and take them. Not wishing to interfere with Colonel Biffle's projects for getting his command badly cut up, it turned out as I expected, mere gasconade. I went on to Hamburg, where Colonel Cornyn had arrived, and I crossed his command over that night with some 1,000 additional animals captured. It appears that the enemy had pushed considerable force from Spring Hill and Columbia, General Bragg's left wing, toward Hamburg, in the hope of cutting off Colonel Cornyn's force, but had come up too late.

There was brisk skirmishing during the time we were crossing our people. In the morning the enemy was discovered in the woods near where the crossing was effected, and we shelled him out. Numerous Union families from Hardin County, Tenn., became alarmed at the rebel threats of vengeance, and begged me to bring them down the river, and I have done so, having a barge load of the household effects they have been able to save.

June 14, 1863 - June 25, 1863 - Counter insurgency expedition on the Tennessee River \textsuperscript{Note 1} by U. S. N.


Office Mississippi Squadron

Cairo, Ill., June 25, 1863

Sir: I have the honor to report that the vessels in the Tennessee have been active during the past two weeks (ca. 14-25 June, 1863) and yet have been unable to prevent the enemy crossing the river. The removal of the land forces from points north of the line of Corinth has opened that section of country to the operations of predatory bands.

The gunboats have destroyed skiffs, canoes, and rafts, with material that might serve to construct them without end, but the rebels build as fast as we destroy. Rafts made of drift [wood] serve every purpose of crossing. The rebels, almost without hindrance, are plundering Tennessee lying west of the river and are enforcing their conscript act. Refugees in large numbers reach the river and are brought away by the gunboats upon flats used for coal, etc. These unite in the report that General Biffle is erecting stockades at Waynesborough. Some state that General Bragg’s left wing is retiring to that place. It is probable that Biffle is only establishing himself for the purpose of securing the grain and cattle being collected by his forces.

On the 14th instant Acting Lieutenant Commanding Hurd dispersed a force of rebels at Saltillo and again another force of 200 at Beech [Creek] Island on the 17th instant. At Cerro Gordo General Dodge has kept a kind of home guard to protect the crossing at that point. On the opposite side rebels 200 and 300 strong have been for some time in the habit of firing across at our people, disappearing on the approach of the gunboats, to come out again soon after they passed. Captain Hurd had two of the Robb's howitzers landed and concealed, expecting to catch the rebels on the other side as soon as the gunboats were out of sight. Three hundred of the enemy had crossed the river for the purpose of capturing the home guard and found our howitzers in position. A mutual surprise ensued, both parties meeting with an unexpected party. Our pieces had an open field to work in and were effective, the rebels being repulsed. The gunboats arrived very soon and opened upon the enemy. The men at the howitzers belonged to the Robb; 1 was killed and 2 wounded, I severely. Owing to the number of the enemy driven to the woods Captain Hard did not think it prudent to send men to examine the field, but he states that he has been reliably informed that the enemy lost from 25 to 30 killed and wounded.

The rebels crossing the Tennessee are reported to be ordered to rendezvous at Bolivar.
The *Queen City* and *Silver Cloud* are here and will relieve the *Tawah*, in accordance with the arrangement already detailed to you. One of these vessels will give special attention to the neighborhood of Island [No.] 40.

I expect to leave to-morrow with the *Eastport* to arrange more care after the stations of vessels have between here and Helena.

The *Robb* makes the chain of boats complete now between Helena and the head of navigation on the *Tennessee*.

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I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. L. Phelps, Lieutenant Commander

*Navy OR*, Ser. 1, Vol. 25, pp. 204-205.

**Note 1:** Not listed in *Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee* or *OR*. 
August 2, 1863 - August 7, 1863 - Scout from the LaGrange to Hardin County

No circumstantial reports filed.

RECONNOISANCE FROM LAGRANGE.

Lagrange, Tenn. August 9 [1863]

Colonel Hurst:

I beg leave to make the following report of a scout of which I had command by order of Col. Hatch:

On the 2d inst. Col. Hatch ordered me, with sixteen men, to take a dispatch to Gen. Dodge, at Corinth. Leaving Col. Hatch at Lexington, I started to Corinth, and on the morning of the 3rd, I met the 1st Alabama (Federal) cavalry, on the waters of White Oak creek, when the Major commanding requested me to let him send the message to Gen. Dodge, and that I would go with him as a guide: to which I assented, being well acquainted with that portion of country. We then proceeded in the direction of Swallow Bluff, on the Tennessee river, meeting with no opposition. At Swallow Bluff we separated, the Alabama cavalry moving up the river. After we parted, I had a fight with some of Col. Biffes' men across the river, but do not know the amount of damage done. We saw some of the rebels fall from their horses, three, if no more, but do not know whether they were shot dead or not. The rebels soon left the banks, fled incontinently. I then turned northwest, and after marching about ten miles I met a squad of rebels and exchanged several shots with them, when, as usual, the rebels fled. We received no damage, and we presumed that we had done them but little. I then continued my course about four miles and bivouacked for the night. On the morning of the 4th we mounted, and scouted the country in all directions until evening, when I started for Smith's Mill, on White Oak creek, where we spent the night. On the morning of the 5th we again mounted and went about seven miles in a northwestern direction, when we met a portion of Capt. Stinnett's guerillas and had a right sharp fight, capturing his first lieutenant: first sergeant and fifteen men. We had the fight on the north fork of White Oak creek, about eight miles southeast of Jack's creek. I then concluded to make my way back to Lagrange, which I did, arriving in camp the 7th with my seventeen prisoners, neither myself or any of my little squad having received a scratch.

I respectfully submit the above report, and also the seventeen "greybacks." to your paternal care.

Respectfully,

Wm. J. Smith, 1st Lieut. Co. C. Commanding Squad.


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Note 1: Reference to this event is found neither in the OR nor Dyer's Battle Index.
for Tennessee.

Note 2: A tributary of the Tennessee River, in Hardin County.

Note 3: In Chester County.

Note 4: This term seems to have been used by Federal troops as a counter to the Confederate use of the term "blue bellies."
April 22, 1864 - Federal pursuit of guerrillas, Columbus across the Hiwassee

HDQRS. SEVENTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS, Columbus, Tenn.,
April 22, 1864.

Brig.-Gen. WAGNER:

GEN.: I have the honor to report "all quiet" on the Hiwassee, except some little excitement caused by rather bold and frequent stealing of mules by persons supposed to be connected with guerrillas from below. I learn also from refugees in to-day that in the vicinity of Ducktown the people were expecting a raid to-day or to-morrow by a force of about 100, under command of a certain notorious Dr. Young. I don't get reliable information of any particular evidence of the movement further than the expectations of the people there. Among the refugees in to-day was a gentleman of more than ordinary intelligence and shrewdness, and apparently better posted up in matters pertaining to the rebel army than any one I have before met with. His statement is that the nominal force of Johnston's army, as shown by the muster-rolls last month, was, 42,000 all told, but constantly diminishing by desertion, sickness, &c. I desire instructions whether to continue my report direct to you, and where. I have reported daily, but get no answer whether my dispatches reach you.

Your obedient servant.

JASON MARSH, Col., Cmhd. Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers.

8 O'CLOCK A. M.

P. S. - I am just in receipt of reliable information that a squad of rebel cavalry, 50 or 60, are dashing through 5 miles above me, making for my picket station at Savannah. I have dispatched two companies in pursuit.

J. M.

HDQRS. SEVENTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,
Columbus, Tenn., April 22, 1864.

Brig.-Gen. WAGNER:

GEN.: As I stated in my dispatch of this morning, I sent two companies in the quickest possible time to the point where the rebel cavalry seemed, by their inquiries, to be making for the purpose of crossing the Hiwassee. On arriving there it was ascertained that they proceeded in that direction as far as Goley's Mill, about 3 1/2 miles from this point, and about the same distance from Savannah, and then struck for the trail over the mountain; judging from their inquiries at different points, I concluded they would make for the crossing called Broad Shoals, about 12 miles, and might not get there before night. As soon as I learned their apparent course, I dispatched 30 men to Broad Shoals, in the hope of intercepting them during the night. As yet (midnight) I have not heard from the expedition. From entirely reliable information, they consisted of 64, divided into two squads, thoroughly armed, but very much jaded out.
The most correct account I can get of their companies is that they come from the direction and within about 4 miles of Riceville; beyond that I have not been able to trace them. The boldness and success of the affair demonstrates the necessity of having more force, and particularly some cavalry, in this vicinity, if it is important to prevent such raids or to have the present command here at all safe. It was their declared intention, before they got to Goley's Mill, to pounce upon my force at Savannah and capture them. I can't think why they changed their purpose, as I can see no reason why they should not have succeeded and got off before I could have rallied any force to stop them. I am satisfied that Goley aided them all he could. What shall I do with such men, when I have good reason to suspect them?

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JASON MARSH, Col., Cmdg. Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers.

P. S. -I desire instructions whether furloughs are still granted under the order giving 5 per cent. I am told that order has been suspended, but I can find no official notice of it among my papers.

J. M.

July 25, 1865 - Military posse in Perry, Wayne, Hardin, Hickman, Williamson and Maury counties

NASHVILLE, TENN., July 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. SMITH, Memphis:

Send a force of 100 cavalry to hunt down and destroy a band of guerrillas now raiding over the counties of Perry, Wayne, and a portion of Hardin, and who make their headquarters in south part of Hickman County and near Williamsport, in Maury. Your force will remain west of the Tennessee and cooperate with a like force which Gen. Johnson will send out to scout the east of the river.

W. D. WHIPPLE, Brig.-Gen.

Henderson County
December 31, 1862 - Engagement at Parker's Cross Roads

Excerpt from the Report of Col. George G. Dibrell, Eighth Tennessee (Confederate) Cavalry, of operations from December 15, 1862-January 6, 1863, relative to the engagement at Parker's Crossroads [a.k.a. Red Mound].

MOUNT PLEASANT, TENN., January 6, 1863.

In obedience to verbal instructions from General Forrest I herewith submit a report of the action of the Eighth Tennessee Cavalry in his recent expedition into West Tennessee:

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We were moving back...on the morning of December 31, when our scouts reported a large infantry force in our front near Parker's Cross-Roads. We immediately turned our wagon train to the right and moved on to meet the enemy's advance. A lively skirmish ensued, when Freeman's battery opened upon them with splendid effect, and they retreated back to Parker's Cross-Roads, where Col. [C. L.] Dunham, U. S. Army, was with a brigade of infantry. We advanced rapidly to the cross-roads, and were ordered by General Forrest to take possession of a hill in a large cotton field, which we did at a double-quick, and then began our first regular battle as cavalry. We had no protection but the top of the hill, while the enemy was sheltered by woods and a fence. They made three efforts to charge us, but the galling fire from our guns and one 12-pounder howitzer, manned by Sergt. Nat. Baxter, of Freeman's battery, drove them back. They had six pieces of artillery and we but one. The battle raged with great fury until we were joined upon our left by Captain Morton with one gun, supported by Cox's battalion, and on the right by Colonel Napier's battalion and Colonel Starnes with his regiment, and General Forrest with Russell's Fourth Alabama, Biddle's Ninth [Nineteenth] Tennessee, and [T. G.] Woodward's Kentucky battalion got in their rear, and then they fled in confusion, leaving all their dead and wounded and six pieces of artillery in our possession. The enemy retreated into the timber and halted to reform. We had about 300 prisoners, and while we were parlaying about a surrender the enemy was re-enforced by General Sullivan with another brigade of infantry, which was firing upon our horse-holders before we were aware of his approach. General Forrest then ordered us to retreat, which we did in much confusion, as our horse-holders were demoralized and many men were captured in trying to get their horses. We retreated through the large cotton field between a fire from the re-enforcements and the brigade we had just driven back.

In this battle the regiment lost 4 killed, 27 wounded, and 122 captured; also lost 130 horses.

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Very respectfully.
G. G. DIBRELL, Colonel Eighth Tennessee Cavalry.


**Note 1:** Many contend that this was a victory for Confederate forces. Indeed, General Forrest acted with great skill in his battle with the Federals, who were negotiating surrender terms as Union reinforcements arrived and compelled Confederate forces to hastily retreat in disorder.
December 30, 1862 - Skirmish at Huntingdon

No circumstantial reports filed.\textsuperscript{Note 1}

Excerpt of the report of Col. Cyrus L. Dunham, Fiftyieth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Huntingdon, December 30, and engagement at Parker's Cross-Roads:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,

Parker's Cross-Roads, near Lexington, Tenn., Dec. 31, 1862.

SIR: In pursuance of your written order of yesterday, the 30th instant, I on that day at about 2 p. m. left Huntingdon in pursuit of the enemy’s forces under General Forrest, toward Lexington, with the brigade under my command, except the Seventh Tennessee, which was by your orders left to guard the bridge north of Huntingdon. My command consisted of parts of two companies (A and E) of the Eighteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, mounted, under Captain Davis, 65 men; the Fiftyieth Indiana Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Wells commanding, 525; the One hundred and twenty-second Illinois, Colonel Rinaker, 529; the Thirty-ninth Iowa, Colonel Cumming, 405, and three pieces of the Seventh Wisconsin Battery, 30 men, under Lieutenant Wheelock—in all, 1,554, rank and file. Notwithstanding all were weary and worn with toilsome marches and arduous duties already performed our little force pushed vigorously forward and reached Clarksburg, 12 miles distant, shortly after dark.

As the advance guards (the mounted infantry under Captain Davis) approached the town they were met and resisted by a company of the enemy. They promptly dismounted, engaged and repulsed him, killing 3, who were left dead on the ground. Our column immediately moved forward into and occupied the town without further resistance. Here we bivouacked for the night.

\textit{OR}, Ser. I, Vol. 17, pt. 1, pp. 579-580.\textsuperscript{Note 2}

\textbf{Note 1:} Excerpt of the report of Col. Cyrus L. Dunham, Fiftyieth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Huntingdon, December 30, and engagement at Parker's Cross-Roads is the only source of information on this event in the \textit{OR}.

\textbf{Note 2:} This, and the skirmishes of the 27th and 29th, preceded the engagement at Parker's Crossroads on the 30th. They were very small fights.
February 7, 1862 - Capture of C. S. S. Easport at Cerro Gordo, in Hardin County on the Tennessee River by U. S. N.

See February 6, 1862-February 10, 1862-Pursuit of Confederate steamers by U. S. N.
February 12, 1862 - Some Confederate press reports concerning the war in Tennessee

[Telegram]

Baltimore, February 12, 1862.

The following dispatches relate to Federal movements in Tennessee. The Southern papers contain following interesting items:

SAVANNAH, HARDIN COUNTY, TENN., February 10.—About 10 o'clock yesterday the railroad bridge over the Tennessee River was held by 250 Federals. The work had not been injured by the enemy. They say that within two weeks they will have possession of the entire road.

NASHVILLE. February 10.—Passengers who arrived here this evening by steamboat state that our scouts report that the Federal infantry and cavalry were within 4 miles of Fort Donelson on yesterday. Other passengers say that the Federal gunboats were in sight of the fort on yesterday. A private dispatch from Clarksville today says that Fort Donelson is safe and can not be taken. The Federals destroyed several spans of the bridge at Florence connecting with Tuscumbia. There were six steamboats at Florence, two of which were captured. The other four were set on fire and burned by the citizens of Florence. A private dispatch received this evening from Decatur says everything is quiet. The trains will run regularly on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad.

FULTON.
Captain Fox.

March 1, 1862 - Engagement at Pittsburg Landing

MARCH 1, 1862.-Engagement at Pittsburg, Tenn.
No. 1.
CAIRO, ILL., March 3, 1862.

Am quite sick, but at office. Made demonstration yesterday afternoon. Too foggy to see much. Will try it again to-morrow in force. Saturday gunboats Tyler and Lexington attacked rebel battery of six guns, supported by two regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, at Pittsburg River. Under cover of the grape and shell of gunboats, some sailors, and two companies of Illinois sharpshooters landed and destroyed house where battery had been placed. The enemy being re-enforced, our men returned to gunboats. Loss, 2 killed, 3 missing, and 6 wounded. Enemy's much greater.

G. W. CULLUM, Brig.-Gen.
No. 2.

GEN. ORDERS, No. 7. HDQRS. FIRST DIV. C. S. TROOPS, SECOND GRAND DIV. ARMY MISS. VALLEY, Corinth, Miss., March 8, 1862.

II. The brigadier-general commanding the First Corps of the Second Grand Division of the Army of the Mississippi Valley has been requested by Gen. G. T. Beauregard, commanding the forces, to express to Col. [A. J.] Mouton, and his Eighteenth Regt. Louisiana Volunteers, his "thanks for their brilliant success on their first encounter with the enemy at Pittsburg, Tenn., on the 28th ultimo, and the hope that it is only the forerunner of still more gallant deeds on the part of the regiment." To this testimonial the brigadier-general commanding adds his grateful acknowledgments to Col. Mouton and his regiment for zeal and gallantry in the performance of a signal service.

By command of Brig.-Gen. Ruggles


On March 1 two of the enemy's gunboats were in sight; at about 1 o'clock p. m. our artillery (Miles') opened fire, but before our regiment could form a line of battle the artillery had ceased firing and was running shamefully.
As soon as our line was formed our Colonel marched us away from camp into a ravine; being too much exposed there we were moved to another one where we remained until the enemies landed. Then the fire commenced on both sides, but it was not long before the Federals took to their heels for their gunboats. Had it not been for a misunderstanding we would have taken most of them prisoners; we took only four prisoners and killed one on shore, but there were a great many of them killed in the boats.

It is stated that their loss is from seventy to eighty killed. Our loss is seven killed and nine wounded.

The engagement lasted three hours, during which time the shells fell thick and fast around us.

The same night of the fight our regiment fell back two miles; our company was left in camps to guard the baggage. The next morning about 8 o'clock, the gunboats reappeared and commenced shelling again, but they did not venture to land—they kept on the Tennessee River. No one was hurt the second day. I assure you there was no fun in the fight, especially where they are throwing shells and you have no chance to shoot.


Note 1: This account was printed in the Natchitoches Union, Natchitoches, La., April 3, 1862, and was written by a war correspondent who witnessed the fight, who signed himself "NATIONAL REBEL."

It is in consideration of these facts, and of numerous and high sympathies which result, that we doubly take pleasure to return to the skirmish which has taken place in Hardin County, Tennessee, between this regiment and two Yankee gunboats. The conduct of this Corps, which faced firing for the first time, has been from everywhere the subject of praises as flattering as were well merited.

Colonel [Alfred] Mouton appeared on the field of battle accompanied by a daring band which would have done honor to a veteran. All the reports of particulars, the unofficial letters, etc., that we have read, or of which the tenor has been communicated to us, agree in saying that during all the duration of the action Lieutenant-Colonel [Alfred] Roman remained in the midst of the fire, exposed to dangers and encouraging his soldiers. The emulation, however, appears to have electrified all the regiment, and officers and men fought with courageous energy and devotion; the officers, especially Major [Louis] Bush, with them [depict] the honor, glory, and perils of the field of battle.

The importance of the result acquired by consequence of this engagement, the bravery of the troops, [and] the intrepid coolness of the officers attracted the attention of General [Pierre Gustave T.] Beauregard and of all who communicates to us the substance of a letter of Lieutenant [Andrew P.] Watt to
his father, in which this fact is confirmed. We learn also from a certain source that General Beauregard had written a letter of congratulations to Colonel Mouton by which he complimented warmly the officers and soldiers of the Eighteenth [Louisiana Infantry].

The attack of the gunboats, in attracting the attention of General Beauregard has revealed to him the importance of the point at which the Eighteenth was stationed and there were immediately sent reinforcements composed of the Fourth Louisiana and an Arkansas regiment to which has joined an excellent battery from Alabama, thus forming a brigade...

We are not able to resist the desire to mention here the fine conduct of Lieutenant [John T.] Lavery who, wounded in the leg at the beginning of the action and [unable to stand] without support, leaned against a tree and thus stationed did not cease to use his weapon during all the duration of the engagement.

