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## A History of the Fourth Indiana Battery.

The Fourth Indiana Battery ,or Michigan CityArtillery Company ,as it was first known ,was recruited at Michigan City ,and Valparaiso Indiana, in August I86I;by Asahel K ,Bush and Mark L ,Demotte;under an order procured from thWar Department by Hon,Schuyler Colfax Member of Congressfrom that District ,authorizing the raising of a battery of artillery for the Ninth Indiana Regiment.Mr Colfax staresin a letter that this artillery co was raised at the solicitation of the officers of the Ninth IndianaRegiment to be known as the Michigan City Artillery Company.

The following article taken fromthe Michigan City Enterprise of that date ,gives an account of the first meeting .

### Artillery for the Ninth

The Secretary of War has authorized Col'Milroy to attach an artillery company to the Ninth Indiana,and Lieutenant A.K.Bush .late of company B , and M.L.DeMotte of Valparaisoare busy recruiting for this arm. A meeting was held for this object at Union Hall last evening ,which was very ably and eloquently addressedby the Major of the regiment ,lately Capt,'Blake of company B..The hall was crowded full with ladies and gentlemen,whose applause,as volunteer after volunteer marched up to sign the muster roll was almost deafening . Yesterday and to day over fifty names were obtained ,most of which ~~###~~-all we were enabled to obtain-we appear

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A.K.BUSH. | John.B.Bouchard. | H.White. | John .B.Nissen. |
| W,H.Stoddard. | D.Flansburg. | L.R.DeGroff. | Harvey,Turner. |
| H.J.Willets. | J.C.Haddock. | G.W.Goodman. | G.B.Blair. |
| James Hill. | John S.Macadoo | W.T.Francis. | W.P.Ward. |
| A.Young. | O.Reynolds. | S.R.Ashton. | A.Brockway. |
| A.Sonenberg. | W.Perdoil. | R.Tremain. | M.T.Gillespie. |
| D.W.Hainer. | N.R.Palmer. | G.Seager. | D.B.Sperry. |
| J.Peacor. | R.Richards. | H.H.Woods. | H.M.Doing. |
| James Harold. | H.Snow. | H.H.Roberts. | J.Premier. | I.H.Reynolds. |

It will be seen that these names comprise the ''creme de la creme'' of our young men , or our ''best blood ''as the F.F.V;would say . Quite a number of them belonged to the'Zouave company;some were mechanics,some clerks and all are young and hardy men. Nine cheers for the gallant young volunteersof Michigan City.

September 2nd I86I, The recruits were directed to assemble at Camp-Colfax LaPorte Indiana,and were mustered into the State Servicethe same day by Col'Milroyof the Ninth Indiana regiment. Here they were given tents and rations ,and Sept'5thelected the following officers.

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OFFICERS.

#2.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | Asahel K,Bush, | Captain. | Transferredto Invalid Corps. |
| 2 | Mark L.DeMotte, | Senior,First Lieutenant. | Resign'd Mch8, |
| 3 | Leonard R. DeGroff, | Junior ,, ,, | ,, MayIO/6 |
| 4 | Augustus A. Starr. | Senior Second ,, | ,,July Ist/6 |
| 5 | David Flensburg, | Junior ,, | ,, Captured Chick'ga. |

Captain Bush,then appointed the following named men as

Non Commissioned Officers.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | McCleary John W, | First Sergeant. | Promoted Lieut'Res'd. |
| 2 | Willits Henry J. | Q. M. ,, | ,, ,, |
| 3 | Woods Henry H. | Sergeant. | Disch'gd for Disbl'y,JanIO/6 |
| 4 | Lockard Charles H. | ,, | Captured at Stone river. |
| 5 | Date James E. | ,, | Killed at Stone river. |
| 6 | Abbott William H. | ,, | Wounded at ,, |
| 7 | Ormrod Thomas G. | ,, | Discharged May 22 1863. |
| 8 | Turner Harvey . | ,, | ,, June 1862. |

