



obey, and at once preparation begins. Fortunately they were detained until Friday morning. Early the command—some 450 strong--was in the saddle, and they proceeded to the Purdy and Pittsburg road to defend the left wing of our army, which rested on Owl Creek. During the night, 100 men were on picket through a heavy rain, whilst the rest in supporting distance, awaited the morning's dawn. On Saturday they scouted about all day, reconnoitering enemy's position, and encamping at night this side of Owl Creek.

On Sunday morning, about 5 o'clock, the battle opened between Owl and Licking Creeks, by our attacking the enemy.-- The right of our army resting on Licking and the left on Owl Creek. The line of battle thus extending 6 miles. Col. Wharton proceeded with the command to Owl creek, when he halted and sent Maj. Terry and Dr. Weston to Gen. Beauregard to ask for further orders. He ordered us to cross Owl creek bridge and co-operate with the left wing of the army, which was immediately done. Shortly after our arrival 10 men were detailed to take a gun in an adjoining field, but on reaching it, the enemy had fled after disabling the remaining living horses. About noon, Gen. Hardee ordered us to dismount and protect a battery that was without infantry protection, and this was immediately done. After obeying this order, the Rangers were again reformed in an adjoining field, awaiting further direction. About this time the enemy being driven back, Gen. Beauregard ordered us to

pursue them along the road which led to the river, saying that the whole right of the enemy was in full retreat, and being an open country for pursuit, we must intercept them, as he depended upon the Rangers for the final victory of the day. This was all our boys needed, and in a gallop they set out for the work. They had not gone over 300 yards before the head of the column received a heavy fire from a large body of the enemy. He had left the road and ambushed at the head of a big hollow, the most being concealed by lying down. In order to reach his position, it was necessary to cross an intervening ravine by single file, and rising the hill--on the opposite side of which he was in position--where the head of our column was 300 yards from the rear, then he commenced firing from his concealment at the head of the ravine.

It was during this time that our loss was so severe, for we were able to exchange but three or four rounds and then retire. The nature of the ground being such that not more than 20 or 30 of the Rangers could be brought into action at once. With the enemy so completely in ambush and the nature of the ground forbidding our dismounting to fight as skirmishers, a proper regard for the valuable lives of our daring men rendered it necessary for the Colonel to withdraw to the distance of 200 yards and re-form. Whilst gallantly leading this advance column he received a ball in the leg and had his horse shot three times, so disabling him that it was necessary

to get another. Here, too, the cool and daring brother of our lamented Col. Terry, burning to avenge his untimely fall on the field of Woodsonville, received a mortal wound, from which he has since died. Our casualties were further viz:  
Killed--

Co. A.--Dan. Neil and Richard Holdsworth.

Co. D.--John F. Crain.

Co. I.--Ben F. Burr.

Co. H.--David Cook.

Whilst bravely leading his men, the gallant Capt. King of Co. A. was seriously wounded, as were also his Orderly Sergeant T. Major Freeman and private R. N. Beaver; also slightly, A. A. Stovall.

Co. C.--John Holloway and Walter Wood, slightly.

Co. D.--George Miller and Reuben Slaughter, slightly.

Co. E.--J. M. Sample, slightly.

Co. F.--A. G. Ledbetter, badly.

Co. H.--W. B. Spencer, (since dead), M. A. Page, Thomas Berrington, H. C. Thompson, J. G. Ward, A. D. McArthur, badly; J. L. Core, R. W. Lawson, J. T. Walker, slightly.

Co. I.--Robert Taylor, Joseph McClure, T. L. Witter, T. E. Belling, Peter McKellar, badly; Wm. Evans and Charles Mason, slightly.

In this most disastrous charge our brave men fought under every disadvantage both from a concealed enemy and unfavorable ground; yet this did not for a moment check their advance.

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There, if necessary, the last man would have fallen, but the order would have been obeyed. The first squadron, composed of A and I, with H, suffered the most seriously from being in advance.

After withdrawing and re-forming the regiment, the infantry which had been in the rear passed out and attacked the enemy with whom we had been lately engaged and there being no opportunity to bring us into action, Col. W. proceeded to the extreme left, where he found a battery without infantry protection and annoyed by the fire of the enemy. Dismounting Cos. B, C, E, F and H, they were thrown forward as skirmishers.

Charging down a steep hill, across a terrible bog and up another hill, on which the enemy--perhaps a regiment strong--was posted. Dashing forward, they drove him before them and through the encampment which he was defending.

In this charge, Capt. Rayburn was badly wounded whilst gallantly leading his company, also private Nicholas Contreras.

Co. F.--J. T. J. Culpepper and Samuel Drake, slightly.

Co. H.--R. Robison and Hubbard Duke, badly, and A. G. Autery, missing.

Rallying after this brilliant charge, they mounted and the command proceeded up into the field on our left, where the enemy shelled us with some effect. John M. Brownson, of Co. E, was wounded with a shell.

