

Collected + Donated By:

Tom Crew
1021 Pindo
Long Beach, MS
39560

18th U.S. Infantry

crewegoldinc.com
(228) 868-3512



Thomas E. Crew

Allied Cooperation/Technology Transfer

Naval Oceanographic Office

Code N84

1002 Balch Blvd

Stennis Space Center, MS 39522-5001

Phone: 228-688-5716

DSN: 485-5716

FAX: 228-688-4333

e-mail: crewte@navo.navy.mil

TO OPEN ABOUT JAN. 15

JANUARY 6, 1934

SEEK AID OR WORK ON ROAD

Men Asked to Help Move for Ekastown Route Surfacing POINT TO NEED

A committee of eight men, consisting of members of the Kiwanis Club, Business Men's Association and Allegheny Valley Chamber of Commerce, was present last night's commissioners meeting in Harrison Township to discuss the surfacing of Ekastown

W. Woods said the committee thought the road should be turned over to the state and become a state road. He also asserted the necessary assistance of the state. Chairman John E. Dick was given by the committee. He urged by doing this, action should be taken at once if the necessary functions were properly

such of the business from the roads around the Ekastown section to Butler merchants otherwise would come to the locality if the road was improved," he believes.

It would also shorten the route by five miles from here to But-

The committee said if the state would write to the Department of Highways, in Harrisburg, to make the appeal, recognition would be given the matter and action would be made.

MRS. PINCHOT VISITS FORD CITY ON JANUARY 10

Ford City, Pa., Jan. 6—From the City's Hospital, in New York where her husband, Governor Pinchot, is ill, Cornelia Bryce Pinchot has written that she will likely be in Ford City January 10 to deliver an address.

Mrs. Pinchot has chosen "Lafayette's Obligation to the NRA" as the topic. The meeting has been sponsored by Edward J. Croghan, of Kensington, an organizer of the American Federation of Labor and a committee representing the National Federation of Labor Organizations. In addition to Mrs. Pinchot's

ROBERT KENNEDY, CIVIL WAR VET, IS DEAD AT 92

Man Who Endured Horrors of Andersonville Succumbs Suddenly

FUNERAL RITES SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Robert Kennedy, 92, one of this community's few surviving Civil War veterans, died suddenly at 5:30 last evening in the home of Zelvin Anderson, in Fawn township. Death was due to infirmities of old age. He had been in feeble health for several years.

Until about three years ago Mr. Kennedy had lived in East Ninth avenue.

He was for years one of Tarentum's best known citizens. He was one of the organizers and oldest surviving Past Master of Pollock Lodge, No. 502, F. and A. M. He was the owner of considerable real estate in Tarentum. He was at one time a member of the local

sizing the horrors and suffering which took place every day.

Robert Kennedy was born April 21, 1842, near the old Felix Negley mill, along Bull Creek, the present Mill street. His parents were Russell and Hattie Pittman Kennedy. His mother died when he was three years old.

In 1849, his father moved the family to Wood County, Virginia, ten miles from Parkersburg. It was in Parkersburg that he enlisted in the Regular Army, Aug. 27, 1861. He served with Company C Second Battalion, 18th Infantry, until discharged Feb. 10, 1865.

From Sept. 20, 1863, Corp. Kennedy—that was his rank—until just before his discharge, was a prisoner of war in rebel camps. He was captured in the battle of Chickamauga, on that date. He was taken to the Andersonville prison April 11, 1864, after having been in various other camps, and his experiences in this prison were horrifying. Of 35,000 men imprisoned there, 14,800 died of disease and starvation.

After the war he came to the Tarentum community, where he has resided since.

He was married to Maria Crawford Nov. 11, 1869. She died 20 years later. The couple lived on a garden farm in East Deer township. What was his property is now the site of the Ford Motor Company's glass plant.

His second wife was Ida M. Dickey. After his marriage to (Continued on Page Two)



ROBERT KENNEDY

board of education.

