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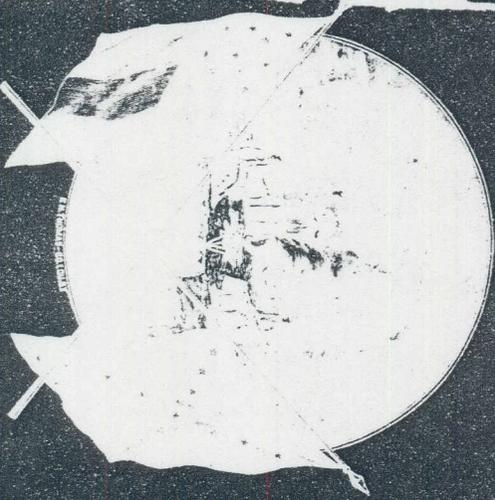
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and the entire army remained in line of battle. Such was the position of the army when the panic press reported us that we were *unconditionally surrendered*, and after such a brilliant victory of the day before. To whom should blame be attached, if to any one? Our forces were commanded by Generals Pillow, Floyd, Barkester, and Johnston; General Pillow being chief in command. On Sunday evening after we had driven the enemy out of our works, General Barkester advocated a retreat, setting forth his reasons, which were as follows:

The enemy had received reinforcements making his force about seventy thousand men against our thirteen thousand, who were cut off from all communication, and from all hope of reinforcement; that our men had fought bravely for three days and nights, being in places without sleep or fire, that he knew by the fifth day we either had to surrender or be slaughtered by Fort Donelson.

General Floyd said he never would surrender, and General Pillow who was considerably excited over the victory achieved by his forces up to that time, determined to make a stand; but on that night when he considered his position more coolly he saw that further resistance was useless, and he put up the white flag. General Floyd took four hundred of his regiment and made his escape; General Pillow gave the commission to General Barkester and left; and General Johnston did in disguise, but the horse and gait he never determined to stay with his men, and accordingly he surrendered to General Grant, commanding the Federal army, about nine thousand five hundred men.

THE FOURTH KENTUCKY.

The Fourth Kentucky Regiment of Infantry, Confederate States Army, was organized about the 1st of September, 1861, at Camp Barnett's business. Prior to that time Colonel R. P. Frazer had received authority from the War Department at Richmond to raise a regiment and had been in correspondence with parties in Kentucky who were turning men for the Southern service. Quite a number of small companies had recruited with full complement of officers, while the balance only brought enough men with them to muster into service and take rank as companies. A. B. C. G. H. and K. The parts of smaller companies were organized about as follows: Captain Willis S. Roberts, of Scott County; Captain Frank Scott, of

McLean County; Captain Ben J. Moore of Frankfort; Captain Thomas Steele of Woodford; Captain Thomas W. Thompson, of Louisa; and Captain Wm. Bissell of Mason County. I think it probable that Company H was also made up of two or three parts of companies commanded respectively by William J. Brannette, of Nicholas; Joe L. Robertson, of Montgomery; and Captain Hugh Henry of Hamilton. It seemed for a time that it would be a difficult matter to organize the "pieces" into regular companies, because those who had enlisted in Kentucky were naturally desirous of serving under the officers who had brought them out, and after the expense and danger incident to the recruiting and transportation of the men, these officers wished to retain their rank and titles, besides, when bidding adieu to their friends at home they had pledged themselves to see to the comfort and interests of their sons. Some talked of going to Virginia, others of joining Morgan, while a few declared they would remain in Kentucky rather than be consigned with other companies. Colonel Tinsley was entirely too strict a man to allow these objections to disturb him. Once get enough men into camp and he would very soon organize his regiment. He was possessed of the very fact which was needed on that occasion.