Several horses were killed, Capt. Jarmon's falling from the effect of a bomb, but rising again. This position being

unprotected and perilous, we retreated and followed some distance up a branch for covering. Dismounting, we stood sometime behind a battery, but no enemy appearing, we mounted again and pursued him to his next encampment, but shelling us from this position, which was in the range of his gunboats, we returned to the field. Night coming on, we bivouacked in a wood skirting this field on the extreme left, providing ourselves with forage for man and horse from the richly supplied camp of the enemy, which was the second we had taken. It rained heavily during the night, and the enemy kept up a continued firing from his gunboats. This annoyed greatly our weary men, for at random distance our sullen foe was sullenly firing his messengers of destruction. At length, day comes and we are again in the saddle, awaiting a renewal of the fight by the enemy. Soon the ball opened, and our army fell back a mile, (we had driven the enemy about 3 on the right and 4 on the left Sunday) where the battle raged for several hours with terrific violence and alternating success. The regiment being drawn up in the rear of the infantry, Col. W. received an order from Gen. Beauregard to charge the right wing of the enemy, which was in a thick woods. He proceeded at once with the command to obey the order. It being impossible, from the thickness of the undergrowth, to charge them upon the flank, he attempted to pass to an open field somewhat in his rear and form for a charge. To reach this point, we were compelled to march by single file through

the woods. Upon rising an eminence that led to, or rather commanded the field in which we were to form, we found it occupied by at least two regiments of infantry, drawn up in line of battle, which constituted the reserve of the enemy. As the head of our advance came in sight, the whole line of the enemy opened its fire upon it. Here Lieut. John H. Low, of company A, who had proved himself a most gallant soldier several times, fell mortally wounded. Charley Howard, of company I, was also badly wounded. Companies A and I being the advance squadron, suffered again. Our horses here suffered heavily, a number being killed, and Col. Wharton's wounded badly. It being impossible here to form for a charge after a few rounds from those in front, we were ordered to fall back, dismount and fight on foot. We were thus on the enemy's extreme right, fighting him as skirmishers, when our army fell back upon Shiloh Church. Here John H. Washington of company D, and Jos. Andrews, of Company F, were both seriously wounded, and the enemy pressing us closely, they were carried into a house used for a hospital and thus fell into his hands. The battle raged for a considerable time around Shiloh Church, and with more terrific desperation than at any previous time during the two days, after which our left wing gradually fell back behind a hill, in good order--this was after 4 o'clock--our artillery continuing the fire on their supposed position for an hour or more, but without drawing an answer, then our left wing gradually and

in perfect order withdrew from the field and encamped close by. About this time, the right wing also came out, four abreast, from their victorious fight through all that day and passed by us in good order and exuberant spirits.

Looking upon those splendid ranks and gleaming bayonets, one would rather think that they were marching to a marriage feast than retiring from that two day's conflict, amid scenes of blood, strife and death.

We were ordered by Gen. Beauregard to protect the left wing of our army in the retreat and to burn two of their encampments, which was done. That night with some other cavalry, we encamped in the rear of the whole army and within hearing of the drums of the enemy, we throwing out pickets in the direction of his position. We had neither food for man or horse, and heard nothing of the enemy. To add terror to this second night of the battle, it rained during all its long and mournfully desolate hours. The dawn of Tuesday found us again in the saddle, the whole army being now withdrawn towards Corinth. The cavalry was thrown in the rear for its protection. Here Col. Wharton not supposing that there would be any more engagements, turned over his command to Maj. Harrison, and started for Corinth. He had heroically ridden 40 hours with his wounded leg, and from exposure and sleeping in the rain for two nights, he was compelled from the severe pain, though most unwillingly, to take the step. During the entire fight, Jared W. Groce acted as his aid, being by his

side all the time, and departed himself with great gallantry.

Under Maj. Harrison we moved in the direction of Monterey, turning to the right towards Breckinridge's camp. When we reached the hospital, there were still some 300 wounded, mostly ours. It was rumored that the cavalry of the enemy was advancing upon our forces. Pickets were immediately thrown out, but reported no enemy in sight. About 3 o'clock it was reported that he was in position with three companies of cavalry and a regiment of infantry. After considerable maneuvering on both sides, the enemy endeavoring to entrap us and we to ascertain his position, Col. Forrest, being the senior officer present, formed the cavalry in line of battle. The Rangers numbered some 205 and a detachment of his own, and with Wirt Adams's--some 120--making in all 325. The Rangers occupied the left and center and the others the right. Thus being drawn up in line of battle, we waited to draw the fire of the enemy. This being done, Col. Forrest gave the order to charge. The Rangers had gone but a few steps until they raised their usual terrific yell, which was the signal for every man to charge forward and take care of himself.

