Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Highway
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
Phone: (615) 893-9501, Fax: (615) 893-9508

Regimental File Donation Form

Donor Name: Barbara Ingmundson MacEwen

Address: 530 Giddings Ave

City: Sheboygan Falls State: WI Zipcode: 53085

Phone: 920.467.6909 Fax:

Significant Person's Name: John Ingmundson

Unit: Wisconsin 15th Regiment

List Contents of Donation Below:

Biographical sketch of Capt John Ingmundson
Report of the Adjutant General 1866

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Ingmundson
Co. E, 15th Wisconsin Volunteers

John Ingmundson was born *Johan Anton Johannessen* on 28 October 1832 on the Gathue farm in Rygge, Norway. His last name ("Johannessen") was a patronymic name after his father's first name. Upon emigration to America, he assumed his father's surname, Ingmundson, according to American custom.

He was the second oldest child, but oldest son of Johannes Ingemundsen (Americanized to Ingmundson in this country) and Nicoline Andersdatter Wendelboe. John emigrated to America ahead of the family in 1853. His glowing description of the new country and it's boundless opportunities induced the rest of the family to follow in 1854. He first settled in Village Creek, Iowa where he married Eline Simenson on 27 February 1856. They farmed in that community, but in 1858 moved to Neshonoc, in southwest Wisconsin, near La Crosse. They had two children, James, and a daughter, whose name is unknown.

On 25 November 1861 he was apparently sworn in to Company E, 15th Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment. On that date he wrote the following letter to his father, Johannes Ingmundson, who was living near Harper's Ferry, Iowa. This is a translation of his Norwegian letter:

La Crosse, Nov. 25, 1861

Dear father,

I have written to you a few days ago and I hope you have received the letter. Lately we have done great in our company and it is a very good chance we will move on.

Our Col., Ole Heg, is here now to swear us in. I think he and I will travel to Iowa in a short time. Then I will write to you again if I can. We will stay there for a short time in the "Soldier Inn."

No more for now. This is the end.

Sincerely,

John Ingmundson

John was commissioned a Captain on 10 December 1861 (effective on 9 December) and activated in the all Norwegian Regiment at Madison, Wisc. on 20 December. He was killed in the Battle of Stones River on 30 December 1862, the day before the official

battle began. O.A. Buslett of Decorah, Iowa wrote a description of his death in Norwegian and titled it *Det Femtende Regiment Wisconsin* ("The Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiment"). This is a translation of that document:

Company "E."
Length of service: 3 years

Captain John Ingmundson

Captain John Ingmundson of Neshonoc, La Crosse Co., received his commission 10 December 1861, effective from the 9th, and was activated in Madison on the 20th.

He was 29 years old and married.

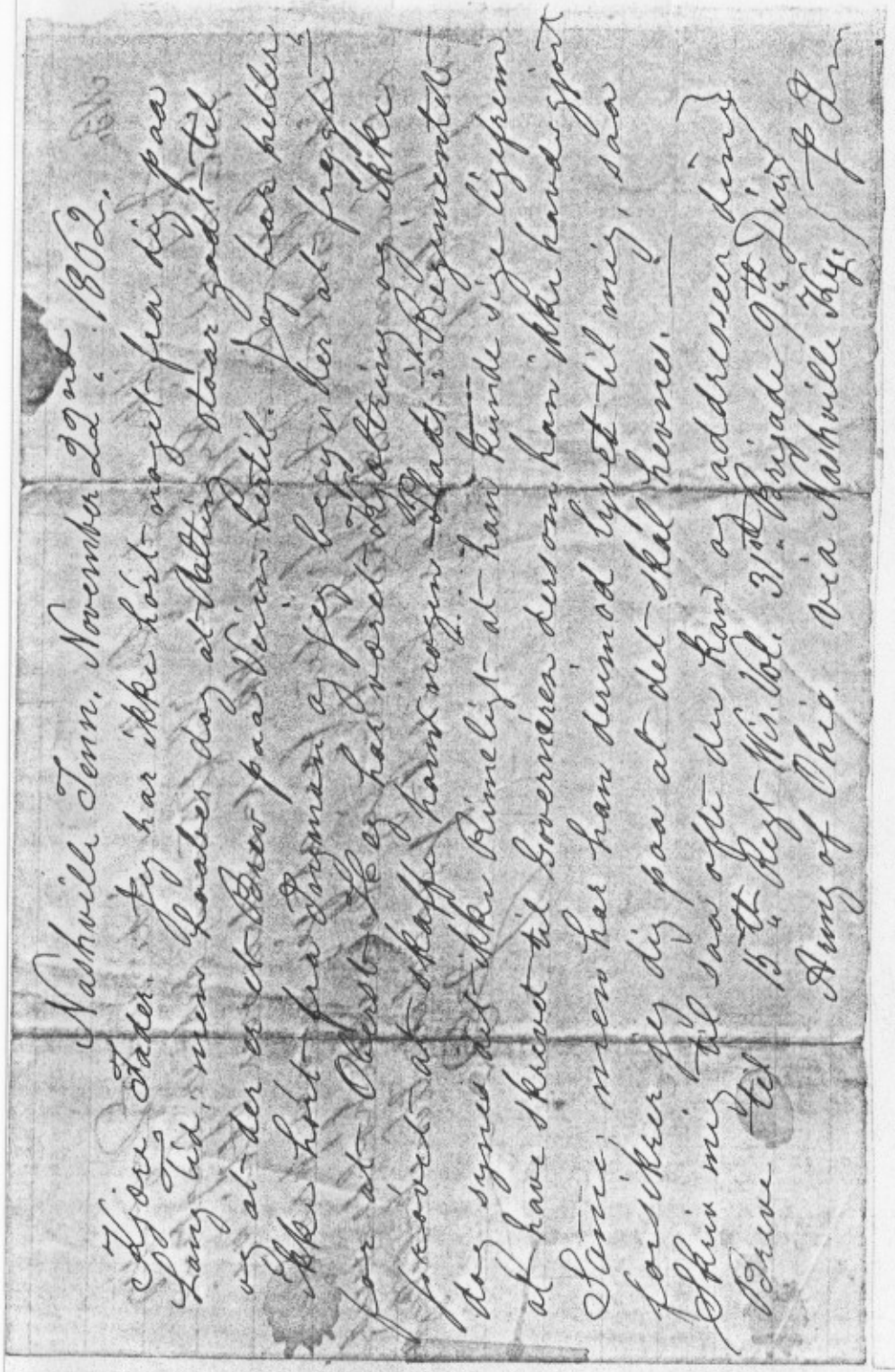
He was killed in the Battle of Stone (*sic*) River on 30 December 1862.

