Dan E Turney Letters

Undated letter

But dear friend at home if I return no more to you but fall far away in the land of my adoption and sleep my last sleep in the land I love, grieve not for me – I have <u>bright hopes</u> beyond this life – there is a home for me <u>beyond the skies</u>. Remember if I fall it will be in defense of Southern homes, honor, Liberty and all that is <u>just</u> and <u>right</u>; battleing [sic] against a merciless and invading foe. But I hope soon to hail the happy day when national difficulties are ended; when the Confederate States of America will be a free and Victorious Nation the most powerful and prosperous on Earth; and when Ky will be one of the brightest stars which constitutes that brilliant national Constellation, the Southern Confederacy, and when honest men can live in Ky free from the galling chains of Northern Despotism; free from the Tyrant's yoke.

My friends my good wishes attend you ever – may angels guard and guide you – may God protect and save you.

Farewell.

Dan E. Turney.

Co. G. 2d Ky.

Feint upon Nashville.

Left Murfreesboro Oct 4th, 62 Marched 13 ms. [sic] and went into camp, very tired, at 3 1/2 P.M.

At 9 1/2 P.M. long roll sounded and we were called into line and were soon on the march toward Nashville. Advanced 13 ms. [sic] at 3 1/2 A.M. (5th) halted and rested until daylight when we were again called into line and ammunition issued – from every indication we expected to meet the enemy in a few minutes but were disappointed – there was many long faces so certain were we of a battle and one of the boys who happened to have a deck of cards in his pocket strewed them along the road, a source of considerable [rest is missing]

Genl. Morgan planned and commanded expedition – Col. Duke comd [sic] the cav. engaged – Col. Hunt the Infantry.

This was certainly one of the most remarkable expeditions of the war – and Pres. Davis said the most brilliant.

We marched 30 ms. [sic] in 30 hours, crossed the Cumberland twice, fought a battle, taking over 2000 prisoners with all their arms, artillery, camps, commissary and Quarter

Master Stores without sleeping a wink or eating more than one meal, and in the very midst of winter, the weather very severe.

Gen'l [sic] Jno. [sic] M. Harlan and Col. Croxton were within 6 or 8 miles of the scene of action and hurried to assist the garrison but arrived too late.

Arrived at our old Camp at Murfreesboro about sunset the 8th very tired and almost worn out – but notwithstanding the severity of the campaign Gen Hanson kept up a camp guard.

This was a Ky. victory as none but Ky'ans [sic] were engaged – and the Ky boys were proud of it

Battle of Stone [sic] River

26th Dec 1862 firing was heard in direction of Nashville – On 27th cannonading still heard in distance. It had now become evident that the Federal Army was advancing to attack us and that a general engagement was unavoidable.

On morning of 28th our Division moved to the front, and took position.

29th Enemy made appearance – day spent in skirmishing and artillery firing.

30 – Matters grow much warmer, the cloud lowers; the storm will soon burst upon us in all its fury. Heavy cannonading all day; very active skirmishing – Many casualties.

Our Brigade's position was in immediate range of the enemy's batteries and shot and shell fell thick around us, sufficient to intimidate those who had not already more than once faced the foe and experienced the dangers and terrors of battle – it was amusing to see many of the boys scampering out of range of the shell, sheltering themselves behind trees, logs, etc.

Our company was in front as skirmishers during the night. Our suffering was greater that night than any during the whole war. It was one of the coldest I ever experienced; we were not allowed fire and I had <u>no</u> blanket – the suffering of that night I cannot describe; your imagination cannot conceive it; none can know unless they shared it.

Dec. 31st 1862

<u>Dark</u> and <u>ominous</u> day – the last of so <u>eventful</u> a year; how gloomily it dawned. Many a brave and noble spirit beholds, for the <u>last time</u>, the rising sun, and ere its setting they will be in the arms of eternal sleep, their souls holding communion with the Mighty God.

