



GABRIEL MOOTS

Gabriel Moots undoubtedly had one of the most interesting lives of the sixteen Civil War soldiers in the family. He was born in or near Strasbourg, France in 1824 or 1825. His parents were George and Catherine Muntz who came to Daviess County, Indiana about 1830 with their three children. The father died in the spring of 1831 leaving a widow, two sons and a daughter. The family name was changed from Muntz to Moots in 1842 when Gabriel's brother Anthony became naturalized.

Gabriel Moots was one of thirteen Daviess County men who served in the Mexican War. He enlisted on 15 June 1846 at New Albany, Indiana, and was discharged 23 June 1847 at New Orleans, having served one year. He applied in October 1847 for "land due him for service in the war with Mexico" and was granted 160 acres of land in February 1848.

On 29 November 1849 Gabriel Moots married Sarah Ann Peachee. It is not known what happened to Sarah Ann, but it is known that no children from that marriage were alive in 1867 if there ever were any children.

Gabriel Moots joined a company of Daviess County men who went to California during the gold rush. They left 22 March 1852 driving ox teams. At St. Joseph, Missouri, they joined a large wagon train for the trip across the plains following the Oregon Trail and then the California Trail.

By January 1855 Gabriel Moots had returned to Daviess County. He was married to Rachael A. McCracken on 4 January 1855 by Hamilton Robb, a Minister of the Gospel. Gabriel and Rachael had three daughters before Gabriel went away to war.

At the age of 39 Gabriel Moots and his brother Anthony enlisted in Company "I" 65th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers on 1 August 1863 to serve three years. They were mustered in 7 September 1863 at Knoxville, Tennessee, joining the unit in the field. The 65th was a mounted unit at the time.

Dr. John S. Scudder of Daviess County was the surgeon for the 65th Regiment. The following are excerpts of letters Dr. Scudder wrote to his wife:

"Henderson Station: 4 miles east of Greenville, Tenn. 1 November 1863... Regiment suffers terrible hardship - only 380 men fit for duty out of more than 800...living part of time on one-fourth rations"

"Tazewell, Tenn: 10 December 1863...Four killed and twenty-three wounded in battle with rebels...rebs suffered heavy losses and after two attacks were driven back."

"Tazewell, Tennessee: 16 December 1863...The other day a little scrape occurred about eight miles from here in the mountains. Our train which had just arrived with the clothing for the brigade was unloaded and on its way back to this place with twenty-six men as teamsters and guards and while they were at breakfast, a rebel lieutenant with five men dashed upon them and demanded a surrender which they acceded to under threats that if one of them moved they would shoot him.

They set fire to the wagons ordering the men into line and kept them standing until the wagons were consumed when they bid our men good day and deliberately rode off leaving our men to go their own road.

The rebs came back on the road wearing the overcoats they had captured from our men and dashed up to the pickets who halted them, when the rebel lieutenant asked, "for God's sake let them through, that they were after some rebels who burned our train," And the pickets thinking they were our own men let them pass.

They came on about a mile and stopped at a house where some of Company "I" of the 65th were quartered taking care of some mules and horses. Our boys noticing that their pants did not correspond with their coats and that they were going away rather unceremoniously called a halt which Mr. Rebs did not obey but which only served to quicken their pace. Boy Johnson and Lewis Peck fired which brought old Anthony and Gabe Moots to their feet and they too with George Abrams mounted their horses and followed them about half a mile firing on them all the time, when they at last overhauled them taking them all prisoners.

They brought them back to the road just as the men came up with the mules minus wagon. They were laughed at equally by the captors and prisoners for being so easily taken."

On 2 February 1864 a fourth child was born to Rachael and Gabriel--their only son, Gabriel Grant Moots.

The 65th was dismounted in April of 1864 and joined Sherman's Army at Chattanooga for the Atlanta Campaign. On 14 May 1864 Gabriel Moots was killed at the Battle of Resaca. He died from the effects of a gunshot wound in the neck. There are over 5,000 unknown Union soldiers buried at national cemeteries in Marietta, Georgia and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Gabriel Moots is probably one of them.

He left a widow and four children. He never saw his infant son who was only three months old. Rachael raised her children alone on a farm southwest of Montgomery near Bethany Church. She died 1 November 1906 and is buried in Bethany Christian Church Cemetery.

Civil War Letters from Gabriel Moots to his wife, Rachael (McCracken) Moots:

Note: Anthony Moots was Gabriel's brother who enlisted with him. He was discharged 28 March 1865 because of disability and returned home to his wife Martha in Daviess County. Albert Johnson was a friend of both Gabriel and Anthony. Albert was killed in action at the Battle of Resaca where Gabriel was also killed.

"Dear wife and children as I have an opportunity of writing to you I gladly do so. I am well and hardy and hope these few lines may find you well and hearty and doing well. I have not had an opportunity of writing until the present. I would have done so. We have traveled over a rough country and have had a rough time but I have stood the trip first rate. I want you to sell all the sheep that you can and do not keep any more stock than you can take care of. I have not time to write you a long letter like I would like to do but the next time we write we will have more time and we will give you all the news. We have had a little skirmish with the rebs none of us were hurt. I want you to write me soon and tell me how you are getting along with the things. give me all the news. Give our best respects to all enquiring Union loving citizens. Write soon.

Your affectionate husband,  
Gabriel Moots

Direct all letters to Co. "I" 65th Regt Ind Vols  
 Knoxville  
 Tenn

Mrs. Martha and Rachel Moots you will please excuse these few pencil marks. I have not a good place to write. when you write to Anthony and Gabriel you will please drop your humble servant a few lines. Very respectfully yours

A.C. Johnson "

"send my letter in the morning. Yours in love

Anthony Moots

Dear wife, I also have the privilege of writing you a few lines to inform you that I am well and in good health. I hope that this may find you and the children well. We have had some pretty hard times since I left home. I got material to fight but my number was four which caused me to hold the horses but I could here the muskets rattle and the boys chering in the fight. the cannon balls came over the hill rather unpleasant some went on the rite and left but did no damage. the next morning the boys picked up 10 cannon balls in front of us. I sent you one letter since I left and have not herd from you. you must rit often as you can. I have a bad chance to rite. the males are liable to be captured. The town where we had the fight was half burnt down with the bombs of ours. when you rite let me no the news and how you are getting along. I have to write by candle lite and will have to close  
 yours in love

Gabriel Moots

Direct your letters thus Co. "I" 65 ind, vol, 2nd brigade, 4th Cavalry, division (23) army corps "



CHRONOLOGY OF THE 117th REGIMENT OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



- 8 Aug 1863 - Jacob J. Cosby enlisted at Washington, Indiana, for six months' service
- 25 Aug 1863 - Jacob J. Cosby mustered in at Indianapolis as a private. He was promoted to sergeant during his service.
- 17 Sept 1863 - Unit left Indianapolis for Nicholasville, Kentucky.
- 24 Sept -  
3 October 1863 - Marched from Nicholasville, Kentucky, to Cumberland Gap (115 miles).
- 6 Oct -  
8 Oct 1863 - Marched to Morristown, Tennessee.
- 4 Nov -  
23 Dec 1863 - Campaign, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 14 Dec 1863 - Skirmish, Clinch Mountain Gap, Tennessee.
- 24 Jan 1864 - Skirmish, Tazewell, Tennessee.
- Late Jan 1864 - Returned to Cumberland Gap and marched to Camp Nelson, Kentucky.
- 27 Feb 1864 - Unit mustered out at Indianapolis.



JACOB J. COSBY

Jacob J. Cosby was born 28 August 1841 in Daviess County, Indiana. His parents were Overton Cosby and Louisa McCracken.

On 8 August 1863 Jacob was enrolled as a private in Company "K" 117th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers at the age of 21. His enlistment was for six months. The 117th was stationed in eastern Tennessee where, in a fight at Bean's Station, Jacob Cosby's hearing was damaged while his unit was supporting a battery unit. During January and February of 1864, while near Tazewell and Maynardsville, Tennessee, the 117th was cut off from all supplies the greater part of the time, including seventeen days at one time. The men had only parched corn to eat during this time. Jacob became ill with chronic diarrhea as a result of eating parched corn, exposure and hardships incidental to a soldier's life. He was treated by a regimental surgeon.

After his discharge at Indianapolis 27 February 1864 as a sergeant, Jacob Cosby returned home. He lived in Daviess and Knox Counties where he earned a living as a teacher until 1871 when he moved to Oakland City, Indiana, and went into the drug business. During the fifteen years that he owned a drugstore, Jacob tried every patent medicine that was recommended for diarrhea, but he still suffered from the problem for the rest of his life. In 1889 Jacob moved to Evansville where he was listed on the 1900 census, giving his occupation as "capitalist".

In Petersburg, Pike County, Indiana, on 7 November 1871 Jacob Cosby and Laura E. Wilson were married. They had one daughter in their 55 years of marriage. Jacob died in Evansville 10 July 1927 at the age of 85.

His Obituary follows:

"The Evansville Journal"  
Monday, July 11, 1927

"Funeral services for Jacob J. Cosby, 86, Civil War veteran, who died at the home, 1691 South Second Street, at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning, will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence. Burial will be in Oak Hill cemetery. He is survived by his widow, and one daughter, Mrs. Cora A. McCool, of this city."



CHRONOLOGY OF THE 44th REGIMENT OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



During the terms of service of Abram T. Banta and Walter W. McGehee

- 22 Sept 1864 - Abram T. Banta drafted to serve one year.  
- Walter W. McGehee drafted to serve one year.
- 18 Oct 1864 - Abram T. Banta mustered in at Evansville, Indiana and assigned to Company "F"; Walter W. McGehee mustered in at Evansville, Indiana and assigned to Company "C".
- 13 June 1865 - Abram T. Banta mustered out at Chattanooga, Tennessee; Walter W. McGehee mustered out at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The 44th Indiana Volunteer Infantry was assigned to garrison duty at Chattanooga during the time both men served. Prior to that time, the 44th had fought in nearly all of the major battles in Tennessee.



ABRAM T. BANTA

Abram T. Banta was born 31 December 1823 in Barr Township, Daviess County, Indiana. His parents were Henry Banta and Jennie Fulton. In 1845 Abram married Eliza Ann Stephens, the daughter of William Stephens and Elizabeth McCracken.

At the age of 40, Abram T. Banta was drafted to serve in the Civil War. His military records show that a notifying officer went to the Banta residence on 22 September 1864 to inform Abram that he had been drafted. He was mustered into the U.S. Army as a private on 18 October 1864 at Washington, Indiana.

Abram left six children at home with his wife who was expecting their seventh child. He joined Company "F" of the 44th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers at the draft depot in Chattanooga, Tennessee. During the term of his service, the 44th was assigned to provost duty at Chattanooga. On 13 June 1865 Abram Banta and the 44th were mustered out at the same place.