Johan Anthon (*sic*) Ingmundson was born on the farm, Gathue, in Rygge Parish, Smaalenene, Norway, on 28 October 1832. He came to America in 1853 and began farming in Allamakee Co. In 1858 he moved to Neshonoc, where he was living when he received his commission.

Of the officers of the 15th Wisconsin, he was the first to bite the grass. This Battle of Stone River was fateful for the Regiment and Co. E was sent out as the advance guard. The terrain was difficult. There were bluffs, gullies mixed with huge stones, and cedar woods. The rebels were hidden in this terrain and it was nearly impossible for us to penetrate the area. Ingmundson was standing, looking around, and giving orders. A rebel spotted him and our Captain fell and died within a few minutes. This made a deep impression on the Regiment. We were green troops at the time. His body was brought to the hospital and later buried. Despite all our efforts to find the grave, we were unable to do so. He lies among all those who sleep their last sleep at Stone River under one of the graves marked "unknown."

He shed his blood for freedom
And thus he tasted death
"Unknown!" What a name!
Your life and courage
Nobody can impune
Because of this or that trivial matter
Which always follows a person's name.

Capt. John Ingmundson,
Co.E,15th., Wis.Vol.
Killed at the Battle of Stone River,
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
1862.


Nashville Tenn. November 22nd 1862.
Dear Father. I have not heard from you for a long time, but I hope that everything is fine and that your letter is on its way from you. I have not heard from Ingman and I start praying that Col. Heg has not been a bastard and placed him in a regiment. Col. Heg has told me to my face that he has written to the Governor. " And if this is a lie, I will take a revenge ".
Write to me as often as you can and address your letter to 15th Reg. Wis. Vol. 31st Bri. 9th Div. Army of Ohio, via Nashville, Ky.
J. Ing.
P.S. Lately I have not been feeling very well, my back and hips are aching, I think arthitis start setting in. No wonder, its so bad in here. I pray every day I will get my discharge, because I cant stand this much longer. Best Regards, J.I.
(Note ; I believe John was writing about Holm, not Ingman, when he mentioned Col. Heg -
C.P.I. 2/12/1981

Letter from John Ingmundson to his father

Nashville, Tenn.
Nov. 22, 1862

Dear Father

I have not heard from you for a long time, but I hope that everything is fine and that your letter is on its way from you. I have not heard from Ingman and I start praying that Col. Heg has not been a bastard and placed him in a regiment. Col. Heg has told me to my face that he has written to the Governor. " And if this is a lie, I will take a revenge ".

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(Note ; I believe John was writing about Holm, not Ingman, when he mentioned Col. Heg -

C.P.I. 2/12/1981

La Crosse Novb. 25th 1861.

Kjære Fader!

Jeg skrev til Dig for nogle Dage siden og jeg haaber at Du har bekommet mit Brev. Vi har i den senere Tid gjort det godt med Henseyn til vort Kompagnie, der er nu gode Udsigter til at vi skal faa det udfyldt. Vor Oberst's Broder Ole Heg er nu her; for at hjelpe os; han og jeg kommer til at reise til Iowa om en Tid troer jeg og da vil vi stoppe hos Dig om vi kan, vi kommer da til at tiltrenge en Hest og Boggij til at reise ud for at verve Soldater, ikke mere denne Gang vær hilset paa det Hjærteligste.

