



Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Highway
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
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Regimental File Donation Form

Donor Name: Cheryl Tillery

Address: P.O. Box 91

City: Schererville State: IN Zipcode: 46375-0091

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Significant Person's Name: Thomas Prickett

Unit: Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry

List Contents of Donation Below:

- Ninth Indiana Veteran Association 6th Annual Reunion Book
- Letters from Thomas Prickett to his fiancée

Welcome! Comrades,
TO THE
6th Annual Reunion
OF THE
Ninth Indiana Veteran Association

TO BE HELD AT

LaPorte,



Indiana,

August 28th and 29th, 1889.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Capt. L. A. COLE, President.

Genl. I. C. B. SEMAN,

Major GEO. H. CARTER.

Capt. AMASA JOHNSON.

Major J. D. BRADEN.

Corresponding Secretary, ALEX. L. WHITEHALL, Watseka, Ill.

Recording Secretary, Capt. AMASA JOHNSON, Plymouth, Ind.

Treasurer, JOHN LATHROPE, Warsaw, Ind.

Reference to prior summer
week on the battlefield of Shiloh
Battle of Stone River, Jackson
Miss., Ky.
Nashville.

IN MEMORIAM.

BAKER THATCHER.

Company H, 9th Indiana Vet. Vol. Infantry.

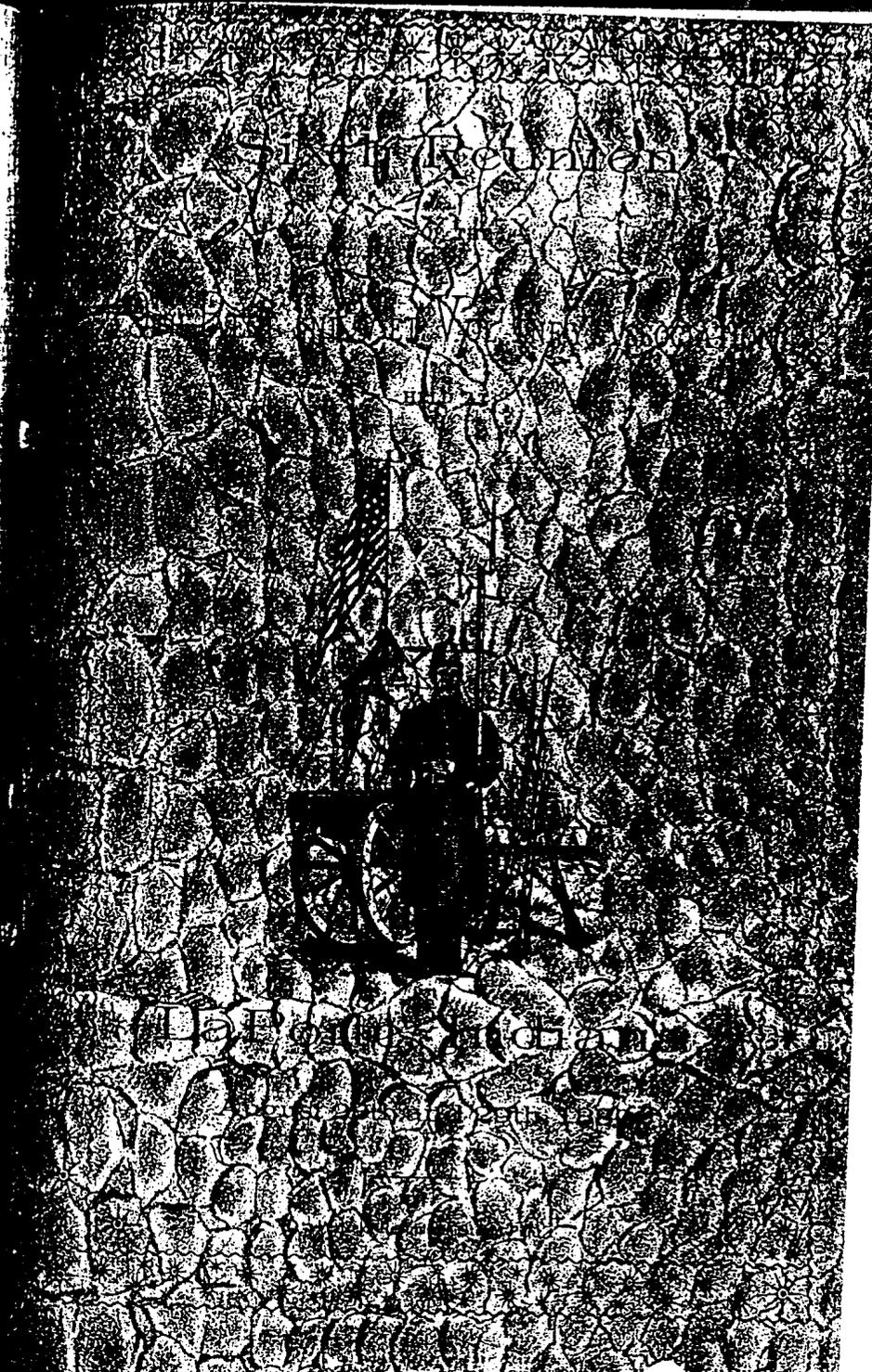
Born July 27th, 1841.

Died July 13th, 1888.

JAMES GUTHRIE.

Sergeant Co. A. 9th Indiana Vet. Vol. Infantry.

Died November 18th, 1888.



Information

LaPorte having once given Free Entertainment to the Ninth since the war it was resolved by our Executive Committee not to again tax the generosity and hospitality of the citizens of LaPorte but to pay our own bills, and arrangements have been made with all the hotels in the city to furnish good accommodations to our members at the reduced rate of one dollar per day. Ample accommodations will be secured for all in attendance. No reduced rates on railways have been secured for the reason that comrades can make up excursion parties and get a rate, and past experience has shown that reduced rates are not accessible to single individuals or very small parties of excursionists for the reason that station agents in the majority of towns are not provided with the certificate showing the purchase of a ticket to the place of meeting. For further information address

ALEX. L. WHITEHALL,

Corresponding Secretary, Watseka, Ill.

SIXTH ANNUAL REUNION

OF THE

9TH REGT. IND. VET. VOL. INF'Y ASSOCIATION

HELD AT

LaPorte, Ind., Aug. 28th and 29th, 1889.

The survivors of the Ninth Indiana held their first reunion as a regiment at LaPorte in August, 1876, being the date of the 15th anniversary of their departure from Camp Colfax, the rendezvous camp of the regiment for the front. The reunion was an impromptu affair but well attended and the veterans were handsomely feasted by the patriotic ladies of LaPorte. Remembering the old associations of 1861, when the three years Ninth spent a few weeks in drill and organization in Camp Colfax under the command of gallant Col. Bob Milroy, the members of the Veteran association of the Ninth looked forward with no little interest and pleasure to the days, when they should again meet old comrades at LaPorte, where 28 years ago, for the first time they slept under the same blanket, and the grand regiment with full ranks of as earnest, intelligent, patriotic and courageous young soldiers as ever faced death on a battle field first dressed up into line in regimental formation.

LaPorte, like the men who went into camp just outside its western limits in 1861, has grown older and is very much changed since then, with its environment of pretty lakes it is one of the handsome cities of Indiana. During the two days of the reunion the weather, was such as

»»» Our History «««

Philippi, Laurel Hill, Carrick's Ford, Green Brier,
 Alleghany Mt., Shiloh, Coriath (seige),
 Danville, Perryville, Stone River, Woodbury,
 Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge,
 Tunnell Hill, Buzzard Roost, Rocky Face, Resaca,
 Adairsville, Cassville, New Hope Church,
 Picketts Mill, Pine Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta,
 Smyrna Camp Ground, Chatahoocchie River,
 Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta (seige), Jonesboro,
 Lovejoy Station, Columbia, Franklin, Nashville.

IN FOLLOWING SOUTHERN STATES:

West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee,
 Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Missouri,
 Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas.

DEAR COMRADES: Again we invite you to our Annual Reunion of the Ninth Regiment Indiana Veteran Infantry Association at LaPorte, Ind., on the 28th and 29th of August 1889.

The members of the Ninth who were in the Regimental Rendezvous at LaPorte in 1861 and who attended the 15th anniversary of the enlistment of the regiment for the three years service will hail with pleasure this opportunity to again revisit LaPorte. A cordial welcome is extended, and comrades you are earnestly besought to once more "fall in" and be counted as "present" at this Sixth Annual Reunion of our Veteran Association.

Fraternally Yours,

ALEX. L. WHITEHALL,
 Cor. Sec'y 9th Ind. Vet. Infy. Association.

»»» Program «««

FIRST DAY.

Comrades and their wives and children will report, upon arrival, at G. A. R. Hall for enrollment and assignment to quarters, after which they will be at their own disposal until 2 P. M., when they will promptly re-assemble at G. A. R. Hall.

Music by the Band, and song by Patton Post Quartet

2:30 P. M. Address of Welcome by Prof. W. H. Hailman, Superintendent of the LaPorte Public Schools.

Response by Capt. D. B. McConnell of Logansport.

3 P. M. Vocal solo by Miss Emma Lathrope, daughter of the Regimental Bugler.

March of the regiment, under command of Col. Sumner, if weather is suitable; otherwise recess till

3:30 to 4:30 P. M. Reports and general business; adjourn for tea.

7:30 P. M. Camp Fire at Opera House, opening with bugle solo by Comrade John Lathrope.

"Trumpet March, the gallant soldier, Liberatti."

Address, General historical sketch of the Regiment, from beginning to end of service, by Comrade Byron A. Dunn, of Co. C.

Short Speeches and Anecdotes, Songs, &c.

SECOND DAY.

8:30 A. M. Roll Call

9 A. M. Election of officers, fixing place of next meeting, and unfinished business.

10 A. M. Address, From close of Braggs' Kentucky campaign to Chickamauga, including Stone River, by Capt. Amasa Johnson.

10:30 A. M. Address, Battle of Nashville, Comrade Alex. L. Whitehall.

Adjournment at will.

one expects in August, clear but warm. The forenoon of the first day was principally taken up with the reception of the members at the depots and escorting them to the Hall of Patton Post G. A. R., regimental headquarters, where the comrades and their families of such as were accompanied by their wives, or wives and children were assigned to quarters in one or the other of the hotels. An arrangement had been made by Major Carter and others of the local committee by which the members of the association and their families were entertained at the Teegarden, European and Standard hotels, all excellent hotels at \$1.00 per day.

The Drum Corps, which met the visiting comrades at the trains was composed of Lieut. Ed Ephlin formerly five major of the regiment and his son Harry and Joseph Brown and as the old boys stepped off to the old time music they realized comrade Ephlin was still able to pull a good deal of music out of that same "chair-round" he used to carry in his blouse sleeve down in Dixie.

By 11 o'clock the majority of the veterans had registered, paid their annual dues and donned one of the handsomest regimental badges it has ever been their fortune to wear and which will be carefully laid by as a souvenir well worth preserving. For the benefit of comrades who were absent we will attempt a description of this handsome little memento of the occasion. It was of white satin gros grain ribbon attached to an emblematic gilt pin. Printed on the badge was the triangle of the fourth corps with an inner triangle or red representing the 1st division of the corps, to which the regiment was attached in '64 and '65. Following the usual inscription under the head of "Our Record" was a list of the battles participated in by the Ninth. The badges of the officers of the association had a fringe of gold bullion at the bottom. We are advised that comrades Sam Kessler one of the editors of the Argus late a Corpo-

ral in Co. C., and Geo. I. Badger of I— designed the badges and had them prepared.

Col. Suman, in company with several other comrades, made his appearance at headquarters early in the forenoon carrying an oaken stick of historical interest about which we shall hear further on. It may not be amiss to here state that before leaving Valparaiso he had explained to Comrades Whitehall and Ed. L. D. Foster and Mrs. Whitehall, who were his guests, something of the history of this stick of oak, and remarked that he "had a mind to carry it over to LaPorte to the carriage shops and have it turned and polished up for a walking stick," and his guests urged him to do so, but on arriving at the depot the Colonel turned to his son Frank as he was about to go aboard the train and said, "Here, Frank, I don't believe I want to be bothered with this stick; you may carry it back to the house with you." To this all three of his friends demanded and Mrs. Whitehall especially urged him to carry it over and have a nice cane made of it as he had thought of, and finally he got aboard carrying the oaken staff with him, and after the boys had shaken hands with him they began to inquire about the "shillalah" he was "toting around" and he explained it was out of the boat built by the Chief Little Turtle and sunk by "Mad" Anthony Wayne when the wily red man sought to capture a fort Wayne was holding near the present site of the city of Fort Wayne during Indian wars in the last years of the last century, and he brought the stick over to have some of the carriage workers turn it down into proper shape for a walking stick and sometime he would put a head on it and have a good, stout cane. Ephlin, Cole, Kessler and some of the other comrades seemed to have an idea strike them as soon as they learned the Colonel prized that stick and some of them said "Why, yes, Colonel, we will take the stick over to the shops and get it fixed up for you in good shape. Glad you brought it along." The Colonel

yielded up the eight-sided piece of oak which, from lying under water so many years had assumed a dove color, to some of the LaPorte boys with the air of a man who had just relieved himself of a great responsibility, and for further particulars concerning said stick, see subsequent pages.