Abram returned home to his family which now included seven children. His daughter Sarah Etta had been born while he was away. Eliza Banta died in 1887 leaving Abram a widower for more than seventeen years.

Early in the 1890's, Abram and his son Thomas were "batching" together in the old house on Abram's farm when the house caught on fire. One of the few things that was saved was the family Bible which not only had the family records in it, but the family cash as well.

Abram T. Banta spent the rest of his life on his farm in Barr Township and died 24 July 1904 at the age of 80.

His obituary follows:

"LIVED IN COUNTY 80 YEARS

No doubt the oldest native born inhabitant of Daviess county passed away Sunday evening when Abraham T. Banta died after a lingering illness from heart failure and old age at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William Davis, of Barr township. The body will be buried Wednesday morning at Bethany the services being held at the church.

Mr. Banta was born on a Barr township farm eighty years ago and spent his life in that community as a farmer. He was recognized by his fellow citizens as one of the honest men of the county. Politically he was a democrat until the breaking out of the civil war when he became and afterwards remained a republican. He was a member of the Christian church and was the main factor in the organizing of the Bethany church in his township. The following children survive: Charles, Henry and Thomas Banta, and Mrs. William Davis and Mrs. George Keith."



WALTER WARDER McGEHEE

Walter Warder McGehee was born 15 February 1836 in Daviess County, Indiana. His parents were Jesse McGehee and Sarah McCracken. His first wife was Nancy J. Conley (or Connelly). Records in the Daviess County Clerk's office gives the date of the marriage license as 7 November 1861. The young couple set up housekeeping in a small log house near Glendale, Harrison Township, Daviess County. They were living there when Walter was drafted into the Army 22 September 1864. He joined Company "C" 44th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers at Evansville as a private. His age was 26. During the time of his service, the 44th was assigned to provost duty at Chattanooga, Tennessee. On 13 June 1865 Walter was discharged with his unit at Chattanooga.

About 1871 the family moved to Clay County, Illinois, with a number of McGehee relatives including Walter's mother Sarah who lived part of the time with Walter and part of the time with her daughter Elizabeth Harrison. Letters of dismissal were

requested from Mount Olive Baptist Church for: Walter and Nancy McGehee; W.H.H. and Margaret Gilley; Dempsey and Elizabeth (McGehee) Harrison; and Sarah McGehee.

The McGehee and Harrison families continued to have a close association and the children often played together. The McGehees lived a few miles south of Flora, Illinois, and the Harrisons lived a few miles north. The Harrisons had orchards and always had lots of Cider. In 1874 Walter W. McGehee had his right index finger badly injured in the cider mill on the Harrison farm.

The youngest child of Walter and Nancy McGehee was Robert Harrison McGehee who was born 25 March 1875 near Flora, Illinois. Robert was sick for a very long time with spinal fever when he was three years old. He was crippled as a result of the illness.

There were also two daughters and a step-son in the family. Both daughters were married 7 September 1887. Laura Elizabeth McGehee married Sherman Staley and Sarah Eliza McGehee married John B. Bay. About 1889 the young Staleys moved to near St. Francis, Arkansas, and the McGehees soon followed. Walter developed rheumatism and sciatica as a result of overwork and exposure while working in the timber business in Arkansas and, after about two years, the McGehees decided to move back to Flora, Illinois. During the trip back to Flora both Nancy and her son Robert became quite ill and they both died shortly before Christmas 1891. Walter's daughter Laura Staley died a year or so later in childbirth.

From 1893 until 1896 it appears that Walter W. McGehee lived part of the time in Clay County, Illinois, and part of the time in Daviess County, Indiana. In 1896 his occupation was that of lumber dealer.

On 25 October 1896 Walter McGehee married Nancy Ellen (Hays) Stucky as his second wife. They were living in a house at the corner of East 14th Street and VanTrees in Washington, Indiana when she died 24 March 1897--only five months after they were married. She is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

The third wife of Walter W. McGehee was Mary Jane (Colbert) Heller. They were married 13 October 1897 in Daviess County.

From 1899 until 1911 it appears that the McGehees again lived part of the time in Clay County, Illinois and part of the time in Washington, Indiana. During this time Walter W. McGehee wanted to prove his date of birth in order to gain an increase in his Civil War pension. To do this he obtained statements from justices of the peace in Clay County, Illinois and a clerk of the circuit court in Daviess County, to the effect that Walter W. McGehee had brought a family Bible for their examination. It was described as "showing on the title page of the New Testament that it was printed at Philadelphia by Kimber and Sharpless in 1826, pages 8 x 10½ inches, with the back gone, and the covers or lids held together by a stout cloth covering, with front title page and all other matter gone to and including the 6th verse of the 21 Chapter of Genesis, bearing every mark of old age and in which I find in the Family Record the following entry: Walter Warder McGehee was born February the 15th day 1836".

Walter died suddenly on 28 May 1920 at the age of 84. He is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

His obituary from the "Washington Herald" 31 May 1920 reads:

"Walter McGehee, a veteran of the Union army in the civil war, dropped dead about 3 o'clock Friday afternoon at his home in South Washington. He was 84 years old.

Mr. McGehee attended the memorial exercises of the Grand Army of the Republic on May 23 and seemingly was as well as usual. He was at work in his garden when he was stricken and fell to the ground, expiring almost immediately. Death was caused by cerebral hemorrhage, Coroner U.H. Holder said.

Mr. McGehee is survived by his wife; one daughter, Mrs. J.B. Bay, of Ft. Collins, Colorado, and one son, Frank McGehee, of Mount Ayr, Iowa. He also leaves a step-daughter, Mrs. Thomas Potts."

His widow, Mary Jane McGehee, died 19 December 1934 as a result of injuries sustained when she was hit by a truck while crossing Highway #57. She had saved \$2000 from the pension that she was entitled to as a widow of a Civil War Veteran.



CHRONOLOGY OF THE 13th REGIMENT OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



During the term of service of John Harmon McCracken

- 23 Dec 1864 - John Harmon McCracken drafted.
- 29 Dec 1864 - John Harmon McCracken mustered in at Evansville.
- January 1865 - John Harmon McCracken had frozen feet while in camp at Indianapolis; John Harmon McCracken joined the 13th in the field.
- 15 Jan 1865 - Assault and capture of Fort Fisher, North Carolina.
- 11 Feb 1865 - Action near Sugar Loaf Battery, North Carolina.
- 18 Feb 1865 - Action, Fort Anderson, North Carolina.
- 19 Feb 1865 - Capture of Fort Anderson, North Carolina.
- 22 Feb 1865 - Occupation of Wilmington, North Carolina.
- 1 Feb -  
26 Apr 1865 - Campaign of the Carolinas.
- 23 Mar 1865 - Occupation of Goldsboro, North Carolina.
- 13 Apr 1865 - Occupation of Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 26 Apr 1865 - Surrender of Johnston's army at Bennett's House near Durham Station, North Carolina.
- 5 Sept 1865 - John Harmon McCracken mustered out with his unit at Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Prior to December of 1865, the 13th Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry had fought many battles in Virginia and South Carolina.



JOHN HARMON McCracken

John Harmon McCracken was born 4 June 1836 in Daviess County, Indiana. His parents were William McCracken and Mary Ann Webber. On 16 August 1858 John married Delana Hill.

John was drafted 23 December 1864 and mustered in 29 December 1864 as a private in Company "D" 13th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. At the time he was 28 years old. He and Delana had had three children, but only one child was living. One baby died soon after birth in 1861 and another child died at the age of 2½ just a few months before John was drafted.

It is interesting to note that at the time John was drafted, his brother Charles had been wounded, hospitalized for one and a half years and discharged; his first cousin Richard McGehee had been killed at the Battle of Stones River; his cousin John James McCracken had been wounded and discharged; his cousin Thomas McCracken had been wounded and discharged; his cousin William Nelson McCracken had been discharged because of illness; and his brother-in-law Gabriel Moots had been killed at the Battle of Resaca. It must have been very hard for John Harmon McCracken to leave his wife and family and enter the Army.

Shortly after having entered the service, John was at Indianapolis in early January of 1865. His feet were frostbitten--the effects of which bothered him during all of the marching that he did during his term of service. Early in the spring of 1865 the 13th Indiana was a part of The Campaign in the Carolinas. They marched in the mud from Wilmington, North Carolina to Raleigh during very cold and rainy weather. John, like many other soldiers, became ill during this time and was treated by the regimental surgeon.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General U.S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia on 9 April 1865. The 13th Indiana was present five days later when Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to General William T. Sherman near Durham Station, North Carolina.

The war was over, but John Harmon McCracken remained on duty until 5 September 1865 when he was discharged at Goldsboro, North Carolina.

John returned to his family and he and Delana had five more children. They also raised their granddaughter Emma McCracken. Emma was the daughter of Henry Hill McCracken whose first two wives died, leaving infant children. Emma's mother died ten days after giving birth. Henry's second wife, Lydia Villwock, died soon after giving birth also. The second baby was raised by Henry and Sesta (McCracken) Villwock who were both related and were childless. His name was Loren Villwock.

John and Delana McCracken were members of Mount Olive Baptist Church where John served as Deacon. John died 3 November 1910 and Delana died 7 January 1929. They both are buried in Veale Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

John Harmon McCracken's obituary reads:

"The Washington Democrat"  
3 Nov 1910

"Dropsy proves fatal to Civil War Veteran

After being ill for months, John McCracken, the aged father of H.H. McCracken, county recorder, succumbed to dropsy at an early

hour this morning. His death was no surprise to relatives and friends as he had been in very poor health for almost a year. The symptoms of the disease that caused his death appeared last winter and since that time he has been ailing constantly. He was never bedfast the disease being of such a nature that he could not lie down. He was in a serious condition a few weeks ago but rallied and appeared to be getting better. He had a relapse a few days ago however, which resulted in his death this morning.

Mr. McCracken was born on the fourth day of June, 1836, within a mile of the present McCracken home, three and a half miles southeast of Montgomery and he made his home on the farm his whole life. Fifty-two years ago on the 16th day of August he married Delanah Hill. The aged couple celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary two years ago. Eight children were born, two dying in infancy. The other children are H.H. McCracken, city; O.M. McCracken, Devoll, Oklahoma, Mrs. Wallace Wade, city; Mrs. J.H. Rittenhouse, Bedford; W.E. McCracken, Lawton, Oklahoma and Cora McCracken who made her home with her parents. One brother, Charles McCracken, who lives near Montgomery and one sister, Mrs. W.H. Gilley, of this city, are also left besides his wife. He was a member of the Mt. Olive Baptist church for years and also saw service in the civil war. He enlisted in Company "D" of the 13th Indiana Regiment in 1863 and remained until the close of the war, going through some of the fiercest battles during those years. The funeral arrangements have not yet been made."