John Ingmunden

CASUALTY SHEET

Name: John Ingmandson

Rank: # Company: "E" Regiment: 15th

Arm: Infantry State: Wisconsin

Nature of Casualty: Death.

CAUSE OF CASUALTY—(NAME OF DISEASE, &c.)

Killed in Battle

DEGREE OF DISABILITY.

BY WHOM CERTIFIED.

Maj O. C. Johnson

DATE OF DISCHARGE, DEATH, &c.

December 30th 1862

PLACE OF DISCHARGE, DEATH, &c.

Stone River Tenn.

BY WHOM DISCHARGED.

FROM WHAT SOURCE THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED.

Register of deceased Soldiers Vol. 4.

REMARKS.

Capt - No 81. Index 11.

[illegible] Aug 18. 79

J. A. Cunnells

Clerk.

(119)

Effects sent to Mrs Ellen Ingmandson.

4

" DET FEMTENDE REGIMENT WISCONSIN "
frivillige

O. A. Buslett , Decorah , Iowa

Kompani "E."

Tenesset d: 3 Aar.

Kaptein John Ingmundson.

Kaptein John Ingmundson af Neshonoc, La Crosse Co., fik sin Bestalling den 10de December '61, at rangere fra den 9de, og indmønstred i Madison den 20de; 29 Aar og gift.

Han faldt i Slaget ved Stone River den 30te December '62.

John Anthon Ingmundson fødtes paa Gaarden Gathue i Rugge Gjæld, Smaalenene Norge, den 28de Oktober 1832. Han kom til Amerika i '53 og begyndte som Farmer i Allamakee County, Iowa; men han flytted i 58 til Neshonoc, Wis., hvor han bode, da han modtog sin Kapteinsbestalling.

Af det "Femtendes" Officerer var han den første, som bed i Græsset. I det for Regimentet saa skjæbnesvangre Slag ved Stone River blev Kompani E sendt ud som Avantgarde; Tærrænet var ulændt; der var Klippeblokker, Kløfter, derimellem store Stene og Cederkrat, saa det var næsten ugjørligt at trænge sig frem, og her havde Rebellerne skjult sig. Ingmundsen stod netop og saa sig omkring og gav Befalinger — en eller anden Rebel havde set dette, og vor Kaptein faldt og døde om nogle Minuter. Det gjorde et dybt Indtryk paa Regimentet; dengang var de unge i Felten. Hans Lig blev bragt paa Hospitalet og siden begravet; men trods al Søgen og Anstrengelse for at finde Graven igjen, er det dog ikke lykkets. Han ligger blandt alle dem, der sover sin sidste Søvn ved Stone River, under et af de Bræt, der er mærket "Ukjendt."

For Folkets Frihed flød hans Blod,
fik derfor Dødens Kylde.
Ukjend ! Hvad Navn ! Dit Liv og Mod
Ska' ingen Mund beskylde
for en og anden Smaalighed,
som ofte følger Navnet med.

COMPANY " E " 15th Wisc. Regiment

Length of service - 3 Years

Captain John Ingmundson

Captain John Ingmundson of Neshonoc , La Crosse Co. received his commission Dec. 10th, 1861 effective from the 9th and was activated in Madison on the 20th.

He was 29 years old and married.

He was killed in the Battle of Stone River on Dec. 30,1862.

John Anthon Ingmundson was born on the farm Gathue in Rygge Parish , Smaalenene , Norway on Oct. 28, 1832. He came to America in 1853 and began farming in Allamakee Co. but he moved in 1858 to Neshonoc where he was living when he received his commission.

Of the officers of the 15th Wisconsin, he was first to bite the grass. This Battle of Stone River was fateful for the Regiment and Co. E was sent out as the advance guard. The terrain was difficult, there were bluffs , gullies , mixed with huge stones and cedar woods which were almost impossible to pass through , and there the rebels were hidden. Ingmundson was standing and looking around and giving orders, he was spotted by some rebel and our Captain fell and died within a few minutes. This made a deep impression on the Regiment. We were green troops at the time. His body was brought to the hospital and later buried, but despite all efforts to find the grave , we were unable to do so. He lies among all those who sleep their last sleep at Stone River under one of the graves marked " unknown ".

He shed his blood for freedom
And thus he tasted death
" Unknown " ! What name !
Your life and courage
Can nobody impune
Because of this or that trivial matter
Which always follows a persons name.

at Nashville, with the exception of company E, which under command of Captain Henry, accompanied the march of General
242] Sherman's army from Atlanta to Savannah, and through the Carolinas as guard to the pontoon train.[1] This company rejoined the regiment on the 16th of July, 1865, at Montgomery, Ala.

On the 27th of August, 1865, the Fourteenth arrived at Mobile, Ala., where they were occupied in provost and guard duty, until the 9th of October, when they were mustered out of service and set out for home. They arrived on the 22d of October at Madison, Wisconsin, where the men were soon afterwards paid and discharged the service.

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The list of dead. pp. 243–249, is omitted and published in full in volume 3.

250] FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

The members of this regiment, recruited almost exclusively from the Scandinavian population of the state, were sent forward in squads enlisted to Camp Randall, where the regimental organization was effected, under the supervision of Colonel Hans C. Heg, of Waterford. The muster into United States service was completed on the 14th of February, 1862, and on the 2d of March, they left the state for active service, under orders to proceed to St. Louis. On arriving at Chicago, a beautiful flag was presented to the regiment by the Scandinavian "Society Nora," of that city; after which, they again took the cars, and arrived at Alton, Ill., on the evening of the 3d. They immediately embarked, passing the night on the steamer, and proceeded down the Mississippi on the following day to St. Louis, where orders were received to proceed to Bird's Point, Mo., opposite Cairo. Resuming the voyage on the 5th, they disembarked on the following day at Bird's Point, where camp was established.

On the 14th, six companies, of the regiment, under command of Colonel Heg, were placed on transports, and moving down the river to take part in the siege of Island No. 10, arrived before that celebrated stronghold on the morning of the following day.[2]

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[1] 98 Rebellion Records 46, 104 Ibid. 1007.

[2] New Madrid, Mo., and Island No. 10 Siege Feb. 28—April 8, 1862. 8 Rebellion Records 76–186. 116 Ibid. 436.

Thenceforward this portion of the regiment was constanly employed in the performance of siege and picket duty, until the 30th, when they joined an expedition designed to capture a rebel encampment at Union City, Tenn. Landing at Hickman Ky., they marched rapidly to Union City. On the approach of the expedition, the rebels set fire to the camp, and only waiting to see that the destruction was complete our forces marched back to the transports, returned to Island No. 10, and resumed the duties of the siege. The rebel garrison having surrendered, these six companies landed on the island, and Colonel Heg was put in command of the post. They were joined soon after by the companies which had been left at Bird's Point and the regiment was employed in garrison duty and strengthening the fortifications.

Leaving companies G and I at Island No. 10 as permanent garrison,[1] the other eight companies of the regiment embarked on the 11th of June, and landing at Hickman, Ky., marched to Union City, Tenn., where Colonel Heg was placed in command of the post, and the regiment remained until the 20th, when they marched, going into camp at Humboldt on the 25th. Having remained here some time, they marched by way of Jackson to Clear Creek, four miles from Corinth, Miss., and went into camp.

On the 20th of July, camp was moved to Jacinto, Miss., where the regiment remained three weeks, marching about the 10th of August to Iuka, where, on the 17th, orders were received to join the army of the Cumberland. In pursuance of these orders, they left Iuka on the 23d of August, proceeding to Eastport, at 251] which place they crossed the Tennessee River on the following day, and continuing the march, entered Florence, Ala., on the 26th. Leaving Florence on the 28th, they proceeded by way of Columbia, Franklin and Murfreesboro, to Nashville, Tenn., where they arrived on the 10th of November. Meanwhile, the general movement of our troops towards the Ohio had been in progress, and after remaining at Nashville three days, while General Buell's army passed towards the north, they marched on the 14th, passing through Bowling Green, Ky., on the 16th, and arriving on the 18th at Munfordsville, at which place the enemy had occupied the fortifications, interrupting their farther progress northward. After a detention of two days at this place,

[1] 25 Ibid. 517, 146. 38 Ibid. 255, 454.

march was again resumed on the 21st, and proceeding by way of Elizabethtown; after a great deal of marching and countermarching, they arrived at Louisville, Ky., on the 26th. During most of the time occupied in this long march, the men subsisted on half rations, and suffered greatly, on various occasions, for lack of water.

On the 1st of October, they left Louisville, participating in the movement of Buell's forces to meet the rebels under Bragg. Proceeding by way of Fredericktown and Springfield, they arrived in the vicinity of Perryville on the 7th, when they were formed in line of battle about four miles from the enemy, and lay on their arms during the night. Early on the following morning, the artillery on both sides opened fire, commencing the battle of Chaplin Hills.[1] At two in the afternoon, the Fifteenth was ordered to advance. The brigade to which they were attached was marched up near the ground then occupied by McCook's corps, where the fight was raging fiercely, and then moved to the right, under orders to support Sheridan's division, forming in the woods immediately behind an open field. One company was deployed in front as skirmishers, who engaged the enemy on the field. Shortly after, they were ordered to advance, and engage the enemy in force. As the brigade emerged from the woods, the rebels in front retreated to the protection of their artillery. Led by the Fifteenth, and another regiment, the brigade pursued on the double quick about a mile, capturing upwards of one hundred prisoners, thirteen ammunition wagons, and two caissons; when they retired, resuming position in the main line of battle.*

In the pursuit of the enemy after the battle, they took part in a brilliant skirmish on the 15th, with the enemy's rear guard, near Lancaster[2]. When near Crab Orchard, the pursuit was abandoned, and the regiment encamped at Lebanon, Ky., about the 20th, whence they subsequently marched, by way of Edgefield Junction, to Nashville, Tenn., near which place they encamped in the middle of November.