Corporals

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | Haddock Joseph C. | Corporals. | Pro'd Serg't,& Hosp'Stew' |
| 2 | Lockwood James . | ,, | ,, , |
| 3 | Stoddard William A . | ,, | Killed at Stone river. |
| 4 | Hale Lester E . | ,, | Pro'd First Sergeant. |
| 5 | Hildebrant Francis R. | ,, | Killed at Perryville. |
| CW | Pettit Willis H . | ,, | Pro'd ,,Second Lieut. |

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#5.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | Ward William P. | Corporal. | Promoted Butler.. |
| 8 | Macadoo John F. | ,, . | |
| 9 | Young Amos | ,, . | Wounded at Perryville. |
| IO | Delurya Edward H . | ,, . | |
| 11 | Richards Robert . | ,, . | Promoted Wagoner.. |
| I2 | Clark Samuel J. | ,, . | ,, Q.M.Sargent. |

ANTIFICERS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | BOuchard John B. | Blacksmith. | Dischg'd Dec I4th I862. |
| 2 | Pecore Joseph. | ,, . | ,, |
| 3 | Mills Alfred. | Wagon-Maker. | ,, |
| 4 | Vanloon Samuel. | ,, . | ,, March 24th I863. |
| 5 | Potter Benjamin C. | Harness-Maker. | ,, August I862. |
| 6 | Hollander Ernest. | ,, . | |

Buglers.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | Dunn John W. | Bugler. | Promoted Second Lieut 40th Ind'a |
| 2 | Conley Aaron W. | ,, . | |

Wagoner.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | Barber Silas. | Wagoner. | Promoted Division Wagoner. |

Muster Roll Of Privates.

I AbbottEdgar G. woundedin the thigh at Stone river.

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ARTIFICERS.

1. Bouchard John B. Blacksmith, Discha'd Dec. 14, 1863.
2. Pecoro Joseph ,, ,,
3. Mills Alfred Wagon-maker, ,,
4. Vanloon Samuel ,, ,, March 24, 1863.
5. Potter Benjamin C. Harness-maker, ,, August, 1863.
6. Hollander Harnest ,,

BUGLERS.

1. Dunn John W. Bugler, Promoted Second Lieut. 40th Ind.
2. Conley Aaron W. ,,

WAGONER.

1. Barbar Silas, Wagoner, Promoted Division Wagoner.

Muster Roll of Privates.

1. Abbott Edgar G. Wounded in the thigh at Stone river.
2. Albert Peter, Discharged for Disability.
3. Alexander John.
4. Arnold Edwin V. Wounded in the thigh at Stone river.
5. Ashton Simon R. ,, ,, ,, breast ,, Chickamauga.
6. Bailey Jesse, ,,

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LIST OF PRIVATES CONTINUED.

2 Albert Peter. Dischargedfor Disability.
3 Alexander John .
4 Arnold Edwin V. Wounded at Stone river.In the thigh .
5 Ashton Simon R. ,, ,, ,, ,, .
6 Bailey Jesse . ,, ,, ,, ,, .
7 Bell John. ,, Chickamauga breast.
8 Bice Hiram. C.
9 Billings Allen.
10 Blair Gorham B. ,, Perryville
11 BRatt George W.
12 Brown Oscar D.
13 Brockway Asahel.
14 Carothers George.
15 Copp Eliphalet.
16 Cook Charles.
17 Corey Edmond O . Died at Munfordsville Ky.
18 Chalmers Oliver P .
19 Cross Norman.
20 DeWolfe Joseph E. Promoted to Company Clerk.
21 Delurya William R.
22 Donovan John .
23 Doing Hiram .
24 Disard John . Wounded at Stone river .Leg broken.
25 Durkee Abram H .
26 Durkee Allen S.
27 Fasold Harmon .
28 Forbes George .
29 Forbes Wallace W . Detailed as Telegraph Operator.
30 Francis Willis T. Wounded at Perryville.
31 Frost William H .
32 Garner Matthew H .
33 Gillespie Micajah T .
34 Glime Nelson .
35 Goodhue George W. Captured at Chickamauga. 16 Months in prison .
36 Goodwin David.
37 Haines David.
38 Hainer Robert H. Wounded at Perryville & Stone river.
39 Hainer Daniel W. ,, Chickamauga.
40 Harrold James. ,, Stone river .
41 Hayes John P. Leg broken at Munfordsville by a horse.
42 Hendrickson Marcus.
43 Hill Edmond C.
44 Hill James. Killed by a shell at Stone river.
45 Hodson John .
46 Holdridge Hezekiah.
47 Horn Albert.
48 Huff Mathias. Captured at Chickamauga & Died in Andersonville