What I Remember About My Grandfather John Harmon McCracken, by Lottie Davis

We were living in Lawton, Oklahoma when Earl and I were about ten or nine years old and we came back to Washington, Indiana and Loogootee to see our relation and were there a month in August for the reunion. Grandpa McCracken met us at Uncle Henry's in Washington and took us to his home southeast of Montgomery for a while and then in the spring wagon to Loogootee to our Grandmother Fogle's. Some might call this spring wagon a buckboard. We rode in the spring wagon and on the way Grandpa sang "We'll all drink ox blood in 1865, Johnnie fill up the bowl".

Uncle Morton and family had moved to Lawton and a year or two after Earl and I were back in Indiana, Grandpa went out to Lawton and was there for Christmas. We were all at Uncle Morton's and Aunt Mollie's. Earl had received a little wooden horn for Christmas. He played on it and I played on the comb. When Grandpa left on the train, it was the last time I saw him.



CHRONOLOGY OF THE 143rd REGIMENT OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



- 25 Jan 1865 - George W. Coup enlisted at Washington, Indiana;  
James M. McGehee enlisted at Washington, Indiana.
- 4 Feb 1865 - George Coup and James McGehee mustered in at  
Evansville, Indiana.
- August or  
September 1865 - George W. Coup injured near Fort Donelson, Tennessee.
- 17 Oct 1865 - George W. Coup mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee;  
James M. McGehee mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee.

The 143rd was assigned to provost duty (military police) in Tennessee and Kentucky during its term of service. Most of the time they were in the area of Nashville, Clarksville, and Fort Donelson, Tennessee.



GEORGE W. COUP

George W. Coup was born 10 October 1845 in Daviess County, Indiana. His parents were John Coup and Nancy McCracken. Until his enlistment, he lived with his parents southeast of Washington, Indiana. On 25 January 1865 he enlisted as a private in Company "K" 143rd Regiment of Indiana Volunteers for one year. He was 19 years old. The 143rd was assigned to provost duty in Tennessee--mostly in the area of Nashville, Clarksville and Fort Donelson.

While the 143rd was at Fort Donelson from June to October 1865, about 35 members of the unit were mounted. They did picket duty, scouting, and carried the mail between Clarksville, Tennessee and Fort Donelson. In the fall of 1865, Henry Clark, John Allen and George W. Coup were pursuing horse thieves and guerillas. They were out all night, and about 2:00 a.m. they had a horse thief cornered in a house. He jumped from the window and ran for another house. The patrol from the 143rd gave chase and George W. Coup's horse ran over a gate and fell with him and on him, injuring his left shoulder. George was able to ride the horse back to Fort Donelson (about 25 miles) and assist in delivering the prisoners to the stockade.

George W. Coup was discharged from the Army on 17 October 1865 and returned home to Daviess County. From 1866 until 1890 George spent summers traveling with various circuses and winters at home in Daviess County, although the winters of 1885, 86 and 87 were spent in New York City. Some of the circuses that he worked for were: Robinson's Circus and Menagerie, Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, W.C. Coup's New Minstrel and Monster Show, Coup's Chicago Museum, and Harmon and Pirre-pont's "Battle of Gettysburg". At the time of the 1880 census, George Coup gave his occupation as "advance man for shows". Some of the Daviess County men who traveled with George were: Peter M. Clark, John P. Seay, Thomas Fairchild and Jesse McGehee. W.C. Coup, who became famous in the Circus business, was a half-brother of George.

George W. Coup and Ella (or Eldorado) Bell were married 29 December 1868. They had four daughters: Arlie, Sula, Ella and Rosa. Circus life must not have made domestic life very pleasant as George and Ella were divorced in 1883. In his pension records, George Coup claimed to have never been married, but at the time of his death his next of kin was named as Mrs. F.H. Haering of Bloomington, Illinois and identified as his daughter. It is presumed that George Coup did not want to get

into the "red tape" of producing a marriage and divorce record as a part of his pension application.

From 1906 until 1915 George lived in various National Military Homes in Kansas, Tennessee, Illinois and Indiana. He also claimed to have lived three years in Missouri and two years in New Mexico.

George W. Coup died 4 May 1920 in the Western Branch National Military Home in Leavenworth, Kansas, at the age of 74. He is buried in Leavenworth National Cemetery.



JAMES MILTON McGEHEE

James Milton McGehee was born 1 January 1833 in Mayslick, Kentucky. His parents were Jesse McGehee and Sarah McCracken. They moved to Daviess County, Indiana when James was a small child and lived in Barr Township near Sarah (McCracken) McGehee's brothers and sisters.

The first wife of James M. McGehee was Sarah Hunter. They were married 20 February 1857 and had two children before Sarah died in July of 1860. An infant daughter also died in 1860. On 29 December 1861 James married Elizabeth Stafford.

At the time of his enlistment, James M. McGehee was 32 years old and the father of two living children. He enlisted in Company "K" 143rd Regiment of Indiana Volunteers on 25 January 1865 at Washington, and was mustered in on 4 February 1865 at Evansville. During the time of his service, the 143rd was assigned to provost duty in Kentucky and Tennessee. James was discharged 17 October 1865 in Nashville, Tennessee, having served eight months of his one year enlistment.

James M. McGehee returned to his family and he and Elizabeth had seven more children. About 1867 the McGehees moved to Neosha County, Kansas, where they lived until after 1880. Elizabeth died in Pittsburgh, Crawford County, Kansas about 1885-88. James McGehee married a third time to Jane (Hagan) Holt and they lived together in Pittsburgh, Kansas, until Jane died in January of 1897. James lived in Crawford and Chatauqua Counties, Kansas until he entered the National Military Home at Leavenworth, Kansas in 1905 at the age of 72. He lived in the Military Home until 1914 or 1915 when he married his fourth wife, Julia Ann (VanWinkle) Jones. He was then 81 years old and she was about the same age having survived four husbands. It is not known when Julia Ann died, but James was a widower by 1924 when he was living with his daughter, Rosa Hobough, in Bramman, Oklahoma. James M. McGehee died 21 March 1927 in Pittsburgh, Kansas, at the home of his son, Charles, having reached the age of 94.

James M. McGehee's obituary from the Pittsburgh, Kansas "Morning Sun",  
21 March 1927, follows:

"James M. McGehee, 94, Dies

---

Resident Here 42 Years and  
Civil War Veteran to Be  
Buried Tuesday

---

James M. McGehee, 94 years old, and for 42 years a resident of Pittsburgh, died at the home of a son, Charles McGehee, 312 East Jackson Street, at 7:45 o'clock this morning, after a short illness.

Mr. McGehee was born in Mayslick, Kentucky, Jan. 1, 1833, and spent most of his youth in that place. He later moved to Indiana, and it was from there that he went to serve in the Civil War, joining the 143rd Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Company "K", and served throughout that struggle.

He came to Neosho County, Kansas, about 54 years ago shortly after the war. He lived in Peru and Sedan for about twelve years before coming to Pittsburg about 42 years ago. He was employed by the packing house here for many years, but has been in retirement most of the time since coming to Pittsburg.

He was a member of the Christian church, and a charter member of the G.A.R. He spent several years at the old soldiers home in Leavenworth.

He is survived by four children: Charles McGehee, at whose home he died; John McGehee, Peru, Kas.; Louis McGehee, 603 North Grand, and Mrs. Rosa Hobaugh, Braman, Okla. His wife has been dead for many years.

Funeral services will be held at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon from the Christian church, with Rev. E.H. Given in charge. Burial will be in Mt. Olive cemetery. Members of the American Legion will act as pallbearers, and will have charge of the firing squad and rites at the grave."



### LIFE IN THE UNION ARMY

The American Civil War was the bloodiest and most costly struggle ever waged in the Western Hemisphere. Over two million men served in the Union Army and about 750,000 served in the Confederate Army. Americans of North and South clashed in more than ten thousand military actions of one degree or another. More Americans died in the Civil War than in all of America's other wars combined. Approximately 620,000 men lost their lives in four years of fighting. About two-thirds of them died of disease.

Because each side fought for what it considered the true American way of life--each wanting to preserve a heritage of freedom and opportunity--the war had to be fought to the bitter end.

The strange thing about the beginning of the war was that, although war was expected, no plans for it had been made at all. The general theory on both sides was that it would be a short and glorious war. Each side expected to win it quickly, and the main concern of most recruits was to reach the battlefield before the fighting ended.

The regular army that existed before the opening of the Civil War was very small. The highest-ranking officers had been educated at West Point and had come from both North and South. Many southerners left the regular army to fight with the Confederacy against their former classmates. Neither side had equipment or provisions for so many volunteers, and they certainly did not have trained officers to lead the new recruits. The beginning of the war was fought by amateur armies.

The common soldiers on both sides were the same sort of people: untrained, unsophisticated young men--mostly from the country. Few had ever been away from home. They joined because their patriotism had been aroused and because they expected a great adventure. They had the idea that the principal work of a soldier would be actual conflict with the enemy. The emotional speeches that they heard at recruiting rallies led them to expect a rush to battle, a few days of hard fighting and a triumphant return home. Instead, the war dragged on for years, and for every day they spent in battle, the soldiers passed weeks and months fighting such enemies as heat, cold, rain, dust, hunger, loneliness and disease.

After leaving home amid cheers, tears and the music of brass bands, the new soldiers went to training camp. Among the first activities there was the election of officers. Captains and lieutenants were elected by the men and colonels and majors were usually elected by company officers. This was only a formality, as it was expected that the persons responsible for recruiting the units would be elected officers.

Training consisted of learning to march as a unit and learning to load and fire rifles. No standard system of training existed and some units did not even have target practice. As a general rule, officers and men started out together in equal ignorance and blundered along with inadequate equipment through varying periods of training. Many officers spent their evenings trying to learn what they were supposed to teach the men the next day.

Very soon the men were off to the front. From then on their time would be spent in camp, combat or troop movements--if they did not become ill or wounded.

The army camp was the place where the new soldiers really learned to be soldiers. Life moved to the rhythm of bugle and drum. The soldiers learned discipline, improved their skills at drill and experienced the army's mysterious organization and chain of command. They stood guard in darkness and foul weather, learned to pitch and strike their tents and how to make the best of living in the outdoors. In wet weather the soldiers lived in a sea of mud, and when summer came the mud turned to dust. Entire regiments lived in camp together. At full strength an infantry regiment was composed of ten companies of about one hundred men each. But once the fighting began and disease took its toll, regimental strength fell off sharply.