The appearance of this dashing charge struck terror to the first line of infantry, which fell back in confusion upon the cavalry, and they in like manner retreated upon the right wing of the infantry, thus breaking their own lines. In this general confusion our boys bravely dashed forward, killing, wounding, and taking prisoners most of the first line. The

second now poured upon us a shower of bullets, but, fortunately, they ranged too high; and charging on after his flying cavalry, which was now mixed up with his infantry, quite a number of each were killed and taken prisoners. The remainder was put to an inglorious rout. Here our force being exposed to a galling cross fire from his extreme right, was called back, it being known that a third line was still in reserve for us. When re-formed, the Rangers, except those in charge of the prisoners and attending our wounded, were mostly present, but the other cavalry was much scattered. The result of this brief affair, the most brilliant of all the cavalry charges in the battle, and the only one where the Rangers had suitable ground for such service, was a large number of the enemy killed and wounded, (some say 250) and about 53 prisoners. About 50 of these, including two captains and one lieutenant, were taken by the Rangers, all of whom, except seven wounded and left in the hospital, they brought into Corinth. The credit of this same work has been given, in the papers, to other officers; but the dashing charge and brave conduct of the Rangers mainly accomplished it.

The killed and wounded on our side was confined principally to the Rangers. For the time and number engaged it was very severe--

Co. B.--Richmond Champion, killed, Em. Ashe, missing; W. B. Fleming, A. J. Trumbull, R. A. Allen, J. P. Burkhart and Dr. James Staton, wounded.

Co. E.--Lieut. H. E. Story and John Littlefield, badly wounded.

Co. H.--Capt. Gus Cook, Serg't D. C. Fielder, Arthur Hirschfield and F. W. Kimball, wounded; W. B. Earnest and John S. Stewart, missing and doubtless killed.

In this successful charge, Maj. Thomas Harrison led his Rangers with the utmost coolness, and during the entire fight he displayed the genuine bravery of the gallant soldier. Going into the battle with less than 450 men, we lost 66 in killed, wounded and missing. We had 52 horses killed, and over 40 badly wounded. In appreciation of the services of this gallant band, whilst the necessity of dismounting much of the cavalry is now being discussed, I learn that Gen. Beauregard has telegraphed for the privilege of buying 150 horses for filling up the losses of the regiment.

After the charge, Gen. Breckinridge ordered us to withdraw, and entice the enemy to an ambush he had set for him; but in this we failed. He was evidently satisfied with that ten minutes' work, when the field was covered with his wounded and dead. He ordered us to move forward and defend the Hamburg road, from which he expected an attack of the enemy. Here we spent another long and disagreeable night in the rain. On Wednesday we came up to Monterey and breakfasted and fed the horses. Returning in the evening to Gen. Beauregard's headquarters, we assisted the other cavalry present in picketing for the night. On Thursday morning we were early ordered to

cross over to the hospital and bring away the wounded. They were both our own and those of the enemy. They rode whilst our boys walked fifteen miles through the mud. The unpleasantness of the journey was somewhat relieved by the earnestness with which the Rangers argued with the Yankees, on the error of their ways and their earnest exhortations to better conduct in the future. The scene was often amusing. On Friday, an order from Col. Wharton brought in the remainder of our command. Thus ends our connection with the memorable fight of the 6th, 7th and 8th of April.

R. F. BUNTING,  
Chaplain Texas Rangers.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, May 19, 1862.

Rangers' Camp, Near Corinth, )  
April 22d, 1862. )

E. H. Cushing, Esq.:

Dear Sir--The casualties of the late battle and sickness leave us without a field officer present, Capt. W. Y. Houston being in command. Col. Wharton left us on furlough last week. Col. Walker has not returned, but is expected daily. Maj. Harrison is absent, sick from the exposure of the battle. Capst. Botts and Simmons are both absent on furlough; also six other Captains, sick or wounded. We have quite a number of the men sick. The weather has been exceedingly disagreeable for a few days. But now has fair'd up again and to-morrow the command will go 15 miles down the Mobile & Ohio R. R., to Hienzi, where we will recruit and await the arrival of General Johnson's cavalry brigade from Texas. The discharging and furloughing business has been brisk since the fight, but is rather stagnant now.

Our losses have been somewhat repaired by the new recruits that have been flocking to our standard for several weeks past. They are distributed among all the companies. By permission from General Beauregard, Co. L has been added to our regiment for the space of three months. J. L. Anderson was elected Capt.; Jesse Gordon, 1st Lieut.; Frank Bell and Thornton Winston, 2d Lieuts. They number 75 men  
k and file, and seem determined to improve their time.

Although not organized as a company before the battle of Shiloh, yet they united with the other companies and gallantly fought through the three days.

Of those who came with Capt. Johnson, one was killed and four wounded, all reported with Co. H, in whose ranks they fought. They reached us just at the right time. We need more of the same kind of material. It is no time to sleep or stay at home.

