

### **Third Battery Iowa Light Artillery - Gue**

The Third Battery was raised in the Third Congressional District, and numbered one hundred and forty men. It went into camp at Dubuque in August, 1861, where it was mustered into the service. Captain M. M. Hayden was its first commander and served until October 3, 1864, when he was mustered out, being succeeded by Lieutenant Melville C. Wright who served until January 5, 1865, when he in turn was succeeded by Lieutenant O. H. Lyon. This battery took an active part in the battles of Pea Ridge and Helena as well as several engagements in other parts of Arkansas. Its losses during the war were four killed, thirteen wounded, thirty-three deaths from disease and twenty discharged for disability. This battery was mustered out of the service on the 3d of October, 1865, at Davenport.

The 3rd Iowa Battery was organized under special authority from the Secretary of War, during the months of August and September, 1861, at Dubuque, Iowa, under the name of the Dubuque Battery, and was attached to the Ninth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, Col. William Vandever commanding, while it remained in rendezvous and for some time after taking the field. On September 3, 1861, the first detachment of the battery, with William H. McClure as First Lieutenant, was mustered into the service of the United States and went into quarters at Camp Union, near Dubuque. The necessary additional enlistments -- to complete the organization of a full battery of artillery-- were soon secured and on September 24, 1861, the muster in of the battery was completed. The names of the commissioned officers appear upon the original roster, as follows: 1 Captain, Mortimer M. Hayden; Senior First lieutenant, William H. McClure; Junior First Lieutenant, Melville C. Wright; Senior Second Lieutenant, William H. Crozier, and Junior Second Lieutenant, Jerome Bradley. The roster shows that, upon completion of its muster, the battery numbered one hundred forty men, rank and file.

The Battery, with the Ninth Iowa Infantry, left Camp Union on September 26, 1861, and embarking on the steamer "Canada", was conveyed to St. Louis, arriving there on the 30th, and going into quarters at Benton Barracks, near that city. There, uniforms and horses were provided for the battery, but its equipment was not completed until two months later, owing to the difficulty of procuring guns and the other articles necessary to place the battery in condition to take the field for active service. In the meantime, only such instruction could be given as related to the rudiments of artillery drill, and discipline. On November 13, 1861, the company was ordered to proceed to Pacific City, Mo., 35 miles west of St. Louis, where it remained until near the last of January, 1862. About the first of December it received its armament of six guns -- four six pounder bronze guns and two twelve pounder howitzers -- and the other requisite equipage appertaining to a field battery. The officers and men at once began to drill, and, by the time they were ordered to take the field, had become quite proficient in handling the guns. The battery was several times reviewed and inspected and, in connection with the Ninth Iowa Infantry, went through the movements that might be required when engaged in conflict with the enemy. The inspecting officers reported that it was in condition to take the field and to render good service, and on Jan 25, 1862, Captain Hayden was ordered to proceed with the battery to Rolla, Mo., to which place it was conveyed by rail and, upon its arrival there, joined the army under command of Major General, Curtis, then about to begin an aggressive campaign against the enemy.

On Jan. 28, 1862, the army, under General Curtis, began its advance toward Springfield, Mo., where General Price, in command of the Rebel army, had established his headquarters, and where it was expected a battle would occur. The weather was cold, it rained much of the time, and the roads were in such terrible condition that the artillery and transportation trains of the army made slow and difficult progress. Upon reaching Lebanon, sixty-five miles from Rolla, General Curtis halted his army, and proceeded to thoroughly reorganize it before again advancing. The Third Iowa Battery was assigned to the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Army of the Southwest. The brigade consisted of the following troops: Ninth Iowa, Twenty-fifth Missouri Infantry and Third Illinois Cavalry, and was put under command of Col. William Vandever of the Ninth Iowa. After putting his army in the best possible condition to meet the enemy, General Curtis again moved forward towards Springfield. The rebel General Price was awaiting reinforcements, which failed to reach him at Springfield, and he therefore determined not to risk an engagement at that place. On the night of Feb 12, 1862, the rebel army began its retreat toward the Boston Mountains, in Arkansas, and on the next day, the advance of General Curtis' army took possession of Springfield.

Early on the morning of Feb 14th, the army took up its line of march in pursuit of the retreating army. At Flat Creek, fifty miles from Springfield, the Third Iowa Battery fired its shot at the enemy. Its brigade leading the advance of the army, and coming within long range of the enemy's rear guard, the battery opened fire, but, after firing a few shots, the rebels got out of range. The pursuit was continued and the army crossed the

Missouri line and reached Sugar Creek, in Arkansas, where the rear guard of the rebel army was again encountered by the cavalry which had advanced some distance beyond the Union Infantry. After a brief engagement--in which the cavalry sustained considerable loss--Vandever's Brigade was ordered to move forward, and the Third Iowa Battery was soon engaged with a rebel battery in its front. The gunners of the battery delivered their fire so accurately that, in less than thirty minutes, they had silenced the fire of the rebel battery, and it had limbered up and was galloping of the field, the rest of the rebel force also retreating before the advance of Vandever's Brigade. There were no casualties among the officers and men of the battery in this affair, but it lost two horses killed and had one caisson disabled by the enemy's fire. General Curtis complimented the battery for the skillful management of its guns.

Upon learning that the rebel army had been largely reinforced, General Curtis halted his army at Cross Hollow, Ark., from which place his cavalry scouts kept close watch upon the movements of the enemy. It later became necessary to place the different divisions at considerable distances apart, in order to obtain supplies from the surrounding country, and the enemy, taking advantage of the situation, was preparing to attack these separated forces and prevent them from being concentrated. On the 4th of March, a portion of Vandever's Brigade, consisting of detachments of the 9th Iowa, the 24th Missouri Infantry, and Third Illinois Cavalry. with one section of the Third Iowa Battery under command of Lieutenant Wright, the whole force, commanded by General Vandever, started on a reconnaissance in the direction of Huntsville, Ark., which place was reached after a march of forty-five miles. A portion the enemy's supplies and some prisoners Col. Vandever learned that the enemy was marching to the attack of General Curtis' army, and he at once started upon his return march, which was conducted with such skill and energy as to avoid coming into contact with the enemy. It was one of the most remarkable and exhausting marches made during the war, by a mixed command of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, covering a distance of forty-seven miles in one day General Curtis, in anticipation of an attack by the enemy, had wisely concentrated his army in a strong position at Pea Ridge. The attack was made in a most determined manner, early on the morning of March 7, 1862. The Third Iowa Battery proceeded to the front with its brigade. Two sections of the battery went into action near Elkhorn Tavern, relieving the First Iowa Battery, which had suffered heavy loss, and had several of its caissons exploded by the fire of the rebel batteries in its front. The position was one of most exposed on the field. The rebel gunners had gotten the range quite accurately, and their fire was destructive. Before the two sections of the Third Iowa had been under fire ten minutes, one gun had been disabled, one caisson blown up, several of the men wounded, and a number of the horses killed and disabled. Colonel Carr, the division commander, observing the desperate situation in which the two sections had been placed, and realizing the danger of their being entirely disabled or captured, ordered them to fall back out of range and await assignment to a less exposed position. The entire battery then took a position to the right of Elkhorn Tavern, where it remained until the entire division was forced to fallback in the evening. The operations of the battery during both days of the battle are described in the official report of Captain Hayden, as follows:

Headquarters Hayden's Battery

(Attached to Ninth Iowa Infantry)

Sugar Creek, Ark. March 9, 1862

COLONEL: Hearwith please find statement of the part taken by this command, in the actions of the 7th and 8th instant: Pursuant to your order I sent forward one section of the battery, in charge of Lieutenant M.C. Wright, who took position in the road directly in from of and under a heavy fire from the enemy's battery. Lieutenants W.H. McClure and J. Bradley, with their respective sections, were ordered forward to engage the enemy on the right and left of the first section. Supported by the Ninth Iowa Infantry, we held this position until the rebel guns had disabled ten pieces and killed and wounded many of the men and horses. The engagement became general along the whole line, with both artillery and infantry. The enemy's fire becoming too severe, we withdrew, leaving behind our disabled limber and several killed and wounded horses. We then took position about three hundred yards in rear of the point where our fire was first opened, remaining there until near evening, (having held the enemy in check during the entire day,) at which time the whole division fell back to a large open field, where it halted during the night. Here the enemy pursued, but, being vigorously engaged by our artillery and infantry, was driven back with severe loss. During the engagement we attempted to plant the pieces of the battery upon a commanding eminence, but failed in the endeavor, an immense force of the enemy's infantry charging upon us, carrying away one of my guns, and killing and wounding two of my own, and several of the battery horses. On the morning of the 8th we took position on the enemy's left, unsupported by either infantry or cavalry, opening fire on the slope where our guns were captured the previous day. Shortly afterwards the enemy opened upon us from a battery in our front, to which we then

turned our fire, silencing his guns and driving him from the field. Our loss is two men killed and seventeen wounded. We lost twenty-three horses killed and three disabled. Three of our guns and one limber were captured by the enemy. I desire to make mention of the coolness and bravery of the whole command during the entire engagement, especially of Lieutenants Wright and Bradley, who, fearless of all personal danger, met the enemy with a spirit worthy of the highest commendation, and cannot overlook the efficient services rendered by Sergeants House, Harkins and Weaver, alike of Corporals Martin, Guilford, Goldthorp and Rowls. The latter, while spiking the last gun, left upon the field, was severely wounded in both legs.

I am, Colonel, respectfully yours,

M.M. Hayden, Captain Commanding Battery

Colonel William Vandever, Commanding Second Brigade, Fourth Division.

Colonel William Vandever, the brigade commander, makes mention of the battery, in his official report as follows:

I desire also to call especial attention to the Dubuque Light Battery, under the command of Captain M.M. Hayden, whose report is appended. Captain Hayden and every officer of this battery acquitted themselves with the highest credit. They bore the hottest fire of the enemy with coolness and intrepidity, the men under the skillful lead of Captain Hayden performing their duty with cheerfulness and alacrity, and never faltering. He mentions special instances of bravery in his report hereto appended, to which would call especial attention . . . . I herewith append a list and casualties.

Colonel E.A. Carr, the division commander, also makes mention of the battery in his official report, as follows:

Captain Hayden, commanding the Dubuque Battery, acted with his usual coolness in superintending the operation of his guns. He had two horses killed under him..... His battery fired until the last moment, and , in consequence thereof, lost two pieces with several of his men being shot down while trying to attach them to the limber. The three pieces of artillery lost that day by Captain Hayden's Battery were recovered by our troops on the next day.....On the second day my division, being on the right, did not come into contact with the enemy. Captain Hayden's Battery, however, did excellent service, having been posted by the General in person, so as to cross-fire on the enemy.