Disease was an immense problem. Measles, malaria, typhoid fever, pneumonia, smallpox, consumption, diarrhea, and dysentery were always present. The "germ theory" was not known, and disease was spread by contact between soldiers, mosquitos, contaminated water and primitive sanitary conditions. Vaccination for smallpox was available, but few units had the benefit of it. Close to 225,000 Union soldiers died from disease--more than twice as many as died from wounds. For example, the 80th Indiana lost 70 officers and men killed or mortally wounded and 172 by disease. The 117th Indiana lost a total of 95 men--all from disease.

The Union army was able to provide enough food for the soldiers, but the quality of the food was often poor because of the lack of preservatives. Meat was often spoiled, hardtack (a flour and water biscuit) was usually infested with maggots, and vegetables except for occasional beans, rice and potatoes, were simply not available. Still, the Union soldiers usually had enough to eat if the supply trains could get to them. When the units were cut off from supplies, the men simply went hungry. The worst famine on the Union side was experienced by the soldiers that participated in the Chattanooga and Knoxville campaigns of late 1863. Family members who experienced the Knoxville campaign were Gabriel Moots, John P. Coup and Jacob Cosby. Those who were in Chattanooga during the siege were Thomas McCracken, William Nelson McCracken and William H.H. Gilley. A young comrade of theirs from the 42nd Indiana wrote the following letter during the Siege of Chattanooga:

Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Nov. 2, 1863

"Dear Sister:

I take this opportunity to write you to let you know that I am still alive, but that is about all, for we get nothing to eat worth mentioning. I have got down so weak that I can't do my duty any more, and the horses and mules are dying off at the rate of two hundred a day. So are the soldiers.

The rations I drew today were one cracker and a half, one half spoonful of coffee and a little piece of meat for two days. That was all I got and I could sit down and eat all of it and not have half enough. Now when it gets down to that small rations, it seems to me the Army is pretty near gone up. I cannot do my duty on such rations.

The rebels hold Lookout Mountain. We can't get boats up with grub. We are surrounded by Rebels and they have captured all our mules and trains. Six mules, 60,000 men and six women comprise our force and NOTHING to eat.

When we get Lookout Mountain we will be able to get boats up. Then Hooker is coming up on the other side of the River. He has been fighting three or four days trying to get the mountain. That is pretty hard to do, for it is four miles high, and the Confederates have siege guns on the top of it.

Sister Martha, it is pretty hard, but I have to stand it. I love this country as well as any man ever did. While at first I came out for the adventure of it, in a way, for I thought that soldiering was so nice at Camp Vanderburg, on the old fair ground in Evansville, Indiana, and that it was that way all the time. I have seen differently, and I am really fighting for love of my country and flag.

I have seen the elephant at Perryville, Ky., Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Today I paid my brother-in-law Luke Short \$14.00 for 14 crackers that he had saved, and I have stuck it out, and I am going to stick it out as long as this war lasts!

When my three years are up and I stay home awhile, if I can keep my health, if the war is not then over, I will enlist again. That is if God spares me long enough to see my three years through!

Father used to tell me that when I was home and would not eat the crust of a biscuit that I would see the time when I would like to get it. At the time I did not believe it. But now, I think of that very often when we get nothing for three days at a time.

Our pickets and the Rebels are so close on Chattanooga Creek that I could throw a stone and hit them, but we do not dare talk. Sometimes our pickets sit on a log across the creek and play cards like two brothers.

Our regiment, the "Forty-Second Ind." is on picket every day; but today I was not out. I had no shoes. I stood picket one night bare-footed and refused to do so again. They put me in guard house with no one to guard me. So I picked up four old mules and moved the Quartermaster James Vickery over the River.

Later I drove the four mules hauling logs with them to build a fort in Chattanooga. The poor mules starved to death in four days. I must quit writing now. I remain your brother until death.

GEORGE M. KIRKPATRICK  
42nd Ind. Vol. Inf."

The Civil War to a large extent was a war of movement. Most battles were preceded by a march. In the standard formation infantrymen marched four abreast in a column, with the columns very close to each other. Each soldier carried about seventy-five pounds of equipment which included ammunition and several days cooked rations. The long marches often involved enormous numbers of men and wagons and the lines of troops and equipment went on for miles. Grant's army on its way to battle in May of 1864 consisted of 120,000 men, 274 field guns, 836 ambulances, 4,300 wagons, 56,499 horses and mules and several thousand cattle that were driven along to be slaughtered as needed.

The 42nd Indiana participated in a typical march in pursuit of Bragg's Confederate army. They marched more than 300 miles from Huntsville, Alabama to Louisville, Kentucky, leaving Huntsville 27 August 1862 and arriving in Louisville 26 September 1862. The Battle of Perryville was fought soon after. The weather was hot and dry and the thousands of marching men raised clouds of dust so thick that it was impossible to see from the rear to the front of a company. They often marched until 10 o'clock at night and resumed the march at 4 o'clock the next morning. Food and water were in short supply. The soldiers hoped to get more rations at Nashville, but the supply was exhausted when they arrived. When they reached the Ohio River at West Point near Louisville, a steamboat load of hardtack was sent to them. As they passed the landing, each company sent some men to get boxes of hardtack for their company. The column was not allowed to stop marching, so the men with the hardtack had to catch up with their comrades and then walk along beside the column with open

boxes letting the soldiers have as much as they wanted. It was a great treat for the tired, hungry soldiers. When at last they reached Louisville, they were weary, footsore, ragged and covered with dirt. Most had no foot covering at all. One private related that, "To a man we voted that if it was as hard to serve the Lord as it was to serve Uncle Sam, He would not get many recruits!"

The 42nd Indiana was allowed to rest for about a week at Louisville where Indiana Governor Oliver P. Morton visited them and inspired them with new hope and confidence. Then they were on the march again--this time toward Perryville and their first major battle.

To raw soldiers who had never been in battle one of the greatest concerns was whether or not they would be able to meet the awful test of combat. Would they be able to stand firm or press on while friends and comrades were struck down on every side? Or would their physical and spiritual powers fail them and cause them to falter or run and bring everlasting disgrace on themselves and their families? When the order to advance finally came and the men moved out toward their objective the predominant feeling was one of relief. The terrible waiting was over, and what was to be would soon be over. The very act of moving eased their tensions. Nothing that came afterward, except the horrible suffering experienced by the wounded, was as trying as the suspense that preceded the advance.

After the seemingly endless wait at the edge of the battlefield, the order to advance was finally given, and the battle lines began moving, often under artillery bombardment. Each company was in tight formation, thirteen inches from the man in front and touching the elbows of the men on either side. The officers brought up the rear. Often the troops could see the line of guns and the glint of bayonets that marked the enemy line. A man had to tap his deepest reservoirs of courage to face what was to come.

Once the battle began the fighting became chaotic. Amid the thick smoke, the crack of musketry and cannonfire, the shouts and screams of the fighting and dying, a soldier knew little of what was happening except for what he saw directly ahead of him. The noise was so intense that soldiers sometimes could not hear their own guns go off.

In the heat of battle, a soldier might exhibit all kinds of heroic behavior, such as asking for the privilege of carrying the regimental colors (the most dangerous duty of all), or taking command when all of the officers were wounded, or even refusing to leave the field after being wounded. It was only after the battle ended that many of the men gave in to tension, exhaustion, grief and revulsion.

The records of the Union army show that close to 247,000 men were wounded during the four years of war. Of these, more than 110,000 men died. Only about 6 per cent of wounds were caused by artillery fire or bayonets. The other 94 per cent were caused by bullets.

The minie ball or bullet produced a more savage wound than a modern bullet because it traveled at a lower speed. The old lead ball lost its shape upon contact, frequently lodged in the soft tissue, often carried with it particles of clothing and skin, and almost always left an infected wound.

Slightly wounded men had to walk a mile or two to the field hospital, while the badly injured were at the mercy of the unpredictable stretcher-bearers who were

often the regimental musicians. Under no circumstances were fighting troops permitted to break rank in order to help the injured. The wounded who were unable to walk were loaded into ambulances for a bumpy ride to the nearest field hospital which was usually a tent or a building taken over for that purpose. In some of the larger battles there were thousands wounded, and it took as much as a week to get them all to hospitals.

Upon arriving at a field hospital, a soldier would find himself one of a large number of men lying on the ground, on piles of straw, waiting their turns on the operating table (often a door stretched across some kind of supports). Field surgery usually meant amputation and was often performed where the wounded soldiers who were waiting for their turns could see and hear what was being done. They could also see large piles of severed arms and legs nearby.

The doctors were poorly trained and knew nothing about using sterile instruments and dressings. They would use the same instruments on one poor soldier after another spreading infection as they went. Nearly 30,000 amputations were performed on Union soldiers. It is remarkable that there was a 75 per cent survival rate.

From field hospitals the wounded were moved by the most convenient means to evacuation sites located near wharves or railheads. Hospital trains or hospital ships then transferred the wounded to general hospitals far from the front. A hospital train could be anything from an unheated cattle car to a specially equipped passenger coach. Hospital ships also ran the gamut from dirty freighters to rather well-equipped steamers. Long waits at the evacuation centers were all too common.

At the beginning of the war there was not a single general military hospital in the country, and the largest post hospital, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, had only forty-one beds. But by the beginning of 1863 the Union army had 151 hospitals and by 1865 there were 204 hospitals averaging 500 beds apiece. Needless to say, the soldiers who needed hospital care late in the war received much better care than those who were sick or injured soon after the war began.



#### CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CITIZENS OF INDIANA

The people of Indiana under the leadership of Governor Oliver P. Morton contributed vast quantities of food, clothing and medical supplies. The Indiana State Sanitary Commission was organized to distribute these supplies to the soldiers and to provide hospital facilities and transportation for the wounded.

The state government also allocated money to pay for materials that the federal government was unable to supply. It must be remembered that at the beginning of the war our federal government had practically no army and no means to supply one.

In the fall of 1861, Governor Morton went to New York to buy 29,000 overcoats for Indiana's soldiers. He was able to buy part of them at the government price of \$7.75 each, but the demand for overcoats was so great that a large portion of the

desperately needed overcoats were purchased by Governor Morton for \$9.25. The state of Indiana paid the difference.

With winter coming on in 1861 Governor Morton appealed to the patriotic women of Indiana to supply blankets, gloves, socks, drawers and woolen shirts for the soldiers. The women responded and sent the quartermaster general thousands of the requested articles. And they also sent sheets, pillows, pads, bandages, lint and dressing gowns for hospital use.

Many times during the war Governor Morton sent aid to the soldiers by way of steamers. The boats were sent down the waterways to Vicksburg, Memphis, Chattanooga and other river ports with food, medical supplies, doctors and nurses. They returned with cargoes of sick and wounded soldiers.