A very pleasant feature of the reunions of the Ninth is the attendance of many of the wives and children of the comrades and at the hotels the ladies were renewing acquaintances and having a real good visit, while at the headquarters the old vets. were broken into groups, swapping army yarns at a 2:40 gait. Captain Cole, the President of the Association, a few weeks preceding the reunion had suffered a slight paralytic stroke and was very weak and feeble, looking but glad to be with the boys who were pained to note the feebleness of their old friend and favorite. Major Carter, just as fat, jolly and whole-souled as in days of yore, and bearing his years well, was, with Comrades Ephlin, Badger and others, hustling around to see that comrades were provided for at the hotels. Among those of Company F who yet live at LaPorte, is the brave Sergeant Tom. Ball, rendered a hopeless cripple by rebel bullets at Green Brier, who, in spite of his great infirmity as he sat among the comrades accompanied by his faithful wife, seemed to live the fighting days of his life over again. Up to noon of the first day about three-fourths of those in attendance had arrived and registered. A son of Captain Cole, a worthy son of a veteran, kept a roster of the veterans and supplied the badges.

AFTERNOON.

The program provided for the exercises to begin at 2:30 p. m., but in order to give the comrades from Plymouth and Logansport an opportunity to procure dinner, the exercises were deferred one hour. Inasmuch as some of the comrades of Patton Post Quartet were in attend-

ance upon the National Encampment of the G. A. R. at Milwaukee, Wis., the local committee were balked in their effort to furnish vocal music during the sessions and the Committee and President insisted upon Mrs. Whitehall and Miss Nora Carter (daughter of the Major) coming to the rescue of the regiment and considering themselves "drafted into service" as principal musicians in conjunction with Chief Bugler Johnnie Lathrope.

Capt. L. A. Cole, President of the Association, after Lathrope had sounded the assembly, called the meeting to order, and after expressing to the members and visitors his regret at being in such a condition of health that he could not actively participate in the meeting and could not preside all the time, excused himself from the duties of the chair for the afternoon session by detailing Major Geo. H. Carter to act in his stead. Major Carter upon taking the chair, said the program laid down by the committee would be carried out as far as practicable and announced a solo by Mrs. Whitehall.

Mrs. W. sang the "Little Major," Miss Nora Carter presiding at the organ.

A WELCOME ADDRESS

was then delivered by Dr. Geo. L. Andrews, of LaPorte, Sanitary Inspector of the U. S. Sanitary Commission from 1861 to 1864, which address was as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Ninth Indiana Veteran Association:

Your 6th annual reunion brings you back to the place of your rendezvous, and we are within a few days of the 28th anniversary of your departure as a reorganized regiment for the seat of war. The experience of those who were in its three months service, which might properly be termed its preparatory school, had shown something of the grm features of war, and those who re-enlisted well knew that it was not altogether a picnic upon which they were embarking. During the three months which you remember were uncommonly long months, you had had

more than a taste of hard tack and salt horse, had tried the numerous and various kinds of sleeping arrangements within the reach of the soldier at the front without becoming greatly attached to any of them, had found that scouting, foraging, picket duty, fatigue duty, drill, cooking such food as you could get and the thousand peculiarities of the military life in war time, all of which were new and strange to you, were none of them altogether lovely. Whatever the opinions of those who went, or of those who stayed at home, regarding the three months service, no one could or did fail to realize that an enlistment "for three years or the war" meant hardship, privation, exposure to danger and death in a thousand forms.

It was the good fortune of the Ninth Indiana during its three months' service to modify history in a very important particular. Without intending in the least to trench upon the rights of your historian, I beg leave to refer to a few prominent facts which characterized that campaign without attempting to describe them. Western Virginia was regarded in the Confederate Councils as a natural line of cleavage where an entering wedge well driven would split off the East from the West. In accordance with this idea their forces had been pushed up as far as Philippi, only 12 miles from their objective point on the B. & O. R. R., at Grafton. To meet this movement Col. Kelly, under a pretense of an advance upon Harper's Ferry, started on a train Eastward on the morning of June 2d, and on the evening of the same day a similar detachment including your regiment started Westward. Both columns, however, soon left the cars and by converging roads began a rapid march against Philippi. Those of you who were there remember well the furious rain storm which drove in your faces and converted the roads into quagmires. But this apparently unfortunate circumstance had its compensation, the enemy was not expecting you, in fact was completely surprised and without stopping to discuss the order of their going, they went, every man for himself. The casualties were few, but the ridicule implied in the term which described the engagement—"the Philippi Races" hurt the enemy more than a much larger casualty list would have done. To repair the disaster and to prevent our advance the rebel government sent Gens. Wise and Garnett to supersede

3 Mo. Philippi

the unlucky Porterfield and to gather together his scattered command. These were found in the Cheat River valley in a district of which Beverly was the center. Of the two mountain passes near this place Gen. Garnett then wrote: "I regard these two passes as the gates to the North-western country." That was also the opinion of our commander and the best efforts of both sides were made for the possession of these strategic points. The battles on Laurel Hill, Rich Mountain and at Carrick's Ford decided the question in favor of the Union. Of this campaign Nicolay says this in his outbreak of the Rebellion. "Counted according to mere numbers these battles fall into a ridiculous insignificance in contrast with the great battles of the rebellion during the next three years. Hundreds of engagements of greater magnitude and much more serious loss of life preceded or followed the main contests of the war of which history will hardly make a note. But these petty skirmishes with a few hundred rebels on Rich Mountain and this rout of a little rear guard at Carrick's Ford were speedily followed by large political and military results. They closed a campaign, dispersed a rebel army, recovered a disputed state and permanently pushed back the military frontier." By this success also the Union sentiment of western Virginia was so encouraged that about forty counties of Virginia lying between the crest of the Alleghenies and the Ohio River met in formal convention repudiated the treasonable usurpation of the Richmond government and reorganized under the old flag.

Thus does history repeat herself. In the war of the Revolution the British plan of campaign for the separation of New York from New England was almost the exact counterpart of that which during our Civil War had for its object the separation of Pennsylvania and the East from Ohio and the West. The defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga by thwarting this well conceived plan and because of the momentous consequences following it, has been classed as one of the fifteen "decisive battles of the world." Scarcely less important was the series of engagements in western Virginia in July 1861 which ended with the death of the insurgent leader Garnett and the dispersion of his army.

It is true that afterwards came Greenbrier, Alleghany

A

Summit:—came various futile efforts of Wise, Floyd and Lee which were met and repulsed by our army, composed mainly of Western men and led by Gens. Cox, Rosecrans and Milroy. With the ebb and flow of military movement the enemy was gradually driven out of the Kanawha country leaving the reconstructed State in our hands, with its inherent Union sentiment strengthened and the new State government consolidated and finally admitted as a separate member of the federal union a year later.

In these stirring and decisive events it was the good fortune of the Ninth Indiana to bear a prominent part. In its after career battles were fought in which there were as many army corps engaged as there were regiments in this campaign but which were fruitless of results, whilst this campaign of our three months' men fixed the political status of a State, encouraged the friends of the Union everywhere, and threw a corresponding despondency over the ranks of the enemy. The gallant Hoosiers had fairly earned, as they fully received the gratitude of the country, and it was with special thanksgiving that LaPorte welcomed its home company, Co. F., in its entirety, not a man killed, wounded or missing.

The Ninth Indiana, even in its three months service gained a character which it held throughout the war, as a "fighting regiment," and no one who looked upon that grim soldier on horseback who led you away from us to the scene of your former triumphs would doubt that the term "the bloody Ninth" would befit your regiment should opportunity offer. And offer it did; before its muster out of the service at the end of the war it had done gallant service in eleven insurgent States. And what a record it made. It did gallant duty in thirty-four engagements, some of them among the heaviest of the war, appropriately ended its active career in the crushing blow dealt the army of Hood at Franklin followed soon after by its utter rout and destruction at Nashville. Well had it earned the rest which even such men of action could enjoy whilst Sherman, having penetrated the shell of the confederacy at Atlanta was on his march to the sea and to the capitulation of Johnson and the collapse of the rebellion.

The immunity which your regiment had experienced during its three months' service in western Virginia was

not repeated on the grander and more extended field of operation. During the next four years death in many forms was very busy with your membership. I would like to recall the names of your dead heroes, but the list is too long and selection might be regarded as invidious. All should be named or none, where all are equally deserving. I feel that the soldier shot down in his place, buried as unknown and so included in the casualty report, only as one of so many killed or missing, is entitled to as deep and heartfelt thanks as the commander who fell at the head of the host and whose glories are blazoned on the eternal granite.

The severest test a nation can undergo is the test of civil war. External wars have created, built up, solidified nations, but a nation must have wonderful elements of innate vitality to endure the strain of internecine strife. Ours was civil war on a scale unexampled in history. During the seven years' war of our independence only about 232,000 men, all told, were brought into action, and never was more than a very small proportion of that number engaged at a time. The war of the rebellion called into requisition on our side more than two and a half millions, and it is not the least of the glory that attaches to the volunteer soldier that at the end of this tremendous struggle, this great army was quietly merged into the body politic and a half million of men, without a jar to the social or political fabric, showed a wondering world the entire compatibility between good citizenship and the highest soldierly qualities.

I have said that the Ninth Indiana early in the war got the reputation of a *fighting* regiment. This is your day and occasion, but you will heartily agree with me when I say that in this respect it did not stand alone—it had a good deal of company. That was the feeling of President Lincoln, which after his hope in God, bore him up in the days of darkest gloom. Once, when the air of Washington City was thick with news of disaster to Sherman's army, the President expressed his doubt in his characteristic manner: "I don't believe it, for there's a mighty sight of fight in a hundred thousand western men."

But I am reminded that these remarks of mine should be brief. LaPorte has always claimed the Ninth as her

own. She watched your re-organization with deep interest; she looked upon your departure through tears; followed you with her prayers; watched your progress through the war with pride; rejoiced in your successes and mourned your losses. I am here today to give feeble expression of her gratitude to you for what you were and did; to extend to you a hearty welcome home, and to wish you a happy reunion and many returns of the occasion.

CAPT. D. B. MCCONNELL,

Circuit Judge at Logansport, on behalf of the regiment, responded as follows :

Mr. President, Comrades and Ladies:

The Ninth regiment as a three year organization, you may well say was born here at LaPorte in August, 1861, and from this fact alone we are glad to be here and we feel welcome. We have, sir, not forgotten LaPorte's welcome to us in those early days of our regiment's life and we do not need a welcome in words to assure us that the Ninth is welcomed back upon this occasion to the place of its birth.

We have not forgotten the kindly interest of the citizens of LaPorte in us as we marched from our camp to the depot to embark for the front. We have not forgotten the grand sight that presented itself to us as we marched through your streets, lined thick as they were with your patriotic people who had swarmed in great numbers to bid a God speed to the Ninth regiment. We remember how your people looked upon the regiment as it filed past them and on down to the cars to be swiftly borne to the field of strife in Western Virginia, how deeply you were concerned in our welfare, and above all how anxious you were that we should prove good soldiers, and as your sons and brothers wipe out as Indians, the stain cast upon our brave men at Buena Vista by the lying lips of the chief conspirator in the great rebellion and while there were cheers given as the column moved to the depot, and many sad eyes looked for the last time on dear ones that touched elbows in our ranks, we well remember that frequent calls were made to us "Boys don't forget Buena Vista," and we did not forget Buena Vista, for our men as an inspiration to brave deeds shouted "Buena Vista" on going into action on several of the early battlefields. And that stain upon Indiana's honor—that

Danville
Ky

false imputation upon the manhood and courage of our state, was most grandly wiped out upon almost every battlefield in the South. The rebels found to their sorrow that when they met Indianians they could and would fight. Well and brightly does that day of parting with you dwell in our memory. I can recall but one scene in our military life equal to it. You remember my comrades in 1862, when our regiment charged through Danville, Ky., the whole regiment advancing as skirmishers, you remember how many of the loyal and devoted women of Danville, exposing themselves to great danger, came to their doors in the very teeth of rebel bullets, and cheered us on while we were engaged in driving the strong forces of rebels through the town, and how handsomely we were entertained by those brave ladies when we returned to the town. How they appeared in their doors waving Union flags, and how they feasted us on the very best things that good cooks can turn out, and how they talked about the handsome manner in which we had rid their town of their enemies, that in the very midst of their boasting we had chased from their very doors. They said why before you men came here the rebels boasted that one rebel could whip five Yankees and this morning we saw with our own eyes five hundred Yankee riflemen run out of the town 3,500 rebels and you didn't hardly have to fire a shot either, you remember boys that nothing in the line of cookery or eatables was too good for a 9th Indiana man in the estimation of those charming ladies of Danville when we got back from that skirmish. And in this many of us were reminded of the reception we had received at the hands of the good loyal ladies of LaPorte that day we left your town for the front.

For my comrades of the regiment I can say that we expected a cordial reception on this occasion from the good people of LaPorte and I can further say we have not been disappointed. Every place where we have held these reunions we have had these hearty receptions.

From the generation born since the close of the great war I am glad to say that we have received in every instance as cordial a greeting as from those who witnessed the going to battle of this and other regiments of good and true men, to fight and many of them to die for their country. I may say this is none the less pleasing to the

Mexican War The 7th Ind. 3rd
did not show well.

old soldier either, for it is an evidence to him that love of country and of the old flag, prevails as well in the hearts of this generation as it did in the hearts of those who lived during the great struggle for national existence.

All these attentions, and all these manifestations of love for the old soldiers living and dead, all the acts for the relief of our suffering comrades who were unfortunate in battle, or were dragged down by disease while in line of duty, or broken in health while confined in rebel prisons are to us soldiers precious proofs of the regard for the old soldier borne in the breasts of the people of this part of our state, and made manifest in a very striking way by these cordial and hearty receptions accorded to the Ninth here at LaPorte and every other place where we have met in reunion.

