

LOT ABRAHAM BIOGRAPHY

Lot Abraham was born in Butler County, Ohio on April 18th, 1838. He was the third oldest of seven children born to John and Sarah Abraham. His family left Ohio in 1841. The family traveled by team and wagon from Ohio to Saint Louis, Missouri and then by boat up the Mississippi River to Burlington Iowa. John Abraham bought 400 acres of land from the Federal Government and settled his family in Henry County, Iowa. This newly purchased land was cleared and a log cabin was built from timber cut on the property. Tragedy struck the Abraham family when John Abraham died in February of 1843 leaving his widow, Sarah, to raise seven small children by herself in the wilderness. She was appointed Guardian over her seven children, but before taking over operation of the family farm, she was forced to sell at public auction all of her husband's personal property including the livestock. Reportedly, Sarah was allowed to bid and purchase any

item she wished to retain with the neighbors by mutual consent agreeing not to bid against her.

Sarah Abraham must have been a strong and resourceful woman. She managed to retain and operate her farm and raise her seven children.

Lot Abraham received an education in local schools. He grew up to be a devout Christian who strongly believed in the abolition of slavery. In 1860, he voted for Abraham Lincoln as President and remained a lifelong supporter of the Republican Party.

Lot Abraham was madly in love with Sarah Cornelia Alden. His deep attachment to her did not deter him from doing his patriotic duty. With the onset of the Civil War and with no prior military experience, Lot Abraham volunteered in September 1861 as a private in Company "D" of the 4th Iowa Cavalry. His unit was officially mustered into the United States Service on Monday morning, November 25th, 1861. At the mustering in, Abraham was promoted to First Sergeant. Other promotions quickly followed. He was promoted to Lieutenant on July 11, 1862, and then to Captain of his Company on January 23rd, 1863.

Throughout the War, Lot Abraham corresponded with Sarah Cornelia Alden. He addressed his letters to her as "Cornelia" or as "Neal" his pet name for her. He closed his correspondence to her by singing off as "Your friend and Lover" or as "Your Lover."

In late 1862 and 1863, Lot Abraham's unit was under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant in the siege of Vicksburg. During this campaign, Lot wrote to Neal in May of 1863: "We are under a roar of artillery, musketry, etc. that would alarm anyone not used to such sounds. ... I wrote you a few lines from Mississippi Bend the 3rd inst. Since that time we have been on the move. Marched around, crossed the river at Grand Gulf on the 8th. Took the advance of the army at Cayuga on the morning of the 11th and brought on the 1st fight (After Port Gibson) on the morning of the 12th. I was in the thickest and only got 2 men wounded, only 1 killed out of our Regiment. The infantry came up immediately and done most of the fighting. We had to find them and let others whip them. Had a glorious time of it. Victory had been on our side all the way. You will hear of it long before this reaches you. I had the pleasure of riding all through the City of Jackson. Went all through the State House. Visited all of the principal places and seen the City almost destroyed. There was hard fighting there, here, Saturday and Sunday. Many a brave lad laid down his life. Many suffered with hunger, thirst, etc. to say nothing of dust, heat, etc.. I felt hunger more than ever before, and we done well to what the infantry did. Was always out from the army and could get where the country afforded something."

Separation from and worry for Lot's safety was not easy for Neal. She wrote to Lot: "My eyes and heart have been aching for the last three hours with the weight of tears that must flow. In the same letter Neal further went on to acknowledge the correctness of Lot's decision to remain in the army, but also the difficultness of the decision for them both. "Yet dear Lot my very soul bows in reverence to that noble heroism that supports you in the path of duty, in spite of all temptation that would allow you to forsake it when it is such a common thing for those in your situation to think only of self and selfish ends. Judging your heart by my own, I realize the cost of your decision. Oh may the Good Father above give us both all the strength and courage we need so much."

Immediately after the fall of Vicksburg on July 4th, 1863, General Grant ordered General Sherman to pursue the Confederate Army under the command of general Joseph Johnston. Lot Abraham and the 4th Iowa Cavalry became part of Sherman's command.

The 4th Iowa served in the western theater of the War until January of 1865 when it was assigned to Wilson's Cavalry Corps. It was while part of Wilson's raid into Alabama and Georgia that Lot Abraham distinguished himself on the battlefield at Selma and Columbus.

At Selma, the First Battalion of the 4th Iowa Cavalry captured a 4 cannon battery and repulsed the enemy in an attempt to recapture them. Abraham's men pursued the retreating Confederates and captured many men and their equipment.

On April 16th, 1865, in the Battle of Girard and Columbus, Lot Abraham led Companies "A," "D," and "K" of the 4th Iowa Cavalry on a frontal assault of the Confederate trench line. Capturing the trenches, Abraham directed his men southward to the Confederate fort, which was located on what is now the present site of the Russell County Courthouse. Captain Abraham and his men captured this Confederate fort and its 10 cannons in hand- to- hand combat. For bravery in battle at Selma and Columbus, General Edmund Winslow recommended Abraham for promotion to Brevet Major.

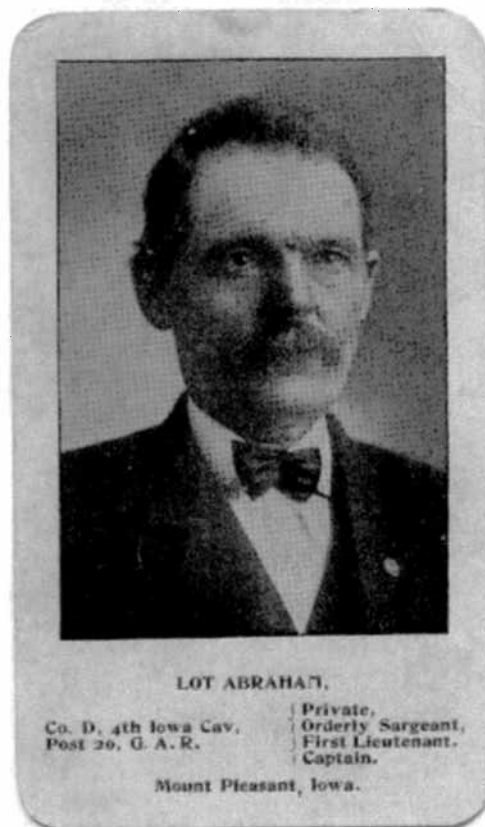
After the Battle of Girard and Columbus, the fighting in Georgia was essentially over. However, duties remained to be completed before the 4th Iowa men could return to their homes. Lot Abraham was assigned the responsibility of paroling Confederate soldiers, and also was responsible for assembling Confederate documents and shipping them to Washington D.C.. He was discharged from active duty in Atlanta, Georgia on August 8th, 1865.

Upon reaching home in Iowa, Lot Abraham wasted little time in resuming his relationship with Neal. They were married September 13th, 1865. Four children, 1 boy and 3 daughters were born of this union. Tragically, Sarah "Neal" Abraham was killed in a runaway carriage accident on August 5th, 1888.

Lot Abraham remarried October 22nd, 1891 to Mary E. Blacker of Butler County, Ohio. One son was born of this marriage.

Shortly after the Civil War ended, Lot Abraham became the owner of the family farm in Henry County, Iowa. He constructed a large home near the site where the family's log cabin once stood. Near the house, Abraham with his own hands built a chapel for the family devotions.

Lot Abraham's primary occupation was as a farmer. He raised crops and specialized in raising Hereford cattle. Abraham was also active in local politics and in the



Association of the Grand Army of the Republic.
He was an early supporter of prohibition and in 1882 was elected to the Iowa State Senate representing Henry and Washington Counties. Between June 11th, 1911 and June 1912, Lot Abraham served as Commander of the Iowa G.A.R. In 1912, he was an Iowa delegate to the Republican National Convention.

Lot Abraham traveled extensively overseas and is said to have visited every state in the United States. He died July 23rd, 1920 at the age of eighty-two and was buried in the family cemetery on his farm.

CAPT. LOT ABRAHAM FOR DEPARTMENT
COMANDER IOWA G. A. R.



If Henry county has a citizen distinctly representative of its soldier citizenship it is Capt. Lot Abraham of Center township. No gathering of old soldiers is complete unless the genial captain is one of the number with his tall, manly figure, his resolute face and his genial engaging manner.



LOT ABRAHAM HOMEPLACE

heat, etc.. I felt hunger more than ever before, and we done well to what the infantry did. Was always out from the army and could get where the country afforded something."

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Union Civil War Letter from Lt. Lot
Abraham, 4th Iowa Cav., Christmas Eve
(Dec. 24), 1862, Camp at Helena, Ark.
The 4th Iowa was a very important and
well documented regt., being the first
cavalry unit attached to Grant during
the Vicksburg Campaign. A very well
written letter on patriotic paper and
in excellent condition.

B-TOE

\$195.00

19th Jan, 6th
1863
Miss Allen,
Mt Pleasant
Iowa





Hail, Columbia! Happy Land!

Hail, Columbia! happy land! hail, ye heros of heaven-born band!
Who fought and bled in Freedom's cause;
Who fought and bled in Freedom's cause;
And when the storm of war was gone enjoyed the peace your valor won.
Let independence be our boast, ever mindful what it cost;
Ever grateful for the prize, let its altar reach the skies.

CHORUS

Firm united let us be, rallying round our liberty!
As a band of brothers joined, peace and safety we shall find.

Immortal patriots, rise once more; defend your rights, defend your shore
Let no rude foe, with impious hand,
Let no rude foe, with impious hand,
Invade the shrine where sacred lies, of toil and blood the well-earned prize
While offering peace sincere and just, in heaven we place a manly trust,
That truth and justice will prevail and every scheme of bondage fail.

Firm united let us be, &c.

Sound, sound the trump of fame! let WASHINGTON's great name
Ring through the world with loud applause,
Ring through the world with loud applause;
Let every clime to Freedom dear listen with a joyful ear;
With equal skill and god-like power be govern'd in the fearful hour
Of horrid war! or guided, with ease, the happier times of honest peace.

Firm united let us be, &c.

Behold the chief who now commands, again to serve his country, stand-
The rock on which the storm will beat,
The rock on which the storm will beat;
But, armed in virtue firm and true, his hopes are fix'd on heaven and ye
When hope was sinking in dismay, and glooms obscured Columbia's day
His steady mind, from changes free, resolved on death or liberty.

Firm united let us be, &c.

Ed. Camp near Helena, Ark.
Christmas Eve 1862

My Dear friend

Two years ago -
This Eve. I thought, talked and wondered
so much about the 1st year in future
that I can't help thinking of it to
night - that year is past and it seems
like the shortest one of my life by
far. Why that is I cannot tell. For
I certainly did not expect it to -
thought the 1st year would seem like a
whole lifetime (almost) but then I had
some little hope of war ending in
that year. Alas - that hope is gone -
with the year and left by little for the next
year or even for the year and 11 months
that he have to save Fort - Forts and
Maguard had it only 2 years 2 months there
but that is counting from date of
Orlistment and not so - They are not
with us to night - I would not wonder if

D OF U V SUPPER AT ABRAHAM HOME

1948

The Daughters of Union Veterans held a picnic supper at the country home of Frank Abraham Tuesday evening. Mrs. Lot Abraham and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Abraham provided an abundance of fried chicken for the delicious meal.

Incidentally, the birthdays of Frank Abraham and Fred Abraham, which occurred Tuesday, were also observed.

After the bountiful supper, the evening was pleasantly spent by singing Grand Army songs, with Margaret Abraham at the piano, and visiting.

Twenty-eight were in attendance at the party.

THE MEETING

ENTERTAIN FOR MRS. LOT ABRAHAM

1948

Mrs. Lot Abraham was honored by her nephew and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Abraham at their home Friday evening. This party was a most joyous affair as Mrs. Abraham was celebrating her 91st birthday. Pfc. Bill Wright, Mr. Abraham's grandson, was home on furlough.

Preceding the dinner, Mrs. Jess Payne presented Mrs. Abraham with a beautiful corsage.

Mrs. Abraham, the oldest member of the family, was escorted to the dining room by Johnny Abraham, the youngest member of the family.

A huge birthday cake with pink and white decorations formed the centerpiece of the long table set for the sixteen guests. Tall white tapers with festive napkins completed the pink and white color scheme decorations.

Those present were: Mrs. John Abraham, Mrs. Howard Abraham and son Johnny, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wright and son Pfc. Bill, Miss Gladys Campbell, Mrs. George Wright and daughter, Lydia, the honored guest, Mrs. Lot Abraham, and host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Abraham.

CAPT. LOT ABRAHAM DIED LAST NIGHT

Civil War Veteran and Prominent Henry County Citizen.

(Special to The Hawk-Eye.)

Mt. Pleasant, Ia., July 23.—Capt. Lot Abraham died at his home here at 9 o'clock tonight of congestion of the lungs, aged eighty-two years. He had been ill for several weeks and on account of his advanced age death was not unexpected. Probably no citizen of Henry county was more highly respected or had so many friends as Captain Abraham. He was an honored veteran of the Civil war and a recognized leader in republican circles. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, April 18, 1838, the son of John and Sarah Abraham. When three years of age he was brought to Center township, Henry county, by his parents, where his father purchased the farm on which Captain Abraham lived the rest of his life.

Civil War Record.

Thru broad reading, general observation and experience, Captain Abraham obtained a good education. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted as a private in Company D, Fourth Iowa cavalry. Within six months he was promoted to first lieutenant and at the end of the year was made captain. He went thru Missouri and Arkansas with Curtis, was at the siege of Vicksburg and was with Sherman on the Meridian expedition in 1864. He was attached to Wilson's cavalry corps and was in the Georgia campaign. For gallantry at Columbus, Georgia, April 15, 1865, and at Selma, Alabama, April 2, 1865, he was recommended for brevet major. He was discharged at Atlanta, August 8, 1865.

After the war Captain Abraham returned to his Iowa home and began independent farming. He was a prominent stock raiser, making a specialty of Herefords.

In Iowa Senate.

He was elected state senator on the republican ticket, serving from 1882 until 1884. He was an ardent advocate of prohibition. Captain Abraham served as commander of his G. A. R. post and was always an active worker in behalf of the old soldiers.

Captain Abraham's first wife was Miss Sarah C. Alden, whom he married in 1865. She was killed in a runaway accident in 1888, leaving three daughters: Mrs. William H. Waugh of Galveston, Texas; Mrs. George Wright of Jackson township; Mrs. Morton Bourne of Long Beach, Calif., and one son, John G. Abraham of Jackson township. His second wife, who survives him, was Mrs. Mary E. Blacker of Butler county, Ohio. They had one son, Frank P. Abraham.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon from the family home at 3 o'clock. Interment will be in the family cemetery on Captain Abraham's farm.

FREE PRESS, MT.

Local Group Calls Civil War



Guests at the dinner given by the daughters of Union Veterans at the home of Mrs. Nora Bishop on Grand Army day included eleven widows of Civil war veterans, one wife of a veteran, one veteran of the war, all shown above. Combined ages of the group total over 1,000 years. The day was also in observance of the anniversary of the battle of Shiloh and exceptionally interesting was Mr. J. W. Smith's description of personal experiences in that battle.

Those in the picture: back row Mrs. Nannie McCormick, Mrs. Martha Joy, Mrs. Emma Kapferer, Mrs. E. Felton, Mrs. Lot Abraham, Mrs. E. N. Kitchen, Mrs. Mollie Schreiner, Mrs. Anna Shumaker.

Front row: Mrs. Emma Schreiner, Mrs. Lydia Barton, Mrs. Rose Watters, J. W. Smith and Mrs. W. J. Hamilton.

A farm sale occurred in Center township, Henry County, Ia., last Tuesday on the Frank Abraham place that was of most unusual interest. Only one other sale had previously been held on the Abraham farm and that was back in March 22, 1843—111 years ago.

This farm has been in the family since its purchase from the United States government by Mr. Abraham's grandfather, John Abraham, in 1841. He came with his family by team and wagon from Butler County, Ohio, to St. Louis, Mo., and took the boat up the Mississippi to Burlington.

In February 1843, John Abraham died leaving the widow, Sarah Abraham with seven small children. It was necessary for her to be appointed guardian of the children and as such an appraisal board was appointed by the court, listing all the personal property, livestock, and such.

She was ordered to hold a public sale and her grandson, Frank Abraham, still has the original sale bill recorded May 19, 1843 by E. Killpatrick, Judge of Probate. Robert Cook was clerk of court and his signature verifies the items, the purchasers, and prices received in the original sale.

Imagine buying a cow and calf for eleven dollars as one Horace Davis did. M. Cook bought a bay horse for \$56.50. A rifle gun was sold to L. P. Farris for \$4.00; a plough to B. Hennis for \$8.56; one lot hogs to Jops Parrish for \$7.87; 25 bushels of corn at 21c a bushel to Kevin Maulding for \$5.25; one lot sheep Sarah Abraham, \$4.00; three beds and bedding to Sarah Abraham for \$15.00; one clock, Sarah Abraham \$5.00; one spade, 40c. M. Tucker who also purchased one lot tobacco for \$1.00; one heifer, John Champlin \$6.00.

According to Mr. Frank Abraham, such items as wagons, harness and items pertaining to horses sold for a higher price at the sale in 1843 than they did one hundred and eleven years later. A wagon was sold to Thomas Bop in 1843 for \$50.37, and two halters to S. Williford for \$1.76.

The widow was allowed to bid on any article she chose to retain. The neighbors by mutual consent did not bid against her. Her name incidentally occurs on the sale bill as the purchaser of several items.

Since 1841, the farm has remained constantly in the Abraham family, the ownership passing to Capt. Lot Abraham from the widow and heirs at the conclusion of the Civil War. Capt. Abraham had served for four years with Company D, 4th Iowa Cavalry organized and trained in Mt. Pleasant.

After Capt. Abraham's death in 1920, the ownership changed to Frank Abraham who has held ownership since that time. Recently Mr. and Mrs. Abraham leased the large farm to James

will be in charge of the program.

FAMILY GATHERING AT FRANK ABRAHAM HOME

A happy family gathering was held at the Frank Abraham home on Monday evening when Mrs. Fred Abraham and Mrs. Frank Abraham entertained in honor of Miss Lydia Wright and Howard Abraham, recently discharged veterans, who are visiting their parents here.

Relatives present were Mr. and Mrs. George Wright and daughter, Lydia, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wright, Mrs. John Abraham, Mrs. Lot Abraham, Miss Gladys Campbell, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Abraham.

EAST SIDE MOTHERS CLUB MEETS

East Side Mothers' Club met at

the Japanese thing to

The good idea Barden—car there

TWO DOGS FROM H

The dogs that in good about a year rat terrier.

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Club met at

The

Another Life Story In Series

The following is another interesting life story in the group being compiled by D. A. R. members:

Two years after coming to Iowa, John Abraham died, leaving the widow and seven small children alone in the cabin in the woods. There probably was never a more thrilling story of pioneer life than that of the way in which this widow kept this family together, and while there were times when the menu got down to nothing but parched corn, she succeeded in raising them and furnishing the world with seven good citizens. Of these Lot was the third. While he was known as an educated man, he learned to read and write in the primitive school of the day, most of his education came from the hard knocks of life.

Lot Abraham was born in Butler county, Ohio, April 18, 1838, and when three years old he came to Iowa with his parents, John and Sarah Abraham, and settled on a farm adjacent to Mt. Pleasant, where he lived and where he died.

He was an apt student of history, and by broad reading, general observation, experience and extensive travel obtained a good education. He knew his own country well, and was familiar with the large cities of the Union, and visited practically every state. His travels extended through Canada, Britain, the continent, and the Holy land.

He was a farmer by occupation and followed this to the end. He was a prominent stock raiser, making a specialty of Herefords. He was active in public affairs, and served a term as senator in the general assembly of Iowa, and held many responsible places of private trust in his home county. He was formerly a democrat but voted for Abraham Lincoln, and at the close of the Civil war he allied himself with the Republican party and was a recognized leader in Republican circles. He was a long time member of the Christian church, and lived a genuine Christian life.

His Civil War record in the office of Adjutant General of Iowa shows that he was with Curtis in Missouri and Arkansas, with Grant at the siege of Vicksburg, and with Sherman on the Meridian expedition in 1864. He was attached to Wilson's cavalry corps and was in the Georgia campaign. His military career would make a chapter in itself.

Lot Abraham was married September 13, 1865, to Miss Sarah C. Alden.

who was killed in a runaway accident in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Aug. 5, 1888. Four children survive her decease: John Abraham and Mary Abraham Wright of Henry county, Iowa; Sarah Abraham Waugh, of Galveston, Texas, and Kate Abraham Bourne of Long Beach, California. He was married the second time Oct. 22, 1891, to Mrs. Mary E. Blacker, of Butler county, Ohio. One son, Frank P. Abraham, was born to this union and lives on the home farm at Mt. Pleasant, Ia. It was here, Lt Abraham passed away July 23, 1920.

He was always an active worker in behalf of the old soldiers. He loved his comrades and early allied himself with the Grand Army of the Republic, and served as Department Commander of Iowa in 1911 and contributed liberally of his time and means for the cause.

The silent record of the military service of Comrade Abraham and his conscientious fidelity to duty toward his family, neighbors, friends, comrades and country, commends him to all without other comment. He loved an outdoor occupation and was happy and contented in his farm life, ever affirming that the dignity of labor was not what you do, but how you do it.

He had the cardinal virtues of justice, prudence, temperance and fortitude, together with the fundamental virtues of benevolence, and he gave and

CAPT. ABRAHAM DEAD

ANOTHER VETERAN OF THE CIVIL WAR PASSES AWAY

Death, Friday Evening, Takes Away
One of Henry Counties Most In-
teresting Characters.
Funeral Sunday.

Capt. Lot Abraham, one of the few remaining veterans of the civil war, passed away last evening about nine o'clock at his country home south of Mt. Pleasant. For several years his health had been failing and for the last few weeks it was known that he could not live much longer.

The old veteran was eighty-two years old and one of the most interesting characters that Henry County has produced. As a farmer, in politics in war, in peace, in travel and in the better things of life the Captain was prominent. As a farmer his rich and beautiful domain in South Center speaks for itself; his war record is illustrious, his career in Iowa politics distinguished, his activities in the affairs of the community and in grand army circles effective. As a traveler he has visited many strange countries and he knew his own great country like an open book. He was a scholar and a Christian gentleman.

While not a native of Iowa the Captain has lived here practically all of his life. He was born in Butler Co., Ohio, April 18, 1838, but when three years of age he came to Iowa with his parents, John and Sarah Abraham who purchased four hundred acres of land in Center township, the old home stead where the Captain lived and where he died. The Captain got his education in the country schools and grew up to young manhood in the same community where he lived so long and usefully.



CAPT. LOT ABRAHAM.

When the civil war broke out Capt. Abraham was one of that great band of men who made the Liberty community famous for its genuine patriotism and in September of 1861 he enlisted in Co. D, 4th Iowa Cavalry and went into camp at Camp Harlan on the Swan farm west of town now owned by Senator Seeley. Capt. Abraham remained in the service until mustered out August 8th, 1865 and had been promoted until he reached the grade of brevet major. Capt. Abraham's military career would make a chapter in itself.

Returning home he resumed his agricultural pursuits and September 13th, 1865 was married to Miss Sarah C. Alden. They lived happily together until she was killed in a runaway accident in Mt. Pleasant August 5, 1888. Four children were born to them: John Abraham of this county, Sarah Abraham Waugh of Galveston, Texas, Mary Abraham Wright of this county and Kate Abraham Bourne of Long Beach, Cal.

Oct. 22, 1891, Capt. Abraham was married the second time, his bride being, Mrs. Mary E. Blacker of Butler Co, Ohio. One son was born to this union. Frank P., who is at home.

Until just prior to the civil war Capt. Abraham was a democrat, but with the country menaced, he voted for Abraham Lincoln and has been steadfast for republican principles ever since. For many years he was a power in politics being influential in county, district and state circles. He served a term in the assembly as senator from the 20th district (Henry-Washington). In grand army circles he was likewise prominent, being for a term state commander of the Iowa Grand Army.

Possessing means to gratify his desire to know the world, Capt. Abraham spent much time and money in books and travel. He was familiar with practically every large city of the Union, has been in every state and all through Canada. He visited England, the continent, Egypt and the Holy Land. For many years he attended the state and national encampments of the G. A. R. and was perhaps personally known in a real personal way more than any other member of the Grand Army.

Capt. Abraham was a member for many years of the Christian church and lived a genuine Christian life.