The forgoing statement of Colonel Carr is fully confirmed by the official report of Major General Samuel R. Curtis, the commander in Chief of the army, as shown by the following extract:

I repaired myself to the extreme right and found an elevated position considerably in advance, which commanded the enemy's center and left. Here I located the Dubuque Battery, directed the right wing to move its right forward so as to support the artillery, and give direction the advance of the entire right wing. Captain Hayden soon opened a fire which proved most galling to the foe, and a marker for the line to move upon. . . At one time a battery was opened in front of Hayden's battery on the extreme right so close I could not tell whether it was the enemy's or an advance of Hayden's, but riding nearer I soon perceived its true character, and directed the First Iowa and the Peoria Battery to cross-fire on it, which soon drove it back to the common hiding place, the deep ravines of Cross Timber Hollow.

During the series of engagements the Third Iowa Battery had expended over one thousand two hundred rounds of ammunition. This quantity of shot and shell, fired from the guns of one field battery, will give something of the immense amount of artillery ammunition alone which was hurled through the air by the batteries of the contending armies. Add to this the expenditure of rifle and musketry ammunition, by the cavalry and infantry of both armies and the aggregate weight of lead and iron expended in the battle of Pea Ridge would exceed one hundred tons. General Curtis reported the aggregate loss of his army at one thousand three hundred eighty-four and says: "The loss of the enemy was much greater, but their scattered battalions can never furnish a correct report of their killed and wounded."

Three days after the battle, the battery took up the line of march with the army, and moved northward to Keithsville, where it halted and remained until April 5th, when the march was resumed and continued to Batesville Ark., which place was reached about the 10th of May. The battery participated in an expedition to Searcy, on the Little Red River, returning to Batesville about the 20th of June. The Army then marched to

Helena Ark., where it arrived on July 12, 1862. During the march the troops suffered greatly from the excessive heat and scarcity of provisions. Several expeditions were organized and sent out from Helena, in which the Third Iowa Battery participated, the most prominent among which were Hovey's Mississippi expedition, in November, 1862; Gorman's White River expedition, January, 1863; and the Yazoo Pass expedition, March 1863. In the latter expedition the battery took an active part in the bombardment of Fort Pemberton. It then returned to Helena, where it constituted part of the garrison, and, on July 4, 1863, took an important part in the defense of the place against an attack of the rebel forces under command of General Holmes. First Lieutenant Wright was at that time in command of the battery. His official report is here quoted in full, as follows:

Headquarters Third Iowa Battery,

Helena Ark., July 5, 1863

Captain, In obedience to the order of the General commanding, I have the honor to herewith submit the following report of the part taken by the Third Iowa Battery in the engagement of yesterday. In accordance with the previous instructions, at 3:30 a.m. I ordered one section of the battery, under command of Second Lieutenant O.H. Lyon, to a point near Battery D, on the left of our line. The second section, under command of Sergeant L.S. House, which has for some time been in park on the right of the line, immediately upon the commencement of the battle pushed forward a few hundred yards to our extreme right, and took position, supported by a portion of the Second Infantry Brigade, Col. Rice commanding, and the Cavalry Brigade, Col. Clayton commanding. Immediately after getting into position, this section was joined by a battery with steel guns attached to the First Indiana Cavalry, and Col. Clayton then assumed command of the whole. This officer then changed the position of his guns to a point on the east side of the levee, on our right, where he remained during the whole of the engagement. At 6 a.m. the twelve-pound howitzer, in charge of Sergeant L.S. House, was disabled by the breaking of the understraps which fasten the cheeks to the axletree, the accident being caused by the recoil of the gun. It was immediately taken to park for repairs, but could not be finished in time to take further part in the engagement. At 6:30 a.m., the third section, which until then remained in camp, was dispatched in charge of Orderly Sergeant J.J. Dengl, to reinforce the right wing. On taking position, it immediately opened, and kept up a constant and effective fire against the guns of the enemy, posted on the hills on the extreme right, until recalled by order from the General commanding, to Fort Curtis, where it was again effectively employed against the enemy in their last charge on our works. The section under Lieutenant Lyon was first engaged about 7 a.m., and was after that constantly in action until the close of the battle, and was for a considerable length of time very hotly pressed. During the charge on Battery C, Lieutenant Lyon changed the position of his six-pounder gun to command the ravine running from the Catholic Church westward, and by his fire contributed very materially in repulsing the enemy. Separated as the battery was during the whole engagement, it is impossible to give as complete an account of the part taken in it, by the different sections, and to notice particularly the conduct of my officers and men, as I could wish. While my entire command did their duty nobly, justice to them compels me to report particularly with regard to the following officers: Lieutenant Lyon was, during the entire engagement, with his section, directing the fire of his guns, and encouraging the men by his example to deeds of valor, which I am confident the General commanding will appreciate. The Lieutenant had his horse wounded twice, severely though not fatally. >From Colonel Clayton I learn that Sergeant House, in charge of section, behaved finely, displaying a great deal of courage and energy, as did also the other non-commissioned officers in his command. Of Orderly Sergeant J.J. Dengl, having charge of third section, I can speak from personal observation. He was on hand, ready and active, with a thorough appreciation of the situation. He showed himself to be emphatically an artillery officer. Lieutenant Lyon speaks very highly of the conduct, under the most trying circumstances, of the non-commissioned officers in his command, particularly of Corporal Daniel Folsom, gunner. The loss of the battery is very light, consisting of one horse killed and seven horses wounded. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am your most obedient servant,

M.C. Wright *First Lieutenant*

*Third Iowa Battery, Commanding*

Captain A. Blocki, A.A.G.U.S. Forces

Lieutenant Wright in his report giving an account of the main points of interest in the history of the battery up

to November 2, 1864 again refers to the part taken by the battery in the defense of Helena, and states that it fired over one thousand rounds, but escaped without any loss of men, owing to the fact that the fortification afforded excellent protection, and that the loss of eight horses constituted the casualties sustained by the battery in that engagement.

The battery formed a part of General Steele's forces in his Little Rock expedition, participated in the capture of that place, and also took part in the expedition of General Rice against Arkadelphia, in October, 1863. In December, 1863, and January, 1864, there were a sufficient number of re-enlistments to enable the battery to acquire the title of a veteran organization. The men who re-enlisted were those who had entered the service when the battery was first organized and did not include those who had subsequently joined the battery as recruits. Those who thus assumed the obligation of an extended term of service were officially designated as "Veterans" and were granted a furlough of thirty days. They were accordingly sent to Iowa and, upon the expiration of their furloughs, rejoined the battery at Little Rock, Ark., where it had remained during their absence. In May, 1864, the battery received new guns and a complete new equipment. There is no record of its operation during the summer of 1864, but the presumption is that it remained on duty during that period as a part of the garrison at Little Rock, Ark. A large number of recruits joined the battery while it was stationed at that place, and it was thus provided with its full complement of men, in anticipation of the muster out of those whose term of service was about to expire.

At the expiration of their three years' term of service, the non-veterans (those who had not re-enlisted) were sent to Iowa, under the command of Captain Hayden, and were mustered out of the service of the United States on October 3, 1864. The gallant Captain and his men, who had faithfully served their country for the full term of their original enlistment, were veterans in fact, although only their comrades who remained in the service until the close of the war were given that official designation. They had fully discharged their obligation to the government and were, therefore, entitled to the honorable discharge which they received, together with the grateful appreciation of their splendid service by the loyal people of their State and Nation. Captain Wright - under date of November 2, 1864 - closes his report, as follows:

The following is the present roster of officers of the battery: Captain, Melville C. Wright; Senior First Lieutenant, Orlo H. Lyon; Junior First Lieutenant, Joseph J. Dengl; Senior Second Lieutenant, Leroy S. House, and Junior Second Lieutenant, Hiland H. Weaver. The armament of the battery consists of four ten-pounder Parrott guns, caliber three inch, and two three-inch bronze rifle guns. The battery is at present in comfortable winter quarters, built by ourselves, and is in a good state of drill and discipline.

The report of Captain Lyon - heretofore referred to - describes in detail the subsequent movements and operations of the battery. It did not again come into conflict with the enemy, but performed important duties, the most notable of which were as follows: During the months of October and November, 1864, while the rebel forces under General Price were invading the State of Missouri, it became necessary to forward a large quantity of commissary stores from Little Rock, Ark., to the Federal troops stations at Fort Smith. Navigation of the Arkansas River was rendered unsafe by reason of the occupation of forces of the enemy of intermediate points along its shores. An expedition by land was therefore organized, consisting of a large wagon train, heavily loaded with supplies, and guarded by a sufficient force of infantry and artillery to protect it from capture by the enemy. The Thirty-third Regiment of Iowa Infantry, commanded by Col. C.H. Mackey, and one section (two guns) of the Third Iowa Battery, commanded by Lieutenant J.J. Dengl, were detailed to guard the train, and took up the long march for Fort Smith on October 30th. Soon after the march began it was learned that the rebel army, under General Price, had been defeated and driven out of Missouri and was then retreating into Arkansas. As the expedition under Col. Mackey was on the line traversed by the rebel army, the danger of an attack by a superior force of the enemy at once became apparent. Fortunately, however, the enemy had been so thoroughly defeated and was being so vigorously pursued that, although a large number of his troops came dangerously near the train and its escort, they did not discover it, and passed swiftly on, leaving the expedition to continue its march to Fort Smith, where it arrived in due time and delivered the much needed supplies to the troops stationed there. Halting but two days for rest, the expedition started on its return march, during which many stragglers from the rebel army were captured. The expedition reached Little Rock on November 27, 1864, having marched three hundred sixty miles, much of the way over difficult roads and through heavy rain storms, making the march a most arduous one for both men and horses.