The body has been brought to the H. L. Warner funeral home where it may be viewed. Funeral services, with members of Pollock Lodge taking part, will be held tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock in First Presbyterian Church. Dr. George E. Davies, the pastor, will be in charge. Burial will take place in Prospect cemetery. Ladies of the G. A. R. will hold services in the Warner funeral home at 7:30 this evening.

Mr. Kennedy, who was thrice married, served throughout the Civil War as a member of the Regular Army. His war experience included several months spent in Andersonville prison. Several years ago he wrote an interesting account of his life there, emphasizing

DICK CHOOSES COMMITTEE ENLIGHTENED WANTS TAX CUT

Last evening at the monthly meeting of the Harrison township "Dads" Chairman John E. Dick appointed the committees which will serve during his term of office.

The committees are as follows: Finance committee consists of Murdock, chairman; Montgomery and Lamparski.

Public works, Montgomery, chairman; Lamparski and Montanski.

Public safety, Lamparski, chairman; Starczewski and Murdock. Light and water, Starczewski

Conservator's Report Is Given Approval of U. S. Treasury TO FREE MILLION

Freeing more than a million dollars in cash, First National Bank and Trust Company, will open on a 100 per cent basis "on or about" January 15.

Announcement to this effect was made this morning by Frank C. Irvine, vice president and cashier, who has served as conservator of the institution since it opened on a restricted basis last spring.

Treasury Department officials at Washington have approved his report certified the bank for reopening at the time specified, Mr. Irvine said. He added that because of governmental requirements, it is impossible yet to set a definite day for the resumption of business on a normal basis.

Spur to Business
News of the reopening of the institution does not come unexpectedly. The reorganization plan, which was submitted to stockholders and depositors several weeks ago, met with overwhelming approval. This action assured complete resumption of business at the bank.

Meanwhile, First National employees will toil at top speed preparing for the necessary transfer of accounts.

Resumption of normal business at the bank is expected to act as a tremendous spur to local business.

UNION PLAYER'S WRIST BROKEN

Stanley Galecki, 47, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Galecki, of Center street, Natrona, suffered a fracture of the right wrist, last night while playing with Har-Brack Junior Varsity, against Arnold High's Junior team last evening, at Arnold.

The Galecki boy leaped for a tip-off in the third quarter, lost his balance and fell, alighting on his arm.

He was brought to the office of Dr. Guy H. Moates, Har-Brack team physician, in Tarentum. Dr. Moates took him to Allegheny Valley Hospital to reduce the fracture and for X-ray and then took him home.

HOLDS COLLECTION SERVICE TOO HIGH

Ashe and garbage can be collected more cheaply through contract than by the township, Commissioner Frank Starczewski asserted at the meeting of the Harrison township board.

Announcing

A fine young daughter was born Thursday afternoon to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Balsak, of 74 Garfield street, Natrona.

May Cheat Chair



Ross Caccamise
Although suffering torture from acute appendicitis, Ross Caccamise, accused to die in electric chair for murdering Edmund P. Van Water, subject Sing Sing surgeon who would operate. Caccamise refuses medical aid, seeking death before he can be executed. He is shown at time of arrest in Rochester, N. Y. (Central Press)

...for a special oil for electric motors will welcome the new lubricant announced today. This product, labeled Gulf Electric Motor Oil, is especially designed for the motors of electric refrigerators, the motors and bearings of washing machines and mangies, automobile generators and portable electric drills.

Robert Kennedy

(Continued from Page One)

her; they moved to the Dickey homestead, Fresno road, near Prospect street. She died about 10 years ago.

He was married to Isabelle Jackson, of Natrona, in 1927.

Mr. Kennedy was a member of First Presbyterian church and was a past commander of the local G. A. R. post.

He leaves two sons, Dr. George Kennedy, of Vandergrift, and Robert Kennedy Jr. A half-brother, Samuel Kennedy, also survives.