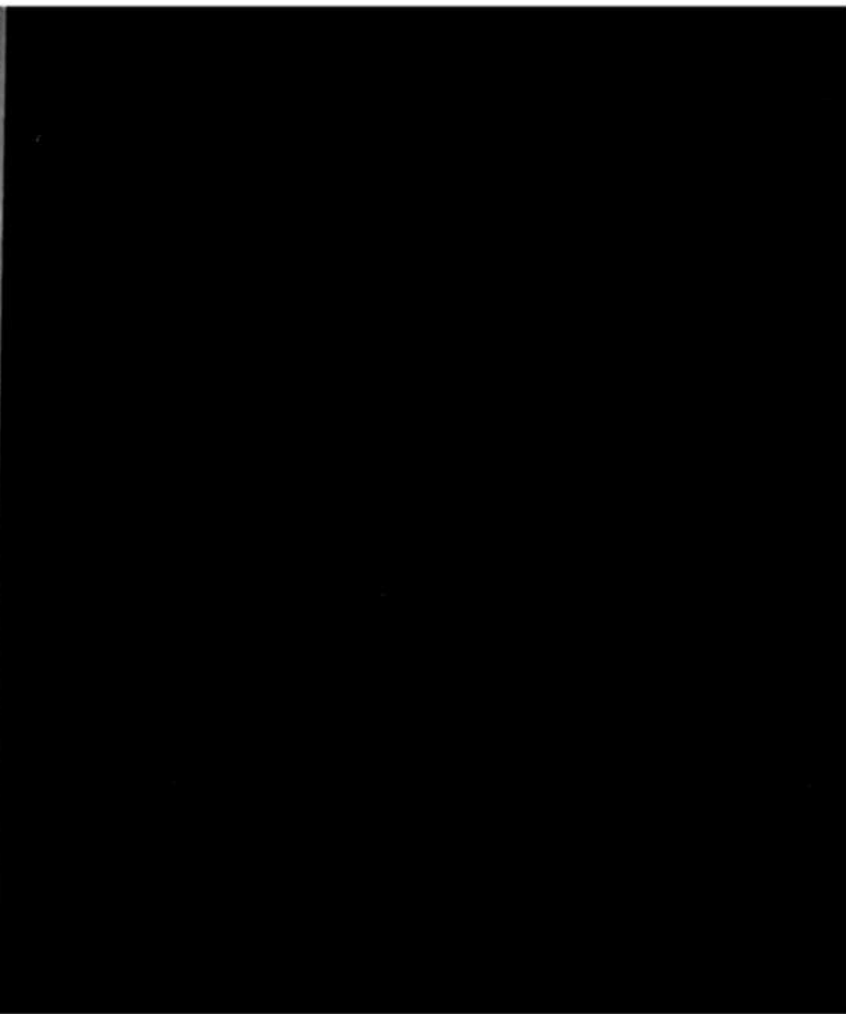
The funeral of the Captain will be held at his home in South Center tomorrow, Sunday, afternoon at three o'clock and the interment will be in





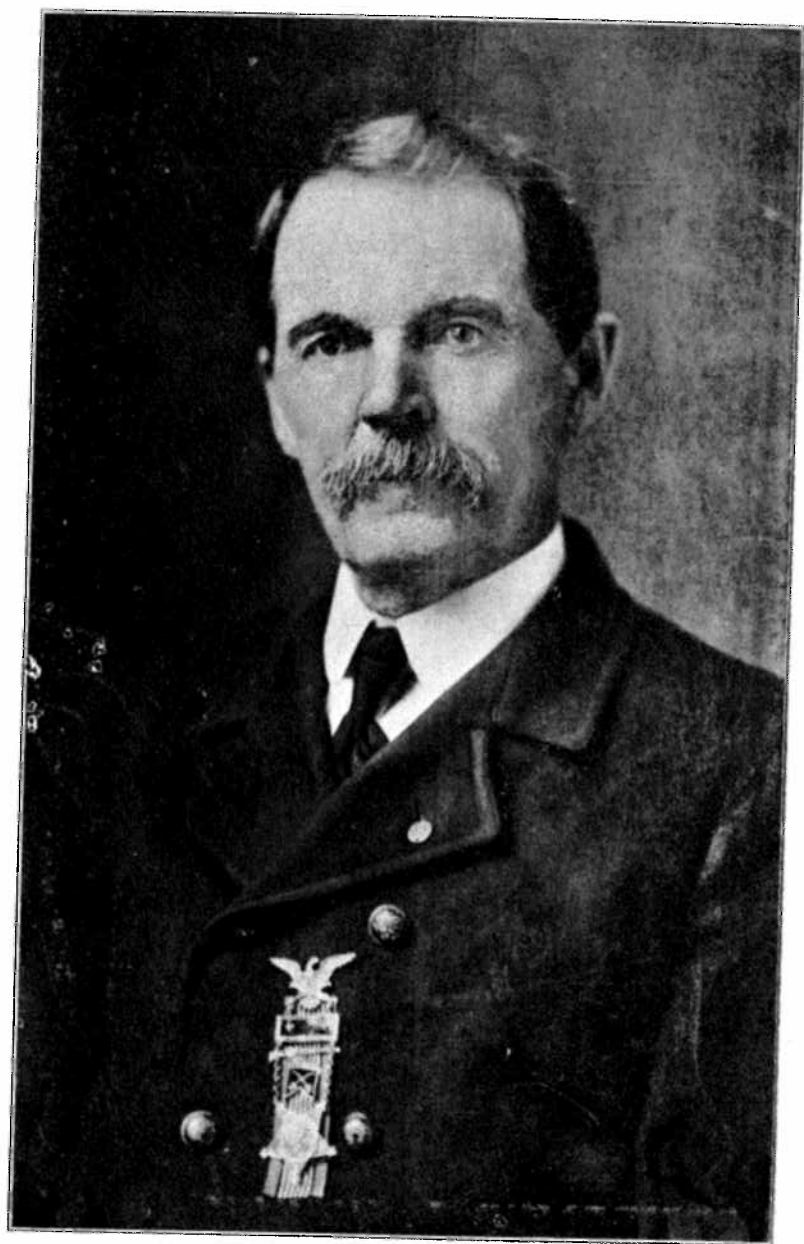
An open gate a friendly thing
It says "Come in and rest
We'll welcome you with open arms
And give you of our best"
So here we send our friendly gate
It's open just for you
And from the house to up the lane
Come Christmas greetings true.

The Abrahams





EDUCATION



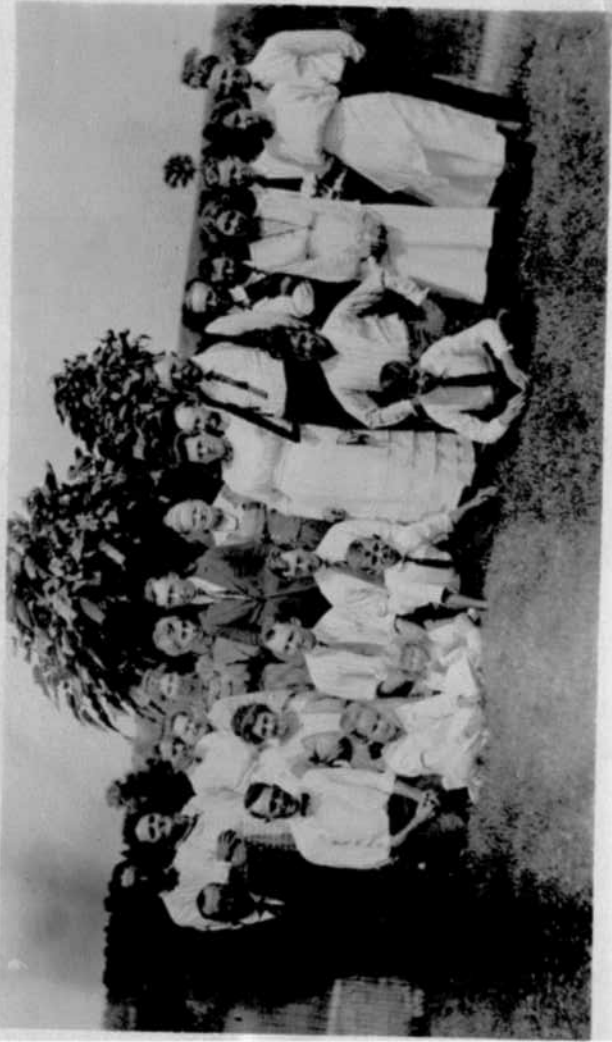
Capt. Let Abraham

C. D. - 4th Iowa Cav.

State Commander S. A. R.
1912











men lined up to board trucks
for Priv. Background Officers
Club Camp Storeman.



A decorative border is embossed on the cover, featuring symmetrical, flowing lines that form a frame around the central text. The lines are intricate, with loops and curves that give it a classic, ornate appearance.

CLASS OF

1910

The papers of Lot Abraham were donated
to the University of Iowa Libraries
by his son Frank P. Abraham in 1966

MS C 73

MANUSCRIPT REGISTER

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SURRENDER OF THE ORPHAN BRIGADE "THE BIRDS"
BY OF OUR LIVES BY GEORGE WOLDEN

Ky Mounted Ophan Brigade - ordered
to move back to Washington, Georgia
to surrender their arms and to parole

by Gen. James Wilson's Federal forces.
Arriving in Washington on May 6, 1865
the Orphans were met by Capt. Lot Abraham

of the 4th Iowa Cav. Capt. Abraham was
an ideal parole officer, since he sympathized

with the plight of his former foes, and did
everything he could to ease their conditions

He allowed each man to keep his horse
or mule, and every 7th man to keep his

musket.

Buffen Co.
in Ohio 18, 1843
April 1858

Lat Abraham was born the 3rd oldest of seven children born to John and Sarah Abraham. At age 3, Abraham's family left Ohio for IOWA. The family traveled by team and wagon from Ohio to Saint Louis, Missouri and then ^{by boat} went up the Mississippi River by boat to Burlington IOWA. John Abraham bought 400 acres of land from the Federal Government and settled his family in Henry County, Iowa. A log home was built from timber cut on the Abraham property. John Abraham died in February of 1843 leaving his widow, Sarah, to raise 7 small children in the wilderness. Sarah was appointed Guardian and ~~her~~ Lat Abraham and his 6 brother and sisters. Sarah Abraham was forced to sell at public auction all of her husband's personal property and two stock. Reportedly, Sarah was allowed to bid on and purchase any item she wished to retain with the neighbors by mutual consent agreeing not to bid against her.

Sarah was of hardy pioneer stock. She managed to maintain and operate her farm and raise her 7 children.

Lt Abraham received an education in local schools. He grew up to be a ~~religious~~ devout Christian who believed in the abolition of slavery. In 1860, he voted for Abraham Lincoln as President and remained a life long ~~member~~ ^{supporter} of the Republic Party.

With the onset of the Civil War, Abraham volunteered ^{in Sept 1861} as a Private in Company D. of the 4th Iowa Cavalry. His unit was officially mustered into the United States Service on Monday ^{the} morning, November 25, 1861. ~~Within six~~ months he was promoted to Orderly Sergeant and ~~'within a year'~~ First Lieutenant. ~~Within the first year of military service~~ he was promoted to Captain of his company.

Lt Abraham was madly in love with Sarah Cecilia Alden. His deep

JAN 23, 1863

↓ with no prior military service

making in he was promoted to 1st Sgt.

promoted to 1st Lt

1862 and to Capt

attachment to her did not deter him from
volunteering and doing his patriotic duty
for his country.

~~While serving~~

throughout the war, Abraham
corresponded with Sarah Cornelia Alden.
He addressed his letters to her as
Cornelia or as "Neal." The letters
were signed by him as "your friend and
lover" or as "your lover."

W 1863, Lt Abraham's unit was under Grant's
command during the siege of Vicksburg.
He wrote to Neal in May of 1863:

"We are under a roar of artillery, musketry, etc.
that would alarm anyone not used to
such sounds." He went on to add:

I wrote you a few lines from Mississippi
Bend the 3rd Instant. Since that time
we have been on the move. Marched
around, crossed the river at Grand Gulf
on the 8th took the advance of the
army at Cayuga on the morning of the 11th
and fought on the 15th (after Port
Gibson) on the morning of the 12th. I
was in the thickest and only got 2 men
wounded, only 1 killed out of our Regiment

The infantry came up immediately and done the most of the fighting: We had to find them and then let others whip them. Had a glorious time of it. Victory has been on our side all the way. You will hear of it long before this reaches you. I had the pleasure of riding all through the City of Jackson. Went all through the State House, visited all the principal places and seen the city almost destroyed. There was hard fighting there but the hardest was yet on our route from there, here, Saturday and Sunday. Many a brave laid laid down his life, Many suffered with hunger, thirst, etc.. I ~~felt hunger more than ever before, and we done well to~~

to say nothing of dust, heat, etc. I felt hunger more than ever before, and we done well to what the infantry did. Was always out from the army and could get where the country afforded something.

Separation from our Worry for Sat was not easy for Neal.

She wrote to Lot! "My Dear friend:
"My eyes and heart have been Aching for the last three hours with the

and his men captured this Confederate fort
and its 10 cannons in hand to hand combat.
For his bravery in battle at Selma and
Columbus, his Commanders recommended his
for promotion to Brevet Major -

After the Battle of Grand and Columbus,
the fighting in Georgia was essentially over -
Duties remained to be completed before the
4th Iowa could return to their homes.

1st Abraham was assigned the responsibility
of paroling Confederate soldiers and also
was responsible for assembling Confederate
documents and shipping them to Washington -
He was discharged from active duty
in Atlanta, Georgia on Aug 18, 1865.

Upon reaching home in Iowa,
1st Abraham wasted little time in
resuming his relationship with Neal.
They were married Sept 13, 1865. Four
children ^{1 boy and 3 daughters} were born of this union.
Tragically, Sarah "Neal" Abraham
was killed in a runaway carriage
accident on Aug 5, 1888.

1st Abraham remarried Oct 22, 1891
to Mary E. Blacker of Butler Co, Ohio.
One son was born of this marriage.

Shortly after the Civil War ended, Lot Abraham became the owner of the family farm in Henry County, Iowa. He built his home near the site where the family's log cabin once stood. ~~After~~ Near the house, Abraham with his own hands built a chapel for the family devotions.

Lot Abraham's primary occupation was as a farmer. He raised crops and specialized in raising Hereford cattle. Abraham was ^{also} active in local politics and in the Association of the Grand Army of the Republic. He ^{was an early supporter of} was elected ^{in 1887} to the Iowa State Senate representing Henry and Washington Counties. ^{from} ~~He and~~ ^{from June 11, 1911} ~~and~~ ^{June 1912} he served as Commander of the Iowa G.A.R. In 1912 he was an Iowa Delegate to the Republican National Convention. After the Civil War, Lot Abraham traveled extensively overseas and is said to have visited every state in the United States. He died at the age of eighty-two and was buried in the family cemetery on his farm.

weight of tears that must not flow." She further went on to acknowledge the correctness of his decision to remain in the army, but also the difficulties of the decision for them both.

"Yet dear hat my very soul bows in reverence to that noble decision that supports you in the path of duty, in spite of all temptation that would allow you to forsake it when it is such a common thing for those in your situation to think only of self and selfish ends. Judging your heart by my own, I realize the cost of your decision. Oh may the Good Father above give us both all the strength and courage we need so much."

~~After the Vicksburg campaign, Lt Abraham was the 14th Iowa Cavalry was attached~~

Immediately after the fall of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863 Gen Ulysses Grant ordered General Sherman to pursue the ~~Army~~ Confederate Army in eastern Mississippi under the command of General Joseph Johnston. Lt Abraham

General Winslow
Lieut of Co

and Winslow
wrote of Capt Col Abner.
"Capt Abner has
great courage"

low
Capt Col Shahr.
"Capt Abraham has frequently displayed
great courage, handled his company in a
very gallant manner

1 Sherman's command: The 4th Iowa

served in the western theater of the war until
January of 1865 when it was assigned to
Wilson's Cavalry Corps. It was while
part of Wilson's Raid into Alabama and
Georgia that Gen. Sherman established
distinguished himself on the battlefield
at Selma and at Columbus.

~~At Selma, The First Battalion of
the Fourth Iowa led by Captain Atkinson
pursued Confederate forces fleeing Selma -
many men were captured as well as
two cannons, with their caissons.~~

At Columbus. Lot Abraham led
companies A, D, and K of the 4th Iowa
Cavalry in a frontal assault on the
Confederate forces, positioned in the main
breach line near which connected
the South.

A' Hacking the main line of the
Confederate defenses, the ~~Lebanon~~ Abraham
forces captured the trenches and followed
them to the Confederate fort which was
located on what is now the current site
of the Russell County Courthouse. Gen. Abraham

Lot Abraham

Country home South of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

82 yrs old. at death

Born in Butler Co, Ohio, April 1838

At age 3 moved with his parents,
John & Sarah Abraham - to Iowa
400 acres of land - in Center township.

educated in country schools.

in the Liberty community.

Enlisted Co D - 4th Iowa Cav.
Sept - 1861.

Went into camp at Camp Harla.

Mustered out Aug 8 / 65

reached grade of brevet major at end

1912 Republican National Convention
Lat Abraham delegate from Iowa 1st Dist.

IOWA Commence GAR. IOWA
June 1911 to June 1912

The Angles of the woodwork had been
stuffed with cotton saturated with
turpentine -

ppr 498 - story of a Calvary Regiment.

buried on his farm -
Funeral on Sunday afternoon at his home
in South Conit

July 23 - Capt Ab. died at his home.
at 9.00 pm

Promoted to 1st LT - ^{within} 6 mos of ent-stmt

Went thru w/ Mo & Ark w Cart. 3
At Scape of Vicksburg -
with Shuman on Mandan expedition.
Attached to W. L. S. 's Corp.

For gallantry at Selma April 2, 1865
 " " " " Col's Co April 16, 1865
 promoted to Brevet Major

Retired from & James.
Raised Hereford cattle.

State Senator 1882-1884
an advocate of prohibition.

Abraham Farm purchased in 1841 by
Jesse Abraham from Fed Gov't.

Came with his family by team & wagon from
Butler County, Ohio to St Louis Mo.
and took the boat up the Mississippi to
Burlington

Feb 1843 Jesse Abraham died.
left widow Sarah w/ 7 small children.

She was appointed guardian over the 7 children.
ordered to hold a public sale.
Sale held May 19, 1843

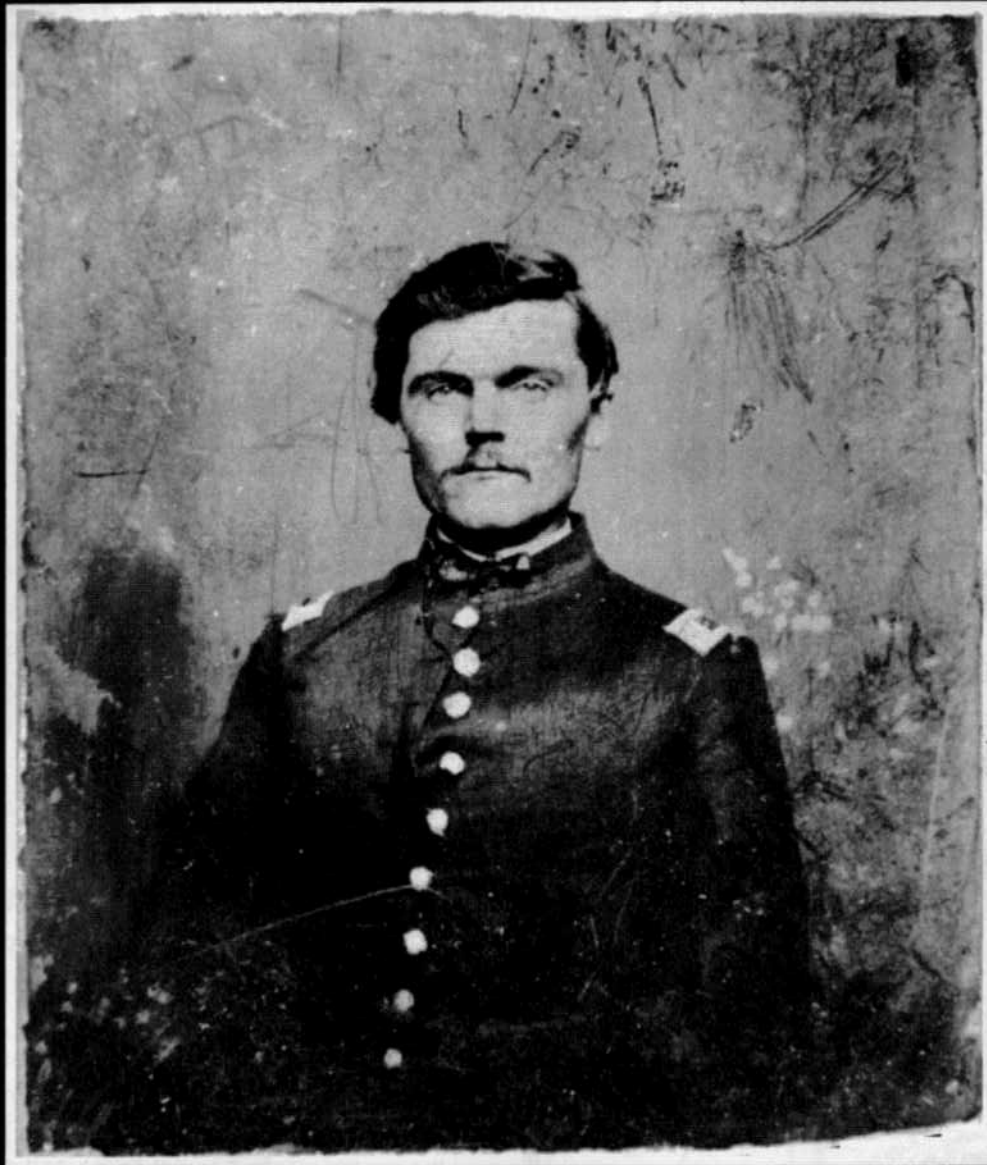
Reportedly, the widow was allowed
to bid on any assets she chose to
retain. The neighbors by mutual
consent did not bid against her.

lost Abraham 3rd oldest child

IOWA Committed 1911

Important Militaria,
Firearms & Native American

Saturday, August 22, 1998 10:00AM



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PAGE 51 – COLUMBUS, SUNDAY APRIL 16, 1865

Enjoyed rest last night after 30 miles ride partly through rain and camping after night _____ our big _____ of rails _____ supper then good rest on the soft ground with plenty good hot coffee and an early start this morning. We feel like going through anywhere. Passed through Crawford about 10:00 a.m. without stopping. The jail was burning and a lady had been released. Said she had been in that old cage 2 years for loving the union and assisting some union folks. Said she would leave them now. After passing them, we found the country rough and thinly settled and our steady march kept bringing us nearer we know not what.

McCook left our road going in direction of West Point the 2nd Brigade in advance and very little fighting. Our regiment right in front and in center of our Brigade. We could only guess and imagine what was to come. Citizens and Negroes began to say that the Rebs would fight us on this side of the river too which surprises me at best as we have seen no plot or make of the plan.

PAGE 52 – I had no idea of fighting the Rebs while strung out as we must be after such marching. The day was a hot one and the column moved on in more than usual silence until the booming cannon broke the stillness with all the enlivening spirit echoing far over the hills startening any trooper in his saddle and driving away the _____ of thought, but we have 4 miles to ride yet. And on we go. No change of gait, unless tis the horse stepping more lively at the sound of well known music. How sudden the change in my own mind. We'll fight now sure. Can see it in everything plain. The artillery keeps up its roar and we arrive on the field overlooking the city. The River – ah – the Rebs burn bridge but the other stands. Behold the forts and well filled ditches, waving banners and the many wide-mouthed cannon. Our boys fall back out of their range. The 2nd Brigade is fast forming line on fort in front and just out of the Rebel range. We ride up steadily and mass. Prepare to fight on foot, which takes but little time. Hundred rounds to the man.

Page 53 – Alls ready, but we delay. Why is it ? Uneasiness begins to work on me, but soon we see the Generals leading the head of the column. 1st Brigade only by counter-march. Rebel position looks too strong in front. We wind along over the hills. No roads, but we must go as still as possible and keep on the opposite side of the hill well hid from the Rebel view and there seems to be no hurry. It takes a circuit of several miles to reach the vicinity of the upper extremity of Rebel works. We halt – dismount, and many go to sleep, which I could do very easy but prevent it by walking about and watching for items. Tis evident we wait for night. It approached. We mount and the column moves on winding about mong hills and woods. Silently. Tis dark. We halt in column remaining mounted. Wait and wait. An orderly rides along about any minute with some kind of

before the plundering had fairly begun in the City, but I soon _____ and had only 2 companies with me. "A" and "C" The others had been lost in the confusion and winding through the City. I put "A" in camp and "C" on picket and then took a small party and went away out on the main road patrolling but find they have fled far out of reach. Got some prisoners and horses. Come back and then had a big supper prepared for us at a fine house. Plenty of eggs for Easter, but was not too late to eat them on Easter. The night being spent.

PAGE 58 – Monday April 17, 1865.

I took a nap on the ground and without any blankets. Awoke cold and chilly at daylight. Waited on a neighbor with Lieut. Dillon for breakfast. Had 3 or 4 polite invitations too. Went into the City. Tis all quiet. Troops coming in all day. The citizens and Negroes make a break on all the valuables and plundering rages. We get all the store – rebel supplies – we want for any use and plenty of rebel clothing. I find Company "B" guarding 707 Rebels. Turn them over _____ Capt. Hooper with us. Go with him to a friends for dinner. Enjoy myself fine. The big fires commence after dinner and the deafening roar of bombs, bursting magazines and powder works exploding crashing and roaring of such tremendous fires makes a day of this long to be remembered.

PAGE 59 – Tuesday April 18th, 1865. Again tis my birthday and the brightest one of 5 - decidedly.