During the fall of 1864, a number of recruits were received by the battery, increasing its aggregate strength to nearly two hundred men. The men were employed mainly during the following winter in completing the works at Fort Steele. The spring of 1865 found the battery in splendid condition for active service in the field, but the war was virtually ended, and troops were retained at various places in the South for the purpose of

maintaining order and assisting the civil authorities in protecting the lives and property of the citizens against the lawless bands which infested the country. The tribe of Indians, occupying the Indian Territory on the borders of Arkansas and Missouri, were in a state of unrest. Many of them had joined the rebel army, and it became necessary for the military authorities to assume supervision over them and bring them back to their former friendly relations with the United States government. For this purpose a general council was held with the Indians at Fort Smith, In September, 1865, and the Third Iowa Battery was ordered to proceed to Fort Smith, where troops were being concentrated prior to the holding of the council. The battery left Little Rock on August 14, 1865 and marched the entire distance of one hundred eighty mile, unattended by other troops, and reached Fort Smith on August 28th. It remained there while the council with the Indians was being held and, at its conclusion, turned of the animals belonging to the battery to the Post Quartermaster. There were one hundred fifteen horses and forty-eight mules, all in excellent condition. The guns and other equipments of the battery were loaded on the steamer "American" and, with the officers and men, started for Little Rock, which place was reached on October 4th, when Captain Lyon received orders to turn over the guns and ordnance stores and proceed with his company to Davenport, Iowa. The journey of sixteen hundred miles by steamer was begun at Little Rock on October 7th and ended at Davenport on the 18th. There on October 23, 1865, the officers and men of the Third Iowa Veteran Battery were mustered out of the service of the United States. It had entered the service more than four years before, with an aggregate strength of one hundred forty men, rank and file. Owing to the large number of recruits it had received during the latter part of its service, there were one hundred fifty three names borne upon its rolls at the date of its muster out.

The Third Iowa Battery has a most honorable record of service. Its field of operations was somewhat circumscribed, and during the latter part of its service, it did not have the opportunities for actual conflict with the enemy which had marked its earlier career. But, wherever it was placed, its conduct was so as to merit and receive the highest commendation of commanding officers, for efficient and faithful service. It therefore occupies an honored place in the military history of the State of Iowa, and of the United States.

#### Summary of Casualties

Total Enrollment . . . . .	230
Killed . . . . .	3
Wounded . . . . .	18
Died of Wounds. . . . .	1
Died of Disease. . . . .	33
Discharged for Wounds, disease or other causes. .	32
Captured . . . . .	- -
Transferred. . . . .	- -

<sup>1</sup> Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1863, Vol. 2, pages 666 to 670 inclusive. Original Roster of the Battery.

#### **THIRD BATTERY IOWA LIGHT ARTILLERY – Roster and Record of Iowa Troops in the Rebellion**

The Third Iowa Battery was organized under special authority from the Secretary of War, during the months Of August and September, 1861, at Dubuque, Iowa, under the name of the Dubuque Battery, and was attached to the Ninth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, Colonel William Vandever commanding, while it remained in rendezvous and for some time after taking the field. On September 3, 1861, the first detachment of the battery, with William H. McClure as First Lieutenant, was mustered into the service of the United States and went into quarters at Camp Union, near Dubuque. The necessary additional enlistments—to complete the organization of a full battery of artillery—were soon secured and, on September 24, 1861, the muster in of the battery was completed. The names of the commissioned officers appear upon the original roster, as follows: Captain, Mortimer M. Hayden; Senior First Lieutenant, William H. McClure; Junior First Lieutenant, Melville C.

Wright; Senior Second Lieutenant, William H. Crozier, and Junior Second Lieutenant, Jerome Bradley. The roster shows that, upon the completion of its muster, the battery numbered one hundred forty men, rank and file.

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1 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1863, Vol. 2, pages 666 to 670 Inclusive. Official Roster of the Battery.

On January 28, 1862, the army, under General Curtis, began its advance toward Springfield, Mo., where General Price, in command of the rebel army, had established his headquarters, and where it was expected a battle would occur. The weather was cold, it rained much of the time, and the roads were in such terrible condition that the artillery and transportation trains of the army made slow and difficult progress. Upon reaching Lebanon, sixty-five miles from Rolla, General Curtis halted his army, and proceeded to thoroughly reorganize it before again advancing. The Third Iowa Battery was assigned to the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Army of the Southwest. The brigade consisted of the following troops: Ninth Iowa Infantry, Twenty-fifth Missouri Infantry and Third Illinois Cavalry, and was under command of Colonel William Vandever of the Ninth Iowa. After putting his army in the best possible condition to meet the enemy, General Curtis again moved forward towards Springfield. The rebel General Price was awaiting reinforcements, which failed to reach him at Springfield, and he therefore determined not to risk an engagement at that place. On the night of February 12, 1862, the rebel army began its retreat toward the Boston Mountains in Arkansas, and, on the next day, the advance of General Curtis' army took possession of Springfield.

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Upon learning that the rebel army had been largely reinforced, General Curtis halted his army at Cross Hollow, Ark., from which place his cavalry scouts kept close watch upon the movements of the enemy. It later became necessary to place the different divisions at considerable distances apart, in order to obtain supplies from the surrounding country, and the enemy, taking advantage of the situation, was preparing to attack these separated forces and prevent them from being concentrated. On the 4th of March, a portion of Vandever's Brigade, consisting of detachments of the Ninth Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, and Third Illinois Cavalry' with one section of the Third Iowa Battery, under command of Lieutenant Wright, the whole force, commanded by General Vandever, started on a reconnaissance in the direction of Huntsville, Ark., which place was reached after a march of forty-five miles. A portion Of the enemy's supplies and some prisoners were captured near Huntsville. From the prisoners Colonel Vandever learned that the enemy was marching to the attack of General Curtis' army, and he at once started upon his return march, which was conducted with such skill and energy as to avoid coming into contact with the enemy. It was one of the most remarkable and exhausting marches made during the war, by a mixed command of cavalry, infantry and artillery, covering a

distance of forty-seven miles in one day.

General Curtis, in anticipation of an attack by the enemy, had wisely concentrated his army in a strong position at Pea Ridge. The attack was made in a most determined manner, early on the morning of March 7, 1862. The Third Iowa Battery proceeded to the front with its brigade.

Two sections of the battery went into action near Elkhorn Tavern, relieving the First Iowa Battery, which had suffered heavy loss, and had several of its caissons exploded by the fire of the rebel batteries in its front. The position was one of the most exposed on the field. The rebel gunners had gotten the range quite accurately, and their fire was destructive. Before the two sections of the Third Iowa had been under fire ten minutes, one gun had been disabled, one caisson blown up, several of the men wounded, and a number of the horses killed and disabled.

Colonel Carr, the division commander, observing the desperate situation in which the two sections had been placed, and realizing the danger of their being entirely disabled or captured, ordered them to fall back out of range and await assignment to a less exposed position. The entire battery then took a position to the right of Elkhorn Tavern, where it remained until the entire division was forced to fall back in the evening. The operations of the battery, during both days of the battle, are described in the official report of Captain Hayden, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS HAYDEN'S BATTERY,  
(ATTACHED TO NINTH IOWA INFANTRY )  
SUGAR CREEK, ARK., March 9, 1862.

Colonel: Herewith please find statement of the part taken by this command, on the actions of the 7th and 8th instant: Pursuant to your order I sent forward one section of the battery, in charge of Lieutenant M. C. Wright, who took position in the road directly in front of and under a heavy fire from the enemy's battery.

Lieutenants W. H. McClure and J. Bradley, with their respective sections, were ordered forward to engage the enemy on the right and left of the first section. Supported by the Ninth Iowa Infantry, we held this position until the rebel guns had disabled ten pieces and killed and wounded many of the men and horses. The engagement now became general along the whole line, with both artillery and infantry. The enemy's fire becoming too severe, we withdrew, leaving behind our disabled limber and several killed and wounded horses. We then took position about three hundred yards in rear of the point where our fire was first opened, remaining there until near evening, (having held the enemy in check during the entire day.) at which time the whole division fell back to a large open field, where it halted during the night. Here the enemy pursued, but, being vigorously engaged by our artillery and infantry, was driven back with severe loss. During the engagement we attempted to plant the pieces of the battery upon a commanding eminence, but failed in the endeavor, an immense force of the enemy's infantry charging upon us, carrying away one of my guns, and killing and wounding two of my own, and several of the battery's horses. On the morning of the 8th we took position on the enemy's left, unsupported by either infantry or cavalry, opening fire on the slope where our guns were captured the previous day. Shortly afterwards the enemy opened upon us from a battery in our front, to which we then turned our fire, silencing his guns and driving him from the field. Our loss is two men killed and seventeen wounded. We lost twenty-three horses killed and three disabled. Three of our guns and one limber were captured by the enemy. I desire to make mention of the coolness and bravery of the whole command during the entire engagement, especially of Lieutenants Wright and Bradley, who, fearless of all personal danger, met the enemy with a spirit worthy of the highest commendation, and cannot overlook the efficient services rendered by Sergeants House, Harkins and Weaver, alike of Corporals Martin, Gullford, Goldthorp and Rowls. The latter, while spiking the last gun left upon the field, was severely wounded in both legs.

I am, Colonel, respectfully yours,  
*M. M. HAYDEN, Captain*  
*Commanding Battery.*

COLONEL WILLIAM VANDEVER, Commanding Second *Brigade*, Fourth *Division*. Colonel William Vandever, the brigade commander, makes mention of the battery, in his official report, as follows:

I desire also to call especial attention to the Dubuque Light Battery, under command of Captain M. M. Hayden, whose report is appended. Captain Hayden and every officer of this battery acquitted themselves with the highest credit. They bore the hottest fire of the enemy with coolness and intrepidity, the men under the skillful lead of Captain Hayden performing their duty with cheerfulness and alacrity, and never faltering. He mentions special instances of bravery in his report hereto appended, to which I would call especial attention. . . I herewith append a list of casualties.

Colonel E. A. Carr, the division commander, also makes mention of the battery in his official report, as



follows:

Captain Hayden, commanding the Dubuque Battery, acted with his usual coolness in superintending the operation of his guns. He had two horses killed under him.

His battery fired until the last moment, and, in consequence thereof, lost two pieces, several of his men being shot down while trying to attach them to the limber. The three pieces of artillery lost that day by Captain Hayden's Battery were recovered by our troops on the next day.... On the second day my division, being on the right, did not come into contact with the enemy. Captain Hayden's Battery, however, did excellent service, having been posted by the General in person, so as to cross-fire on the enemy.