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#5 List of Privates Continued.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 49 | Ingraham Nelson D. | Wounded at Chickamauga, inthe breast . |
| 50 | Jacobs Edwin S . | |
| 51 | Jackson George W | ,, ,, thigh. |
| 52 | Johnston George W . | Promoted Sergeant & 2 M Sergeant 1 Ord. |
| 53 | Jones John . | |
| 54 | Jones Edward. | |
| 55 | Kasbaum Charles . | Wounded Perryville. |
| 56 | Kirkumslayer William S. | |
| 57 | Kirk William C | |
| 58 | Kimball Sylvester . | |
| 59 | Laughlin Hugh . | |
| 60 | Lawrence George. | |
| 61 | Long Gideon P. | Leg broken by accident with a shell. at Nash |
| 62 | Low Charles O. | Wounded at Stone river . in fore arm . |
| 63 | Logan Edmond J. | ,, ,, & Missing. |
| 64 | Madaline Amen | |
| 65 | Maze Alexander. | |
| 66 | Melzer Harmon A. | |
| 67 | Miller Henry . | |
| 68 | Mitchell Andrew J. | ,, ,, . |
| 69 | Mitchell Mortica. | ,, Chickamauga. |
| 70 | Mowery Thomas J. | Captured at Perryville & Deserted. |
| 71 | Mundell William . | Wounded at Stone river & Died. |
| 72 | Mundell Elmore. | |
| 73 | Mclain Andrew W. | Dished at Disability |
| 74 | Mclellan Belding R. | Wounded Perryville . |
| 75 | Nugent Edmond. | Killed at Stone river. |
| 76 | Neugent Thomas. | ,, Perryville. |
| 77 | Newcomb James M. | |
| 78 | ODonald John. | |
| 79 | Olvaney John. | |
| 80 | Palmer Noah R . | |
| 81 | Peabody Samuel. | AccidentalWound by Premature Explosion. at Loi |
| 82 | Pettit George R. | |
| 83 | Porter George W . | |
| 84 | Perdoil William. | Woundedat Stone river . |
| 85 | Premer John . | |
| 86 | Price Elias. | ,, ,, . |
| 87 | Ray James H. | ,, Perryville. & Chickamauga. |
| 88 | Reynolds Oscar . | ,, ,, . |
| 89 | Reynolds Isaac. | |
| 90 | Riche Dyer. | |
| 91 | Riley Edward. | |
| 92 | Roberts Henry R. | |
| 93 | Robinson Morris M. | |
| 94 | Rowlands William J. | |
| 95 | Selzer Mathias. | |
| 96 | Shaw Joseph D. | |

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## LIST OF PRIVATES CONTINUED.