At this time, the country in the vicinity of our army was infested by guerrillas. In an expedition against these irregular

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[1] Perryville, Ky., Oct. 8, 1862, 62 Rebellion Records 1021–1134, 1035. Report of Brig. Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, 22 Ibid. 1076–1079.

*Official report.

[2] Lancaster, Ky., skirmish, Oct. 14, 1862; 22 Ibid. 1029, 1077.

252] forces, the conduct of the regiment was such as to call forth a congratulatory order from the commanding general, of which the following is a copy:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS.
Nashville, November 22, 1862.

SPECIAL ORDERS,
No. 22.

The Commanding General notices with much pleasure, the successful expedition sent out by Colonel W. D. Carlin, commanding 31st brigade, in the direction of Clarksville.[1] Two infantry regiments. (Fifteenth Wisconsin and Thirty-eighth Illinois), under Lieutenant Colonel McKee, of the Fifteenth Wisconsin, having marched one hundred miles over muddy roads, through constant rains, without tents, have returned with 46 prisoners, 100 small arms, 18 horses and 20 mules, taken from the guerillas who infest the country. This handsome little success, which shows what good infantry can do, under an enterprising leader, reflects much credit on all who were engaged in it.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL ROSECRANS:
(Signed) C. GODDARD,
Major and A. A. A. General.

They remained at Nashville until the 26th of December, when they marched in advance of the army of the Cumberland, taking part in the general movement of our forces in the direction of Murfreesboro. At one in the afternoon, the advance of the brigade encountered the enemy's pickets near Nolensville, where the bridage was drawn up in line of battle, advancing in that manner through very thick brush, to an open field and driving the enemy to Knob Gap, where, with eight pieces of artillery, supported by a heavy force of dismounted cavalry, he made a determinded stand. For more than a mile they advanced, without faltering, up to the very mouths of the cannon, under a terrific fire, drove the enemy from his strong position, and captured one cannon and six prisoners.* The cannon was captured by the Fifteenth in a bayonet charge, not even giving the enemy time to spike or otherwise disable it.

On the following day, they marched a short distance towards Triune, encamping near the road until the 29th, when the march towards Murfreesboro was resumed, and continued during the day the troops bivouacking at night without fires and resting on their arms. Next morning, they advanced in line of battle, company E deployed as skirmishers in front, and Lieutenant Colonel McKee taking command of the brigade line of skirmishers. About

[1] Clarksville, Tenn., Reconnoisance toward; 29 Rebellion Records 10, 11, 12. Report of Lt. Col. David McKee, 29 Ibid. 10.

* Official order by Brigade Commander.

noon the skirmishers on both sides became engaged, and the battle of Stone's River[1] had commenced. At two in the afternoon the regiment was ordered to advance slowly and occupy the woods then held by the skirmishers. Under a severe fire of shell and grape, they pressed forwards through a dense cedar thicket, reserving their fire until the enemy was discovered posted be-
253] hind a rail fence. On advancing farther, they received an enfilading fire from a battery on the left, and being unsupported, retired a short distance, taking position about three hundred yards from the enemy, which they retained until evening, when they retired four hundred yards to the rear, resting without fire during the night.

At four in the morning of the 31st, they were again in line of battle, supporting a battery. On the withdrawal of the guns, they took position, acting in concert with the balance of the brigade, then fiercely assailed by a vastly superior force of the enemy. They resisted all attempts of the enemy in front, but the rebels having succeeded in outflanking the brigade, they were forced to fall back. The Fifteenth, being the last to leave the field, retired slowly to the railroad track, in the vicinity of which they remained during the day. During the 1st and 2d of January, 1863, they were stationed near the Murfreesboro pike, skirmishing with the enemy and capturing a few prisoners, the men remaining continually under arms during the day, and resting on their arms at night, until the evening of the 2d, when they again moved in pursuit of the enemy. Crossing Stone's River, they took position on the high point of ground in front of the enemy, nearly a mile from the river, where they remained until the morning of the 4th, under a drenching rain, without shelter or fires, and continually skirmishing with the enemy's pickets. During five days and nights, it may be said, the regiment was continually under arms, without fire and with scanty rations, and constantly engaged with the enemy. They went into camp two miles south of Murfreesboro, having lost fifteen killed, seventy wounded and thirty-four missing, most of whom were prisoners. Having been ordered on a scouting expedition against Wheeler's and Forrest's forces, they left camp on the

[1] Stone's River or Murfreesboro Battle, Dec. 31, 1862–Jan. 2, 1863. Campaign Dec. 26, 1862–Jan. 5, 1863. 29 Rebellion Records 166–979. Report of Col. William P. Carlin 29 Ibid. 279–283. See pp. 175, 190, 208, 262.

31st and marching by way of Eaglesville, encamped on the 2d of February, at Franklin, Tenn., where they remained some days, returning to Murfreesboro about the 12th.