The events of to-day, the awfully terrible scenes enacted around Murfreesboro will be recorded in the history of this, the greatest of civil wars the world has ever known, but not with more truth than my feeble pen will here describe it.

The battle opened about daylight the Confederate forces moving out and attacking the enemy. The battle raged fiercely throughout the entire day, darkness alone [end of text]

Co. G. 2nd Ky. Regt. Officers

Capt [sic] Jno. [sic] S. Hope.

1st Lieut [sic] E. F. Spears

2nd Lieut [sic] S. B. Hawes. K--d

1st Sergt [sic] J. L. White. K—d

2d Sergt [sic] D. E. Turney.

3d Sergt [sic] R. E. Hewett. K-d

4th Sergt [sic] J. A. Allen. Disc. [sic]

1st Corp. Eli Cheshire. D—

2d Corp. P. Punch.

3d Corp. J. E. Patton. D-

4th Corp. F. Hurley.

Privates.

- 1. Allen Geo. W. D.
- 2. Ardery J. D. Died
- 3. Allison J. A.
- 4. Barry Jno. [sic] K-d
- 5. Batterton B. F.
- 6. Bills LaFayette. D.
- 7. Barlow J. T. Died
- 8. Bickley D. S. K—d
- 9. Butler Wm.
- 10. Barnett C. A.
- 11. Ballengall J. P. K—d
- 12. Browning Wm Trans—
- 13. Blays P. A. Trans—
- 14. Brooks I. A. K-d

- 15. Carrington J. J.
- 16. Crouch Jno. [sic] R. D.
- 17. Clark Frank K—d
- 18. Chiles Jas. M. K—d
- 19. Davis Jno. [sic] C.
- 20. Fitzpatrick W. P.
- 21. Gilvin E. L. D.
- 22. Griffin J. D. D.
- 23. Griffin Anthony.
- 24. Howarth J. H. D-
- 25. Howard T. J. Dis.
- 26. Hibler Geo. W
- 27. Hite Wm O.
- 28. Hite Jno. [sic] W. D.
- 29. Hendricks S. H. D.
- 30. Ivey Chas. C. Trans.
- 31. Kilpatrick J. A. D.
- 32. Leer W. H. D.
- 33. Legoett J. M. Dis.
- 34. Mann Madison. D.
- 35. Murphy Peter. K-d
- 36. McIntire G. W. Dis.
- 37. McGuire J. M. D.
- 38. Mahon Jno. [sic]
- 39. McDonald J. A. J. M. B. G. G.
- 40. McGhee J. W.
- 41. Mernaugh Jas.
- 41. McKenney Frank

- 43. McLane Wm
- 44. Nelson H. R. K-d
- 45. Nash J. H.
- 46. O'Neal Wm O. K-d
- 47. O'Brien Mike D.
- 48. Purnell W. J. K-d
- 49. Paris J. M.
- 50. Phillips E. T.
- 51. Phillips L. W. K-d
- 52. Powers Mich'l [sic] D.
- 53. Price Vezey.
- 54. Piper H. Dis.
- 55. Priest James.
- 56. Prather R. M. D.
- 57. Richardson W. J. D.
- 58. Richardson H. C. D.
- 59. Spraggins S. L. Died.
- 60. Shields W. T. K-d
- 61. Shannon T. H. D.
- 62. Smith J. T. K-d
- 63. Skinner W. W. K-d
- 64. Sanders Jas. L. D.
- 65. Stone W. G.
- 66. Trigg Joe. L. Dis.
- 67. Tucker W. J. D.
- 68. Winston J. M. Died.
- 69. Watts Oscar. K-d
- 70. Waddell Jas. Dis.

- 71. Webster Dan. D.
- 72. York Tho [sic]
- 73. Young Brice R. D.

Joined Subsequently.

- 74. A. G. Wainright.
- 75. G. W. Hinton Died.
- 76. L. Feradoe.
- 77. I. S. Hanson.
- 78. S. Doty.
- 12/90
- 24D
- 18K.
- 5 Died