97 Shreve Thomas.
98 Shutts John W.
99 Sisson John B.
100 Smith Ambrose N. Wounded at Chickamauga ,Promoted Corporal.
101 Smith Edmond. ,, Stone river.& Died from Wound.
102 Smith Isaac E. Killed at Perryville,Sergeant When Killed.
103 Smith James H.
104 Small James F. Wounded at Stone river .
105 Snow Horace . Died From Measels.
106 Sperry David B. Promoted to Q.M. Clerk.
107 Stout David C.
108 Sterns Thomas J.
109 Swayers Henry C. Wounded at Chickamauga.
110 Swoap James G.
111 Sonenberg Augustus .
112 Tremayne William.
113 Tremain Russel. ,, Perryville.
114 Tree Daniel.
115 Vanauken John .
116 Vanett Joseph.
117 Walker George. Captured at Chickamauga. 16,months a prisoner
118 Wallace Robert H.
119 Way Edwin F.
120 Wells Orin W.
121 Young Charles E. Stone river.& Paroled.
122 Youngs John . Killed at Stone river.
123 Young Henry A. Wounded at Bates Cross Roads. or Dug Gap.

The total enrollment was as follows .

| | |
|---|---|
| Commissioned Officers. | 5. |
| Non Commiss'd ,, | 20. |
| Artificers | 6. |
| Buglers | 2. |
| Wagoner | 1. |
| Privates | 123. |
| Total | 157 |

RECRUITS.

SeePage 7.

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#7

## RECRUITS.

1 Gilbert Edward. Missing at Stone river.
2 Chester Charles A.
3 Albright Jacob.
4 Barringer John R.
5 Blazer David M. Shot For Desertion, June 20th 1863.
6 Caldwell Jessie.
7 Elsworth Delos .
8 Forbes Duane. Wounded at Chickamauga. Died at Lome.
9 Hall Israel.
10 Kelley William.
11 Lamb George M.
12 Lansing Isaac.
13 Lacefield. Francis M.
14 Leggard William B.
15 Ogden George E.
16 Rall Charles E.
17 Shinabarger. James.
18 Shinabarger Elmore.
19 Stickley Israel.
20 Stump Jerrett.
21 Triggs John W.
22 Williams Frank.

## NARRATIVE.

The Company remained at Camp Colfax LaPorte until Sept' 14th 1861 On the morning of that day, the Ninth Indiana Regiment left LaPorte for Western Virginia, the battery being detached from the regiment and ordered to Indianapolis to prepare for a Campaign in Kentucky. Accordingly in the afternoon of the 14th the battery left laporte for Indianapolis, the general rendezvous of the troops of Indiana. Arriving there about four o'clock Sunday morning the 15th, they marched to Camp Morton, located in the northern part of the city. This camp was well calculated to stir the hearts of the soldier boys, and create a spirit of patriotism in the dullest of them, for everything was full of life and motion.

Troops were constantly arriving or departing, bands or drums and fifes playing, and flags flying everywhere, giving one the impression of a grand holiday, rather than preparations for war. The enthusiasm of new recruits was increased by all this stir and bustle, and they resolved to learn all they could of the art of war in the artillery branch of the service. Little did these young men know how important a branch of the service they had entered, or its relation to the other departments.

Let us digress from our narrative for a moment, and inquire ... relative position our artillery-men were to occupy to other troops.

The order of their ranks as follows.

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1st. ENGINEER CORPS.
2nd. ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT.
3rd. ARTILLERY.
4th. CAVALRY.
5th. INFANTRY

The Signal Corps, Telegraph, Ambulance, and Hospital Corps, Medical, Quarter-Master, and Commissary Departments, ARe attached to the five grand arms of the service according to the demand.

Unconsciously then, or without much forethought, the battery boys had chosen that branch of the service which would demand study and drill to learn the duties of artillerymen. Therefore the Captain organized an artillery school of instruction for the sergeants and corporals, and artillery tactics were dilligently perused by these non-commissioned officers, that they might be able to instruct the men under them.

The company found at Camp Morton insuffigient shelter from the chilly September winds. Quarters were provided for them in wooden sheds or barracks, without windows or doors, but fortunately a bench and a plank floor. The first a seat, and the last a place to make their beds.