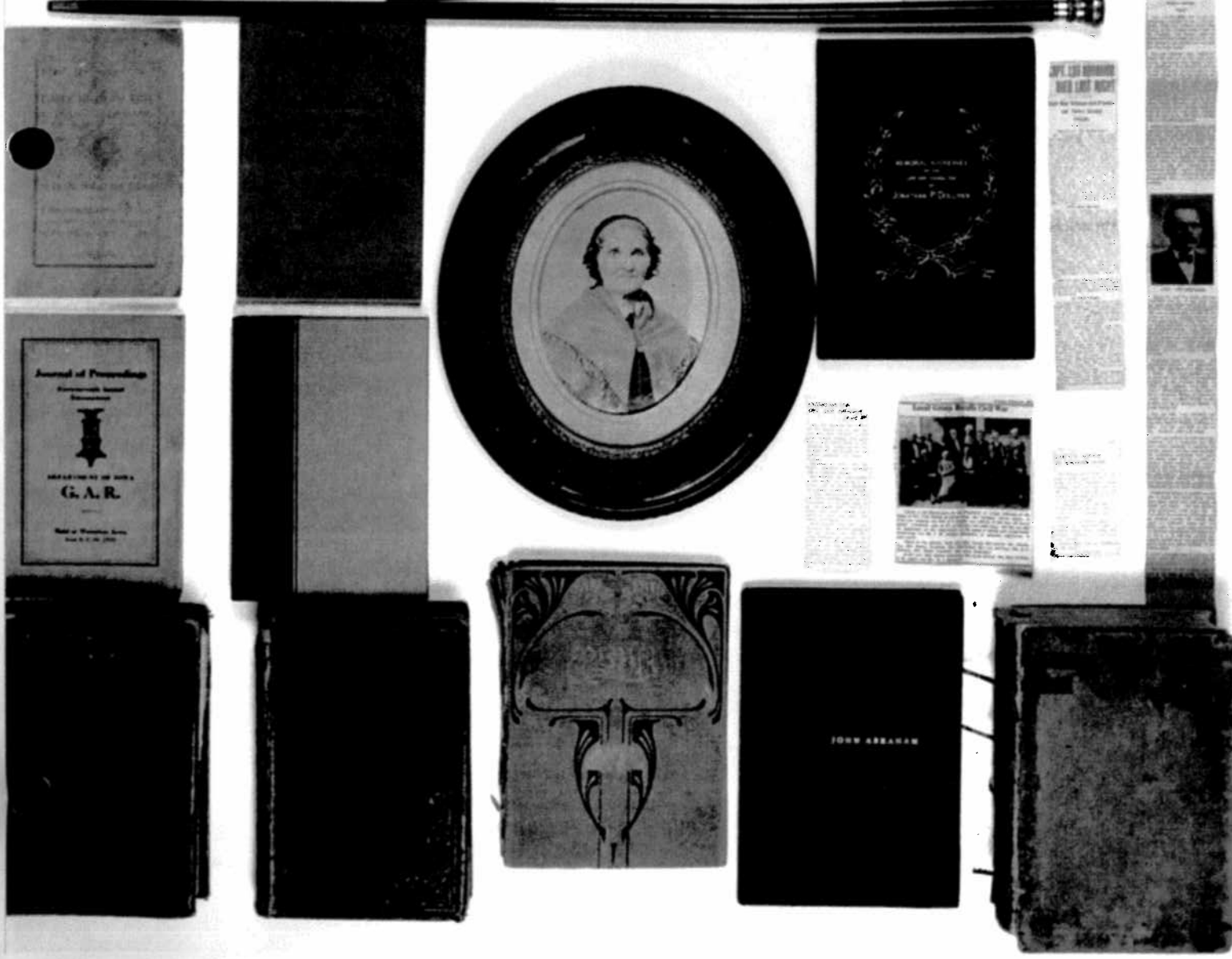
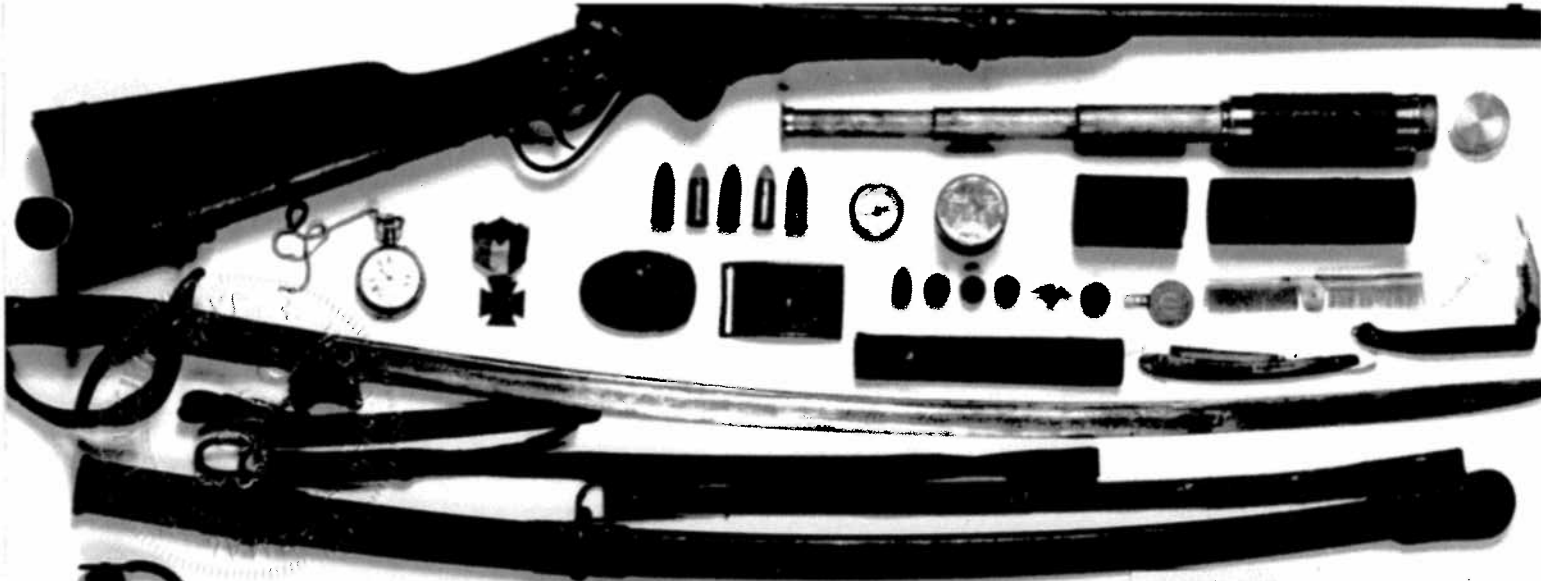
instructions. – Keep quiet. Whenever the buglers have been scattered purposely – sound the alarm. We must yell.

PAGE 54 – But the first thing to break the stillness is a deafening volley of musketry and so very close that the flash lights up the woods all around us. It's a _____ and the bullets rattle all through the woods. But after time enough to draw one long breath, bugles open and then the yell. Tis wild – shows the Rebs where every Yankee is and then artillery opens on us and just to the place. The shot and shell come screaming through the tree tops. All shows like that much fire in the darkness. It looks wild and scary while we stand still. The 3rd are down and fighting. The whole thing looks like a fire at times. We move forward 50 yards or more. Get orders to dismount. 6 Companies, which takes my Bat. of course and I hurry without changing from column of 4 in the road. Oh what a place. I move on to where the Generals are. 2nd Bat. follows one. We wait for Col. Peters. Where is he ? Nobody can tell. General Upton asks who is the next in rank. I am. "you'll do."

PAGE 55 – Then followed my instructions. – Mingled with the mildest oaths man could utter. Why Generals are you crazy or drunk ? But I can't help knowing they are neither and they only try to encourage me and my followers. But I have seen too much to believe the 3rd Iowa hold any of the Rebel works. They are scattered all through the woods. I take my course. 1st over scraggy ground – brush cut down. We hear them talk. They mistake us at 1st. and (ask) Who are you ? "Who are you" (Responds back) "We're 3rd Georgia." were Confederates answer. LT. "I took you" "Go for _____." We're over their works. Pull down their flag. Hear their groans. The pleading for their lives unnecessarily for we stop not for prisoners. Leave them. Ditches full. What guides me I know not. Don't stop to think. That towering fort. Those roaring brazen throated guns just ahead. On then I think. We'll take them. We must. They boom away. We can see every thing by the blaze and flash of guns.

PAGE 56 – The fort is gained. Big Battery taken and still the work is not done. That oft repeated "go for the bridge" is uppermost in my mind. Where is the bridge ? Ah – is easy told. We only follow. The bridge is gained. Tis covered with Rebels but all running in confusion. We crowd in. Push _____ and _____. Tis secured and I post a strong guard to prevent fire. Oh on what a slender thread hangs our fate here. We have passed the bulk of the Rebels. They have one fort booming away yet and all those passed have arms in their hands. We didn't stop to take them I haven't over 200 men. Maybe not near that. Can't tell anything about it. Only I started with 2 Battalions, 7 companies. Some wounded. I know one killed on the bridge. I know I have the bridge and it shall be saved. General Upton arrives. Who's this ? Is it you Capt. Abraham ? All right. And golly, what a shaking he gave me. The other Brigade came up.

PAGE 57 – I had sent for my horse. The troops were passing over. We rested. Learned that not many were hurt and can hear of but one killed. Hoyt Detrick wounded severe in shoulder. Jehoa Wendt in wrist. _____ Ogg in leg slightly. Several others Co. D slightly. We have 4 flags and now pick up the prisoners fast. Mounted and I left "D" with the prisoners. Passed over the river through the city and out on the principal Macon road



Statement of Origin & Authenticity

I Cecile Henrietta Carnahan-Abraham, wife of the Late Howard John Abraham (1918-1994) do solemnly swear and attest that the items depicted in the attached photographs and listed below were in fact the property of my late husband Howard John Abraham great grandson of Lot Abraham (1838-1920). I further certify that these items were the original property of Civil War veteran Lot Abraham and were passed down from father to son ending with my late husband Howard John Abraham. In addition, I vouch that the military artifacts listed below and on the attached photos were in fact the original items carried and used by Lot Abraham during the Civil War. These items have always been in the possession of my husbands family and were always kept together. They were a source of great pride and interest to his family.

Grouping consists of over 25 personal possessions of Lot Abraham, they include: **SPENCER CARBINE**, .52 cal., complete except for rear sight, mechanically perfect. Faint inspector's cartouche. Receiver casehardening silvery in places, balance to dark patina, spotty light surface pitting. Barrel faded to dark bluish brown. Serial number 28951. One inch slight hairline to stock. Wood has not been refinished. **SABRE**, light cavalry, pattern 1860 officer's Model. Lightly etched blade-depicting stand of arms, flag, U.S. Federal eagle. Blade apparently unmarked. Rayskin grip with original and complete wire wrap. Pommel and bow with case acanthus leaves, acorn and leaf design with rich brown patina. Steel scabbard with ornate decorated throat, drag and suspension bands. Original issue leather suspension straps and brass belt suspension hook. **BELT PLATE**, waist belt plate model M1839, early brass oval with puppy-paw studs, medium size with long tongue. Dark original patina, one end trimmed slightly about 3/8 inch, contemporary with use. **SWORD BELT PLATE**, Model 1851, eagle with applied silver wreath. Tongue has period inscription that reads "L.A. Co. 4 IOWA." Overall dark patina. **POCKET FIELD TELESCOPE**, four section brass tubes with stitched leather covering on main tube. Fiber carrying case missing one end cap. Length closed 6 inches, extended 17 inches, unmarked. **POCKET COMPASS**, brass case with glass face, 1.25" diameter, printed paper dial, unmarked. **FOLDING POCKET KNIFE**, 3 1/2" blade, marked "TARRY LEVIGER" with a lizard silhouette, faux stag grips made of wood, suspension loop on end, faintly engraved on wood grip "L.A. Co. 4 IOWA." Overall patina. **TINTYPE case** 1/6 plate tintype of Lot Abraham in 9 button officers field tunic with shoulder boards and buttons accented with gold. Name pencilled on velvet panel opposite of image. **CARTRIDGES**, 5 Abraham in Cavalry shell jacket with captain's shoulder boards, boards and buttons accented with gold. Name pencilled on velvet panel opposite of image. **CARTRIDGES**, 5 Spencer rimfire .52 cal, marked "S.A.W." **POCKET WATCH**, French, stem-wind, 8 jewel silver case, hallmarked and with 9 inch German silver chain. **STRAIGHT RAZOR**, "Original Pipe Razor" Wostenholm & Son. Horn grips with velvet lined leather 2 snap carrying case. Gold handle walking cane, black ebonized wood. Folding bone comb, folding, three prong carved bone toothpick. **PHOTO IMAGES**, 2 publicity photo's of Abraham as Iowa State Commander G.A.R., 1912. Clearly shows G.A.R. Commanders badge, 5" x 7.5" and 5.5" x 3.5". Small, presumable campaign photo card listing ranks held and home town. A four generations photo showing Lot Abraham, his son, grandson and great grandchild. A large framed photo image of Sarah Abraham, Lot's mother (circa 1865). Abraham family photo album circa 1910 includes over 50 group and outing photo's many depicting Lot Abraham in his twilight years. **BOOKS**, Five books relating to the Civil War including: **Abbotts History of the Civil War Vols. I & II**. Rare 224 page volume titles "Roster of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry Veteran" Vols. 1861-1865, by Wm. F. Scott, N.Y. 1902. Rare edition of the **First Reunion of Iowa's Hornet's Nest Brigade**, 72 pages of proceedings, rosters etc. published Oct. 1887. Authors autographed copy of **Memories of the Civil War**, by Hiram Thornton Bird, 8th Ia. Cav. **Journal of Proceedings 47th Annual encampment Dept. of Ia. G.A.R.**, includes photo and one page memorial to Lot Abraham. Plus various newspaper clippings, books, obituaries, photo copy of records and numerous other items and material related to the Abraham family. **PROVENANCE**: Lot Abraham (1838-1920) to John Gilbert Abraham (1866-1944) his son to Fred Barger Abraham (1891-1965) his son to Howard John Abraham (1918-1994) his son, to Mrs Cecile Henrietta Carnahan-Abraham (born 1923-) wife of Howard and hence descended to the consignor. Grouping comes with notarized statement signed by Mrs. Howard Abraham attesting to the authenticity, provenance and history of these items. A exceptionally rare and unique museum quality offering of the type seldom available on today's market.

Cecile H. Abraham

I swear that the above statements are true & accurate. Mrs. Cecile H. Abraham

813-98

Date:

INVENTORY OF LOT ABRAHAM COLLECTION
PURCHASED FROM JACKSON'S AUCTION HOUSE,
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA, AUGUST 22, 1998

1. Book - THE PARTIES AND THE MEN, Copyright 1893
Robert G. Law.
2. Book - ELLIOTT ON SLAVERY, Vol 2 Pub. by
L. SWORMSTREET & J. H. Power (Cincinnati: 185)
Author - Rev. Chas. Elliott
3. Book - Memories of the Civil War, Hiram Thornton
Bird, 8th IOWA CAVALRY, AUTHOR
AUTOGRAPHED
4. Photo Album - Abraham Family Descendants
5. Book - Presented to John Abraham - Memorial
Addresses - William Boyd Allison -
Senator from IOWA
6. Book - Memorial Address on Life of JONATHAN
P. DOLLIVEN - late Senator from IOWA
7. Book - Roster of the 4th IOWA Cavalry, Wm.
Forse Scott, J. J. Little & Co. N.Y. 1902

8. Book - Journal of Proceedings - 47th Annual G.A.R. Encampment. Dept of Iowa G.A.R. June 8-10, 1921. Memorial Art-Abraham
9. Book - First Reunion - Iowa's Hornet's Nest Brigade. Oct 12 & 13th, 1887
10. Book - Standard History of the War, Jones Bro. & Co. Many illustrations & maps.
11. Books - 2 vols. History of the Civil War in America 1863- by JOHN S.C. Abbott, Pub Garden Hill
12. OVAL FRAME - Abraham Family Photo
13. OVAL FRAME - Photo of Lot Abraham's mother
14. CAVALRY SWORD WITH HANGERS
15. Spencer Carbine - Ser. # 28951
16. Photos - Lot Abraham - Post-war.
17. Photos - Abraham Family
18. Telescope - & CASE - 4 - Pull
19. EYEGLASSES & CASE

- 20 Tintype in case - Lot Abraham 1/6th plate
- 21 Tintype in case - Lot Abraham 1/9th plate.
- 22 INK PEN CASE - 2 INK PENS
- 23 Pocket knife - TARRY LEVIGER - MARKED L.A. Co D.
4th IOWA.
- 24 Sword Keeper Hook & leather strap
- 25 Relic - Conf D Guard Bowie knife handle.
- 26 ~~Old~~ Razor "Original Pipe Razor" with leather case.
- 27 Pocket watch - Coin silver
- 28 5 Spencer bullets
- 29 ^{Metal} Cap box - Holmes Booth & Hayden Co Mfgs. N.Y.
- 30 Harmonica - M. HOTTEN Germany
- 31 U.S. Belt plate brass - lead filled back right
front worn through rim.
- 32 Sword belt plate - Marked "L.A." Co D 4th
PLATE 648 - Am Military IOWA Marked Roman
Belt plates Numerals 37 XXXVII

33 3 - .69 CAL. ROUND balls

34 1 - 2 Ring ~~50~~ CAL bullet

35 1 - EAGLE Pin

36 1 - IOGA Enameled pin.

37 1 EAGLE 2 piece button - Scoville Mfg Co.
Terry N.Y.

38 1 small magnifying loop - Bausch and Lomb
Optical Co.

39 Mason Penny - Henry Chapter - Mt. Pleasant Iowa 1858

40 Engineer Medal - Sterling silver J.T. CARNAHAN Sgt.
1st. C.L. Prob. WWI

41 Medal 1918-1919 3/9 8 AEF - Reg Organized
Jan 1918

42 Brass compass

43 Ivory comb

44 Ivory toothpick

45 Ivory MUSTACHE RAZOR

46 Ivory pen knife.

47 Women's Relief Corps Medal 1888

48 Gold Headed WALKING CANE

continuous blaze. From the vast noise they made, it seemed as if the rebels would annihilate the last of their assailants, but all of their fire was still too high. No artillery was used on the Union side. In the darkness of the woods, lighted only by the fire from the enemy's guns, the Third Iowa went down the slope, scrambled across the ravine and through a marshy brook, and then rose through the slashing on the slope of the works, but they were much separated by the obstacles in the way, and the few who first reached the line supposed that their comrades were destroyed. Parts of three companies, however, with great bravery seized the nearest angle of the rifle-pits and held it obstinately, driving off or capturing the defenders. Their comrades, who had almost reached the rifle-pits toward the lunette *c*, finding themselves, as they supposed, unsupported, and the rebels returning upon them, were compelled to retire to the road. When, thereupon, only a portion of the Third could be immediately rallied at the road, it was feared that the regiment was cut to pieces; but meantime two battalions of the Fourth Iowa,¹ the First and Second, had been dismounted and brought up at a run to reinforce the assault. The Third Battalion was left mounted in the road, its head just above the works first taken, ready for a mounted charge. The First Battalion, led by Captain Abraham, and the Second, by Captain Dana, ran down the road to a point a little lower than that recently occupied by the Third Iowa, faced to the left, and, without a moment's halt, advanced against the works in their front at a charge. Upton and Winslow

¹ A, D, K of the First Battalion (G then detached), and C, F, I, L of the Second, numbering, dismounted effectives, not more than 350.

both superintended down to look on. which had not reached position to the left charge. The battalions cheered the officers and went up the slope, finally as if by instinct, and into the rifle-pits in front of the Iowa. The obstinate new assault were then broke from all the works, and the new assault at *c* and below, crying "your arms!" to the

Both Upton and Dana's men were taken, so that with the greatest speed had, practically, all the road to the point where they kept shouting to the line: "*Selma! Selma! prisoners! Go for the prisoners!*" Go for the prisoners, only showing their arms, and leaving the utmost confusion.

Captain Abraham, seeing that they must fail, should see the bridge along the entrenchment, captured the battery in

st noise they made, it annihilate the last of fire was still too high. on side. In the dark- by the fire from the vent down the slope, d through a marshy slashing on the slope each separated by the who first reached the ades were destroyed. ith great bravery rifle-pits and held it uring the defenders. reached the rifle-pits emselves, as they sup- bels returning upon to the road. When, Third could be imme- feared that the regi- mtime two battalions nd Second, had been run to reinforce the s left mounted in the rks first taken, ready rst Battalion, led by d, by Captain Dana, ittle lower than that owa, faced to the left, dvanced against the Upton and Winslow

ached), and C, F, I, L of the 1000 than 350.

both superintended this movement, and Wilson came down to look on. That portion of the Third Iowa which had not reached the works now bravely took position to the left of the Fourth, and joined in the charge. The battle-cry was *Selma!* With great cheers the officers and men plunged into the ravine and up the slope, finding ways among the fallen trees as if by instinct, and still under the fire of all the guns and of the rifle-pits in their front not held by the Third Iowa. The obstinate possession of the Third and this new assault were too much for the enemy. They broke from all the works in the vicinity of the lunette c, and the new assailants were quickly on the parapets at c and below, crying "*Surrender! Throw down your arms!*" to the dismayed Confederates.

Both Upton and Winslow had ordered that no prisoners be taken, so that the bridge might be reached with the greatest speed. When they saw that the men had, practically, all the rifle-pits, they hurried down the road to the point where it enters the works, and there kept shouting to the victors then rushing down the line: "*Selma! Selma! Go for the bridge! Take no prisoners! Go for the bridge!*" The Iowans, possessed of the one idea, rushed along the rifle-pits, looking eagerly ahead for the bridge, not stopping to take prisoners, only shouting to the rebels to throw down their arms, and leaving them behind in the trenches, in the utmost confusion.

Captain Abraham's companies, A, D, K, understanding that they must follow the line of works until they should see the bridge, crossed the Summerville road along the entrenchments and approached the fort d, captured the battery in the street after a hand-to-hand

struggle with the gunners, and attempted to scale the ramparts from which the enemy were still fighting. A second effort carried them in and gave them the prize. Disarming the defenders and leaving a few men in charge, these companies rushed down Brodnax Street toward the bridge. Captain Dana, by luck or a different understanding of orders, left the line of rifle-pits where the road crossed it and led his companies, C, F, I, and L, by the road directly toward the bridge, which brought them to the goal perhaps a little ahead of A, D, and K. But the broken regiments of the enemy who had fled from the works were now crowding across the bridge, and the battalions of the Fourth Iowa came together upon their rear in the entrance, and were at once so mixed that there could be no telling with certainty which was in front.¹ It was a covered wooden bridge, with two carriage-ways, and the whole space was now filled with the flying rebels and the advancing Iowans. Indeed, it was so dark that the Iowans passed many of the rebels in the passage without knowing it, and reached the other side before them. The air was full of the odor of turpentine. The angles of the woodwork had been stuffed with cotton saturated with that fluid, so that the whole could be burned instantly in case of defeat in the works; but the persons charged with the duty of set-

¹ It is not possible to settle clearly the question of precedence among the companies in the taking of this bridge. At least four companies earnestly contend for it. There are circumstances which appear to weigh about equally in favor of C, F, and L, but in the darkness and confusion of the passage and the high excitement at the taking of the battery, it is not probable that any one observed clearly his comrades; and it is certain that men of at least six of the seven companies were met by fighting rebels at or near the Columbus end of the bridge. If there was any difference of time between the companies in reaching that end, it was so small as to be hardly appreciable.

ting the fire could not determine perhaps because enemies were all through. One he was crushed in the arms of a man of Company

For the possession of the bridge there was a small number of men in charge of it fought, but had not been able to fire there because their own friends tried manfully to save them. Here several of the Fourth Iowa were killed—Jones of L was killed—killed in action, as Lieutenant of the first battalion was the first. Dillon of C were conspicuous and Private William S. were wounded, or compelled to retreat. The victory of Columbus was the last battle of the war,¹ and the Fourth Iowa were struck by the Fourth Iowa

Seeing that the dismounted men and the fort, the and almost immediately the fall of the Fourth Iowa down the road in column. The mounted men rode the last of the dismounted men, guns, and charged into the first street from the numbers of them, sides, and turning the de-

¹ There were several minor conflicts of no great importance.

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ting the fire could not determine the moment of action, perhaps because enemies appeared before their friends were all through. One rebel did strike a match, but he was crushed in the act by a clubbed carbine in the hands of a man of Company K.

For the possession of the battery at the east end of the bridge there was a sharp contest. The officers and men in charge of it fought with determination. They had not been able to fire through the bridge as intended, because their own friends were in the way, but they tried manfully to save their guns. In the struggle here several of the Fourth were wounded and Sergeant Jones of L was killed—the last man of the regiment killed in action, as Lieutenant Heacock of F in the same battalion was the first. Lieutenants Miller of L and Dillon of C were conspicuous in making this assault, and Private William Scott of F unhorsed the rebel commander. The brave gunners were all killed, wounded, or compelled to yield, the bridge was saved, the victory of Columbus was complete. It was the last battle of the war,¹ and the crowning blow was struck by the Fourth Iowa.

