

U. S. HISTORY. CIVIL WAR. CAMPAIGNS & BATTLES. MURFREESBORO, BATTLE OF, 1862-1863.

n.d. G. A. R. Dept. of Ill. George H. Thomas Post.
Collection of information sheets re. Civil War veterans...some being personal narratives were individually catalogued, viz. John Toomey's, giving an account of the Chgo. Board of Trade Btry. from Sep 1862 thru Jul '65, with several good comments on combat, particularly at Murfreesboro.

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Collections U. S. History. Civil War. Biography.

TOOMEY, JOHN D. 1841-1907

COMRADE John D. Toomey

Born March 7th 1841 in Ohio came to Chicago State of Ill. Aug 1853 Admitted to Geo. H. Thomas Post, No. 5, G.A.R. of Chicago June 24th 1887 Enlisted Chicago July 23 1862 as Private in Co. Chicago Board of Trade Battery Vol for the period of 3 years, and was discharged therefrom as Corporal by reason of orders of War Department at Chicago Ill June 30th 1865

wounded at the battle of Stone River Dec. 31, 1862 & Jan 1 & 2 1863

wounded at the battle of Decatur Ga July 22 1864 and cared for in the hospital at Columbia Tenn rejoined the Regiment Oct. 1864 Served in the Division 14 Army Corps and took part in the following battles and campaigns

our battery after being finally equiped broke camp Sept 9th 62 at Camp Douglas and started for Louisville from there to Bowling Green and went into Camp. Capt Stokes wired ROSECRANS AT Nashville for permission to get to the front Request granted the Cannoneers were furnished with muskets and marched to Nashville with out escort it was rather a daring Exploit--and Rosecrans complimented the Battery very highly on Dec. 20, 1862 the Battery was attached to the pioneer Brigade an organization formed of 2 men from each company of the Army of the Cumberland under command of Capt St. Clair Morton on Dec. 26 62 we started on our march from Nashville and met Brags army at stone River this was my first Battle the world knows the history of that Battle. Our Battery was kept in reserve 2 hours or more after the engagement began. It would be impossible for me to describe my feelings during this interval the roaring of cannon the rattle of musketry and the rapier movements of troops into position made the suspense dreadfull, Finally old Rosey appeared

On the scene and ordered our command into action this was somewhat of a relief to me and yet I didnt relish the Idea of going up to the front to be shot at. Now for the first time our Battery was under fire. My position was No. one on the Gun and after we got in to position and commenced firing I had no further fear of being shot as it took all my time and attention to load and sponge out the gun The order was to Load and fired will with terrible effect as the enemy fell within 30 yards of our guns and although many comrades fell dead and wounded all around me was I was so completely exhausted that I did not realize my position or care anything about Bullets whistling over my head ? the Battle contued with unstaed fury until darkness compelled both Armys to cease firing and under the cover of darkness we buried our dead, and slept or rested that night on the frozen corn field and renewed the conflict on the early morn of the new Year Jan 1st 63 about 4 p m while in the act of loading the Guns I was hit in the abdomen with a spent ball. I fell forward to the ground I heard the Lieut say another man gone and I thought so myself for I was in great pain and at the time I was taken to the field hospital by comrades I thought I was shot through the body, while I was waiting myturn for examination I took Courage and thought I had better examine the wound myself. I did so and to my great surprise found the bullet in my clothes and lonly a flesh wound I applied some salve to the wound and immediately returned to the Battery and assumed my position on teh Gun, that evening while changing position on the field I was sitting on the ammunition chest of the Guns when the wheel struck a stump and threw me up into the air it would take to much time and space to tell all my thoughts while in mid air suffice it to say I did not think that I would ever get down to the Earth alive but fortunately I hit on my feet and recognized the