The foregoing statement of Colonel Carr is fully confirmed by the official report of Major General Samuel R. Curtis, the Commander-in-Chief of the army, as shown by the following extract:

I repaired, myself, to the extreme right and found an elevated position considerably in advance, which commanded the enemy's center and left. Here I located the Dubuque Battery, directed the right wing to move its right forward so as to support the battery, and give direction to the advance of the entire right wing. Captain Hayden soon opened a fire which proved most galling to the foe, and a marker for our line to move upon. . . . At one time a battery was opened in front of Hayden's Battery on the extreme right, so near I could not tell whether it was the enemy's or an advance of Hayden's, but riding nearer I soon perceived its true character, and directed the First Iowa and the Peoria Battery to open fire on it, which soon drove it back to the common hiding place, the deep ravines of Cross Timber Hollow. 6

2 War of the Rebellion Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 8, pages 268, 9.

3 The names of the killed and wounded men of the battery, in the battle of Pea Ridge and in all the engagements in which it participated, will be found noted in the subjoined roster, together with those who died from wounds or disease, of those who were discharged for disability or other causes, and also such records of personal service given opposite each name, as could be obtained by a careful search of the official records in the office of the Adjutant General of the State of Iowa.

4 War of the Rebellion Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 8, pages 260, 261, 262 and 268. Official Reports of Colonels Carr and Vandever.

5 War of the Rebellion Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 8, page 202.

6 War of the Rebellion Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 8, pages 204 to 206 inclusive. Tabulated Returns of Casualties in the Army of the Southwest, at the battle of Pea Ridge, Ark., March 6-8, 1862.

During the series of engagements the Third Iowa Battery had expended over one thousand two hundred rounds of ammunition. This quantity of shot and shell, fired from the guns of one field battery, will give something of an idea of the immense amount of artillery ammunition alone which was hurled through the air by the batteries of the contending armies. Add to this the expenditure of rifle and musketry ammunition, by the cavalry and infantry of both armies, and the aggregate weight of lead and iron expended in the battle of Pea Ridge would exceed one hundred tons. General Curtis reported the aggregate loss of his army at one thousand three hundred eighty-four and says: "The loss of the enemy was much greater, but their scattered battalions can never furnish a correct report of their killed and wounded."

Three days after the battle, the battery took up the line of march with the army, and moved northward to Keithsville, where it halted and remained until April 5th, when the march was resumed and continued to Batesville, Ark., which place was reached about the 10th of May. The battery participated in an expedition to Searcy, on the Little Red River, returning to Batesville about the 20th of June. The army then marched to Helena, Ark., where it arrived on July 12, 1862. During the march the troops suffered greatly from the excessive heat and scarcity of provisions. Several expeditions were organized and sent out from Helena, in which the Third Iowa Battery participated, the most prominent among which were Hovey's Mississippi expedition, in November, 1862; Gorman's White River expedition, January, 1863; and the Yazoo Pass expedition, March, 1863. In the latter expedition the battery took an active part in the bombardment of Fort Pemberton. It then returned to Helena, where it constituted part of the garrison, and, on July 4, 1863, took an important part in the defense of that place against the attack of the rebel forces under command of General Holmes. First Lieutenant Wright was at that time in command of the battery. His official report is here quoted in full, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD IOWA BATTERY, HELENA, ARK, July 6, 1863.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to the order of the General commanding, I have the honor to herewith submit the following report of the part taken by the Third Iowa Battery in the engagement of yesterday. In accordance with previous instructions, at 3:30 A. M. I ordered one section of the battery, under command of Second Lieutenant O. H. Lyon, to a point near Battery D, on the left of our line. The second section, under command of Sergeant L. S. House, which has for some time been in park on the right of the line, immediately upon the

commencement of the battle pushed forward a few hundred yards to our extreme right, and took position, supported by a portion of the Second Infantry Brigade, Colonel Rice commanding, and the Cavalry Brigade, Colonel Clayton commanding. Immediately after getting into position, this section was joined by a battery with steel guns attached to the First Indiana Cavalry, and Colonel Clayton then assumed command of the whole. This officer then changed the position of his guns to a point on the east side of the levee on our right, where he remained during the whole of the engagement. At 6 A. M. the twelve-pound howitzer, in charge of Sergeant L. S. House, was disabled by the breaking of the understraps which fasten the cheeks to the axletree, the accident being caused by the recoil of the gun. It was immediately taken to park for repairs, but could not be finished in time to take further part in the engagement. At 6:30 A. M., the third section, which until then remained in camp, was dispatched in charge of Orderly Sergeant J. J. Dengl, to reinforce the right wing. On taking position, it immediately opened, and kept up a constant and effective fire against the guns of the enemy, posted on the hills on the extreme right, until recalled by order from the General commanding, to Fort Curtis, where it was again effectively employed against the enemy in their last charge on our works. The section under Lieutenant Lyon was first engaged about 7 A. M., and was after that constantly in action until the close of the battle, and was for a considerable length of time very hotly pressed. During the charge on Battery C, Lieutenant Lyon changed the position of his six-pounder gun to command the ravine running from the Catholic Church westward, and by his fire contributed very materially in repulsing the enemy. Separated as the battery was during the whole engagement, it is impossible to give as complete an account of the part taken in it, by the different sections, and to notice particularly the conduct of my officers and men, as I could wish. While my entire command did their duty nobly, justice to them compels me to report particularly with regard to the following officers: Lieutenant Lyon was, during the entire engagement, with his section, directing the fire of his guns, and encouraging the men by his example to deeds of valor, which I am confident the General commanding will appreciate. The Lieutenant had his horse wounded twice, severely though not fatally. From Colonel Clayton I learn that Sergeant House, in charge of section, behaved finely, displaying a great deal of courage and energy, as did also the other non-commissioned officers in his command. Of Orderly Sergeant J. J. Dengl, having charge of third section, I can speak from personal observation. He was on hand, ready and active, with a thorough appreciation of the situation. He showed himself to be emphatically an artillery officer. Lieutenant Lyon speaks very *highly* of the conduct, under the most trying circumstances, of the non-commissioned officers in his command, particularly of Corporal Daniel Folsom, gunner. The loss of the battery is very light, consisting of one horse killed and seven horses wounded. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am your most obedient servant,  
M. C. WRIGHT, *First Lieutenant*  
*Third Iowa Battery, Commanding.*

CAPTAIN A. BLOCKI, A. 4. G. U. S. Forces. 7

Lieutenant Wright in his report giving an account of the main points of interest in the history of the battery up to November 2, 1864, again refers to the part taken by the battery in the defense of Helena, and states that it fired over one thousand rounds, but escaped without any loss of men, owing to the fact that the fortifications afforded excellent protection, and that the loss of eight horses constituted the casualties sustained by the battery in that engagement. 8

7 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, pages 1235, 7.

8 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1866, Vol. 2, pages 1237 to 1241 inclusive. Partial history of the Third Iowa Battery, by Captain M. C. Wright.

The battery formed a part of General Steele's forces in his Little Rock expedition, participated in the capture of that place, and also took part in the expedition of General Rice against Arkadelphia, in October, 1863. In December, 1863, and January, 1864, there were a sufficient number of re-enlistments to enable the battery to acquire the title of a veteran organization. The men who re-enlisted were those who had entered the service when the battery was first organized, and did not include those who had subsequently joined the battery as recruits. Those who thus assumed the obligation of an extended term of service were officially designated as "Veterans" and were granted a furlough of thirty days. They were accordingly sent to Iowa and, upon the expiration of their furloughs, rejoined the battery at Little Rock, Ark., where it had remained during their absence. In May, 1864, the battery received new guns and a complete new equipment. There is no record of its operations during the summer of 1864, but the presumption is that it remained on duty during that period as part of the garrison at Little Rock, Ark. A large number of recruits joined the battery while it was stationed at that place, and it was thus provided with its full complement of men, in anticipation of the muster out of those whose term of service was about to expire.

At the expiration of their three years' term of service, the non-veterans (those who had not reenlisted) were sent to Iowa, under the command of Captain Hayden, and were mustered out of the service of the United

States on October 3, 1864. The gallant Captain and his men, who had faithfully served their country for the full term of their original enlistment, were veterans in fact, although only their comrades who remained in the service until the close of the war were given that official designation. They had fully discharged their obligation to the government and were, therefore, entitled to the honorable discharge which they received, together with the grateful appreciation of their splendid service by the loyal people of their State and Nation. 10

9 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, page 1241. The report of the operations of the battery—up to November 2, 1864—was written by captain M. C. Wright, at Little Rock, Ark. The report of its subsequent operations was made by Captain O. H. Lyon, after the battery was mustered out of the service. His report is found on pages 570 to 572 inclusive, report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1867, Vol. 2.

10 Captain M. M. Hayden subsequently re-entered the service, as Captain in General Hancock's Veteran Corps.

Captain Wright—under date of November 2, 1864—closes his report, as follows:

The following is the present roster of the volunteers of the battery: Captain, Melville C. Wright; Senior First Lieutenant, Orlo H. Lyon; Junior First Lieutenant, Joseph J. Dengl; Senior Second Lieutenant, Leroy S. House, and Junior Second Lieutenant, Hiland H. Weaver. The armament of the battery consists of four ten-pounder parrott guns, caliber three inch, and two three-inch bronze rifle guns. The battery is at present in comfortable winter quarters, built by ourselves, and is in a good state of, drill and discipline.