In making us welcome to LaPorte, where, as I said in the outset, the regiment had its birth some twenty-eight years ago this month, you have done well; and the selection of your orator to voice that welcome is indeed a fitting selection, for who of us have not some reason to remember what our state and country did for us through the sanitary and christian commissions. And your spokesman was active in bringing to our sick and wounded comrades, food and clothing and creature comforts that made hospital life more endurable, and very often brought health and strength where the sufferer must have perished had it not been for the Sanitary, or its Sister in Mercy, the Christian Commissions. And the soldiers in the field often rejoiced in the possession of necessaries supplied by these beneficent agencies attainable to them at the time in no other way.

To select as I have said a man who was active in carrying forward, this grand relief work to voice your welcome to us at this time is an eminently proper selection.

We are fellow citizens, proud that we are Americans, and proud of our country's emblem—the old flag—that has cost the old soldier so much to protect from dishonor, and yet for all, he loves the old stars and stripes as dearly as if it were a thing of life. And we are glad to see that this generation seems to prize our dear old banner which to us old soldiers is the handsomest flag that floats. And if there is a man, woman or child in this country that can look on our Nation's ensign without a thrill of pride we

are confident that that individual has never received that patriotic awakening that comes to the heart of every true American. We love it because it is representative of America, and all that follows in the line of liberty. And the Sanitary Commission and its co-worker, the Christian Commission, were peculiarly American institutions, and as such, we are proud of them and their noble record of charity and good works done in our hour of greatest peril. Until our great war, nothing similar was known to civilization, and while they are now reproduced and engrafted into the great military systems of the great powers in Europe, still it is acknowledged that they are but copies of ours. We rejoice in the noble work they accomplished as the active agents in the field and camp of our loving women and children at home in their blessed work of mercy. During that long and bloody war in which these comrades had their part as good faithful soldiers, while they were at the front the dear hearts at home were working to prepare for them or their dear suffering comrades clothing, food or other necessaries, that were carried to them at the front by these charitable commissions. Comrades, we say God bless them for a noble, merciful service well rendered.

Comrades I congratulate you and myself that so many of us are able to be here today after twenty-eight years to enjoy this welcome. We cannot, if we would, disguise the fact that our ranks are growing thinner each year. The soldiers of '61 to '65 are fast passing away and we shall not many more years be permitted to enjoy such a welcome as has been accorded us here, and at our former gatherings in this part of our State, from which our regiment was recruited. Realizing this, let us accept and enjoy in the spirit in which it is tendered us by our friends of LaPorte this feeling welcome extended to us as survivors of the old Ninth regiment able to be present at this reunion.

At the conclusion of the response of Judge McConnell, Comrade John Lathrope executed a bugle solo, assisted by Miss Nora Carter on the organ.

Owing to the extreme heat it was decided to postpone the business meeting until an early hour tomorrow and the Association adjourned till 7 o'clock, p. m. to meet at headquarters and march to the Opera House.

EVENING EXERCISES.

Promptly at 7 o'clock the members of the regiment assembled at the Hall of Patton Post, and a few moments later formed into column of twos and under command of Gen. Suman marched to the Opera House, the drum corps and LaPorte City Band leading the column, with excellent "marching music," as the comrades expressed it.

Seats for the veterans and their families had been reserved in the body of the hall next to the stage. The Ninth filed in and occupied the space assigned and the other portions of the handsome Opera House were filled with citizens of LaPorte. Captains Cole and McConnell were slow in making their appearance, doubtless concocting the clever surprise they had arranged to spring on Gen. Suman during the progress of the Camp-fire. Meantime the LaPorte City Band had taken position on the stage and Prof. Wm. Reed directing the band, rendered a voluntary that received a shower of applause, our Johnnie of course taking "A horn with the boys," at the beginning satisfied the LaPorte folks that the old leader of the Ninth band was in himself a regular musical host as it were.

At 8 o'clock Capt. Cole called the meeting to order and announced as the opening exercise, a bugle solo by Chief Bugler John Lathrope, and Comrade Lathrope, with a new silver bugle in hand, rendered a Trumpet March entitled "The Gallant Liberatta," accompanied by the band. Johnnie fairly excelled himself and of course brought down the house.

President Cole announced that he was sorry to say that Comrade Byron A. Dunn, a gallant soldier of the Ninth and an excellent speaker, who had been detailed to open the Camp-fire with a historical sketch of the services of the regiment from its muster in to its muster out, had been unable to attend the reunion and at a late hour he had notified an old veteran and friend of the regiment that he

would be expected to open the Camp-fire in a short speech and he would now introduce his old friend

REV. GIDEON F. BRAYTON,

formerly Chaplain of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry. The Chaplain who is a tall well-preserved specimen of the old-time preacher, wearing long white chin whiskers, advanced to the front of the stage and said :

Upon this occasion and in the presence of these men of the old Ninth, he felt a good deal like the boy who at the command of his teacher pranced forth into the middle of the school room as "bold as a sheep," and after making a bow after the fashion of a "jack knife" shutting to, began in a very loud voice, "Mary had a little lamb"—at which point his courage began to slip away from him and render him quite lamb-like, and forgetting his piece he stammered out in a much more subdued tone of voice, "Mary had—a—little—lamb—boo—hoo—teacher I can't speak. [Laughter.] Yet when I look into the faces of these survivors of the bloody Ninth Indiana, I know I am talking to as true and tried soldiers as the state of Indiana sent to the war. You were one of the first regiments in the field and under the military superintendence of your grand Colonel in the three months' service and later in the three years' service, you fully met the expectation of your friends. You men know what you did, but for the information of some of our people here, who are not so well acquainted with you and what you did in the war, as some of us older ones, I will read an account of your services as shown by the records of our state (the speaker then read an extract from the Report of the Adjutant General of Ind.) Such my friends in a brief way is what the record shows to be a history of the Ninth, but these older people know personally the brave part these men here tonight enlisted from northwest Indiana, performed in the war. I want now to talk a few words to you old soldiers of the Ninth. I have a right to fellowship you as we are Hoos-

iers—that is, you are born Hoosiers and I am a Hoosier by adoption, and during the war for the Union myself and a company from Valparaiso served in a cavalry regiment credited to our sister state of Illinois, yet we kept an eye on our Hoosier regiments and we can say of the Ninth that it bravely wiped out the calumny sought to be cast upon Indiana soldiers at Buena Vista. Boys it is natural for us all to think ours was the best regiment in the whole army, and in that respect we were very much like a family strongly bound together by the ties of affection, affinity, and consanguinity; and so strong was this feeling among us old soldiers in our regimental family, that if you insulted a man in the regiment you insulted the whole regiment, and you were apt to have a good-sized fight on your hands, and it is largely this old feeling of friendship and a determination to stand by one another through life that brings you here tonight in reunion. Boys I am glad to see so many of you alive when I know what you passed through. It is a long time since you were mustered in as soldiers of your country, but with all of you it won't be very much longer until you are mustered out here and mustered into the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Comrades you started out under the command of a born leader, I knew Robert H. Milroy well I now recall a little incident that illustrates the character of the man. During the gloomy days in the early part of the war when union defeats were too common and our people were almost discouraged, we held a big war meeting at Valparaiso to raise more men, and Gen. Milroy was to make a speech at ten o'clock in the forenoon. That hour came and a great crowd had gathered to hear Milroy, who did not get there till two o'clock in the afternoon, and then the people clamored for a speech, a speech, from Milroy. The old fighter at last came on the platform and I tell you boys there was fire in his eye, and impatience in his whole manner, as in his shrill voice he said, "You want me to

make a speech, this is no time for a speech, the old ship of state is on fire in mid-ocean and we want to know who will save the ship."

Milroy scented the battle from afar, he knew the Southern character and knew they meant disunion, and as early as February, 1861, he published an address in his town paper, the *Rensselaer Gazette*, calling upon all patriotic men to form themselves into a military company and be ready to defend the Union when the crisis came as it surely would. I will read you old followers of Milroy that warning note of danger and appeal to arms. (Here the speaker read a copy of the article of Milroy in the *Rensselaer Gazette*.) Do not these words of your old commander seem prophetic in the light of what followed?

Yes gentlemen, Robert H. Milroy was a patriot and a brave man, and a fit man to train you for the hard fighting you afterwards had to do, and now boys I am talking longer than I ought to, our folks want to hear from some of your men who make speeches, and I will give way to some man from the old Ninth. I am thankful to Capt. Cole for the privilege of speaking to you upon this occasion.

MAJ. GEO. H. CARTER

was next called upon for a speech, and after repeated calls rose in his place and stated he was no speaker, but was glad to again meet with the Ninth comrades at LaPorte. The Major spoke in a low tone of voice and the reporter was wholly unable to hear him, but we know what he did say roused the hearty applause of comrades near him who heard his remarks.

MISS NORA CARTER

sang in a charming manner a solo entitled "Company B," with accompaniment on the organ by a young lady of LaPorte, whose name we have been unable to obtain.

Formation
of
Company
of Home
Guards
"Militia"
before war
by Robert H.
Milroy.

QUARTERMASTER KELLY

being ordered to "stand up" by the President said:
Comrades, Ladies and Gentlemen.

If I could make a speech I would on this occasion make you the very best speech I could. I can only say that here in LaPorte, 28 years ago we boys of the Ninth, for we were mostly young men then, held up our hands and solemnly swore that no star should be blotted from our flag, and comrades we faithfully kept that pledge. Though many a gallant, noble-hearted, loving lad went down on the bloody field of battle or closed his eyes in death in the hospital in helping us to keep our sacred pledge, but the pledge was kept and no star was blotted from the flag by traitor hands, but several more bright ones have been added. Comrades, oh! how sadly we miss our brave comrades who laid down their lives a willing sacrifice to keep our pledge sacred. Many, very many of them went down in that awful struggle, but I am glad when I think of it so many of us lived to get home. I remember the kindness shown us by the ladies of LaPorte and other good Union ladies treated us very kindly. I remember, boys, how while we were passing through Ohio to West Virginia how as we moved off to take the cars for the front some of those splendid Buckeye girls in the very fullness of their patriotic devotion and love for the defenders of the stars and stripes actually came forward and kissed some of the boys in our ranks as affectionately as our own sisters could have done. The women were excuseable, for our boys were good looking and as true-hearted and loyal young fellows as ever wore the blue.

To the question what regiment? I have always answered with pride, I belonged to the Ninth Indiana (cheers) and as long as I live and can get the money necessary to come to these reunions of the old regiment I shall be with my old comrades at these meetings. (Applause.)

After music by LaPorte City Band

CAPT. W. H. MERRITT

very reluctantly stood up in his place at the command of the President, supplemented by the calls of comrades and said:

I don't know why I am called upon; the comrades and

Capt. Cole well know I can't make a speech and it's not worth while for me to try. Since I am on my feet I will say that I enlisted at Laporte and left here for the front 28 years ago as first lieutenant of Company E, the company raised here at Laporte and in this county. I was not much acquainted and I really felt quite lonesome when we marched down the street to the depot and so many of the boys of the company were bidding their friends good-bye and gave a farewell kiss to their sisters and their cousins. Capt. Carter said, "Lieutenant, you take charge of the company," and he skipped out to say good-bye to his best girl, and as I marched the boys down to the depot I suppose I must have looked about as lonesome as I felt. Some young lady came up to me and threw her arms around my neck and gave me a good-bye kiss. I didn't know her then and don't to this day, but I want to say right here, with my wife sitting behind me, that if that same young lady wants to kiss me again she has my permission. (Laughter.)

Mrs. Alice Whitehall was introduced by President Cole and sang "My Soldier Boy," Miss Nora Carter playing the accompaniment. The solo was heartily applauded.

Capt. Cole then introduced the husband of this lady and assured the audience he could talk just as nicely as the wife could sing. Our effort fortunately was not reported, and we shall always cherish a kindly remembrance of the Laporte people for the patience they exhibited toward us that evening.

CAPT. COLE

said ladies and gentlemen there was just one thing that made good soldiers and that made them a power, and which made 100,000 men move as one man, and that one thing was obedience. I have now my eye upon a man whom it was the duty as well as the pleasure of the Ninth Indiana to obey, and one whom I in common with you my comrades had to obey, and a man who never failed in his obedience to superiors, or those whom it was his duty to obey, and tonight boys he stands in the ranks along with you, and by your orders I have the right to command him

to obey, for Colonel Suman "I am in the saddle tonight sir" and I command you sir, that you come up here and face this audience and speak to them, they want to see you and want to hear you. (Cries of Suman, Suman.) He is coming boys, I knew he was too good a soldier to disobey a positive command. Ladies and gentlemen, General I. C. B. Suman, of Valparaiso, late commander of our Ninth Indiana.