The Soldiers' Home in Indianapolis started out to be a place where soldiers on their way to war or on their way home from war could rest and get a good meal. It provided food, lodging, medical care and assistance to soldiers needing transportation. It was also the place where reception dinners for returning regiments were held. During its nearly four years of operation, the "Home" furnished 3,777,791 meals to soldiers. It was not until after the war ended that it became a permanent home for disabled soldiers.

Aid was also given to the families of soldiers by the Hoosier citizens. Governor Morton asked the people of Indiana to help provide for the wives and children of the soldiers. Local aid societies were formed in every county and township. It was a cooperative effort between the county governments and the local churches to collect and distribute money, food, wood and clothing to the families who were left without the means to care for themselves.



#### GENERAL MILITARY STRATEGY OF THE UNION ARMY

The Civil War was divided into three distinct and separate theaters by simple geography. The two major areas of operation were between the Mississippi River and the Atlantic Ocean. But the Appalachian Mountains extended in an almost unbroken line from Pennsylvania to Alabama, preventing the armies from moving freely from the eastern states of Virginia and the Carolinas into the western states of Kentucky and Tennessee. As a result, separate armies in the East (east of the mountains) and the West (west of the mountains) campaigned independently of one another until 1864 when the Union at last began to coordinate movements in the two theaters. The third and least significant theater lay west of the Mississippi River and included Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Missouri.

The general strategy for the Federal Armies was proposed by Major General Winfield Scott, the aging veteran of the Mexican War and the War of 1812. It was called "The Anaconda Plan" and consisted of three elements:

1. A major army should be created to operate in northern Virginia to protect the Federal capital and to contain the principal rebel army.

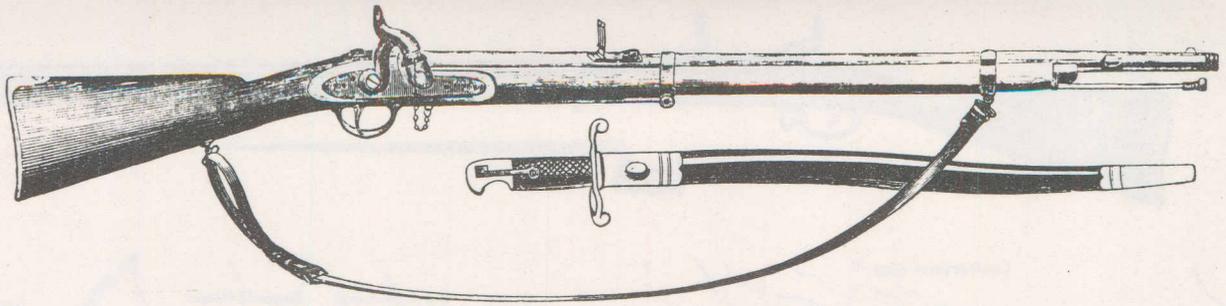
2. A naval blockade should be established to cut the Confederacy off from European military aid and diplomatic support.
3. A combined Army-Navy operation to control the Mississippi River should be mounted to split the Confederacy in half both physically and economically.

Military strategy in the 1860's centered on the seizure of the enemy's key cities. For the Federal armies five Confederate cities became primary objectives. In the East, they were Richmond, the Confederate capital, and Atlanta, the vital railroad center. The three most important cities in the West were New Orleans and Vicksburg, which were strongholds of the all-important Mississippi River, and Chattanooga, the railroad hub of the West.

Only those battles and campaigns in which McCracken family members fought will be discussed here. Their units were part of the great western army whose objective it was to control the cities, waterways and railroads west of the Appalachians until May of 1864, when the objective became Atlanta.

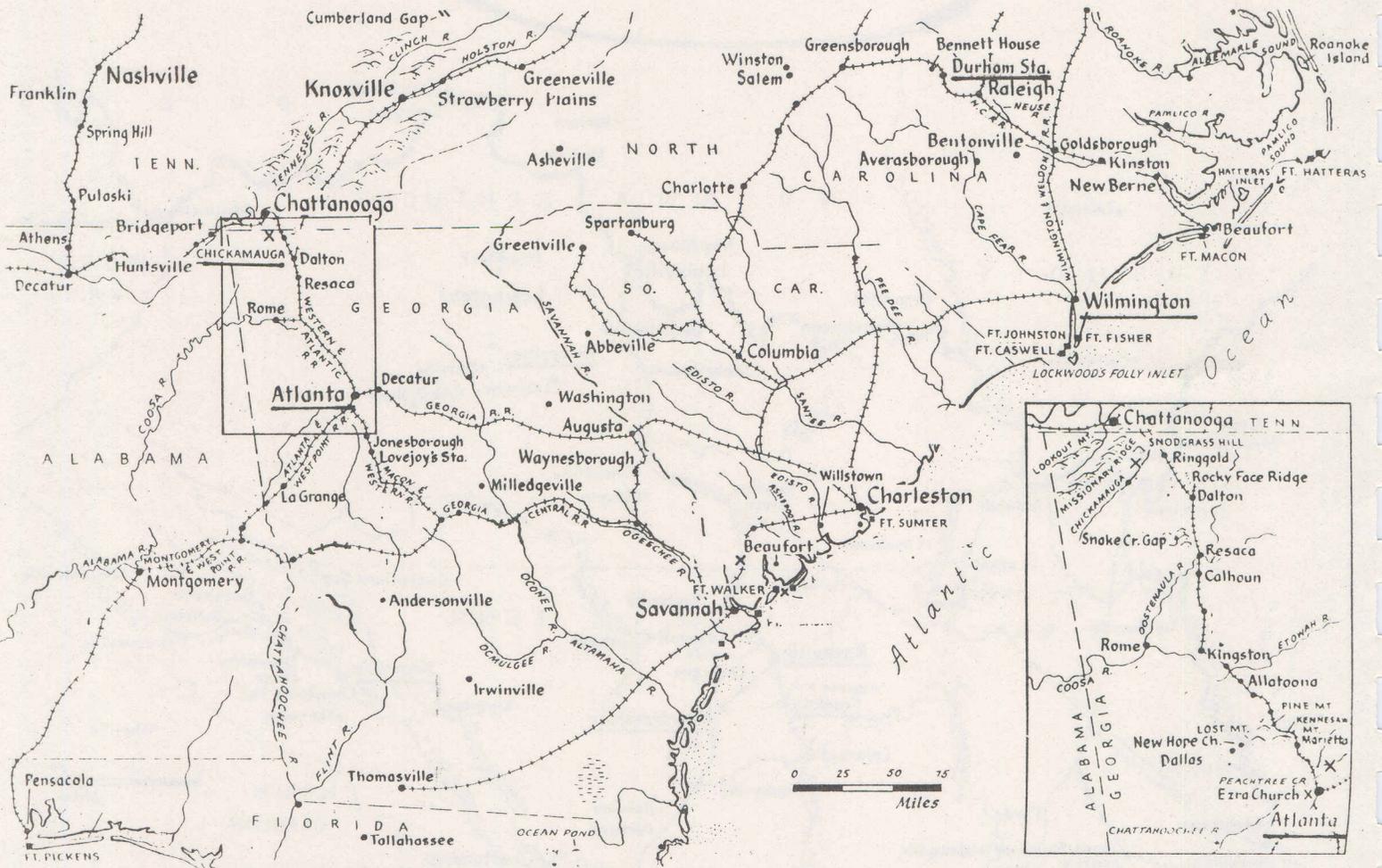
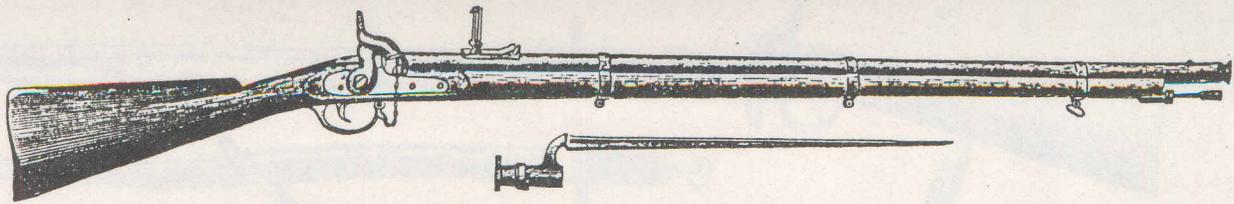


GENERAL BUELL'S ARMY ENTERING LOUISVILLE



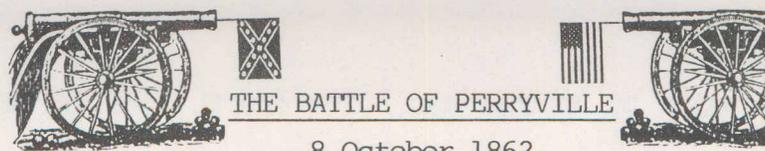
KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE

Battle of Perryville . . . . .	8 October 1862
Battle of Stones River . . . . .	31 December 1862
Morgan's Raiders . . . . .	December 1862 - July 1863
Battles for Chattanooga . . . . .	23 November 1863
The Knoxville Campaign . . . . .	Fall and Winter 1863
Battle of Franklin . . . . .	30 November 1864
Battle of Nashville . . . . .	15 December 1864



SOUTHEASTERN THEATER

- Battle of Chickamauga . . . . . 19 September 1863
- Advance to Atlanta . . . . . May - July 1864
- Battles for Atlanta . . . . . July - September 1864
- March to the Sea . . . . . November - December 1864
- Fort Fisher and Wilmington,  
North Carolina . December 1864 - February 1865
- Campaign in the Carolinas . . . February - April 1865
- Surrender of General Johnston . . . . . 26 April 1865



8 October 1862

FEDERAL: General Buell  
37,000 effectives  
4,211 casualties

CONFEDERATE: General Bragg  
16,000 effectives  
3,405 casualties

Company "G"

42nd Indiana - Charles McCracken, John James McCracken, Thomas McCracken,  
William Nelson McCracken, Henry McCracken, Richard  
McGehee, William H.H. Gilley

Company "G"

80th Indiana - John Phillip Coup

The Battle of Perryville was the most significant battle fought on Kentucky soil. It was a strange engagement where parts of Buell's Federal army battled portions of Bragg's with both sides obtaining the advantage at times. Due to an atmospheric phenomenon by which battle noise was not heard back of the lines, Buell did not realize until late in the day that a major fight was in progress and failed to get his full force into battle. Likewise, parts of Bragg's army were still in the Frankfort area where General Bragg was witnessing the inauguration of a Confederate governor. By day's end Buell had won at least a partial victory and Bragg retreated to the southeast, ending the Confederate invasion of Kentucky.

On the morning of the 8th of October, the 42nd Indiana moved on the "double quick" for more than a mile. Before the battle began, the regiment was drawn up in formation as if it were on dress parade, and an order was read to the men to the effect that under no conditions would a soldier be allowed to assist a wounded comrade off the battlefield. The soldiers were about to engage in the death conflict for the first time. Imagine how they must have felt at that moment.