The report of Captain Lyon—heretofore referred to—describes in detail the subsequent movements and operations of the battery. It did not again come into conflict with the enemy, but performed important duties, the most notable of which were as follows: During the months of October and November, 1864, while the rebel forces under General Price were invading the State of Missouri, it became necessary to forward a large quantity of commissary stores from Little Rock, Ark., to the Federal troops stationed at Fort Smith. Navigation of the Arkansas River was rendered unsafe by reason of the occupation of forces of the enemy of intermediate points along its shores. An expedition by land was therefore organized, consisting of a large wagon train, heavily loaded with supplies, and guarded by a sufficient force of infantry and artillery to protect it from capture by the enemy. The Thirty-third Regiment of Iowa Infantry, commanded by Colonel C. H. Mackey, and one section (two guns) of the Third Iowa Battery, commanded by Lieutenant J. J. Dingl, were detailed to guard the train, and took up the long march for Fort Smith on October 30th. Soon after the march began it was learned that the rebel army, under General Price, had been defeated and driven out of Missouri, and was then retreating into Arkansas. As the expedition under Colonel Mackey was on the line traversed by the rebel army, the danger of an attack by a superior force of the enemy at once became apparent. Fortunately, however, the enemy had been so thoroughly defeated and was being so vigorously pursued that, although a large number of his troops came dangerously near the train and its escort, they did not discover it, and passed swiftly on, leaving the expedition to continue its march to Fort Smith, where it arrived in due time and delivered the much needed supplies to the troops stationed there. Halting but two days for rest, the expedition started on the return march, during which many stragglers from the rebel army were captured. The expedition reached Little Rock on November 27, 1864, having marched three hundred sixty miles, much of the way over difficult roads and through heavy rain storms, making the march a most arduous one for both men and horses. During the fall of 1864, a number of recruits were received by the battery, increasing its aggregate strength to nearly two hundred men. The men were employed mainly during the following winter in completing the works at Fort Steele. The spring of 1865 found the battery in splendid condition for active service in the field, but the war was virtually ended, and troops were retained at various places in the South for the purpose of maintaining order and assisting the civil authorities in protecting the lives and property of the citizens against the lawless bands which infested the country. The tribes of Indians, occupying the Indian Territory on the borders of Arkansas and Missouri, were in a state of unrest. Many of them had joined the rebel army, and it became necessary for the military authorities to assume supervision over them and bring them back to their former friendly relations with the United States government. For this purpose a general council was held with the Indians at Fort Smith, in September, 1865, and the Third Iowa Battery was ordered to proceed to Fort Smith, where troops were being concentrated prior to the holding of the council. The battery left Little Rock on August 14, 1865, and marched the entire distance of one hundred eighty miles, unattended by other troops, and reached Fort Smith on August 28th. It remained there while the council with the Indians was being held and, at its conclusion, turned over the animals belonging to the battery to the Post Quartermaster. There were, one hundred fifteen horses and forty-eight mules, all in excellent condition. The guns and other equipments of the battery were loaded on the steamer "American" and, with the officers and men, started for Little Rock, which place was reached on October 4th, when Captain Lyon received orders to turn over the guns and ordnance stores and proceed with his company to Davenport, Iowa. The journey of sixteen hundred miles by steamer was begun at Little Rock on October 7th and ended at Davenport on the 18th. There, on October 23, 1866,

the officers and men of the Third Iowa Veteran Battery were mustered out of the service of the United States. It had entered the service more than four years before, with an aggregate strength of one hundred forty men, rank and file. Owing to the large number of recruits it had received during the latter part of its service, there were one hundred fifty-three names borne upon its rolls at the date of its muster out. 11

11 All the changes among officers, by reason of resignation and discharge at expiration Or term of service, and all promotions of commissioned and non- commissioned Officers and privates, will be found noted in the subjoined roster. together with their personal record of service, in so far as the same could be obtained from the official records.

The Third Iowa Battery has a most honorable record of service. Its field of operations was somewhat circumscribed, and, during the latter part of its service, it did not have the opportunities for actual conflict with the enemy which had marked its earlier career. But, wherever it was placed, its conduct was such as to merit and receive the highest commendation of commanding officers, for efficient and faithful service. It therefore occupies an honored place in the military history of the State of Iowa, and of the United States.

**SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES.**

Total Enrollment .....	290
Killed.....	3
Wounded.....	18
Died of wounds .....	1
Died of disease .....	33
Discharged for wounds, disease or other causes.....	32
Buried in National Cemeteries .....	13
Captured .....	0
Transferred .....	0

**THIRD BATTERY IOWA LIGHT ARTILLERY**

Term of service three years.

Mustered into the service of the United States at Dubuque Iowa, Sept. 24, 1861, by Captain C. Washington, United States. Army.

Mustered out of service at Davenport, Iowa, Oct. 23, 1865.

**Third Battery Iowa Light Artillery – Iowa and the Rebellion**

The Third Battery, more generally known, perhaps, as the "Dubuque Battery," was organized at the city of Dubuque in the month of August, 1861. captain M. M. Hayden, a noted democratic politician, was in command. The battery, as was the case with the First, distinguished itself at Pea Ridge. Afterwards, its principal battle was that of Helena where it won high praise. It was subsequently engaged in the campaigns of Arkansas.

Our Fourth Battery was not organized till the latter part of November, 1863—at Davenport. Its members came from many parts of the State. It had many in its ranks who had previously served, and was a fine command in all respects, but it did not have the good fortune to particularly distinguish itself in the field. Its theatre of operations for the most part was in Louisiana.'

1 The officers of the First Battery, as shown by the Adjutant General's Reports, were: Captains— Charles H. Fletcher, J. A. Jones, H. H. Griffiths, William H. Gay; Lieutenants—Virgil J. David, O. W. Gambell, James M. Williams, William H. Gay, Abram Harback, A. S. Curtis, Thomas J. liams, S. H. Titus, D. J. De Long.

SECOND BATTERY.—Captains—Nelson T. Spoor, Joseph R. Reed; Lieutenants Joseph B. Reed, Daniel Walling, Charles T. Reed, John W. Coons, John Burke.

THIRD BATTERY.—Captains—Mortimer M. Hayden, Melville C. Wright; Lieutenants William H. McClure, Melville C. Wright, Otis G. Day, William M. Crozier, Jerome Bradley, O. H. Lyon, Daniel W. Lee, J. J. Dengl, H. H. Weaver, William H. Gilford.

FOURTH BATTERY.—Captain Philip R. Goode; Lieutenants-James H . Beatty, Frances W. McClellan, John H . Alexander, Francis M. Ellsworth, Joseph Brown.

**Seventh Iowa Cavalry - Gue**

Efforts had long been made by Samuel W. Summers and H. E. Heath to organize a regiment of cavalry to be known as the Seventh. Finally on the 27th of April, 1863, two companies were mustered in, on the 28th two, on the 29th two more, on the 3d of June and the 13th of July one. Three companies raised for the Forty-

first Infantry and a company of Sioux City Cavalry were, by order of the War Department, now transferred to the Seventh. These latter companies had for some time been in service on the frontier. The regiment was now complete and the following officers were assigned to it: Colonel Samuel W. Summers, Lieutenant-Colonel John Pattee, Majors H. H. Heath, G. W. O'Brien and John S. Wood. The adjutant was Eugene S. Sheffield. Six companies were sent to Omaha under Major Heath and stationed in different parts of the Territory. In September Colonel Summers moved from Davenport with the remainder of the regiment and made Omaha his headquarters. During the entire term of service the various companies of the regiment were scattered over a wide extent of country where they were employed in active duties, protecting the frontier from hostile Indians. They garrisoned posts, escorted trains, protected emigrants, guarded lines of travel and telegraph and had frequent engagements with hostile bands of Indians.

Portions of the regiment were engaged in many battles including White Stone Hill, Little Blue, Julesburg, Rush Creek, Mud Springs, Horse Creek, in some of which losses were sustained. They did good service over a wide range of country in Nebraska, Kansas, Dakota and Colorado under Generals McKean, Mitchell, Curtis and Heath. Their greatest loss was at Julesburg on the 7th of January, 1865, where Captain O'Brien with Company F was escorting a train. The Indians in large numbers made an attack upon the train which was kept up during the entire day. Colonel Summers was with the company and directed the fight. At one time he was besieged on a ranch while Captain O'Brien brought up artillery and opened upon the Indians, who were finally driven off with heavy loss. Colonel Summers shot one of the chiefs with his revolver and fifty-five warriors were killed during the fight. Captain William D. Fouts and twelve men were killed during the year in other engagements. Colonel Summers was mustered out of the service on the 31st of January, 1865. Heath was, in the following May, promoted to colonel and soon after was brevetted Brigadier-General. He was placed in command of a sub-district with headquarters at Fort Kearney and subdued the hostile Indians in that region who had long harassed the settlers and emigrants. Major O'Brien also became colonel of the regiment and was a brevet Brigadier-General. The regiment was finally mustered out of service at Leavenworth, Kansas, on the 17th of May, 1866.

### **SEVENTH CAVALRY – Iowa and the Rebellion**

#### **ORGANIZED AT DAVENPORT—ITS FIELD OF OPERATIONS WEST OF THE MISSOURI RIVER-ITS BATTLES AND SERVICES TO THE CLOSE OF 1865.**

The formation of the Seventh Cavalry Regiment of Iowa Volunteers proceeded slowly, and it was finally organized at "Camp Hendershott," Davenport, in the summer of 1863, by a consolidation of companies which had been previously assigned to other organizations. It would be but to weary the reader with uninteresting details to relate the particulars of the process by which the regiment was at last brought to unity and organization. Let it suffice, that Colonel Summers long labored energetically, but without complete success, to recruit companies for the regiment; that Major Heath was untiring and sagacious in his efforts to bring about the desired results; that these labors were continued through many months; having commenced in the year 1862, and that two companies were mustered into the service April 27th, 1863, two more companies the day following, two more June 3d, one on the 16th, and one on the 13th of July. Meanwhile, three companies of the Forty-first Infantry (being, in fact, Companies A, B. and C, as originally enrolled in the Fourteenth Infantry), and a company of Sioux City Independent Cavalry, were transferred to this regiment by order of the Department of War. The four companies transferred had already been long in the service on the western frontier. July 25th, Samuel W. Summers, who had been many months commissioned, was mustered as colonel, and the organization thereby completed. John Pattee, who had been appointed Major of the Forty-first Infantry, was lieutenant-colonel; H. H. Heath, George W. O'Brien, John S. Wood, were majors; Eugene S. Sheffield was adjutant; William H. Northrop, quartermaster; Benjamin F. Giger, commissary; Andrew J. Willey, surgeon, with James W. La Force, and Stephen P. Yeomans, assistants.

Nearly a month before the completion of the organization, Major Heath marched for Omaha, Nebraska Territory, under orders to report to Brigadier-General McKean, with six companies of the regiment. General McKean, commanding the district of Nebraska, stationed the companies, after their arrival, at different posts in the territory. In September, Colonel Summers, with the headquarters of the regiment, and the two companies which had been left at Davenport, marched also to Omaha, at which place headquarters remained until about the middle of July, 1864.

But during the entire service of the regiment, from the time Major Heath reached Omaha, till the close of the year, 1865, the different companies were scattered over a wide extent of territory, and each was actively engaged in the heavy duties required of troops at frontier posts, in a country constantly threatened, and frequently invaded by a savage enemy. They garrisoned posts, escorted trains, protected emigrants, guarded lines of travel and of telegraph, and had frequent combats with the Indians who had been induced by some means or other to unbury the tomahawk and wage savage warfare against the whites. Portions of the

regiment were engaged in the battles of White Stone Hill, Tahkahokutah, Mauvais Tennes, or Bad Lands, Little Blue, Julesburg, Mud Springs, Rush Creek, Horse Creek, Cow Creek, and other engagements and skirmishes, in all which they fought gallantly, and in some of which they met with considerable losses. In Dakota, in Nebraska, in Colorado, in Kansas; under Generals McKean, Mitchell, Curtis, and lastly under Heath; they performed valuable services over a vast extent of country—services which, to describe with particularity, would require many pages for every company of the regiment. Each company marched thousands of miles, from the time of organization till the close of the year 1865, though, of course, on account of circumstances, some of the companies were more actively employed than others.