Seeing that the dismounted men had gained the rifle-pits and the fort *b*, the mounted charge was ordered, and almost immediately Winslow had the Third Battalion of the Fourth Iowa, led by Major Dee, galloping down the road in column of fours, himself in front. The mounted men rode through the bridge among the last of the dismounted battalions, passed the captured guns, and charged into the streets, meeting the enemy at the first street from the bridge, passing and capturing numbers of them, with desultory firing on both sides, and turning the defeat into a hopeless rout. One

¹ There were several minor conflicts later than this, but none upon any plan or of any importance.

company hastened to seize the battery at the lower bridge, two others galloped through the streets to capture retreating bodies, and the fourth sought the railway to intercept any train that might be leaving. Not knowing the way, this last company lost some time, and when the station was found a considerable train had got away toward Macon, filled with officers, soldiers, and citizens of position.

The capture of all the rebels remaining in the defenses and all the dismounted in Columbus followed as a matter of course. The whole engagement and occupation were completed within an hour. There was no more noise, except the occasional cheers of the victors. The burning buildings in Girard, which the rebels had fired to light their operations, continued to cast a lurid glow upon the scene of the conflict.

The victory was perfect, and the battle one of the most splendid in which the Fourth Iowa had ever fought. To carry these defenses by storm with a few hundred dismounted cavalry, in the night and with no certain knowledge of their position or strength, defended as they were by nearly three thousand men and twenty-seven guns, was an extraordinary feat. These achievements of Winslow and Noble and their men must stand high among the heroic deeds of the war.

Thus fell Columbus, the key to Georgia. It was four hundred miles from the point at which its captors had entered the Confederate lines. Though the great events of the preceding fortnight in Virginia and North Carolina had made the engagement unnecessary and unimportant, it should be remembered that it was fought by men who were ignorant of those events, and who were inspired only by a determination to suc-

ceed and by the belief in the battle for the cause.

As a compliment to General Winslow was made, and he appointed Colonel Noble.

The next day cannon were gained and the destroyed. To the great surprise of the brigade was found that of these, 11 were of the enemy had lost 1,500 27 guns mounted in a great quantity of the *Jackson*, with its killed was Colonel L. mentioned, who fell.

The Fourth Iowa (in the city) including caissons, and 7 battalions.

The next day General of men, destroyed 12 of corn, 15 locomotives, bridges on the Chattahoochee, and other armory, the navy quantities of machinery of the Confederate magazines, 2 iron-works, factories making cotton shoes, wagons, and an immense quantity of equipments, and arms.

¹ See Appendix

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ceed and by the belief that they were fighting a great battle for the cause.

As a compliment to him upon his brilliant success, General Winslow was placed in command of the city, and he appointed Colonel Noble Provost-Marshal.

The next day came the counting of the losses and gains and the destruction of the enemy's property. To the great surprise of all, the whole loss of the brigade was found to be only 24 killed and wounded. Of these, 11 were in the Fourth Iowa.¹ But the enemy had lost 1,500 killed, wounded, and captured, 27 guns mounted in the defense and 36 in arsenal, a great quantity of small-arms, and their new ram, the *Jackson*, with its 6 additional guns. Among their killed was Colonel Lamar, of "slave-pirate" fame before mentioned, who fell near the bridge.

The Fourth Iowa had captured 941 prisoners (mostly in the city) including 67 officers, with 12 guns, 16 caissons, and 7 battle-flags.

The next day General Winslow, with large details of men, destroyed 125,000 bales of cotton, 20,000 sacks of corn, 15 locomotives, 250 cars, the two remaining bridges on the Chattahoochee, the round-houses, machine-shops, and other property of the railway, a naval armory, the navy yard, 2 rolling-mills with great quantities of machinery, the arsenal and the nitre-works of the Confederate War Department, 2 powder magazines, 2 iron-works, 3 foundries, 10 or 12 mills and factories making cotton-cloth, paper, guns, pistols, swords, shoes, wagons, and other military and naval supplies, an immense quantity of small-arms, accoutrements, equipments, and army clothing, of which no account was

¹ See Appendix, "Engagements and Casualties."

every eighth man to hold horses, and the Tenth Missouri on the left at half a mile from the rebel works. The Fourth Iowa were preparing to start when the Second Division, on gaining possession of the fortification, the dismounted regiments of the Second Division obtained from the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, which had not been on a gallop in columns of fours and ones going in various directions to the rear. About this time the Third Iowa was ordered to remount, but the road being muddy this was not fully accomplished. The rear of the division, four companies of the Tenth Missouri, had been dismounted in front of the Summerville road since 1 p. m., and when the enemy on the right this force was ordered to remount, capturing an entire regiment of the Tenth Missouri, dismounted companies secured 4,000 prisoners. Several hundred were killed or drowned in attempting to cross the river, and Chief Bugler D. J. Taber of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry. April 3, by General Wilson, I assumed command of the division, and made a march to the Tenth Missouri's Ferry, returning on the 6th

from Selma April 10, arriving at the city we remained until the 14th. The Third Iowa Cavalry was here to rejoin the command until after Whitening, with Companies H and I, Grey's Ferry, Tallapoosa River, and over the Coosa at Wetumpka. In conjunction with Major Weston, to Montgomery three steam-boats. At Columbus, Captain Young with a detachment from the column at the factory, three miles above Columbus, with orders to seize and hold the river, partially destroyed before the point of attack before Columbus was disposed in the following order: Colonel Noble commanding, dismounted at Summerville road, with the left flank of the enemy, and immediately the main line on our left the latter parallel with the Summerville road. Lieutenant Col. F. W. Benteen commanding, 200 yards in rear of the Third Iowa, the Fourth Iowa, Lieutenant Col. Noble in order, on a by-road, 300 yards from the Summerville road, being 200 yards from the Fourth Iowa 200 yards. The moment we opened fire in front with small-

arms and on the left with shell, canister, and musketry, when the Third Iowa was directed to charge, and in five minutes we were in possession of the rifle-pits in our front. Supposing the captured works to be a portion of the enemy's main line, the Tenth Missouri Cavalry was ordered forward at a gallop, and two companies pushed at once to the bridge, nearly three-quarters of a mile distant, securing it with about fifty prisoners. This detachment passed in front and to the rear of the enemy's lines unhurt, but the officer, Capt. R. B. M. McGlasson, finding his position untenable, released the prisoners and rejoined his regiment with loss of one man killed. When this regiment commenced its forward movement, the enemy developed his main line on our left. The Third Iowa was immediately directed to charge this other position, and this gallant regiment pressed forward vigorously, Captains McKee and Wilson with about fifty men penetrating the line, capturing some prisoners, and holding the position. The remainder of the Tenth Missouri was now directed to prepare to fight on foot. This command had, however, been thrown into much confusion by the enemy's fire, being only about 100 yards in front of their best position. The officers had done all they could, but the confusion was almost unavoidable. The Fourth Iowa, which was now immediately in front of the enemy's lines, was dismounted (except four companies), and in charge of Captain Abraham, Company D, was pushed into the enemy's works near where the detachment Third Iowa had secured a lodgment. In obedience to instructions, when inside the works Captain Abraham moved directly toward the bridge, not stopping to secure the prisoners who, after being made to throw away their arms, were left where found. Near the end of this line of rifle-pits was a work with six 12-pounder howitzers which Captain Abraham at once assaulted, capturing the garrison and armament, together with four 10-pounder Parrott guns, gunners, and caissons which were in position and firing near this fort. Without halting, a portion of his command rushed over the bridge (a covered one), capturing two 12-pounder howitzers, caissons, &c., on the east end. These two guns were loaded with canister, but the gunners could not fire without killing the rebels flying over the bridge with our men. The capture of this bridge was in itself a great victory, as it had been fully prepared for sudden and complete destruction. The enemy were unable to fire this structure, which, being saved, enabled our forces to occupy Columbus and march immediately upon Macon. Any delay at the Chattahoochee would have prevented our forces reaching Macon before the armistice went into effect. The capture of Columbus involved the fall of Macon.

The conduct of this brigade whenever it has been engaged with the enemy has been highly creditable to the men composing it and to our cause and country which it represents. The brevet major-general commanding division, having been present at every engagement, has full knowledge of the enthusiasm, courage, and determination displayed by officers and men on every occasion. Having personally shared their dangers, I am confident he is ready to award them their full meed of praise. Private Robert C. Wood, Company A, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, orderly for Major Woods, acting assistant inspector-general, Fourth Division, having been captured in line of duty, escaped, and with the aid of some of his company captured the colonel and his adjutant, who shortly before had held him as a prisoner. There have been very many instances of individual heroism, while almost every one did all he could. If in this report some persons seem to have done more than well, it

must not be inferred that others would not have done equally well if they had been as fortunate in securing opportunities. During this campaign this brigade has taken in action 3,100 prisoners, including 200 commissioned officers, 11 stand of colors, 33 guns, 25 caissons, 3,500 stand of arms, and a large number of horses, wagons, and mules. The defeat of the enemy at Columbus gave us possession of the gun-boat Muscogee, alias Jackson, a very formidable ram. She was nearly ready for active service, her armament (six 7-inch Parrott guns), engines, a portion of her ordnance, and other supplies being on board. The fruits of our victories have been materially increased by having mounted columns always ready to take advantage of opportunities offering. This has been shown to have been the case at Selma. At Columbus the four companies Fourth Iowa Cavalry which were pushed over the bridge (mounted) immediately after it was in our possession, captured 500 prisoners and completed the disorganization of the enemy. During this march we have destroyed the Hannan and the Brierfield or Bibb Iron-Works, near Montevallo; several railroad and station-houses, four steam-boats and one foundry at Montgomery, a large distillery above Columbus, and great quantities of corn, meat, and other supplies gathered up for the Confederate Government. As a testimonial of my respect and appreciation of their ability and services, and because of gallantry in the presence of the enemy, I respectfully recommend that the rank of major by brevet be conferred upon the following-named officers: Lot Abraham, captain Company D, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. This officer has frequently displayed great courage, handled his command in a very gallant manner at Columbus, and captured a four-gun battery at Selma, repulsing the enemy in his attempt to recover it. Asa B. Fitch, captain Company H, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. When the enemy assailed our column in flank near Montevallo, March 31, this officer, who commands the color company, had the colors unfurled, and with his company and the colors dashed ahead, leading the attacking party with great gallantry. He has many times acted with judgment and gallantry. I consider him one of the best officers in my command. John D. Brown, captain Company L, Third Iowa Cavalry. This officer was wounded severely at the battle of Big Blue, October 23, 1864; has twice on the present expedition attacked with his company a force of the enemy greater than his own, and each time completely routing him, once capturing more men than his own command numbered. George W. Johnson, captain Company M, Third Iowa Cavalry. This officer, once with two, and again with one company, charged a superior force of the enemy with great gallantry, routing them each time and killing, wounding, and capturing quite a number. His courage, good conduct, and gallantry, have been frequently observed. R. B. M. McGlasson, captain Company I, Tenth Missouri Cavalry. He led two companies of his regiment through the enemy's lines to the bridge at Columbus, and, though surrounded by the enemy, came out, losing only one man. Samuel J. McKee, captain Company B, Third Iowa Cavalry. This officer has several times led his company gallantly, and was the first officer to enter the lines of the enemy at Columbus, himself and men having to work their way through abatis in presence of an enemy securely posted behind intrenchments and only a few yards distant. With two companies he met and repulsed the enemy at Fike's Ferry, Cahawba River, killing and wounding some and capturing thirty animals. And the rank of captain by brevet upon Ferdinand Owen, first lieutenant Company I, Tenth Missouri Cavalry,

who, when his company reached it over and immediately upon being completely surrounded by the enemy, he was very severely wounded. He was very severely wounded and he led his company, which he led several with his pistol and first men to rush upon the enemy. I desire to remark the attention by each member of my staff, subjoined table of condition and wounded in each regiment.

Your obedient servant

Maj. JAMES W. LATTA,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth
Mil

Regiment.	Officers.
3d Iowa.....	
4th Iowa.....	
10th Missouri.....	
Total	
Strength at st	
	Third
	Officers.
Strength on leaving Chickasaw.....	42
Gained by enlistment by the way.....	
Killed during expedition.....	1
Died of wounds and disease.....	
Missing.....	
Left in hospitals on the way.....	1
Present with command.....	35
Present detached.....	5

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform the destruction of public property. In obedience to orders from the corps, I assumed the command and commenced destroying every

* None

s would not have done equally well if
ing opportunities. During this cam-
action 3,100 prisoners, including 200
of colors, 33 guns, 25 caissons, 3,500
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llant manner at Columbus, and cap-
repulsing the enemy in his attempt
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llantry. He has many times acted
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, captain Company I, Third Iowa
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present expedition attacked with his
ter than his own, and each time com-
; more men than his own command
captain Company M, Third Iowa
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posted behind intrenchments and
companies he met and repulsed the
ver, killing and wounding some and
e rank of captain by brevet upon
company I, Tenth Missouri Cavalry,

WILSON'S RAID—ALABAMA AND GEORGIA.

who, when his company reached the bridge at Columbus, gallantly led
it over and immediately upon a rebel battery of two guns while com-
pletely surrounded by the enemy. The rank of first lieutenant by
brevet upon Loyd H. Dillon, second lieutenant Company C, Fourth
Iowa Cavalry, who has repeatedly acted in the most gallant manner.
He was very severely wounded at Guntown June 10, 1864. At Selma
several with his pistol and saber. At Columbus he was among the
first men to rush upon the enemy and over the bridge into the city.
I desire to remark the attention to duty and the valuable aid given me
by each member of my staff, and respectfully call your attention to the
subjoined table of condition of this command, and to the lists of killed
and wounded in each regiment.

Your obedient servant,

E. F. WINSLOW,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAJ. JAMES W. LATTA,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Fourth Division, Cavalry Corps,
Military Division of the Mississippi.

Recapitulation.

Regiment.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.			
				Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.	
2d Iowa.	1	3	3	46	25	11	
4th Iowa.	1	3	6	11	9	82	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
3d Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
4th Iowa.	1	3	3	4	2	8	
10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
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10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
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10th Missouri.	2	6	9	8	6	2	
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Richard Gaines. Company G, Captain John S. Stidger; Lieutenants Charles B. Leech, John F. Watkins. Company H, Captain James R. Grousbach; Lieutenants Samuel A. Young, William Wicoff. Company I, Captain Franz W. Armin; Lieutenant John J. Veatch. Company K, Captain Newton C. Honnold; Lieutenants George W. Stamm, Josephus Miller. Company L, Captain John D. Brown; Lieutenants James C. Williams, Edward Mudgett. Company M, Captain George W. Johnson; Lieutenants John C. Gammill, W. A. Wright.

The regiment reached Davenport on the 21st, and was there finally disbanded, after a period of service of four years, during which, whether considered in respect of its commanding officers, the officers generally, or the rank and file, it had well won the highest admiration as a command composed of as excellent material as any in the army and which had made a history of effective service and brilliant deeds second to that of no regiment by whose aid the great rebellion was triumphantly overwhelmed.

CHAPTER XXIII.

FOURTH CAVALRY.

ORGANIZATION AT "CAMP HARLAN," NEAR MOUNT PLEASANT—MOVE BY RAIL TO ST. LOUIS—TO SPRINGFIELD, BY ROLLA—JOIN THE ARMY OF THE SOUTHWEST—MARCH THROUGH ARKANSAS, TO HELENA—ENCAMPED NEAR HELENA ABOUT NINE MONTHS—ACTIVE OPERATIONS OF THE REGIMENT DURING THIS PERIOD—THE CAMPAIGN OF VICKSBURG, THE REGIMENT SERVING UNDER SHERMAN—CAPTURE OF JACKSON—RAIDS—RE-ENLISTMENT OF THE REGIMENT—THE MERIDIAN RAID—VETERAN FURLOUGH—RETURN TO MEMPHIS—EXPEDITION UNDER GENERAL STURGIS—EXPEDITIONS UNDER GENERAL A. J. SMITH, FIRST TO TUPERO, SECOND TO THE TALLAHATCHIE—THE REMARKABLE CAMPAIGN AGAINST PRICE IN MISSOURI—THE GREAT RAID UNDER GENERAL WILSON—MUSTERED OUT—HOME.

For the following truthful and finely written account of this distinguished regiment, I am indebted to Lieutenant WILLIAM F. SCOTT, of Fairfield—the last regimental Adjutant:

The Fourth Regiment of Iowa Cavalry was organized and mustered into service at Mount Pleasant. Its camp was called Camp Harlan, in honor of the distinguished statesman, and was located one half mile west of the town. The first company in rendezvous, Captain Benjamin Rector's, arrived at Mount Pleasant October 17th, 1861, from Davenport where it had been sent to join the Second Cavalry. This company was organized at Sidney, Fremont county, August 10th, 1861, for the Second Cavalry, and was composed of men from the counties of Fremont, Page and Mills. It arrived at Davenport about the middle of September, but the Second was then full, and it was kept in Camp McChellan until the raising of the Fourth Cavalry was ordered, when it was removed to Mount Pleasant as a nucleus for that regiment.

Captain John H. Peters' Company arrived with, or immediately after Captain Rector's; also from Davenport and also originally raised for the Second Cavalry. Captain Peters' Company was organized in Delaware County about September 1st. These two companies immediately set, to work upon the barracks, and others joining during the month, the quarters for the entire regiment were rapidly built. The next company was

Captain Cornelius F. Spearman's, organized in Henry County October 9th, and the next Captain James T. Drummond's, organized at the same place and time. Next came Captain Orrin Miller's Company, organized about the middle of October in Henry county, though many of his men came from other places. Next, Captain Edward F. Winslow's Company, organized in Camp Harlan and composed of men from the counties of Henry, Wapello and Mahaska. Captain Alonzo B. Parkell's Company, from Grinnell, Poweshiek County, was organized about the middle of September for a regiment of "Mounted Rifles," which was to have been organized by E. Clarke, Esq., of Iowa City. That failed and the company volunteered for the Fourth. O. Castle brought a party of men from Johnson County about November 1st, but they were soon after scattered into other companies. Captain De Witt C. Crawford's Company, raised in Chickasaw and Mitchell counties, and Captain Thomas Tullis, raised in Lee, arrived early in November. A company from Jefferson county began to assemble about this time, and when large enough chose A. R. Pierce for captain. Pyle's regiment of Lancers was now breaking up, and two companies volunteering for the Fourth Cavalry were sent to Mount Pleasant. These were Captain William E. Harris', organized at Burlington, and Captain William Pursell's, at Winterset, Madison county.

Some delays occurred in filling up the companies, and the mustering officer, Captain Alexander Chambers, did not begin mustering until November 23d. On that day and on the 25th all the companies were mustered into the United States service, except Captain Pursell's, which was delayed until December 5th.¹

¹ When mustered in the companies were assigned to their positions in the regiment, and lettered as follows:

Company A—Captain Benjamin Reector; Lieutenants John Grayson, J. M. Rust. *Company B*—Captain John H. Peters; Lieutenants George B. Parsons, Alonzo Clark. *Company C*—Captain Orrin Miller; Lieutenants Henry E. Winslow, James Patterson. *Company D*—Captain Cornelius F. Spearman; Lieutenants Erasmus Colner, John Tucker. *Company E*—Captain Alonzo B. Parkell; Lieutenants Oron M. Perkins, Edward W. Dee. *Company F*—Captain Edward F. Winslow; Lieutenants Thomas J. Zollers, William A. Heacock. *Company G*—Captain Thomas C. Tullis; Lieutenants James Brown, Simon Hooper. *Company H*—Captain De Witt C. Crawford; Lieutenants Samuel S. Troy, Edwin A. Haskell. *Company I*—Captain William Pursell; Lieutenants Jesse R. Lambert, John R. Overmyer. *Company K*—Captain James T. Drummond; Lieutenants Jacob Hart, Joshua Gardner. *Company L*—Captain William E. Harris; Lieutenants William H. Seals, William W. Woods. *Company M*—Captain Abiel R. Pierce; Lieutenants Frederick S. Whiting, Aaron J. Newby. The battalion organization was as follows: First Battalion, Companies A, G, D, and K; Second Battalion, Companies C, I, F, and L; Third Battalion, Companies E, H, M, and B.

The field and staff, mustered in, December 28th, 1861, was then composed of the following officers: Colonel Ashury B. Porter, of Mount Pleasant; Majors Simon D. Swan, of Mount Pleasant, Joseph E. Jewett, of Iowa City, George A. Stone, of Mount Pleasant; Regimental Adjutant George W. Waldron, Mount Pleasant; Regimental Quartermaster Simon P. Lawler, Mount Pleasant; Surgeon Andrew W. McClure, of Mount Pleasant; Assistant Surgeon Washington Bidd, of Mount Pleasant; Chaplain Andrew J. Kirkpatrick, of Mount Pleasant; First Battalion, Adjutant Warren Beckwith, of Mount Pleasant; Quartermaster J. Marshall Rust, of Sidney; Second Battalion, Adjutant Watson B. Porter, of Mount Pleasant; Quartermaster William P. Brazelton, of

The regiment now numbering one thousand and eighty-six officers and men, remained in Camp Harlan drilling and parading when the weather permitted, and mounting guard all through the winter. There was much sickness, resulting from the great change in manner of life at that inclement season, and from the exposure incident to "standing guard," but under the efficient management of Surgeons McClure and Bird, the losses were remarkably few. The men were here tolerably well-clothed, and in January, 1862, received sabres of the heavy cavalry pattern, and saddles. The horses were purchased at Mount Pleasant, and were very good. Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Drummond joined in January, having been appointed from the line of the Fifth United States Cavalry.²

In February, Colonel Porter was ordered to march the regiment to Fort Leavenworth, and some preparations for the trip were made, but in the latter part of the same month this was countermanded by an order to report at St. Louis. Accordingly the three battalions were shipped from Mount Pleasant with as little delay as possible, the First moving on February 26th, the Second on the 28th, and the Third on March 3d. Moved by rail through Illinois, arrived safely in St. Louis, and were quartered in Benton Barracks. The balance of clothing and equipments necessary was here received, and about March 10th the regiment was ordered to Rolla, bound for the field. The first companies reached Rolla March 14th, and the others closed up as fast as transportation could be furnished. From Rolla several scouting parties were sent out from the regiment into troubled portions of the country, and a detachment of forty men was sent to Pea Ridge, Arkansas, as escort to a party of paymasters for Curtis' army. The regiment floundered slowly through the mud to Springfield, Missouri, where it arrived late in March. It was now supposed to be in the field, and was armed with heavy sabres, Starr's revolvers, holster-pistols, (old pattern, smooth bore), and Austrian rifles. Of the pistols and rifles, there were enough for half the men. Such a villainous equipment of arms could Mount Pleasant, Third Battalion, Adjutant Samuel E. Cooper, of Grinnell; Quartermaster Ira F. Phillips, Mount Pleasant.

² LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THOMAS DRUMMOND.—This officer resigned in June, 1862, while the regiment was on the banks of Little Red River, in Arkansas. He was a strict disciplinarian. Colonel Porter was not. Drummond, of a fiery temper, quarreled with Porter, or at least so warmly disagreed with him as to bring about his resignation. Before entering the service, Drummond had been the editor of the "Vinton Eagle," then and still an influential journal of Iowa. He had been a member of both houses of our Legislature, and was distinguished for energy of character and an independent spirit, sometimes altogether unmanageable. He returned to his command in the regular army, and having been engaged for some time in recruiting at Cleveland, Ohio, went into active service with the Army of the Potomac. He was distinguished for gallant conduct even in his first battle—the battle of Bull Run, in July, 1861—and always maintained his reputation. He was mortally wounded in one of these series of terrible engagements whereby Grant wrenched the rebel capital from the possession of traitors. He lived but a short time after his wound, though long enough to be carried to the hospital. In full consciousness, he uttered "*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*," and the brave, the versatile Drummond was no more.

have been imposed upon few or no other regiments. It would have been just as well if the men had been armed with butcher's cleavers as with the heavy sabres; Searcy's revolvers are dangerous only to their possessors; horse-pistols shoot very well if the target will come up quietly and be shot; and it is about as reasonable to arm horsemen with mountain howitzers as with Austrian rifles.

But the regiment was in for Dixie even with this armament, and about the middle of April moved from Springfield to join General Curtis, who was then moving eastward from Pea Ridge. Made this junction at Forsyth, and became a part of the Army of the Southwest. General Curtis proposed to invade Arkansas, but he must first receive new supplies and establish good communication with his depot. This depot must be at Rolla, and to open the line the army must march by West Plains, Missouri. During this march many scouting parties were sent out from the regiment, but only one suffered or inflicted any damage upon the confederacy. A detachment of forty men under Captain James F. Drummond was sent from Springfield to guard an ammunition train to the army. In a skirmish fought across White River (the North Fork) at Talbot's Ferry, April 19th, Second Lieutenant William A. Heacock, Company F, was killed. He was the first man of the regiment struck in action. This detachment crossed the river at another point, and driving back the rebel defence, destroyed mure works of considerable value to the enemy.

Moving south from West Plains on the last day of April, and marching slowly, the army occupied the beautiful little town of Batesville, Arkansas, May 9th, and crossing White River on extemporized ferries, reached Little Red River opposite Searcy about the 18th. Here the regiment was assigned to Colonel William Vandever's Brigade of Brigadier General E. A. Carr's Division, and was employed in picketing and scouting, and was once almost engaged with the enemy at Searcy, four miles south of the river. It suffered much from sickness here, and indeed had suffered much from the time of its arrival at Springfield, more than two hundred men having been disabled by disease from that place to Red River. General Curtis concluded not to take Little Rock, an exploit that had been so extensively and expensively threatened, and the 2d of June found the army with its back turned contemptuously on that capital, and marching—the Lord knew where. It stopped at Batesville—perhaps to reflect. Reflected three weeks, and the rebels cut off its communication with Rolla. On June 24th the question of ruin or a march for life having arisen, the army took up its line down the White River with the vague expectation of meeting reinforcements and supplies by boat at some point on that river. These hopes being disappointed at the points expected, and finally at Clarendon,

the army turned eastward and pushed through the swamps for the Mississippi, arriving at Helena July 15th.