Rations were furnished them at the common 'Cook house' for all the troops, where coffee was made and meat prepared for the thousands of men within the inclosure. A high picket fence surrounded the grounds, and prevented in a measure the boys from straying away, strict orders being issued against leaving camp without a pass. This rule was frequently broken however, and the guilty party paid the penalty by going to the guard-house.

September 15th 1861, The company was formally mustered into the United States service by Lieut'Col'T.J.Wood.U.S.A.

September 19th, They were ordered to move to ''Camp Vajen'' in the north west part of the city.

October 7th. A fine flag was presented to the battery by the Fire Department of Michigan City, an account of which was published in the ''Indianapolis Journal'' and is herewith appended.

Flag Presentation.

HeadQuarters Michigan City Artillery,
Camp Vajen October 9th 1861 .

The morning of the 9th will long be remembered by the members of the ''Michigan City Artillery'' by the presentation of a beautiful flag from the Fire Department of Michigan City. The proceedings were as follows: The company was formed on the parade ground. The flag was brought forward, when three hearty cheers were given for ''Our Flag,'' and the following letter of presentation read by Sergeant H.J.Willits;

Michigan City, October 7th, 1861.

See next page.

Responsive to our countrys call for aid in this the hour of her deepest sorrow and humiliation, magnanimously you have stepped forth from the quiet and pleasant paths of life to mingle in the horrid scenes of war, or die, perchance, on the battle field in her defense.

It may be that no kindly hand willsmooth your couch of death, nor words of love be heard amid the clash of arms and cannons roar. But you have left fond hearts, firm friends at home, ready to welcome your return, or encircle in your memories with unfading wreaths of love and pride.

As a faint token of our regard, willyou please accept the accompanying banner from the Fire Department of Michigan City? feeling, assured, that it will wave over as brave and loyal men as our nation can boast--men who will never listen to the word retreat, but ever shout for victory--and victory can and shall be ours. As the magnetic needle points ever to the north, so the hopes of our national existence can only turn northward; but if her sons fail in courage and duty our glorious "Republic" passes into oblivion. "Tis sadly true our much loved soil, the waters washing our eastern coast, and DeSotos pride-the mighty river of the west, will blush with the crimson dye for the rebellious conduct of many of America's sons. But as the life-blood flows God grant it may restore peace to our land and wash out the blackest stain that ever rested upon our beloved country.

E.F. Simmons,
E.L. Valentine,
John Bluett,
John Kruger,
Wm. Schoenemann,
Committee for Fire Department.

Three deafening cheers were given for the Fire Department of Michigan City, when Capt. Bush took the flag and responded in the following remarks:

In behalf of the Michigan City Artillery, I receive this flag, under which we will fight until it can be calmly unfurled and freely welcomed on every foot of this our once happy land--this emblem which for generations Past has proudly waved over our heads. But look towards the balmy South--behold the palmetto tree and rattle snake. The air we breathe is poisoned with their stench. Fellow soldiers, shall this be? Shall the poisonous fangs of the rattle-snake strike terror and death to the hearts of our free institutions and cause this flag to trail in the dust? It is for you to decide. Willyouallow this flag to be struck to mortal foe while life with you remains? [illegible] No, youwill not; I read the answerin the fire which lights every eye [illegible] on every cheek. Then, fellow-soldiers, let us swear before high Heaven to defend it till its passage shall be undisputed and its presence welcomed on every foot of American soil.

(Every member knelt down, with caps off, right hands uplifted.) They took the following oath:

"You each and every one of you promise and swear that this flag shall never be struck to mortal foe, and that you will defend it while life remains, so help you God."

The company arising to their feet the following members were

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#10 appointed to draft resolutions expressing their gratitude and many thanks in behalf of the company:

L.R.DeGroff, W.H.Abbott, H.H.Woods, H.Turner, C.H.Lockard.

The committee reported the following resolutions,which were adopted:

Resolved, That we appreciate the patriotism and kind feelings exhibited by the Fire Department of Michigan City in presenting us this beautiful flag.