The other numerous deeds of devotion, bravery or energy have marked this first skirmish of the Eighteenth. We end in [citing] two:

The first is that of a drummer named [Eugene] Rosas who, in the thick of the fight, climbed up on the trunk of a cut tree and from this improvised pedestal, from which he overlooked the troops and helped to spoil the aim of the enemy's balls, did not cease to beat the charge with an energy which electrified the soldiers.

The other fact is mentioned in a particular letter. It is that of a servant belonging to one of the captains and who, seizing a rifle on the field of battle, fought like a true soldier at the side of his master, while the other servants, like the prey of a wild terror, cowardly went to hid...


\textbf{Note 1:} Another account, also published in the Natchitoches \textit{Union} for March 27, 1862, was written in French.

\textit{Report of Lieutenant Gwin, commanding U. S. S. \textit{Tyler}.}

\textit{U. S. GUNBOAT \textit{TYLER}, Savannah, Tenn., March 1, 1862.} SIR: Having learned that the rebels had occupied and were fortifying a place called Pittsburg, nine miles above, on the right bank of the river (the best point in the river for that purpose). I determined to attack them.

At 12 m. the \textit{Tyler}, followed by the Lexington, Lieutenant Commanding Shirk, proceeded up the river. When within 1,200 yards of Pittsburg we were opened upon by the rebel batteries, consisting, as well as we could determine, of six or eight fieldpieces, some rifled.

Getting within 1,000 yards, the \textit{Tyler} and \textit{Lexington} opened a well-directed fire, and we had the satisfaction of silencing their batteries. We then proceeded abreast of the place and, under the cover of grape and canister, landed two
armed boats from each vessel containing, besides their crews, a portion of Company C, Captain Thaddeus Phillips, and Company K, First Lieutenant John J. Rider, of the Thirty-second Regiment Illinois Volunteers (sharpshooters), Second Master Jason Goudy, commanding the boats of the Tyler; and Second Master Martin Dunn, commanding the boats of the Lexington. The landing was successfully accomplished, and this small force actually drove back the rebels and held them in check until they accomplished their difficult object, which was to discover their real strength and purpose, and to destroy a house in close proximity to the place where the batteries had been placed.

I found in addition to their artillery they had a force of not less than two regiments of infantry and a regiment of cavalry.

In conclusion, I have to state that the result was entirely satisfactory. Their batteries were silenced in a short time; the landing was effected; the house destroyed; and we discovered from their breastworks that they were preparing to fortify strongly this point.

Too much praise can not be given to Lieutenant Commanding Shirk for the efficient manner in which his vessel was handled.

My thanks are due to Captain Phillips, Lieutenant Rider, and their men for the gallant manner in which, in the face of the enemy, they charged up the hill, drove back, and held in check, the rebels until the boats' crews had effected the destruction of the house designated.

The officers and men of this vessel behaved with the greatest spirit and enthusiasm. Much praise is due to First Master Edward Shaw and Third Master James Martin for the efficient manner in which the batteries were worked.

I would particularly call your attention to the gallant conduct of Second Master Jason Goudy, in charge of the boats on shore, who succeeded in destroying the house under such heavy fire, and Gunner Herman Peters, in charge of the howitzer, who displayed the greatest coolness and courage, although exposed to the whole fire of the enemy, all but one of his men having been wounded.

My thanks are also due to Pilots Hiner and Sebastian for their coolness under such a tremendous fire of musketry, our vessel being perfectly riddled with balls.

We expended 95 shell, 30 stand of grape, 10 of canister, and 67 rounds of shrapnel, grape, etc., from howitzer.

I feel confident that we inflicted a severe loss on the enemy, as several bodies were seen on the ground and many seen to fall.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,


Chicago Post Narrative

Cairo, Monday, March 3 [1862]

The discovery of a new rebel battery on the Tennessee River, mentioned by telegraph, was made in this wise. Hearing that the rebels were planting a new battery somewhere near Savannah, the wooden gunboats Tyler and Lexington were ordered to make a reconnaissance up the river and shell them out. The boats left Fort Henry Friday morning, and proceeded slowly, examining the shores carefully as they went along. They were accompanied by the transport Isetta, with two companies of the Thirty-second Illinois regiment. They passed Savannah about ten o'clock Saturday morning, having as yet discovered no signs of the expected battery. But now the transport was ordered to keep well in the river, as at any moment a shell or round shot might announce the unpleasant proximity of the object they were in quest of.

Eight miles above Savannah we came to a little town called Pittsburgh, a miserable-looking little hamlet, as they nearly all are in this region. There is an island here in the river, called Diamond Island, and just as we came out of the channel at its head, hang! went a rebel cannon, and a twenty-four pound shot came plunging toward us from the rebel battery situated less than half a mile in our advance. It was followed by two other shots from smaller guns, before our big guns responded. We steamed right on toward them, and opened at about six hundred yards, with shell. Their battery consisted of one twenty-four-pounder rifled gun and three twelve-pound howitzers. The twenty-four-pounder fired only six shots, when it was silenced, either by our fire or from some other cause. The three smaller guns blazed away for about twenty minutes, when they also ceased firing, not a single one of their shots from the beginning having touched either of our boats. Our gunboats kept up their fire for half an hour longer, shelling the woods in all directions.

When the firing commenced, a small body of rebel infantry was also discovered, who undertook to put in practice the plan which some Memphis newspaper editors proposed, namely, to conceal themselves on the bank and pick off the pilots of our gunboats. They soon found they might as well attempt to swallow an oyster without opening the shell. A few discharges of grape sent them helter-skelter over the brow of the hill.

After the woods had been shelled pretty thoroughly, and nothing more been seen or heard of the enemy, about forty soldiers and marines, under command of a lieutenant, were sent ashore to reconnoiter the neighborhood. They proceeded up the long slope of the hill to the distance of a thousand yards or more from the landing, when they suddenly found themselves face to face with two or three regiments of rebel infantry, who immediately shot at them. Our
men returned the compliment, and immediately retired to the shelter of a log house, some five hundred yards from the shore, where they made a stand, and peppered away at the rebels as vigorously as if they expected to drive the rebel ten or fifteen hundred.

The gunboats hesitated to reopen on the rebels, lest they should kill some of our own men, but waited in the momentary expectation that they would return to the boats. They did not do so, however, until the lieutenant commanding, (whose name I cannot learn) discovered that the rebels were flanking him on both sides, for the purpose of making prisoners of this little command. He then ordered a retreat, and the gallant forty made the best time they could to the boats, when they reached, with the loss of three men killed and seven or eight wounded. The rebels pursued hotly, and getting behind trees, fired both at our men in the boats and at the gunboats, perforating the latter with a good many musket-balls, but injuring no one except the officer in command of the boat-howitzer on the upper-deck, one of whose legs was shattered by a Minie-ball, rendering amputation necessary.

The gunboats reopened their batteries with grape, which caused the rebels to retreat with most undignified rapidity over the hill again. Seeing and hearing no more of them, the gunboats moved down the stream a short distance, and lay at anchor. Having none but fifteen-second fuse shells, the gunboats were unable to do the execution at short range which they could have done with shorter fire. Accordingly the Lexington was despatched to Cairo for a supply of the desired ammunition, while the Tyler remained to look after the new rebel battery. The place where it was found is a sort of natural fortification, the hill furnishing a hollow just over the first ridge, in which the rebel infantry took shelter from our fire. In this particular it resembles Fort Donelson.

Rebellion Record, Vol. 4, pp. 221-222.
Henry County
March 31, 1862 - April 1, 1862 - Proceedings at Paris, Tennessee

On Monday week [March 31] some thirty of Maj. King's men, under command of Capt. Pell entered Paris and on Tuesday morning [April 1] they hauled down the stars and stripes and hoisted a Confederate flag... on Tuesday night since... the place has remained quiet. Monday last was the regular quarterly court day at Paris, and on Sunday the Federals sent word that they would come to the place that day a thousand strong and raise another flag, have the court organized under their jurisdiction, and compel the officers of the court to take the oath of allegiance.

We presume under the circumstances that no court was held. It will be remembered when the Federals first entered Paris after the taking of Fort Donelson, they received assistance in their proceedings from a man named Warner who had been engaged buying wheat and other produce in that neighborhood. After the Federals retired, Warner was arrested by the secessionist citizens and sent down here a prisoner. The Federals threatened that on Monday, when they came to Paris they would hold them as hostages until Warner was released. In consequence of the threats, several citizens, understood to be down in the Federal list, have fled from the place.

Memphis Appeal, April 9, 1862.
April 24, 1861 - Excerpt from Gideon Pillow's confidential report to Confederate Secretary of War, L. P. Walker, relative war preparations in pre-secession Tennessee

NASHVILLE, April 24, 1861.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

Hon. L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

DEAR SIR:

By order of Governor Harris I proceed in the morning to Memphis and other points on the Mississippi to push up the work of constructing batteries; two, one at Randolph and the other five miles by land above Memphis, which, when completed and armed and manned, will effectually command that river and make it impossible for the forces of Lincoln to pass below that river and make it impossible for the forces of Lincoln to pass below that point-Randolph. I will also cut off the railroad communication from Columbus down into Tennessee, either by bringing south all the locomotives and rolling-stock of the company, or else by done before I leave that end of the State. Our people are rapidly organizing, and we will in a short time have an immense force in the field; but though Governor Harris has made extraordinary exertions, he is still unable to arm them. Our Legislature meets to-morrow, and I have myself drawn a bill (which we think can push right through) empowering the Governor to raise 50,000 volunteers and appropriating $5,000,000, and if necessary to call out the whole military force of the State, so that Tennessee will be seen to be in earnest. Your dispatch to Governor Harris asking for troops was submitted to me, and I did not hesitate to advise him to respond promptly to your call, which was done.

Bell, in a public speech, has at last come out fully for the South. He held back as long as public opinion would tolerate him. We are see will soon be so, or nearly so. Etheridge* 1 attempted to make a speech at Paris yesterday, but was prevented by the people after a short conflict with pistols, in which four men were wounded and one killed. Johnson has at last returned to East Tennessee, and had his nose pulled on the way; was hissed and hooted at all along on his route. Knowing how well you and the President will enjoy these manifestations of popular favor to the Senator, I hope you will pardon me for troubling you with the narrative. His power is gone, and henceforth there will be nothing left but the stench of the traitor.

After what I have said above I need scarcely caution you against gets his household better regulated. He is surrounded by Black Republicans, and they know everything that passes on the wires to him. Beware, therefore! I condemn and utterly abhor his neutral policy, or rather his alliance with Lincoln; but yet I am satisfied that he will ultimately break the shackles with which he is now manacled. At present, however, we need not count upon his co-operation in anything.
Lincoln is concentrating a large force at Cairo, cutting off supplies and isolating Missouri. The force is armed with everything indicating a purpose to advance into the interior, and I think he intends advancing a column upon West Tennessee, to meet and arrest which I go there.

With great respect,

GID. J. PILLOW.


Note 1: Emerson Etheridge, U. S. Congressman from West Tennessee and a Unionist.
February 7, 1862 - The Confederate steamers _Orr, Appleton Belle & Lynn Boyd_ burned on the Tennessee River, at the mouth of the Duck River, to prevent their capture by Federal gunboats

PARIS, TENN., February 8, 1862—11 p. m.

Maj.-Gen. POLK:

No further news from Donelson. Three of our steamers, viz., the _Orr, Appleton Belle_, and _Lynn Boyd_, were burned yesterday morning by our men to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy; all on board escaped safely.

Five hundred Federal infantry and three transport boats are at the bridge, burning and destroying all the houses this side of the river. The bridge is now on fire. The condition of the roads prevented our bringing but few tents, without flies, but few cooking utensils, no extra clothing. The lives and health of the men require that we should have some more necessaries if we are to remain here along. We leave in the morning and will camp a few miles east of this place, and will scout continually towards the river. The rolling stock on the railroad all safe.

J. H. MILLER, Lieut.-Col.

_HDQRS. FORT DONELSON, February 10, 1862._

Gen. FLOYD:

I am apprehensive, from the large accumulations of the enemy's forces in the neighborhood of Fort Henry, that he will attempt to cross the country south of my position and cut my communication by river, thus depriving me of supplies from above. The country south of me is exceedingly broken and rugged, so much so as to be nearly impracticable for a march, but they may possibly make it passable. His difficulty will be in procuring supplies for his forces, which is one almost, if not altogether, insurmountable. I think that is my safety.

The conflict yesterday between our cavalry and that of the enemy resulted in 3 of ours wounded and 20 taken prisoners by being thrown from their horses and in 3 of the enemy killed and 6 mortally wounded. Three of their gunboats have gone up Tennessee River above the bridge. The steamer _Eastport_, which we were converting into a gunboat, was burned and sunk, as was the steamer _Sam. Or[r]_, by our friends, to keep them from falling into the hands of the enemy. They have destroyed the high trestle work on the west bank of Tennessee River, but have not damaged the bridge.

I am pushing the work on my river batteries day and night; also on my field works and defensive line in the rear. In a week's time, if I am allowed that much, I will try very hard to make my batteries bomb-proof. I am now raising the parapets and strengthening them. I got my heavy rifle gun, 32-pounder, and my 10-inch columbiad in position to-day, and tried them and the other guns in battery. The trial was most satisfactory. I need two additional heavy guns very
much, and if I am not engaged by the enemy in three or four days I shall apply for the 42-pounders at Clarksville.

It is certain that if I cannot hold this place, the two 42-pounders at Clarksville will not arrest his movement by Clarksville. Upon one thing you may rest assured, viz., that I will never surrender the position, and with God's help I mean to maintain it.

I send up the Hillman for a boat load of flour and meat. Let her bring a full load. You will please give orders accordingly to the commissary of your post. I shall continue to draw supplies of subsistence to this place until I have a heavy store on hand.

I have established a line of vedettes on the east bank of the Cumberland to within 8 miles of Smithland, so that I will be posted to the movements and advance of the enemy.

I hope you will order forward at once the tents and baggage of the troops of Gen. Buckner's command, as they are suffering very much for most of them this cold weather.

I must request that you will forward this letter after reading it to Gen. Johnston. My engagements and duties press me so much that I cannot address you both and, knowing his anxiety, I am anxious to place before him the intelligence contained in this letter.

With great respect,

GID. J. PILLOW, Brig.-Gen., Cmdg.

March 11, 1862 - Skirmish near Paris

REPORTS.


No. 2.-Lieut. Charles H. Thurber, Battery I, First Missouri Light Artillery.

No. 3.-Capt. John T. Croft, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

No. 4.-Maj.-Gen. Leonidas Polk, C. S. Army.

No. 1.


FORT HENRY, March 13, 1862.

Learning that rebel troops had assembled at Paris for the purpose of enforcing conscription orders of Governor Harris, I sent night before last a portion of Curtis' Horse, Fifty-second Indiana, and Bulliss' battery.

The enemy were driven from their works, situated about a mile and a half beyond the town, with the loss of probably 100 killed and wounded. Our loss was Capt. Bulliss and 4 men killed and 5 men wounded. We have taken 8 prisoners. I am now engaged in sending more troops to the west bank of the river. The enemy are in force at Humboldt and might re-enforce their Paris troops in one day.

U. S. GRANT,

Maj.-Gen.

No. 2.


HDQRS. BUEL'S BATTERY, MISSOURI VOLS., In the Field, March 16, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor most respectfully to submit the following report, not being certain that it is my duty to do so. However, it will probably be of some interest to you:

On the 11th of March, 1862, about 8 o'clock a.m., the battery under command of Capt. Robert E. Bulliss left Paris Landing, on Tennessee River, in Henry County, Tennessee, and proceeded under escort of four companies of cavalry, the whole under command of Capt. J. T. Croft, acting major First Battalion Curtis' Horse, to attack the enemy at Paris, Tenn., where there were several hundred encamped, under command of Maj. H. C. King, about a mile beyond Paris. Our advance captured the pickets that were stationed this side of the town. Our forces passed the town about 5 o'clock p.m., and halted about a quarter of a mile from where we supposed the enemy were. The country being very hilly, we labored under great disadvantage in getting a suitable position for the battery. At last one was found on the right of the road on some rising
ground. Only two companies of cavalry formed our support. The other two companies were sent to reconnoiter the enemy's position. They had not proceeded 300 yards from the battery when the enemy, who were lying in ambush, rose and fired two volleys into them, killing several. As soon as the cavalry returned we opened upon the enemy with effect, shelling them from their position and driving them to their camp, with place we also fired into, setting fire to several of their tents. Capt. Robert E. Bulliss fell in the early part of the engagement mortally wounded.

It soon becoming dark, I was ordered to put the battery in motion, which I did, the whole force returning short distance on the same road we came, where we camped for the night. The next morning, March 12, we proceeded to camp, 3 miles southward of Fort Heiman, Kentucky, where we are at present. The men of the battery worked the guns with the steadiness and accuracy of veterans. Their conduct was beyond my most sanguine expectations. The bridges along our return route were burning, and the command had to halt and extinguish and rebuild them before we could cross them. Capt. Bulliss' remains have been sent to Chicago, Ill., to his family.

I remain, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. THURBER,
First Lieut., Cmdg. Battery.
No. 3.
HQRS. FIRST BATTALION CURTIS' HORSE, Fort Heiman, March 13, 1862.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions I left Fort Heiman during the night of the 11th. Proceeded with Bulliss' battery of Saint Louis and the First Battalion of Curtis' Horse [Fifth Iowa Cavalry] to Henry County, Tennessee, to afford protection to Union men, friends, and citizens of that county, who wished protection from being drafted on the 12th at Paris, Tenn. Large numbers fell in and traveled in our rear for such protection. Our advance guard came upon the outer pickets about 6 miles from the town; on seeing them killed 2, taking their arms. I then detailed 20 men, under Lieut. Williams, to advance cautiously and secure their pickets. This he did successfully, surprising them, taking 8 prisoners, with their horses and equipments. Among them was Capt. Couts, of Stock's mounted infantry.

Ascertaining about the enemy's force, I made a charge upon the town. About 5 p.m. I ordered one section of Bulliss' battery, the cavalry in advance, for a charge on the town, which we did successfully, driving the enemy before. We passed down Main street, with white flags hanging in every window, driving the enemy into their intrenchments, about a mile and a half west, in the timber, on a high hill. Then we planted our battery, and soon shelled them from that portion of their grounds. Thinking it vacated, I ordered a charge up the hill with
two companies of cavalry (Companies A and B, under Capt. Lower and Lieut. Summers). About two-thirds the way up the hill we discovered the ambuscade. About 300 opened a terrible fire on us, but it passed over our heads. Companies A and B, much to their credit, returned a successful fire with revolvers and carbines of three volleys, returning with a loss of 5 killed and 3 wounded. I had the battery open a fire on them, causing a sad havoc among them. Capt. Bulliss was mortally wounded in this fire. The action lasted a little more than an hour, then firing ceased. We fell back upon the town, cut off the telegraphic communication, took possession of the court-house and a large hotel for our sick and wounded.

During the night I thought best to fall back here. We expected to find Gen. Grant with a force of infantry.

JOHN T. CROFT, [Capt.], Cmdg.

No. 4.


HDQRS. FIRST GRAND DIV. ARMY OF THE MISSISSIPPI, Humboldt, March 17, 1862.

SIR: In compliance with the dispatch from headquarters of the 14th, I inclose the accompanying statement, furnished by Maj. King, of the affair of the 11th near Paris.

In reply to the inquiry as to whether there were infantry troops at or near Paris at the time of the skirmish, I have to say that finding Maj. King's battalion to be mounted rifles, and having two large companies of cavalry besides at my disposal, which I posted there, I deemed the spirit of the order to post a battalion of infantry at Paris complied with. The only troops, therefore, there were King's Mounted Rifles and two companies of cavalry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. POLK, Maj.-Gen., Cmdg.


Note 1: Also listed in Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee, but as "Action, Paris."
March 31, 1862 - April 2, 1862 - Expedition to Paris

MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 1862.-Expedition to Paris, Tenn.

Report of Capt. William A. Haw, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

CAMP LOWE, TENN., April 3, 1862.