From this time until ordered to join the army before Vicksburg, in April, 1863, the Fourth remained at Helena, none of the many changes of troops at that place affecting it. It was, however, constantly employed here in picketing and scouting, and performed much hard labor, though but few of its operations were of any importance. It was encamped on the Little Rock road, a few miles west of Helena, and constantly performed outpost duty for the troops at that point. This involved the continued support of a heavy picket force and the making of frequent expeditions into the country. On September 1st a picket post held by a detail from Company D was attacked, and Private David Mosher killed, and three privates captured. A few days afterward two men of Company M were captured from a picket post. On October 11th a scouting force of fifty men, of Companies A, G, and H, under Major Ben. Reector were attacked within three miles of camp, when returning from a fruitless hunt. Confident that no enemy was in the country, the force was completely routed. Privates John W. Allen, Company A, and Cornelius Jackson, Watson Frame, and John W. Williams, Company G, were killed, Private Levi B. Williamson, Company A, and Sergeant Thomas Harker, Company G, severely wounded, and Major Reector and fourteen enlisted men captured. Lieutenant G. B. Parsons, Company B, with forty men arrived by a different road in the midst of the rebels' success and changed it into a defeat, driving them from the field, and capturing their Lieutenant-Colonel commanding, and twelve men. Major Reector and all the prisoners of the regiment were exchanged and returned from Little Rock in November. On November 8th, a detachment of the regiment under Captain J. H. Peters was attacked near La Grange, Arkansas, but the rebels were defeated and driven from the ground, losing a major, a captain, and twelve men. Captain Peters' loss was in wounded: Second Lieutenant John Tucker and Private Benjamin F. Morgan, Company D, and Privates Charles H. Sisson and Francis Coe, Company H. In November the regiment formed a part of the expedition of Brigadier-General E. A. Hovey against Arkansas Post, which failed to make the passage of the Cut-Off, and returned to Helena. Immediately afterwards a detachment of the regiment joined the force commanded by Brigadier-General C. C. Washburne, which marched to Grenada, Mississippi, and destroyed the railroads in that vicinity.

During this winter, and within a few days or weeks of each other, there were accidentally killed, Private John R. D. Birum, Company H, thrown from his horse against a tree, and Corporal Edward Spicer, Company H, and Sergeant Lyman Fluke, Company C, and Private Joseph Henson, Company A, by gunshot, and wounded, Privates Jonathan Morris, Com-

pany B, Clinton O. Harrington, Company E, and Jeremiah Wilson, Company I. In a skirmish at Big Creek, two miles west of Helena, in January, 1863, Private Benonah Kellogg, Company I, was killed. Major Ben. Reector and Captain Thomas C. Tullis, died in camp at Helena, on January 21st and February 8th, respectively, of disease.

Early in April a detachment of the regiment under Major E. F. Winslow engaged a superior force of the enemy at Witsburg, on the St. Francis River, Arkansas. The rebels were defeated. The loss of the regiment was: Private Daniel Lorraine, Company I, killed, and Privates Henry Fleming, George Sheppard and M. B. South severely wounded.

At length, after nine months' harassing and petty service at Helena, the regiment was ordered to the army before Vicksburg, and embarked at Helena, April 29th, 1863. Arrived at Milliken's Bend, May 1st, and on the next day marched up the Bayou Mason on a reconnaissance. Returned on the 4th, and on the 5th began the march to Grand Gulf, by Richmond and Hard Times, Louisiana. Crossed the Mississippi at Grand Gulf, and overtaking the army at Rocky Springs on the 10th, was assigned to Sherman's Fifteenth Corps and at once placed in the advance. On the 12th, the regiment was engaged in a sharp skirmish at Fourteen Mile Creek, in which Private Jabez Sibley was killed, and William Ray and Corporal Asa E. Andrews, and Charles W. Lash, were wounded. Major Winslow's horse was killed under him. In the approach to Jackson, on the 14th, the regiment was kept in the advance, but on nearing the city performed flanking duties and was engaged with the enemy several hours. Upon the occupation of the capital, the regiment pushed on in pursuit of the enemy, crossing Pearl River, and marching to Brandon. It returned to Jackson the same night. On the 16th of May, the corps taking up its march for Vicksburg, the regiment became the rear-guard. It made a detour by Brownsville, and at that place engaged the enemy's cavalry, though without loss. On the 18th it crossed Big Black River at Bridgeport and closed up in the rear of its corps, in front of the works of Vicksburg. On this day, the regiment having been ordered on a reconnaissance to Haime's Bluffs, Captain J. H. Peters being in the advance with twenty men came up to the works, entered and took possession, the enemy having evacuated, though there were still some rebels and a number of guns.

During the siege of Vicksburg, the service of the regiment was exceedingly active. There being, for some time, no other cavalry with Grant's army, except a portion of the Sixth Missouri, it had that to do which should have employed six or eight regiments of cavalry. Scarcely a breathing moment was allowed from the 1st of May until the last of June. Out of fifty-six days in those two months, the "effective force" of the regiment was in the saddle fifty-two. The men were almost worn out and there

were a great many cases of sickness and, in time, a number of deaths from sheer fatigue endured in these times. The duty performed was picketing and reconnoitering in the right rear, a rebel force under General J. E. Johnston constantly promising an attack for the relief of the garrison. In the numerous patrols and scouts thus sent out skirmishes often occurred. One on May 24th at Mechanicsburg lasted several hours but the only casualty in the regiment was a slight wound for Private Francis R. Walker, Company F. In another skirmish fought at Mechanicsburg May 29th, the regiment had wounded, Sergeant John W. Corbin, Corporal William Henderson, and Privates Alonzo Cantrell and Isaac M. Vaughn, the last named mortally. About the middle of June detachments of the regiment were sent out from day to day to blockade with felled trees, the roads by which it was expected the enemy would advance, for General Johnston's rebels were now becoming strong and saucy. One of these blockading forces, of one hundred and fifteen men under Major A. B. Parkell, detachments from Companies A, F, I and K, was attacked June 22d, by eight hundred rebel cavalry. The enemy succeeded in cutting off one company (I) which was on picket, and nearly surrounding the others, made a furious charge. The overwhelmed and surprised blockaders resisted as well as men could, and cut their way through towards the camp, but nearly one-half were left behind—ten killed, five wounded and thirty-two captured. Some of the captured were also wounded. The killed and mortally wounded were: Privates George W. Vandorn, Andrew J. Chapel, John Mann, William S. Hunt, James Buttercase and John McClintock; Corporal John W. Frame and Private John W. Yancey; Second Lieutenant Joshua Gardner and Sergeant William T. Biggs, mortally wounded. Wounded: Private Levi B. William; Sergeant George W. Cuskey; Privates Thomas Miner, William Johnson, and Privates James Moon and William Hole; Second Lieutenant William J. McConneece was among the missing. This affair had, at least, the value of teaching our generals that there were some rebels in their rear; and a strong defence was immediately organized in Johnston's front, under Major-General Sherman. The regiment was stationed in this disposition, at Bear Creek, twenty miles from Vicksburg.

General Grant stepped into Vicksburg on the 4th of July, and without the delay of an hour the army under Sherman moved against the rebel General Johnston. On the evening of the 4th, the army was at Black River ready to cross. Johnston's main army was on the opposite bank, ready to cross and attack us. Had the surrender of Vicksburg been delayed one day, there would, perhaps, have been terrible fighting between the Black and the Mississippi Rivers.

The regiment now had a new colonel. Colonel A. B. Porter tendered his resignation to General Grant March 8th, and it was accepted about the

time now treated of. Major Edward F. Winslow had been commissioned colonel and at once assumed command. On the 5th, the regiment moved under Colonel Winslow in a brigade commanded by Colonel Cyrus Bussey, Third Iowa Cavalry, and crossing the Big Black at Messenger's Ferry, took the advance of the army on the main Jackson road. Appeared before Jackson on the 11th, and while the infantry besieged the capital, the cavalry made two hard marches to Canton, and engaged the enemy at that place, though without loss. The regiment being detached for that purpose burnt a bridge over Pearl River, and also burnt a railroad bridge over Black River north of Canton, with one mile of trestle work. The enemy evacuated Jackson in the night of the 16th, and a few days afterwards the army began to move slowly towards Vicksburg. The cavalry encamped at Flowers' on the west bank of Big Black.

On the 10th of August, a force of three hundred and seventy-five men from the regiment under Major A. B. Parkell formed part of a force of eight hundred under Colonel E. F. Winslow, which made a raid of over three hundred miles, by Yazoo City, Grenada, and Coldwater to Memphis, Tennessee. This was one of the most remarkable raids of the war. It occupied thirteen days and was made with four days' rations and in perfect order, and the rebels were on both hands in superior force for a greater part of the distance. This command returned from Memphis by transports reaching camp September 1st.

About the middle of September, a force of three hundred men from the regiment, under Captain William Pursell, formed part of a force of nine hundred under Colonel Winslow, which marched towards Kosciusko to make a diversion in favor of Sherman's troops, then moving from Memphis, via Corinth to Chattanooga. This command marched about one hundred and forty miles, was engaged in one or two sharp skirmishes, and returned via Benton and Yazoo City. October 15th, the Fourth Iowa, Fifth and Eleventh Illinois and Tenth Missouri formed the cavalry forces of a small army under Major General McPherson, which made an expedition through Brownsville, towards Livingston, a town twenty miles north of Jackson. During the five days' march the cavalry was almost constantly engaged, and inflicted severe injury upon the rebels. The Fourth lost: Private John Inland, killed October 16th; Sergeant George W. Caskey, killed October 18th; and Private Samuel R. White, captured. This Samuel R. White died at Andersonville prison in 1864.

There being only troops enough now at Vicksburg for its garrison, the lines of the army were drawn in, and the cavalry was encamped on Clear Creek, ten miles east of Vicksburg. On the 4th of December, a detachment of one hundred men of the regiment under Major C. F. Spearman formed part of a force commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, Fourth Illinois

Cavalry, which moved by transports to Natchez. Arriving on the 6th, this force was joined to a large one under Brigadier-General Gresham, and pursued the rebel cavalry under Wirt Adams one hard day's march, and on the next day returned to Natchez. On the 17th, the detachment reached Vicksburg. The regiment now belonged to what was designated as the Cavalry Forces, Seventeenth Army Corps.

On December 11th, began the "veteran" reenlistments in the regiment, although promissory reenlistments had been made in November. On the 19th, having reached the proportion of reenlistments required, the Fourth became a "veteran" regiment, the first to reenlist from the State of Iowa. In November recruits had begun to appear from the recruiting rendezvous in Iowa, and new detachments joined from time to time thereafter until seven hundred were received, and the regiment was full. During the winter the men had good quarters—huts built by themselves—and their service was the old story of picket, scouting, and foraging.

On the 1st of February, 1864, Sherman's great Meridian expedition began to move, and the regiment eagerly joined it, although it was spoiling the prospect of "veteran" furlough on which the men had been relying, and to which they had been some weeks entitled. The cavalry—four regiments including the Fourth—under Colonel E. F. Winslow, which constituted the advance of the army, crossed the Big Black on the 3d, and was almost every day engaged with the enemy during the march of one hundred and fifty miles to Meridian. Distinct skirmishes or battles were fought by the cavalry at Bolton on the 4th; Jackson, 5th; Hillsboro, 7th; Morton, 8th; Tunnel Hill, 12th; and Meridian, 14th. The cavalry moved to Marion and Lauderdale Springs while the infantry destroyed the railroads and supplies at Meridian, and on the 20th, the army having enjoyed a complete and triumphant success, began its return march to Vicksburg. Colonel Winslow was ordered to make a detour to the north by Philadelphia and Kosciusko to learn, if possible, the position of General W. S. Smith, who had moved from Memphis with a large force with orders to join Sherman at Meridian. The command passed through Philadelphia and Kosciusko and after a very fine trip, arrived at Canton a few hours before Sherman's infantry advance, on the 25th, but without having gained any knowledge of the movements of General Smith. On the next day the regiment was ordered to Vicksburg to go to Iowa on its long-promised veteran furlough, and early on the following morning it left the army behind and took up a joyous march for the Mississippi, distant sixty miles.

Immediately after their arrival in camp the veterans began their preparations for furlough, and on the 3d of March got away from Vicksburg. About six hundred recruits were left in camp, to be cilled and "physicked" as recruits must be. Picketing, foraging, and raying for the rain

to cease were the chief services of the recruits while the veterans were at home, until late in April when the camp was ordered to Memphis. On the passage to Memphis, privates Lemmon Chubine and John Rodgers were accidentally drowned. After a fine visit home, the veterans had arrived at Memphis and the parts of the regiment were joined, and encamped near the city April 29th. The aggregate of the regiment, present and absent, was now over thirteen hundred, and it was increased by additional recruits, in a few weeks, to thirteen hundred and fifty-four.

On the 30th the effective force of the regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Peters, marched in a force of twelve thousand under General S. D. Sturgis on an expedition in search of the rebel General Forrest. This command marched to Bolivar, Tennessee, and returned to Memphis May 12th, quite as wise in regard to Forrest's movements as when it went out.

Early in June another expedition moved from Memphis under command of this same General Sturgis, with orders to march into northern Mississippi where Forrest was then established. General Sturgis' force numbered about twelve thousand, of which nine thousand were infantry, including two regiments of blacks, and three thousand of cavalry. The cavalry was under command of Brigadier-General B. H. Grierson, and was divided into two brigades, the first under Colonel Waring and the second, consisting of the Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri Cavalry, under Colonel E. F. Winslow. The cavalry was kept in advance of the army and on the morning of the 10th June engaged the enemy's cavalry near Guntown, a small railroad station on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. The rebels fell back until they gained the protection of their main body, which was soon found to be posted in force and ready for battle. Our infantry was now five or six miles behind the cavalry. General Sturgis ordered it up on the "double-quick," on learning the disposition of the enemy, and directed the cavalry to engage him until it should arrive. The enemy, under Forrest, was about equal in number to our forces, and was strongly posted on the crest of a semicircular hill or ridge, in front of which ran a small creek, which had but one bridge, and was otherwise impassable, except in a very few places by footmen. The day was very warm, and when the infantry regiments came up they were exhausted and disordered, having double-quickened the whole distance from where they were when ordered forward. By another great blunder, close up with them came rushing the train, of more than two hundred wagons, and it was hurried over the bridge and packed in a field within easy range and sight of the enemy's batteries. If there has been one time, more than another, when the attacking force should have been well organized and disposed with particularly careful skill, it should have been here, where the enemy had so great advantages in position; but as fast as our infantry came up, tired and disordered as it was, it was

hurried into the fight, already opened by the cavalry, and soon and completely beaten. The division and brigade and subordinate officers made strenuous efforts to check the tide of defeat, but without avail, and the whole army was soon in full retreat, the greater part of it in utter confusion. The rebels, rejoicing in their easy victory, pursued with unrelenting vigor, capturing the entire train at the first step, and cutting off our weary infantry men in great numbers. It was some time before even an attempt at order in the retreat was made, and then Colonel Winslow's brigade was ordered to act as rear-guard and cover the retreat, it being the only organized force in the whole command. The First Brigade (of the cavalry division) had been divided, a large part of it being taken for an escort to the general commanding, and other detachments being broken off for different purposes. It was not attempted to keep the infantry in order, and it hurried along as best it could, a fleeing mob. So, back towards Memphis rushed the ruined army, its rear covered by Winslow's brigade of cavalry during the terrible night's march of June 10th and through the next day until Ripley was reached. Here the enemy pressed so hard that the running skirmish swelled into a sharp engagement, which, as it gave our troops some advantage, checked the ardor of the enemy's pursuit, and it was thereafter not so harassing, though continued until within a few miles of Memphis.

General Sturgis made no positive attempt to reorganize or control the troops after the retreat had begun, and he should be directly and alone responsible for this great disaster. Our losses were about four thousand men killed, wounded, and captured; the entire wagon-train of two hundred and fifty wagons, captured; the entire ambulance-train, except a few ambulances belonging to the cavalry division, captured; and every gun, except two that belonged to Winslow's brigade of cavalry, and which were brought off with credit. The loss of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, at Guntown on the 10th, at Ripley on the 11th, and on the march between, was quite heavy.*

* *Company A—Killed, Private Jeremiah Young. Wounded, Sergeant William E. Jackson (severely), Privates William Chapman, Henry Chapman, Andrew J. Loveley (severely). Prisoners, Privates Adam Warner, Ephraim Shaffer. Company B—Wounded, Privates Patrick McHugh, Jonathan Morris (slightly). Prisoners, Privates Lovett Littlejohn, Alfred A. Tracy, John McNulty. Company C—Killed, Privates Milton W. Stahl, Garrett Pligman. Wounded, Lieutenant Lloyd H. Dillon (dangerously), Corporal George W. Smith; Privates Adolph Stoder, John C. Hartman, Charles Hilgert (severely), John Straw, Alfred Peterson, John Sutherland, John Hickinson, Arsene Gerard (slightly). Prisoners, Private Andon Gates. Company D—Wounded, Corporal Simon Smith (severely), Privates Francis M. Noble, James B. Pearson (slightly). Company G—Killed, Private Edwin Huntington. Prisoners, Privates Isaac Smith. Company H—Killed, Corporal Francis C. Coe; Private Andrew Laird. Company I—Wounded, Privates Thomas Wilkinson (severely), Albert Rice (slightly). Wounded and Prisoners, Privates Eliza Payne, Zar Rockhold, George Schofield (slightly). Wounded and Prisoners, Privates George W. Holt, Stewart D. Perry. Company M—Wounded, Private Robert Hopkirk, since deceased.*

In the latter part of June, an expedition was fitted out with the positive and heroic determination of annihilating Forrest. The authorities feeling a daring suspicion that perhaps Sturgis was not possessed of the greatest military abilities, placed Major-General A. J. Smith in command of the new army. He rendezvoused his troops at Saulsbury, fifty miles east of Memphis, whither supplies could be shipped by rail. The cavalry in this army was the "Cavalry Corps of the District of West Tennessee," commanded by Brigadier-General Grierson, and the Fourth Iowa was in the Second Brigade, Second Division. General Smith, with twelve thousand men marched from Saulsbury July 7th, and skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry every day, engaged him in force at Tapelo, Mississippi, July 14th.

General Forrest commanded the rebel army of fourteen thousand in person, and relying on the prestige of his Guntown success was over-confident of victory in this engagement, and began it with a furious charge over disadvantageous ground. He was repulsed with great loss. The assault was twice repeated, but with the same result, and the defeated rebels were routed and driven from the field. The rebel loss in this battle was much greater than ours, as they fought quite recklessly, evidently expecting an easy victory. Their dead left on the field numbered considerably more than our entire loss in killed, wounded and missing. Thus was the stain of the Guntown defeat wiped out, and the blarney Forrest soundly beaten.

The cavalry was not engaged in the main battle, but was in position where ordered and under fire, and quite ready to "go in" whenever it should be called. On the next day, however, it was engaged in a hot skirmish at Old Town Creek. The regiment lost in these engagements, Corporal James Rooney, killed, and Sergeant Polk Tibbels, Privates Thomas McNulty, Church Rinard, and Andrew Smithbury, wounded, all except the last, severely. The regiment returned to Memphis with the army late in July, the men tired and the horses sadly jaded.

Another expedition into Mississippi was immediately organized under General A. J. Smith, and the Fourth Iowa was ordered under Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Peters. This army, of about ten thousand, marched from Memphis, August 4th, and taking in its way Holly Springs, reached the Tallahatchee the 17th. Here, on that day, the cavalry was engaged in a sharp skirmish, but the enemy was nowhere found in any considerable force. The command remained in this region until the latter part of August, when it again returned to Memphis.

General Sterling Price, at the head of fifteen thousand rebels, had now begun his march from southwestern Arkansas on his proposed raid into Missouri. General Joe Mower was ordered from Memphis into Arkansas, via White River, to veto the movement. A division of cavalry was also ordered from Memphis to coöperate with General Mower. This was the

Second Division, Cavalry Corps, District West Tennessee, commanded by Colonel E. F. Winslow. Its effective force starting on this campaign was two thousand and two hundred, and it consisted of two brigades, the First under Colonel Karge of the Second New Jersey Cavalry, and the Second under Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Duffield, of the Third Iowa Cavalry. The Second was composed of the Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri. The Fourth was commanded by Major A. R. Pierce, and its aggregate on starting was five hundred and twenty-five. The division crossed the Mississippi at Memphis September 2d. The weather was very hot, and our road to Clarendon, eighty miles, lay almost entirely through swamps. Crossed White River at Clarendon, and arrived at Brownsville the 9th. Lay here seven days waiting for the infantry, and in the meantime Price marched past on his way north. Moved on the 17th, and marching by Searcy crossed Little Red River, and striking Price's general route, crossed it frequently. There is no more dismal country than that on Black River, and our army tramped gloomily through its sunless swamps nine days, with miserable rations, until it reached the borders of Missouri. Here we heard of Price's success over the garrison at Iron Mountain only two days in advance of us. At Greenville, General Mower turned eastward and marched direct for the Mississippi, arriving at Cape Girardeau, October 5th. The army here embarked for St. Louis, where it arrived on the 8th and 9th.

Price was now threatening Jefferson City. The infantry under General A. J. Smith pushed up the Missouri on transports, and the cavalry marched out on the 11th, having received new supplies of clothing and horses. A large force of Missouri militia was now in the field, but they being hopelessly bewildered by the audacious rebels, Price marched past Jefferson City, and had it not been for Blunt and his little army, he would have gone unmolested through Lexington. At Lexington, on October 21st, we came close upon the enemy's rear, and marching nearly all that night overtook him in the afternoon of the next day, near Independence. We had now, including the mounted Missouri militia, six thousand cavalry, all under command of Major-General Alfred Pleasonton. The rapid marching of the cavalry had left the infantry far behind, and it was not again "up" during the campaign. The enemy, increased by recruits and conscripts now numbered twenty thousand troopers and thirteen guns. Phillips' Brigade being in advance, engaged the enemy at Independence, and his was successively relieved by Brown's and Sanborn's Brigades, and at sundown, Winslow's Brigade was ordered to the front, and all other troops relieved.

Winslow's Brigade, as it was now called, was reduced to one thousand two hundred men, two regiments having been detached and other losses

common to all campaigns having occurred. The enemy was posted on a ridge three miles west of the town, and as soon as the brigade came to the front, the Third Iowa and Seventh Indiana were dismounted and advanced. A sharp engagement ensued with severe loss on both sides, and continued until eight P. M., when the enemy was driven from his position. Private John Koelbeck, Company F, Fourth Iowa, orderly to Colonel Winslow, was severely wounded. One battalion, the Third, of the Fourth Iowa, under Captain E. W. Dee, was now ordered forward, and supported by a detachment of the Fourth Missouri, pursued the enemy until he took up another position, on the Big Blue River. Here both forces lay on their arms until daybreak of October 23d. Brown's Brigade had been ordered to relieve Winslow's at daybreak, but it failed to do so, and the Fourth Iowa opened the battle of Big Blue. It was begun very early by the advance of Captain Dee's line, but the whole regiment and brigade were soon dismounted and engaged. The passage of the Big Blue, naturally very difficult, was now much more so from the enemy's blockade of trees. It was made, however, under a galling fire from the rebel artillery and advance line, was quite successful, and the whole rebel lines were soon engaged, defeated and driven from this very strong position into the open prairie. Colonel Winslow was severely wounded, and the regiment lost Privates John Slavin and Thomas Cole, killed, and Privates John W. Rafferty and Michael Cuning, wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, assumed command of the brigade after Colonel Winslow was wounded, and led it gallantly through the remainder of the battle. As soon as the brigade could be remounted, it pursued the enemy, and at two P. M. discovered him drawn up in the prairie, but protected by a swell of the ground until the advancing force should be within easy range. The three brigades of the militia failing to come up, except, indeed, near enough for one of their batteries to open fire on our column, Winslow's brigade was again ordered forward, at a charge. It was met by a hot fire of shell and canister, particularly destructive to the advanced regiment, the Tenth Missouri; but the column moved on at a rushing gallop, and when within rifle range of the enemy, swept into line and dashed against him with a wonderful swiftness. The enemy had here two divisions, Fagan's and Marmaduke's, the third, Shelby's, having been detached to check the advance of Blunt from Kansas City. The charge broke the enemy's right, and his whole line soon followed, broken and fleeing.