We are out awaiting events.

R. F. B.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, May 21, 1862.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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Special Correspondence of the Telegraph.

Montgomery, Ala., May 6.

Ed. Telegraph--My last letter was dated in the camp, where men think of cruel war. The fearful conflict of Shiloh was just over, and we were amidst the wounded and dying. But how changed the scene! Here are assembled those who follow the Prince of Peace, and far away from the din of battle they have met to consult concerning the interests of the church which they represent, and the advancement of that spiritual kingdom which will endure when the nations shall learn war no more.

I can scarce realize the change. Here, among these venerable and holy men, the spirit of love and peace and hope reigns, and in humble reliance upon the God of our fathers, they go forward in their glorious work. Would that such feelings should constrain those engaged in our country's service, and that such an atmosphere was felt on the tented field.

In view of the presence of the conflicting armies in the vicinity of the city of Memphis, and the consequent danger and difficulty of assembling in that place; in accordance with the recommendation of the last Moderator, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the Confederate States of America met, according to proclamation, in the Presbyterian Church in the city of Montgomery on Thursday, May 1st, at 11

o'clock A. M. The last Moderator, Rev. B. K. Palmer, D. D., of New Orleans, being absent, on motion the Rev. J. L. Kirkpatrick, D. D., of North Carolina, was appointed to preach the sermon and preside until a Moderator could be chosen.

Dr. L. preached a solemn, eloquent and able sermon from Romans, 5th chap., 7th verse.

Commissioners were then enrolled from the following Synods, complete in ministerial representation, partially in the Eldership, viz: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia (except two Presbyteries); the Synod of Mississippi (three Presbyteries); the Synods of Memphis, Nashville and Texas, (one Presbytery each); and the Synod of Arkansas no Commissioner--making a total of thirty-one Ministers and sixteen Ruling Elders, your correspondent representing the Presbytery of Western Texas, and the only Commissioner west of the Mississippi.

Twenty Presbyteries had no Commissioners present. Dr. Kirkpatrick was chosen Moderator, and Dr. E. T. Baird, of Mississippi, acting Stated Clerk in the absence of Dr. Waddel and Dr. McBride of South Carolina, Temporary Clerk.

One-half hour was spent each morning in devotional exercises, with reference to the distracted state of the country.

Dr. John Leyburn presented the report on domestic missions, which is located in New Orleans. The Committee has been in successful operation since the last assembly and until interrupted by the enemy, was doing a good work. Dr. L.

being a refugee from New Orleans, was authorized to select a temporary location for the Committee's operations, he being allowed to choose a temporary Committee to aid him wherever a place of safety may be found. He will doubtless stop for the present at Macon, Ga.

Dr. J. Leighton Wilson presented an interesting report from the Committee of Foreign Missions. It showed a most liberal and commendable spirit of liberality among our churches, towards that noble object. Notwithstanding the war has separated us from intercourse with other nations, leaving only to our care the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi, and from these now partially separated, yet the contributions of many have not been curtailed. This is a hopeful sign for the future. The committees on education and publication were not represented by their secretaries and their reports failed from the irregularities of the mails. The secretaries were all re-elected and in general the committees, they being also authorized to make such temporary changes as circumstances may demand, and all needful arrangements for the security and transmission of funds entrusted to them. No corresponding delegates were present, because such bodies have held no meetings since our last assembly. Those appointed them to represent us were continued for this Spring's meeting of such bodies and new delegates for next Spring.

The committees on the revision of the book of Discipline and the University and the instruction of slaves were con-

tinued. The Presbytery of New Orleans overtured the Assembly that, "in order to secure uniformity of procedure and relieve Presbyteries from embarrassment, to pass an act authorizing the Presbyteries to receive such ministers as may come from the Old School General Assembly North, without the usual letters of dismission upon affording satisfactory evidence of their good standing, and making the usual statement of their doctrinal views." It was agreed to, directing that they pass the usual examinations on experimental religion, Didactic and Polemic Theology and church government.

Dr. Baird prepared and presented an able pastoral letter addressed to the ministers and members of our churches and the youth of our congregations now in the army, fighting the battles of our national independence. It was ordered to be printed for distribution. It was recommended that on the last Sabbath of every month, the baptised young men of the army should be the special object of prayer.

The day of prayer for institutions of learning and the youth of both sexes there receiving an education, was changed from December to the last Thursday of February, which has so long been observed. The members of the Assembly filled the pulpits of the city on the Sabbath, and every night was occupied by preaching in the Presbyterian Church. The state of our Confederacy had prevented many from attending and made those present anxious for their families and homes. Hence the entire absence of speech-making and useless debate.