Participating in several scouting and forage expeditions, and engaged in the performance of outpost and picket duty, they remained at Murfreesboro until the 24th of June, when the general southward movement of the army of the Cumberland commenced. The Third brigade of the First division, commanded by Colonel Heg, to which the Fifteenth had been assigned on the 30th of April, was detailed to act as rear guard to the right of the army under General McCook, and marching in this order, arrived at Manchester on the 28th. March was resumed on the 1st of July, and proceeding by way of Tullahoma, they went into camp on the 3d, at Winchester, Tenn.[1]

On the 17th of August they again marched, crossing the Cumberland Mountains to Stevenson, Ala., where they encamped on the 20th. The duty of laying the pontoons for the passage of the army across the Tennessee River having been assigned to their brigade, they marched on the 28th, taking a circuitous direction to avoid observation by the enemy's pickets, on the op-
254] posite side of the river, and bivouacked on the bank of the Tennessee at ten in the evening. At daybreak on the following morning, the pontoons were got into position and launched about sunrise. The Fifteenth was the first to reach the opposite shore, when skirmishers were immediately thrown out and the regiment cautiously advanced about two miles from the river, where they rested two hours at the foot of the mountains. During the afternoon the ascent was accomplished, and they bivouacked on Sand Mountain, whence they marched on the following day, encamping on the 3d of September at Winston's Gap.

Movement was resumed on the 10th, when they crossed Lookout Mountain into Georgia, and bivouacked, having taken several prisoners during the march. Returning on the 14th to Winston's Gap, the march towards Chickamauga was taken up on the following day. Recrossing the mountains by way of Stevens' Gap, and Dug Gap, they joined the main body of the army on the

[1] The Middle Tennessee or Tullahoma Campaign, June 23–July 7, 1863, 34 Rebellion Records, 399–632. Report of Col. Hans C. Heg, 34 Ibid. 482; Col. Benjamin F. Scribner, 34 Ibid. 436–438. The Chattanooga Campaign, Bvt. Col. Michael H. Fitch.

18th, near Chickamauga Creek, and took part during the two days following, in the battle of Chickamauga.[1]

Shortly after noon on the 19th, the regiment was ordered into line of battle, on the south side of Chattanooga road, three miles east of Crawfish Springs. Advancing a short distance to the right, through a heavy growth of underbrush, the enemy's pickets were encountered and driven in, and pressing forward they received a volley from the main force of the enemy in front, when the engagement became general. The Fifteenth retained position a short time and then fell back a few paces to avoid an enfilading fire which the enemy had succeded in establishing on their right. Soon afterward, they were ordered to charge with the bayonet, the enemy in their front. The charge was gallantly made, but owing to the lack of proper support, they were recalled, and fell back slowly, contesting the advance of the enemy, and holding him in check until relieved by the Second brigade. The enemy having concentrated a vastly superior force at this point, the whole line was ordered to fall back across an open field to the shelter of the timber, where the regiment took a new position, which they retained during the afternoon, participating in several charges upon the rebel lines, in one of which they recaptured several pieces of artillery, which had been lost a short time previously. In the evening, they were ordered nearly a mile to the rear, where the division was reformed and the troops bivouacked for the night. During the day, the regiment had lost sixty-six of their number in killed, wounded and missing. Colonel Heg, who commanded the brigade, was mortally wounded.

At three on the following morning, they were again under arms, taking position on a hill a short distance north of the Chattanooga road, where they were held in reserve, until nearly noon, when the battle was renewed and the regiment ordered to the front. Forming on the south side of the road, they advanced through the woods, taking position behind a barricade of fallen 255] timber where they were shortly afterward assaulted by the enemy, in greatly superior numbers. The attack was at first repulsed, and their position retained until completely outflanked,

[1] The Chickamauga Campaign, August 16–September 22, 1863, 50 Rebellion Records, 27–1071. Report of Col. John A. Martin, 50 Ibid. 528–531; Capt. Mons Grinager, 50 Ibid. 533–534. 43. 114. 502, 52 Ibid. 270; 53 Ibid. 211, 420.

when their brigade, at four in the afternoon, was ordered to withdraw from the field. The loss of the Fifteenth during the day, amounted to thirty-five of their number killed, wounded and missing. While falling back to Chattanooga after the battle, the regiment was joined, on the 21st, by companies G and I, which had been detached from the regiment since the 11th of June, 1862, in the performance of garrison duty at Island No. 10.

The whole regiment went into camp nearly a mile south of Chattanooga, at which place they were engaged in work upon the fortifications, until the 13th of October, when a portion of the regiment was detached, under orders to escort a supply train to Stevenson, Ala. On the 18th, the balance of the regiment moved to the north bank of the Tennessee, near Chattanooga, where they were employed in cutting and rafting timber for pontoon bridges across the river at Chattanooga. While engaged in this duty, they were joined by the detachment which had been sent to Stevenson, and on the 8th of November rejoined the brigade, going into garrison at Fort Wood.