GEN. SUMAN

advanced to the front of the stage and bowing to the audience, as soon as the applause had subsided, said, Capt. Cole this may be very pleasant to you, and some of these other comrades who are accustomed to speech making to take this advantage of me. I just want you good people of LaPorte to understand that while I am glad, very glad, of this opportunity to meet you, I am no speaker, those who know me understand that fact. I am simply a sort of a farmer like some of the rest of these old comrades I see before me, and of course I ought not to be expected to make a speech, I always leave that to these lawyers and ministers that make a business of talking. I am generally a pretty good listener at one of these reunions. Before the war I was a young mechanic and had to earn a living and gave no attention to speech making. I will say to these young men and boys that my father died when I was yet a child, and born as I was in a slave state, as I grew to manhood I looked around me and saw that in a state cursed by slave labor there was little hope or choice for a young man compelled to win his way by working with his hands and so bidding my good, old mother good-bye, left Maryland and came west, working upon a railroad, landing in Laporte in 1852. I stayed but a short time and finally settled down for a few months in Porter county over here, and began to learn the carpenter's trade. I worked a while at my trade at Valparaiso and then drifted over the line into Illinois, while the Illinois Central was being built and worked awhile at my trade in Kankakee and then returned to Porter county, and when the war broke out enlisted in the Ninth in the three months' service and finding the rebellion not suppressed at the expiration of our three months' service in which the Ninth took an active part in

Little
Turtle

West Virginia, I being a lieutenant of a company from Porter county on the muster out of our three months' regiment, I recruited Company H in Porter county and went into the three years' service in command of a company of splendid young men, sons of some of our best people; and boys, instead of leaving my best girl behind me, I married her just before starting and left my young wife for the front in a few hours after we were made one. So as I went into war a married man I of course did not come in for any of the hugging and kissing these comrades have been telling about. That was all monopolized by the good looking single men of the Ninth, and I don't blame the girls, for the boys were good looking and I always felt a little vain over my boys. They were a jolly, brave lot of boys, these same boys you see before you tonight and their comrades. I could always depend on these men and while I was the Colonel, they are the fellows that faced the danger and did the fighting. The Colonels, you know, always stayed behind the regiment, so you see I had these fellows between me and the rebels, and ladies and gentlemen, as I said before, I could depend on my boys and though I did sometimes get into some pretty tight places, I could always rely on the Ninth getting me out. At Chickamauga, boys, you know what a tight place we got into there on the last day's fight and I shall never forget how nicely Capt. McConnell helped me and the rest of you out of a tight place with the two companies he had under him, holding the rebels back till we got out onto the road and fell back in the night toward Chattanooga, and by the way Capt. McConnell can make a good speech and as he helped me out of that tight place I think I will just call on him to help me out of a tight place now by finishing this speech of mine, so ladies and gentlemen I will call upon the Captain to take my place. * *

At this point General Suman stepped back upon the stage and taking the left arm of Capt. D. B. McConnell, who carried at his right side with his slouch hat in right hand hiding the gold head—the General's oaken stick he had sent by one of the boys early in the day to have made into a walking stick at one of the carriage shops—the wily Captain knowing his unsuspecting Colonel was play-

Capt. recruited by I. C. B. Suman
for 3 yr. Service

ing right into his hand, as the one delegated to make the presentation speech, very complaisantly took the arm of his old commander and advancing to the front of the stage General Suman very handsomely introduced Capt. McConnell and making his best bow sought to withdraw his arm from that of his comrade, but found it quite firmly locked there. Gen. Suman was beginning to show a good deal of color in his face about the time Capt. McConnell had finished telling the audience that it was a real pleasure to him under the circumstances to be called upon by his old Colonel to "help him out of a tight place," and having seen the Colonel under fire before, he would say that he now had him just where he wanted him. The speaker then alluded to the early history of Indiana when its northeastern portion was the frontier line of the young Republic. How the red men under the leadership of that Indian Napoleon, Little Turtle, had succeeded in defeating armies sent against them, under the command respectively of Generals Wilkinson, Harmer and St. Clair, until Mad Anthony Wayne succeeded to the command and established Fort Wayne at the confluence of the St. Mary's with the Wabash River; how at one time the garrison of that fort was beleaguered by Little Turtle; that one part of the fort was only protected by the St. Mary's river, which flowed by with full banks; how Little Turtle at one time (during the seige) succeeded in getting possession of a large but clumsily built boat from the whites by which he would be enabled in the night time to transport his force across the river and assemble them opposite to the unprotected side of the fort; how General Wayne, as common report has it, sunk that boat with his artillery and defeated Little Turtle; how that boat lay there at the bottom of the St. Marys' river for sixty years; how it was then raised and its timbers found to be sound, changed in color, perhaps, but still sound; how a few years before General Suman had been visiting at Fort Wayne and had made the ac-

quaintance of a lady who said she was born in the old fort during that seige, and upon his expressing a wish to have a piece of that old boat as a relic; how some one of the by-standers had said that his father had a large beam of the old boat and that he would get him a piece of it and actually did get him a piece of the beam by chopping, splitting and sawing, a rough ungainly stick about long enough for a cane; how the General had kept that stick for two or three years until that morning he bethought himself of it, and said that he would take it with him to LaPorte where there were workmen suitable and have a cane of it; how he did bring it, and how the boys got hold of it, and hearing that he wanted a cane made of it, had undertaken to have it attended to; how with the idea came the wish to make something nice of it as a testimonial of their love and affection for General Suman; how they had chipped in, and had it turned and polished, a gold head put upon it, a steel point put to it, and in seven hours had transformed it from the ugly discolored, but historical oak stick, into this beautiful cane, "which I now exhibit to "this audience, and am commissioned to present to Gen. "Suman. And now sir permit me to present this cane. "It has been touched by the magic hand of love, and it "comes to you beautified by the affection of those who "served with you through the scenes which tried men, and "proved the stuff of which they were made; it is presented "by them to that which is good in you, with it goes the "assurance that all else is buried and forgotten. Take it "sir! and may it be a staff to your declining years; and "when the evening of life shall come to you, and you find "yourself tottering on the shores of *that dark and unknown "sea, which floats around all the world*, all of your com- "rades, as it may be, having gone before you, lean upon "it; and as you lean upon it remember these whose hands "have touched it in love for you. And you are always to "remember that their full, hearty, best wishes for your

"welfare and happiness and the welfare and happiness of
"yours, goes with you forever."

GENERAL SUMAN'S REPLY.

The large audience who listened so intently to the admirable and glowing words of Judge McConnell as he feelingly and eloquently voiced the tribute of the brave, honest hearts about him, and his own, to the stout-hearted commander of the old Ninth, will endorse the assertion that the man who never blanched in the face of deadly danger, grew pale with the emotions that welled up in his breast at this unexpected little exhibition of the love of the old boys for him. When the comrade, who "with two companies" had helped his Colonel out of a close place at Chickamauga, had concluded his splendid speech, the thought of every Ninth man was, "Captain, as our spokesman, you have acquitted yourself as handsomely in the performance of this more pleasant task, as of your duty as an officer of the Ninth on that eve of the bloody but glorious day at Chickamauga." Standing with the handsome historic oaken stick now so changed from what it was in the forenoon—being now a handsomely polished staff surmounted by a large gold head with this legend:

1861—1889.

GENERAL I. C. B. SUMAN,

FROM HIS COMRADES OF THE NINTH,

inscribed thereon, the old Colonel looked into the faces of the comrades before him with eyes more misty than when he had anxiously gazed on their determined faces in the blinding smoke of battle, and in tones that betrayed a warmth of heart said:

Captain McConnell you have sure enough got me into deep water this time, and I will have to try and wade out with the help of this cane. I thank you boys for this handsome and to me very valuable stick. But boys while it may be a support and staff to me in my old days, it can't strengthen my love for you a bit. I have always regarded

you as the noblest men I ever associated with, and army life brought out all that there was either good or bad in a man, and I know you men, I have seen you tried; and I learned to love you and be proud of you. And boys I knew you had kind feelings toward me, for sometimes you had a chance to show it. I will recall one instance that I shall never forget. On that march to Pittsburg Landing you know I was not well, and in fording Duck River I was thrown into a chill and got so sick I had to be hauled in the ambulance; and boys I remember that morning when we heard the mad boom of the cannon and knew that danger was ahead, how some of the brave, good boys of my company came to the ambulance and looked in on me as I lay sick and feverish, and as the sound of battle deepened, one little boy said, "Oh, Capt., I do wish you could go with us." I knew how you boys felt and how this brave lad felt; you didn't want anything to happen to the company that might give it the name of doubtful courage at home. You went south to fight, and you did not know your officers and you did know I had been in the Mexican war, and you looked upon me as a veteran and you wanted me along when the test of your manhood came, and boys I went with you; walked, trotted, staggered on with you towards the battlefield, through twelve miles of mud, and after we got into position on the battlefield it rained very hard, and such a terrible disagreeable night there in the thick woods, on the wet ground we crouched in the rain, listening to the moaning of the wounded men in our front, and dare not stir a step to help them, on that wretched night. Being sick and exhausted one of my boys said, "Here, lay down Capt.;" and they fixed me as comfortably as they could, and in the night I woke up and there sitting shivering against a tree was the noble young man who had robbed himself of his own blanket to make me warm—to keep his Captain with him. Who could forget such an act; I shall cherish the remembrance to the day of my death, and this is only one act, there were many others that laid me a debtor to these noble comrades in that four years we marched and fought together, and though I did not need it, I say, to strengthen my love for you, this stick will bring to my memory these comrades and others, living and dead, who will have my kindest regard as long as I live.

Shiloh
Sick Suman

President Cole thanked the audience for their presence and the very good order maintained, and announced that, as the hour was growing rather late, he would declare this very pleasant campfire at an end, and the audience, after listening to music by the band, would consider themselves dismissed and the Association adjourned until 8:30 a. m. tomorrow. Comrade John Lathrope then played a medley entitled, "Recollections of the War," Lathrope playing a strain or two from the most popular of the old war songs and the band then joining with him in a repetition of it made such music as delighted old soldiers and the audience. The LaPorte band is undoubtedly one of the best, if not the best, band in Indiana, and our "Johnnie" with his little cornet and bugle, won many compliments, and we rather think some of the pretty girls sent him bouquets, but we won't testify positively about that for the reason that John was away from home and his folks were not along. Everyone, vets and audience, spoke enthusiastically of the campfire as being one of the best ever attended by them.

BUSINESS SESSION.

From Capt. Johnson's minutes as recording secretary we are enabled to present the following record of proceedings of the Association.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Assembly call at 8:30 a. m. by Lathrope. Call to order by the President. Reading of report of Corresponding Secretary, which is as follows:

Your Corresponding Secretary would respectfully report that after some little delay he was enabled at the beginning of the present year to supply the members of this Veteran Association with the printed Annual Report which he has reason to believe fairly met the expectation of the comrades. The cost of publication was sixty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents. The cost of mailing the reports to members and all other disbursements as well as an account of all funds received since last report are set forth fully in "Schedule A." hereto attached and made a part of this report. With the view of simplifying account with members and preventing misunderstanding the treasurer and corresponding secretary arranged for the latter to collect all dues and furnish all receipts accounting to the treasurer, and turning over all

unexpended balances to the treasurer preceding annual meeting, and the net receipts during annual meeting.

At the Valparaiso meeting quite a number of new members were added to the roll of the association, and a few have joined since. The association has lost four members by death since its last meeting. Comrades G. M. Allen, of Company C; Milton J. Moorman and Christian Endjeldt, of Company G, and Corporal Jesse Coyle, of Company K, whose names, with that of any other or others who may die before the close of the year, will appear on the Memorial page of our forthcoming report.

Attention is respectfully called to the fact that a large number of the members are in arrears for dues and a number owe for two or more years, and it is recommended that those more than two years in arrears, after notification, be suspended for non-payment, and that no copy of the Report of Proceedings be sent them until they either pay up arrearages or satisfy the Executive Committee of their financial inability to pay, in which case the committee may, being satisfied of the inability of the member, order his name put on the "free list" until otherwise ordered. Quite a number of the comrades appear to be indifferent as to retaining their membership, judging from their neglect to pay their dues or offer any excuse for non-payment.

Your secretary is pained to note that each year swells the addition to the death roll of both this association and the old regiment, and is constrained to present the fact as an argument that should bring us into closer relations with one another and enjoy in closer companionship the few years, God, in his graciousness, may grant the more fortunate of the surviving veterans of the "Old Guard of the Republic," whose proud privilege it was to touch elbows in the ranks of the Ninth Indiana.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

ALEX. L. WHITEHALL,

Corresponding Secretary.

"SCHEDULE A."

Alex. L. Whitehall to 9th Ind. Vet. Vol. Infy. Ass'n. Dr.	
To draft rec'd from Treasurer Lathrope to apply on printer's bill	\$ 60 00
To dues collected for 1888, of following members 50 cents each, Geo. N. McLaughlin, Elias Werts, A. B. Chapman, C L Chapman, A. Holderman, Lt. Alf. Allen, J. A. Lowery, Jesse Moore, W. C. Vaughan, P. M. Benjamin, J. Coyle, Elias Minnick, W. H. Liotz, J. H. Watts, S. C. Pearson, A. H. Dingman	8 00
Dues of Capt. T. Madden for 1886, '87 and '88	1 50
Dues for one year as follows: A. L. Whitehall, '87 and '88. David Flory, J. D. Goddard, Geo. W. Porter	4 00
Dues of David Flory for the years '86 and '89	1 00
Dues of S. L. Swinney for '89	50
Donation by G. W. McLaughlin	50
Reports sold Capt. Johnson	1 00
Reports sold M. J. Moshier	25
Reports sold S. L. Swinney	50
Total receipts	\$77 25

CONTRA.