The day was very hot and few of the men had water in their canteens. The regiment moved into a ravine where there was water, and while they were cooking, eating and filling their canteens, they were attacked--first with cannons, and then the Confederate infantry moved out of the brush and began firing into the 42nd's right flank. They were trapped in the ravine and before they could decide what to do, a staff officer from the brigade commander dashed down the hill and gave orders for the regiment to break by companies and re-form at the top of the hill. There was great confusion as each company made its way out of the ravine, the best way that it could, while being fired upon constantly.

The 42nd had scarcely re-formed and aligned for battle when the order came to change position again so that the 42nd could come to the aid of the 80th Indiana Infantry and the 19th Indiana Artillery. General Rousseau, the division commander, rode in front of the 80th Indiana with his hat on the tip of his sword, held high above his head. The men cheered him loud and long. The 80th had been in existence for only a month and its men had no military experience at all.

The 42nd and the 80th formed their battle lines on an angle with each other, with the 19th Indiana Battery of Artillery on a small hill between them. The enemy (a brigade known as the "Louisiana Tigers") advanced towards their position and were met with heavy fire, but they moved on steadily as if on drill in camp. Richard McGehee was one of the sharpshooters of Company "G" 42nd who were ordered to keep the rebel flag down. Three times the Confederate flag and its bearer were shot down

only to be taken up again by another man. The fourth time it fell within seventy-five yards of the 42nd's line.

During the battle, Captain Charles G. Olmstead of Company "A" was killed by a bullet that struck him near the center of the forehead. He was urging, encouraging and cheering his men on and had just said to them, "This is as good a place to die as any other". The words had hardly left his lips when he fell. Four other officers were wounded, one of them being Captain Eli McCarty of Company "G" who was severely wounded in the shoulder.

At the end of the day, the 42nd was holding its position firmly, and steadily forcing the enemy back, when it was discovered that another rebel force was approaching them on the right. But before the rebels got close enough to do much damage, the orders came for the 42nd to retreat over the hill, and the fight ended. The battle lasted six hours, but the fighting time of the 42nd was about two hours.

The next morning, the Confederate army had retreated and was on its way out of the State of Kentucky, taking with it large quantities of army supplies that it had obtained there.

On the morning of October 8th, the 42nd regiment numbered less than 500 effective men. The entire loss during the battle was 166, or one-third of the effective command. The available fighting force of Company "G" was 52 and the loss in killed and wounded was 22, leaving only 30 men who escaped injury.

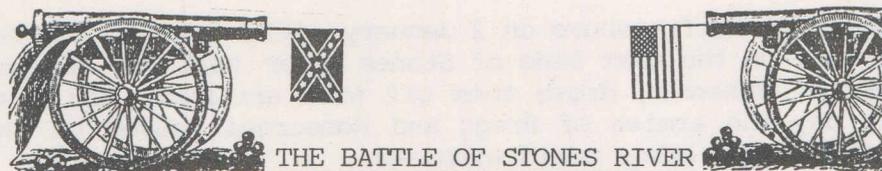
The following letter was written by a private of the 42nd Regiment to his wife at home in Indiana:

"Camp on the March Oct the 19th  
 My Dear love, I have the pleasure of writing to you once more. I am best of my health considering sircumstances and I hope that these few lines may find you all enjoying good health. I received from you a letter dated Sept 28 and one from your mother on the 2d. I was glad to here from you once more. it was the first time that I had heard from you for one month. I have not wrote mutch as I would have liked to. we have been marching for the last two month. we have had a fight since we left Louisville. it is called the battle of Perryville. Alexander and I went threw the battle safe and unhurt. the Loss of our Company in killed one, Oliver Busenham, Wounded 8 tho slitly. we are 4 miles on the other side of Craborchert tho expect to leave here to day. some thinks that we will go in camp. we are a hundred and five miles from Louisville. our company is reduced to about twenty-five men. we have not slept under tents since we left Huntsville. while we was in the fight I lost my blanket and haversack. I captured a secesh haversack. it don me till I draud one. I have don without one ever since last out of the field. I was in the hottest of the battle all the time. Oliver was killed by my side as we retreated up a hill. he was struck with a ball in the back. he fell and ask me to help him but there was no place to stop and help wounded men. the secesh was in all over that ground in few minutes. the rebels treted him with respect, our dead they stript of there shoes and blankets and other close. I had your Portrait in my shot Pouch. a bullet struck it severing it from one end to the other. I never seen your likeness agan tho I feel lost without

it. I hope that it will not be long till I can see your lovely face once more never to part until Death. I send my best respects to all. Send your letters to Louisville Ky 42 reg. Excuse me for the present. Write Soon."

William R. Stuckey

In October of 1862, after the Battle of Perryville, there was a reorganization of the Federal forces located in Tennessee. What was previously known as Buell's Army of the Ohio became the Army of the Cumberland. Major General William S. Rosecrans took command 30 October 1862. At Nashville during the months of November and December the commands were re-equipped with rifles of a standard calibre. Up until this time a variety of rifles were being used which made it very difficult to supply ammunition.



31 December 1862 - 4 January 1863

FEDERAL: General Rosecrans  
43,400 effectives  
13,249 casualties

CONFEDERATE: General Bragg  
37,712 effectives  
10,266 casualties

Company "G"  
42nd Indiana - Charles McCracken, John James McCracken, Thomas McCracken, William Nelson McCracken, Henry McCracken, Richard McGehee, William H.H. Gilley

Casualties: Charles McCracken, wounded 31 December 1862; Richard McGehee, wounded 4 January 1863 and died 7 January 1863.

On 26 December 1862, General Rosecrans and his Army of the Cumberland moved out of Nashville, intending to sweep Bragg's Confederate army aside and drive on to Chattanooga. Four days later, as Federal forces neared Murfreesboro, Bragg chose to make his stand just north of the city in relatively open country dotted with patches of red cedar and divided by the shallow, winding Stones River.

The Confederates had expected an assault from Rosecrans's advancing army on the 30th of December, but it had not come. That night the two armies camped within sight of each other, ready for battle. The mood was tense but there was no firing. The soldiers tried to rest. Somewhere an army band began to play a patriotic air and soon the band from the other side replied with one of its own. Before long the hills resounded with "Hail Columbia" battling "Bonnie Blue Flag", and "Dixie" trying to drown out "Yankee Doodle". Some band struck up "Home Sweet Home" and the tough westerners of both armies began to sing the bittersweet song that brought back memories of home and family. The singing ended when "Tattoo" called for lights out in the cold, wet camps.

On the last day of the year, both generals planned to attack. Bragg planned to swing with his left to crush the Federal right flank, and Rosecrans planned to do just about the same thing to the Confederate right. But the Confederates took the initiative and immediately after dawn the rebels charged the Union right flank. From

the beginning the Federals were on the defensive, and after several assaults on their right flank they were forced back to the Murfreesboro-Nashville Pike with their backs against Stones River. Rosecrans' offensive was called off and by noon he had formed a strong defensive line instead. Confederate assaults continued until late afternoon, but the Federal defenses held. Although Confederate casualties were heavy, they had clearly won the day. After the day-long fight, the armies remained on the field within range of each other.

There was little fighting at Stones River on 1 January 1863. Some positions were shifted and there were a few exchanges of gunfire, but the day was spent mostly in preparation for the continuance of the battle. The exhausted soldiers rested; but the stretcher-bearers, ambulance drivers and doctors at the field hospitals worked long and hard.

Fighting resumed at Murfreesboro on 2 January 1863. The Confederates succeeded in taking a small hill on the east side of Stones River that was occupied by Federal troops. The Federals, however, drove them off with artillery and a countercharge. At the end of the day the armies of Bragg and Rosecrans paused on the battlefield again, each hoping that the other would withdraw.

Saturday, 3 January, the Federals pushed two brigades (which was only a small amount of the available force) forward in an attack on rebel lines. The rest of the army remained in position. During the night, Bragg's Confederate Army of Tennessee, despite apparent victory in the first stages of battle, withdrew from Murfreesboro toward Tullahoma, Tennessee. The Battle of Stones River was over.

The Union army occupied and fortified the city of Murfreesboro. A huge supply base was built there and named Fortress Rosecrans. From there the Union army was able to launch a successful attack on the Confederate rail center at Chattanooga and thus control the transportation routes in southeastern Tennessee. The loss of the food-producing section of middle Tennessee was a severe blow to the Confederate army.

#### THE 42nd AT STONES RIVER

The 2nd brigade, under Colonel John Beatty, to which the 42nd Indiana belonged, left Nashville 26 December 1862 and marched toward Murfreesboro by way of Lavergne. The late heavy rains had flooded the area, making the road nothing but mud. Four days later the 42nd Indiana reached the main army which was then in position confronting the Confederates along Stones River. They took their position in the center, covering the turnpike and the railroad.

The Army of the Cumberland was divided into three corps commanded by Generals McCook on the right, Thomas in the center and Crittenden on the left. One of the three division commanders under General Thomas was General L.H. Rousseau, and under General Rousseau's command were four brigades. Colonel John Beatty led the 2nd brigade which consisted of the 42nd Indiana, 88th Indiana, 15th Kentucky and 3rd Ohio.

The Confederates first attacked McCook on the right at daybreak. His first two divisions gave way almost immediately, but the third division held fast until they ran out of ammunition. The Federal line was quickly being doubled back on itself like a jackknife.

About 9:00 a.m. Generals Thomas and Rousseau gave Colonel Beatty orders to occupy a cedar woods to the right of the turnpike. The brigade was to assist in holding the rebels in check while new lines to the rear were being fixed. The brigade was quickly in position and was instructed to throw up temporary breastworks made from fallen trees, and then to lie down for the advance of the Confederates who were then coming directly toward them. Within ten minutes the 42nd Indiana and Colonel Beatty's brigade were under fire. A short time later a Colonel of the 15th Kentucky was killed and his men retreated in confusion, without informing Colonel Beatty. The position of the 15th had been just to the right of the 42nd with about seventy-five yards between the two regiments, but because of the smoke and noise in the cedar woods it was impossible for anyone in the 42nd to know what was happening in the next regiment. It was quickly discovered by Colonel Beatty that the rebels were advancing through the woods and would soon be able to surround and capture the entire brigade if it did not retreat. The commands were given and the regiments marched in formation to the lines in the rear under heavy fire.

Then the fighting began again. The lines of the Federals and Confederates were never more than 75 to 100 yards apart. For two hours the 42nd Indiana, 88th Indiana and 3rd Ohio held their position. They received reinforcements, and for two more hours they fought a most desperate fight, maintaining their ground, but with heavy loss. It was about 4:00 p.m. before they were ordered out, making the actual fighting time that day about seven and a half hours. The command then retired to the rear of the main line, across the railroad and turnpike.