The command lost more heavily at the affair of Julesburg, Colorado Territory, January 7th, 1865, than elsewhere. This engagement was fought by Company F of the Seventh Cavalry, Captain N. J. O'Brien commanding the company. The Indians in large numbers attacked a train near Julesburg. Captain O'Brien marched to the assistance of the train. Colonel Summers accompanied Captain O'Brien's command, and directed the combat on the Union side. It continued during the day, Colonel Summers being at one time besieged in a ranch by the road side. Captain O'Brien having now brought up artillery fired amongst the Indians and soon dispersed them. Fifty-five warriors were killed dead on the field and many wounded. Colonel Summers himself shot the principal chief with his revolver, and secured his magnificent equipments

1 The killed of the Seventh Cavalry at Julesburg were: Sergeant A. Hanshett; Corporals W. H. Gray, Anthony Koons, W. B. Talcott; Privates George Burnett, H. W. Brundridge, Henry A. Hall, David Ishman, Davis Lippincott, Amos McArthur, Joel Stebbins, Thomas Scott, Edson Moore. I find the following names reported of those killed in other actions, some of which took place before some after the affair of Julesburg. Namely: John Anderson, William R. Mosier, William Stewart, William McVey, Thomas Turner, John W. Bower, Bluford Starkey, John A. Harris, Newton J. Grubb, Richard Groger, Edward McMahan, Philp Alder. Captain William D. Fouts was slain at the battle of Horse Creek, Dacota, June 14th, 1865, whilst gallantly leading his command.

Colonel Summers was mustered out of the service not long after the battle of Julesburg, and returned to Iowa. Some months afterwards, Major Heath, always popular with the command, was commissioned, and was mustered colonel in the following May, and soon afterwards was brevetted brigadier-general. The Department of Missouri was now in command of Major-General G. M. Dodge, who devoted much of his energies to the protection of our western settlers and of the overland line of travel to the Pacific coast. General Heath went to Fort Kearney, and taking command of a sub-district succeeded in defeating the Indians in one or two engagements, and in making it safe for travelers to journey to the great gold-bearing regions of our country.

Late in the fall, the savages attacked a train in the vicinity of Alcali. Heath's troopers were soon in pursuit, and by a march of incredible difficulty over a sterile country, and a fine combat at midnight, in which the Indians were completely defeated, with heavy losses in killed and wounded, returned to headquarters, not soon to be disturbed by the savage enemy. General Heath conducted hostilities against the Indians with great success, and won the encomiums of superior officers not only, but of the people who had been so long harassed that they had well nigh given up all hope of being soon relieved from the terrors of Indian warfare. "The citizens of Nebraska," says a leading journal of that territory, "and especially those living on and interested in the great overland road may congratulate themselves upon having a military commander who thoroughly understands the mode of Indian warfare, and who is willing to march against them, and to endure the same privations and fatigue that his men do, sharing his rations with them; whose home in the field is in the saddle, and whose movements are as rapid as those of his wily foe. These qualities are combined in General Heath, who stands head and shoulders above any officer who has been in command at Fort Kearney since the beginning of the Indian troubles."

It is doubtless on account of the efficient services of General Heath and his command that the Seventh Cavalry is still retained in the service (January 1866) and will probably be so retained for some months to come. Its troopers, in whole or by detachments, have already taken part in every expedition against Indians in the Departments of the Missouri, Kansas, and the Northwest, from the middle of 1863 to the present time, and they have always done their duty manfully, skillfully, bravely. They have endured many privations, suffered many hardships, but they have suffered with patience, as they have fought ever gallantly, keeping from our borders a ruthless enemy, who, but for their sleepless vigilance and untiring energy would have carried fire, and massacre, and indescribable horrors over the new settlements of our frontier. There is a heavy debt of gratitude due from the Country and especially from the Northwest, to those troops who were denied the privilege of fighting rebels in the South, but who performed invaluable services on the less glorious field of the far west, and among all the troops who were there engaged none are entitled to a larger share of that gratitude than the Seventh Iowa Cavalry, Colonel Herman H. Heath.<sup>2</sup>

2 The history of the Sixth and Seventh regiment of Iowa Cavalry, does not, strictly, come within the general plan of this work, which has to do with what our troops did in the war against the Southern Rebellion. These

regiment however, were recruited during the rebellion, and performed most of their services, the former nearly all, before it was conquered. Moreover, the Indian outbreak was probably the result of rebel machinations. It has been deemed but simple justice, therefore, to briefly relate the history of these gallant troopers.

I may add, as of personal interest, the names of the officers of the Seventh, embracing the changes up to September, 1865.

Colonels Samuel W. Summers, H. H. Heath. Lieutenant-Colonel John Pattee. Majors H. H. Heath, George M. O'Brien, James B. David, John S. Wood. Adjutants E. S. Sheffield, Edward K. Valentine. Surgeon Andrew J. Willey, with Assistants James W. La Force, Stephen P. Yeoman. Quartermaster W. H. Northrop. Commissary B. F. Giger.

Company A—Captains John S. Wood, Edward B. Murphy; Lieutenants Edward B. Murphy, James G. Smith, Thomas J. Potter, Benjamin F. Roberts. Company B—Captain John Wilcox; Lieutenants John M. Philips, Thomas S. Parker, Jesse Aiken, Francis J. Comstock. Company C—Captains H. W. Cremer, Jonathan C. Mitchell; Lieutenants H. W. Cremer, George M. Swain, Ira C. Schenck. Company Captains Dudley L. Haywood, William D. Fonts; Lieutenants Dudley L. Haywood, Jacob B. De Lay, Jere. H. Twiggs, William N. Monroe, Daniel D. Moore. Company E—Captain George P. Norris; Lieutenants John W. Robley, James B. David, George P. Norris, Edward F. Ormsby. Company F—Captain Nicholas J. O'Brien; Lieutenants John S. Brewer, E. F. Ward, Michael Towers. Company G—Captain Elisha Hammer; Lieutenant Charles E. Everton, Joseph Bone, J. S. Beals, George W. Heath (accidentally killed in March, 1864). Company H—Captains Curtis Clark, Daniel S. Malven; Lieutenants H. W. Garfield, John H. Brooks, E. H. Hutchings, Allen Ellsworth. Company I—Captain A. J. Millard; Lieutenants Jacob T. Copelan, Samuel H. Cassidy. Company K—Captain John Pattee (of the old organization); Lieutenants John C. Rutan, Wallis Pattee. Company L—Captain Bradley Mahanna; Lieutenants Marvin B. Luse, Joseph Schell. Company M—Captains Anthony Courtwright, George W. Wolfe; Lieutenants Lemuel O. Cunningham, Barton T. Ryan.

## **SEVENTH REGIMENT IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY – Roster and Record of Iowa Troops in the Rebellion**

The Seventh Iowa Cavalry was organized under special authority of the War Department, for the purpose of assisting in the defense of the western and northern frontier settlements against the hostile Indians tribes. The Government had previously employed the troops of the Regular Army for that purpose, but the greater part of those troops were then engaged with the armies in the South, in contending against the armed forces of treason and rebellion. Therefore, in addition to the large number of regiments which the State of Iowa had already sent into the field, her loyal sons were called upon to volunteer for the protection of the pioneer settlers upon the frontiers. The organization of the regiment proceeded slowly. The first company was ordered into quarters by the Governor on November a, 1862. Davenport, Iowa, was designated as the rendezvous of the regiment, and there, on dates ranging from April 27 to July 13, 1863, eight companies— A to H inclusive— were-mustered into the service of the United States, by Lieutenant Colonel William N. Grier, of the Regular Army. Company r was added, by transfer of the Sioux City Cavalry, an independent company, which had been mustered into the service at Sioux City, November 14, 1861, and had been long engaged in service on the frontier. Companies K, L and M were added, by transfer of Companies A, B and C, of the Forty-first Iowa Infantry, originally enrolled with the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry and mustered into the service at Iowa City, October 23, 1861. These companies had also been engaged in service on the frontier, and were in garrison at Fort Randall, Dakota Territory, at the time of their transfer to the Seventh Cavalry. The organization of the regiment was thus completed on July 25, 1863. The four companies transferred were a valuable acquisition, on account of their long experience on the frontier and their knowledge of the character of the Indians and their methods of warfare.

1 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, pages 142 to 150 inclusive.

On the 27th of July, 1863, six companies of the regiment, under command of Major H. H. Heath, marched from the rendezvous at Davenport, under orders to report to General McKean, commanding the District of Nebraska, Department of Missouri, with headquarters at Omaha.

Upon their arrival at Omaha, these companies were assigned to different posts in Nebraska Territory. On the 5th of September the remaining companies marched to Omaha, where the headquarters of the regiment were established. The principal operations of the regiment were performed by detachments, scattered over a wide extent of territory, and for that reason a connected history of the regiment as a whole cannot be given. From historical memoranda furnished the Adjutant General of Iowa, by Major George M. O'Brien, and from official reports of battles with the Indians, which will hereafter be referred to, the compiler will endeavor to give a condensed account of the leading events which marked the long period of service covered by the regiment.

The Seventh Iowa Cavalry had, at the completion of its organization, an aggregate strength of 1,096 men.

Subsequent enlistments increased the number to the total enrollment as shown at the close of this historical sketch. All casualties are noted in the subjoined roster, together with the personal record of service of each officer and enlisted man. From the time regimental headquarters were established and the companies were assigned to their various posts, they were engaged in escorting trains, protecting emigrants, guarding lines of travel, scouting through the country and watching the movements of the Indians. They had numerous conflicts with the Indians. Portions of the regiment were engaged in the battles of Horse Creek, White Stone Hill, Tahkahokutah, Bad Lands, Little Blue, Julesburg, Mud Springs and Rush Creek, besides several less important affairs. Limitation of space will not permit quotation of the official reports of all these engagements, but, as typical of the treacherous character of the Indians and the desperate situation in which these small detachments were frequently placed, the entire report of Captain John Wilcox is here given:

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT SEVENTH IOWA CAVALRY, IN FIELD NEAR JULESBURG, C. T., June 21, 1865.