Pursuant to verbal orders received I started from Camp Lowe, 75 horses strong (including two guides), at noon on the 31st March, 1862, and proceeded toward Paris, taking the road to Paris Landing, and turning to the southwest. I found a very broken and timbered country, with tolerably good roads, often crossed by small creeks; the timber consisting of small oak trees with but little underwood, so that an infantry force would be able to operate as skirmishers.

Cavalry can only fight in the same way. There are but a very few and small places where charges could be made. The whole road is practicable for teams and artillery. About 14 or 15 miles this side of Paris I found a swamp land for the distance of about a mile and a half, where the road forms a dam, at the end of which is a narrow wooden bridge, about 250 feet long, in not a very good condition, but I consider it strong enough to pass light artillery and other trains. This place is able to be held by a most inferior force.

I proceeded farther, until about 4 3/4 miles this side of Paris, to an open place, about 1 miles long and 1 mile wide, called "Horton's farm," where I passed the night, after sending out pickets at a distance front he camping place. During the night I sent several patrols towards Paris and the south, to scout the country and visit the pickets. Nothing transpired during the night. I have to observe that from the above-mentioned bridge to Paris there will be found more open places where cavalry could charge.

In the evening I received a visit from a neighboring farmer and leading citizen, Maj. Porter, who seemed a little alarmed about our presence, and asked me the favor of extending my protection toward his widowed sister, Mrs. Dobson. I told him and all the counymen present that I Dobson [i.e. Dawson] never would suffer my men to commit any depredation, and that we, the so-called Yankee troops, were in the country not to molest or harm the citizens, but to assist and protect the peaceable and loyal. Upon his special invitation I went with Maj. Porter to his lady sister, whom I assured in regard to the good conduct of our soldiers.

I cannot complain about any of the people I met with. All showed themselves kind and friendly, but very anxious to hear Northern news. There is no display of feeling favorable to the Union, but a kind of neutrality. We have been asked for papers, to see themselves the difference between Southern and our own statements. Myself and other officers did all in our power of rectify the misstatements of the rebel leaders and editors. It seems to me that the good conduct of our soldiers did very much to give the citizens the opportunity to judge both parties.
I started at about 6 a.m. April 1, 1862, for Paris, and entered town at 7 a.m. in order of battle; occupied the court-house and public square, and passed through the principal streets to show to the citizens the muzzles of our pieces. Then coming back to the court-house, I sent out pickets to avert surprise.

Paris is a small town of about 800 to 1,000 inhabitants, situated upon a little plateau, which is surrounded by steep hollows, of a depth varying on the north and east sides between 20 and 50 feet. On the south and west the plateau is sloping, with steep descents. Against a force not too numerous and without artillery this position, I believe, is tenable for weeks. The Ohio and Memphis Railroad passes the northern limits of the town, and the embankment forms another rampart for the place.

I inquired for the key of the court-house, which was handed to me. I entered it and planted my company flag, the Stars and Stripes of our glorious country, on the top, which was received by my boys with cheers and hurrahs, but by them alone. The citizens (but a small portion of them remain) were gathering in front of their houses viewing the things going on, but their countenances showing that these acts were not indifferent to them.

I had occupied the public square upon which the court-house is erected awaiting the events. By and by people began to gather around the place, then came inside the fence, looking at and admiring our horses, and at last, finding out that the Yankee troops are no "caribs," they began to converse, first with the boys, then with myself. They seemed at first to have been afraid of their town being pillaged and destroyed, but were highly pleased in learning from me that we did not come for the purpose of molesting them or for destruction of any kind, but in order to protect them. Here I met with several prominent citizens, who professed, not, it is true, to be Union men, but to have had nothing to do with secession. I told them that I planted our banner over their court-house, and wished those who professed to be peaceable citizens to see that our flag was not torn down; that I expected to see it still floating there on my next visit to Paris, and that they might rest assured of being protected by us as long as they did not molest the flag, but should they disgrace that said flag they would be held responsible for their bad acts.

The information I got was that the Southern party was afraid that the Union men would rise in arms to get up a counter-revolution; that a former Congressman, Etheridge, was to help in that undertaking with a force raised in Kentucky. I heard further that several young men spoke out their intention to resist the [Confederate] drafting operations, just going on for the third time; that the second draft brought only 15 men from the country. The officer commissioned to carry out the draft was designated to me as a Mr. Mitchell, captain of militia, residing in town. I paid a visit to this man with a squad of my men, but Mr. Mitchell had preferred to leave town at our approach. I am thinking that his flying away and our presence will do much good in encouraging the young men to persist in their resistance.
Another man, by the name of Van Dyk, was marked to me as one who took a
great, if not the greatest, part in arresting a Union guide, who afterwards is
reported to have been sentenced to be hung. I could not ascertain that this
sentence has been carried out because of nothing having been heard of him
since his transportation to Memphis. Van Dyk was arrested.

A third citizen, Mr. [Hiram Frederick] Cummins, an actual member of the rebel
Legislature of Tennessee, was reported to me as being concealed in his house,
but after a minute investigation he could not be found. During these proceeding
I sent out patrols to scout the vicinity from Paris to Humboldt, about 5 miles in
advance, who did not find or see anything; on the contrary, reported the
country clear of any armed troops.

Regarding rebel forces, I was informed by several individuals, at different
places and different times, that—

1. Clay King, with his force, 500 to 600 strong, has been ordered to Lexington,
toward the Mississippi, about 55 miles from Camp Lowe.

2. Two companies of independent cavalry, or mounted men, poorly armed and
equipped, were stationed at Humboldt, sending out scouting parties toward
Paris.

3. The last party of this kind was seen at Paris last Thursday.

4. The troops garrisoned at Memphis were diminishing daily by being ordered
toward Corinth.

In my opinion the occupation of Paris by a few companies of cavalry and
infantry would do much good to the cause of the Union and strengthen the
undecided citizens, amongst whom I found several whom I believe worthy of
confidence when they assert themselves to be Union men.

At 3 p.m. I started from Paris, with the prisoner Van Dyk, westward, turning
northward to Camp Lowe, scouted the country about 20 miles, to the farm and
tan-yard of a Mr. Ray, where we stopped overnight. Mr. Ray, having been
reported to me as being a strong Southern man, tried to refuse us shelter, but
seeing my force, he gave way to better feelings and received us with seeming
kindness. During the conversation in his parlor his family expectorated strong
secession opinions. Notwithstanding, we were treated very well and furnished
with all the necessaries. Mr. Ray, according to reports made to me by several
individuals, had furnished the Southern Confederacy with boots and shoes
manufactured by himself at his own expense, he being a very wealthy man. I
inquired into the matter, and ascertained from his own negroes that on
Saturday, the 29th of March, 1862, he sent off a full wagon load of said
articles. (Mr. Ray used to abuse his negroes, and they consequently entertain
no friendly feelings for him; therefore I would respectfully suggest not to tell
him who informed me.)

In the morning of April 2, 1862, I put to Mr. Ray the question frankly and
plainly whether he did send off any boots or shoes to the Confederacy. He
denied it. He denied even to have had any such intercourse with the rebel party. His behavior, while questioned, was such that my suspicions of his guilt advised me to bring him before my superiors to be judged, and so I did.

From there we started at about 8 a.m., directing our course to Camp Lowe, through a small place called Coyesville, situated about 10 miles west of the above-mentioned camp. This village contains about 300 inhabitants, represented as professing no Union feelings. We passed through. Nobody seemed to observe us nor to care about our presence, but one of my officers told me afterward that two or three citizens had told him that they wished for us to put up the Union flag.

The country from Paris to Camp Lowe, on our way back, as above described, is more broken, timbered, and hilly than the first described. The road is bad and not kept in repair. I crossed no swamps and but a few creeks. I would not, if I could do it otherwise, direct a transportation train by this road. In regard to operations for cavalry, I consider it a very poor terrain from Paris to Coyesville. From here to Camp Lowe I found several open places, but not prairies.

About 6 miles from Coyesville we stopped at the farm of a blacksmith named Oliver, reported as a strong Southern man, who had furnished bowie-knives and forwarded them to the Southern Confederacy Army at his own expense, and that he had expressed himself that he never would be brought to take the oath of allegiance. I asked him if such was the case, but he answered in the negative, saying that he only made a few for his sons and their friends. Our guide, being present, told him that there was no use denying it, because he had done what I charged him to be guilty of. Four sons of his being in the Confederate Army, and his family having professed openly their sympathy for the South in my presence, I thought it my duty to bring him, too, before my superiors.

I feel myself bound to aver that the whole command under my direction did enjoy themselves in doing the duty to be performed and kept up perfect discipline.

Respectfully,

W. A. HAW, Capt. Company F, Curtis' Horse.


Note 1: The following report is remarkable not just for its length, but for the information it contains relative to split of Union sentiment in and around Paris. It likewise indicates the real nature of the Civil War in Tennessee, one of constant internecine warfare punctuated by an occasional big battle.
May 2, 1862 - May 9, 1862 - C. S. A. expedition, Trenton to Paris & Dresden

MAY 2-9, 1862.- Expedition from Trenton to Paris and Dresden, Tenn., with skirmish, May 5, near Lockridge's Mill.

REPORTS.

No. 1.- Col. Thomas Claiborne, Sixth Confederate Cavalry.

No. 2.- Col. William W. Lowe, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

No. 3.- Capt.'s William A. Haw and Henning von Minden, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

No. 1

Report of Col. Thomas Claiborne, Sixth Confederate Cavalry.

SPRING CREEK, TENN., May 9, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I left Trenton on May 2 and encamped at King's Bridge. On the 3d encamped at McKenzie's Station, waiting Jackson, who joined me on the 4th, and we marched (whole force about 1,250) to attack a force reported to be at Paris, 250 to 500 strong. I separated into three columns, to surround it and intercept them toward Fort Heiman.

At about 4 p. m. entered Paris. The enemy had moved at 10 a.m. toward Dresden. I immediately detached one column, under Lieut.-Col. Pell, to Boydsville, and with my own joined Col. Jackson, who was on the Dresden road, 21 1/2 miles. We pushed on vigorously, contending with a night of unusual darkness and rain, until reaching Cowan's house (Union).

At about 1.30 a.m. I halted to wait for light. I deceived Mrs. Cowan by passing for a Federal officer, and got certain intelligence that James Allen had brought the news to Maj. Shaeffer that a force of nearly 3,000 was passing up to Paris; he instantly sent off on the fastest horses couriers to Hickman, Mayfield, Paducah, and elsewhere, that all the neighborhood had gone, and much more not necessary to relate. I got all her news, and then her negro boy William was even more confidential toward a supposed Abolitionist. I saw that my plans were thus frustrated beyond a doubt, in which opinion Col. Jackson agreed, as did Maj. Wicks. I then determined to pursue Maj. Shaeffer and catch him at any rate. I accordingly waited a sufficient time to let him satisfy himself I was going to Dresden, and I took a by-road through Palmersville [Weakley county] to cut the Dresden road to Boydsville.

I got at 5 p. m. certain information of him, but not his exact whereabouts. I pushed on to Stephenson's Mill, 1 1/2 miles across the road, on Obion River; then 3 miles toward Lockridge's Mill; saw his picket; halted, and conferred with Col. Jackson. As night was fast approaching there was no time to delay. Capt. Ballentine, of Col. Jackson's cavalry, was acting field officer, with five companies, at the head of the column. His first company was deployed as mounted skirmishers and dashed on the pickets. The pickets were astonished and let us approach to 70 yards, then fired and turned to flee. A yell and charge
blown, a picket killed, and the five companies, followed by the whole
command, swept the 2 miles away in seven minutes or less over the enemy,
who had been in vain urged to rally, as I learned afterward, by their major,
through deep mud holes and the worst of roads, and on for 14 miles, until
pursuit exhausted the horses and those who had so gallantly kept up the fire on
them. Capt. Jackson, of my regiment, with a few men, ceasing the race.

Capt. Ballentine was most of all conspicuous for his gallant bearing and use of
his saber and pistol. He fired on and mortally wounded Maj. Shaeffer. He
engaged in a saber hand-to-hand combat with a brave fellow named Hoffman,
who several times pierced the captain's coat, but was forced to yield. Capt.
Ballentine was also attacked by blows of a carbine and quite severely bruised.
The dispersion was complete. Killed 6, wounded 16, and captured 4 officers
and 67 non-commissioned officers and privates. Paroled Maj. Shaeffer and 4
wounded-unable to march and detailed Private Henry Schlopp, prisoner. I
paroled him to serve the wounded. The 2 wagons of the enemy, with about 56
horses, saddles, and a good many arms, were taken. I divided the horses with
Col. Jackson, who takes also the wagons. I distributed the arms to both
regiments, &c. The loss on our side was not one; a few scratches were
received.

The conduct of the command was excellent, with few exceptions.

I marched on the 6th 4 miles; on the 7th, having information that a large force
was concentrating from several quarters to move against me, with artillery, I
determined to secure my prisoners. I marched to Como at 1 p.m. and fed;
marched to within 5 miles of Caledonia and halted. At midnight I got a
dispatch from Col. Pell, who, having joined me from Boydsville, was again
sent toward Conyersville, to attack a reported force of 150. At a certain point
he obtained some news that the enemy, near 1,000 strong, had encamped at
dark 6 miles from Paris, and that they would be joined in the morning by 500
more. I moved at once to cross the Obion before King's Bridge could be seized.
(It was the only one.)

I encamped last night at McMeeoresville, and satisfied myself that enemy had
that morning entered Paris with artillery, foot, and horse, but there he would
remain. I left Col. Pell at or near McKenzie, with orders to observe the enemy
and keep posted as to his movements, and to-day, leaving orders for Pell to
take a position between McMeeoresville and Huntingdon and keep me
informed, I moved to this place, my horses very jaded, my men having suffered
for food, having no means to prepare nor haversacks to carry with them food
for a day even. We subsisted with great difficulty and by getting people for
miles around to cook for us. It is well to add that the person—an Englishman, of
Paducah—sent to me to act as guide, without my request, by Provost Hayes, at
Jackson, Tenn., who seems to have known my destination, called to see me, but
left for Paducah, telling two persons, of my knowledge, where I was going.
This is certain. The notorious spy and guide Farris, a citizen of Paris, who led
the enemy to King's Camp, and has since figured conspicuously in pointing out
our friends, was captured, and deserves to be shot; Note 2 also Rose, of Paris Landing, taken wounded; he has been also a guide for them.

The conduct of Col. Jackson was, as usual with him, such as to merit your highest approval, and the good conduct of his regiment on the march and in the affair excellent.

Regretting the impossibility of getting to Paducah, in which Col. Jackson and Maj. Wicks agree with me, I hope to have your approval of my course.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. CLAIBORNE.

No. 2


HDQRS., Forts Henry and Heiman, May 12, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of an expedition sent out recently from this post in the direction of Paris and Dresden for the purpose of intercepting some supplies of medicines, &c., taken from Paducah for the use of the rebel army; also a brief statement of what has been done since the result of that expedition became known to me.

Having received information that the rebels were being supplied from time to time with various contraband articles, I sent Maj. Carl Shaeffer de Boernstein out with parts of three companies, in order to break up this trade. Failing to obtain any satisfactory information, he pushed on to Paris and Dresden. After passing through Paris Claiborne's command of rebel cavalry succeeded in getting in rear of him and pursued him to a point called Lockridge's Mills, when he was overtaken and a severe skirmish ensued, the rebels numbering 1,280, while the force under Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] consisted of 125 men.

Our loss in killed and wounded was as follows, namely:

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<tr>
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<th>K</th>
<th>W</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officers...</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-commissioned officers...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Privates...</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
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K=Killed. W=Wounded.

Our loss in prisoners cannot as yet be actually ascertained, but will, I presume, number about 60, as Capt. Nott has reached Paducah with 58 men and 48 horses.
The loss of the enemy is not known, but they were seen to haul off two wagons loads of wounded. They stripped our wounded and dead of all their clothing. Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] was robbed of his coat and boots while still living.

As soon as the news reached me I at once made preparation to go with the few remaining companies here in pursuit of the enemy, and, the Fourth Minnesota Regt. passing at this time, I took the responsibility, as indicated in my dispatch, of disembarking them, to aid me in the progress of the expedition.

I started on the evening of the 6th instant, and on the evening of the 7th encamped near Paris and within a few miles of the enemy. My purpose was to have gone on that night, but soon after going into camp I received a dispatch from the commanding general directing me not to pursue them.

The next morning I commenced my return, but sent several parties into and through Paris, without, however, being able to bring out the enemy in pursuit.

Since my return I learned that Claiborne had received a re-enforcement of about 1,000 men and is now occupying the country between Paris and Jackson with a view of entering this neighborhood for the purpose of procuring forage and rations. Under these circumstances I have thought proper to retain the Fourth Minnesota Regt., and trust my course will be approved by the general. I have again to urge the necessity of having at this post a small additional force. With one more regiment and a battery I could easily hold and occupy the country for 30 miles back of the river, and as there are many good and loyal citizens in this vicinity, they should receive all possible assistance and protection. Should the rebels again get possession of this section of the country, it is their intention to take off everything in the way of forage and provisions.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. LOWE, Col. Curtis' Horse, Cmdg.

No. 3

Report of Capt.'s William A. Haw and Henning von Minden, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

SPRING CREEK, TENN., May 9, 1862.

The command started under the command of Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] (130 men strong), on May 2, toward Paris, where we were delayed until late in the afternoon of the 3d by shoeing the horses. Heavy rain was the reason we started on the 4th from Paris toward Como (13 miles), and passed the night 3 miles farther, at the farm of Mr. Erwin. There a report was made by a citizens coming from Caledonia that a large force of Confederate cavalry had passed, going toward Paris, which induced Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] to go to Dresden and possibly toward Mayfield and Hickman. We made a night march on a very dark and stormy night, and reached Dresden at about 1 a.m. Pickets
were sent out toward Como, which reported (very late) that the enemy had his pickets at our last camping place—Erwin's farm.

We left Dresden at 1 p.m., taking the road toward Mayfield, 28 miles. It was about 6 p.m. when we reached a place called Lockridge's Mills, on the Obion River, in Weakley County, Tenn., where a bridge (the North Fork) crosses the said river. Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] concluded to stop there for the night. I took the picket with my men (45), established three lines of them, because I was fully satisfied that we would be attacked, and knowing that we could not resist the expected force, I intended only to prevent a surprise. The pickets had not been set out more than twenty minutes when the enemy made his appearance. Drew back my first pickets, then the second line, and soon found us in great confusion, because the main body of us had unsaddled our horses. Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] ordered the command to fall back beyond the bridge in our rear; but it was too late. The enemy followed and occasioned a stampede, in which the speediest horse could only win the prize. I lost 4 killed and 34 prisoners, of whom 5 are wounded. I was wounded at the bridge in trying to make a stand; my horse, like the others, could not be held, because he was wounded, too, and ran with me. After a race of about 3 miles I fell from the horse from weakness and was taken. My wounds are not dangerous; one in the arm, two in the back, and one in the head. Capt. Minden's horse tumbled down and fell on its rider's leg, hurting him badly. He, too, has been taken. He received a slight wound in his head. Lieut. Vredenburg had the same fate. Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] was shot a few paces behind me and taken. Capt. Nott, Lieut. Wheeler and Smith I hope made their escape; the latter, I have heard, was wounded. To-day the rumor was spread out that Maj. Shaeffer [de Boernstein] died last night.

The commanding officer, Col. Th. Claiborne, allowed me to send this report to you; but I dare not misuse his kindness in stating the force against which we had to work. I only feel myself authorized to say that it was a large one—larger than we could and did expect. The commander, his officers, and even his men, treated us like true soldiers and gentleman, which I take great pleasure to state.

W. A. HAW, Capt. Company F, Curtis’ Horse.


Note 1: Apparently Boydsville was just over the border in Kentucky. There is still a Boydsville Road in Weakley County, which meanders from Dresden northeasterly into Kentucky. Boydsville, however, no longer exists.