Resolved,That we,as true soldiers ,will fight beneath its folds until it shall be safely carried and freely welcomed in every town and hamlet within our once happy land.

Resolved,That it shall never be disgraced or struck to mortal foe while one of us has life to defend it.

Resolved,That the above proceeding be published in the Indianapolis Journal and Michigan City Enterprise.

Lieut,L.R.DeGroff,
Serg'tW.H.Abbott,
Serg'tH.H.Woods,
Serg't H.Turner,
Serg't C.H.Lockard,
Committee.

October 22nd, The company was supplied with hats and cavalry boots, and November 6th,with uniforms consisting of dark blue jackets,buttoned to the neck with a low collar,and light blue reinforced pants, both striped with red,the artillery color.

November 12th, The battery exchanged the wedge tents in which they had been living since coming to "Camp Vajen,"for large"Bell"tents, accommodating A detachment of fifteen men.

NovemberI3th, They received Six brass cannon ,and the same number of caissons.The cannon consisted of "Two smooth bore six pounder's ",Two six pounder Rifles ",and "Two twelve pounder howitzers". Horses for the guns,caissons,and baggage wagons wereprovided several days previously. Overcoats of a fine quality,light blue in color ,with a long cape reaching down below the arm,and fatigue caps, were issued the same day. The company were now fully equipped with supplies of all kinds,and ready for orders to march.

NovemberI5th,The battery was reviewed mounted ,by Gov'r O.P.Morton, in one of the city parks ,and addressed by him at the "State House ", after which they received orders to proceed to Kentucky. Returning to camp ,every man was soon busy packing his knapsack,sending farewell messages to friends at home,or preparing rations for the journey.

November I6th,Reveille was blown at 4A.M.,and every man was aroused to strike tents,pack baggage wagons, and be ready to move to the depot.

At 9A.M. they bid good bye to " Camp Vajen."and marched to the train, where Guns,Horses,wagonsand men were loaded onto cars ,and were soon off for Jeffersonville,where they arrived about IO P.M.

November I7th, They unloaded camp equipage,guns &c,and moved to Camp "Joe Holt",which was located on the banks of the "Ohio river",on high bluffs,and nearly opposite Louisville Kentucky. Here they remained

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(II until Nov.20th, whentbey crossed the "Ohio river,"by ferry-boat for Louisville, passing through the city about noon to the depot of the Louisville & Nashville Railway,where refreshments were served them by the loyal ladies of that city. Thence the battery marched to camp "Jenkins", four miles south of Louisville.

November 28th , Thursday,Thanks-giving day ,was spent in camp ,the day being rainy and nasty outside. The neigh'boring plantation were however called on to contribute eatables for the d ay,the boys bringing in a supply of Turkeys and Chickens.Detachment A inviting Q.M.Sergeant Willits to dine with them. The 3rd Minnesota and I9th Ohio regiments were encamped near -by ,and the dullness of the day w as enlivened by music from their bands. December 7th, These two regiments left for the front,and the battery moved to a more cheerful place, viz"Camp Gilbert",located 5. miles east of Louisville,and near the river. A Corporal and guard were left behind at "Camp Jenkins"to protect some baggage and stores, and during the quiet hours of the night ,while "Gen'l Mitchell's men of the I5th Indiana regiment were patrolling their beats,and calling off the hours with the refrain,"I2 o'clock and all is well": some of the boys left on guard, captured a hive of honey ;from which they derived much comfort while on duty.

December 9th, The Pay-master arrived ,and paid off the boys, partly in Gold and Silver. Their first pay day.

December IIth, The battery came under the command of "Captain Terrill"of battery H.5th United States regular artillery. One of the first orders issued by the Captain was "Dress Parade"every morning at 9 o'clock, which proved irksome to the raw recruits. They were visited while in this camp by their fellow towns-men H.H.Roberts Leonard Woods and Charles S,Winship, who came down to see how the battery fared.