voice of one of our postillions I yelled to him he recognized my voice and ~~stop~~ 3
stopped, I mounted one of the Guns, got in to position on our left and spent
another night on the field of Stone River Jan 3/63 Have had continuous
fighting all day and every reader of our history knows how desperate Gen Bragg
fought to hold Murfreesboro but without avail as on the night of Jan 3/63 he
evacuated Murfreesboro and ended the Battle of Stone River with our knowledge
the fowling dispatch was sent to Chicago Nashville Tenn Jan 3 1863 Murray N
Nelson and Co. Chicago Murfreesbor is ours Terific fighting Friday no more casual
ties in the Battery it has won Glorious Distinction. Battery remained in camp
at Murfrreesboro Tenn from Jan 6 to June 23/63 the only notable event during our
encampment was the changing of our Battery from field to horse Artillery and
attached to the 2nd Division of Cavalry Army of the Cumberland commanded by
Brig Gen John B. Turchin and were the only Battery of flying Artillery in the
western Armies. June 24/63 broke camp and advanced with the Army through tulla
tullahoma and winchester to McMinnville and Pikesville crossing the Tennessee
river on the left of the army and at Ringold Ga fired the first gun which opened
the Battle of Chickamauga Sept 19th/63 from Sept 23 to Oct the 1st the Battery
with the 2nd Division of Cavalry and in Brig Gen George Crook was guarding fords
above Chattanooga on the 1st the Rebel Gen Wheeler crossed at Washington 40 miles
above with 6000 men 2 othe columns were preparing to cross below one
at bellfonte the other at countland Ala. intending to form a junction with
Gen. Wheeler on Oct 3 we decended the Cumberland Mountains

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no. Private in Co. Chicago Band of Trade Battery Vol. for the period

of 3 years, and was discharged therefrom as Corporal by reason of

orders of war Department at Chicago Ill

June 30th 1865 Re-enlisted, 18 as

in Co. _____ Regiment _____ Vol. for the period

of _____ year, and was discharged therefrom as _____ by reason of

at _____ 18 _____ Was taken prisoner

at the battle of Stone River Dec. 31st & Jan 1 & 2^d 1863 and imprisoned at _____

until _____ 18 _____ Was wounded at the battle of

Decatur Ga July 22 1864 and cared for in the Hospital at Columbia Tenn

rejoined the Regiment Oct 1864 Served in the Division 14 Army Corps

Corps, and took part in the following battles and campaigns: Our Battery after being fully equipped broke camp Sept 9th at Camp Douglas and started for Louisville from there to Bowling Green and went into Camp. Capt. Stiles via Rosecrans at Nashville for permission to get to the front Request granted the Ammunition was furnished with Muskets and marched to Nashville with out Escort it was rather a daring exploit and Rosecrans complimented the Battery very highly. on Dec 20th the Battery was attached to the Pioneer Brigade an organization formed of 2 men from each company of the Army of the Cumberland under command of Capt. St. Clair Morton. on Dec 26/62 we started on our march from Nashville and met Brags army at Stone River. This was my first Battle the world knows the history of that Battle. Our Battery was kept in Reserve 2 hours or more after the engagement began. It would be impossible for me to describe my feeling during this interval the Roaring of Cannon the Rattle of Musketry and the Rapid Movements of troops into position made the suspense dreadful. Finally old Rosey appeared on the scene and ordered our Command into Action this was somewhat of a relief to me and yet I did not relish the idea of going up to the front to be shot at. Now for the first time our Battery was under fire

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 without our knowledge the following dispatch was sent to Chicago
 Nashville Tenn Jan 3 - 1893. Murray Nelson to Chicago
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 Jan 14/63 took Camp and advanced with the Army keeping on
 its flanks following Bragg's Army through Tullahoma and
 Winchester to Ma Minville and Pikeville crossing the Tennessee
 River on the left of the Army and at Ringold Ga fired the first
 Gun which opened the Battle of Chickamauga Sept 19th 63. from
 Sept 23 to Oct 1st the Battery with the 2nd Division of Cavalry and
 w. Brig Gen George Crook was guarding fords above Chattanooga, on
 the 1st the Rebel Gen Wheeler crossed at Washington 40 miles above
 with 6000 men & other Columns were preparing to cross the one
 a-bellefont the other at Courtland Ala. Intending to form a junction
 with Gen Wheeler on Oct 3 we descended the Cumberland Mountains