Note 2: According to the editors of the Papers of Andrew Johnson, Vol. 5, Farris led the Federals to Paris and environs on March 11, 1862 [see above]. Confederates would kill him in May 1862. See below, June 5, 1862.
January 1, 1863 - New Year's Day meditations by Charles Alley, 5th Iowa Cavalry, in camp near Paris

New Year's Day and fine warm weather. Another year has gone into eternity. How many thousands of my fellow creatures have gone into eternity. How many even of my own company and yet I am alive, healthy and strong. Surely in these things God has been good to me. And what return have I made him that of a Christian. Ah, how little do I differ from the other men. Too often do I give way to evil thoughts, to angry words, to an evil disposition. Lord enable me to dedicate myself more entirely to thy service. Make me to be more meek, more forebearing patient, more contented, more kind and obliging to others, less selfish, less censorious, less willing to give way to any evil. May I wage constant and increasing warfare against the world [of] the flesh and the devil. Enable me to dedicate myself, my soul and body entirely to thy service. Seeking first the kingdom of God and the righteousness, and trusting all my concerns entirely to him, knowing that he is able to care for me and will do it.

Alley Diary
April 9, 1863 - Skirmish near the Obion River and Confederate conscript sweep

APRIL 9, 1863.-Skirmish near the Obion River, Tenn.


COLUMBUS, KY., April 15, 1863.

GEN.: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to orders communicated in my report under No. 1178 to search the house and neighborhood of one Henderson Wright, south of the Obion River, in order to capture the rebel Capt. Scales, with his band, Capt. Hutchens, commanding Company E, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, started on the morning of the 9th instant, and, crossing the Obion, after a ride of 43 miles, reached the plantation of Wright, occupied by the rebel Capt. Scales as his headquarters in his organization of a battalion. A body of cavalry received our men with a volley of musketry, but Capt. Hutchens ordered a charge, resulting in the death of 4 of the rebels, and capture of 26 men with 13 horses, and the complete dispersion of the band. Among the prisoners, a list of whom is herewith inclosed, are Capt. Scales, the commander of a rebel battalion, and Lieut. Voorhees, with their appointments as officers of the rebel army in their pockets; also Henderson Wright, a most dangerous rebel.

From positive information, I would state that there are yet several bodies of conscripts, under Capt.'s Parks, Carter, and others, appointed by Pillow and Forrest, south of the Obion, and I only await the return of my informant with guides to make a combined cavalry movement on them, as the Fourth Missouri Cavalry has arrived and will be in a few days ready for duty. Reviewing the presence of rebel parties on the Obion, at Paris and Mussey, Tenn., and another at Dresden, Tenn., in connection with the avowed and published intention of Pillow to conscript in the counties of my district, I must regard as most opportune the decision of the Gen.-in-Chief in permitting the Fourth Missouri Cavalry to remain in this district.

Adjutant-Gen. Thomas, on his late visit to this post, also admitted the necessity of more cavalry here. I therefore respectfully solicit the exercise of your influence to prevent the projected removal of the Fourth Missouri Cavalry to the Department of the Cumberland; and as it is urgently required to send more cavalry to Fort Heiman, and form a connecting chain of cavalry posts between the Mississippi and Tennessee, also to control properly the railroad and telegraph, I would request that an additional regiment of cavalry be ordered for duty to my district.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[ASBOTH.]


July 14, 1863 - Reports relative to Brigadier Gideon J. Pillow's threat in Macedonia, Carroll County

HDQRS. SIXTH DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, Columbus, Ky., July 14, 1863.

Lieut. Col. HENRY BINMORE, Assistant Adjutant-Gen., Hdqrs. Sixteenth Army Corps:

COL.: I beg leave to inclose a report written this day, at noon, at Mayfield, by I. N. Beadles, and brought by two Union, citizens (William Hall and J. T. McIntosh) this evening from Mayfield, reporting Gen. Pillow with 6,000 rebels at Macedonia. This is corroborated by the inclosed telegram from Paducah, sent by Col. Martin, commanding post. That there is also a considerable force on the Obion, there can be no doubt, and I respectfully suggest the urgent necessity of a movement in force, on Gen. Dodge's part, from the line of the Mobile and Cincinnati Railroad northward, to prevent a junction of these several rebel commands and an attack by them, like that recently made by Morgan on the Ohio River, upon some of the weak points on the Mississippi or Ohio Rivers, and the consequent and inevitable destruction of property and temporary suspension of communication and supplies.

Maj.-Gen. Burnside has not sent me the 800 men promised by him; only some 375 effective have arrived at Cairo. To meet Pillow's and Forrest's united forces, in addition to the return of the infantry and cavalry ordered from my district, two light batteries are urgently required.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH, Brig.-Gen.

[Inclosure.]

MAYFIELD, KY., July 14, 1863.

Dr. [Edward] Arbuckle, of Henry County, Tennessee, has just arrived here, and says Gen. Pillow is at Macedonia, 15 miles south of Paris, Tenn., with about 6,000 rebel troops, one-half mounted and the other half on foot. On dress parade yesterday Gen. Pillow told his troops they would remain until Forrest came in, whom he was then looking for.

Dr. Arbuckle is a reliable gentleman; is a surgeon in the Federal army.

I regard the report as strictly correct.

I. N. BEADLES.

WM. HALL.

J. T. MCINTOSH.

PADUCAH, July 14, 1863.

Brig.-Gen. ASBOTH:
Train out to-day to Tennessee line. My detective reports information received that Gen. Pillow was at Macedonia, some 12 miles from Paris, with 6,000 men. He thinks it reliable. I can hardly credit it.

JAS. S. MARTIN, Col., Cmndg. Post.
COLUMBUS, K.Y., July 14, 1863.
Col. MARTIN, Cmndg. Paducah, Ky.:

It is reported that the rebel Gen. Pillow was yesterday, with 6,000 men, at Macedonia, below Paris, awaiting Gen. Forrest. I have ordered Lieut.-Col. Black, commanding Fort Heiman, to fall back on Paducah, in case the above should prove true.

ASBOTH, Brig.-Gen.
COLUMBUS, July 14, 1863.

(Received July 15.) Maj.-Gen. SCHOFIELD:

As the rebel Gen. Pillow is reported at Macedonia, below Paris, Tenn., with 6,000 men, and Forrest expected to join him, I would request you to send me any additional re-enforcements you can possibly spare.

ASBOTH, Brig.-Gen.
CLARKSVILLE, July 15, 1863.

Gen. JAMES A. GARFIELD, Chief of Staff, Tullahoma:
Gen. Asboth telegraphs that Pillow is at Macedonia, which is in Carroll County, Tenn. Don't know his force. I sent 200 mounted men this evening to look into the matter.

S. D. BRUCE, Col., Cmndg.


Note 1: About 6 miles east of McKenzie.
September 22, 1863 - Rebel cavalry movement from Paris along the Tennessee River

UNION CITY, September 23, 1863.

Brig.-Gen. SMITH, Comdg.:

Bell and Biffle, with their force, left Paris yesterday morning, taking a southeast course toward the Tennessee River. They probably had from 500 to 800 men. The rebels about Boydsville are local guerrilla bands, small in number. In Oak Hill and vicinity, 9 miles south of Como, are some 100 of the newly enlisted and conscripted rebels.

J. K. MILLS, Col., Comdg.

October 3, 1863 - "Horrible State of Affairs in West Tennessee."

From the Memphis Bulletin of Sept. 26

From a number of letters just received from prominent citizens of Henry and the surrounding counties in this State, and especially one from a well-informed gentleman residing at Paducah, Ky., we have statements of the outrages committed by guerrillas in those parts, well calculated to arouse the fiercest passions of wrath and revenge. No less than thirty citizens from Henry county, Tenn., are now at Paducah, fugitives from rebel violence. Among them are various persons known in Memphis, of whom we name John W. Nance, John Cooney, Jr., J. P. Dunlap, B. Polard, T. Cowan, H. P. Howard and George Billings. These report the land full of guerrilla bands. Murray county, Kentucky, was visited September 18th, by a gang of 100 of these miscreants, but whom several stores were pillaged. Troops are on the move from Paducah to redress these outrages, but the mischief done is irremediable.

This is the second or third raid into Henry county since the 1st of September, and the unfortunate citizens who devotion to the Union flag has rendered them obnoxious to the Rebels, or who are singled out as victims to the conscriptions for the Confederate army, have often fled before them.

Carter Foster was killed by the guerrillas at Conyersville at their last visit to that place. He was murdered after his surrender. Many persons from Henry and Weakley counties have recently been conscripted; among them we name James Snider, Joseph Spence, John Booth and Thomas Snow.

A more desolate country than Henry county, as described by our informant, can scarcely be imagine. "The inhabitants are absolutely ruined. Many have left many more are preparing to go. In the county site Paris, there will soon be no one left to tell the tale of its former beauty, wealth and prosperity." The writer adds: "I would to God my family were in the wilds of Africa, rather than in that abandoned and desolate region!"

Nashville Dispatch, October 3, 1863.
December 6, 1864 - January 15, 1865, - Lyon's Raid from Paris, Tennessee, to Hopkinsville, Kentucky, with skirmishes


HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN KENTUCKY, Aberdeen, Miss., January 3, 1865.

I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report of the expedition just completed by my command through the State of Kentucky, Tennessee, and the northern part of Alabama:

On the 21st of November, 1864, while I was at Corinth, Miss., securing arms for my command, which was then being organized at Paris, Tenn., I received orders from Gen. Hood, commanding Army of Tennessee, and approved by Gen. Beauregard, commanding the Division of the West, to proceed with my command across the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers west of Clarksville, Tenn., to move up the north bank of Cumberland River, capture Clarksville, if practicable, tear up and destroy the railroad and telegraph lines running into Nashville, and to put all the mills in running order throughout that entire section for the use of the Government.

My command at this time consisted of 800 men, undisciplined and but poorly organized, and two pieces of artillery (12-pounder howitzers).

None of my command had been in the service exceeding four months, and a majority of them but a few days. I organized it into two brigades of 400 men each—the First Brigade commanded by Col. J. J. Turner, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Infantry; the Second Brigade by Col. J. Q. Chenoweth, of Chenoweth's regiment. My command was poorly equipped, except in arms, 100 of my men were dismounted, but few had blankets or overcoats, and many were destitute of shoes or clothing sufficient to make a respectable appearance.

The command moved from Paris on the 6th of December to Danville, on the Tennessee River, at which place I had previously ordered boats to be constructed to cross the river. This was successfully accomplished on the 8th of December.

On the 9th I took possession of Cumberland City, thirty miles below Clarksville and ten above Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River, at which point, by means of our of our artillery, command by Lieut. R. B. Mathew, of Gracey's battery, we succeeded in capturing a large steamer loaded with forage and provisions, which I converted into a ferry boat, and by means of which I crossed my command over the Cumberland. During the evening of the 9th I succeeded in capturing 2 other steamers and 4 barges, all of which I anchored in the channel and consigned to the flames; 50 prisoners, of whom one was a lieutenant-colonel, were captured on those boats. The property destroyed, including the steam-boats, is estimated at $1,000,000.
The weather was intensely cold; many of the soldier were already frosted, and it was with the greatest difficulty that they could be made to move from the fires built along the road.

I found Clarksville too strongly fortified and garrisoned to attack, and ordered Lieut.-Col. Cunningham, commanding Chenoweth’s regiment, to destroy the railroad and telegraph lines from the Red River bridge, four miles from Clarksville, to the Junction or intersection of the Nashville and Clarksville road with the road running from Clarksville to Russellville, Ky., which was successfully accomplished without the loss of a man. I, in the meantime, had moved with the remainder of my command in the direction of Hopkinsville, Ky., twenty-five miles north of Clarksville, Tenn., and found on arriving near that place that the enemy, 400 strong, had evacuated the place and retired to Russellville, Ky., on the Nashville and Louisiana Railroad.

... near Elizabethtown... I learned of Gen. Hood’s defeat and retreat from Tennessee, which had a very demoralizing effect upon my command (which were all new recruits), and within two days after it was ascertained that the Confederate army had left Tennessee 500 of my men deserted and returned to their homes. From this point I... succeeded in crossing the Cumberland at this place without difficulty, and moved south through Livingston, Sparta McMinvile, and Winchester, Tenn.; from thence to Gunter’s Landing, on the Tennessee River. I had up to this time been followed closely by the enemy, but had preserved my piece of artillery. The Tennessee River was very high, several gun-boats were patrolling the river, and a large force of infantry and cavalry moving down from Huntsville to capture us, while the gun-boats would keep us from crossing, but during the night I crossed my command over with canoes (the piece and Carriage was dismounted and carried over fragment at a time), except about fifty men, who had straggled from the main body. I moved from Gunter’s Landing to Red Hill, at which point I was attacked by an overwhelming force of Federal cavalry from Decatur, Ala., which force succeeded in capturing sixty of my officers and men and my remaining piece of artillery. I moved through Blountsville and Elyton to Tuscaloosa, Ala., where I ordered a halt for the purpose of resting and recruiting my horses and men, who are in a very jaded condition. My command is encamped near that place.

Up to the time of Gen. McCook’s move on Hopkinsville I had enforced the draft or conscript law, and mustered into the service about 400 men, 100 of whom Capt. Gracey succeeded in bringing to Paris, Tenn. This movement of McCook prevented my carrying out to the letter the order received from Gen. Hood, though I accomplished all I was ordered to do except putting the mills in running order near Clarksville, Tenn. I took from the bank at Hopkinsville, Ky., a small sum of Federal money, which I have turned over to the quartermaster, to be used in defraying the expenses of the expedition, and for which he will render a proper account.
When all things are considered pertaining to this expedition, it was a success beyond my most sanguine expectations. The men were all new recruits, but poorly organized, and armed for the first time only the day before they crossed the Tennessee. They captured 3 valuable steamers; burned 8 fortified courthouses, several important railroad brigades, depots, stockades, and blockhouses; captured and paroled 250 prisoners; and caused to be withdrawn from Nashville McCook's entire division of cavalry, consisting of 3,000 veteran soldiers, and detained at and near Louisville Wilder's brigade of cavalry, about 1,500 strong, thus causing a diversion in favor Gen. Hood in his retreat from Nashville of 4,500 men.

Great credit is due to Capt. F. P. Gracey for his untiring energy in constructing boats, and for the management of the boats on the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers while crossing my command.

My thanks are due to Col. Chenoweth and Lieut.-Col. Cunningham: also, to the members of my staff—Capt. W. D. McKay, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. John Couch, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. P. Echols, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Hubert Keon, acting assistant inspector-general; and Lieut. William Winston, aide-de-camp—for the uniform promptness with which they performed every duty required of them.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. LYON, Brig.-Gen., Cmdg. Department.


Note 1: See also OR, Ser. I, Vol. 45, pt. 1, pp. 797-801.
January 1, 1864 - January 20, 1864 - Albert Underwood, 9th Indiana Light Artillery, entries in his Civil War diary, January 1-20, 1864. The move from Huntington, Tennessee, to Union City, Tennessee

Fri. Jan. 1: Clear and cold this morning. The thermometer stood at ten degrees above zero this morning. It continued cold all day. A quiet New Year's Day. We are camped for a few days at Huntington, County Seat of Huntingdon County and about 60 miles from Union City and 30 miles from Jackson.

Sat. Jan. 2: On guard today. Cold and a little cloudy this morning. Received marching orders this evening to be ready to march at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Sun. Jan. 3: Cloudy and snowing this morning. Left camp at 8 o'clock on the Paris road. The roads are frozen hard and are very rough. Went into camp about noon about 6 miles northeast of Huntington. (Huntingdon)

Mon. Jan. 4: Rained and sleeted last night. Remained in camp all day. Received orders to march at 7 o'clock in the morning, received a mail this evening.

Tues. Jan. 5: Clear and cold this morning. Left camp about 9 o'clock this morning. Roads very rough with a slick, sleet snow on the top. Quite cold and frosty all day. Camped on Dover's Creek in 7 miles of Paris. We traveled 12 miles today.

Wed. Jan. 6: Left camp about sunrise had pretty good roads today. Reached Paris at 1 o'clock and the 1st Section of battery went into camp 1/4 of a mile west of the Court House. On guard tonight.

Thurs. Jan. 7: Cold and cloudy this morning. Received orders to go into town and take quarters this morning. Moved in about noon and took quarters in a large brick building on the corner of the Court House. Took supper tonight at the McVey's.

Fri. Jan. 8: Clear, beautiful morning. Moderated a little this morning. Have got things pretty fixed here now. Distance to Union City 47 miles and to Ft. Hieran 28 miles.


Sun. Jan. 10: Beautiful day. Went to Campbellite Church at 11 o'clock. The congregation consisted of 4 men and 5 women and about 20 soldiers. Our mess was presented with a baked turkey and other things for dinner by Mrs. Mearrs.

Mon. Jan. 11: Beautiful weather. Thawed considerable here today. Nothing of interest has transpired yet.

Tues. Jan. 12: Delightful day. Mrs. Mearrs brought us in some more chickens today. On guard to day. Finished reading Don Quixote.


Fri. Jan. 15: The weather still continues very delightful for the time of year.

Sat. Jan. 16: Citizens are getting quite numerous here now. Received marching orders about 7 o'clock tonight to be ready to march at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Sun. Jan. 17: Left camp about 8 o'clock. Mt. Holyoke and Koma\textsuperscript{Note 1} had very bad roads. It rained all day, went into camp about 2 o'clock near Rays\textsuperscript{Note 2} 10 miles east of Oresdon.\textsuperscript{Note 3} Took breakfast this morning at Mr. Alexanders. Traveled 12 miles today.

Mon. Jan. 18: Snowed this morning. Left camp at 9 o'clock. Rained all last night. Bad roads, slavish traveling today. Snowed all day, stalled several times. Reached Oresdon about 2 o'clock and went into camp near town. Traveled 10 miles today.

Tues. Jan. 19: Clear beautiful day. Left camp at 10 o'clock, very slavish traveling again today. The roads are very bad. The wagon cut through in many places. Had very disagreeable time today. Reached Camp Yaredon on the Obson (Obion) river at 4 o'clock. On guard tonight. Traveled 14 miles today.

Wed. Jan. 20: Beautiful morning. Left camp at 8 o'clock, upset the baggage wagon at the start. The caisson run off the levee just across the Obson (Obion) river and upset in about four feet water. Had an awful time getting it out. Drowned one horse, got started at 10 o'clock. Started several times and came near upsetting. Finally reached Union City about 3 o'clock. Commenced loading on the cars at once.

\textit{Albert Underwood Correspondence.} \textsuperscript{Note 4}

\textbf{Note 1:} Como, Mississippi, Panola county.

\textbf{Note 2:} In Overton county, Tennessee

\textbf{Note 3:} Unidentified.

\textbf{Note 4:} As cited in: http://dcwi.com/~dave/underwood1.html. [Hereinafter cited as: Albert Underwood Correspondence.]
The crowd reassembled later when it was learned that the shot was the work of a practical joker. Diggs, who had stood unmoved through it all, paid his debt to society on the gallows."

The Diggs family lived in District 10, Caldwell area, in Henry County. Have not been able to identify Fud as yet. In 1860 living in this district were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Nat.</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>974</td>
<td>Sarah G. Diggs</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>N.C.</td>
<td>Physician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harris</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Tenn.</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George F.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James K. Polk</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>975</td>
<td>B. H. Diggs</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>N.C.</td>
<td>Farmer  $12,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pleasant J.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tenn.</td>
<td>School teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas H.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benjamin H.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td>Student at law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy E.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harriet L.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And in District 12, Cheap Valley:

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<thead>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Nat.</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1487</td>
<td>William C. Diggs</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Tenn.</td>
<td>Minister of the Gospel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levi T.</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td>(female)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William H.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary H. (?)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GUERRILLAS AND BUSHWHACKERS

in Middle Tennessee
during the Civil War

(HENRY)

by

Jill K. Garrett
During the war Henry county became "the spoil of desperate bands of guerrillas who wearing the Confederate uniform, plundered and robbed alike the rebel and the unionists, without regard to sentiment of loyalty or disloyalty of the party robbed."