December I2th,Another new order was promulgated to the battery by Captain Terrill,putting the whole company of enlisted men in one mess, but the arrange'ment not being satisfactory to the boys ,Cap't Bush decided to have them mess by sections of two guns each.

December I6th, Major General "Don C.Buell,the new commander of the Department reviewed all the troops in this camp, several thousands in number,after which the battery received orders to go to Bacon Creek.

December I7th, Reveille was blown at 3.am,tents were struck,baggage packed,andthe company off before daylight.Quietly marching through the streets of the sleeping city to the station of the Louisville and Nashville rail-way,they loaded every-thing on to cars and were off by I0.A.M, arriving at Bacon Creek in the afternoon. There it was reported a fight had taken place that day at "Green river,"I2 miles further south, between Col' Willichs 32nd Indiana regiment,and some Texas rangers.There-upon Capt'Bush ordered the train on to Munfordsville where they were loaded by moonlight.

December I8th, They moved to a camp near town,located on the edge of a cemetery ,whose broken and decayed fence ,and over-turned tombstones ,indicated the character of the Inhabitants of the town as disorderly. Here they came under the command of Gen"l Alexander Mc'D,

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Mc'Cook. Munfordsville ,near which town the troops were now encamped, was a small village, the capital of Hart county Kentucky, on the right bank of Green river, 1oomiles south-west of Frankfort, with a population of about 5oo. Green river a pretty stream with high banks of lime-stone, flows to the west-ward a short distance away.

The country surrounding Munfordsville was of a rolling hilly character, covered by forests of noble trees, while the soil was of a heavy clayey kind very difficult for transportation in wet weather.

The Louisville & Nashville railway passes through the town going south, and crosses Green river over a bridge 120 feet above the boiling water below. This bridge the confederates had endeavored to destroy by buring it, but had only partially succeeded when the union forces drove them away. The Engineers and Mechanics were now busily at work repairing the bridge, and had thrown a pontoon of boats across the stream below, on which infantry and cavalry could cross.

The camping ground selected for the battery was located on a level piece of ground, where very little chance for drainage could be had , and the continous tramping, and driving over the clayey soil made the roads exceedingly muddy and disagreeable. The drinking water for the thousands of men in the encampment, was dipped from pools of stagnent clay colored surface water, where the heavy winter rains had settled after washing down the banks of the neigh'boring hills.

December 24th, The battery went out on "Target practice" with Cap't Terrills regulars, the 4th Indiana quite out-doing the U.S. Troops.

December 25th, Christmas morning, opened bright and beautiful, and the warm rays of a southern sun cheered the hearts of the soldier boys, as they made preparations to keep the day as best they could with oysters from the sutlers, and fowls from their seceesh friends. In the evening a few gathered in the Q.M. Sergeants tent, and talked about the friends at home ,and sang songs familliar to camp and home life.

December 28th Doctor, C.J. Bursly came to the Battery to act as "Contract Surgeon". The boys were glad to welcome him , and to hear the latest news from home . The cold and wet of a Southern winter, and exposure to sudden changes in camp life together with the restriction diet of ~~hard~~ "Bacon and Hard Tack", was having its effects upon the health of the troops, and the battery-men suffered in common with others

A large sick list daily answered the sick call, and D'r, Bursly's assistance was sorely needed upon his arrival at the battery .Severe colds and fevers being prevalent, by the doctors advise a new camp was selected about one mile from town, on a rise of ground where purer water and better accomodations were obtained. January 8th 1862, The company broke camp and moved to their new location, sending a few sick to the hospital. But the diseases incident to the exposure of the old camp followed them to the new, and here they buried one of their number, the first to succumb to disease since their enlistment. Among the number who were seriously sick in this camp and came under the skillful care of the doctor were,

Allen Billings, Benjamin C. Potter, Andrew M'cLain.
Russell Tremaine, John O'Donald, Edmond Jones,
Orren W, Wells, & Edmond O. Corey.

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