The new position of the Federal line was in the shape of a horseshoe. In the center of the curve were thirty pieces of artillery which included the six famous cannons known as the "Chicago Board of Trade". Reinforcements occupied the center of the horseshoe and could be moved in a very short time to wherever they might be needed on the front line. After all of the Federal troops in front of this new line had been withdrawn, the Confederates made a bold and rapid advance. When the enemy was about 200 yards away from the new line, the order came for the artillery to begin firing. The enemy soldiers were in full view and were hit with a hail of fire from the Federal artillery and infantry. It was a scene of carnage and death, but the rebels were not easily stopped. As soon as one line of soldiers melted away under the fire of cannon and small arms, another was ready to take its place. The rebels came on, wave after wave, for about an hour. Some rebel soldiers threw down their arms and crawled through the underbrush and smoke of the battlefield to the Federal lines and gave themselves up rather than face certain death.

Rapidly approaching darkness put an end to the day's fighting--to the great relief of both exhausted and decimated armies.

The 42nd Indiana did not fight again until the night of January 3rd. On the 1st and 2nd it took its place with Colonel Beatty's brigade in the center of the horseshoe-shaped line, but the Confederates did not attack on the 1st, and on the 2nd they fought only with General Crittenden's corps on the left.

On the night of the fourth day, which was 3 January 1863, the 42nd under Lt. Colonel Shanklin was on picket guard duty directly in front of the center of the battle line. About midnight Colonel Shanklin sent a message to brigade headquarters to report that the rebels were planting a battery of artillery so near that the commands of their officers could be distinctly heard, and asking for reinforcements. This message went to General Thomas whose response was, "Tell Lt. Colonel Shanklin

to hold that position at all hazards". An hour later Colonel Shanklin again asked for reinforcements, and sent the information that he believed a rebel cavalry unit was also in his front with the infantry and artillery. General Thomas repeated his earlier command. Colonel Shanklin and the 42nd obeyed orders. The fight came in darkness and many on both sides were killed. The rebels had a section of artillery, but the 42nd had only small arms. The fight lasted thirty to forty minutes, but the casualties of the 42nd regiment were nearly equal to those of the seven and a half hour fight of the first day. The command was overpowered, and (acting under the impression that the rebel force was much greater than it actually was) retreated to the main line about 1,000 yards away. The enemy proved to be only the rear guard of the rebel force which used this last encounter with the 42nd to cover its retreat from Murfreesboro.

In the morning the Confederates were gone. Union General Rosecrans made the following report: "Sunday morning, January 4, It was not deemed advisable to commence offensive movements, and news soon reached us that the enemy had fled from Murfreesboro. Burial parties were sent out to bury the dead, and the cavalry was sent to reconnoiter."

After the battle, a number of days were spent collecting small arms from the battlefield and burying the dead. The dead of Colonel Beatty's brigade were buried near the railroad and pike with those of the 42nd Indiana being buried together in one long, wide grave.

A National Cemetery was established in 1865 at Stones River National Battlefield. Of the 6,124 Civil War graves, 2,307 are unknown. Corporal Richard McGehee is buried in grave number 0-5810.

In a letter to his wife, a member of the 42nd Indiana described the battle this way:

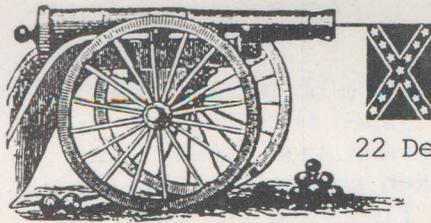
"Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn Jan the 20th 63

My darling wife

I am in Tolerable good health and hope these may find you and viola and all our friends at home enjoying the best of health. we have had a very hard time since I wrote you the last letter. we went on a scout on the 13th and arived back on the 16th. the hardships we seen is indescribable. we went to a Little Town nine miles from here and then was within three miles of the rebel camp. it was suposed that it was only a Brigade of Cavalry. our Regt only consisten of one hundred and sixty seven then, we lay on our arms all night and the next morning we fell back to Salem five miles from this place where we lay for two days in the rain and mud and since that time I have been very poorly having a very bad coal. I received your letter of the 27th and was glad to here from you and would have wrote to you sooner but my head hurt so that I was almost blind so you must excuse me for not writing sooner. I supose you have heard more about the Battle than I can inform you of. if the Dead is Buried it is of late. there was secesh on the field last Saturdsday for I seen them. I went to see Franklin Ross and Jasper M. Martin and to carry there Knapsacks to them. I was glad to see them as well as they was. they are tolerable bad wounded tho not dangerously. I was sorry to see Frank leave the Field as he is my old faverite friend and feel as nigh to each other as brothers. he is wounded in the shoulder and

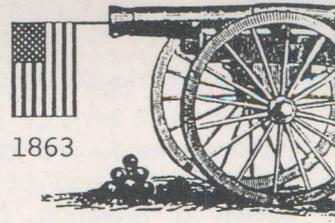
Martin in the bowles and arm. bouth no doubt will recover but never will be fit for duty. there is fore missen but three we have never heard from. S.T. Tyner Wm A Kith and Amos Barker all fought well and it is supposed they are taken prisoners. Willis Brown is absence. he was seen run off the field and was seen the next day at Nashville. he is but little thought of in Company K. I till you he is the damnest coward I ever seen. darn the secesh. they fight like hell. we Didnt make any thing of them in the long run for they whiped us like hell the first day wednsday tho we made them smell thunder after that. we didnt gain as big a victory as you will here. our loss is great and no one is able to give a correct account. the sufferings of the boys is to bad to discribe. we lay for three days laying on our bellys in the mud and rain without any thing to eat. our suffer was great. you would hardly believe me if I would tell you that I eat the flesh of a horse tho I wasnt the only one. thousand besides me eat of it. I thought it was as good meat as ever I eat but I often shuder when I think about it. there was three horses killed in a few rods of our Regt. they was hardly Don Kidken when the boys comenced Skinining and eating. we was sent out on picket on saturday after the battle of wednesday. we run the Rebles out of a strip of woods. we was atacted early in the morning with a heavy force of Rebles. they opened the atact with there batterys one in front and two was playing on us at acrossfire. the Cannons was so close to us we could here the Rebles Commanders Cursing the gunners and telling them to aim low for the d----d Yankys is laying down. frequently they would say give them Hell. we was laying behind cliffs of rocks. I almost wished I was a mole and if I was I would have crauled in the ground. we was ordered to retreat. when we raised up the dam Devils was within a few rods of us. we run like Hell for a while the cannon balles flying around us like hail and there was three Regts of Rebles fireing as fast as they could. and who will you say was the cause of me getting out safe? I think I can safely say it was by good runing that I got out of that mornings fight. we lossed several good men that morning besides a good many wounded. I donot beleave that there has ever been such a battle fought in America as the battle of Merfeesboro. we will be paid off in a few days. I will send you the money in the place of Father. if your father wishes to com to see us they can come with all ease and if them come send me a hat and pair of boots. I wrote to father to send me a pair of boots and he has not."

William R. Stuckey  
42nd Indiana



MORGAN'S RAIDERS

22 December 1862 - 2 January 1863  
20 June - 26 July 1863



Company "G"  
80th Indiana - John Phillip Coup

While the 42nd Indiana was busy at Murfreesboro, the 80th Indiana was pursuing and fighting Morgan's Raiders during their last two spectacular raids through Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio.

John Hunt Morgan was a Confederate Cavalry officer whose unit was famous for striking quickly, destroying property, taking prisoners and supplies and generally disrupting northern morale.

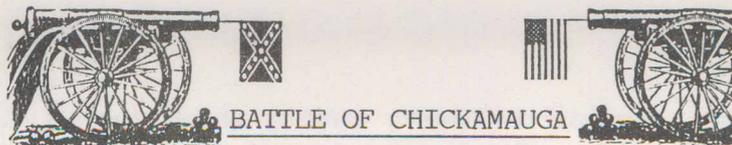
In July of 1862 Morgan's Raiders struck behind thinly stretched Union lines in Kentucky with 900 men. They cut railway tracks, disrupted communications, attacked detachments of Union troops and destroyed stores of military equipment. They did the same thing in August of 1862 near Neashville, Tennessee.

In early December of 1862, while the Army of the Cumberland was at Nashville preparing for the advance on Murfreesboro, Morgan, with about 1,400 men, surprised and captured a Federal garrison at Hartsville, Tennessee (about 40 miles northeast of Nashville), taking more than 1,700 prisoners.

Morgan began his Christmas Raid into Kentucky against Union supply lines on 21 December 1862. The 80th Infantry was part of the Federal force that left Lebanon, Kentucky, in pursuit of Morgan. Between 21 December and 2 January, Morgan's Raiders occupied Glasgow, Kentucky after a skirmish, fought at Bacon Creek and Nolin, disrupted the railroad lines supplying Rosecrans' army on its way to Murfreesboro, captured a Federal garrison at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, destroyed a bridge at Muldraugh's Hill and captured a stockade at Boston, Kentucky. By this time Morgan's force had grown to 4,000 men.

In June of 1863, Confederate General Bragg authorized another raid in Kentucky. Exceeding his instructions, Morgan led his 2,000 men on a 1,100 mile ride through Kentucky and southern Indiana and Ohio. During the month of July they fought at Columbia, Lebanon, Bardstown, Garnettsville, Shepherdsville and Cummings Ferry in Kentucky. Then they crossed the Ohio River west of Louisville and entered Indiana. They plundered homes and businesses in Corydon, had a skirmish at Salem and terrorized the citizens of Vernon, Indiana before they crossed into Ohio and headed for Cincinnati. Martial law was declared in Cincinnati on 13 July. They moved east toward the Ohio River after a skirmish at Camp Dennison, and had more fights at Hamden, Berlin, Pomeroy and Chester, Ohio. But the Federal pursuers were closing in. On July 19th, Morgan's Raiders tried to cross the Ohio to safety in Kentucky, but the attempt was stopped by Federal troops, militia and gunboats. Morgan lost 820 men in the fight, including 700 captured. Morgan and the remainder of his men escaped and headed north along the Ohio toward Pennsylvania. They fought their way through Hockingport, Coal Hill, Eagleport, Rockville, Washington, Athens, Steubenville and Springfield, Ohio. At Salinesville on 26 July 1863 Morgan and his 364 exhausted men surrendered.

Morgan's Raids were highly successful because they drew some of the Union forces away from Tennessee where most of the action in the West was at the time.