Federal scouting parties from Fort Heiman carried off everything of value that could be found and "they would hardly be out of sight before the guerrilla would swoop down and pick up anything that might escape the keen eye of the Yankee raiders. The women, children and old men became so terrorized that an appeal was made to Isham G. Harris, then the Rebel Governor of the state," and the result was that Andrew Pettijohn was commissioned as a partisan ranger and sent to Henry County to protect the people and destroy guerrillas. Pettijohn associated Captain Stone with him and recruited men from the best families. Usually these were boys too young for the regular service. Pettijohn made his headquarters at Kanlyville in Henry County and "proceeded to make it warm for the highwaymen."

At a meeting in Johnsonville, Tennessee, after the war had ended, a public meeting was held:

The town was filled with them anxious to avail themselves of the benefit of the order; from the robber and bushwhacker to the partisan ranger. It seemed they came from every quarter. Among them was Capt. Pettyjohn, who for the last six months has acquired much reputation in fighting guerrillas and protecting union men; he has killed a number of the most desperate that infested Henry County. When called on by Lyon he refused to fight the Federal troops. He was conscripted into the rebel army, and by his conduct was raised to the position of an officer; but abandoned the service the first opportunity. Now having taken the oath it is believed he will render efficient service in restoring order. (Nashville Daily Union, 18 May 1865)

Babbitt Hinchey's letter written on September 8, 1896, reveals a little more about the Henry County guerrillas and bushwhackers:
"In the spring of 1865, when the troops were stationed at Corinth, Miss., the men of West Tenn. were paroled. A party of 14 or 15 returning to the army were met by an officer with orders to keep them back until the movements of the enemy would allow a safe trip. This party then quartered at the residence of Colonel H. W. Wall, near old Caledonia, and selected a leader, Capt. Yowell, a wounded officer.

One morning they were visited by Thomas and others, who complained that Thomas and Lewis had been robbed and cruelly tortured by red hot wires the night before, and describing the offenders. The men were called up, word sent to Capt. Claiborne, who had charge of an irregular company in the neighborhood, to report to duty--P. R. Orr was sent ahead to Paris. He came and found Harris Wiley, Pudd Diggs and others in town, gathered in the street expecting an attack. He counted their number and returned to report meeting the force just beyond S. C. Dobbins--a dash was made into town from three streets, but the guerrillas escaped after a hot chase, with the exception of Lieut. Lucas of Wiley's Co., who was captured in Wiley's house by Claiborne and Mitchell. The prisoners were taken back and tried by Court Martial. They were remanded into Claiborne's Co., the first night pending examination, he reported next day that they had escaped. He shot them.

The soldiers made another trip to Paris but were driven out by guerrillas--Jack Underwood and Moore were killed by Petty John's men on the some road while attempting escape--buried in Harmon's (John) graveyard in same grave. Tom Watson hung to locust tree in north west corner of Court house yard--he was red-headed, was an ex-Texas Ranger--whisky $5 per canteen.

Rabbitt Hinchey."

In the papers of Raymond Y. McClain was the following article:

"FALSE ALARM.--During the Civil War, Murray (Ky.) and the surrounding territory were greatly harassed by roving guerrilla bands, composed of renegades from both armies.

"Pud" Diggs, a guerrilla from nearby Tennessee, was accused of calling George Miller to his door one night and shooting him dead. Diggs was arrested, tried, found guilty and sentenced to hang.

Pending his appeal he was imprisoned in the Murray jail, where he was chained to the floor. It was predicted that Diggs' fellow guerrillas would set him free, for "Diggs won't never be hanged" was the boast of the outlaws.

On the day appointed for the execution a large crowd gathered to witness the affair. It was a gala occasion for everyone except Pud Diggs. John Churchill, the jailor, and several guards appeared with the prisoner. Just as the little group came within the shadow of the gallows a pistol shot rang out. A cry arose at once, "The guerrillas have come to turn Diggs loose!"

Panic ensued and the crowd scattered in every direction; even the men guarding Diggs ran, all except Churchill, who was armed only with a single-barreled shotgun."
Perry County
GUERRILLAS AND BUSHWHACKERS
in Middle Tennessee
during the Civil War

(Perry)

by
Jill K. Garrett
XV IN PERRY COUNTY

At the outbreak of the Civil War, there was a strong Union sentiment in Perry County, in fact this sentiment prevailed, and was maintained by its adherents throughout the entire struggle. The people were greatly divided. "With the citizens of the county the war became intestine." Those favoring the Southern cause were the first to enter the fight. (Goodspeed, page 785)

The Union men of the county tried to avoid the war by remaining at home, but finding it dangerous to remain where they were constantly harrassed by their enemies, they concluded to take up arms and fight for their principles Accordingly, Captain W. C. Webb took the initiatory step and with about 40 men joined the 6th Tennessee Federal Cavalry and became part of Company G, of that regiment.

Afterward Captain A. A. Guthrie raised a company for the 2nd Tennessee Mounted Federal Infantry.

A number of citizens of the county who were pressed into the Confederate Army early in the war escaped therefrom and joined different commands in the Federal Army, so that it is fair and safe to estimate the number of Union soldiers furnished by the county at something over 200.

In the spring of 1863 Col. Frierson, with about 120 Confederate soldiers had possession of and commanded the post of Linden. Early one morning Col. Breckenridge and Capt. Webb, with a portion of the 6th Tennessee Federal Cavalry took the place by surprise and captured Colonel Frierson and over 50 of his men, and about 100 horses, a number of mules, a wagonload of arms, and burned the court house in which the Confederates were partially quartered. Only two or three men were killed in this engagement. (Goodspeed, page 786)
Colonel James Lewis, of the 1st Tennessee Cavalry, C. S. A., was a grandson of John C. Lewis, and a second cousin of General Nathan Bedford Forrest, under whom he served. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Colonel Lewis lived at Linden in Perry County. A number of the young men of the Cane Creek area were members of Lewis' regiment, being under the immediate command of their neighbor Hartwell F. Barham, captain of Company I. In 1864 two of Barham's company, John Goatham and Daniel Kelly, while at home on furloughs, were murdered by Perry County jayhawkers, the leading participants in the murder being Alex. Guthrie and George Shelton. Goatham and Kelly were spending the night with Morris Twomoy. The jayhawkers surprised them and after capturing them murdered them. (Murder and capture in Hickman County, I believe.) The jayhawkers were really after Commodore Goatham, a man much wanted and much feared by them. At the head of Cane Creek they attacked a party at a dance and killed James Peeler, a son of Jesse Peeler of Beaverdam Creek in Hickman County. Commodore Goatham escaped with a few scratches; but the jayhawkers coming on down the creek wreaked their vengeance on his brother, John Goatham, whom they clubbed to death with their pistols. After boasting that they left three dead Rebels behind them, these "brave homemade Yankees", who defended their country's flag by killing unarmed prisoners, went on their way to Linden, varying the monotony of their journey by killing another prisoner whom they had with them. Another attempt was made to capture Commodore Goatham when he was with David Miller in District 15 of Hickman County. (See Dave Miller account.) (Spence's history of Hickman County, page 295).

Alex. Guthrie of the above account might possibly be R. A. Guthrie—sometimes remembered as Hufe Guthrie.
Near the close of the war a dash was made through Linden by a troop of Confederate Cavalry when the Federal soldiers were not holding it in force. A few Federal soldiers, however, were there and all made their escape except one who was captured and killed. (Goodspeed, 787.)

Goodspeed goes on to say "The war became desperate here before it closed, as it was conducted mostly by mounted men who ceased to take prisoners. Happily, however, since it has closed, those who were bitter enemies then have become friends, and all bitterness engendered by the war has been forgotten, or at least forgiven."

On 8 July 1864, Col. Murphy writing from Clifton, Tennessee, fined the following people:

- James Matthews, Perry County  $1,500
- W. S. Rains, Perry County  500
- William O. Britt  2,000
- Thomas Simmons  2,000

He assessed this amount because "Mrs. Culp's husband was killed by Newsum's guerrillas a short time ago."

Captain J. W. Taylor was captain of Company F, 2nd Tennessee Mounted Infantry, which was raised in Perry County. This seems to be the outfit most called the Perry County Jayhawkers. Spence writes that in 1864 "the Perry County Jayhawkers under Capt. John Taylor, burned the business portion of Centerville..." They left the town in ruins. Desolation reigned supreme. (Spence, 78, 79.)

W. C. Webb who headed Company G of the 6th Tennessee Federal Cavalry was a "Loyal Union man" who went as a delegate from Perry County to the State Constitutional Convention in January 1865. (Nashville Union, 10 Jan. 1865.)
Spence also tells that Henon Cross's company especially desired to
fight organized bands of Federal Symapthizers, one of which was the Perry
County Jayhawkers. An account of a fight in July 1864 at Pinewood
is under Henon Cross and his activities.

It is said of the Perry County Jayhawkers that they stopped taking
prisoners at the end of the war.
September 29, 1864 - September 30, 1864 - Cavalry engagements, Nobleville, Beaver Dam and Centreville environs, Perry and Hickman Counties.

"Fighting in Perry and Hickman Counties. 2d Tenn. Mounted Infantry Engaged with Col. Biffle's Command. Engagements at Nobleville, Beaver Dam and Centreville."

On last Tuesday [Sept. 29th] Colonel Murphy's Second Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 250 strong, started from Section 54, N. & N. W. Railroad, in pursuit of Col. Biffle's band of guerrillas. They came upon the rebels at Nobleville, in Perry county, attacked them, and drove them thence to Beardstown. On the next day [30th] Col. Murphy proceeded to Caney Creek, supposing Biffles had gone in that direction. That evening, however, Biffles came upon or forces at Beaver Dam, with reinforcements amounts to 600 men, and made a fierce attack. In this attack the rebels were repulsed with heavy loss. Finding his force outnumbered nearly three to one, Col. Murphy fell back towards Centreville; the rebels pursued and a running fight ensued for seven miles. On arriving near Centreville, Colonel Murphy found that the rebels had occupied all the fords of Duck River. He rested his forces for a short time, and making a dash at what is called Nigger Ford, cut his way through the guard and escaped. His loss was one officer killed, Lieut. Barrett, of Co. F., a find and gallant young officer of Decatur county. He was shot through the body, at the side of Col. Murphy. His loss is deeply regretted. Beside Lieut. Barret, we lost not over twenty men in killed and wounded. The rebel loss was not far short of eighty.

As an evidence of the severity of the fighting, we will state that Col Murphy, and at least half of his officers, had their horses shot under them. The whole affair reflects infinite credit on our handful of heroes who so bravely and successfully withstood the protracted attack of a force so far their superior in numbers. 

Nashville Daily Times and True Union, October 4, 1864

Note 1: The engagement at Centreville on the 29th is referenced in the OR, [Ser. I, Vol. 39, pt. 1, p. 4] although no circumstantial reports were filed. Moreover, Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee, p. 874 lists the fight at Centreville.
September 27, 1864 - Skirmish at Lobelville

Note 1:

No circumstantial reports filed.

Note 1: On the Buffalo River in Perry County.
May 12, 1863 - Descent on Linden, razing courthouse and dispersal of conscripts

Report of Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, U. S. Navy, commanding Tennessee Division on combined expedition to Linden, Tenn., May 12, 1863.

U. S. Gunboat Champion

Tennessee River, May 14, 1863

Sir:

On the 5th instant I left Paducah with the Covington, Queen City, Argosy, Silver Cloud and this vessel (Champion) and proceeded up this river, destroying on the way every kind of boat that could serve the rebels to cross the river. On the 11th we were at Cerro Gordo, and I then sent the Covington, Argosy, and Silver Cloud to Eastport, the highest navigable point at this stage of water, and myself dropped down a few miles to communicate, by previous appointment, with Lieutenant-Colonel W.K.M. Breckenridge. Along the river I heard of detachments of rebel cavalry at various points, whose occupation chiefly consisted in plundering, in carrying off Union men, and in taking conscripts. At Linden, in Perry County, Tenn., there was a rebel force of this kind posted. I arranged with Colonel Breckenridge to cross his small force and cover different points with the gunboats, places to which he could retreat if need be, while he should attempt to surprise Linden. The boats above rejoined me on the 12th, having found all quiet above, and at night I dropped down the river to the landing for Decaturville, where I found the colonel with but 55 men of his regiment, all he had with him. Some from a Michigan regiment that were to join had failed to come in. We at once took the cavalry on board, crossed it over with little noise, and the boats took their positions at intervals along the river some miles above and below. Colonel Breckenridge's movements were timed so that his arrival at Linden-12 miles from the river—should be just at daybreak, and he completely surprised the place. The rebel pickets fired upon him and dispersed. Only some 20 of the 118 rebels at muster the evening before had time to reach the rendezvous at the court-house before it was surrounded. The little party returned with Lieutenant-Colonel [W.] Frierson, 1 captain, 4 lieutenants, 1 surgeon, 30 regular rebel soldiers, 10 conscripts, 50 horses, 2 transportation wagons, arms, etc. With the court-house were burned a lot of arms and supplies. Three of the enemy were killed. Our loss none; only 1 horse killed.

Colonel Breckenridge's men are Tennesseans (First West Tennessee Cavalry Regiment), are perfectly familiar with the people and country, and are admirably calculated for this kind of service, while the colonel himself is just the man. I should be glad if General Grant would direct that he, with a battalion of his regiment, say 300 men, should operate on the Tennessee. I can easily provide for his transportation when necessary, at no cost, using flatboats, and can cooperate with him effectually for the good of the service on these waters. I have brought the prisoners to deliver at Cairo. The conscripts took the oath and went home.
From the best information I can gather, the rebels are concentrating their forces about Rosecrans. Van Dorn's force is reported at Spring Hill and Columbia, and the general [i.e., Van Dorn] is said to have been assassinated by a jealous surgeon on his staff. The force that was about Duck River has gone to Spring Hill. The captured colonel reports that he should have left Linden for the same destination one hour later. The rebels are concentrating, it would seem, every available man about General Rosecrans.

I left three gunboats below Duck River to watch that stream, and I have come down to take up a new boat with her some flats and light barges, in which we can transport coal over the shoals for our use. None of the boats carry coal for such voyages. What General Rosecrans is doing I have not been able to learn. Van Dorn's division lies between him and the Tennessee, cutting off communication. Till a battle has decided the fate of Middle Tennessee, I apprehend there will be no rebel movement upon this river. If the enemy is successful, he is not doubt prepared to move for the immediate possession of the river. Secessionists report that the plan is to recapture Fort Henry, and to fortify also Carollville.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant.

S.L. Phelps, Lieutenant Commander.

_Navy OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 24, pp. 669-670._

**Note 1:** _Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee_ refers to this event as "Skirmish, Linden."


CAIRO, ILL., May 15, 1863.

Following telegram just received from Paducah, May 14, 1863:

Capt. PENNOCK, U. S. Navy, Capt., Cmdg. Station, Cairo:

Am just down from Tennessee River. Have on board prisoners captured at Linden, Tenn., on the night of the 12th. Took on board gunboats 55 men and horses of First West Tennessee Cavalry, under command of Lieut. Col. William K. M. Breckenridge; landed them on the east side of the river. Sent gunboats to cover all landings above and below. Col. Breckenridge dashed across the country to Linden; surprised the rebel force more than twice his number, capturing Lieut.-Col. [W.] Frierson, 1 captain, 1 surgeon, 4 lieutenants, 30 rebel soldiers, 10 convicts, 50 horses, 2 army wagons, arms, &c. The courthouse, which was a rebel depot, was burned, with a quantity of arms and supplies. The enemy lost 3 killed. Our force, none; only 1 horse killed.

Col. Breckenridge, after his exploit, reached our vessels in safety and recrossed the river. Will send prisoners to Cairo.

_S.L. Phelps, Lieut., commanding Tennessee Division, Mississippi Squadron._
ca. September 20, 1864 - September 24, 1864 - C. S. A. conscript sweep in Perry and Humphreys counties, along Buffalo River

JOHNSONVILLE, September 24, 1864.

Maj. B. H. POLK, Assistant Adjutant-Gen.:

MAJ.: I have the honor to report that 400 of Forrest's command crossed the Tennessee near mouth of Duck River on Tuesday evening last and are now at Linden, Tenn. Lieut.-Col. Trauernicht was out yesterday and returned at 12 o'clock last night. He reports the country on Buffalo thickly invested by rebels belonging to Forrest ... who are conscripting. I will send out scouts immediately and report as soon as they return.

JNO. A. HOTTENSTEIN, Col., Cmdg.

COLUMBIA, November 23, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Colonel Mehringer, of Ninety-first Indiana, sent this afternoon to Centerville, sent me a report that he had seen a citizen from Perry County, who reported most of Forrest's command north of Duck River in Perry County. I have sent for the man and will report if he has any knowledge of the matter. Colonel Capron reports having been driven eight miles to-day to Mount Pleasant by superior force of enemy. He did not send report as to number of enemy and said he did not know but he would be obliged to fall back here, but would try to hold on. The officer left him about 8 p.m. There are only about 800 to 1,000 muskets here now. I have sent, by telegraph and messenger, information to General Schofield, who, I am informed, is eighteen miles from here. I expect Colonel Moore's brigade some time during the night. Have disposed of the force here for defense.

THOS. H. RUGER,

Brigadier-General.
[Perry County], not named in atlas (vicinity of Linden, atlas 149:A/B-3).

-----skirmish in, Apr. 29, 1864, 57:Ev6. Union troops engaged per battle lists
(a) 2d Tenn. Mtd. Inf. (b) same regt., Go. C (1 man killed). NOTE:This
entry was derived through battle list (a) from a casualty notation on the
co. muster roll that indicates one man was captured and killed by the
enemy in "Berry County" on this date.
Stewart County
May 7, 1861 - Innocence, rhetoric and a flag presentation in Stewart County

Dover, May 7th, 1861

Mr. Editor: The people in Old Stewart are all right—They are not only a unit upon the question of severing their connection with the Lincoln Government and uniting their destiny with the Southern Confederacy immediately, but are also a unit in defending to the last drop of blood and the last breath the rights and institutions of the South.

We have two large Companies already made up in this County, one that is ready and anxious to march to any point where they may be needed, and the other for home protection. Yesterday, according to previous notice, the ladies of Dover, through Miss Mary E. James, presented Capt. Graham's Company of Infantry, numbering over one hundred, with a beautiful and gorgeous flag, bearing the inscription on one side, "OUR RIGHTS," and on the other, "VICTORY." Miss James Addressed the Company as follows:

SOLDIERS OF THE STEWART COUNTY GUARD:—It is with sentiments and emotions of the profoundest pleasure I perform the part so generously assigned me this day, by the ladies of Dover. When I behold your martial bearing and the determined valor that sits upon each dauntless face in your ranks, my heart swells with pride, that I am a native of the same County with yourselves, that the first air my infant lungs drank in, was amidst the hills of freedom and valley of plenty of Old Stewart. It is needless to add that all eyes are turned with proud confidence to the Military, that great bulwark of protection in time of war.

The public mind is now intensely agitated, and the great Southern heart is throbbing with indignation at the unjust and tyrannical policy which the Northern Administration is endeavoring to impose upon the South. Every breeze which floats over our hill troops or along our valley, brings intelligence of some new aggression, some fresh outrage upon the great character of American Liberty, and, by a petty usurper and despot, who has brought everlasting shame and disgrace upon the Executive Seat once occupied by Washington, the Father of his Country.

And fired by these unhallowed encroachments upon your rights as freemen—you have gallantly quit your shops, the fields, and counting-houses—you have thrown aside the implements of your peaceful pursuits and with soldiers hands, served with patriotism, grasped the sword, and are now ready and eager to march at the tap of the drum to rush to the field of strife, and meet in sanguinary conflict the tyrants who would dare trample upon the rights of Southern freemen.

Influenced by this patriotic sentiment, the ladies of Dover—your wives, your mothers, your sisters and you daughters—through me, offer for your acceptance this flag, which I now unfurl to the breeze. May it wave proudly over many a victorious field, and the gallant hearts that marshal under its
folds soon return to the fond embrace of their friends covered all over with victory and glory. Heaven forbid that this flag should ever fall into the hands of the enemy, or be trailed in the dust. And should it be your fortune to meet your foesmen in battle's strife—then when you manly cheeks blanch and your heart palpitate amidst the din and roar of battle turn your eyes to that flag, and think of those who formed it, and presented it, and let this nerve your arm for the conflict, and be a prestige of victory on every battle field.