CAPTAIN:—I have the honor to report that, in compliance with special orders from Major Mackey, commanding post at Fort Laramie, Captain W. D. Fouts, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, in command of his Company (D) and small detachments of Companies A and B. of the same regiment, in all four commissioned officers and one hundred and thirty six enlisted men, left Fort Laramie on the 11th day of June, 1865, enroute to Julesburg, in charge of one hundred and eighty-five lodges of Sioux Indians, numbering in the aggregate from fifteen hundred to two thousand persons. Among them was an organized company, uniformed by Government, and under command of Charles Ellison, who had for some time been entrusted with the supervision of the entire Indian encampments near Fort Laramie, and who was entrusted with seventy thousand rations for these Indians on the march to Julesburg. The Indians were all well armed with bows and arrows, and most of them with fire arms, also, They were ostensibly quite friendly, and expressed themselves as being pleased with their removal. Nothing of interest transpired during the first three days of the march, except signal smokes by Indians north of the Platte by day, and reputed conferences by night between them and the Indians in charge of Captain Fouts. On the evening of the 13th, Captain Fouts and command encamped for the night on the east bank of Horse Creek, and the Indians pitched their tepees on the west. Late in the evening the Indians had a dog feast, and three hundred and eighty-two warriors sat in secret council. On the morning of the 14th, reveille was sounded at three o'clock A. M., and the order of march announced to be at five, At sunrise I was ordered by Captain Fouts to proceed with the advance guards (detachments of Companies A and B) two miles on the route of march, then halt and wait until the wagon train closed up on rear of the advance guard, and the Indians in rear of the wagon train; then to move forward in this order and column of march. Just as the wagons were closing up, I heard the rapid report of fire arms to the rear. Believing it to be a result and attack by the Indians, and knowing the great disparity in numbers against us, as well as the fact that Captain Fouts and family, the family of Lieutenant Triggs, and Mrs. Eubanks and child (late rescued Indian captives) were with us, I determined to first prepare for defensive warfare, and had the wagons corralled in the best possible shape, the teams unhitched from the wagons and put inside the corral, and the men in line outside ready for action. In this condition I awaited orders from Captain Fouts. A messenger, coming up shortly after, reported; that Captain Fouts had gone across the creek to hurry up the Indians, and was shot and killed by them; and that the Indians were there fighting among themselves. I immediately dispatched a messenger on the fleetest horse, to communicate with Fort Mitchell and the telegraph office, distant eighteen miles.

The messenger was closely pursued by Indians. The rear guard (company D) coming up, I demanded of Lieutenant Haywood why he did not stand and fight the Indians. He replied that his men had no cartridges, and that his Captain (Fouts) had refused to issue them, stating that they would not be needed. Ordering him to have his men fill their cartridge boxes immediately, I ordered Lieutenants Smith and Triggs, in command of sixty-five men, to hold the corral, keep the stock securely hitched within, keep the men in line outside, and dig rifle pits near the corral, in a manner defensible from all approach, while Lieutenant Heywood and I, with seventy men, mounted on our best horses, (the horses were all very poor from hand service without forage, and few were serviceable,) and repaired with all possible dispatch to the scene of action, Passing over the late Indian encampment, we saw the body of Captain Fouts, dead, stripped and mutilated.

The Indians had fled two or three miles to the Platte, the squaws and papooses were swimming the river on ponies, and the warriors, on their war horses, were circling and maneuvering in hostile array. Supposing that a part of the Indians were really friendly, and would join us in subduing the rest, I charged on after them. We overtook and passed a few squaws and papooses, whom I forbade my men to injure or molest. These returned. When within six hundred yards of the enemy, I halted my command in line, and sent the interpreter (Ellison) to the front to signal and tell all who were our friends to return and they should not be harmed; but all were hostile, and with hideous yells charged upon us, I dismounted my men, and deployed a line of skirmishers to the front, with long range arms, to receive them. When within three hundred yards, the Indians opened fire upon us. My men answered them promptly with a volley that repulsed them in front, but more than a hundred were dashing by each flank, and closing in the rear, while, from the hills to our left, they were



bearing down like an avalanche upon us. Seeing that we were assailed by more than five hundred warriors, (they had evidently been largely reinforced during the previous night,) equally armed and better mounted than my little squad, I thought that to stand, be surrounded, and cut off from our defenses and ammunition, would involve the entire command in indiscriminate massacre, as well as the capture of the train and animals. Deeming "prudence the better part of valor" I remounted my men and fell back to our defenses, by skirmishing to rear and flanks, and only returned by desperate skirmish fighting, for a distance of over four miles, many of my men having entirely emptied their cartridge boxes of ammunition during the engagement. The Indian flankers were in advance of my command from the time we fell back, till the opening fire from our rifle pits sent them howling to the rear. After replenishing the cartridge boxes with a fresh supply of ammunition, and finding that the Indians would not fight us behind our defenses, I, with Lieutenant Smith and fifty men (all I could mount on serviceable horses), went after them again, hoping to detain them until we could be reenforced; but, after following them nearly three miles, we saw them in vastly superior numbers forming in from and coming over the hills, to our left and rear, evidently intending to entrap and overwhelm us, away from our defenses. Not being strong enough to whip them in open field, we again retired, taking with us our scalped and mutilated dead on the battlefield. Captain Shuman, Eleventh Ohio Cavalry, arriving promptly with re-enforcements at about nine o'clock, I mounted every serviceable horse and mule and went for the Indians again, with sanguine hopes, but the reenforcements were too late. Their families having got across the river, we had the mortification of seeing the warriors, in following them, ascend the opposite hills and tauntingly beckon us to follow which was impossible, in face of a superior enemy, at the swimming stage of the river. In their flight the Indians abandoned all their lodges and loose plunder, which I ordered burned or destroyed. On the battle field was a powder keg, which had been recently broken open by the Indians, and a few pounds of powder still remained. The supposition is that it was brought into camp the previous night by Indian allies. From the number of Indians known to be killed in the engagement, we estimated their loss from twenty to thirty, most of whom they threw into the river, in accordance with their superstitious notions of their dead falling into the hands of the enemy.

Our loss was four killed and four wounded, viz: Captain by. D. Fouts, Company D, killed. Private Edward McMahon, Company D, killed. Private Richard Grogen, Company D, killed. Private Philip Alder, Company B. killed. Private Samuel Kersey, Company B. wounded. Private Lewis Tuttle, Company B. wounded. Private James May, Company D, wounded. Private John Trout, Company D, wounded.

2 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, pages 150, 151 and 151.

In the fight a very few enlisted men I cannot name acted badly, but most of them behaved nobly and some with daring bravery. The officers under my command behaved well. After interring our dead, (except Captain Fouts, afterwards interred at Fort Mitchell,) and repairing the telegraph line, broken by the Indians during the engagement, we took up our line of march and arrived at Fort Mitchell after nightfall. Receiving a dispatch from Colonel Moonlight to cross the river and join him in pursuit of the Indians, I attempted the crossing at two different points, on the 15th, but, the river being wide and coursed with alternate channels that swam, and bars of quicksands that mired, I abandoned the crossing as impracticable, after the drowning of two horses and a mule, and the dragging to shore of two men (one of them Captain Shuman), nearly drowned in attempting to cross. Receiving a telegram from General Conner, on the 16th, to report immediately with my command at Julesburg, I respectfully report his order obeyed. Very truly and respectfully, your obedient servant, JOHN WILCOX, Captain Company B. Seventh Iowa Cavalry, Commanding Detachments.

The battle described in the foregoing report was officially designated as "Horse Creek," on account of the name of the stream near which it was fought. It was very evident that Captain Fouts was the victim of misplaced confidence in the good faith of the Indians in his charge, and that his death was the first result of their treachery. This trait of Indian character was, perhaps, most notable in the tribe of Sioux Indians, a portion of whom constituted the band who were being removed to the reservation assigned to them, when the revolt took place. Another engagement, in which a small detachment of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry suffered the greatest loss in killed—in proportion to the number engaged—which occurred in any of its conflicts with the Indians, took place near the post of Julesburg, C. T., on January 7, 1865, and is officially designated as the "Battle of Julesburg." The following account of the engagement is given in the historical memoranda of Major O'Brien, heretofore referred to in this sketch, and has reference to Company F. alone, that being the only company engaged, and that conflict the most important event in its history:

During the fall and winter of 1863 and 1864, the company was subjected to great hardships, with no quarters except the shelter of a few worn Sibley tents. On account of exposure many were taken sick, but endured their sufferings without a murmur. The quarters were completed on or about the 1st of March, 1864, and the post assumed the name of Fort Cottonwood, commanded by Major George M. O'Brien, Seventh Iowa Cavalry. The company was ordered by General Mitchell to march from Cottonwood to Fort Laramie, July 19,

1864: arrived at Fort Laramie July 28th. While the company remained at that post, parties were engaged in scouting the country in quest of hostile Indians. On August 21st, the Company was ordered to proceed to Julesburg, C. T., where it arrived August 24th: distance marched 170 miles. Total distance marched from July 19 to August 24, 1864, 966 miles. Upon arriving at Julesburg, the company commenced erecting quarters and supplying the garrison with fuel, which is from sixty to eighty miles distant. On the 7th of January, 1865, thirty-seven men of the company being all that were present for duty, engaged in battle some fifteen hundred Indian warriors, concentrated for battle near the post. The Indians at first retired, and I immediately ordered a pursuit, which was continued to the bluffs, when, suddenly from every ravine and hiding place, the savages threw themselves upon my little band: at first the enemy was checked, but only for a moment. The enemy compelled my men to retreat, leaving fourteen of the detachment dead on the field, horribly mutilated. After the retreat, the Indians retired. Many Indians were killed and wounded.

On the 2d of February, the post was attacked by a large number of Indians, Whom were repulsed with severe loss, without doing my company any injury.