Under command of Captain Gordon, they took part in the storming of Missionary Ridge,[1] on the 25th of November, when six of their number were wounded, and participating in the general movement which followed this battle, they left Chattanooga on the 28th, to reinforce General Burnside's forces at Knoxville, East Tennessee.[2] After an extremely fatiguing march of one hundred and ten miles, with scanty rations, they arrived at that place on the 7th of December, and next day marched sixteen miles south to Marysville, where they remained two days, returning on the 11th to Knoxville. Here a short time was allowed for rest, and on the 16th they marched thirteen miles in a northerly direction to Blane's Cross Roads, where they were employed in picket and guard duty until the 25th, at which date they marched six miles to Strawberry Plains, seventeen miles from Knoxville, on the East Tennessee and Virginia railroad.

At this point, holding position in the extreme right of the

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[1] Missionary Ridge, Tenn., Battle Nov. 25, 1863. Chattanooga, Ringgold Campaign, Nov. 23–27, 1863, 55 Rebellion Records, 1–782. Report of Capt. John A. Gordon, 55 Ibid. 279; Brig. Gen. August Willich, 55 Ibid. 263–265, 16, 81. 56 Ibid. 551; 58 Ibid. 285; 59 Ibid. 552; 78 Ibid. 546.

[2] The Knoxville, Tennessee, Campaign, Nov. 4—December 23, 1863. 54 Ibid. 255–549.

army of the Ohio, the regiment was employed in rebuilding the railroad bridge across the Holston River, and in general guard duty. They left Strawberry Plains on the 14th of January, and marching eighteen miles, arrived on the following day at Dandridge, where they were joined in the evening by a detachment of convalescents, which had been left at Chattanooga on their departure from that place on the 28th of November. While *en route,* the detachment took part in a severe engagement with Wheeler's cavalry at Charleston, Tenn.,[1] which resulted in the defeat of the enemy, with a loss of ten killed and one hundred and sixty-seven wounded and prisoners.

256] The regiment left Dandridge on the night of the 18th, arriving on the 21st at Knoxville, marching thence on the 24th by way of Marysville, to McKee's Ferry, whence they returned during the night of the 29th to Marysville, under orders to proceed to Wisconsin on veteran furlough. They reached Loudon twenty-eight miles distant, on the 31st, and owing to the threatening movements of the enemy, were met by orders to return immediately to Marysville, where they again encamped on the evening of the 1st of February, having suffered greatly from fatigue during the march. They remained in the performance of guard duty at this place, until the evening of the 16th, when they were put in motion, arriving next day at Knoxville, where they remained a week, marching on the 24th to Strawberry Plains. Leaving this place on the 27th, they crossed the Holston River and proceeding by way of New Market, arrived on the 29th at Morristown. They returned to New Market on the 3d of March, and thence, on the 9th, to Strawberry Plains where the regiment was stationed as guard to the railroad bridge, and employed in picket duty and labor on the fortifications, until the 7th of April, when they left Strawberry Plains, under orders to join the army of the Cumberland, and having marched a distance of one hundred and eighty miles, encamped on the 16th at McDonald Station, Tenn., on the East Tennessee and Georgia railroad, between Chattanooga and Cleveland.

Here thorough preparations were made for the spring campaign, and on the 3d of May, they left McDonald, and accompanying the movement of the Fourth corps, joined General Sher-

[1] Charleston, Tenn., Skirmish, Nov. 30, 1863; 54 Rebellion Records 255-549.

man's army on the 5th, near Ringgold, Ga.[1] From this place, the army was put in motion on the 7th, and after severe skirmishing during the day, our troops occupied Tunnel Hill in the evening. The Fifteenth Wisconsin was employed during the night on picket duty in front of Willich's brigade, and next morning were ordered forward to reconnoitre the enemy's position on Rocky Ridge, near Dalton. The regiment advanced, with four companies, under Captain Gordon, deployed in front as skirmishers, and, after a severe skirmish, succeeded in dislodging the enemy from his strong position on the summit of the ridge, which was immediately occupied by the reserve companies, and retained by the regiment until relieved on the morning of the 13th, when the troops were hurried forward in pursuit of the enemy, who had evacuated Dalton during the night. On the following day, they came up with the rebels at Resaca, when a charge was ordered and a fierce action ensued, in which the first line of rebel entrenchments was carried, the Fifteenth sustaining a loss of four killed and fourteen wounded.

During the night of the 16th of May, the enemy evacuated his position at Resaca, burning the railroad bridge as he withdrew. On the 17th, our troops moved forward in pursuit, the Fifteenth crossing the Coosawattee at noon, and pressing forward, with constant skirmishing, as the enemy retreated, ar-
257] riving on the 25th before the enemy's position at Dallas. The Fourth corps immediately moved to the support of the advance under General Hooker, which had been engaged in a severe fight with the enemy. They arrived on the battlefield near midnight, and next morning moved into position, which they proceeded to fortify. On the 27th, the Third division, to which the regiment belonged was relieved from this position, and immediately moved to the extreme left of the army, where they were ordered to attack the enemy's works. In this, "the most desperate charge of the campaign," many of the regiment were killed on the rebel fortifications, and our line was established within fifteen yards of the enemy, sheltered from his fire only by the slope of the hill upon which his batteries were planted. Although exposed to a galling fire of musketry, they retained this position for five hours, when the enemy was re-

[1] The Atlanta Campaign, May 1–September 8, 1864. 72, 73, 74 Rebellion Records. Report of Lt. Col. Ole C. Johnson, 72 Ibid. 416–421.

inforced and charged upon their weakened ranks, forcing them to retire, leaving their dead and mortally wounded on the hands of the rebels. In this sanguinary engagement, the regiment, which went into action with one hundred and sixty muskets, lost eighty-three officers and men, killed, wounded and prisoners.