Heaven is on your side, Justice is with you, and woman's hearts and woman's prayers will accompany you. Go then, my gallant friends, and fear not to defend that land which in repose is a Lamb, but when roused a Lion.

"Which seeks not the combat, nor shuns its career,
'Tis respect for her laws she exacts from her foes,
And honor it they shall, tho they do it with fear."

Capt. Graham then replied in his usual happy style in a most eloquent and appropriate address. Stating that he and his brave boys had not volunteered for six nor twelve months, but in the language of Gov. Carroll, when starting for New Orleans in 1812, they had entered during the war. That their watch word in battle should be the wives, the mothers, the sisters, and the daughters of Dover, that the ladies who presented that flag might rest assured it would never be dishonors, but would be defended with the last breath of the last man in their ranks. Capt. Graham and his Company were cheered three times by the immense crowd in deafening and enthusiastic cheers.

Maj. N. Brandon land Gen. W. W. Lowe, have both commenced to form Companies in this County, which, I have no doubt will soon be completed.

Capt. Graham has already tendered his Company to the Governor the State.

CITIZEN

Clarksville Chronicle, May 10, 1861.
November 6, 1861 - Pro-Union sentiment on the Cumberland River near the Kentucky-Tennessee border; an excerpt from a report by Lieutenant S. L. Phelps, commanding the U. S. Gunboat Conestoga

No circumstantial reports filed.

U. S. GUNBOAT CONESTOGA, Paducah, November 6, 1861.

SIR: Yesterday I succeeded in passing with this vessel... in the channel near the head of Line Island, 2 miles below the Tennessee State line... and proceeded up to within a few miles of Dover, in that State.

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We remained at anchor up the river overnight and returned here after noon today... I observed more manifestations of Union feeling than upon any previous occasion and met with hearty cheers upon the very line of Tennessee. After entering that State, however, we saw scarce anyone, and all the habitations along the river, except one or two in Tobacco Port, were closed and apparently deserted...


January 24, 1862 - "Letter from Dover: The Flag Presentation."

-See January 8, 1862--An excursion and flag presentation at Fort Donelson

Dover, January 10, 1862

Mr. Chronicle:

Thinking that probably your readers have never heard the particulars of the entertainment at Fort Donelson, on the 8th inst., I have taken upon myself the liberty of picking up the "scraps" and telling them.

At about 11 o'clock A.M., your homely servant reached the camp, where a neat little platform had been constructed by the "gallants" of the 30th, which was covered, and surrounded by "fair women and brave men."

Yours tremendously secured a position to see and hear, but what was most attractive to sight, was the noble, commanding form of Col. Head, who, I will venture, is as brave an officer as ever bore a commission. The members of the 30th were drawn up in the form of a square around the platform, and presented quite a fine appearance. When the banner which was to be presented to them was unfurled to the breeze the soldiers fixed their eyes upon it, and prepared to look inspiring—the ladies do, bewitching; and all was beginning to go "merry as a marriage bell," when—alas! for moral grandeur—the "sweet baptismal fount from Heaven," which had commenced "sprinkling" the BRIGHT BANNER, became rather ungentle, in fact boisterous; a general engagement ensued, in which our forces were used rather roughly. Col. Head endeavored to rally his troops, but was compelled to "sound a retreat," which was excused in as "masterly" a manner as the "Grand Army" from Manassas. We took up the "line of march" for Gen Anderson's "headquarters."

In plain words, Col. Head informed us that, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the presentation would take place on the steamer Gen. Anderson; whither we all repaired, with all possible expedition.

We were then entertained by an eloquent, graceful, and truthful address by Miss Winchester, who presented the beautiful colors, which were received by Capt. Nichols with suitable remarks. We were afterwards addressed by Messrs. Winchester, Bidwell, Lockhart, Turner, and "last, but not least." Maj. Chenoweth, a Kentuckian, whose remarks touched a chord in every heart, which vibrated in unison with his own. I sympathize with you noble soldier, in your exile; for I, too am a Kentuckian, and an exile from my home. How long will my exile last? Oh! how long? With such strong arms and brave hearts as yours, Maj. Chenoweth, to defend our homes, I feel that it will not be long—And although the best blood of that heart be drained, yet the memory of such an one can never die. Even the heart of the stranger (in name—not in sympathy) will the name ever remain bright.

One of our "dandies in militaire" being called upon to speak, in his eagerness to escape, precipitated himself into an open state-room. He was surveying his surroundings with evident complacency, when he discovered to his
discomfiture, that he had intruded upon a lady, reclining upon her couch in undress.

I have intruded too long, but may I come again? I will be more merciful next time.

Au revoir,

Ella.

Clarksville Chronicle, January 24, 1862.
February 18, 1862 - General Orders, No. 3, prohibiting Federal soldiers from looting Dover, Tennessee

GEN. ORDERS, No. 3, HDQRS. DIST. OF WEST TENNESSEE, Fort Donelson, February 18, 1862.

All commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates are prohibited from entering the town of Dover of any houses therein situated without permission in writing of their regimental commanders.

All captured property belongs to the Government, and no officer, non-commissioned officer, or private will be permitted to have or retain possession of captured property of any kind.

Any officer violating the above order will be at once arrested. Any non-commissioned officer or private will be arrested and confined in the guard-houses, and all captured property taken from them and turned over to the district quartermaster.

Col. Leggett is hereby appointed to see to the strict enforcement of the above, using his whole command for that purpose, if necessary.

By order of Brig.-Gen. Grant

February 20, 1862 - Loyalty in the Dover environs after the fall of Fort Donelson; an Excerpt from a war correspondent's report

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial Dover, Tenn., February 20, 1862

... I have for two days been in search of the aborigines of this God-forsaken land, and have rode about thirty miles for that purpose. I have been quite successful, having discovered at least twenty. The first one was a man by the name of J. B. Bates, who says he has been a resident of Dover since 1836. I said to him, Mr. Bates, please tell me candidly whether you think the majority of your population are glad to see that old flag again. (pointing to the stars and stripes on the Fort). Sir. said he, there is not a man, woman or child in all this county but that is shouting for joy because it has come back again. They would do anything in the world to have an end of this bloody strife. Others who have been fighting in the rebel army told me of the ways and means they had used to get a discharge from a service they never liked. One man told me that for two months he ate barely enough of his rations to keep him alive, till he created the belief that he was getting the consumption when he received a written discharge from his Surgeon. The natives for two days have been coming up to the opposite side of the river in considerable numbers, and General Grant has given out word that all loyal citizens are at liberty to return again to their occupations, and pursue them unmolested. The facts about the population here are these: They will be about the loudest for and work the hardest for the party who will first put an end to the war. Their mental caliber, as a general thing, is not quite equal to a ten inch Columbiad. Mr. Briggs tells me that when Pillow made his escape, he swam the river with his horse, and that some of his own men shot at him. Alas for poor Pillow! "Who so base as to do him honor?"

Daily Missouri Republican, February 27, 1862. Note 1

Note 1: As cited in: http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts.
August 25, 1862 - Skirmish at Fort Donelson

AUGUST 25, 1862.-Skirmish at Fort Donelson, Tenn.

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Col. William W. Lowe, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.


No. 1.


FORT DONELSON. August 25, 1862-10 p. m. (Via Fort Henry. August 26, 1862.)

This post was attacked to-day by a force under Col. Woodward. They were repulsed by the command at this post at one by the remnant of the Seventy-first Ohio, under Maj. Hart. A flag of truce was sent in before the attack, demanding the surrender a la Clarksville. This was promptly refused by Maj. Hart. Soon after, they made the attack. I started for this point as soon as the news of the attack reached me with all the force I could bring, but the affair was ended before my command got in—about sundown. We are now fixed for them, and I start at daylight in pursuit of them. None of the re-enforcements have arrived.

I had an interview with Col. Woodward. No one hurt on our side. Ten or a dozen of the rebels killed and wounded.

W. W. LOWE, Col., Comdg.

No. 2.


HDQRS. U. S. FORCE AT FORT DONELSON, TENN., August 26, 1862.

COL.: I have the honor to report that on Monday, the 25th instant, the forces under my command at this post, consisting of parts of Companies A, B, G, and H, of the Seventy-first Regt. Ohio Volunteer Infantry, were attacked by the rebel forces, under command of Col. Woodward, at about 1:30 p. m. Before an attack was made a flag of truce was sent in to us, demanding a surrender of the post. I demanded time to consider the proposition, and thirty minutes given me. I immediately called my commissioned officers into council, submitted the proposition of Col. Woodward, and put the question: "Shall we fight?" The unanimous vote was, "Fight them," and this vote of the officers was but the reflected sentiment, purpose, and determination of the entire command. After negotiations had ended between Col. Woodward [who bore himself as a gentleman] and myself they made a charge with their cavalry. We repulsed and drove them off, with a loss to them of 5 to 10 men, killed and wounded, and 4 horses killed. On our part we met with no loss in killed or wounded. After about half an hour's fighting the enemy retreated in confusion, and were no more seen during the day or night.
I cannot close this brief and hasty report without expressing to you, colonel, and through you to the commanding general, the warmest and most earnest approval of the conduct of all officers and men engaged in the battle. Each and every one of them did his duty and did it well.

I have the honor further to report that when I found a battle inevitable I directed several buildings to be set on fire, to prevent the enemy's taking cover behind them or in them. Of the prudence of this course I have no doubt. It is in my judgment contributed greatly to the confusion of the enemy's cavalry, which was represented to be 335 strong, supported by 450 infantry and one 6-pounder. Neither infantry nor cannon were brought into action.

I am, colonel, with sentiments of regard, yours,

JAS. H. HART, Maj., Comdg.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.

The attacking force at Donelson, it should be remembered, was the same (increased) to which Clarksville was surrendered. In justice to Maj. Hart and his command I respectfully suggest that his report be made public. The remnant of the Seventy-first Ohio and its gallant commander deserves, under all the circumstances, more than a passing notice.

W. W. LOWE, Col. Fifth Iowa Cavalry, Comdg.

Excerpts from the Account of A. L. McKinney, Chaplain, Seventy-first Regiment O. V. I.

Fort Donelson, August 26, 1862

Yesterday at half-past one o'clock P. M., companies A, Capt. Carlin, B, Capt. McConnell, G, Capt Moody, H, Capt. Le Blond, of the Seventy-first Ohio volunteer infantry, holding the post at Fort Donelson, were attacked by a guerrilla force under command of Colonel Woodward numbering four hundred and fifty infantry and three hundred and twenty-five cavalry, so stated by him—Woodward—to Captain McDonnell. The rebels played sharp on our pickets. They sent citizens with revolvers concealed, who approached the pickets and asked permission to come within our lines, as citizens had been doing some days previous. It may be observed that our pickets were posted on the different approaches to town, at distances ranging from a half to three fourths of a mile from our camp. As soon as these citizens were near enough to our pickets they drew their revolvers and demanded their surrender. By this means they captured eight. They then marched through the space that had been covered by our now captured pickets; and the first warning we had of their approach was their appearance in force not to exceed a half-mile from our camp. The "long roll" soon sounded, and the men were in line in a few moments. A flag of truce was sent in by the rebels, and a surrender demanded.
Major J. H. Hart, commanding our forces, said that they should have a reply in thirty minutes. The commissioned officers were then called into headquarters, and the question put: Shall we surrender?"[1] The unanimous vote was: "No!" "We will fight." This reply was made known to Lieut. Col. Martin, the bearer of the flag of truce, who returned to the rebel lines. In less than ten minutes another flag was sent in accompanied by Col. Woodward, who again demanded the surrender of the fort, offering the most honorable (?) terms, and protesting his reluctance to hurt us. On being asked by Major Hart if we might have the privilege of verifying his statement as to the strength of his forces, he very promptly and politely answered "Yes." Captain McDonell was accordingly deputed to pass along his lines, and ascertain the facts and report: twenty minutes being given to make the "reconnaissance." The Captain, after as thorough examination as time would permit, reported that the enemy, in his opinion, did not number over four hundred or possibly five hundred, and one small cannon, (which was captured from our boys at Clarksville,) and that we could whip them. Col. Woodward, however, informed him that they had part of his forces posted south of the fort; but that the twenty minutes were nearly up; hence no time was left to ascertain the fact. The rebel regimental flag was partially concealed from our view, and as we supposed it would be employed as a signal by them, we sent a flag of truce demanding that their colors be placed where they could be plainly seen by us. They complied and planted them in full view. We tied our flag-staff to the forwarded wheels of a howitzer, resolved not to strike it without a desperate struggle. At about three o'clock P. M., the rebel cavalry raised the yell and charged in fine style down the hill, lying east of our intrenchments, into the ravine. At that moment our boys let slip a well-aimed shot of canister from our six-pounder, Note 1 which broke their column, killing eight of their men, so they reported to our patrol, who were taken prisoners. But, notwithstanding this check, they dashed across the ravine and up the hill, and a portion of them up Main street [Dover], north of our position, which brought them in range of our musketry, when a terrible fire was opened on them by our boys, unhorsing a number, killing a wounding a number of horses and men. It was during this heavy musketry that Col. Woodward's horse fell dead under him, struck by three bullets. The chivalrous Colonel did some fine crawling for about twenty feet to escape the shots directed toward him. A bullet broke the skin slightly in the side of his head. Notwithstanding their leader was down, on dashed those of the charging column yet in their saddles till they reached Spring street, when they wheeled to the left at right angles, still coming at a furious speed and receiving our fire at every opening between the houses till they reached College street, down which they essayed to make a charge directly upon our earthworks, but the second platoon of company B, Capt. McConnell's, poured into them such a galling fire that they were again repulsed and scattered in the wildest confusion. I saw more than a score of riderless horses careering over the hills and through the ravines.
Just as the attack was made a number of building were fired to prevent the rebels from sheltering themselves in them and behind them. In the height of the engagement thick volumes smoke were ascending from the house and the red tongues of flame were leaping from the windows and darting through the roofs. The sharp crack of rifled muskets, the heavy booming of our nine-inch howitzer and six-pounder, the wild shouts of the combatants, and the roar of the consuming flames, made a scene of terrific sublimity. Seventeen houses were burned, and among them the court-house. Every commissioned officer did his whole duty truly and nobly... Our entire number in ranks during the engagement was one hundred and fifty-five, against seven hundred and eighty-five, according to Col. Woodward's own statement. From the time the enemy made the attack till he was repulsed and entirely driven off, was about one hour, though the sharp firing did not continue more than thirty minutes."The rebel loss, from all that we can gather, as information is constantly coming in, will not fall short of thirty killed and wounded. We took no prisoners, as it was imprudent for any of our troops to leave the earthworks, as our force was too small. Not a man among us was hurt. This is accounted for in the security of our intrenchment. The rebel bullets at one time fell uncomfortably thick in our camp, some of them grazing the top of our breast-works, and others striking very close to some of the officers. As soon as the rebels were known to be in force in our immediate vicinity, a telegram was sent to Col. W. W. Lowe, commanding the post at Forts Henry and Hindman, Note 2 and to whose command we are temporarily attached, informing him of the danger, and asking reinforcements. He promptly responded to our call by immediately march at the head of six companies of cavalry and one field-piece. They arrived here at about half-past six o'clock P. M. The enemy had been routed and were retreating up the river... 


Note 1: Chaplain McKinney noted: "The six pounder we used in the fight was left by the rebels at the surrender of Fort Donelson in March last. Its trunnions were broken off, and it was supposed to be useless. But our boys had it and the howitzer, which had also been demolished, hauled fully a mile and a half. They hollowed out a log, put the six-pounder into it, fastened it there, mounted it on trucks and placed it in position; the howitzer ther remounted on its own wheels, and manufactured ammunition for both out of musket cartridges, except a few canister shots, minus the powder for the small gun, which the boys picked up. And this was our artillery. The men who worked the guns managed admirably for inexperienced hands. A. L. M.

Note 2: Many Union reports talk about Fort Hindman, which was Fort Heiman.
September 5, 1862 - September 10, 1862 - Expedition from Fort Donelson to Clarksville, Tenn., and skirmishes (6th) at New Providence and (7th) at Riggin’s Hill.


HDQRS., Fort Donelson, September 10, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to state that I have just returned from an expedition to Clarksville, and have to report as follows:

On the morning of the 5th instant I started from this post with parts of the Eleventh Illinois, Thirteenth Wisconsin, Seventy-first Ohio Infantry, part of the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, one section of Flood’s battery, and one section of Stenbeck’s battery, numbering in all about 1,030 men. During the day and night I marched to a point called Blue Springs, about 16 miles from Clarksville. About midnight I received a dispatch from the general telling me I need not attempt to take Clarksville at present. I immediately replied that I was not already on the way, and within 16 miles of Clarksville. "Shall I return?" stating also, "Awaiting your reply. I shall menace them."

Acting in accordance with this assertion, and because the point where I had stopped was not well supplied with water, I moved on slowly during the morning of the 6th to a good position, within 10 miles of the town, receiving from time to time during the day positive information that the enemy, about 1,100 strong, were in good position 3 miles from the town, and had determined to give us battle.

During the afternoon a small reconnoitering party, under Lieut. Moreing, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, came in sight of their pickets, and immediately gave chase, running them more than a mile, when they were fired upon by some 50 or more rebels in ambush. Though within 15 yards of the road, with their guns at a rest, not a man was injured by the volley, and but 1 horse was killed and 3 wounded. I immediately ordered Lieut.-Col. Patrick, of the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, to move forward with four companies of cavalry, three companies of infantry, and one piece of artillery, with a view to driving in their pickets and creating the belief that we were advancing upon them. Early in the morning of the 7th (having received the necessary permission) I moved on in the direction of the town, driving their pickets before us for more than two hours. About 10.30 a.m. we name in view of the enemy’s position and immediately opened upon them a fire of shell and canister, and in thirty-five minutes they were completely routed, both sections of artillery being well served and doing fine execution. Finding that the enemy were rapidly retreating, I immediately formed line (the right commanded by Col. Ransom and Maj. Hart, the left by Lieut.-Col. Chapman, follow immediately by the sections of artillery and the detachment of cavalry), and pushed on rapidly in pursuit. They fled so rapidly, however, that they could not be overhauled by infantry, and I immediately pushed forward some companies, under Lieut.-Col. Patrick, to prevent them from tearing up the Red River Bridge, the only practicable approach to the town. He caught them in the very act, charged them, drove them from the bridge, and held his position until
I succeeded in planting two pieces of artillery on a bluff commanding the town. The enemy fled precipitately through the place and scattered in all directions.

Their loss, according to the report of their commander, Col. Woodward, was 17 killed and from 40 to 50 wounded. Some of their dead were buried on the field and others taken to Providence and Clarksville.

We captured about 40 horses and a considerable quantity of arms and accouterments. I occupied the town during the night and the greater part of the next day, requiring the citizens to furnish rations for my command. While there I burned about 1,000 bales of hay, destroyed some 250 boxes of commissary stores, captured 3 Government wagons and several prisoners. By pressing teams into the service I was enabled to bring away nearly 200 boxes of commissary stores. I also brought with me several Union families, who were afraid to remain in the place.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. LOWE, Col. Fifth Iowa Cavalry, Cmdg.