The brigade pursued four miles, taking many prisoners, when the rebels gained the cover of a range of hills behind a rocky creek. In the night, they retreated in hot haste, and on the next morning we began our pursuit, on a strained time-table. Major-General Curtis this morning assumed

command of the army, having joined after the battle on the evening before, with a large body of Kansas militia and some Colorado regiments, under Major-General Blunt. The road lay over prairies, and to facilitate his march and keep his command concentrated, Price, skilful in retreats, marched in four double columns, side by side. This is, probably, the only case of the kind known in the war. He also frequently fired the prairies to impede our pursuit, though that affected us but little, as the wide and well beaten track of his four columns was of advantage to us in avoiding the fire. That he made good time may be understood from the fact that we marched in our pursuit on October 24th, sixty miles without a halt. Our advance came up with him at midnight, and found he had taken a position on a rough ridge at Westport, a trading post on the Osage River near the Kansas border. From this position he was driven by Winslow's (now Benteen's) and Phillips' Brigades, in a cold rain at daybreak of October 25th, and forced across the Osage into open prairies. Here he was compelled to abandon a large part of his train of plunder and two small field pieces. The brigade was to have been relieved from the front here, by the militia, but after a short halt it was again ordered forward. Crossed the Osage, and after a gallop of six miles came upon the enemy drawn up in front of a tiny little creek called Mine Creek.

The battle that followed was one of the most remarkable of the war. Drawn up on open prairie, each army could see the whole force and all dispositions of the other, and the troops engaged were on both sides exclusively cavalry. There could be no "drawn" work there. One side must be defeated, routed. Price had his whole command drawn up here, Marmaduke's Division on the right, Fagan's in the centre, and Shelby's on the left. The militia, as usual, succeeded in allowing Benteen's Brigade to pass, and it came up first. It was ordered to charge at once in column of regiments. This placed the Tenth Missouri in front, the Fourth Iowa next, and the Third Iowa third. The rebel artillery was very active upon our approach, but its fire was generally too high, though the cross fire of one battery struck Phillips' Brigade, which was moving up in our right rear, and killed and wounded many men. Our column moved on at a rushing gallop against the enemy's right wing, but it did not break, as many seemed to have expected, from the moral effect of the charge, and when within very short range—scarcely two hundred yards—our advance regiment halted and wavered. Its officers made desperate efforts to urge their men forward, but failed, and for a moment the contending forces stood, fairly glaring at each other. The enemy, seeing the advantage offered, raised a shout and began to move forward. It seemed like our ruin. If he should charge and get the prestige of attack, our destruction seemed inevitable. It was an awful moment, but proved to be the glory

of the Fourth Iowa. Major Pierce, knowing how critical was the condition, determined at once upon a movement of his own, and taking the responsibility on himself, dashed to the left of the regiment and ordered it forward at a charge, in columns of fours. Galloping through the wavering line of the regiment in front, our column rushed, with wild cheers, against the rebel right. This novel movement gave us the victory. The enemy, surprised, gave way where he was struck, our whole force joined in the charge, and his whole line was broken away like a row of falling bricks. His rout was soon complete, and his losses, for so short an action—very heavy; over three hundred killed and wounded, nine hundred prisoners, three battle-flags, and seven pieces of artillery.

Of the guns, the Fourth Iowa captured five, and of the flags, two. The Third Iowa captured the rebel Generals Marmaduke and Cabell. In the Fourth, Second Lieutenant Hira W. Curtis, Company F, was killed, Major A. R. Pierce, Corporal Charles Totten, and Private Henry J. Crall were severely wounded, and several enlisted men were slightly wounded. The militia now moved forward in pursuit, and Benteen's Brigade, sadly fatigued, marched on again ready for battle.

About fifteen miles from the scene of the battle, and about three P. M., the enemy was found drawn up in two lines on Chariton Prairie. Again, as if it were the constant programme, the militia dropped back and Benteen's Brigade were ordered to charge. Now it was to be in column of companies, but the charge began at too great a distance from the enemy, and when it came within range the command was neither in good shape nor condition, so the advance was checked, and meeting a desperate fire from the enemy seemed ready to break. The enemy, as in the morning, thinking the charge repulsed, again advanced as if to charge, but our supporting the charge repulsed, again advanced as if to charge, but our support now came up, and a couple of howitzers being opened on him, he halted, and our command reformed for another advance. Before this was completed, the enemy began to withdraw, and night coming on, the contest was ended and our exhausted soldiers dropped upon the prairie and slept, holding their horses' bridles.

In this engagement the regiment had none killed, but Sergeant Joseph Smith and Private Smith R. Crane, Company A, and Sergeant Hiram H. Cardell, Company E, were severely wounded, and several others were slightly wounded.

General Blunt was ordered to Fort Scott, six miles distant, that night, and it was expected that he would intercept Price at that place. Price's retreat now became a desperate flight. Blunt did not cut him off at Fort Scott, nor overtake him until he reached Newtonia, Missouri, two days afterwards. Here a heavy skirmish occurred, but it was the last fighting of the campaign. The pursuit was kept up by General Curtis, through

Southwestern Missouri, by Lamar, Cartage, Newtonia, and Cassville; down through Arkansas by Fayetteville and the Boston Mountains, where cold, rainy, snowy, miserable weather came upon us; down through Indian Territory where civilization was not, neither was there food for man or beast; down to the Arkansas River at Weber's Falls we pursued the ragged, hungry, wretched remnant of the late boastful rebel army—a demoralized mob of seven thousand men—with two guns left of twenty thousand men and thirteen guns.

We must now take care of ourselves, and our condition was not at all enviable. We must return by St. Louis, distant four hundred miles. We were without food, and for more than a week had had but very little else than fresh beef and apples, and the nearest point at which we could expect to get provisions was Springfield—distant about one hundred and eighty miles. Cold weather was upon us and we were not provided for it. Our horses were not only without food, but had had none for three days. They were all sadly jaded, some nearly exhausted and many men were dismounted. The return march began November 8th, and gleaming a very little corn from that starved country and receiving one lot of bread sent from Fort Scott we reached Springfield without loss, and having every day a better prospect of an end of their privations the men toiled on, and after many hardships, of cold, short rations, and thin clothing, reached St. Louis on the 28th. Here ended the most remarkable campaign of the war. Winslow's Brigade had marched steadily from September 1st until November 28th with but very few days rest, the whole distance, including twenty-five per cent. for scouting, flanking and foraging, being two thousand four hundred miles, and traversed two states and a part of Indian Territory. It had suffered in the campaign the two extremes of intense heat and severe cold; it had made several extraordinary forced marches; had worn out two sets of horses; had fought several engagements, and was always successful. There were no brighter laurels won during the rebellion.

When the brigade arrived at St. Louis it was under orders for Nashville. Delays in getting fresh horses and new clothing, however, kept it at St. Louis until December 9th. On that day it began to embark, and the Fourth Iowa pushed off in advance for Cairo and Louisville. Arrived at Louisville December 22d, but the battles of Franklin and Nashville had been fought, and our brigade was now not needed by General Thomas.

That part of the regiment which was left at Memphis when the expedition moved out into Arkansas, being men at the time unfit for duty or dismounted, was increased by men sent back from the expedition "unfit for duty" to about six hundred. The detachment was kept busy picketing and paroling. A patrol of fifty men, from Companies A and B, under Captain Eldred Huff, Company A, was surprised at White House, six miles east

of Memphis, December 14th, 1864, and completely routed. Sergeant Joseph Gamble and Privates John O'Brian and William Young were killed and Captain Huff and twenty men were captured.

On December 22d a cavalry expedition marched from Memphis under General B. H. Grierson with the object of destroying railroad stock and rebel supplies in Mississippi. Four hundred and fifty men of the Fourth Iowa, its effective force then at Memphis, were joined to the raid, under Major W. W. Woods. This raid was a splendid success, sweeping through Mississippi via Grenada, Opelika, and Yazoo City to Vicksburg, and destroying a vast amount of railroad property and confederate army supplies. A skirmish was fought at Opelika, December 27th, without loss. The raid reached Vicksburg January 5th, and the troops of Winslow's Brigade embarked for Louisville, moving one thousand four hundred miles by river and arriving at Louisville January 17, 1865.

The brigade was now organized as of old—the Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri, under Colonel E. F. Winslow—and formed a part of Wilson's grand cavalry corps. Our brigade was the Second and Division the Fourth of the Cavalry Corps of the Military Division of the Mississippi. Now, with Wilson for corps, Upton for division and Winslow for brigade, commanders, the position of the regiment was the best it had ever held. The brigade remained at Louisville until February, refitting for the field. All the regiments were now armed with Spencer's carbines and received new accoutrements and equipments. The heavy cavalry sabres were exchanged for the light, excellent blade of the new pattern and all the revolvers were turned in except enough to arm the sergeants, who were not required to carry carbines. On an interesting occasion, while at Louisville, the regiment, through Lieutenant-Colonel Peters, presented to Colonel Winslow a sword and equipments and a gold American watch, as a token of regard for his rare qualities as a commanding officer.

Embarking on transports February 7th, and moving down the Ohio and up the Tennessee, the brigade reached Watertown, Alabama, the 13th, and encamped at Gravelly Springs on the next day. Remained here, drilling and preparing for the grand campaign, which was to open as soon as the weather was settled, for the winter rains were not yet over. Whilst here encamped, the beautiful flag offered by the Women's Loyal League, of Mount Pleasant, to the "First Veteran Regiment from Iowa," was formally presented to the regiment. The men were very proud of the honor, and the flag, which bore in gold letters the names of the principal engagements in which the regiment had served, was given in charge to Company H, as that was the first company to reenlist. Colonel Winslow was now brevetted brigadier-general, to rank from December 13th, 1864.

On March 21st, Winslow's Brigade bade "good-bye to America,"

and plunged into the wilderness as the advance of the great raid. Brevet-Major-General James H. Wilson commanded the whole force, but though there were seven divisions in his "Cavalry Corps," only three were represented here; the First, Second, and Fourth, numbering in all about twelve thousand men. But it was necessary to keep one division in rear of the wagon train loaded with ammunition and commissaries, and a great many men were required to manage the pack train which carried such supplies as were of immediate necessity, so that the fighting force in front was but a small part of the twelve thousand. The line of march lay direct against Selma, Alabama. Nothing of special moment occurred, if we except the destruction of the iron works at Red Mountain and at the Cahawba, until we reached Montevallo, fifty miles north of Selma. Here three companies of the regiment under Major W. W. Woods, skirmished with the enemy's advance, and Private Francis M. Boswell was wounded. At Six-Mile Creek, six miles south of Montevallo, on the 31st, the regiment engaged two regiments of the enemy's cavalry. These regiments had been detached from the enemy's main force, which was engaged with the front of our division, and attacked our marching column on its right flank, a few hundred yards in advance of the Fourth Iowa. Lieutenant-Colonel Peters, commanding regiment, at once pushed it forward, (only seven companies were then available, the others being rear-guard of the train,) and dismounting charged without a moment's delay. The enemy broke, and the regiment pursued nearly two miles, killing five, wounding several, and capturing two. Its own loss was Corporal Jacob Gantz and Private Oliver F. Chester, and Trumpeter John Q. Riley, severely; and James Lathers and Villeroz Abbe, slightly wounded. On April 1st, was fought the battle of Ebenezer Church, in which the Fourth Iowa suffered no loss.

On the 2d, at 2 P. M., the command appeared before Selma; and now after a rapid march of two hundred and fifty miles, without the delay of an hour or of even time for a cup of coffee, our troops were dismounted and advanced to the assault, the assaulting column consisting of the Second Division, and of the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, except eight companies of the Fourth Iowa. These eight companies were reserved for a sort of forlorn assault upon the enemy's extreme right by way of a supposed impassable swamp. Selma was defended by two lines of fortifications, the outer one continuous and mounting thirty guns—twenty-nine field pieces and one thirty-two pounder Parrott. The garrison numbered seven thousand men, and was commanded by Forrest. General Wilson soon completed his dispositions and ordered the assault. The battle was short but desperate. Forty-four of our men were killed and three hundred and fifty wounded, but the rebels were defeated and driven from the works. As soon as they broke, the eight companies of the Fourth Iowa—the other

companies were engaged in the direct assault under Major Woods, which had been dismounted for the attack on the right—were ordered forward for a mounted charge. Hastily mounting and dashing through the works, these companies at full gallop charged into the city and on the rebel forces, and the defeated enemy was utterly routed.

The regiment lost in this action, Captain Eugene R. Jones, Company I, than whom the service held few better officers, and Chief Trumpeter Daniel J. Taber killed, and Sergeant James H. Stocks, Company H, Color-Beaver, and Privates Robert Campbell and Abraham Needles Company I, and Ezekiah Phelps, Company L, wounded, and a number of horses killed and wounded. It captured one thousand four hundred and ninety-five prisoners, including seventy-eight officers; nine field pieces, eight caissons, three battle-flags, six hundred and sixty horses, and a considerable number of wagons and ambulances with their teams. The flags were captured, one each by Privates Nicholas Fanning, Company B, James P. Killee, Company D, and Charles Swan, Company K. The capture of Selma was almost the heaviest blow that could have been inflicted upon the rebels at this time. They had here an extensive, and to them, invaluable foundry, where guns of all kinds and weights, even to the heaviest siege guns were being cast; beside the thirty pieces mounted on the works, seventy were lying in the foundry. There were, besides, factories and machinery for the manufacture of all the munitions of war, and arsenals filled with ordnance stores all ready for issue, and great depots of commissary's and quartermaster's supplies. The army was engaged six days at Selma, in the destruction of public property, and in building a pontoon bridge over the Alabama. While the work was going on, Winslow's Brigade, under Colonel J. W. Noble, Third Iowa, General Winslow being placed in command of the post of Selma, was ordered on a reconnaissance up the Cahawba. Marched one hundred miles, and returned to Selma April 6th.

Crossed the Alabama on the Ninth, and moved against the capital—Montgomery. The enemy made show of defence, but evacuated on the approach of the raiders and McCook's Division, or rather his brigade as he now had but one, occupied the city on the 12th. On the next day, two companies, H and M, of the Fourth Iowa, under Captain F. S. Whiting, being on a reconnaissance up the Coosa River with a detachment of the Fourth Kentucky, captured three steamboats laden with corn, cotton, and commissaries. On the 14th, the column moved on against Columbus, Georgia, another rebel city of manufactures and depot of supplies. The Second Division was left in rear of the train, and McCook's Brigade was dispatched against West Point, a railroad town on the Chattahoochee, thirty miles above Columbus, and the Fourth Division appeared alone before Columbus at two P. M. of the 16th. The defences of the city were

on the west bank of the river, about the village of Girard, and consisted of a chain of forts, surmounting a range of hills, connected by lines of earthworks and mounting forty-four guns. The garrison numbered about four thousand, under Major-General Howell Cobb, but more directly under Colonel Von Zinken, a Prussian officer of great repute among the rebels. The enemy had destroyed all the bridges leading over into Columbus, except one, and that now had its crevices stuffed with cotton saturated with turpentine, ready to be set ablaze if the Yankees should gain the works that protected it and attempt its passage.

It would have been folly to have attacked this place with so small a force, by daylight, and General Winsor determined upon a night assault and a stratagem. To persuade the enemy that his force was very large, the First Brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General Alexander, made a feint on the enemy's left, and the Second moved by a circuitous and concealed route to the front of his right and the front of the all-important remaining bridge. Here the brigade lay and quietly awaited the approach of night. Soon after dark the column moved forward, dismounted, and whilst a line of buglers, placed in front, at considerable intervals, sounded the charge, so that it seemed as if a long line was advancing to the attack, the real assault was made in column against the works fronting the bridge. The fire of the whole garrison was drawn. A battle by night seems more horrible than by day, and the scenes and sounds that were created in the blackness of that night were awful. Our victory was complete, and the very audacity of the assault was its success. Even after the Yankees had occupied the bridge, the bewildered rebels on the right of the broken works, kept battering away into their front at an enemy who was then in their rear. The pursuit was so close, that in the darkness our advance mingled with the fleeing rebels crossing the bridge, and those charged with firing it were captured before they knew the Unionists were near. The Fourth Iowa was the first to reach and cross the bridge. Two thousand rebels were cut off from the passage of the bridge and captured, together with all the guns in all the works.

The Fourth captured in the action nine hundred and forty-one prisoners, including sixty-seven officers, twelve field pieces, sixteen caissons and seven battle flags. The flags were captured, one each, by Sergeant Norman F. Bates, Company E; Corporal Richard Morgan, Company A; Privates Edward Bevil, Company D, John Hayes, Company F, Eli Sherman, Company I, John Kelly and Richard Cosgriff, Company L. Its loss was: Private Nathan Beezley, killed; Sergeant Joseph Jones, mortally wounded, and Sergeant Horton M. Derrick, Corporal E. A. Reeves, Privates John S. Shirley, Elias F. Oggs, Jehoiada Wirth, and David Anderson, wounded. The loss of Columbus was almost, or perhaps quite as great an injury to

the enemy as the loss of Selma. There were here manufactories of all military accoutrements and equipments, a naval foundry, several large arsenals, some extensive railroad works, three large cotton mills filled with cloth and running full power, and a larger amount of commissary and quartermaster stores than at Selma. The iron-clad Jackson, mounting six heavy guns, lay in the river, nearly ready to move, and besides the forty-four guns mounted on the works, thirty-two were lying in the city. The day and night of the 17th were spent in the destruction of this vast amount of property. The iron-clad and the arsenals were blown up, all machinery broken and destroyed and all public property set on fire. One immense storm of flame wrapped the city during the evening, and a terrifically grand conflagration continued all night.

On the morning of the 18th, the army marched eastward, the city still a mass of flame and coals, and the monotony of the march was relieved once or twice before we passed out of sight, by the fearful crash of a bursting magazine. The Fourth Division was in the rear in the march against Macon. At Thomaston, the regiment was detached with orders to destroy the Macon and Atlanta Railroad between Barnesville and Macon. The regiment cut the track at Barnesville on the same day, but at Forsyth on the next day, the 20th, it received news of Sherman's "agreement" with Johnston, and its field service in the war was done. Reached Macon on the next day, and found the whole command encamped there. Remained at Macon, men and animals subsisting on a short and wretched supply of captured stores, until May 5th, when the corps having been divided for the occupation of the country, the Fourth Division was ordered to Atlanta. A detachment from two battalions of the Fourth Iowa, under Major Dee, had previously been ordered to Augusta, and had gone dismounted, by rail, to occupy that city. The division reached the ruins of Atlanta on the 9th, and was soon after broken up, General Upton being ordered to Nashville. The First Brigade was moved away, and Winslow's was left to occupy Atlanta and its district. Many companies were detached to occupy different points in the district, to parole rebel soldiers who were now moving through the State in great numbers, receive rebel public property and preserve order. Companies of the Fourth Iowa were posted, one each, at Griffin, La Grange, Madison and Washington, and the detachment before spoken of was kept some weeks at Augusta. All available force was kept at work rebuilding the Atlanta end of the Chattahoochee Railroad, a work that was watched with great interest by both citizens and soldiers, for there could be no certain communication with the North until it was done. This happy event occurred July 4th, and after five months of separation we were again united with "America." In June, the regiment was assigned to post duty, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Peters

assumed command of the Post of Atlanta. It continued in this service until July 20th, when it was relieved by a brigade of General Sedgwick's command.

Orders having been received for the muster-out of all cavalry in the Department of Georgia, except one regiment, the Fourth Iowa was placed under orders for muster out July 26th. Then the detached companies having been called in and blanks procured, the glad work of preparing muster out rolls began, and on the 10th of August, the entire regiment—forty-seven officers and nine hundred and thirty-six men—was mustered out, just four years from the date of its first enlistment. On the next day, the men retaining their arms as allowed by law, began their journey to Iowa for payment and final discharge. Eleven hundred miles by rail, via Chicago, brought them to Davenport, where they were paid in full and given their discharges on the 24th of August, and all gladly threw off the restraints of military life and became independent citizens.

The services of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, so modestly related as above by Adjutant Scott, were of the utmost value to the Union arms, and it may with entire truthfulness be said that throughout its long, varied, eventful career, it established a record of efficiency and of gallantry which might have gratified the just pride of officers and men of any command of the volunteer forces of the Union. Its marches, its combats, its battles, on a theatre of war embracing nearly all the Southern States; the enconiums it won from all fighting generals who ever witnessed its discipline or its deeds of daring, constitute a history which the people of Iowa can never allow to be obliterated from their memory or their gratitude.⁴

⁴The veterans of the regiment marched during their term of service, about twelve thousand miles. The rolls of the command, during the same period, embraced one hundred and twelve officers, and seventeen hundred and fifty enlisted men. The succession of the officers, except those in the battalion organization, which did not long continue, was as follows:

FIELD OFFICERS.—Colonels Asbury B. Porter, Edward F. Winslow; Lieutenant-Colonels Thomas Drummond, Simeon D. Swan, John H. Peters; Majors Simeon D. Swan, Joseph E. Jewett, George A. Stone, Benjamin Rector, Alonzo B. Pickett, Edward F. Winslow, Cornelius F. Spearman, Abner R. Pierce, William W. Woods, Edward W. Dee; Adjutants George W. Waldron, Edward Ketchum, Ambrose Hodge, William F. Scott; Quartermasters Simon P. Lauffer, Edward W. Raymond, Christian Musser; Commissaries William T. Allen, Seth Martin; Surgeons Andrew W. McClure, William Robinson; Assistant Surgeons Wellington Bird, Robert Taylor, William Robinson, William McK. Findley, Stephen Cummings, Samuel W. Taylor, William Robinson; Chaplain Reverend Andrew J. Kirkpatrick.

LINE OFFICERS.—Company A.—Captains Benjamin Rector, J. Marshall Rust, Eldred Huff, Milton S. Holtzinger; First Lieutenants John Gayles, Milton S. Holtzinger, Asahel Mann; Second Lieutenants J. Marshall Rust, S. Kirkwood, Charles Samuel P. Kelly. Company B.—Captains John H. Peters, George B. Parsons, Alonzo Clark; First Lieutenants George B. Parsons, Alonzo Clark, Thomas Bowman; Second Lieutenants Alonzo Clark, Thomas Bowman, Lorenzo D. Wellman. Company C.—Captains Orin Miller, Watson B. Porter, Warren Beckwith; First Lieutenants Henry E. Winslow, Charles M. Robinson, Lanson P. Baker; Second Lieutenants James Patterson, Lanson P. Baker, Loyd H. Dillon, Charles H. Smith. Company D.—Captains Cornelius F. Spearman, Lot Abraham; First Lieutenants Erasmus Colner, Lot Abraham, John T. Tucker, Hugh M. Pickett; Second Lieutenants John T. Tucker, George J. Sharp, Amos L. Ogg. Company E.—Captains Alonzo

R. Parkell, Edward W. Dee, Exum Saint; First Lieutenants Orson A. Perkins, Edward W. Dee, Exum Saint, Simon K. Fuller; Second Lieutenants Edward W. Dee, Exum Saint, James C. Kelsey, Simon K. Fuller, Hiram H. Cardell. *Company F*—Captains Edward F. Winslow, Thomas J. Zollars, Newell B. Dana; First Lieutenants Thomas J. Zollars, Boyd P. Brim, Elias B. Woodruff; Second Lieutenants William A. Hancock, Boyd P. Brim, Elias B. Woodruff, Hira W. Curtis, John T. Reynolds. *Company G*—Captains Thomas C. Tullis, Francis M. Davis, Alexander Rodgers; First Lieutenants James Brown, Alexander Rodgers, John S. Keck; Second Lieutenants Simon Hooper, Francis M. Davis, Robert P. Gilmer, Peter R. Keck. *Company H*—Captains Dewitt C. Crawford, Samuel S. Troy, Asa B. Fitch; First Lieutenants Samuel S. Troy, Asa B. Fitch, Andrew N. Stamm, William D. Guernsey; Second Lieutenants Edwin A. Haskell, Stephen W. Groesbeck, Andrew N. Stamm, William D. Guernsey, Edward Blasier. *Company I*—Captains William Pursell, Eugene R. Jones, Lloyd H. Dillon; First Lieutenants Jesse R. Lambert, William P. Hastings, William Early, Eugene R. Jones, Isaac H. Borkin; Second Lieutenants John R. Overmyer, William Early, William J. McConnell, John S. Winkley. *Company K*—Captains James T. Drummond, Ambrose Hodge; First Lieutenants Jacob Hart, James O. Vanorsdel; Second Lieutenants Joshua Gardner, William A. Bereman, John R. Halliwell. *Company L*—Captains William E. Harris, William W. Woods, Samuel M. Pray; First Lieutenants William H. Sells, William W. Woods, Samuel M. Pray, Samuel N. Miller; Second Lieutenants William W. Woods, Ambrose Hodge, Orr Seng, Samuel O. Black. *Company M*—Captains Abial R. Pierce, Frederick S. Whiting; First Lieutenants Frederick S. Whiting, Daniel J. Vance; Second Lieutenants Aaron J. Newby, Martin V. B. Shattor.

CHAPTER XXIV.

FIFTH CAVALRY.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE COMMAND, PREVIOUSLY TO ITS ORGANIZATION AS AN IOWA REGIMENT—FIRST CALLED "CURTIS HORSE"—BECOMES THE FIFTH IOWA CAVALRY—OPERATIONS IN KENTUCKY, FROM THE BASE OF FORT HEIMAN—ENGAGEMENT AT PARIS—AFFAIR NEAR LOCKRIDGE'S MILLS—DEATH OF MAJOR BERNSTEIN—PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY BY COLONEL LOWE—ACTIVE OPERATIONS—GARRISON FORT DONELSON—MOVE TO MURFREESBORO—PURSUIT OF WHEELER—IMPORTANT EXPEDITION UNDER MAJOR YOUNG—VARIOUS MOVEMENTS—HOME ON VETERAN FURLOUGH—RETURN TO NASHVILLE—OPERATIONS IN THAT VICINITY—*THE ROUSSEAU RAID*—GENERAL MCCOOK'S UNFORTUNATE RAID—BATTLE OF JONESBORO—RETURN TO NASHVILLE—OPERATIONS ON DUCK RIVER—BRILLIANT EXPLOIT BY MAJOR YOUNG—BATTLE OF NASHVILLE—PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY—THE WILSON RAID—CONCLUSION.