Captain Nicholas J. O'Brien was the commanding officer of Company F. and the presumption is that it was from his official report to the Major that the memoranda was made. It is a very notable fact that, in these conflicts with the Indians, the number of killed is far in excess of the wounded, on both sides, while in the battles between the Union and Confederate troops, the wounded were almost invariably largely in excess of the killed. In the battle of Julesburg no wounded are reported, while fourteen of the thirty-seven men engaged were killed. 4 The description of the hardships endured by Company F will apply as well to all the companies of the regiment, at one time or another, during their long and arduous term of service. Their service extended over such a wide field, and the enemy with whom they had to deal was so elusive and treacherous, that it required great fortitude and capacity for endurance on the part of the troops. Their marches extended over many thousands of miles in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Dakota Territories. Company A has a record of 5, 300 miles traveled in scouting, escorting trains, pursuing Indians and changing stations, from the time it took the field to the 28th of February, 1865.5 Other companies have similar records and, at the time they were-mustered out of the service, all of them had probably exceeded that record.

The official reports of Major General Sully show that detachments from the Seventh Iowa Cavalry participated in the battles of White Stone Hill and Tahkahokutah. In both these battles the regiment fully sustained the good reputation it had won in all its previous engagements, and performed its duty bravely and efficiently. Captain Milland, in command of his company, followed General Sully in his charge through the center of the Indian encampment at White Stone Hill, and continued to follow up the Indians, who made a desperate resistance, until darkness ended the conflict. In the next engagement, three companies of the regiment, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Pattee, again followed the gallant General Sully and contributed their full share in winning another decisive victory over the combined Indian tribes. General Sully's reports describe the movements of his troops, previous to and during these battles, with great minuteness and particularity, and show the great difficulties encountered in conducting his campaigns, the hardships and privations to which the troops under his command were subjected and the great value of the service of these brave volunteer soldiers to the Government.'

3 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, pages 146 and 147.

4 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1867, Vol. 1, page 340. Names of the killed in Company F. Seventh Iowa Cavalry, at Julesburg, January 7, 1865: Sergeant Alanson Hanchett, Corporal Anthony Koons. Corporal Walter B. Talcott, Corporal William H. Gray, Private George Barnett, Private Hiram W. Brundage, Private Henry H. Hall, Private David Ishman, Private James Jordon, Private Davis Lippincott, Private Edson D. Moore, Private Amos C. McArthur, Private Thomas Scott, Private Joel Stebbins.

5 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, page 144.

6 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1864, pages 616 to 628 inclusive; 1864, Vol. 2, pages 1366 to 1374 inclusive.

Copious extracts from these reports have been made in the compilation of the historical sketch of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and the compiler—to avoid repetition—refers the reader to that sketch, which is contained in this volume. The records of the Sixth and Seventh Regiments of Iowa Cavalry are, to a considerable extent, identical. The general character of the service performed by the two regiments was the same. The companies composing both were often widely separated and located at lonely posts, far beyond the frontier, and from those posts the movements of the Indians were noted. outer messengers were sent to distant forts, and, in the performance of that dangerous service, some of those brave men were overtaken and slain by the Indians. The life of the cavalry soldier on the plains was fraught with constant danger and hardship. In the exhaustive official report of Major General Pope, commanding the Department of the Northwest, the operations of the troops against the Indians, the location of the various military posts and of the Indian tribes, the long line of frontier to be defended, the almost insuperable difficulties encountered, are all most fully described; and the brave officers and men serving in his department, including the Sixth and Seventh Regiments of Iowa Cavalry

are highly commended. 7 Could this and many other official reports pertaining exclusively to the campaigns against the Indians, in which these Iowa regiments participated, be incorporated in this sketch, a more adequate comprehension of the value of their service and the privations they endured could be had. It is not, however, within the province of the compiler of these necessarily brief historical sketches to give more than the outlines of the history of each organization. In his "Iowa in War Times" Major Byers pays a fine tribute to the Sixth and Seventh Regiments of Iowa Cavalry, which is here quoted, in part, as follows:

They had hand marches, far away from the comforts or advantages of civilization; they fought barbarous foes, and usually in overwhelming numbers, and were always victorious. Some of them marched from three thousand to five thousand miles, and scouts and petty fights were weekly occurrences. The regiments were nearly always more or less divided, garrisoning different posts, scouting and marching in different directions, making a succinct history of their arduous services almost impossible. They were led by good and brave officers, and their services were of as much value to the country, in beating back savages, as were the services of other regiments in fighting the rebels in the South. ... The character of warfare practiced on the western plains required a degree of endurance, personal bravery and heroism, not excelled on the bloodiest battlefields of the South.

7 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1865, Vol. 2, Pages 1358 to 1365 inclusive.

8 "Iowa in war Times," by S H. M. Byers, page 596.

L. D. Ingersoll, in his "Iowa and the Rebellion," after having made mention of the gallant conduct of Colonel Summers, pays the following tribute to Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General Heath, and his regiment:

Colonel Summers was mustered out of the service not long after the battle of Julesburg, and returned to Iowa. Some months afterwards, Major Heath, always popular with the command, was commissioned, and was mustered Colonel in the following May, and soon afterwards was brevetted Brigadier General. The Department of Missouri was now in command of Major General G. M. Dodge, who devoted much of his energies to the protection of our western settlers and of the overland line of travel to the Pacific Coast. General Heath went to Fort Kearney, and, taking command of a sub-district, succeeded in defeating the Indians in one or two engagements, and in making it safe for travelers to journey to the great gold-bearing regions of our country.

General Heath conducted hostilities against the Indians with great success, and won the encomiums of not only his superior officers but of the people who had been so long harassed that they had well nigh given up all hope of being soon relieved from the terrors of Indian warfare.

"The citizens of Nebraska," says a leading journal of that territory, "and especially those living on and interested in the great overland road, may congratulate themselves upon having a military commander who thoroughly understands the mode of Indian warfare, and who is willing to march against them, and to endure the same privations and fatigue that his men do, sharing his rations with them; whose home in the field is in the saddle, and whose movements are as rapid as those of his wily foe. These qualities are combined in General Heath, who stands head and shoulders above any officer who has been in command at Fort Kearney, since the beginning of the Indian troubles." It is doubtless on account of the efficient services of General Heath and his command that the Seventh Cavalry is still retained in the service (January, 1865) and will probably be retained for some months to come. Its troopers, in whole or by detachments, have already taken part in every expedition against Indians, in the Departments of the Missouri, Kansas and the Northwest, from the middle of 1863 to the present time, and they have always done their duty manfully, skillfully, bravely. They have endured many privations, suffered many hardships, but they have suffered with patience as they have fought ever gallantly, keeping from our borders a ruthless enemy, who, but for their sleepless vigilance and untiring energy, would have carried fire and massacre and indescribable horrors over the new settlements of our frontier. There is a heavy debt of gratitude due from the country, and especially from the Northwest, to those troops who were denied the privilege of fighting rebels in the South, but who performed invaluable services on the less glorious field of the far west. 9

9 "Iowa and the Rebellion," by L. D. Ingersoll, page 692.

The historical memoranda of Major O'Brien, heretofore referred to, gives a condensed record of the operations of each company of the regiment, except company I. This record shows that companies K and M re-enlisted as Veteran Volunteers, at Fort Sully, on the 28th and 29th of February, 1864, under General Orders No. 191, of the War Department. AS the order provided that soldiers re-enlisting for a second term of three years should be furnished with transportation to the State from which they originally enlisted, and be granted a furlough of thirty days, to begin after reaching the State, these two companies were transported on flatboats down the Missouri River to Sioux city. They embarked on March 17, 1864, and reached Sioux City on April 5th, having been blockaded by ice for several days on the way, and Covered a distance of six

hundred miles by river. They left Sioux City on April 5th, and, upon the expiration of their furloughs, reassembled at Davenport, Iowa, from which place they returned to Sioux City, and, on May 30th, joined the Northwestern Indian Expedition, under command of General Sully. The following foot note appears at the end of the last roster, showing casualties and changes among the officers of the regiment: 10

10 Report of Adjutant General of Iowa, 1867, Vol. 1, pages 37 and 38.

Company I, of this regiment, was originally known as the "Sioux City Cavalry," and as such was mustered into the service of the United States at Sioux City, Nov. 14, 1861. The order of the War Department, dated April 25, 1863, the company was transferred to the Seventh Cavalry, July 14, 1863. The officers and most of the enlisted men were mustered out November 23, 1864, on the expiration of their term of service, and its remaining members being transferred to the new Company L, Company I ceased to exist. The Seventh Regiment of Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, excepting the Lieutenant Colonel and Companies K, L and M, were mustered out of the service at Leavenworth, Kan., May 17, 1865. Companies K, L, and M were mustered out at Sioux City, June 22, 1865. The date and place of muster out of the Lieutenant Colonel is not known at this office. All officers, not otherwise accounted for, were mustered out with their organizations as above. Companies K, L and M, of this regiment, were originally known as Companies A, S and C, of the Fourteenth Infantry; subsequently they became the Battalion of the Forty-first Infantry. May 14, 1863, they were transferred to the seventh Cavalry, under order of the War Department, dated April 26, 1863. The original Company L, of this regiment, was mustered out of service in November, 1864, on the expiration of the term of service of most of its members. A new company was subsequently organized, composed of the veterans and recruits of the former Companies I and L, and other recruits, and called Company L.

The foregoing extract shows how the different portions of the regiment terminated their honorable career of service as volunteers of the United States Army. It may be justly said of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry that its service to its State and the general Government was of great importance. Its field of service was constantly upon the frontier, and, while it was keeping in check the savages who had waged such relentless war upon the pioneer settlers, other Iowa regiments were winning glory and fame upon the great battlefields of the South. While that opportunity did not come to the gallant Seventh Iowa Cavalry, let it ever be remembered that in the field of service to which it was assigned it performed its duty faithfully and heroically, and it is entitled to a prominent position among the nine splendid cavalry regiments which the State of Iowa contributed to the service during that memorable period in the history of the United States—1861 to 1865.

#### SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES.

Total Enrollment .....	1592
Killed .....	53
Wounded .....	18
Died of wounds.....	2
Died of disease .....	92
Discharged for wounds, disease or other causes.....	267
Buried in National Cemeteries and Forts .....	30
Captured .....	0
Transferred .....	9

#### SEVENTH REGIMENT IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

Term of service three years.

Mustered into the service of the United States, at Davenport, Iowa, on dates ranging from April 27 to July 13, 1863, by Lieutenant Colonel William N. Grier, First United States Cavalry. The Seventh Regiment of Iowa Cavalry, excepting the Lieutenant Colonel, and Companies K, L and M, was mustered out of service at Leavenworth, Kans., May 17, 1865; Companies K, L and M were mustered out at Sioux City, Iowa, June 22, 1865.

Roster of Field, Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Staff Officers at muster in of organization, together with subsequent appointments from civil life.