"EXpedITION TO CLARKSVILLE"

Excerpts from the CINCINNATI "COMMERCIAL" ACCOUNT

Since the surrender of Clarksville to Woodward [August 18, 1862] and his guerrilla band, and his repulse at this post [Ft. Donelson, Dover, August 25, 1862] the recapture of that proud, aristocratical, secesh town, has been an object most earnestly desired by the officers and men of what remains of the Seventy-first regiment O. V. I. Colonel W. W. Lowe... after a good deal of labor... concentrated a force at this post which was regarded sufficiently strong to march into and recapture Clarksville... parts of the Eleventh Illinois... Thirteenth Wisconsin... Seventy-first Ohio... and part of the Fifth Iowa cavalry, one section of Flood's battery, and one section of Flood's battery, and one section of Starbuck's battery, numbering in all about one thousand and thirty men. With this force... Colonel Lowe... started in the forenoon of the fifth instant for Clarksville... At one o'clock P. M. we halted five miles out, at "Bellwood Chapel," an old antiquated log house, hardly fit to stable mules in, named in honor of the dishonored John Bell, of Tenn., and is, in its present forsaken condition, a suitable representation of his dilapidated, musty, and worm-eaten patriotism. Note 1

At half-past two o'clock in the morning of the sixth we halted at Blue Springs, and bivouacked for the residue of the night. Here we ascertained... that the enemy, one thousand one hundred or one thousand two hundred strong, were in a good position about four miles this side of the town, awaiting our approach, having determined to give us battle...
Early on Sabbath morning (seventh) our forces moved in the direction of the town, driving the enemy's pickets before them for more than two hours. About eleven o'clock our advance came in full view of their position. For a defence against cavalry and infantry they had made a good choice, as there would have been no chance of taking it by storm or by flanking, either of which would have no doubt cost us many lives. Buts as a defence against artillery, they could have selected few worse ones. They occupied a ridge of land dripping towards the west into a valley entirely cleared and divided into fields. Their entire line of battle was covered by fences against which they had leaned rails close together, and at an angle of about forty-five degrees, and on the side in the direction of our approach. Their centre and right were further protected by a large farm house, barn and other out-buildings. Their left was further shielded by a tobacco-house and orchard; while their skirmishers guarding both flanks were protected by heavy woods. In their rear, and nearly the whole length of their line, there were thick forest and dense undergrowth, into which they could easily fall back, if necessary, and which would give an excellent cover to bushwhackers.

Our line of battle was formed in open fields, along a ridge of about equal elevation to the one held by the rebels, and separated from it by a valley... about one half-mile in width...

At five minutes past eleven o'clock... the cannonading commenced, and continued for thirty-five to forty minutes. The guns were admirably served and did excellent execution. Colonel Lowe at times sighting them himself. The firing was rapid, and between the explosions of shells and the reports of the guns, there was quite a roar of battle. True, there was comparatively little of the sharp cracking of the rifled muskets, as none of the infantry were in good range, except company D. of the Eleventh Illinois, skirmishing on our extreme left, who exchanged about four rounds with the rebs, and company A. of the Seventy-first skirmishing of our right.

When the enemy gave way and commenced retreating, the line of battle was ordered to move forward rapidly, and nearly in the same order in which it was drawn up. This command was obeyed in... gallant style. The whole line moved rapidly and steadily forward, crossing fields, mounting fences, and finally scaling the enemy barricades, hoping to find them in the dense woods just beyond. But no; they had fled and were in full retreat towards Clarksville. It was impossible to overtake them with infantry, hence some cavalry companies, under Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick, were pushed forward to prevent their tearing up of the Read [i.e., Red] River bridge; the only direct and available approach to the town. The cavalry came upon them in the very act, charged them, drove them from it, and held the position, till the main force came up. Two pieces of artillery were planted on a bluff completely commanding the place. The guerrillas fled precipitately through the town, not taking civil leave even of their dear friends, and scattered in every direction. Col. Lowe sent in a flag of truce, demanding the "immediate and unconditional surrender" of the place, or giving ten minutes for the removal of the women.
and children, as the town would be shelled unless surrendered. . . It was a proud day for the remnant of the Seventy-first; and, riding advance with Major Hart, I turned in my saddle, and looked with a thrill of pleasure upon the "boys" as they covered with dust, marched with a steady, firm tramp into the public square, bearing aloft their regimental flag.

The expedition was admirably executed. Colonel W. W. Lowe. . . is. . . a West Point graduate. . . The loss of the enemy was seventeen killed, and from forty to fifty wounded. Our loss, none. We captured about fifty horses, and a considerable quantity of arms and accoutrements. We also took a number of prisoners, burned about one thousand bales of hay, destroyed two hundred and fifty boxes of commissary stores, captured three Government wagons, and, by pressing teams, we brought away about two hundred boxes of Government property.

Having received peremptory orders from the War Department to return to this post [Ft. Donelson] we left Clarksville alone in her shame, and arrived here on Wednesday, (tenth) A. M., having made a march of over seventy miles, met and whipped the enemy, superior to us in numbers, recaptured Clarksville, all in about five days.

Rebellion Record, Vol. 5, pp. 610-611.

Note 1: Bell opposed secession to the last and moved to the country in Georgia. He returned to Tennessee after the war, later to die in the Volunteer State.

To: Gen. Grant from Citizens of Clarksville
Clarksville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1862
Gen. U. S. Grant
Sir:

Believing that as an officer of high rank in the army of the United States, you feel a reasonable amount of solicitude for the reputation which that army should sustain in the eyes of the civilized world. . .

As you have probably been informed, the federal garrison at this place, under Col. Rodney Mason, surrendered, on the 18th of August, to the Kentucky forces of Cols. Woodward and Johnson without a fight.

At the time of the original capture of this city by your Federal forces. . . our city had sent most of its men. . . to the Southern army, and had been left in possession of the old and infirm, women, children and servants, and was without arms and soldiers. It made no resistance, and was assured of protection by the proclamation of Com. Foote, which was approved of by yourself. . .

The pledges were faithfully performed while the city was under the Command of Col. Ruins, James and Mason, whose soldiers were kept under proper control, and there was not disturbance. . . Rumors. . . circulated that this place
was to be attacked by Forrest. . . which induced the leading citizens to condemn any action of the sort as likely to do more harm than good, so long as the Federals were in possession . . .

Major Mansfield, of the U. S. Army committed numerous outrages upon the citizens of Kentucky. . .

On Sunday, the 7th of September, acting Com. Lowe, with a detachment of troops from Fort Donelson, estimated at 2,000 men, embracing cavalry, and five pieces of artillery, and a lot of NEGROES ARMED AND EQUIPPED AS SOLDIERS\textsuperscript{Note 1} of the United States, after driving in a small body of Confederate Cavalry, under Col. G. O. Woodward, in a skirmish at a point about five miles from here, entered this city.

When Col. Lowe and his forces arrived there were no persons here except the ordinary citizens of this place—those who had participated in the fight having . . . made good their retreat. The flag of truce was sent in by Col. Lowe pursued Col Woodward beyond the city limits, and demanded of him the surrender of his forces. . . Colonel Woodward very properly informed the officer in charge of the flag that he held no city and had none to surrender; that the city of Clarksville was about a mile back, but that it belonged to the citizens. . . The forces under his command Woodward refused to surrender, and politely invited Com. Lowe to follow him and attempt their recapture.

Col. Woodward then passed over the Red River with his small force without interruption, and the flag [of truce] returned to the city, which had been already surrendered. . .

By this time the Federal forces were in full possession. Ten commenced a series of outrages, spoliations, robberies, and insults, upon the citizens, without regard to sex or condition, which we believe to be without parallel. . . unknown to the civilized warfare of modern times.

The residences of the city were indiscriminately visited by the inflamed and drunken soldiers. Demands of every description were made upon the inmates. Thefts were perpetrated on every hand, and the negroes did not escape the general spoliation. Horses were stolen, negroes enticed from their masters. Threats of pollution were freely made to the ladies to enforce compliance with unlawful demands, and the most disgusting obscenity and shocking profanity was freely indulged in in every preserve. Everything indicated that the city was in the hands of a brutal, indecent, and unprincipled hand of thieves, from whose unbridled license no moderation or gentlemanly treatment could be accepted.

Stores were broken open, and goods to the value of thousands of dollars stolen, distributed to negroes and wantonly destroyed.

No attempt was made by the officers, except in a single isolated instance, to restrain these. . . vandals. . . though committed chiefly in the presence, and
from Sunday noon until Monday noon, a reign of terror, kept alive by every species of outrage, was established in this city.

... The horses were stolen wherever they could be found, and the negroes were induced by both private persuasion and shameless public invitation, and often compelled to join the ranks and flee from their masters...

The number of negroes taken is not actually known, but cannot have been less than two hundred, and many of them were publicly sworn into the Federal service and took their place in the ranks, having on the Federal uniforms and bearing arms.

The country along the march was utterly devastated for thirty miles, on both sides of the road. Fences were torn down, cattle wantonly shot, hogs killed or stolen, chickens filched from every hen roost... without compensation... One poor widow lady living near where the expedition camped on the road was deprived of everything-her furniture, chairs, tables, bedstead cut to pieces with an axe, her bed ripped open and the feathers scattered over the yard, and she and her children left without food, knife, or fork to eat with as bed to sleep on.

Such is a brief history of the expedition from Fort Donelson against this place... The object seemed to be accomplished when the city had been plundered and the citizens, male and female, insulted, and the country devastated. The troops were withdrawn after one day's occupation.

Can you... permit... such acts of robbery and vandalism as described? Are we of the South to understand that rape and rapine are the mottoes of the soldiers of the North?... A wronged and insulted people rising in the majesty of their outraged right will vindicate the justice of God, and teach your government the judgment which has been decreed against the strong nation will trample in scorn upon the weak. Your treatment of the wretches... we have every confidence will prove that you are both just and honorable, and that you have not sunk the precepts of civilization in the practice of slavery.

[No signatures]

Letter to General Grant from Citizens of Clarksville. Note 2

Note 1: There is no indication of the presence of Negro troops or partisans in the OR.

Note 2: Civil War Collection, Confederate Collection, Box 8, folder 23. TSLA.
February 3, 1863 - U. S. gunboats bombard and disperse Confederates surrounding Federal force at Dover

Excerpt from the Report of Lieutenant-Commander LeRoy Fitch's report of March 17, 1863, relative to the fight at Fort Donelson [Dover], February 3, 1863:

On February 3... [a]t 8 p. m. arrived at Dover, [Tenn.], found the garrison entirely surrounded by the enemy, and out of ammunition. The gunboats shelled and dispersed the rebels.


Excerpt from the November 5, 1863 Report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, regarding naval operations on the Ohio, Cumberland, and Tennessee Rivers. August 23, 1862-October 21, 1863, relative to the bombardment of Confederate forces at Fort Donelson, February 3, 1863:

On the 3d of February, [1863],... I arrived at the town of Dover about 8 p. m., and found Colonel Harding's forces out of ammunition and entirely surrounded by superior numbers, but still holding them in check, they having withdrawn within the small breastworks back about 300 yards from the river bank.

For a minute or so I was at a loss as to where to begin, as I could not get a word from our forces, the enemy then holding the ground between them and the river; however, I let off a gun up the ravine to give them encouragement by letting them know that assistance was at hand. Just then the moon shone out bright, and by the aid of one of the officers of the garrison, who had stolen through the enemy's lines down to the river bank and pointed out the enemy's position, I was enabled to throw shell right in their very mists.

The enemy not expecting gunboats had formed the main body of his forces in line of battle through the graveyard at the west end of town, about seven or eight hundred yards from Colonel Harding's intrenchments and facing the most accessible point.

His left wing rested in a ravine leading down to the river and must have extended almost to the river bank, as we could easily, when we first moved up, hear the men talking.

This position gave us a chance to rake nearly the entire length of his line.

Simultaneously the gunboats opened fire up this ravine, into the graveyard, and into the valley beyond, where the enemy had his horses hitched, most likely kept his reserve.

The rebels were so much taken by surprise that they did not even fire a gun, but immediately commenced retreating. So well directed was our fire that they could not even carry off a caisson they had captured from our forces, but were compelled to abandon it after two fruitless attempts to destroy it by fire.
After having dispersed the main body of the enemy I stationed the Robb and Silver Lake below the town [of Dover] to throw shells and prevent the rebels from returning to carry off the wounded, while the Lexington, Fairplay, St. Clair, and Brilliant went above and shelled roads leading out to the eastward.

Supposing the retreating forces above the town would follow the river for a short distance, I sent the Lexington and St. Clair on up to shell the woods—harass and annoy them as much as possible—while the Fairplay and the Brilliant lay opposite the upper ravine and threw shells up the roads.

About 10 p.m. we ceased firing, with the exception of now and then a random shell up on the roads.

At 11 p.m. learning from Colonel Harding that the enemy had entirely disappeared, we ceased firing and took position to guard the roads from approaching the town.

Although much of our firing, after the enemy broke, was at random, we have the gratification of knowing that scarcely a projectile went amiss, and out of the four hundred and odd reported killed and wounded the gunboats did their share.

Even when the Lexington and St. Clair went above, many of their shells fell right in the midst of retreating rebels, killing many.

It is reported that the attacking forces numbered some four thousand and five hundred, with eight pieces of artillery, under command of Major-General [Joseph] Wheeler, Brigadier-Generals [N. B. ] Forrest and [J. A. ] Wharton, and it is certainly very gratifying for us to know that this entire force was cut up, routed, and despoiled of its prey by the timely arrival of the gunboats, and that Colonel Harding and his gallant little band were spared to wear the honors they had so fairly won.

At first I regretted that I was not there sooner with the boats, but upon reflection, I do not think that I could have better arranged the time had it been in my power.

Had we been there before Wheeler, he would not have made the attack, but most probably would have marched on Fort Henry.

Had we arrived during the day, he would have seen our strength, and would have retreated with little loss.

Arriving as we did, after dark, and when he least expected us, and so sanguine of success, we found his force arranged in the most favorable position to receive a raking fire from our guns.

The officers and men were very glad to have a shot at these river infesters, having been somewhat annoyed by them on previous occasions, and only regret that they did not remain in reach of our guns a little longer.

As it is, they claim the honor of dispersing them and saving Fort Donelson.
LeRoy Fitch, Lieutenant Commander


**Note 1:** See also *Navy OR*, Ser. I, Vol. 24, pp. 25-27.
February 22, 1863 - Confederate editorial opinion regarding the fight at Fort Donelson

*See February 3, 1863--Attack on Fort Donelson*

The second battle of Donelson has been fought, and although not to be compared with the first, it was not an unimportant affair. For the second time in this war the classic ground of Donelson and the rough hills and hollows about Dover have been watered by the blood of Southern martyrs. As the news reaches up imperfectly, we cannot yet judge imperatively in regard to the action which has taken place there between Wheeler’s Cavalry and the enemy strongly entrenched at Dover, but we cannot but express our astonishment at the attack, and cannot but believe that it was entirely unnecessary and to no purpose. What did General Wheeler expect to do after he had taken the Fort? He could certainly not have held it against gunboats with his cavalry force. What was the attack made for? Merely to fight to be fighting, and to be able to brag about the courage of our dismounted cavaliers, who stormed the Dover heights on foot as well as any infantry could have done it? Many men, some say 200 and odd, were killed and wounded on our side in this encounter. We drove the enemy from the place at a fearful sacrifice of life but as it was well known that an attack would be made on that day, the Yankees had wisely sent three gunboats down the river, and they appeared in sight about the time we were entering victoriously into Dover; they shell us furiously and soon drove the whole Southern force off into the hills of Dixon. I am glad to hear that General Forest emphatically stated that he wanted it distinctly understood, that this was not his fight, and the he considered the attack injudicious. Our troops fought well, as they generally do, but what is all this carnage for? Why do we dismount our cavalry to charge breastworks? I understand that the breastworks were actually also charged by mounted men. Our troops were commanded by a Major General, the enemy by a Colonel General Wheeler was made a Major General upon the strength of his first raid to the Cumberland river, where he did well; he was I presume promoted especially upon the strength of being a West Pointer and a pet of Gen. Bragg; and Generals Forrest and Morgan were entirely overlooked and ignored. Now that the young Major General, the youngest in the service, has won his laurels, let him see to them carefully, and try to keep them; one more blunder like this foolish Donelson affair, and they are lost to him as far as the opinion of the public is concerned.

Morgan and Forest have made the cavalry in the West what it is. They have used it to the right purpose by striking at the enemy rapid blows at vulnerable points, at a great distance from each other, by rapid movements. If our western light and irregular cavalry, the ‘Bedouins’ of America, which is now our boast, is to be fought in the way it was fought lately at Donelson, it will soon loose all its efficiency, at the very time when it is worst needed. I understand the plan of the Tennessee campaign this winter to be, to allow the enemy to advance to the line of the Duck river, for the purpose of giving our cavalry more scope to harass his rear, to disturb his communications with Nashville, and to operate on the Cumberland river by destroying transports and not by charging.
breastworks in sight of gunboats. Such a thing would be entirely unheard of and considered absurd in the army of Virginia, but I presume the army of Tennessee must keep up its well earned reputation of fighting to no purpose.

If General Morgan would command our cavalry in the west, a position he is eminently qualified for, such things would not happen, as he has proved himself again to be a thorough cavalry officer, born probably for the purpose, and possessing the proper genius for just such a kind of service in the western campaign, a genius which a hundred years spent at West Point could not give to another man.

I cannot help seeing the difference between the inhabitants in different States of the South. Tennesseans have been charged with being lukewarm, undecided and disunited in this war, and the charge was made that 'they do not fight.' This charge was undoubtedly been set at rest by the admirable fighting done at Perryville and Murfreesboro, and will never be made again. That indomitable hero 'John Happy' [?] is a witness that on the memorable field of Fishing Creek [where Felix K. Zollicoffer was killed] some Tennesseans did not fight, and allowed the 'old twentieth,' and the 'bloody fifteenth' to be cut to pieces. There it was, where Mississippians started the saying that "Tennesseans won't fight; but I have no doubt that they always excepted some Middle Tennessee Regiments from the sweeping charge.

Chattanooga Daily Rebel, February 22, 1863
Wayne County
ca. February 8, 1862 - Seizure of wheat and flour by U. S. S. Tyler at Clifton

Excerpt from the Report of Lieutenant. Gwin, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. Tyler, regarding the cruise of that vessel on the Tennessee River, February 6-10, 1862, relative to the seizure of wheat and flour at Clifton, ca. February 8, 1862.

Sir:

Learning that a large quantity of wheat and flour was stored in Clifton, Tenn., intended, of course, to be shipped to the South, a large portion of it having been bought for a firm in Memphis, on my way down I landed there and took on board about a thousand sacks and 100 barrels of flour and some 6,000 bushels of wheat. I considered it my duty to take possession... to prevent its being seized by the rebels or disposed of in rebel country.

Wm. Gwin, Lieutenant Commanding.

February 25, 1862 - February 26, 1862 - Confederate reconnoitering missions from Clifton, Saltillo, Savannah and Hamburg

HDQRS. FIFTY-SECOND Regt. TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS, Henderson Station, February 26, 1862.

Gen. DANIEL RUGGLES:

Your note of yesterday was carried by here and returned by train last night, else would have been sooner answered.

I cannot report with certainly whether there are any cavalry on the Tennessee River. I shall learn with certainly to-day. On yesterday morning I sent men to Clifton, Saltillo, Savannah, and Hamburg. I have 100 cavalry reconnoitering in the neighborhood of those places. From the best information I can gather I think they have a few infantry at Clifton, Saltillo, and Savannah, who have pressed horses into service and are scouring the country. If the report be true, I should be in a bad condition to meet them, having only 100 available or rather effective shot-guns; still if there be not more than 500 I shall try them. I shall keep you advised.

Respectfully,

B. J. LEA, Col., Cmdg.

January 3, 1863 - Skirmish near Clifton


GENERAL: In obedience to orders received from General Sullivan on the 1st instant, I proceeded with my command to the Tennessee River, opposite Clifton, in pursuit of the rebels under General Forrest. The first day marched 26 miles to Mr. Sparks', 9 miles this side of Clifton, and on the 3d January marched with our brigade to the river. The rebels had all crossed the river the evening previous at Clifton and other points below. One regiment was ordered to deploy in front of the town and shelter behind the timber and reply to the battery on the other side, which they did in handsome style, driving the artillerists from their guns. Their batteries played upon us for two hours pretty vigorously, and, with intermission, for one and one-half hours more. The river bank on the Clifton side being much higher than this side we could not use artillery to advantage, and did not use it. There was no force of the enemy in sight except those with the guns.

My adjutant-general, Joseph B. Thorp, was wounded in the leg by a rifle-ball. This was the only casualty at the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. K. LAWLER, Colonel, Commanding.

January 7, 1863 - "I will give you a smawl sketch of our scout from the time I wrote you before untill the present time." Lieutenant A. J. Lacy, 8th Tennessee Cavalry, writes to his parents in Jackson County about his experiences during Forrest's raid into West Tennessee, December 15, 1862-January 3, 1863.