THAT command which, under the cognomen of Fifth Iowa Cavalry, performed distinguished services during the rebellion, in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia, was but in part an Iowa regiment, nor did the troops composing it acquire that name until some months after regimental organization. The States of Minnesota and Missouri, and the territory of Nebraska were largely represented in the command by both officers and enlisted men; but inasmuch as the State of Iowa was more largely represented than any other in point of numbers, the regiment came to be designated as belonging to our State.

Carl Schaeffer, of Dubuque, was a Sergeant in Company H, of the First Iowa Volunteers. W. A. Haw, of Burlington, was a Sergeant in Company D, of the same regiment. When that regiment had been honorably discharged the service not long after the battle of Wilson's Creek, these men were authorized by General Frémont to raise a troop of cavalry in Iowa for part of his body-guard. Frémont gave Schaeffer a Captain's commission, and Haw that of a Lieutenant. Schaeffer was a German, and a nobleman by birth. Succeeding to his paternal titles and the estate of the Barony of Bornstein, he assumed the surname of Bornstein, to which his estate

HISTORICAL SKETCH

FOURTH REGIMENT IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

The Fourth Regiment of Iowa Cavalry was organized under the proclamation of President Lincoln, dated July 23, 1861. The original roster of the regiment shows that the twelve companies of which it was composed were ordered into quarters by Governor Kirkwood, on dates ranging from August 26 to November 2, 1861. The place of rendezvous designated in the order was Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where the companies were mustered into the service of the United States by Captain Alexander Chambers, of the United States Army, on dates ranging from November 23, 1861, to January 1, 1862.¹ Most of these companies had perfected their organization and were awaiting assignment when the Governor's order was issued, but some of them had only an incipient organization at that time, hence the disparity in the dates upon which they were mustered into the service. Upon the date of the muster of the last company, the regiment numbered 1,086 men and officers. The camp was named "Camp Harlan," in honor of the distinguished Senator from Iowa, whose home was in Mount Pleasant. Barracks were erected for the use of the men and officers, and stables for the horses.

The subjoined roster gives the names of the field, staff and line officers, as well as that of each enlisted man, at the time the organization was completed, and, opposite the name of each, appears his personal record of service, in so far as the same could be found by a careful search of the official records. However, it is more than possible that, in some instances, individual records may be found to be incomplete or incorrect. In such cases the fault must be charged to the official records, and inability to obtain fuller information from the War Department, at Washington, and not to those who made the transcripts. A painstaking effort was made some years ago by William F. Scott, late Adjutant of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, to compile a correct roster and record of the regiment.² In his preface to the work, Adjutant Scott says: "The history given is that of the original records, supplemented by papers of my own and of other officers and soldiers, all verified with much care. But the great number of errors and contradictions found and traced to explanation makes it probable that many others remain hidden. I can only say that the work is as nearly correct as it could well be made, and certainly more nearly correct than the official records."

While this compilation, like that of every other Iowa military organization embraced in this work, is made from the official records, the completed roster has been carefully compared with that to which reference has been made, for the purpose of verification and the clearing up of records which would otherwise have remained more or less obscure and incomplete. The Fourth Iowa Cavalry is more fortunate in this regard than any other Iowa regiment, the history referred to being contained in a large volume of over

¹Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1863, Vol. 2, pages 509 to 566 inclusive.

²Roster of the Fourth Iowa Veteran Volunteer Cavalry—1861-1865. An appendix to "The Story of a Cavalry Regiment," by William Forse Scott; New York: Press of J. J. Little & Co., 1902.

six hundred pages and describing with great particularity all the movements and operations of the regiment during its long term of service. The compiler of this historical sketch is confronted with the difficult task of condensation, and cannot therefore attempt to include in this brief history anything more than the outlines of the most important events connected with the service of the regiment, but, in the arrangement of the roster which follows, he hopes and believes the chief merits of the work will be found.

Only a few of the officers and men of the regiment had the benefit of previous military training or experience. Colonel A. B. Porter, Major George A. Stone and Adjutant George W. Waldron had been officers in the First Iowa Infantry and had fought in the battle of Wilson's Creek, as had also a number of the enlisted men of the different companies; but this experience, except in so far as having been under fire was of benefit to them, availed but little, because they had no knowledge of the duties of cavalry soldiers. Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Drummond was the notable exception in this regard, he having been a lieutenant in the Fifth United States Cavalry. Upon joining the regiment he became its instructor in tactics and discipline. He was a man of excellent ability, but somewhat imperious in his manner and bearing, and perhaps over zealous in his efforts to bring the regiment up to a state of efficiency in drill and discipline before it was called upon to take the field. The regiment remained at Camp Harlan until the latter part of February, when it was transported by rail to St. Louis and thence to Benton Barracks. It was of an excellent quality had been supplied before leaving Iowa, but the regiment was otherwise only partially equipped when it reached Benton Barracks. There its equipment was completed, but the quality of arms with which it was at first supplied was poor. It was a long time before a better quality of arms could be furnished.

On the 10th of March, 1862, Colonel Porter received orders to move his regiment by rail to Rolla, Mo. Upon its arrival there a detail of forty men, under command of First Lieutenant John Guylee, of Company A, was sent to guard a party of paymasters going to pay the troops of the Army of the South-west. The detachment was joined by a larger force of cavalry at Lebanon and successfully performed its duty as escort, reaching the army at Pea Ridge on March 26th, and then counter-marched to Springfield, where it awaited the arrival of the regiment. The regiment marched from Rolla to Springfield and went into camp there, where it remained about three weeks. On April 14th the regiment marched south and, on the 16th, joined the army under General Curtis, at Forsyth. On April 15th a scouting detachment of the regiment, under command of Lieutenant William A. Heacock, came into conflict with a party of the enemy at Talbot's Ferry, Ark., and, in the skirmish which ensued, at the hands of the enemy. The army moved eastward to West Plains. There was much sickness in the regiment, and there were a number of deaths, while others became incapacitated for further duty and were subsequently discharged. It was the usual experience of new regiments in the field. The hardships and exposure to which the men were subjected caused more deaths and disabled more men than the conflicts with the enemy. From West Plains the army moved to Batesville, the cavalry scouting the country on the flanks and rear. On June 3d, Company C, under command of Captain Porter, came into contact with a force of rebel cavalry and, in the skirmish, Corporals Butcher and Browning were wounded and, with private Mundock, captured. They were confined at Little Rock until August, when they were exchanged.

Lieutenant Colonel Drummond went into the field with the regiment, but, after a few months, resigned and returned to his former position in the Fifth United States Cavalry. He was killed while gallantly leading his men in a charge at the battle of Five Forks, April 1, 1865.

FOURTH CAVALRY

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On June 24th the army took up the line of march for Helena. Company F, of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, under command of Captain Winslow, had been detached from the regiment about the middle of May and was acting under the orders of Captain Banning, the Chief Commissary of the army, who was actively employed in gathering provisions from the surrounding country and in guarding the commissary trains and the mills which were grinding grain into flour and meal for the use of the army. Captain Winslow's company captured a steamboat loaded with sugar and molasses. The company also brought in about one hundred wagons loaded with provisions. Thus far his company had sustained no casualties in making these important captures, but, on the 7th of June, it came into contact with a party of rebels and Corporal John G. Carson was mortally wounded. On the 14th of July, twelve men of Captain Winslow's company were foraging under command of Sergeant Curtis, while loading their wagons at Gist's plantation, twenty miles from Helena, they were attacked by a force of one hundred rebel cavalry. Curtis lost one man killed and five wounded from his little detachment. The wounded men were captured. Captain Winslow, hearing the firing, galloped with the rest of his company to the rescue, overtook and attacked the rebels and recaptured one of the wounded and all the wagons. The wounded prisoners were subsequently paroled.

The movement of the army was very slow, owing to the intense heat, the necessity for constant foraging to obtain provisions, the large number of sick in wagons and ambulances, and the blocking of the roads by the enemy placing obstructions which it took much time to remove. There was also considerable fighting by the troops which led the advance. The Fourth Iowa Cavalry was assigned to the rear guard. Finally, the long march and the end of the campaign was reached when the army arrived at Helena, July 12, 1862.

The regiment remained in camp at Helena for over eight months. During this period it was engaged in scouting the surrounding country, watching the movements of the enemy and guarding the approaches to that important post, which was many times threatened with attack. The troops composing the defensive force at Helena consisted of three regiments of infantry, one battery, and the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, all under the command of Colonel William Van-dever, of the Ninth Iowa Infantry, an able officer who had won distinction at the battle of Pea Ridge. Company F, under command of Captain Winslow, was assigned to special service as provost guards and other duties at headquarters in the town, and did not rejoin the regiment until it left Helena. The camp of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was outside the town, about four miles on the Little Rock road, constituting an outpost for the defensive works and the garrison, hence its duties were of the utmost importance, as it would be the first to meet the enemy in case of an attack in force. The most constant vigilance was therefore necessary, and was maintained. The details for picket duty each day were heavy, and scouting parties were sent out in advance of the picket lines to guard against the possibility of a surprise. Small scouting parties of the enemy were observed from time to time, but no conflict which involved loss to the regiment occurred until September 20th, when a detail of eight men, of Company D, met a superior force of the enemy and, in the fight which ensued, the detachment lost one man killed, one wounded and three captured, the remaining four, escaping, returned to camp, and a detachment was at once sent in pursuit of the rebels, but did not succeed in overtaking them. On September 30th, two men, of Company M, were captured. These men, and those captured on the 20th, were exchanged and returned to the regiment in November, 1862.

About the 1st of October General Vandever and his infantry troops left Helena, and a considerably smaller force was sent to succeed them as a garrison for the post. The camp of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was then moved two miles nearer Helena, on the Little Rock road, and two other cavalry regiments—the Ninth Illinois and the Fifth Kansas—were encamped near them. On the morning of the 11th of October a detachment of fifty men of the Fourth Iowa was sent out on a scout, under the command of Major Rector, and proceeded about fifteen miles without meeting the enemy, but late in the afternoon, when marching through a lane, within three miles of camp, it was suddenly attacked from the rear by a superior force of rebels. Although placed at a great disadvantage—his men being thrown into confusion by the sudden and unexpected attack—the gallant Major Rector succeeded in rallying his men and resisted the attack in his front, but a portion of the enemy had made a detour and, coming from the opposite direction, the detachment found itself attacked from all sides and was compelled to cut its way out, which it did after losing twenty-one of its number in killed, wounded and captured. Major Rector was among the captured. Lieutenant George B. Parsons, of Company B, had also been sent on a scout with forty of his company the same morning, and was returning to camp when he heard the firing of the enemy's and Major Rector's men, and, moving promptly to the place where the fighting was going on, he boldly charged the enemy, killing and wounding a number of them and capturing twelve prisoners, among whom was Lieutenant Colonel Giddings of the Twenty-first Texas Cavalry, who was in command of the rebel force. In this charge Lieutenant Parsons lost two men captured and four wounded, and was himself wounded. The regiment went in pursuit of the rebels, but did not overtake them. The captured men were paroled and returned to the regiment and, a couple of months later, were exchanged and restored to duty. Lieutenant Parsons was very highly commended for his prompt action and the personal gallantry he displayed in the engagement. He was subsequently promoted to Captain of his company.

On the 8th of November, Captain John H. Peters of Company B, with a detachment of 100 men from different companies of the regiment, was leading the advance of a column of 600 cavalry, which was part of a reconnoitering expedition under command of Colonel Vandever, when he received orders to charge a force of rebels who held the road upon which the column was marching. He promptly charged the enemy who fled after but slight resistance. His loss in the charge was 3 men wounded. Later on, the same day, his detachment was suddenly attacked by a larger force of the enemy. Captain Peters promptly charged again, this time losing 19 wounded. Among those wounded in this charge were Captain Peters, Lieutenants Beckwith, Tucker, Fitch and Groesbeck, and Corporal Charles W. Sisson, who subsequently died from the effect of his wound. The enemy's loss in these two engagements was 17 killed, 14 captured and many wounded, the total number not known. Captain Peters and his command were highly commended for their gallantry. Two officers—a Major and a Captain—were among the prisoners captured from the enemy.

On the 18th of November the regiment started from Helena, with the cavalry force under the command of Colonel Bussey of the Third Iowa Cavalry, which was to co-operate with the infantry under General A. P. Hovey, in an expedition having for its object the capture of Arkansas Post—a strong and important rebel fortification on the Arkansas River. The troops suffered very great hardships upon this expedition, which was finally abandoned on account of the impassable condition of the roads, and—on account of low water—the failure of the transports which carried the infantry to proceed to the point

where the two forces were to have joined. On the 25th of November the troops reached Helena, on their return from this unfortunate march. On the next day after its return, the regiment was ordered to march with another expeditionary force, under General A. P. Hovey. This force landed at Friars' Point, Miss., a few miles below Helena, and marched toward Grenada, the cavalry keeping well in advance. Destroying a considerable amount of railroad track near Coffeeville, it moved on to Panola and destroyed the railroad at and near that place, thus inflicting great damage upon the enemy's line of transportation. Many horses were also captured, and several hundred negro men returned with the expedition and were afterwards enlisted in one of the colored regiments whose organization was authorized about that time. The entire march occupied but seven days. Upon its return to Helena, the camp of the regiment was moved near the river to a low and unhealthy situation, resulting in much sickness, which proved fatal to many. Among those who died there were Major Benjamin Rector and Captain Thomas C. Tullis. The reason for the change in location of camps was the necessity for contracting the lines nearer the post, on account of the smaller garrison then occupying it; but the danger from attack by the enemy was not so great as that incurred from disease, and, after much insistence, the commanding officer of the post permitted the regiment to move its camp to higher ground much farther away from the fortifications. The result of the change was soon apparent in a decreasing sick list. The reduction of the force imposed heavy work upon the cavalry, from whose camps, at some distance from the town, all the advanced picket posts and details for scouting were furnished.

On the 8th of March a detachment of the regiment, under command of Major Spearman, had a skirmish with the enemy at Big Creek, ten miles west of Helena, in which private Benoni F. Kellogg, of Company L, was killed. Early in April a detachment of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, under command of Major Winslow, participated in an expedition against a force of rebels encamped at Wittsburg, on the St. Francis River, about one hundred miles northwest from Helena. On the 8th of April the enemy was encountered near Wittsburg and, after a brief but hard fought engagement, was defeated. The loss of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry in this fight was one man killed and seven wounded, all of Company L, which was at the front and charged the enemy, who made the attack from ambush after dark. This was the last fighting in which any of the regiment took part during the remainder of its stay at Helena.

On the 29th of April, 1863, the Fourth Iowa Cavalry—Lieutenant Colonel Swan in command—embarked on steamboats at Helena and, on the next day, landed at Milliken's Bend. From the 30th day of April to the close of the Vicksburg campaign, on the 16th of July, the regiment performed very active and arduous service. Only a brief description can be given of its most important operations during this remarkable period in the history of the war. During the investment of Vicksburg the movements of the regiment covered the country in the rear of that stronghold, embracing the territory between the Big Black, the Mississippi and the Yazoo Rivers. Its principal encounters with the enemy were as follows: On the morning of May 12th, the Second Battalion, under command of Major Winslow, while leading the advance of Sherman's column was engaged in a skirmish with the enemy, in which it lost one man killed, three men wounded, and had four horses killed. Major Winslow's horse was killed, and he barely escaped being killed by being caught under the horse as it fell. It was here that Major Winslow first came under the observation of General Sherman, who had ridden to the front and was a personal witness of the gallant conduct of the Major and his battalion. The next engagements were on May 13th and 14th, when the Fourth Iowa Cavalry,

under the personal direction of General Sherman, engaged in successful flanking movements, which caused the enemy to retreat into and through the city of Jackson and resulted in the capture of the city, with a loss to the enemy of 845 killed, wounded and captured, while the loss in General Sherman's army was 42 killed and 258 wounded.¹

On the 16th of May the Fourth Iowa Cavalry marched from Jackson in the rear of General Sherman's army. It was held within sight of the battle of Champion's Hill, awaiting orders, but did not become engaged. It was sent upon a reconnaissance to Brownsville the next day and had a slight skirmish with the enemy's cavalry but suffered no casualties, the enemy retreating rapidly through the village. The regiment returned to the rear of the army.

On the 18th of May, Lieutenant Colonel Swan was ordered to move rapidly in the direction of Haynes' Bluff and reconnoiter that fortified position for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was still occupied by the enemy. Early in the afternoon the advance guard of the regiment came within sight of the works, and continued to advance cautiously, but not encountering opposition. Captain Peters with his company was ordered to move forward for closer observation, and, meeting with no enemy, he rode into the fort and found but twenty of the enemy, who surrendered without resistance. The strongly fortified position had been hastily evacuated. Captain Peters at once got into communication with Admiral Porter, whose fleet of gunboats was lying in the Yazoo River, below, out of range of the guns of the fort, and a detachment of marines was landed, under command of Lieutenant Walker, to whom Captain Peters turned over the fort and prisoners. Captain Peters moved on to the fortifications at Snyder's Bluff, which he found had also been abandoned by the enemy. That night the regiment bivouacked in the rear of McPherson's Corps and remained in that temporary camp for several days, sending out scouting and reconnoitering detachments to observe the movements of the enemy. The camp was afterwards moved to a fine location in the rear of General Sherman's position. The effective force of the regiment was constantly drawn upon for scouting duty, and most of the men and officers were in the saddle during the day and, many times, far into the night. This incessant service told severely upon both men and horses, and the effective strength of the regiment became fearfully reduced as the days wore on, both men and horses breaking down when the limit of physical endurance was reached. In the performance of these duties several conflicts with the enemy occurred.

On the 24th of May, near Mechanicsburg, a large detachment of the regiment, under Major Parkell, joined with detachments of other cavalry, all under command of Lieutenant Colonel Swan, met a similar force of the enemy and, in the skirmish, the Fourth Iowa had one man wounded and one horse killed. On May 29th, near the same place, Major Parkell, in command of all the effective force of the regiment, had quite a serious engagement with the enemy, in which he had one officer and six men wounded. Major Winslow, whose battalion was supporting the artillery, was wounded in the leg by a piece of shell, and, though he continued on duty, suffered from the wound for many months. On the 22d of June, a detachment of the regiment, composed of 30 men each from companies A, F, I and K, 120 men and officers, under command of Major Parkell, was sent to blockade the road near the Bear Creek ford, by felling trees, and thus delay the expected advance of the enemy. While engaged in this work the pickets which had been posted were attacked, and those who were not killed, wounded or captured, were rapidly driven in, and Major Parkell found himself and his small command confronted with an overpowering force of the enemy. He made a most gallant resistance, but

¹Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1864, page 530.

his valor and that of his men and officers could not prevail against such tremendous odds, and he was compelled to retreat, with a loss of more than one-half of the detachment. The pursuit was not long continued. The commanding officer of the rebel force, naturally expecting that reinforcements would be encountered, soon halted and retreated with his prisoners. The loss of Major Parkell's detachment was 8 killed, 17 wounded and 36 captured. The enemy left 15 men dead upon the field, and one officer, a Major, mortally wounded, who was evidently supposed to be killed, as they carried off the rest of their wounded. Their total loss could not, therefore, be ascertained, but it no doubt reached, if it did not exceed, that of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, except in prisoners. Upon learning of the attack, the remainder of the regiment was quickly mounted and hurried to the relief of their comrades, but was not able to overtake the rebels before they had reached the lines of their own army. The division commander was justly criticised for sending so small a force so far in advance of the Union lines, without adequate support being provided, in case of attack. Lieutenant Joshua Gardner and Sergeant William T. Biggs died from the effect of wounds received in this engagement. All of the captured were exchanged and returned to the regiment in October, except Lieutenant William J. McConnelle, who remained in prison a long time and was finally exchanged and discharged without returning to the regiment, and Private James A. Livingston, who was reported as having died of his wounds in prison.

On the 20th of June, 1863, Major Winslow was promoted to Colonel of the regiment, succeeding Colonel Porter, who had resigned on account of ill health. Upon assuming command of the regiment, Colonel Winslow proceeded with great energy to improve its condition in the matter of a more strict enforcement of discipline and in other respects. He had secured the confidence and respect of the men and officers, and his efforts to improve upon the methods of those who had preceded him in command of the regiment were appreciated by all. They were now thoroughly seasoned soldiers and comprehended the absolute necessity for a more strict and impartial enforcement of discipline. Had this feeling been shown at an earlier period, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond would most likely not have resigned on account of the difference of opinion between Colonel Porter and himself as to the proper discharge of the duties of the commander of the regiment. The experience of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was not greatly unlike that of other volunteer organizations. It generally took a long time for the men to discover that implicit obedience to orders constitutes the first duty of a soldier, and also to discover those among their officers who were best fitted not only to command them in time of battle but to best care for them upon the march, in camp and under all conditions of the service. For this reason the early commanders of regiments met with greater difficulties than those who succeeded them, and they were often subjected to unjust criticism—at least this was true with reference to a majority of them.

Immediately after the surrender of Vicksburg, on the 4th of July, 1863, General Sherman's army moved against the rebel army, commanded by General Johnston. On the morning of July 5th, Sherman's infantry were upon the march towards Jackson. A cavalry brigade, composed of the Third and Fourth Iowa, Second Wisconsin and Fifth Illinois, under command of Colonel Cyrus Bussey, of the Third Iowa, crossed the Big Black River at Messinger's Ferry, and at once took the advance of the army on the road to Jackson. From the morning of the 6th to the 11th of July, Colonel Bussey's command was constantly at the front, had numerous skirmishes with the enemy and rendered valuable assistance to General Sherman in driving the rebel army into its intrenchments at Jackson, and in subsequent operations during the short siege which followed, ending in the evacuation of the works, by Johnston, on July

17th, and his retreat across Pearl River. While the siege was in progress, Bussey's cavalry had been active, and, in obedience to orders from General Sherman, proceeded to destroy a portion of the railroad immediately to the north of Jackson, then marched towards Canton, twenty-five miles farther to the north, and, in conjunction with a force of infantry and artillery, engaged the enemy, driving him into Canton on the night of July 17th. That night the enemy evacuated Canton, and the next morning Colonel Bussey marched into the town with his command, and proceeded to destroy factories and machine shops which had been engaged in the manufacture of equipments for the rebel army, also cars and locomotives which had been used by the rebels in transporting supplies for their army. Immediately after entering Canton, Colonel Bussey had ordered the Fourth Iowa Cavalry to march rapidly to the Big Black River and destroy the long railroad bridge and a mile of trestle work, together with the railroad property at Way's Bluff. The regiment promptly executed this order, meeting with no resistance from the enemy, and rejoined the command that night. Colonel Bussey then marched from Canton to Meslinger's Ferry and went into camp. The Fourth Iowa Cavalry's camp was located upon the Flower's plantation, a beautiful place, surrounded by a luxuriant growth of trees, shrubbery and flowers, where it remained about three months. Notwithstanding the beauty of the location, the semi-tropic climate was unhealthful for these men who had been reared in the north, and there was much sickness in the regiment.