They afterwards accompanied the movements of the army towards Marietta, almost constantly under fire, and forcing the enemy slowly back from their front. On the 23d of June, they participated in the assault upon the enemy's position on Kenesaw Mountain, with a loss of six killed and eleven wounded. They remained in the trenches before these works until the 3d of July, when they again moved forward in pursuit of the enemy, who had withdrawn from his works during the previous night. They crossed the Chattahoochee on the 17th, and accompanied the general movement of our forces to Atlanta, before which place they were employed in siege and fatigue duty, near the extreme left of our line, until the evening of the 25th of August, when they left the trenches, accompanying General Sherman's movement to intercept the enemy's communications on the south and east of Atlanta. Having marched about forty miles in a circuitous direction, they arrived on the 31st at Jonesboro, twenty-two miles from Atlanta, where temporary entrenchments were thrown up, and the troops bivouacked for the night.

They participated in the engagment at this place, on the 1st of September, after which they marched through the town in pursuit of the retreating enemy, and encamped on the 3d near Lovejoy Station.[1] They broke camp on the evening of the 5th, and marched on the return to Atlanta, going into camp on the 8th, four miles from the city, on the Atlanta and Augusta railroad. On the 29th, they left camp near Atlanta, under orders to report at Chattanooga, Tenn., at which place they arrived on the 1st of October.

The Fifteenth Wisconsin, which had previously been stationed as provost guard at that post, left Chattanooga, Tenn., on the 17th of October, 1864, and in compliance with the orders 258] of General Steedman, marched fourteen miles to Whiteside Station, Tenn.,[2] on the Nashville and Chattanooga rail-

[1] Report of Col. William H. Gibson. 72 Rebellion Records, 400-1. Col. Charles T. Hotchkiss, 72 Ibid. 389-400.

[2] 79 Rebellion Records 353-4, 562. 93 Ibid, 877-879, 1203. 94 Ibid. 590.

road, at which point they were employed in guarding the railroad bridge during the winter and until the completion of the period of service of the greater portion of the regiment.[1]

Upon the expiration of the term for which they were enlisted, company B of the Fifteenth, marched to Chattanooga, where they were mustered out, paid and formally disbanded on the 1st of December. Companies A and E, at the same place, were also mustered out on the 20th, and company C on the 31st of the same month, the balance of the regiment remaining as garrison at Whiteside until the 13th of February, 1865, when the last company was disbanded at Chattanooga.

The non-commissioned officers and enlisted men of the regiment, seventy-two in number, who, under the orders of the War Department, were not entitled to discharge at this time, were transferred to the Twenty-fourth Wisconsin, and subsequently, upon the discharge of that regiment, to the Thirteenth Wisconsin, with which they served until the discharge of that regiment from the service.

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The list of dead, pp. 259–265, is omitted and is published in full in volume 3.

266] SIXTEENTH REGIMENT.

The companies composing the Sixteenth regiment were ordered to rendezvous at Camp Randall, where the regimental organization was effected, under the direction of Colonel Benjamin Allen, of Pepin. The muster into United States service was completed on the 31st of January, 1862, and after a few weeks spent in acquiring drill and discipline, they left the state for field service on the 13th of March, under orders to report at St. Louis, Mo., where they arrived on the following day. They embarked on the 16th for Fort Henry, Tenn., on arriving at which place their destination was changed, and they disembarked on the 20th at Pittsburg Landing, on the Tennessee River.[1]

During the night of the 5th of April, four companies of the regiment were stationed, in the performance of picket duty, about half a mile from the main body of the regiment, which then occupied position in the advance of our forces. At day-

[1] 103 Rebellion Records 701–702, 793. 104 Ibid. 535.
[2] 11 Ibid. 66, 154, 186.

La Crosse Novb. 25th 1861.

Kjære Fader!

Jeg skrev til Dig for nogle Dage siden og jeg haaber at Du har bekommet mit Brev. Vi har i den senere Tid gjort det godt med Hensyn til vort Kompagnie, der er nu gode Udsigter til at vi skal faa det udfyldt. Vor Oberst's Broder Ole Heg er nu her, for at hjelpe os; han og jeg kommer til at reise til Iowa om en Tid troer jeg og da vil vi stoppe hos Dig om vi kan, vi kommer da til at tiltrenge en Hest og Boggej til at reise ud for at verve Soldater, ikke mere denne Gang vor hilsen paa det Hjærteligste.

John Ingmundsen

Capt. John Ingmundson,
Co.E,15th., Wis.Vol.
Killed at the Battle of Stone River,
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
1862.