The sessions were most delightful and perfectly harmonious. On Monday night, the 5th, the Assembly adjourned to meet in Columbia, S. C., on the first Thursday in May, 1863, at 11 A. M. There was one remarkable feature in this meeting, no application for leave of absence was asked during the sessions. Thus closed the second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America. Those wishing minutes can have them when the mails open, by forwarding four bits to the Rev. Dr. J. R. Wilson, Augusta, Ga. I have given you this brief synopsis as the mails will prevent the religious papers from reaching your State. We regret the calamity that separates us from our homes and loved ones and from intercourse with our sunny land, but we believe God yet rules and we hope that all will yet be well. I will return at once to Corinth. We are expecting the great battle to open every day. It cannot be long delayed.

I remain yours,

R. F. Bunting.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, June 2, 1862.

## Letters from Corinth

Camp of Washington Artillery,  
Corinth, Miss., May 11th, 1862

Editor Telegraph--Dear Sir; After a safe return from attendance upon the General Assembly at Montgomery, in company with Dr. Bryan, I reached this military encampment on yesterday morning. I learned that the Rangers had left Rienza, 20 miles below, en route to Russellville, Ala. They were thrown in the command of Gen. Seall in connection with Morgan's and Scott's cavalry, and have crossed into Tennessee. Should events favor the movement, they expect to advance into Tennessee and on towards Kentucky. Col. Wharton has returned from New Orleans and left for the regiment. I found Maj. Harrison here entirely recovered from his severe sickness and only awaiting the great battle before following after the regiment. The Major is a gallant soldier and seeks every opportunity to join in the conflict upon the battle-field. Capt. Botts is also here, but has his furlough extended, not yet being sufficiently recovered to undertake the trip. I was delighted to grasp once more by the hand John Stewart of company H, who was reported missing on the 8th of April, in the brilliant charge of Tuesday. He was crossing a bog, when they were falling back from the charge, and his horse sinking under him, before he was able to extricate himself and remount, some 20 Yankee cavalry were upon him, and there was no alternative but to surrender. He was

allowed to ride to the river and there, with all our prisoners taken during the preceding days—some 400 in all—they were kept on the river's bank, without covering, exposed to the rain, cold and short rations until Friday, when they were shipped to St. Louis. The treatment was very harsh, and caused the prisoners to suffer exceedingly. Upon the arrival at St. Louis, before the prisoners were removed from the boat, Mr. Stewart was missing. Suffice it to say that after a good deal of exposure, fatigue and danger, he, with another prisoner, reached here safely a few days ago. He was the only one of our Rangers they were able to carry away with them. Thus our boys always escape the snare before entangled in its meshes.

We have an army here, all in readiness for the enemy. On Friday afternoon there was a brilliant skirmish on our right wing, where our troops, under Price and Van Dorn, chased two brigades, capturing their encampment; and, only by accident, failing to capture 8000 or 9000 prisoners. We are expecting the battle to open every moment. The enemy are cautiously advancing in heavy force, bringing their siege guns and preparing for a magnificent fight. It will be the turning point in this war. May the God of battles give our troops the strength to meet the enemy and put him to flight. Our trust is in God.

We have a large number of Texas troops here now. They will

be ready for the conflict. The weather is clear and most propitious.

In haste, yours,

A. F. BUNTING

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH (Houston)  
June 27, 1862.

For the Telegraph.

Camp Look Out, (near Chattanooga,) Tenn., ;  
June 16, 1862. )

E. H. Cushing, Esq.--Dear Sir: It is my privilege to inform you that our command is again one that portion under Col. Wharton, after some 13 days experience among the Yankees, has returned safely to this side of the river. The trip was one of great danger, severe exposure, hard service and little reward. They passed from Lamb's Ferry, near Pulaski and Fayetteville and on to Winchester. Our troops occupied for a day or so this place, but evacuated it and retired toward the Mountains for safety. They were watched very closely by the enemy, who had superior numbers, with artillery. It was deemed expedient, however, from numerous circumstances, to retire from that region and get reinforcements. They found the people all along the route loyal to the South, and they panted for deliverance from the oppressor. Everywhere the Southern soldier was hailed with joy, and bid a most hearty welcome. In connection with the other cavalry, the Rangers had several skirmishes, but they all escaped unhurt. It is most remarkable that all have been enabled to pass through this trip with safety. Oftentimes they felt their situation was critical, and all felt that the prayers of the righteous were necessary for their deliverance. "Man's extremity is God's opportunity," and when all avenues of escape from peril seem closed to us,

then he often opened up a way of escape. Such was truly the case with this command. They all felt, when joined with us again that they had found a home. We are now encamped under the shadow of the celebrated Look Out Mountain. The boys are improving the opportunity of climbing its heights and looking upon the grand panorama of nature which is unfolded on every side. We are getting the arms repaired and the horses shod preparatory to some other movement in a few days. The notorious Col. John H. Morgan is now in Col. W.'s tent, and those two brave and chivalrous leaders are doubtless laying some net in which we may entrap the Yankees. A few days will develop the result of this conference. These two forces will doubtless act in concert.