You would see him going quietly about among the officers, suggesting the number in which the cause would be best served, and making plans for disappointed ones, and on the whole fixing every thing to his entire satisfaction. When the regiment was fully organized it stood thus: K. P. Tinsley, formerly of Adams County, Colonel; Andrew R. Hynes, formerly of Harrison, lieutenant-colonel; these two were engaged in practicing law in Yorkburg and the south when they were connected; Thomas H. Moore, Jr., of Kentucky, Major; Joseph L. Robertson, of Montgomery County, Adjutant; Gail J. Tinsland, of Owen County, A. Q. M.; George T. Shaw, of Louisville, A. E. S.; Dr. H. P. Marshall, of Green County, Surgeon; Dr. H. R. Scott, of Breckinridge, Assistant Surgeon; Company A, Captain Joseph P. Nuckels, of Jefferson; Company B, Captain James Ingram, of Henderson; Company C, Captain James M. Hittenden, of Estlin; Company D, Captain Willis S. Roberts, of Scott County, which had been organized with Captain Scott, of McLean, soon being made a separate company; Company E, Captain Ben J. Moore, of Frankfort, which had been organized with Captain Steele, of Woodford, Steele being made First Lieutenant; Company F, Captain John A. Adams, of Green County; Company G, Captain Tandy J. Tove, of Tish County; Company H, Captain William P. Bissell, of Nicholas;

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love their fathers; indeed he reversed the part of father to many lads who were "doped" but young to venture so far from home. It was

all right for the reserve in getting we had, indeed, made every man eager for battle.

When one of our number died in hospital, about the greatest sympathy that could be expressed for him was, "Poor fellow, he has gone before getting a life at the Yank's. A large majority of our command was fearful the war would close before we had a battle. I have heard Colonel Traub often threaten the men who were guilty of irregularities on the march from Burnsville to Shiloh, that they should not get in the fight if they did not behave, and it was effective language used in exactly the right place.

Soldiers who, by their "crooked ways," were unfortunate enough to be in the "gundhouse," or "under guard" on the march, which is the same thing, begged their captives to have them released, so they could participate in the coming action. I know one man of the Fourth, who was transferred to General Beekmeyer's headquarters, but was in distress at this time, who presented on the general to the extent of being released only for the battle. His splendid conduct on those two days of blood served to secure his permanent release, and he was never tried for his offense. Our regiment, evaded the second for fighting been at Hamilton, and though General Johnston displayed a great deal of partiality in selecting it to go there; in fact, there was nothing like forgiveness in our names until after Shiloh. We never turned green with envy after that when we saw other regiments selected for dangerous work. While the Fourth Kentucky behaved capital well on the battle field in subsequent engagements, I am inclined to think that, in spite of surrounding circumstances, it deserves more credit for its conduct at Shiloh than any where else. We started for the scene of action about sunrise on the 6th of April, 1862.

Here are young boys—beardless, rosy-checked, and smiling—who in a very few minutes will make the noblest sacrifice that can be made on earth. Their gaiters, breeches, blood will color the broochlets before us, and their hideous forms and flushed faces will soon be lying in forgotten graves. A father's mother, in Kentucky, today, yearning, countenances at home waiting to hear from the promising band, it will be some time before you hear the news, and ere that time it will have gone out over all the South, and you're certain that the gallant sons you have given to its service have sunk a blow that will resound through time, and beared for beyond the already boasted name of Kentuckians. The contemplation of that morning fires rages soul with a never ceasing poem. If the Fourth Regiment had never sustained a hundred yards, after crushing the two lines of troops in front of it, its name would still have been immortal.

It was about nine o'clock, when by slow maneuvering (for we were in the reserve corps), we passed through a field in a small valley in which Morgan's squadron was drawn up in line. Captain John Chamberlain and his men sang "Cheer, boys, cheer," and our boys responded by affectionate salutation or pleasant repartee. They had just distinguished themselves, and we felt sure we would soon be flushed with victory. We then filed down the valley into a woody swamp, where we faced toward the enemy, and threw out skirmishers. The first platoon of Company A and the second platoon of Company D being from the right and left of regiment advance, the regiment follows, through the camp from which the enemy were driven early in the morning, and then, meeting a regiment of southerners in full retreat, perfectly demoralized, their colonel trying to rally them. They would sooner die than turn toward the front. In vain our officers and men pleaded with them and threatened to shoot them, leaving them, and the skirmishers being recalled, we were moved by the left flank into a dense wood, halted, and faced to the front.

In a short time the Federals were discovered by Captain (acting major) Nuckles, forming on our left, a little in front. To conform to our fire line we had to change front obliquely for the rear on first company, which we did barely in time to receive a volley from the enemy. We were armed with new Enfield rifles, and used greased cartridges. In a much shorter time than you are reading this the ground in front of us was heaped up with dead men. Our people were also falling fast. But the regiment in our front gave way and was quickly succeeded by another, which was immediately charged, so that when we reached the edge of a field in front of us only a few of the enemy were discernible, flying "heller-scheiter" toward the river. I should have said that we had no time to throw out skirmishers when the attack commenced. The Federals had but a few, for a group of ours undeployed were lying dead in front of Company D, and not more than thirty yards distant. This is the only instance I can recall here the main forces engaged in pitched battle without skirmishers front at first.