By amount paid Shankland & Taliaferro printing and binding 400 copies of Annual Report.....	\$ 68 25
By amount expended for stamps used in mailing reports of 1888 and invitations of '89, reunion and books sold and in correspondence since last report.....	12 00
By amount paid for 1000 invitations and programs, 400 retained to hand in report.....	5 00
Total expenses.....	\$ 85 25
Balance due corresponding secretary excess of expenses over receipts	8 00

Capt. Johnson moved that the report be adopted and the recommendation concurred in to suspend members who are delinquent on dues for more than two years, after notice to pay up, and that the forthcoming annual report be withheld from such members until arrearages were paid. Comrade Johnson said he felt that the dues were very low, the lowest he thought of any kindred association, and that if all would pay promptly it would furnish funds sufficient to meet printing and mailing expenses without either the Corresponding Secretary or the Treasurer being obliged to put up each year money to square up our bills, and he hoped the report would be adopted. If it was worth anything to be a member of as noble an organization as this and get a faithful printed report of its reunions and information concerning our living and dead comrades, it certainly was worth fifty cents and every member of the old Ninth ought to be willing to pay so small a sum to keep the organization alive and out of debt. The Corresponding Secretary worked hard and got out a good report and ought not to be asked, when he received no compensation whatever, to be obliged to pay these balances due from the Association out of his own pocket.

Gen. Suman said he would be sorry to have the name of a single member of the old Ninth stricken from the rolls of this Association. He feared some of the boys were really poor and maybe fifty cents was a good deal to them, and maybe some others were just negligent and only needed to be reminded and they would pay up, and he would rather

be in favor of making up any deficit by asking those present at these reunions to make up the shortage and not strike off the names of any Ninth men from the roll. Our numbers were growing less every year and he didn't want to see a single man dropped from the ranks unless it was at the call of our Supreme Commander to join old comrades on the other shore.

Capt. Johnson in reply said a provision is made, General, in the recommendation and our Constitution provides I think, where a man is really poor and can't very well pay for the report, he shall have it free by representing the facts in his case to the Executive Committee. Now the Secretary tells me, and the Treasurer confirms it, that these reports have been sent to men who have only paid one year's dues since the organization of the Association. Now this is all wrong and unfair to those who do pay, and very many of those in arrears, as a matter of fact, are just as able to pay their dues as those who do pay, and where a man is unfortunate and is not able to pay, in justice to himself or family, I am just as willing that old comrades shall get the reports free as Gen. Suman is, but I don't want to have to help pay a man's dues who is just as able as myself and these other comrades. I do not think that after we have gone to the expense of attending these reunions and paying our bills that we ought in addition to pay for the report that our comrade gets who stays at home and our whole expense is in the printing and mailing of these pamphlets and invitations to our reunions, and it does seem to me the boys who stay at home or who can not for good reasons attend our reunions, ought not to object to doing as the rest of us do, pay fifty cents a year for this report of ours, which I make the assertion is the best report of any regimental organization in Indiana. I want every delinquent member to be notified that if he expects to keep on getting these books he must pay up and keep paid up, and stand his equal share with us like he used to

in the regiment, and if he don't want to do it then he can not feel hard toward us if we cut down our expenses by not sending him the report. I do not understand his name needs to be stricken off the rolls but simply off the mailing list of members who are to receive the reports and that they will only be sent to active members, and as we need the dues and it seems to me fair, I hope the recommendation will pass, and we shall either get our dues or get expenses cut down within our actual income. I think it will be all right with most of the comrades when they understand it.

After some further remarks by the President, Treasurer and Comrade Whitehall, the Report was adopted as it reads.

GEN. SUMAN

said, I hope our Comrade Whitehall will be sure now to notify all these men who are two years or more behind on their dues. I want the boys to have a fair chance to pay up if they are able, and if they are not then I don't want to see a single one of them denied this little report of our meetings, if they want to read it, and hear what their old comrades are doing at these reunions. Be sure Mr. Secretary to notify every one of them and give all a fair chance that is all I ask.

Upon the recommendation of the Corresponding Secretary, Lieut. Wm. H. Rhoades, of Co. G, a gallant soldier, but now a hopeless paralytic, insufficiently pensioned was put on the Free List, and also comrades Peter Gast, of F, and Charles Robb, of A, both of whom are widowers and laboring men with large families dependent on them for support.

TREASURER LATHROPE

submitted report of all funds received and paid out by him from meeting at Delphi in August, 1887, up to present meeting, as follows:

LAPORTE, IND., August 29th, 1889.

To the Officers and Comrades of the Ninth Ind. Vet. Vol. Inf. Ass.:

Your Treasurer would make the following report:

1887.		RECEIPTS.
Aug. 25	Cash from Whitehall, Delphi.....	\$ 63 50
" 25	On hand, last report.....	5 80
" 25	One book sold.....	25
1888.		
Feb. 13	Two years dues from Schlay.....	1 00
Aug. 11	Dues from J. R. Sherwood.....	1 00
" 16	" " W. H. Merritt.....	50
" 20	" " John Lathrope.....	50
" 29	" " Members.....	49 00
" 29	" " Whitehall.....	1 00
" 29	" " Members.....	8 00
" 29	Reports sold.....	1 75
" 29	Donation by I. B. C. Suman from Valparaiso surplus fund..	40 50
		\$172 80
1887.		EXPENSES.
Aug. 25	Paid Journal, programs.....	\$ 5 50
" 25	Stamps bought.....	2 00
1888.		
Jan. 8	Whitehall order.....	65 00
" 8	Exchange.....	10
	Stamps.....	50
	Express on books.....	25
Aug. 29	Paid Whitehall.....	40 50
1889.		
Jan. 21	Paid order.....	60 00
	Exchange.....	10
	Stamps.....	24
		\$174 19
		172 80

Due Treasurer Lathrope.....\$ 1 39

Report adopted and ordered spread upon the records.

After reading letters from absent comrades by the Corresponding Secretary, the Association proceeded to elect place of next meeting and officers of the Association for the ensuing year.

MAJOR J. D. BRADEN

in a few well chosen words nominated Elkhart as the place of meeting, and assured the comrades of a cordial and hospitable welcome.

Elkhart was unanimously chosen and Major Braden thanked the Association for the compliment.

The Association next proceeded to an election of officers with the following result:

President, Major J. D. Braden, Elkhart, Ind.

Vice Presidents :

- Co. A, Capt. Geo. K. Marshall.
- Co. B, Geo. W. Blackman.
- Co. C, Philetus Able.
- Co. D, Sergt. Maj. D. B. Armstrong.
- Co. E, Lieut. J. M. Helmick.
- Co. F, Maj. Geo. H. Carter.
- Co. G, Phil. Benjamin.
- Co. H, Sergt. John Morrow.
- Co. I, Geo. I. Badger.
- Co. K, Sergt. Sam'l Landis.

Recording Secretary, Capt. Amasa Johnson.

Corresponding Secretary, Alex. L. Whitehall.

Treasurer, John Lathrope.

Executive Committee.—Major James D. Braden, Capt. W. H. Merritt, Gen. I. C. B. Suman, Hon. D. B. McConnell and Capt. Amasa Johnson.

Moved by Judge McConnell that reunion at Elkhart be held on the last Wednesday and Thursday of August, 1890, subject to change by the Executive Committee if meeting on that day conflicts with National Encampment, due notice of any such change to be given in time. After being discussed by Captains Merritt, McConnell, Cole Johnson and others. motion was adopted.

A letter was read from B. C. Shaw recommending that the regiment, in conjunction with other regiments of the state, take part in the ceremony of unveiling the state soldiers' monument at Indianapolis when same shall have been completed. On motion the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for them to take action thereon

in apt time for the participation of the regiment in the ceremonies.

The President announced that the hour had arrived for the delivery of the usual historical addresses and that the members would have the pleasure of listening to the comrades who had been detailed by the Executive Committee to perform this duty, after which the regular order of business will be resumed.

On motion of Comrade Lathrope, the representatives of the LaPorte press were invited to take "front seats." Capt. Johnson then delivered an address embracing a record of the campaignings of the Ninth from the close of the Buell and Bragg campaign to the battle of Chickamauga.

CAPT. AMASA JOHNSON.

After the campaign in pursuit of Bragg in Kentucky, our army had been concentrated at Bowling Green and Glasgow, Ky., our regiment being at Glasgow. Gen. Rosecrans assumed command Oct. 27, 1862, and moved the army to Nashville, the advance reaching that place Nov. 7th, where we remained until Dec. 26th, during all of which time Gen. Rosecrans was constantly replenishing our army with ammunition, clothing and provisions, and preparing for an advance movement. Our regiment remaining in the 19th Brigade, also called in official reports 2nd Brigade commanded by Gen. Hazen; 2nd Division commanded by Gen. John M. Palmer; left wing commanded by Gen. Crittenden.

December 26th at day light our entire army commenced an advanced movement with the intention of attacking and giving battle to Bragg's army, our advance was soon accompanied by the usual skirmishing when moving on the enemy, and in approaching La Vergue we had one man killed and one wounded.

December 27th in advancing we had heavy skirmishing with rebel cavalry, we drove them across Stewart's Creek and camped for the night on the east side, Hazen's Brigade being the only force east of the creek, we remained there the 28th. Dec. 29th we rejoined our Division and advanced frequently under heavy skirmish firing, to within three miles of Murfreesborough.

Stones River

During the 30th we were formed in line of battle preparatory to attacking the enemy in the morning. All day there was constant skirmishing and cannonading, during the night we bivouaced in the dense cedar forest west of the Cowan House.

At dawn Dec. 31st, we could hear heavy cannonading and continuous discharge of musketry announcing the enemy had anticipated us and opened the battle, the firing and noise of a decisive conflict at arms was gradually passing from our right to our rear, as the rebels slowly drove our right wing back, the enemy soon appeared in our front the rebels had advanced and occupied the Cowan House and adjacent grounds in our front with infantry and artillery.

About 7 a. m. we were ordered to relieve the 41st Ohio regiment; we marched by the left flank at double quick time; in passing under the enemy's fire five men in Co. H were knocked down by a single shell. We formed with our right on the Nashville and Murfreesborough pike and our left on the railroad, and moved forward relieving the 41st Ohio, and occupying a low crest, (where the Hazen monument now stands), in a clump of timber known as the Round Forest, it being the only part of our original line of battle that was held, and which point we held from 7 a. m. during the entire day. It is conceded by both Federal and Confederate reports to have been the key to the Union army's position, from the time we relieved the 41st Ohio, no other troops occupied this important strategic position save our regiment, a part of the day we were the extreme left of our army. We opened fire on a rebel battery and infantry occupying the out houses and picket fence around the burnt Cowan House, we soon compelled their artillery to limber up and retire out of our range. In about three-quarters of an hour their infantry gave way and ran to the rear in disorder, immediately afterwards a brigade of infantry advanced obliquely from our right to left to charge us in front. We opened fire on them at long range, as they drew near us they advanced at double quick step. We took deliberate aim and poured a galling fire into their ranks, shooting them down in large numbers, still on they came to within about fifty yards of our line, when we received the command from Col. Blake to fix bayonet, we jumped to our feet and our bayonets

went on with a crash, the rebels seeing our cold steel awaiting them laid down, covered somewhat by cotton furrows, and opened fire upon us, from which we suffered severely, but our fire soon compelled the enemy to beat a hasty retreat, and retire out of range of our rifles.

The Confederate General Polk in his official report published in series 1, volume 70, page 690 of War Reports says of this position. All the line in their front was carried except the extreme right, this point which was the key to the enemy's position, and which was known as the Round Forest. He further says he attacked us at different times with Adam's, Jackson's, Preston's, and last by Chalmer's Brigades, all of which attacks failed, the rebel Generals in their official reports give us credit for inflicting heavier losses on their army than we ever claimed. One rebel regiment that attacked us lost 207 out of 402; another 306 out of 425; one lost every officer killed or wounded, and other regiments lost nearly as heavy in killed and wounded.

At this period of the engagement Lieut. Kesler was mortally wounded, and Lieut. Col. Suman, Capt. Pettit, Lieuts. Brinton, Creswell and Sergeant-Major Armstrong were wounded, and many of our men killed and wounded. We continued occupying this position, repulsing the most desperate charges from the enemy until about 11:30 a. m., when owing to the severe flanking fire from the cedar thicket on our right, the right of our regiment by orders crossed the railroad, and occupied a strong position behind the railroad. At this time Lieut. Braden was severely wounded and Charles Zollers, our brave color bearer, was killed. We kept up a constant firing on the enemy until night, the rebels frequently advancing and opening on us with artillery and following up their artillery firing with assaults with their infantry. Every attack we repulsed with fearful loss to the enemy, until the ground in our front was strewn with rebel dead and wounded. Not one of our regiment will ever forget the brass piece of artillery that lay in front of us belonging to Capt. Cockerill's Battery, the horses having been killed by the blowing up of a caisson, the Confederates determinedly charged time and again up to the gun to capture it, and every time we repulsed them with a terrible loss and when night came on we drew the gun to the rear of our lines.

At night we were the only regiment that held the same position that we did on entering the battle. Never in any battle did our regiment occupy so important and strong a position and inflict such heavy losses upon the enemy.

As twilight came on all firing ceased and soldiers of both sides consented to a mutual truce, and gathered in their wounded comrades without interruption. The deadly conflict gave place to sincere expressions of mutual sympathy for the wounded on both sides.

During the day, in addition to the 60 rounds of ammunition to the man that we entered the engagement with, we fired 16,000 cartridges, as shown in Col. Blake's official report. We have no official record during the entire war of any one regiment firing in battle so many cartridges in one day. The position we occupied enabled Col. Blake to keep an accurate account of the number of boxes of ammunition used by our regiment.

Our regiment entered the action with 345 enlisted men and 27 commissioned officers. Our loss was, killed, 1 officer, 10 enlisted men; wounded, 5 officers, 82 enlisted men; missing, 10 enlisted men; total loss, 109.

We lost more men at Shiloh and also at Chickamauga but in no battle did we inflict such heavy loss on the enemy as at Stone river. The position we occupied gave us an advantage over the enemy we had in no other engagement.