That long looked for personage, called the "Paymaster," has been among us, and money is plenty. But the credit has been of long continuance and it will soon pass away. Everything in the way of clothing is exceedingly high, and the supply is very limited. The regiment has been compelled time after time, to leave portions of baggage until it is about all lost, burned or stolen at different points. We are brought down to first principles in this line. But one cannot boast above another. I believe however, that the less baggage a soldier has, especially moving constantly as we are, the better it is every way. We will the more appreciate comfort, home and peace. The weather is pleasant now, and we

will not suffer. The regiment is enjoying unusually good health. Those who had been absent sick are returning. The wounded are also coming in, some restored, others disabled for service and are being discharged. We regret the loss of gallant spirits from our ranks, but we yield to the necessity that compels it. We anticipate some stirring times in these parts soon. It is probable that Gen. E. Kirby Smith is to-day fighting the enemy at Cumberland Gap. The enemy has crossed the mountain and is in the Valley advancing upon his men. It is said that a large force is on the opposite side of the Gap and he will attack us both in front and rear. We will have a sufficient force to meet him and gain the victory. We do not know what his intentions are yet upon this point. A few days will develop the matter. It is possible the enemy will endeavor to gain Chattanooga and Knoxville in order to relieve through this channel the army of Virginia. It would be a great calamity to us to lose these points, and every effort will be made to hold them. In this we will doubtless succeed. But we know not what a day may bring forth. We must await events and trust in God.

Capt. M. L. Evans has just arrived from Texas and brings letters and papers. We are delighted to hear from our friends at home. But we are filled with sadness at the thought that our own State is invaded, and doubtless ere this some of our cities are surrendered to the enemy. We have only seen the demand for the surrender of Galveston. We await further

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news with much solicitude. May Heaven interpose to spare those whom we have left behind us from insult, pillage and ruin. Let all stand up nobly for their rights, their honor and their homes. Let the enemy as a cruel, perfidious and fiendish foe should be met, and terror will enter his ranks and they will be broken.

The Texas Squadron from Dallas, under Capt. Gano, left here for Knoxville yesterday morning.

Having an opportunity of sending a letter by private hands, I write in haste.

Yours,

R. F. B.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, July 14, 1862.

From the Rangers--Brilliant Skirmishing.

Our letters from the Rangers, just received, are from the 23th of May to the 28th of June. Much of their contents we have already published. We make some selections, however, of such items as we have not given.

Mr. Bunting writes, under date of May 28th, an account of the Elk Ridge affair. We have only had a mere mention of it before. He says:

On Thursday, the 3th, a detachment of 12 men each from Companies A, B, C, D, G, I and K, under the command of Capt. Y. Houston, proceeded to Holm's Kentucky Regiment, encamped near Rogersville where 250 men, under Lieut. Col. Woodard, joined them. About sundown the united command set out and marched until an hour before day, when they stopped at Bethel, and the citizens generally supplied the wants of the men and horses. After a brief rest, they again resumed the march. The Rangers, under command of Capt. Houston, turned to the right and crossed Elk River at the lower ford. They were to strike the Railroad and look out for an encampment of the enemy, which it was understood, was in that region. They were to proceed until they should form a junction with Col. Woodard, who crossed at the upper ford, and was to proceed also to the railroad, three miles higher up. Capt. Houston had proceeded but a short distance, until the encampment of the enemy was discovered, and he determined at once to attack him.

The command was immediately formed in order of battle and moved towards him. The right squadron, under command of Lieut. Kyle, of company D, rested on the railroad. Soon a hand-car was seen proceeding from the camp of the enemy, in the direction of Athens, with six men in it. It was necessary to intercept them lest seeing our movements they should give the alarm and bring reinforcements from Athens. Capt. Gus. Harris rode out and fired his pistol at them. This halted them, and leaping from the car they ran towards the thicket, when a volley was poured after them, without doing any damage. Lt. Kyle sent out 6 or 7 men from his squadron, and surrounding the bushes, all were captured. The firing alarmed the Federals, about 80 in number, and they prepared for a fight. Their position being very strong, they poured a galling fire upon our boys as they bravely charged them. After a brief, but stubborn fight here, the enemy was dislodged, and moving across an open field, he sought shelter in a house near by. Our command was preparing to surround the house, when Col. W's cavalry came dashing up and surrounded the house. They poured a heavy fire into the enemy, losing one Captain killed, and a private; also, one wounded. The Federals seeing they were so far outnumbered now surrendered. It was a brief, but brilliant fight, and the victory was principally achieved by the Rangers. However, it was not without a serious loss, for Capt. Gus. Harris fell dead whilst gallantly leading

his boys in the charge. We also lost William Dewoody, a volunteer attached to company D. He was from Hays county, and a brave man, whom his companions greatly esteemed. He lived about on-half an hour. Charley Reinger, of company J, was also mortally wounded and died in about an hour. James Pinaston, of company A, was wounded in the thigh, but not dangerous.