But probably the most trying ordeal to which we were ever subjected was the passage of that retreating command through our lines before we became engaged. Few fresh troops ever withstood it. The regiment was highly complimented at the time and often afterward by experienced soldiers.

We advance across the field just spoken of and halt, while the right wing of the army came swinging around toward the river, Vol. I, Nos. 9 & 10—24

thundering heavily as it drove the enemy into the river. At this point Governor George W. Johnson, our provisional governor of Kentucky, joined Company E and shouldered a musket. He was killed the next day at his post, like a true patriot and soldier as he was.

We were then moved by the left flank, meeting as we marched Prentiss's fine brigade, coming out as prisoners, almost if not quite intact. On again until we formed a line facing the river. But our victories on that field had ceased. Disaster was to be our fortune the next day. It was now late in the evening and, after remaining under the fire of the gunboats for a while, we went into the Perry Smith Ohio's camp and sought rest.

The next morning, after supporting the artillery for a time, General Bragg ordered the Fourth Kentucky and a small part of the Thirty-first Alabama to the right and front to intercept the enemy, who were advancing in force, promising us the support of a brigade or two from some other part of the line. We moved as directed and found the Federals had stopped behind bags of corn, watching us move on to our position. We marched toward them a short distance when we lay down and commenced firing. We were fighting Bull Nelson's division, and we numbered about two hundred and fifty men all told. I think the troops set apart for our support tried to reach us, but it was suicidal to attempt an advance in the face of such a deadly storm of bullets.

This unequal contest was carried on for about twenty minutes, when we fell back, leaving a larger number of dead and dying in the line than we retrieved with.

We retired from the field about sundown, weary and sick at heart. If the life of General Albert Sidney Johnston had been spared the result might have been different. At this late day, however, we should not re-examine the conduct of our commanders, who did the best they could for us. All were alike interested in the result, and I have no doubt the who commanded us in detail held the cause as sacred as the illustrious chief who fell the day before.

I have immemorially omitted the staff-officers. They were in the following order: Joe J. Robertson, of Montgomery County, Adjutant; John L. Marshall, of Hamilton County, Sergeant Major; Robt. H. Williams, of Marshall, Texas (a cadet of the R. M. T. when the war commenced), Ensign. After Robertson promoted to A. A. G., and Joshua Williams was his successor, he being mortally wounded the 22d of July at Atlanta, Joe C. Bailey, of Woodford County, was

his successor. Robt. H. Lindsay, of Scott County, succeeded Williams as Ensign and was killed at Jonesboro, Ga. Lewis Varden, of Mayesville, Ky., became the color bearer, and bore the colors till the close of the war.

The surgeons were: Dr. B. T. Marshall, of Green County, transferred to cavalry, and succeeded by Dr. Preston B. Scott (then of Franklin County), of Louisville, who was soon promoted to Brigade Surgeon, then to Assistant Medical Director, Army of Mississippi, and then to Medical Director for the Department of Mississippi and Alabama, occupying that position when the war closed.

Dr. Alfred Smith, of Bardonia, was the next surgeon, and remained with the regiment to the end. The assistant surgeons were: Dr. B. H. Scott, of Green County, who was transferred to cavalry; Dr. Stimpson E. Beckwith, of Louisville; and Dr. Joseph W. Eckford, of Mississippi, served each portion of the time, when Dr. Eldredges L. Dodge, of Hickman County, was appointed and served the balance of the time.

Our quartermasters were in the order named as follows: Col. E. Worthington, Louisville; Major Girtle P. Trechard, Louisville; and W. S. Phillips, Union County, Capt. R. A. Thompson, Frankfort. The Commissary Officers were: Capt. Geo. T. Shaw, A. C. S., Louisville; Capt. David C. Hughes, A. C. S., Owensboro.