Mount Pleasant Maury Co Ten

Jan the 7th 63

Dear Father and Mother:

I am again permitted by a kind Providence to seat my self to let you all know that my health is not as good as I would wish it to be but still I am able for duty.

Father wee have had a verry hard time for the last month. Wee have marched day and night, wet and dry cold and hot. I will give you a smawl sketch of our scout from the time I wrote you before untill the present time. I have not time to date the time that wee was at different places.

Wlee left Columibia the day that Mr[,] Steven Davis started from Columbia. Wee come to Mt Pleasant they to Hennysville then to Waynesboro in Wayn Co. Then to Clifton on the Tennessee River 25 mi below the Shilow Battle Ground. Then wee went to Lexington in Henderson Co. There we run the Yankees and captured 2 pieces of artillery and a good many prisoners.

Wlee followed them in 8 mi of Jackson in Madison Co. Wee then stopped and fed our horsee. Then wee marched all night next morning just at day break wee fired on 88 Yankees in a stockade 7 mi to the right of Jackson on the railroad. They surrendered to us. Wee went to Humbolt at the junction of the railroad. Wee taken a good many [prisoners] there.

Then wee went to Trenten. Wee captured 500 Yankkes there and 200,000 dollars worth of property and a good many arms. Wee went to Rutherford Station and captured 150 Federals there. The wee went to Dresden in Weakley Co. The Yankees had left there. Wee then started in the direction of Huntingdon in Carrel Co. Wee had a fight with the Yankees 3 mil from Huntingdon. James Stamps was killed. He belonged to our Co. He was a brave young man. A fine fellow in camps. Then wee started to Lexington. Wee got in 15 mi of Lexington. Wee camped next morning about sunrise. The pickets [illegible] fighting. Wee was marched out and commense a regular engagement. Our regt fought bravely. Wee fought them about 2 hours in an open field. Wee was in about 100 yds of them. Our regt was fitting 3 regt. Wee had one cannon and they had 21. At last they give way. Wee followed them. They reinforced with 2 brigades. They come in on our rear. Wee saw that we was over powered and had to retreat. When wee come off of the field the whole Yankee force was a firing on us. I never herd bullets whistle like they did that day. My horse was shot. He was hit with a grape shot. I lost bridial saddal and all.
So give my best respects to evry boddy. I will write to Elisabeth if I have the Chance. I send this by Hamp More. There was sixteen men missing out of our co. Capt Woolsy was captured. I wish to be remembered by you all. SO I must close for the present but I will still remain your most affectionate son until death.

A J Lacy to Wm Lacy 1863

My health is bad. I weigh 173 lbs.

There is a talk of disbanding for thirty days.

Lacy Correspondence.
February 17, 1863 - February 21, 1863 - Anti-guerrilla expedition from Lexington to Clifton

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Col. John K. Mizner, Third Michigan Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry, District of Jackson.

No. 2.-Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 1.


JACKSON, TENN., February 22, 1863.

CAPT.: To add to the pleasurable remembrances of the anniversary we have today celebrated, I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that the cavalry I sent toward the Tennessee River have succeeded in capturing Col. [J. F.] Newsom, with 7 of his officers and 60 men, besides all their horses, arms, accoutrements, &c., together with a large amount of supplies. This splendid achievement was accomplished by Capt. Cicero Newell, of the Third Michigan Cavalry, who, with 60 picked men, crossed the Tennessee River on the night of the 19th instant, and surprised and captured Newsom and his whole party at Clifton. He recrossed to this side with all his prisoners, when our gunboats came in sight, and gave them valuable assistance in discovering boats and small craft which the enemy had concealed and had continually used in crossing the river. Capt. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry, was second in command, and he, as well as all of the officers and men, deserve the highest praise for capturing a force of the enemy exactly equal to their own.

I regret to inform you that Capt. Newell was wounded in the action at Clifton.

I inclose Capt. Adamson's report, which gives a full account of the affair.

The prisoners were turned over to Lieut. Fitch, commanding gunboat fleet. Capt. Newell, being disabled, was also taken on board the gunboat.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. K. MIZNER. Col. and Chief of Cavalry.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Frederick C. Adamson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

LEXINGTON, TENN., February 21, 1863.

SIR: On behalf of Capt. Newell, I would respectfully submit the following report of the operations of the detachment of cavalry under his command from the 17th instant until the present date:

On the 17th instant he started for Clifton, with 23 men of Company A, under Sergeant [Thomas] Dean; 14 men of Company L, under command of Lieut.
about getting over our last load of horses when we were most agreeably surprised by the appearance of a fleet of five gunboats. The Lexington, in advance, put out her guns, intending to shell us, but a cheer from this side and a white flag from the other checked her intention. Lieut. Fitch, flag-officer of the fleet, gave our tired men a capital dinner, which they much needed, having eaten nothing since noon of the day before.

Before the arrival of the boats, I had ordered the firing of the buildings that had been occupied by the enemy, as they were well filled up; with bunks, &c., and the hotel in which we found over 30 men contained a quantity of commissary stores, which I could not transport, so was compelled to destroy.

Our raid was entirely successful. The result was the capture of 8 commissioned officers and some 60 enlisted men, 40 splendid horses, some saddles, about 40 stand of arms, principally old shot-guns, many of which we threw in the river, some Sharps' and Smith's carbines (four of the latter), a few Enfield rifles, several old muskets, flint-locks, &c., and a few Colt's pistols (how many I cannot ascertain, as the property has not yet been collected from the men). I regret to say that many of the old guns were carried off by the officers and men of the gunboats during my absence, as their men were all allowed to come ashore.

Capt. Fitch offered to take the prisoner off our hands, and, upon consulting with Capt. Newell, who had been moved to Hughes', he decided it would be best to get rid of them, as several were unable to ride, and I could not mount them all. I fear that I have erred in this matter, but did it for the best. The horses are distributed among the companies, subject to the order of the colonel commanding.

Having had information that Wright's Island contained several horses belonging to the Confederates, I took a small party on the gunboat and searched the island. The horses had been removed several days before, but we found two boats, one of which we destroyed; the other was one of Francis' metallic life-boats, which I also turned over to Capt. Fitch. It was now dusk, so we crossed in our old boat, which we had towed up, entirely destroyed it, and marched on foot to Johnson's, to which place I had ordered the command.

Early on the 21st, I started for Lexington, through a drenching rain; reached there at 3 p. m., and reported to Maj. [Thomas] Saylor, whom I found in command.

I am thoroughly satisfied that there is no force anywhere in this vicinity, on this side of the Tennessee River. Van Dorn is at Columbia; parties of his cavalry are stationed at different points, close to the river, and it seems to be the impression that it is his intention to attempt to hold the river at these points.

I inclose a list of the prisoners and Capt. Fitch's receipt for 54; one of the slips containing their names was mislaid, which accounts for the difference between the list and receipt, and 4 were released on parole. I must apologize for the length of this report, but in justice to the men and officers, who all, without
the men, under command of a sergeant, to take charge of our horses. We got our living freight aboard our crazy craft, the boat's gun wale being just 6 inches above water-mark, made the men lie flat in the bottom, crossed over, and drifted down about 2 miles; then landed, after considerable difficulty and danger, and wended our way through the woods for town. After marching some 2 miles through the brush along the river bank, we encountered a serious obstacle to our farther progress, in the shape of an extensive bayou, which we could not cross in any direction. Not being discouraged at our failure, we marched back to the boat, shoved off, and drifted down within half a mile of town, again landed, reconnoitered cautiously, marched within sight of town, found everything quiet, lay down on the ground, and sent our guide to a house to ascertain with exact certainty the strength and position of the enemy; found it just as we expected and no more. We waited some two hours anxiously for the proper moment to arrive. The night was very dark and cold. Our men suffered considerably, having left their overcoats in the boat, but they bore it in silence, as not a murmur was heard among them.

Day just breaking, we crept cautiously into town, Company B in advance. Their only guard now espied us, and, calling "treason" at the top of his voice, started for the quarters. We soon secured him, sent a couple of men to their ferry, surrounded the houses, which we knew contained the men, dashing in the doors and windows, thrusting in our guns, and pointing them at the heads of the astonished, half-awake, and undressed occupants, demanding with loud shouts their instant surrender. Considerable resistance was shown in some of the buildings, but we bore down everything before us. Some thirty shots were fired; the second one, I am sorry to say, disabled Capt. Newell, stricken him in the leg, under the knee, making a painful, but not dangerous, flesh wound. Col. Newsom had his right arm fearfully shattered and Lieut. Shelby was struck in the shoulder, which were all the known casualties that occurred on both sides.

The command now devolving upon me, and the town being fully in our possession, I instantly mounted a few men, and [sent] them on the different roads to pick up runaways, and turned my immediate attention to getting the prisoners on the other side of the river. As I had reliable information that there was an Alabama regiment of cavalry camped at Ague Creek, only 7 miles east, and a strong force at Waynesborough, 17 miles distant. Some of our men left with the horses now made their appearance on the opposite bank, according to instructions, so I sent 50 over (in the ferry just captured) with a strong guard, commanded by Lieut. Bigham, putting Capt. Newell in the same boat; signaled our own boat, which the guard immediately brought down; loaded her with the rest of the prisoners, a party of our men, the captured saddles, guns, &c.

We plied both boats briskly for some time, carrying from four to six horses a trip. It was severe work, as the current would carry the boats a long distance down stream; consequently we had to haul them up along shore, so that they might reach the landing on the opposite side. In the mean time I had crossed over; and fearing the co-operation of the prisoners in case of an attack, I directed Lieut. Drew to move them to Hughes' house, 2 miles distant. We were
about getting over our last load of horses when we were most agreeably surprised by the appearance of a fleet of five gunboats. The *Lexington*, in advance, put out her guns, intending to shell us, but a cheer from this side and a white flag from the other checked her intention. Lieut. Fitch, flag-officer of the fleet, gave our tired men a capital dinner, which they much needed, having eaten nothing since noon of the day before.

Before the arrival of the boats, I had ordered the firing of the buildings that had been occupied by the enemy, as they were well filled up; with bunks, &c., and the hotel in which we found over 30 men contained a quantity of commissary stores, which I could not transport, so was compelled to destroy.

Our raid was entirely successful. The result was the capture of 8 commissioned officers and some 60 enlisted men, 40 splendid horses, some saddles, about 40 stand of arms, principally old shot-guns, many of which we threw in the river, some Sharps' and Smith's carbines (four of the latter), a few Enfield rifles, several old muskets, flint-locks, &c., and a few Colt's pistols (how many I cannot ascertain, as the property has not yet been collected from the men). I regret to say that many of the old guns were carried off by the officers and men of the gunboats during my absence, as their men were all allowed to come ashore.

Capt. Fitch offered to take the prisoner off our hands, and, upon consulting with Capt. Newell, who had been moved to Hughes', he decided it would be best to get rid of them, as several were unable to ride, and I could not mount them all. I fear that I have erred in this matter, but did it for the best. The horses are distributed among the companies, subject to the order of the colonel commanding.

Having had information that Wright's Island contained several horses belonging to the Confederates, I took a small party on the gunboat and searched the island. The horses had been removed several days before, but we found two boats, one of which we destroyed; the other was one of Francis' metallic life-boats, which I also turned over to Capt. Fitch. It was now dusk, so we crossed in our old boat, which we had towed up, entirely destroyed it, and marched on foot to Johnson's, to which place I had ordered the command.

Early on the 21st, I started for Lexington, through a drenching rain; reached there at 3 p.m., and reported to Maj. [Thomas] Saylor, whom I found in command.

I am thoroughly satisfied that there is no force anywhere in this vicinity, on this side of the Tennessee River. Van Dorn is at Columbia; parties of his cavalry are stationed at different points, close to the river, and it seems to be his intention to attempt to hold the river at these points.

I inclose a list of the prisoners and Capt. Fitch's receipt for 54; one of the slips containing their names was mislaid, which accounts for the difference between the list and receipt, and 4 were released on parole. I must apologize for the length of this report, but in justice to the men and officers, who all, without
exception, conducted themselves bravely on our rather dangerous expedition. I could not do less than tell the whole story.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. C. ADAMSON, Capt. Third Michigan Cavalry.

P. S. -Net result of expedition: Prisoners, 61; horses, 40; saddles, about 40; stand of arms, 40; flat-boats destroyed, 2; yawls destroyed, 2; skiffs destroyed, 2; life-boat found, 1; 4 barrels flour, 3 barrels salt, 10,000 ponds pork and bacon, a quantity of corn-meal, beans, &c., burned.

Col. Newsom and Lieut. [M. T.] Shelby were dangerously wounded and paroled.

I neglected to state that captain Newell went on the gunboat *Fairplay*, as, owing to the state of the roads and the lack of transportation, we could not [take] him to a suitable place.


Excerpt from the Detailed report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding operations in the Tennessee River from February 18 to 24, 1863.

... Just above Fort Henry we met a rise (in the water level of the river), which enabled the boats to go on up the river without hindrance. It was reported that the rebels had batteries at Clifton, but when we arrived there early in the forenoon of the 20th, I found the town in flames and out forces from *Lexington* in possession. They had managed to find a small flat somewhere during the previous day, and during the night Captain Newell managed to cross a squad of some 60 men unobserved by the enemy. Just before day the town was surrounded, and the guerillas completely surprised. Most of them were taken before they got out of bed. By request of Captain Adamson I lay by and assisted him back across the river. I also took his prisoners, numbering 54, on board the gunboats, as he had little means of getting them to Lexington. After getting on board the prisoners 40 of his men were taken on board the gunboats and landed on Eagle Nest Island, where it was reported the reeels had stores, but we did not find any...  


**Note 1:** *Dyer’s Battle Index for Tennessee* labels this as a skirmish.

Excerpt from the Summary report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding operations on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, from December 16, 1862 to March 17, 1863.

On the morning of the 20th reached Clifton, [Tenn.]; found our forces in possession and the town in flames. Assisted the land forces back to the west.
side of the river and took charge of their prisoners, as they had no means of disposing of them.


Excerpt from the Report of Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, regarding naval operations in the Ohio, Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, August 23, 1862-October 21, 1863

When we arrived at Clifton we found the town in flames and a squad of our cavalry under command of Captain Fred'k. C. Adamson in possession of the place, having crossed the river in a flat during the night, surrounded and captured a squad of 54 guerrillas, and set fire to the town.

December 27, 1863 - January 6, 1864 - Anecdotes of a Tennessee cavalryman's life

On the 27th day of December, 1863, the 2d, 3d, and 4th Tennessee [U. S.] Cavalry regiments moved out from Nashville under Col. D. M. Ray. They were afterwards joined by the 5th Kentucky cavalry and 72nd Illinois mounted infantry. Passing through Hillsboro on the 28th, and on the 29th arrived at Duck River and bivouacked opposite Columbia. This was a damp, drizzly day until the afternoon, while the weather was rather warm for the season. In the afternoon Hugh C. Jeffries of Company A, and I went out to the country to get something to eat. Finding some sweet potatoes we bought a bag a full and started back to camps. We had gone without overcoats or blankets, and with thin bloused on, being quite comfortable, so far as the temperature was concerned. On our way back to camps the weather turned suddenly very cold, so much so that when we got to our place, throwing the bag of potatoes down, it felt like a chunk of ice, frozen stiff as a badger. We were almost in the same condition. The change was so sudden and the cold so intense it seemed almost impossible to keep from freezing through the night. Fences, boards, indeed, everything that would burn and give heat were rapidly consumed by the boys shivering, hovered around them. New Year, 1864, was so sold there was no stirring except for fuel. On the 2nd of January, late in the afternoon, the Third was miles on the Mount Pleasant pike. The pikes were covered with a thick layer of ices, so that it was very dangerous for the first company in marching on them. The horses were falling and tumbling in front almost all the way. But the first company cut the surface of the ice until it was not quite so bad for the others. January 3rd, we moved about five miles and stopped again. The weather continued extremely cold. On the 4th passed through Henryville. This again seemed to be the coldest weather we had ever marched in. Night came on at last. But, oh! What an unwintering night it was. Almost stiff with cold, the country nearly barren, but little hope to eat and nothing to feed our horses upon. At length we came near an iron foundry. The country nearly bare of vegetation—not even a shrub to hitch the horses to. Men and horses seemed to be sunk in gloom until it became comparatively a noiseless march. Not a word was spoken—only the slow thudding of the horses' feet against the frozen ground could be heard. A halt was made, and every man stood still in his place. Everything was quiet as death, when A. M. Rule, of Company A, began singing in a clear, yet solemn voice, to the tune of Lilly Dale—

"Oh, soldier, poor soldier, hungry and cold,
Therefore I'll return to my home far away,
So farewell to the brake and the bold."

Never did a thing come more appropriately; never was it more telling. It seems as if I can almost hear it yet. At length we stopped for the night. After so long a time some corn was found for the horses, but iron pigs were the hitching posts. To sleep on the frozen ground would only thaw it into mud, so some time was spent hunting for boards to sleep on. We existed the night and resumed the
march next morning, passing through Waynesboro'. The weather continued to be cold.

On the 6th, we stopped at Savannah, on the Tennessee River. Alex. Kidd and the writer went out in search of food, but found none, save the house of a Federal soldier, whose family had barely enough to supply their wants, so as empty as ever we started for camps, but missing the road it was late when we got in, and so cold that the heat of a burning log heap could scarcely be felt for a long time.

On the 7th we crossed the river in the "Blue Bird," a little steamboat plying the river there. Here we took up the river, and on the 9th arrived at Corinth, Mississippi...
April 28, 1864 - Initiation of patrols from Decatur, Alabama, to Clifton, Tennessee

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, Huntsville, Ala., April 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. Q. GRESHAM, Cmndg. Forces:

GEN.: Disembark your command at Clifton, Tenn., and remain there, watching the operations of Forrest, and endeavor to counteract him should he attempt to cross the Tennessee River and interfere with our communications.

Brig. Gen. John D. Stevenson will remain in command of the forces at and in the vicinity of Decatur and along the line of the railroad north to Pulaski. Col.'s Rowett and Murphy will patrol the river around from Decatur via Florence to Clifton and below. You will endeavor to keep in communication with Gen. Stevenson, and advise him of everything important in relation to the movements of the enemy which may come to your knowledge.

As soon as you are relieved by another brigade you will push forward and join me via Pulaski and Huntsville. Bring along the cattle if any of them arrive at Huntsville before you leave.

Yours, respectfully,

JAS. B. MCPherson, Maj.-Gen.

July 25, 1864 - First sinking of the U. S. S. Undine\textsuperscript{Note 1} near Clifton


\textbf{Note 1:} The U. S. S. Undine was caught on a snag and sunk in the Tennessee River just off Clifton on July 25, 1864. By August 15, however, she was raised "and got afloat by the exertions of her officers under circumstances which reflect great credit on her commander." It would later be sunk by forces under the command of Nathan Bedford Forrest in what was perhaps one of his command's most stellar performances.
August 16, 1864 - Scout and skirmish near Clifton

"Defeat of Biffle near Clifton—Nine Guerillas Killed."

The Evening Times of yesterday, says: "From Colonel Murphy, who arrived yesterday from the North-western [Rail] Road, we learn that the notorious Colonel Biffle, who has been roving in the neighborhood of the railroad and Tennessee river for some time, was overtaken by a severe disaster on the 16th inst. On that day a scouting party of thirty of the garrison at the town of Clifton, started out to scout the adjacent country. Having advanced two or three miles from Clifton the scouting party fell in with Colonel Biffle at the head of eighty guerillas. The scouts, although outnumbered nearly three to one, attacked the Rebels fearlessly, and speedily put them to flight. The guerillas left nine privates dead on the field, one captain killed outright, another mortally wounded, and one man a prisoner. Our loss was two killed."

Nashville Dispatch, August 24, 1864.

Note 1: These events are not referenced in the OR, but are catalogued in Dyer's Battle Index for Tennessee, p. 873. According to Dyer there were skirmishes on the 15th and 16th involving the 10th Tennessee Cavalry and the 2nd Tennessee Mounted Infantry.