Gen. Hazen in his official report says that on our entering the action: "It is proper to state here that in advancing to this position under a galling fire, a cannon shot passed through the ranks of the Ninth Indiana, carrying death with it, and the ranks closed without checking the step. And in his report he further says, "The Ninth Indiana maintained fully its well known reputation for perfect discipline, dauntless courage and general fighting qualities. Their steadiness under fire was incredible." He further says, "To Lt. Col. Suman of the Ninth Indiana twice wounded, great credit is due for gallantry." Hazen also makes special mention of Capt. L. A. Cole, who was serving as topographical officer on his staff, and who was wounded.

General Palmer in his official report says, "The 41st Ohio was then relieved by the noble Ninth Indiana, which

came into line under a heavy fire, with a shout which inspired all with confidence."

Too much credit can not be given Col. Blake for his dauntless courage and consummate skill in commanding our regiment throughout the entire battle; he never can be too highly praised. In his official report he says, "For the brave men who stood by their colors from 7 a. m. until 4 p. m., continually under fire, no word of mine could do justice to their unflinching courage. The officers of the Ninth Indiana I regard as among the bravest of the brave. Many of the captains and commanders of companies exhibited the highest courage and capacity under severe and long continued fire."

At the close of the engagement we took several prisoners, and went into bivouac for the night in the same position we had been fighting. About 4 o'clock in the morning, in compliance with orders, we fell back nearly a mile to our main army.

January 1st was occupied by light skirmishing and cannonading.

Friday, January 2nd, 1863, late in the afternoon Breckinridge's Division attacked the left of our army. His attack we anticipated and 52 pieces of artillery had been masked to meet it. As Breckinridge's Division assaulted our infantry north of Stone River our artillery south of the river opened battery after battery on his assaulting columns with the most terrific effect; tearing his long lines in pieces, leaving but little for our infantry to do to complete his total defeat. The Rebel Gen. Hardee in his report says, "Breckinridge's Division, after a bloody struggle not exceeding 40 minutes, in which at least 1200 men were killed and wounded, was repulsed." Although we forded Stone River and double quicked to the position assigned us to attack the enemy's right flank, Breckinridge's hasty retreat, was all that prevented us from doing effective execution on his flank and had he delayed his retreat he would have had but few left to have told of his destruction.

Sunday, January 4th, Bragg's army retreated and ours occupied Murfreesborough; and we buried our brigade dead. I was one of the officers detailed and assisted with the details from other regiments. We selected the spot where the 9th fought in battle and there buried our brigade dead.

Col. Blake
resisted
at a witness of
battle this

The Hazen monument marks the spot where our dead are buried, and also the place made memorable by our regiment, Dec. 31st, 1862.

In the battle our army had an effective force of 43,400 and lost in killed, wounded and captured 13,249. The confederates give their effective force at 37,712 and their loss at 10,266.

After the battle we marched through Murfreesborough and was placed with our brigade at Readyville, a hamlet of about a dozen houses, where we went into camp, January 10th, which position was on the extreme left flank of our Army and 10 miles southeast of Murfreesborough, where we remained until June 24th. During all the time we were at Readyville company B and D by order of Gen. Hazen were detached from the regiment and stationed on a hill about one mile in the rear of the brigade to protect our rear, which companies were placed under my command.

At no place during our term of service did we remain so long as at Readyville. Our time was taken up in drilling, foraging, and skirmishing with the enemy, our dashes always being successful. We made several important expeditions to Woodbury, an out-post of the enemy in which we attacked the rebels and drove them from the town. In all our expeditions we were successful although they cost several men severely wounded.

In a foraging expedition under the command of Capt. Risley as the advance of his wagon train was entering our picket line, Risley, no doubt, thinking while in sight of our pickets there could be no danger, and contrary to orders detached a few wagons, and with a small portion of his guard went to a corn crib and while he and his guard, save one vidette, were in the crib loading his wagons with corn, he was attacked by rebel cavalry, the vidette on duty failing to fire and give the alarm, Risley and his guard were caught inside the crib, without arms, and compelled to surrender and he hurried off as prisoners. Risley, on being paroled, was DISMISSED the service. He had been with us in every march, and bravely did his full duty in all our battles and on every occasion, and although our officers joined in a statement setting forth his splendid service and requesting his reinstatement in command of his company, our request was refused. Other officers violated

orders, but they met with success and were praised for using, as was stated, good sound judgment, but had they met with reverse, dismissal from the service would have been their fate. Such is war.

After a stay of nearly six months we marched from Readyville June 24th, 1863, in the forward movement of our army in the Tullahoma campaign. From the commencement of our march until we went into camp at Morris Ford, near Elk river, July 4th, the rain poured down almost incessantly. Owing to the hasty retreat of Bragg's army in our front, we did not have any fighting in this campaign.

We went into camp at Manchester July 8th, where we remained until we moved with the army on Chattanooga, about the middle of August, we moved with our brigade on the extreme left across the Cumberland Mts. into the Sequatchie Valley the most fertile and beautiful valley we saw in our army experience, and which valley since the war has been found to contain the largest beds of coal and iron mines and which mines extend for 60 miles up and down the Sequatchie river. From the Sequatchie river we moved across Walden's Ridge and went into camp at Poe's Tavern, ten miles above Chattanooga, where we remained from August 21st to September 10, when we again commenced a forward movement by fording the Tennessee river and marching in pursuit of Bragg's retreating army. We moved upon the enemy with our entire corps. At Ringold we attacked the enemy, and after a sharp fight we fell back to Gordon's Mill, from which place we made a reconnoissance with our brigade September 12th, and finding the rebels in great force, we fell back in a southwesterly direction to connect with the right of our army. September 13th we marched by a vineyard and found large quantities of wine stored in hogsheds in a cellar, which our soldiers confiscated without waiting for orders. September 17th, 1863, found us camped two miles south of Crawfish Springs, Ga., at which point our narrative of the Battle of Chickemunga begins, as published in the Reports of our Fourth Reunion at Delphi.

Capt. Johnson was followed by

COMRADE ALEX. L. WHITEHALL,
subject, "The Battle of Nashville."

COMRADES.—You will concede the difficulty of a

soldier confined to his place in line with his particular regiment during the two days battle at Nashville, giving a full and faithful description of all that took place. Officers in command of reserve troops on the works in our rear, upon higher ground, and provided with good glasses occupied the best position for seeing all of the movements. In view of the fact that our vision was considerably circumscribed, and we were only a private soldier in the ranks, young and inexperienced in the art of war, this being our second battle of anything like general proportions, we shall most likely in our narration of what occurred be subjected to considerable criticism, but since others having better advantages than ourselves to give an accurate description have been freely criticized for alleged historical descriptions of the two days' battle, we venture to offer our statement of the encounter between the Blue and the Gray upon the clayey fields and rugged hillsides hemming in the beautiful capital city of Tennessee with less hesitation than we otherwise would.

In the first place we deem it proper to say a few words regarding the movements and position of the Union and Confederate armies during the interim succeeding the desperate fight at Franklin and preceding the assault on the enemies' works by General Thomas' forces Dec. 15th, 1864. The recollection of the night march from Franklin to Brentwood, is no doubt with most of you as indelibly impressed upon your minds as upon my own. You recall the difficulty of keeping awake, having been up all the night before on the tiresome and hazardous retreat from Duck River to Franklin. In spite of the frequent artillery and musketry firing in our immediate rear and right rear, occasioned by the persistent and bold dashes of our pursuers, some of the weaker and more wearied of us youngsters cat-napped as our tired, sick, wounded and foot-sore column trudged with heavy hearts on towards Nashville. After inflicting such severe punishment at Franklin, and repulsing so stubbornly the repeated attacks of the rebels many a poor boy not knowing that already the enemy were crowding not only our rear but our right flank, growled his dissent at being forced to turn his back to the enemy. Personally we often think of the few minutes halt about daybreak, made at Brentwood Gap, where the division flung itself down on the dusty pike for a few brief

moments' rest, and with the rear of our wagon train and artillery, with grinding wheels rumbling forward within a few feet of the heads of our soldiers, our tired men stole "forty winks" of the sweetest sleep ever vouchsafed to overwrought humanity.

To the shrill call of the bugle the men roused from this momentary rest, fell in, and moved doggedly on, and as God's sweet sunshine began to stream through the branches of the trees and mellow the crisp air of that December morn, our hearts grew a trifle lighter, but the happy sunlight fell upon a sad procession. In that tired, dust-covered column of silent men with their smoked and powder-begrimmed faces, marched many a heroic soul with bandaged head, or shattered arm, or with the marks of his life-blood dyeing some part of his dust-covered uniform with the tell-tale crimson. Of such stuff are heroes and veterans made.

A little after noon we came in sight of Nashville, and were soon within range of the grim guns of Fort Negley, and the three divisions of our grand old Fourth Corps with red, white and blue triangle flags, wheeled into line on the right and left of the Franklin Pike, and sullenly with backs to Nashville, defiantly faced the advance of Hood. As the sun sinks into the rosy clouds of evening his rays fall upon a long circling line of blue-coated men who almost instinctively feel that they have turned their backs upon the foe for the last time.

Hood's vast army spread out in our front, but kept well back in the woods and on the ridges, and both great monsters of strife with war-wrinkled fronts slumbered for the night.

The afternoon, I think it must have been of either December 2nd or 3rd, our brigade lying to the left of the Franklin Pike and near to it as we faced South, was drawn up into line awaiting the result of a demonstration by the Confederates in our front. Pickets and a squadron of cavalry were sent whirling inside our lines, and standing in line of battle we waited for the rebel line to come from under cover of the wood and dare to cross the open space in our front; but Hood halted and established his lines and began his memorable seige. While standing in line of battle I have a recollection of Col. Suman riding up in front of the regiment and saying, "Sergeants in line of

fellows, as cool as if hunting squirrels, continued to put their death-dealing shots into that crouching line of butternut hue in such a fearfully reckless manner that it began to waver, and then, taking refuge in a sunken road flanked by stone fences, they sent their spiteful bullets over our skirmishers, buzzing hotly about us; and just now, while we are lying there behind a hedged yard and orchard surrounding a house on the west side of a pike, Gen. Tom Wood, our acting corps commander, in company with our division general, Kimball, dashed up to where Gen. Gross sat, to the left of the center of the Ninth, and gave a few hurried commands to Gen. Gross, indicating to him what was expected of his men in the general charge to be made in a few moments, and concluding his directions to our brigade commander. Gen. Wood, glancing at the regiment as it crouched on the muddy ground in the drizzling rain, said, loud enough to be heard by the men: "And we'll whip them, sure as h—l." The corps commander then rode off toward the right, while our brigadier, turning to one of his staff, directed him to have the captain of the Independent Pennsylvania Battery put his battery into position on our left, and open up on the enemies' works and on the skirmishers in the sunken road behind the stone fence, adding: "Tell him to shoot right at them." A few moments later the Ninth charged forward in line of battle till confronted by a line of hedge, and then double-quickened by the left flank through a garden and yard, past a house, over stiles crossing a low-trimmed hedge, the pike, and another hedge, into a cornfield, where the ranks were rapidly closed up and the regiment, in almost the twinkling of an eye, came into line of battle again by the right flank, and started across the field for the stone fence in front, and as we charged across that bullet-swept field, the cornstalks appeared to be dropping down like grass before the mower, and with all this blast of bullets from the stone fence and main line of works I do not now remember that any one of our regiment was seriously wounded in that charge except our adjutant, Lieut. Clayton W. Roberts. As we neared the south line of the field the Johnnies suddenly seemed to realize that the Old Ninth meant business, and very discreetly concluded to get out of that rocky old road and let us have it, and the stone fence, too, as our fellows appeared just then to think they

must have them. As the the boys say, they seemed "possessed of the idea they could use them to advantage in their business" about then. While we lay behind that stone fence, by this time pretty badly marred by numerous gaps knocked out by our guns, and now being knocked out by the good artillery practice of Hood's cannoners, the carnage for several minutes was absolutely deafening. Our plucky little "Sauerkraut Battery," as some of the boys called it, had now taken a second position out in that cornfield, just back of us a few rods, and with short-cut fuse was sending bursting shells into the crouching plucky line of rebel skirmishers in a way demoralizing to their nervous systems and altogether uncomfortable, and our boys were pouring into their ranks at times a withering musketry fire. Soon after we had reached the stone fence Comrade Byron A. Dunn, of Company C, standing in line a few rods to our left, was struck by a piece of a shell from our own battery, that had burst a second too soon, and which tore an ugly wound clear through his body, and to those who saw the fearful wound it will always be a miracle that he is able to be with us, and lift his eloquent voice in these happy meetings. Several men in our Company F were slightly wounded with splinters from the wooden casing on the shells, and the captain of the battery rode down to our right wing and asked Col. Suman to make a gap in his lines so the battery boys could more effectually mow and plow the ground in our front. The colonel ordered A, F and D moved a few rods to the right, leaving quite a gap, and their new position was in a hollow, unprotected by the fence, and just where a ravine crossed the road in which the rest of the regiment were lying. While in this place we received close attention from the main line of the rebel works on the hill. Speaking of the Dutch Artillery Captain recalls a little scene that occurred while he was talking to Col. Suman. The bullets were hitting all around the two mounted men, and the captain said: "Colonel, better you got off your horse or you got shot." Col. Suman, busy trying to quiet his rearing horse, said with a smile: "How about you, Captain."