The enemy lost his whole force, viz: 15 killed, some dozen wounded, and 4, prisoners. Thus ended the battle of "the Trestle-work"--perhaps officially called "Elk Ridge." The command then returned by the same route, and rejoining at Beth-el, they enjoyed the hospitalities of the people again, and returned to camp.

Another correspondent writes on the 23th of June, giving a sketch of the movements of the regiment from the 27th of April down to the date of his letter. We have already published the account of "Galveston" of a portion of this time. We copy from the point when the regiment reached Chattanooga:

Gen. Adams (from whom the Rangers had parted on going to Chattanooga) remained on the north side of the river until the 5th of June, when the Yankees surprised and drove him across the river, and afterwards bombarded Chattanooga six hours. I was in the place at the time. With the hundreds of shot and shell thrown by them, only two men were hurt, and one or two others slightly damaged. Not a moment's warning was given to

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move the women and children from the place. They afterwards fell back down the river 25 miles to the mouth of Battle Creek and Shell Mound, when our regiment and Col. Davis' Florida regiment were stationed, and attempted to cross, but were driven back.

They had a small gunboat built at Huntsville, mounting three guns--one 12 pound howitzer and two 6 pound rifle cannon, which appears the terror of the command of Gen. Ledbetter, or, more particularly, of Ledbetter himself. I verily believe, had it proceeded as far up as Chattanooga, he would have given up the place. Three Rangers attacked it and drove it 10 miles down the river. At another time, 13 Rangers attempted to board it, but were prevented by an accident. After that, the boat kept the other side of the river.

Our wagons joined us on the 13th of June, much to our gratification. We had lived without tents for more than a month, and had our bread baked where we could, and got provisions of the people--a source of no little trouble.

In Tennessee and Georgia, on this trip, I for the first time saw white women working in the field. On enquiry, I learned that a majority of them were compelled to work by reason of their male relatives being in the army, or do without bread. If Old Abe was handed over to these mountain lassies, he would receive his just deserts in quick time.

\* \* An agent of the regiment is now in Richmond to get it

transferred, if possible, to Hindman or to Texas. \* \* \* \*

John J. Stewart, reported missing at Shiloh has returned to the company. While leaving the battle ground, after Tuesday's charge his horse fell and stunned him. On his recovery the enemy had him prisoner. He was taken to St. Louis, with about 200 others, on a steamboat. The boat arrived at night, and the prisoners were taken off without calling the roll. He and one of Scott's cavalry, taken in same charge, secreted themselves in the hold of the boat, and made their escape from her, on her downward trip, below Cape Girardeau; whence they footed it through Missouri and Arkansas to Memphis, and rejoined their regiments.

Lieut. Lowe, reported killed is a prisoner, badly wounded, in the hands of the Yankees. W. A. Page and W. H. Spencer died in the hospital, of their wounds.

Discipline is now very strict in this regiment, and any slight neglect of orders gets a man before the Court Martial.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, July 25, 1862.

## Letter from the Rangers

Ranger's Camp, near Chattanooga, Tenn.,  
July 26th, 1862.

E. H. Cushing Esq,

Dear Sir.—Whilst at "Camp Hardee," Ky., in the last week of January, I gave you a synopsis of the condition of "Terry's Regiment of Texas Rangers," with a list of casualties. The months intervening have been eventful, both to us and the cause of the Confederate States. We have passed under the cloud in many ways. We have spent long and weary days in the calamitous retreat. We have been in the midst of the dreadful battle. We have marched on long scouts, and tracked the enemy across mountain and through valley—by day and by night the toilsome work has gone forward. Some have fallen in the midst of the conflict—others have been left by the way, and breathed their last among strangers--sometimes, however, attended by a faithful comrade, they thought for the last time of home and spoke of the loved ones, and then bid farewell to earth. A very few are held within the enemy's lines. Some detained by sickness, others held prisoners of war.

But, in the good providence of God, we have been enabled to bring together once more the whole command, among these grand old mountains that are round about Chattanooga. We are recruiting for a few days, and preparing for the next order to "march." The thought has occurred to me, that our present

condition, under circumstances so favorable, would be appropriate for making another review, and giving our friends at home a few items concerning our loss in the past, and our present strength. So far as reported, the following is our loss by death, since the January report, in each company:

Maj. Clinton Terry, Volunteer Aid, died from wounds.

Co. A.--Capt. Rufus Y. King--Daniel Nell, of McLennan county, and R. Holdsworth, Bell county, killed in action; J W Baldrige, Milam county, D M Gordon, Williamson county, W B Arendal, Burleson county, died.

Co. B.--Capt R McKay--Richmond Champin, Brazoria county, killed in action; A J Stansberry, Wharton county, Jos A Stewart, Austin county, and H T Curitan, Brazoria county, died.