19 and 20 September 1863

FEDERAL: General Rosecrans  
58,000 effectives  
16,170 casualties (28%)

CONFEDERATE: General Bragg  
66,000 effectives  
18,454 casualties (28%)

Company "G"  
42nd Indiana  
under  
General Thomas

- John James McCracken, Thomas McCracken, William  
Nelson McCracken, William H.H. Gilley

Casualties: - John James McCracken, wounded.

On the battlefields of Chickamauga and Chattanooga the Union and Confederate armies clashed during the fall of 1863 in some of the hardest fighting of the Civil War. The objective of both armies was the control of Chattanooga which was a key rail center and the gateway to the heart of the Confederacy. The campaign actually began six months earlier, after the same armies fought at Stones River.

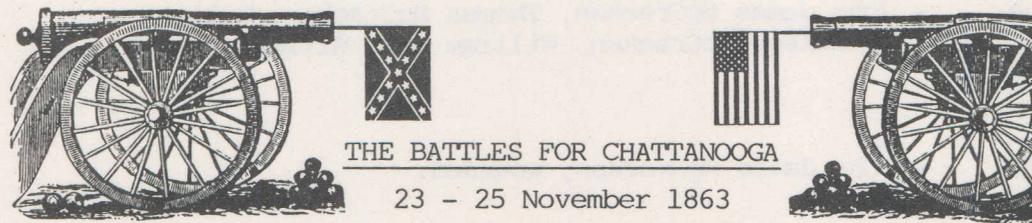
The Confederate army moved all but three divisions from the Ringgold, Georgia area across West Chickamauga Creek on 18 September 1863. Heavy skirmishing with Federal cavalry broke out at Pea Vine Ridge, Alexander's Bridge, Spring Creek and other spots in the area. Union General Rosecrans moved Thomas' corps of the Army of the Cumberland in a hard march to the northeast so that the Confederates would not outflank the Federals toward Chattanooga. A major battle was in sight. On the 19th neither the Federal army under Rosecrans nor the Confederate army under Bragg was quite sure of the exact position of the opposing army as they moved into roughly parallel lines west of Chickamauga Creek, southeast of Chattanooga.

General Thomas, on the Federal left or north flank, sent part of his troops forward to investigate the enemy. This body ran into the dismounted Confederate cavalry of Nathan B. Forrest and actually opened the battle. Fighting in this section grew more severe as other units joined in, and by afternoon the greater portions of both armies were engaged along a ragged three-mile line. The Confederates were unable to penetrate between Chattanooga and the Federal forces who held the roads to the city. Losses in the sporadic but heavy fighting were high on both sides (some units lost more than fifty per cent of their men), but the results were negligible as the same ground was fought for, over and over again. At night, the Federals tightened their line and built breastworks, and the Confederates received reinforcements.

The fight began again the next morning, September 20th, about 9:30 a.m. when the Confederates moved forward. The Union left under General Thomas fell back, but held at the breastworks. Neither side gained nor lost much from the heavy Confederate attacks until shortly before noon when the Confederates found that by a blunder of orders an entire Union division had been pulled out, leaving a gap in the Federal line. The rebels hit hard at that point, driving two divisions away and cutting the Federal line, which caused a major portion of it to flee in considerable disorder. Rosecrans, McCook and Crittenden were caught up in the retreat toward Chattanooga. Only Thomas' corps, aided by a few other units, remained. General Thomas managed to form a new line on a rounded knoll known as Snodgrass Hill. Here the Federals held through the afternoon, repelling assault after assault. Thomas' men and fragments

of other units fought a great defensive battle which earned for Thomas his famous name "Rock of Chickamauga". The battle lasted until night when, obeying orders. Thomas withdrew towards Rossville and the mountain gaps that led to Chattanooga.

The Confederates pursued, occupying Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga Valley. By placing artillery on the heights overlooking the river and blocking the roads and rail lines, the rebels prevented Union supplies from entering the city.



FEDERAL: General Grant  
56,000 effectives  
5,824 casualties

CONFEDERATE: General Bragg  
46,000 effectives  
6,667 casualties

Company "G"  
42nd Indiana - Thomas McCracken, William Nelson McCracken,  
William H.H. Gilley.

Casualties: - Thomas McCracken wounded, 25 November 1863.

After the Battle of Chickamauga, the Confederates had a stranglehold on Chattanooga, occupying Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga Valley. The city was under siege when President Lincoln and his military advisors made two decisions that affected the future of the siege and the whole war. The first was to send General Hooker to Chattanooga with a corps from the Army of the Potomac. The second was to place General Ulysses S. Grant as overall commander in the West. Grant quickly promoted General Thomas to head the Army of the Cumberland, replacing Rosecrans.

General Grant arrived at Chattanooga on 23 October 1863 and the situation there began to change almost immediately. On the 28th, Federal troops were able to open a short supply route from Bridgeport, Alabama. General Hooker came from Virginia with 20,000 men and General Sherman brought 16,000 men from Mississippi to reinforce the Union army at Chattanooga. About the same time, the Confederate force was depleted when Longstreet's 15,000 rebel soldiers were sent to Knoxville to oppose Burnside.

On the morning of 23 November 1863 the Confederate troops who were then occupying Missionary Ridge were entertained by the appearance below of 20,000 Union troops, dressed in their best uniforms and marching in perfect ranks to the vigorous music of military bands. The rebels watched calmly, assuming that a grand parade was underway. Suddenly, the parade wheeled and charged furiously up the slopes. In short order, Federal troops overran Orchard Knob, a hill between Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge. Grant ordered reinforcements and entrenchments on the knob which became his command post the next day.

In the early morning hours of the 24th, General Sherman's troops quietly crossed the Tennessee River in makeshift boats, carrying their rifles and spades. By dawn

they had dug rifle pits a mile long, and by afternoon all of Sherman's men had crossed the river and were ready to attack Missionary Ridge.

Also during the morning of the 24th, General Hooker ordered the advance on Lookout Mountain. A dense fog hung around the slopes and Hooker's advance was not discovered until his troops were a few yards away from the rebel positions. The Federal soldiers pushed the defenders steadily up the rough slopes of Lookout Mountain. By noon a Confederate stand at Craven's Farm had been driven back and Hooker's troops were entrenched just below the summit. The remaining Confederates withdrew during the night. Before sunrise on the 25th, Hooker sent a detachment to the top of Lookout Mountain and at dawn the Union army below could see the Stars and Stripes flying at the summit. Amid their preparations for battle, the Union soldiers cheered and celebrated.

From his command post on Orchard Knob, General U.S. Grant ordered the advance against Missionary Ridge on the morning of 25 November 1863. Sherman attacked on the north end of the ridge and Hooker attacked on the south end. Grant planned to hold the attack on the center until the flanks had gained some ground and diverted the enemy force. Both of these attacks soon slowed down, but Grant held off on the attack in the center until mid-afternoon. The signal was given and General Thomas' men began to assault the heavily entrenched enemy in the center at the top of Missionary Ridge. Certain that there would be fierce resistance, Grant ordered his troops to stop half-way up the slope and reorganize. In a very short time, Thomas' men were driving the Confederates out of their entrenchments so rapidly and following them so closely that Confederate and Union troops were running and climbing side by side as the Federals advanced and the Confederates retreated. This caused the rebel artillery to aim high in order to avoid killing their own men. The Union soldiers did not stop and reorganize as ordered, but instead continued their charge up the heavily occupied slope into the Confederate center yelling, "Chickamauga, Chickamauga" as they charged. The Yankees overran line after line of defenses until the rebels on the crest were desperately hurling rocks at the onrushing enemy.

The Confederates were soon in panic-stricken retreat towards Chickamauga. Confederate General Bragg narrowly escaped being captured, although that is what happened to over 4,000 of his men. Union troops gathered at the top of Missionary Ridge cheering wildly.

The siege and the Battles for Chattanooga were over, and Union armies now controlled the city and nearly all of Tennessee. The next spring, Sherman used Chattanooga for his base as he started his march to Atlanta and then to the sea.

#### THE 42nd INDIANA AT CHATTANOOGA

After the Battle of Chickamauga, the 42nd retreated to Chattanooga with the rest of the defeated Army of the Cumberland. It went into camp in several locations within the besieged area, living in fortifications and entrenchments in direct range of the rebel heavy artillery on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. For many days and nights they were harassed by the Confederate artillery.

The soldiers suffered a great deal from the lack of food and medical supplies during the siege. The meat allowance for an entire regiment was one beef on foot once a week. The hungry soldiers ate everything except the bones, horns and hoofs.

Their discomfort was increased by the lack of proper clothing (especially shoes) and the fall weather in the mountains. The siege lasted for two months. The first month no supplies could get through at all. The second month was not much better, but they were able to get limited supplies of food.

The arrival of Generals Grant and Sherman with their 36,000 reinforcements gave the men renewed hope and courage. To them it meant that offensive operations would soon begin and the siege would come to an end. The month after the arrival of Grant and Sherman was spent busily preparing for the offensive operation.

On the 23rd of November, the 42nd fought at Orchard Knob. The next day General Hooker and his men had the responsibility of dislodging the Confederates from Lookout Mountain which rises about 1,400 feet above the Tennessee River, with a plateau at about 1,100 feet. The 42nd Indiana was part of General Carlin's brigade whose responsibility it was to carry ammunition to Hooker's men who had attacked the mountain early in the day. About 5:00 p.m. Carlin's brigade crossed Chattanooga Creek and climbed the mountain to Hooker's right, carrying supplies of ammunition on their backs to his soldiers. The Confederates finally withdrew after midnight and about daylight the next morning, a party from the 8th Kentucky climbed to the summit of Lookout Mountain and planted the Union flag at a point where it was dramatically visible to the rest of the Union forces in the valley below. The officers and soldiers who had been under siege for two months cheered enthusiastically. That morning the men of the 42nd Indiana climbed down the mountain, crossed to Missionary Ridge and waited for orders to attack.

It was between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. on the 25th that six cannon shots from Orchard Knob gave the signal for the general advance on the center of Missionary Ridge. After the first entrenchments of the enemy had been captured, the troops (officers and men) were so eager to reach the top of the ridge that they held their fire and scrambled up the face of the ridge. The crest was reached at at least six different places at the same time. As the Confederates retreated, loud hurrahs and cheering could be heard all along the victorious Union line. The men were wild with excitement because of the victory and because they could see the Confederate wagon trains, artillery and soldiers all struggling to their rear.

After the Battle of Missionary Ridge, the 42nd Indiana was one of the regiments ordered to pursue the retreating Confederates. When the pursuers arrived at the Chickamauga River, General Palmer, who was commanding an entire corps, asked for a good skirmish regiment to go forward. The 42nd, which was at the rear of the column, was ordered to the front for that purpose and was ordered to encounter or scatter the enemy. The regiment remained in front until Graysville, Georgia was reached and the pursuit was abandoned.

The 42nd lost 42 officers and men killed or wounded during the Battles for Chattanooga.