Upon his return from Jackson, General Sherman had established his headquarters about a mile north of the camp of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and an acquaintance was formed between the General and Colonel Winslow, which grew into a warm personal friendship. From the day (May 12, 1863) that General Sherman had been a personal witness of the gallantry and coolness of Winslow under the fire of the enemy, and the skill with which he handled his men, he had kept him in mind as an officer who would deserve promotion. Closer observation had confirmed the General's first estimate, and he determined to organize an independent Cavalry Brigade and to place Colonel Winslow in command of it. General Sherman had planned an important and hazardous expedition, the successful execution of which would inflict heavy damage upon the enemy, but would require the exercise of great skill and good judgment on the part of the officer who should be selected to command it. General Grant approved the plan, leaving all the details for its execution to be arranged by Sherman. In his letter of instructions to Colonel Winslow, General Sherman states that there was a large amount of rolling stock—70 locomotives and 500 cars—on the Great Central Railroad, between and at Water Valley and Grenada, to be moved, if possible, to and above Grenada and thence to Memphis. He also states that General Grant had ordered a cavalry force to proceed from Memphis to Grenada and to co-operate with the force under Colonel Winslow in carrying out these instructions. In an expedition of this kind it was of course necessary to invest the commanding officer with authority to act upon his own judgment, but he was to carry out his instructions, in so far as it was possible to do so, and to use his own discretion as circumstances should require. The official report of Colonel Winslow⁹ shows that his instructions were strictly complied with, except in the matter of getting the rolling stock into Memphis, which was found to be impossible. The operations of the regiment and brigade during the expedition are fully described, and with that particularity of detail characteristic of all Colonel Winslow's reports. The compiler regrets that limitation of space will not permit the insertion of the entire report in this sketch. The following extracts will, however, serve to show the

⁹Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, pages 1315 to 1317 inclusive.

indomitable will of the commander, the bravery and good discipline of his officers and men, some of the difficulties encountered and overcome, and the important results achieved:

In accordance with instructions, the forces under my command, consisting of the Third Iowa, Fourth Iowa, and Fifth Illinois Cavalry regiments, eight hundred men, left camp on Big Black River, at 5 o'clock A. M. on the 10th inst. . . . Reached Yazoo City at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 12th inst. The gunboats, transports and troops had left this place early on the 11th inst.* After waiting in bivouac until the morning of the 14th inst. I decided, in opposition to the voices of the officers commanding regiments, to push forward without further delay. . . . We bivouacked at 10 P. M. on Harlan's Creek, thirty miles from Yazoo City and eight miles from Lexington. Entered Lexington at 8 A. M., where the Third Iowa, Major Noble, with Lieutenant Jones, A. A. C. S., was left to procure rations, while the main force pushed forward to Durant, and captured at noon a train of cars just from Grenada. Captain Peters was immediately placed in charge of the engine, and proceeded five miles below Durant, and burned a bridge on the track. I learned that there was one engine and about ten cars below Durant; also, that the railroad bridge over Big Black River had just been repaired, the captured train being the first one ordered over it. Resting until 6 o'clock P. M., when the Third Iowa came up, the column moved to West Station, going into bivouac at 11 P. M. Twenty-four miles by way of Durant, and twenty miles direct, from Lexington. At this point some engines and cars were found, and, with the train from Durant, forwarded to Vaiden—twelve miles—arriving at 11 o'clock, 16th inst. when the cavalry was delayed until 5 P. M. to make up trains. Reaching Winona—twelve miles—at day-break on the 17th, it was found that the enemy, who now appeared in front, had destroyed a small bridge above town. I therefore decided to leave the trains, now comprising thirteen engines and sixty cars, and pushed forward into Grenada, where I heard some force of the enemy was posted. I caused to be burned a bridge below West Station, one below Vaiden, and two below and near Winona, that the trains might not be carried off if we should be forced to abandon them temporarily. Under my instructions, I intended to return to Winona, and run the trains to Grenada. . . . Upon arriving at Grenada, I found Lieutenant Colonel Phillips, Ninth Illinois mounted infantry, with two brigades—fifteen hundred men.

Upon learning of the approach of Lieutenant Colonel Phillips' command, the rebel cavalry, stationed at Grenada, had burned two bridges north of that place, thus making it impossible to get the locomotives and cars beyond that point. Those at Grenada were, therefore, destroyed, while those left south of that place were abandoned. Colonel Winslow then assumed command of all the Union forces and proceeded on the march to Memphis, during which he encountered some opposition from the enemy, which he easily overcame, and arrived at Memphis on the 23d of August, 1863, having marched 265 miles. The total casualties were 11 men, killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy, in killed and wounded, was not definitely ascertained, but 55 of their number were captured and paroled. During this expedition the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was commanded by Major Parkell. General Sherman highly commended Colonel Winslow for his successful management of the expedition, in a personal letter, from which the following extracts are taken:

You did exactly as you were ordered, and acted perfectly right. I wish now I had ordered you to destroy all cars instead of attempting to save them, but my instructions were based on General Grant's wishes, as conveyed to me in person. . . . I now assure you of my great respect. I esteem you highly as

⁹According to his instructions, Colonel Winslow was to have secured supplies at Yazoo City from the Commissary of the Union troops stationed there. His failure to do so compelled him to either return to Vicksburg for supplies, or to continue his march and take the chances of procuring provisions for his men, as well as forage for his horses, from the country on the line of his march. He boldly decided upon the latter course, in opposition to the judgment of his officers.

a most promising cavalry officer, and only ask you, in whatever position you may find yourself, to obey orders; and when left to your discretion to do just what your judgment suggests. Only remember that boldness and dash are the characteristics of good cavalry. . . . I will watch your progress always, and wish you to consider me your friend and to call on me freely when you will."

Among the notable incidents in the history of the regiment was the capture and escape of Private Charles H. Smith, of Company C, afterwards promoted to Sixth Sergeant and, later, to Second Lieutenant of his company. Smith was captured August 18, 1863, near Grenada, Miss. He escaped in the night by eluding the vigilance of his guards, and, after securing the horse of their captain, rode two hundred miles, mostly by night, and, after many thrilling adventures, in several of which he came very near being recaptured, succeeded in reaching the camp of the Second Iowa Cavalry at La Grange, Tenn., and, a few days later, rode the noble horse, which had carried him through so many perils, into the camp of his own regiment at Memphis.

On the 29th of August, 1863, the regiment with its brigade embarked for Vicksburg, where it arrived on the 31st and again went into camp. On the 26th of September, General Sherman issued a General Order, from which the following paragraphs are quoted:

"1. Colonel Winslow will organize a force of about one thousand men, to move via Brownsville, Vernon and Benton, and to return to Yazoo and Merichampsburg, to start tomorrow evening, special instructions to be given to the Commander, who will report in person to the Commanding General. . . .

5. Colonel Winslow, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, is announced as Chief of Cavalry, and his orders will be obeyed by all the cavalry forces now attached to this command."

A detachment of 300 men of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, under command of Captain William Pursel, constituted part of the force under Colonel Winslow which moved, as instructed, making a diversion to attract the attention of the enemy from the movement of Sherman's main army, then marching towards Memphis, its real destination being Chattanooga. The cavalry expedition was entirely successful, met with but slight loss and returned to camp with eight prisoners captured in a skirmish with the enemy. On October 15th, the regiment started on another expedition, under command of Major General McPherson, and, in the five days' march, encountered the enemy several times, losing two men killed and one captured. On the 4th of December, a detachment of 100 men of the regiment, under command of Major Spearman, accompanied a force of cavalry which moved by transports to Natchez and there co-operated with the command of General Gresham on an important expedition. This detachment returned to Vicksburg December 17th. On the 19th of December, a sufficient number of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry had re-enlisted to entitle the regiment to be designated as a Veteran organization. Recruits began to arrive from Iowa about the same time, and the strength of the regiment was increased to nearly three-fourths of the maximum number. New and improved carbines were supplied and, for the first time in its history, the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was completely armed and equipped.

From the 19th of December, 1863, to the 1st of February, 1864, the regiment remained in camp near Vicksburg. On the latter date it moved in advance of General Sherman's army at the commencement of the most remarkable experiment that, up to that time, had been undertaken—the great Meridian

The Story of a Cavalry Regiment. Scott; page 166.
Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, page 1332. Official Report of Colonel Winslow.

Expedition. Upon that expedition General Sherman demonstrated the possibility of a large army cutting loose from its base of supplies and penetrating far into the interior of the enemy's country. Indeed, the success of the Meridian Expedition no doubt led General Sherman to undertake, at a later period, that great and brilliant achievement of his military genius—the march from Atlanta to the sea. As the vanguard of the army, the cavalry brigade, commanded by Colonel Winslow, was kept well to the front. Only the most effective men and horses were sent on this expedition, for the reason that it was expected that both would be subjected to the extreme limit of endurance. The Fourth Iowa Cavalry detachment consisted of 423 picked men and officers, under command of Major Parkell. The leading events in which the Fourth Iowa participated were, first, at Jackson where, on February 5th, the enemy was met in large force and the cavalry made an impetuous charge in which the Fourth Iowa was conspicuous, and in which one piece of artillery and fifty prisoners were captured. The rebels made a brave fight, under the leadership of General Stephen D. Lee, one of their best officers, but were compelled to retreat, the gallant General and several of his officers barely saving themselves from capture by the fleetness of their horses. At Tunnel Hill, near Meridian, the engagement beginning at sundown and lasting until 9 P. M., the enemy, the engagement beginning at sundown and lasting until 9 P. M., the rebels being driven for miles over the hills, and suffering much greater loss than they were able to inflict in a running fight. The regiment was engaged in many lesser conflicts during the expedition, in all of which it was victorious. While the infantry was destroying the railroads at Meridian, the cavalry was scouting the surrounding country and inflicting great damage upon the enemy, by burning bridges and destroying supplies which had been accumulated for the use of the rebel army. Returning by a long circuit to the north, the cavalry arrived at Canton in advance of the army; and, upon the arrival of General Sherman at that point, the Fourth Iowa was selected as his escort to Vicksburg, arriving there on the 28th of February, having been absent 26 days. The distance marched was 450 miles. A large number of recruits had arrived during the absence of the detachment, and the aggregate strength of the regiment was increased to 1,300.

Those who had re-enlisted—about 500—with Colonel Winslow, and as many of the officers as could be spared from duty at the camp, marched to Vicksburg on the 4th of March, and there embarked, on the good steamboat "Constitution" and proceeded to Keokuk, Iowa, where they arrived on the 14th, and on the next day each man received a furlough for 30 days, at the end of which time he was to report at Davenport. The place designated as the rendezvous, where the veterans were to reassemble. At the appointed time they all reported to Colonel Winslow and, within forty-eight hours, were again on their way to the South. At St. Louis Colonel Winslow received orders to disembark his men and proceed to Benton Barracks, where they were to be re-mounted and provided with the necessary equipments to enable them to at once enter upon another vigorous campaign. In three days they were again on their way down the river, with orders to disembark at Memphis. In the meantime, the men who had not re-enlisted and the recruits, remaining in camp at Vicksburg, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Peters, had been ordered to proceed to Memphis, and there on the 29th of April, 1864, the regiment was again united and assigned to the Second Brigade of the Cavalry Division of the Sixteenth Army Corps. General Grierson was in command of the division and Colonel Winslow was assigned to the command of the Second Brigade.

Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, page 971. History of the Regiment during 1864, by A. Hodges, Adjutant.

"On the 30th of April the regiment, with its brigade and division, marched from Memphis to Bolivar, reaching the latter place on the 4th of May. Finding that the rebel General Forrest had retreated with his forces into Mississippi, General Sturgis, in command of the federal forces, marched in pursuit as far as Ripley, but, failing to overtake the enemy, the expedition was abandoned and the troops returned to Memphis, arriving there on the 12th of May, having marched 250 miles, and suffered great hardship, without accomplishing any important results, which, as will subsequently be shown, was to be the fate of this well-equipped army of 8,000 men while it remained under the command of General Sturgis. On the 26th of May, the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, forming part of a reconnoitering force of 1,500 men, under command of Colonel Winslow, left Memphis at 9 P. M. and proceeded to Hernando, Miss., from whence it returned to Memphis, having been gone 22 hours, and covered a distance of 54 miles, without coming in contact with the enemy.

On June 1st, General Sturgis left Memphis, with his army of 8,000 men and 18 pieces of artillery, and marched south in the direction of Guntown, where the rebel General Forrest had concentrated a strong force, with the intention of moving against Memphis. The strength of this rebel force was variously estimated at between 10,000 to 12,000 effective fighting men, well supplied with artillery, and it was under the command of one of the most daring and skillful officers in the rebel army, Colonel Winslow's Brigade, consisting of the Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri Cavalry regiments, and four pieces of artillery, led the advance and, on the evening of the 7th of June, encountered a scouting party of the enemy. In the skirmish which ensued Colonel Winslow lost four men and the rebels left six dead upon the field. The cavalry continued to advance without again encountering the enemy, until the morning of June 10th, when the rebel army, under General Forrest, was found in position at Brice's Cross Roads, six miles from Guntown, where the entire strength of both armies became engaged in a hotly contested battle, which resulted in the complete defeat of General Sturgis and the loss of 2,000 of his army, killed, wounded and captured, nearly all his artillery, and 250 wagons of his supply train. During the progress of the terrible conflict, and amid the horrors of the fearful disaster which followed, the Fourth Iowa behaved with the most determined coolness and obstinate bravery. At the beginning of the fight, Colonel Winslow's Brigade repelled three successive charges of the enemy, and firmly held its ground until twice ordered to retire to make way for the infantry. During the retreat, this brigade maintained its organization fully, and covered the retreat of the army until the enemy abandoned the pursuit, the Third and Fourth Iowa being the extreme rear guard for a great part of the way. The guns of Winslow's Brigade were the first to open upon the enemy, fired the last shot at his advancing columns, and were the only ones brought safely off from that disastrous field. The men were in the saddle 54 consecutive hours, engaged with the enemy the greater part of the time, without feed for their horses or provisions for themselves. When the regiment reached Memphis, on the 14th of June, the men and horses were in a condition of almost complete exhaustion. They had marched 350 miles and had suffered a loss of 2 men killed, 18 wounded, and 3 captured.

Major A. R. Pierce was in command of the regiment on this ill-fated expedition, and describes in his official report, with particularity of detail, all its movements from the time it left Memphis to its return to that place. He shows how gallantly the regiment withstood the first attack of the enemy,

¹Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, pages 971 to 976 inclusive.
History of the Regiment, by Adjutant Hodge.

²Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1866, page 124. Official Report of Major Pierce, on "Guntown Expedition."

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where Lieutenant Dillon and many of his company were wounded; how the bridge was held until the infantry were given time to cross, and how companies D and G, commanded by Captain Abraham and Lieutenant Keck, held the enemy in check at one of the most critical points on the retreat; how the Third and Fourth Iowa Cavalry continued in the rear, covering the retreat until both men and horses had almost reached the limit of endurance. In concluding his report Major Pierce says:

I should be happy to mention in this report the names of all the officers and men who are entitled to special notice, but, in so doing, I would have to name most of my command. The battalion commanders, Captains Wood, Dee and Abraham, deserve much credit for their personal bravery on the field before the retreat, and the prompt manner in which they handled their commands, in guarding the rear, and the retreat began; also Lieutenant Woodruff, Acting Adjutant of the regiment, for his promptness in clearing the bridge over Tishomingo Creek, and removing our horses from immediate danger.

The regiment was allowed but ten days' rest, when it was again upon the march. The army was now under the command of Major General A. J. Smith, a very able and competent officer. The Fourth Iowa was attached to the same brigade with which it had served on the previous expedition, commanded by Colonel Winslow. The army marched south for the purpose of attacking Forrest's command and retrieving the disaster which had been inflicted upon it in the expedition under Sturgis. After a number of skirmishes with the enemy, the regiment with its brigade arrived at Tupelo, in advance of the army, on the 13th of July, at noon, and immediately began to destroy the railroad and the buildings containing supplies for the rebel army. At 4 P. M. of the same day, the cavalry was ordered to proceed to the rear, to defend the train which was in danger of capture. The enemy was driven off and the train safely conducted to Tupelo, but upon reaching that place, near midnight, the regiment and brigade were again sent to the rear, to meet and check the advance of the enemy. After marching about two miles, the enemy was encountered and his further advance checked, the cavalry force holding its position under the fire of the rebel batteries until morning, when it was ordered to retire within the infantry lines, which was done slowly and all the way under fire. The enemy then attacked the infantry, which stood firm, repelled three successive charges, and finally, in turn, charged the rebels along their whole line and drove them from the field. In this battle the rebel forces lost 2,000 men, killed, wounded and prisoners, while the loss to General Smith's army was about 800 in killed and wounded.

The next morning Colonel Winslow's Brigade was again sent to the front to reconnoiter. The enemy was found in strong force, and a movement was made to cut off the brigade from the main body, but, after a severe engagement, it succeeded in again retiring within the infantry lines. A severe general engagement ensued, in which the enemy was again defeated. Later in the day General Smith moved his army northward, the cavalry keeping in the rear, and the Fourth Iowa acting as the extreme rear guard. At Town Creek, five miles from Tupelo, while the column was halted, the enemy in strong force attacked the rear. Colonel Winslow quickly got his brigade in line and successfully resisted the attack until reinforced by the infantry, when the rebel force was driven from the field with heavy loss. This ended the previous expedition had been severely punished and the disasters of the march with much hardship. It was difficult to procure sufficient forage for the horses, and the men were compelled to live upon one-fourth rations; the weather was very warm, but, notwithstanding these unfavorable conditions, the regiment completed the march of

the 30th of March the advance guard, under command of Major Woods, skirmished with the enemy for several miles before reaching Montevallo, losing one man wounded. On March 31st, on the south of Montevallo and near Six Mile Creek, seven companies of the regiment had an encounter with two regiments of the enemy, the remaining companies being at that time the rear guard of the column. The Third Battalion, Major Dee commanding, moved into line and dismounted to meet the attack, and orders were sent to Captain Abraham, commanding First Battalion, to follow, mounted in column of companies. The attack was repulsed and the enemy driven from the field, leaving five men killed and two captured. The loss of the Fourth Iowa was five men wounded. On the 1st of April the regiment, preceded by the Third Iowa Cavalry, arrived on the battleground of Ebenezer Church, just as the enemy was being driven from the field, and joined in the pursuit, but suffered no loss. On April 2d, Companies I, F and L, under command of Major Woods, led the advance at Selma, and charged the enemy at his outer works and drove him into his inner line of works, which they also charged and captured, together with a large number of prisoners and five pieces of artillery. In this charge Captain Eugene R. Jones, of Company I, was killed. The other companies, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Peters, followed, charging through the works and into the city, with a loss of one man killed and eight wounded. In the pursuit which followed, Captain Abraham and his battalion captured four pieces of artillery, three battle flags and two hundred prisoners. The flags were captured by Nicholas Fanning, Company B, Charles Swan, Company K, and James P. Miller, Company D. The Third Battalion, under command of Major Dee, was placed on duty in the city as provost guard, while the First and Second Battalions, under command of Colonel Peters, was sent upon a reconnoitering expedition between the Alabama and Cahawba Rivers, occupying four days, and marching ninety miles.

On April 7th, a detachment of sixty men of the regiment, under command of Lieutenant J. T. Reynolds, had a skirmish with the enemy at Pike's Ferry, in which J. T. Mendenhall, of Company L, was severely wounded in the face, from the effect of which he died a few days later. On the 9th of April, the regiment marched with the army to Montgomery. After a brief engagement to participate, the city was surrendered. On April 14th, a detachment, under Captain F. S. Whiting, while reconnoitering along the banks of the Coosa River, captured three steamboats, laden with cotton and provisions. They were taken to Montgomery and turned over to the Post Commander. On the 16th of April, the regiment, with its brigade and division, arrived opposite the Columbus, Ga. After reaching a point on the extreme left of the enemy's works, and just beyond the range of his artillery, the brigade moved, by a circuitous route, to the front of the enemy's works on the right, and took a position near the main road leading to the only remaining bridge over the Chattahoochee River, and there awaited orders to charge and gain possession of the bridge. Under orders from General Upson, the First Battalion, under Captain Abraham, and the Second, under Captain Dana, were dismounted; and the Third Battalion, under Major Dee, was ordered to remain mounted and await orders. The dismounted column moved down the road and charged the enemy's works, clearing the line, then, turning to the right, moved down the line of intrenchments on the double-quick and charged and captured the principal fort with its garrison of 250 men and 6 guns. A few men were left to hold the fort, and the line pushed forward to the bridge. Sharp fighting took place between the fort and the river, but the enemy was driven across the bridge in great confusion. Our men, mingling in the darkness with the flying enemy, rushed over it and

captured two guns, commanding the passage from the east end. The Third Battalion now came up, mounted, and moving over the bridge, charged through the city after the retreating enemy, capturing a large number of prisoners. First Lieutenant S. N. Miller was the first officer over the bridge, followed closely by Lieutenants S. O. Black and L. H. Dillon. Sergeant Joseph Jones was mortally wounded while gallantly fighting for the guns commanding the passage of the bridge. The guns and gunners were captured and the bridge cleared for the unobstructed passage of the troops. Sergeants Henry C. White, Harry Bodkin, Charles H. Smith, Corporal William McCully, and Privates R. Cosgriff, John Kinney, Martin L. Tucker, John Andrews, Henry Trimble and Joseph Winemiller, were among the first to cross the bridge and to engage in the desperate fight for the possession of the guns. Each one of the following named men captured a battle flag in the engagement at Columbus: Corporal Richard Morgan, Company A; Private Edward J. Bebb, Company D; Sergeant Norman F. Bates, Company E; Private John Hayes, Company F; Private Eli Sherman, Company I; Private R. Cosgriff, Company L; Private John Kinney, Company L. Private Robert C. Wood, of Company A, while acting as orderly, was captured early in the engagement and confined in a house near the bridge. He escaped when the charge was being made, and assisted his comrades in capturing the rebels who had, for a short time, held him as a prisoner. Lieutenant Colonel Peters, near the close of his official report, says:

In thus mentioning the names of officers and men who have taken an active part in the late battles, I fear a wrong impression may be made in regard to all not named; and, in this connection, I desire to say that no single officer, non-commissioned officer or private, so far as I have been able to learn, has failed to do his whole duty and to do it well. If any one has been more prominent than another, it has been on account of his good fortune in having been in the right place at the right time. We have lost no man by straggling from the command during the campaign. The men have taken excellent care of their horses, and have uncomplainingly marched on foot a considerable portion of each day's march, in order to save their horses. They have always exhibited the best of spirits, and have been always eager to meet the enemy. I cannot therefore speak of individual instances of gallantry without feeling that, by implication at least, I am doing injustice to the remainder.

In closing his report, he says:

We marched from Columbus April 18th, and, on the 20th, I was directed to leave the main column at Thomaston, by General Winslow, and proceed to Barnesville and destroy all bridges, culverts, depots, tanks, etc., between Barnesville and Macon. I cut this road at Barnesville and destroyed some distance of track on the evening of the 20th. On the 21st, I reached Forsyth, where I became satisfied that the reported armistice had been actually declared. I thereupon ceased all further destruction of the railroad and marched towards Macon, reaching my present camp about noon of the 22d. Direct line of march of campaign 496 miles. Total number of miles marched 610.

In his recapitulation, Lieutenant Colonel Peters gives the names of all the killed and wounded of his regiment during this last campaign of the war. The losses were 3 men killed and 24 wounded. There were 10 horses killed in action and 136 abandoned on the march, and 738 were captured from the enemy. The regiment captured 2,436 prisoners during the campaign, also 21 pieces of artillery and 10 battle flags.

In his official report, General Winslow highly commends the conduct of the officers and men of his old regiment, and makes special recommendation

*The entire list of all the killed and wounded of the regiment is embraced in the subjoined roster.



HISTORICAL SKETCH

that the brevet rank of Major be conferred upon Captains Lot Abraham and B. Fitch, and that of First Lieutenant, upon Second Lieutenant Loyd H. Dillon, for conspicuous gallantry on the battlefield.

Towards the last of April the regiment, with its brigade, was ordered to move to Atlanta and, on the 9th of May, went into camp at that place. The war was over; but the condition of affairs in almost every portion of the South was such as to render the presence of the federal troops a necessity for a considerable length of time. While the headquarters of the regiment were in Atlanta, and Lieutenant Colonel Peters was assigned to the command of the post, they were mainly occupied in preserving order, protecting property and paroling rebel soldiers. Early in August these companies and detachments were all ordered to return to the regimental camp at Atlanta, and there, on the 8th day of August, 1865, the companies and company officers of the Fourth Regiment of Iowa Veteran Volunteer Cavalry were mustered out of the service of the United States; the Field and Staff were mustered out August 10, 1865. A few days previous to that last important event in its history, the regiment was assembled on parade, with every officer and man present for duty, in the ranks, and, with Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General Winslow in command, the following farewell order was read:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
FOURTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS, M. D. M.

ATLANTA, GA., August 7, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 3.

COMRADES: The war is ended. The last order you obey directs your return to your homes. Let your future be as commendable as your past has been glorious. Your career as soldiers is over. You go home as citizens, to reap the reward of your campaigns. Your country will always cherish the memory of her brave defenders.

Seven States have been traversed by your columns. Their soil has been consecrated by the blood of your companions. Your victories will impress their localities on your minds. Though the battles of the war are over, let us recollect that those of our lives continue to the end, that our orders are from Him whose plans are always successful, and that justice is no less a divine attribute than mercy. I shall hear of your behavior in civil life, and believe that you will daily evidence the fact that well disciplined soldiers can become equally good citizens. During the long period in which I have been associated with you, I have had many occasions to be proud of your conduct, and have often rejoiced that I commanded such brave men.

While I regret to separate from such gallant officers and men, I rejoice with you that our country is intact and united, our Government stronger than ever, and that the necessity for our armed service no longer exists. Confident that when again required, you will be as ready to take the carbine and saber as you now are to abandon them, I part from you with many and sincere wishes for your future prosperity and happiness.

Official.

W. BECKWITH, *Captain and A. A. A. G.*

E. F. WINSLOW,
Brevet Brigadier General.

While the regiment had ceased to be a part of the Army of the United States, it was not allowed to disband until it reached Davenport, Iowa, to which place it was ordered to proceed by rail. Owing to the large number of troops which were being transported to their respective States at this time, and to the limited railroad facilities, a full week was occupied on the journey. The regiment reached Davenport August 19th, but it was on the 24th day of August, 1865, that the last pay roll was signed, the last man received his honorable discharge, the regiment disbanded, and the survivors departed for their homes.

Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1866, page 119.

FOURTH CAVALRY

The Commonwealth of Iowa has honored itself in making provision for the perpetuation of the memory of its brave sons who went forth at the call of their country and fought, suffered and—alas, how many—died, that the blessings of a free Government might be transmitted to their posterity. Among all the records of faithful, loyal and efficient service, contained in the military archives of the State, none are more full and complete, or reflect greater honor upon its history, than that of the Fourth Regiment of Iowa Volunteer Cavalry.

SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES.

Total Enrollment	1,952
Killed	44
Wounded	120
Died of wounds.....	11
Died of disease	199
Discharged for wounds, disease or other causes.....	272
Buried in National Cemeteries.....	97
Captured	94
Transferred	35