Co. C.--Capt. M L Evans--2d Lieut James Dunn, Gonzales county, and E T Moore, Limestone county, died.

Co. D.--Capt S C Terrill--Corp'l Ed Harris, Bastrop county, E W Black, co., N H Lovell, Travis county, died; John F Creain, Bastrop county, killed in action; John H Washington, Travis co., supposed killed in action.

Co. E.--Capt L M Payburn--Lieut H E Storey, Gonzales county, wounded and died with pneumonia.

Co. F.--Capt W R Jarmon--G L Guinn, A Ponton, Lavaca county, J L Harris, T B Jones, Fayette county died; J H Andrews, Fayette county, missing at Shiloh.

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Co. G.--Capt W T Houston--Jos Barker, Guadalupe county, died; Chas Reiber, Bexar county, killed in action.

Co. H.--Capt. Gustave Cook--Ben L Calloway, S G Moore, Wharton county, James Rector, Bexar county, B B Fatheree, Liberty county, John Morie, Fort Bend county, died; W A Page, Harris county, W B Spencer, Fort Bend county, died from wounds; David Cook, Fort Bend county, killed in action.

Co. I.--Capt G W Littlefield--Capt A D Harris, Gonzales county, and Ben F Burr, Guadalupe co., killed in action; L R Cookrun, Guadalupe co., R J Eckridge. Ord. Serg't James S Harris, Gonzales county, died; Robert Taylor, Victoria county, died from wounds.

Co. K.--Capt Pat Christian--J W Mackney, Harris county, and T. J Sypert, Washington co., died.

Co. L.--Capt J S Anderson--None

The total of casualties since the regiment was sworn into service is as follows:

Discharged, 203; Dishonorably discharged, 3; Died, 114; Killed in battle, 12; Supposed do., 1; Missing, 4; Transferred, 13; Deserted, 5; Resigned, 12; Drummed out, 1. Total 373.

We have received one hundred and thirty-six new recruits (adding to this number "Company L," with fifty-eight rank and file, we then have one hundred and ninety-four. This company being sworn in but for three months, their time is about expired, and most will return to Texas). After deducting our various losses, our roll shows seven hundred and sixty-two

still with us. (This does not include "Company L.") Of this number about sixty are absent, from their wounds, sickness and other causes.

When we left Bowling Green, in January, on our last scout to Green River, we could muster about 450, but now we have 250 more with us. Considering the constant services performed by this regiment, and the various dangers and perils through which we have passed, our condition is remarkable. Doubtless no other regiment from Texas can show less casualty. It is indeed the hand of God that hath done it, and his providence hath protected and shielded us.

I can truthfully say that this regiment is now in better condition, both as to men and horses, than it has ever been during our campaign. We have no sickness in camp. The men are in good spirits and able for duty. They are anxious for some onward movement. The discipline is also better than at any former period. Court Martials are of frequent occurrence, and their sentence seems to be willingly acquiesced in. It is no unusual thing to see several Texas Rangers now digging holes in the ground, or marking time for several hours each day. I believe this regiment will now compare with any other one (of cavalry) in the service, in good behaviour and the observance of law and the discharge of duty. Col. Wharton is much gratified with his success in this respect. Maj. Harrison is our best disciplinarian, and is a model soldier and officer.

The regiment now has a review every afternoon, and skirmish drill on foot in the morning. The boys perform in a very scientific manner. The horses are much improved from the recent scout across the river. We have but few men that are not mounted. The deficiency is being supplied every day. Everything is quiet in this quarter. We live in daily expectation of a great battle at Richmond. We may be ordered from here at any moment.

Things are becoming complicated about Knoxville, and we may be ordered in that direction. But our hearts will turn back towards the setting sun, and often do we hear the desire expressed, that we be sent west of the Mississippi. We have no late news from home, and know nothing of the movements of the enemy, since the demand for the surrender of Galveston, but should the tidings come that he is invading our State, scarcely could the boys be kept in this region. But we must obey 'the powers' that be, and whenever they say "go," thither duty leads us. We leave you all in the care and keeping of our covenant, God. Our prayer is ever for your safety, prosperity and happiness.

The weather is now upon the whole pleasant.-- We have very warm days, and the nights are unusually cool. I am able to preach quite regularly on the Sabbath. We hold service both morning and afternoon with large attendance, and we trust not without good result. It is our duty to sow the seed. May the Lord of the harvest bless it.

Yours,

R. F. B.

P. S.--27th-- To day the camp was enlivened by the reception of a large mail, forwarded from "Tupelo, Miss." We miss the telegraph very much. Hope our friends will embrace every opportunity of sending letters to the States, directed to "Chattanooga, Tenn," they will eventually reach us. The dates were several weeks past. We know as yet nothing of late movements in Texas. A. F. B.

THE TRI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, August 15, 1862.