Either by accident or design Col. Suman ordered the Ninth to advance before those did on our right or left, and the regiment was soon sweeping over and around a bluff

hill, facing our line abruptly in a rather northwesterly direction. The Ninth, nearly out of breath, halted at the foot of the ridge below the main line of the rebel breastworks, known as Montgomery Hill, and here the men threw off their knapsacks, "center-dressed on the colors" in less time than I can tell you, and with a ringing shout they dashed up the hill, and tearing through the abbattis of tree-tops scaled the stone and dirt parapet, capturing several cannon and fully a third as many prisoners as we had men in the regiment. Forward after the fleeing Johnnies, through the woods and clearings, over ridges, sweeps the Ninth, and other regiments to our right in the Union line, in a majestic, triumphant, irresistible left wheel, crowding the left wing and center of Hood's army back toward Franklin Pike, and then peaceful night, with her somber mantle, wrapped the victors and the vanquished in the deep shadows of a mighty darkness, that on our part of the field arrested further movements, and the soldiers sank to rest on the sodden ground. The dead and wounded were left far in our rear, and how our brave fellows crippled in that day's fight fared, we know not, we only know, as we sank to slumber where night overtook us, that the work of that day was done, and most gloriously done. Sturdy Old Pap Thomas, while we slept, flashed the tidings of victory to Grant, at Washington, who was uselessly chaffing over the well-timed delay of Thomas. Old Pap, like Jove, had forged the thunderbolt that was dashing to pieces Hood's army of invasion.

On the morning of the second day, soon after dawn, in an almost blinding mist, the brigade falls into line, and moves forward again. As we move over the brushy stretches, a fox is suddenly startled from his hiding place, and dashes from the right to the left, to meet only the closed ranks of cheering men. At last the poor bewildered Reynard tries to break through our regiment, and is captured by some of the boys, and a few moments later the muzzled and scared animal rides a prisoner of the Ninth atop of one of the knapsacks of our men. How he fared in the day's fighting, or what became of him, I know not. Our regiment, for some reason, early in the morning's movements, was detached, and sent across the Franklin Pike to a hill facing the rebel works on the right, where fo

a half hour or so our principal occupation seemed to be to march up that hill and then down again.

Directly the troops on our right became engaged in what appeared to be a general battle, and our regiment was hurried back onto the pike in the rear of our charging first line, and here on the pike for a brief moment we halted, while newsboys from Nashville sold newspapers to the boys, telling them all about the great battle of the day before. The regiment formed in line of battle just a few rods to the right or west of the Franklin Pike, facing to the south and began to advance to the front most of the time on the double quick. Meantime we realized the battle was madly on, for the great guns on Fort Negley, several miles in our rear, began to throw immense shells over our heads, and in our rear rode Gen. Thomas and staff, apparently the old hero was hunting a good place of observation, and was crowding well up to the front in the bargain—one of the big shells swooped uncomfortably close to the heads of the group of horsemen just behind us, and noticing it Thomas spoke a word or two to an aide and in a few moments the man with his flags was busy from a knoll in the rear signalling to the men at Negley to "shoot higher," and the huge projectiles were soon hurtling over our heads at a height more comfortable to our nerves and more unsatisfactory no doubt to the rebels in their line of works now visible upon a range of hills stretching away from the Franklin Pike in a westerly and southwesterly course. The works on the east side of the Pike were hidden from view at this time by rising ground to the front and left as we faced it. We were now charging on the double quick. As we came in range of the rebel works, closely supporting our front line, we received a hot fire for several minutes till finally we dropped down in fair musket range of the nearest part of their works, the left wing of the regiment partly sheltered by rising ground, but the right companies exposed on open ground, just in rear of a little stream of water. At this point the regiment received the command to lie down, and as the whirlwind of bullets was anything but pleasant even while lying on the ground, the boys in a few moments tore down a rail fence a few rods to the left and put a slight barricade in front of four or five of the right companies. Just as we halted in this position Corporal Beeson of F and Sergeant Potter of A were each

severely wounded by a bursting shell, and after we had been behind the barricade for quite a while George Harris of Company F, was hit in the breast with a spent ball or bullet that had glanced from a dead tree on our right and happening to strike his twenty rounds of extra cartridges in his blouse pocket which answered the purpose on this occasion of the traditional testament, the bullet did not seriously wound Comrade Harris, but striking so near the heart it tumbled him over senseless against your speaker, who for a moment thought he was a "goner" too. Harris revived in a few moments and reaching into the bosom of his shirt drew out the flattened bullet and opening his pocket-book, coolly laid it away with a bullet that had clipped off one of his fingers on the skirmish line a few months before. We lay here behind this rail barricade for several hours as near as I can recall, until about 4 o'clock Col. Post of the 3rd Division with one brigade of white and one brigade of colored troops made an unsuccessful attempt to carry Overton Hill, just a short distance to our left on the east side of the pike. Soon after we got orders to charge, and as we dashed up the hill by a "left oblique" we could see for nearly three-quarters of a mile to our right the sublime spectacle of a long line of men in sky-blue overcoats, wildly cheering as they dashed over the open ground against the rebel main line of works. On reaching the south brow of the hill our regiment found temporary works thrown up by the rebels and captured by the first line of our forces, and halted behind them for a moment or two, long enough to receive a withering volley from the rebels in their works, and as the smoke cleared away to see that our front line, in our immediate front, who a few moments before had occupied the position now occupied by us, had been staggered by the fierce fire of the rebels, and the line broken in places, and some of the men running to the right, with others gathering in groups and laying down, seemingly hesitating whether to reform and advance or wait for help from the rear lines. "Go in Ninth were the shrill words of Gen. Gross," and with Col. Suman on his black charger in our front and center leading us, the regiment swept across the wet, spongy ground in our front, and in front of the rebel main line of works, here well built and strongly maned with artillery and infantry, halting for a brief moment only at the line of

sharpened stakes planted at an angle of about sixty degrees so as to be about breast high at the sharpened end of the rail, forming an ugly barrier to the advance of a line of battle, but the line in blue rained down such heavy blows upon the upper ends of the stakes or sharpened rails that soon they began to uproot them, and through the gaps thus made the squads and companies pushed on to the works, and while the men were within a few rods or feet of the main line of the works the Johnnies taking counsel of their discretion, appeared to suddenly realize they had held them works just as long as could be reasonably expected under such circumstances, and striking their guns against the works and trees to break them they struck out in real good earnest for the tall timber in their rear. Our panting boys in the meanwhile in language far more forcible than polite, were inviting them to halt and surrender. In spite of having very largely to run them down, the regiment also corraled a large array of prisoners as well as upon the day preceding. My remembrance is that our line west of the pike swept everything clear up to the pike and sent them whirling to the rear through the woods and down the Franklin Pike; and when we were brought to a halt in order to dress up our lines, which occurred at a point several hundred yards in the rear of the captured works, as my memory now serves me, the confederates still held Overton Hill and the works to the east of the pike, and I have often wondered at what stage of the game this portion of Hood's army pulled out of those works, as it seemed like leaving an enemy in our rear, but I suppose our rear lines coming up and the third division in a few moments after I saw them still holding these works induced them to move on. The rout now appeared complete; the Johnny field pieces, however, spunkily protected the rear of the panic stricken column, by saluting us from ever bit of vantage ground, with, shot, shell and canister, hoping to keep us from treading too closely on the heels of their infantry, and so the chase continued until we had as the ranchmen would say "rounded up" Hood's flying divisions, from his right, left and center between the hills clustered on the right and left of the pike and forming the "gap" at Brentwood, where at last they faced about and showed sufficient fight that we were forced to halt and reform our lines, and then night spread her sable wing

over the wild scene, and under the friendly shadows of that dark night while we slumbered in the leaves among the trees, waiting for the light of day to snatch the remaining fruits of victory, the broken lines of the alleged invading army, and besieging army, now all doubled up by the sledge-hammer blows of Old Pap Thomas and his brawny boys of Wilson's cavalry, Smith's two divisions, the old fighting Fourth and Twenty-Third Corps, and Steedman's gallant contingent—realizing that death, defeat and disaster lurked for them in every hour of delay, closed-up as well the darkness would permit their tired, broken and bleeding ranks, and scorning the rest which exhausted nature demanded, stole silently through Brentwood Gap and fast hurried on toward Franklin to put the river between them and the triumphant followers of the Old Flag.

I need not detail the long, tiresome chase through that dense Tennessee mud, rain, cold and snow, and freezing weather, that was made after the fugitive detachments of Hood's army as they fled south of the Tennessee River.

General Thomas counted as the fruits of this splendid strategic struggle of two days upward of five thousand men captured while gallantly fighting on the field or behind works, over fifty cannon and thousands of small arms.

The second grand army of the Confederacy was by the resistless Left Wheel of the Union army dashed from strong investing lines, well-manned with veterans of many bloody fields, and of unquestioned courage, and fairly ground to atoms against the rocky hills of Bentwood. The specter of Invasion that for months had hovered threateningly over the homes north of the Ohio River vanished amidst the mists and the battle smoke of December 15th and 16th, 1864, at Nashville.

That the loss of life to the Union army was not far greater, when we consider the character of Hood's veterans, and that they fought behind cover, is a matter of congratulation among those of the Ninth who had met these brave foemen on other fields, where the red tide of battle flowed deep and wide, and the victory to our arms came tardily, if at all.

God bless heroic Pap Thomas and chivalric John A. Logan, who on his way to supercede the old hero, dallied long enough for Thomas to win that victory which shed so

bright a luster upon western arms, by the overwhelming defeat of Hood at Nashville.

But above all, comrades, must we say God bless our comrades in arms who went into that brilliant closing struggle full of that deathless devotion to principle and duty, and so full of that patriotism and sublime courage which made our army invincible, who when the powder-laden mists cleared away were counted among the dead on that field of Victory and Glory.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF COL. SUMAN.

My loss in the two days fighting was one (1) officer and seventeen (17) enlisted men wounded. None were killed.

Accompanying the report is a list of casualties. The slightness of the loss sustained by the regiment I attribute to the rapidity of its advance, which kept the men from being long under fire, and to the fact that their steady persistent movement forward disconcerted the enemy for my men never flattered an instant during the two days, even under the sharpest fire.

To the gallant men of the Ninth I owe my thanks, for the more than cheerful, the eager alacrity with which they obeyed every order to move against the enemy. I expected much from them and my expectations were more than realized. With such men it is impossible to fail. To Lt. Col. Lasalle and Maj. Carter I am greatly indebted for valuable assistance. Dr. Gilmore followed the regiment closely and did all for the wounded that could be done.

Sergt. Maj. Burr did his whole duty and exhibited his usual coolness under fire. I can not give too much praise to the line officers of the regiment, Captains Nutt, Merritt, Craner, Hodsden. Lieutenants Thompson, Cribben, Tyner, Martin, Roberts, Drullinger and Faris proved themselves worthy to command such men as they led. Lieutenants Dustan and Ijams came particularly under my notice as displaying marked gallantry. In each day's fight they were with the first over the rebel works.

A list of some of the trophies captured and preserved by the regiment have been heretofore forwarded in obedience to orders from Brigade Headquarters. Most of the

trophies taken by the regiment were abandoned during the pursuit of the enemy.

I. C. B. SUMAN, Col. Commanding.

At the conclusion of the addresses the regular order of business was resumed, and Comrade Lathrope moved the thanks of the Association be extended to the La Porte City Band for the splendid services rendered by them at our campfire, which motion was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Comrade Sam'l I. Kessler a vote of thanks was extended to Comrades Johnson and Whitehall for the instructive and entertaining addresses. On motion of Capt. Merritt Mrs. Whitehall, Miss Nora Carter, for their singing, and the Drum Corps were also thanked.

And as certain savory smells began to emanate from the banquet room adjoining Patton Post hall, and the ladies of the Relief Corps were busy as bees bustling around with preparations for a grand complimentary dinner to the old Ninth, the desire to transact any more business seemed to abate on the part of the members.

Capt. Cole very feelingly thanked the Association for the honor paid him of not only making him president but of coming to LaPorte, and he sincerely hoped all the comrades and their friends had enjoyed this meeting, and that in future years the Association might enjoy while there was even a small band of the brothers in battle left to carry them on, these blessed occasions, and that to the visiting comrades he would say it was yet some hours before the departure of the trains on which they could return to their homes, and he was happy to say, that as he had promised at Valparaiso, the good women of the Relief Corps and some other patriotic sisters outside of the Corps were now nearly ready to summon the old Ninth to a feast that he was convinced would be appreciated by the comrades, and after they had partaken of this repast he hoped the comrades would entertain themselves in visiting with one another in the hall till train time, or in visiting

about the city, and with his kindest wishes he would now turn over the meeting to his successor, and now ladies and comrades Major Braden will assume the chair and conclude the business of this session.

MAJOR BRADEN

on taking the chair simply said, "Comrades, I thank you for this honor and we will now proceed with our business; what is your pleasure?"

Comrade Whitehall moved that the Association tender its hearty thanks to the local committee of the Ninth and to Patton Post G. A. R. for use of hall and fraternal courtesies extended us, also to the Woman's Relief Corps for their efforts in rendering our visit to LaPorte memorable and enjoyable. The motion was adopted by a rising vote amid applause. After which the Association, on motion, adjourned.

After adjournment about an hour elapsed before the call to dinner, which interval was well occupied by visiting among the comrades and wives and the wives of comrades of Patton Post and several elderly gentlemen and ladies who remembered the Ninth while rendezvoused at Camp Colfax.