The regiment participated in all the heavy and light engagements that occupied the attention of the army of Tennessee: Shiloh, Yorkburg (Osborn), Baton Rouge, Martinsboro, Jackson (Chickamauga), Mission Ridge, the *Poor People's Battle* from Rocky-face Gap (Dallens) to Longgo Station, Ga., being under fire almost incessantly from May 7 to September 22. In addition to the continuous skirmishing during that time, it was in the battles of Rocky-face Gap, Kersa, Pulley, from thence to Atlanta, Peachtree Creek, Juntrenchment Creek, Utoy Creek, Jonesboro (on the left), and Jonesboro right center.

The last six or eight months the regiment was mounted, and had great many skirmishes with the enemy, and were the last in battle in South Carolina, the left wing skirmishing with the enemy when news of the surrender came to us. After withdrawing on the receipt of the information we went into Jaxsonville for the night, and next morning started back toward the Federals, but had to pursue them nearly all day before overtaking them, to let them know also that we had been surrendered. They were ignorant of the fact, and ambushed our advance guard, fortunately not hurting any one.

Shave forbids any thing further as history; else I might mention by name and rank every lieutenant and non-commissioned-officer and the private soldiers, all of whom I know intimately. I refer the readers of the SOUTHERN RHODE to Capt. Edwin Porter Thompson's history of the First Kentucky Brigade, where can be found a complete list of the members of the brigade, with a separate history of each man's actions during the war.

It is a source of great comfort to know that one fought with these patriots, and whether dead or living, there seems to be an eternal bond between us. It is hard to separate the living and the dead when contemplating the stirring scenes through which we passed; a halo of glory seems to encircle the resting places of our dead, while a no less brilliant accompaniment of honor is clothed upon the living. So great is the number of our loved ones who have "crossed over the river," that I expect as they "rest in the shade of trees," they are watching for the remnant to "fall in."

#### BURY THE HATCHET

At Appomattox the Southern Cause was won,  
Lee has surrendered! how sad and deep struck the sound,  
Swift as the wind it spread over our land,  
It brought grief to each heart, it pained each hand.

No bugle-note now, nor drum, stirring sound,  
No flag hoisting high over battle-ground,  
Alas! dear republic, farewell, farewell!  
Of the deeds of thy people we blush not to tell.

Whose point to sterner valor on land or on sea,  
Thou shown by the troops of our Confederacy?  
And when, at last, Lee's remnant stood grimly at bay,  
Where noble heroes than those veterans in gray?

The loyal South, they'll give their hearts, blood to defend her,  
Their lives on her altar, they'll freely surrender,  
More eager to grapple, even now, than before,  
Though from ranks all around pour the foe's steady fire.

They think of part gardens, of kindled-of-shore,  
Great excursions impending; more dense grows the gloom,  
With thrilling devotion, this land, though not large,  
Unappalled, can yet bear one more fearful charge.

#### BURY THE HATCHET.

Close to torn banners, stood these resolute men,  
One word will awaken their wild shout again,  
But Lee spoke it not, for swift sped his thought,  
His bright genius, all, inaction now brought.

Clearly, he reviews the whole situation—  
Will one charge more bring a hope of salvation?  
By new fields of slain can his country be saved?  
By this, can the way to freedom be paved?

Our arms—diminished, and none are now strong,  
Overwhelmed by numbers, they can not stand long,  
Enveloped all round by that hostile dark blue,  
And the South, he knows, pledged by solemn vow through

Though dismayed the prospect, his soul did not cower,  
But facts spoke clear, with unquiescent power,  
Hope in vain procession, are hastening from sight,  
Through parting clouds not one ray of light.

Our arms most yield, and be captives to the foe;  
For Southern independence they've struck their last blow  
Frenzied, but still, after war's dreadful eddies,  
How deeply solemn, this scene in the drama!

Our standards and arms are given up to the North,  
Her have been speak freely, disinterested their wrath,  
Like scenes were enacted by true men of old,  
And proud may they be, of whom such can be told.

The brave to the brave, wherever they're found,  
Are by mysterious sympathy's bound,  
And when parts of our Union have fall at each other,  
Because truly in arms they opposed one another,

It bids our eyes open, shows the American name,  
And leaves men, they stand as yet, will see it with shame,  
Let the fact be emboldened; we'll look to coming years,  
Hush all bitterness, and away with all fears.

Then this republic, of a hundred years, growth,  
Will stand a model Union, of grandeur and worth,  
Let probably get heart, in each breast hold the torch,  
And well 'twill, with just inster, America's fame.

XIII

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