At about half-past 12 the comrades and wives and children of such as were accompanied by their wives and children, filed into the hall of the Relief Corps to partake of the splendid banquet prepared for them by the ladies of the corps and a few of their patriotic sisters outside of the corps. It was a most elegant spread, and when all had been seated at the well-laden and handsomely decorated tables, just as Capt. Cole was in the act of asking a blessing, a lady photographer leveled her camera at the "merrie companie," and there was much less dodging by the old vets than in facing the grinning muzzle of a brass twelve pounder with a double charge of canister rammed down its black throat. The banquet was not exactly down

on the bills but was certainly a splendid treat and keenly appreciated and further strengthened the feeling among the old veterans that LaPorte ladies can entertain most handsomely when they undertake to entertain at all. The Menu was as follows :

MEATS.

Fried Meat, Roasted Chicken, Boiled Ham, Veal Loaf,
Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes.

ENTREES.

Boiled Corn, String Beans, Tomatoes, Boiled Cabbage,
Cold Slaw, Beets, Sweet and Sour Pickles.

DESSERT.

Apple Pie, Cherry Pie, Peach Pie, Lemon Pie,
Peaches, Pears.

PUDDING.

Tapioca Cream, Rice Pudding, Tapioca Pudding.

COFFEE.

After enjoying this excellent repast many comrades and their ladies took occasion to personally thank the ladies of the Relief Corps in charge of the entertainment, and then as trains out of the city began to arrive the good-byes were said and the injunction often laid, "Now be sure to meet me at Elkhart next year." And thus ended the Sixth Annual Reunion of the Ninth Indiana Veteran Association.

The following is a list of the members of the Veteran Association, and of a few members of the regiment, but not of the Association, who were present and participated in the reunion.

Gen I C B Suman; Majors G H Carter and J D Braden; Captains L A Cole, D B McConnell, Amasa Johnson, W H Merritt, D B Crevisten and Geo K Marshall; Lieuts W Keller, Geo H Wilbur, Frank W Childs, John M Helmick and Ed Ephlin; Sergt-Maj D B Armstrong; Chief Bugler, John Lathrope; Sergts, Abe Dils, Eli Newman, H O Kremer, Henry Burgess, S C Pearson, T H Ball, Samuel Landis and A R Castle; and Comrades P H Tausfe of Co A; Geo W Blackman, Detleff Schultz, Robert Donnell, James Gordon

and Allen L Pierce of Co B; S I Kessler, Elias Werts, P Able, Geo P Belows, John Daley, Ed L D Foster, Jesse B Drake, Geo Congdon, Wm Rosen and A E Salisbury, of Co C; Dr Luther Johnson, M E Richards, Jones Grant, C L Andrews, J F Burch, and F M Dunbar, of Co D; James R McKnight, M Nickeloy, Wm Lewrey, Henry Brummitt and J B Adams, of Co E; Alex L Whitehall, Geo VanAuken, Fred Ludwig, W H Carr, E R Niles and Geo Wagner, of Co F; Chas Ketcham, W R Harris, W C Maxwell, Welcome Rice, of Co H; James T Marsh, Wm Markel, and Geo I Badger, of Co I; Wm Bonta, Wm McLaughlin, Alpheus Porter, Co K; A L Hart, and two or three other comrades in the three months' service of the Ninth, residents of LaPorte county, were present, but their names were not obtained by the Corresponding Secretary.

The following wives and children of members of the regiment were present :

Mrs Lucetta Cole, Mrs G H Carter, Miss Nora Carter, Miss Hattie Armstrong, Mrs Capt Marshall, Mrs Capt Merritt and Charles and Jennie Merritt, Mrs Louise Burch, Mrs J B Drake, Mrs E L D Foster, Mrs Mary Burgess, Mrs S A Able, Mrs John Daley, Mrs Alice Whitehall and daughter Madgie, Miss Mamie Blackman, Mrs Melissa Carr and Misses Addie and Gustie Carr, Mrs A R Castle and Miss Dea Castle, Mrs Anna M Niles and Miss Libbie L Niles, Mrs T H Ball, Mrs A L Hart, Edwin J Grant, Mrs Eva Badger and Mrs Wm Lewrie.

ADDITIONS TO ROSTER OF SURVIVORS.

First Sergt. W. H. Lintz, Co E, Red Bluff, Cal.; Eli-ha H. Shockley, Co E, Bonilla, South Dakota; Wm. H. Nimrick, Co C, Girard, Kas.; Wm. Bonney, Co I, Swanville, Minn.; John H. Williams, Co D, Fullerton, Neb.; John W. Dutcher, Co E, Carson City, Montcalm Co, Mich.; Alexander Kimbel, Co E, Domestic, Wells Co, Ind.

CORRECTION OF ROSTER.

Melville J. Mosher, Co I, Swanville, Minn.; Corpl Theodore Elliott, Co A, Fullerton, Neb.; Elias Werts, DesMoines, Iowa.

ADDITIONS TO DEATH LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE NINTH WHO HAVE DIED SINCE THE WAR.

Corpl Jessie Coyle, Co K, see memoir; George M. Allen, Co C, see memoir; Milton Moorman, Co G, see memoir; Christian Endfelett, Co G, see memoir, Lieut Edward Crebbin, Co F, died at Pike's Peak, Colo., Aug 13th, 1882, while serving in the signal service of the United States. See memoir. Vincent W Rice, Co F, died at his home in LaPorte, Ind, Aug 16th, 1870, aged 36 years; Isaiah Storer, no details; Salomon Stoner, Co A, died of consump-

tion at —, Cal, Dec 25th, 1888; Clayton W Stokes, Co E, died of phthisis at Soldiers' Home, Wilwaukee, Wis, Oct 5th, 1888. P O address of brother Asbury Stokes, Burlington, N Y; Calvin O Butler, Co —, died in Massachusetts, no details; W H H Stewart, Co E, died about 1879. Widow's address, Buena Vista, Colo; John Donnell, Co B, died in January, 1889, from effect of wound, at North Judson, Ind; Milton R Thomas, Co C, died at Edwardsburg, Mich, date unknown, of consumption, contracted in prison during 1863 and 1864.

LETTERS FROM ABSENT COMRADES.

Below we give in full a letter from Comrade Geo. P. Leavitt, and lack of space and funds compels us to present but a few extracts from letters of other comrades.

PAOLA, Kas., Aug. 23rd, 1889.
ALEX. L. WHITEHALL, Esq. *Dear Sir and Comrade:*—Again I find that I am to be denied the pleasure of participating in the 6th Annual Reunion of the surviving members of the old Regiment by the same obstacles that have prevented my attendance at any one of the five previously held, viz, matters of business not admitting of my absence for even a week.

I had fully planned to be present on the occasion named, and returning by way of Watska and pay my mother, now 86 years old, and other relatives a brief visit. And you may rest assured I have looked forward to this approaching week in August with a good deal of impatience, knowing that it would be one of genuine pleasure and satisfaction for me unless marred by something unforeseen, and now, at the eleventh hour, to wake up to the fact that my having interests that imperatively demand my constant and undivided attention, and that I am positively compelled to forego this anticipated pleasure leaves me in no happy state of mind. My life has been made up principally of "rackets" and this particular kind is mild compared with some of them; and the result is I have become somewhat used to disappointments, and, as I have always "pulled through" to date, I am likely to survive this one. But I can assure you, Bro. Whitehall, that, while the chances are now greatly in favor of my "carcass" being found meandering around in eastern Kansas on Aug. 28th and 29th, I will be with "you uns all" at LaPorte in spirit, and you are hereby fully authorized to give my kindest and everlasting regards to every surviving member of that "bully good R-e-a-g-a-m-e-n-t" (so called by Col. Casey's Egyptian company pone eaters of the 110th Ill.) and assure every man of them, and woman too, for that matter, as I see you have enlisted a few female recruits, "since the wah" that my "latch string is out" for the Ninth Ind. people "at all hours of the day or night" should fate ever set them down in the "Sun Flower State."

Again requesting you to remember me kindly to all the boys, from Colonel down to company cook and "yaller dog" and especially to Capt. Cole and the members of Co E, I will close.

Enclosed I hand you New York draft for \$5 for payment of dues, &c.

GEORGE P. LEAVITT.

LIEUT. JOHN BROWN, NESS CITY, KAS.

Sends regrets and promises, the good Lord permitting, to be on ground early next year and remain during reunion. Sends best wishes to all comrades.

SERGT. DAVE FLORY, CANTON, O.

Says he is running an engine in a coffee roasting establishment and his employers won't give him a furlough. Sends his very best wishes. Comrade has grown quite deaf and would like evidence of some comrades of Co. F with him on Atlanta campaign.

SERGT. I. KOPLIN, CANTON, KAS.

Says he is sorry to say that much to disappointment he is compelled to forego the pleasure of meeting with his old comrades at LaPorte.

SERGT. J. W. FIELDS, BLUE RIDGE, HARRISON CO., MO.

Joe says he has grown a little gray, and since the war has enrolled a good looking wife and eleven children. Sends regards and best wishes to all the boys.

SERGT. W. H. LINTZ, RED BLUFF, CAL.

Regrets that his great distance from LaPorte and circumstances will not permit him to meet old comrades on the old camp ground. Would like the evidence of some mess mates to complete pension proofs.

Letters were also received from Capt. James Nutt, Sergt. McLaughlin, H. D. Nicho's, A. H. Dingman and several others, all expressing regret at inability to attend and wishing their comrades a pleasant reunion.





IN MEMORIUM.

JESSE COILE.

Corporal Company K., 9th Ind. Vet. Vol. Infantry.
Born September 5th, 1840.
Died January 20th, 1883.

MILTON MOORMAN.

Company G, 9th Indiana Vet. Vol. Infantry.
Born May 9th, 1840.
Died May 29th, 1883.

CHRISTIAN EHRENFELDT.

Company G, 9th Indiana Vet. Vol. Infantry.
Born March 6th, 1815.
Died July 20th, 1859.

GEORGE M. ALLEN.

Company C, 9th Indiana Vet. Vol. Infantry.
Born January 3rd, 1842.
Died June 21st, 1883.



LIEUT. EDWARD CREBBIN.

Was born on the Isle of Man, Great Britain, but are unable to state the date of his birth, however, he was quite a young man when he enlisted in Co. F of the Ninth Indiana, in 1861. He enlisted first as a private in the three months service and on entering the three year service was made Second Sergeant, and afterward promoted to the Second Lieutenancy of Company F, and subsequently made first Lieutenant of Company I. Of his history since the close of the war we know nothing further than that at the time of his death at Pikes Peak in the Rocky Mountains, August 13th, 1862, he was connected with the U. S. Signal Service.

JESSE COIL.

Jesse Coil, son of Gabriel and Mary Coil, was born September 5th, 1840, in Fayette county, Ohio.

Early in 1861 young Coil enlisted in Company K, of the 9th, and his captain and comrades all testify to his good soldierly qualities and his devotion to country. He was present and bore an honorable part in a number of battles, and as a recognition of his soldierly merit was made a non-commissioned officer. On his return from the war he married Miss Caroline Helm at Logansport, Dec. 12th, 1865, who survives him. Six children mourn the death of a kind father. Comrade Coil stood high as a man and neighbor in the community in which he lived, and B. A. James Post No. 494, G. A. R. Dept. of Ind., at Walton, Ind., to which he belonged, buried him with Post Honors and adopted resolutions commending our comrade in warm terms as a soldier and a citizen, and many a company K boy will read these lines with a saddened heart but a kindly recollection of Corporal Jesse Coil.

MILTON MOORMAN.

Was born May 9th, 1840, near LaFayette, Ind., and grew to manhood in western Indiana. He married the wife who survives him, during the year 1860, and was among the first to enlist in Company G for the three year service and bidding his young wife adieu went forth to defend the old flag and reenlisted as a veteran and served faithfully as a soldier of the line, till the muster out of his regiment. Comrade Moorman came home broken in health and for years sought to earn his living as a farmer near Mokence, Ill., until a few years previous to his death he went to Cheyenne Co., Nebraska, and took a soldier's homestead, and after living upon it the required time, himself and wife removed to Endicott, Neb., and he died there of acute congestion of the stomach on May 29th, 1889. Comrade Moorman was drawing a pension of \$16.00 per month for the disability of which he died. He left a wife and seven children, the youngest but three years old. He was faithfully attended by Slocum G. A. R. Post No. 141, at Endicott, Neb., and his widow brought his remains to the old Illinois home and he is buried in the Union Corners Cemetery near Mokence, Ill.

GEORGE M. ALLEN.

Was born January 3rd, 1842, in Mason county, Ohio, being a son of Hiram and Polly Allen, and enlisted in Company C, of the Ninth Indiana, in August 1861, and served as a good faithful soldier in the ranks of that company until his muster out in September, 1864. In October, 1866, he married Henrietta Cornish, who survives him, but left no children. He died of disability contracted in the service, at his home in Middlebury, Ind., June 21st, 1889. He was a member of this Association and of the G. A. R. Post at Middlebury, and his remains are interred in the Middlebury Cemetery.

CHRISTIAN EHRENFELDT.

Until these memoirs were put in print we hoped some of the comrades and neighbors to whom appeal had been made would furnish the needed information for a memoir, but in the absence of any data we can only say of the gallant old German, he fought manfully for the flag of his adopted country, and had served several years in the German army before he became a citizen of the United States. Peace be to his ashes, and honored be the memory of this gray, grizzled old veteran who has joined the Grand Army of the Republic bivouaced on the eternal camp ground. Comrade Ehrenfeldt was an earnest Christian, and we learn was also a member of the 99th Indiana for some months. He leaves as his widow Mary J. Ehrenfeldt, of Grovertown, Stark Co., Ind.