Only three Civil War veterans of this community survive. They are John Hoak, of Brackenridge; Thomas Donehower, of Natrona Heights, and former Justice of the Peace A. J. Bell, now in the Dayton, Ohio, soldiers' home.

Matteo Civitali was one of the foremost Tuscan sculptors of the early Renaissance; also an architect and engineer.

"500" Party Monday 8:30 p. m., Hilltop Hose House, Natrona Heights, auspices firemen. Lunch, prizes. Public invited. It

teacher at New Castle after spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Schlichting have moved from Montana avenue to Fresno road.

Brackenridge

Ferne Brimacombe, of Tenth avenue, has returned to her home after spending her vacation with relatives in Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Smith and daughter, Betty, of Ninth avenue, have returned home after visiting relatives in Bakerstown.

Miss Ethel Nickolas, of Hamburg, was the week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Scheid, of Ninth avenue.

Miss Fay Brashear, of Pittsburgh, visited Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Scheid, of Ninth avenue, recently.

Mrs. Vogel, of Tenth avenue, underwent an operation in the Allegheny Valley Hospital. She is doing nicely.

Evelyn White, of Pittsburgh, visited friends here, recently.

M. Gross, of Pittsburgh, visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Scheid, of Ninth avenue.

George Downes, of Eighth avenue, has been ill for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Irwin, of Fifth avenue, and Mrs. Laura Davidson, of Brackenridge avenue, attended the funeral of a friend in Jeannette this week.

Mrs. Elizabeth Muir, of Linden avenue, is visiting her son who is ill in Wyandotte, Mich.

Among local relatives who attended the funeral of the late Henry McNally in Jeannette, Tuesday were, Mr. and Mrs. John John, Mrs. John Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schultz and Mrs. Elmer Barnes, of New Kensington.

Mrs. Elizabeth Shrum and daughter, Mary Katherine and Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Garvin attended a funeral in Jeannette, Tuesday.

Tarentum Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McCleary returned home after spending the past week with relatives in Jeannette.

Wade Elder, of East Ninth avenue, visited friends in Vandergrift, recently.

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SEZ YOU

True False Scare

1. A hippogriff is a fabulous winged monster, half horse and half griffin.
2. Ho male is a prefix meaning uneven.
3. Gaberlunzie is another name for a beggar.
4. A circle having a diameter of 2 inches, has a circumference of 6.28319 inches.
5. The koku is a Chinese unit of weight.
6. One cylindrical foot of water weighs 100 pounds.
7. Sugar weighs approximately 200 pounds per cubic foot.
8. Interest on \$100 for three days, at five per cent, would be \$0.04.
9. Tungsten has a boiling point of 5,830 degrees C.
10. Lassie is classed as an adjective in the English language.



ROBERT KENNEDY, a well-known citizen of Tarentum, Pa., was born in East Deer township, Allegheny county, April 23, 1842. He was just upon the threshold of his manhood when the great Civil war broke upon the country. On Aug. 27, 1861, he enlisted from Wood county, W. Va., as a private in Capt. Ansel B. Denton's company, afterwards Company C, 18th United States infantry, Col. Henry B. Carrington, commanding, and Oliver Shepherd, lieutenant-colonel.

The 18th was one of the three battalion regiments organized under President Lincoln's proclamation of May 31st, ordering an increase in the regular army. The regiment took the field in December, 1861, and from that time until mustered out it was on the firing line, sustaining the heaviest losses of any regiment in the regular army. It participated in the siege of Corinth, Miss., during the entire month of May, 1862; was at Perryville, Ky., in the following October; at Stone River and Murfreesboro during the last days of 1862 and the first days of 1863; at Hoover's Gap in June, 1863, and in all the battles and skirmishes of the Chickamauga campaign. Mr. Kennedy was captured at Chickamauga, Ga., on Sept. 20, 1863, and remained a prisoner for nearly fifteen months. In that time he saw the inside of some of the most noted prisons of the Confederacy. For eleven days immediately following his capture he was confined at Belle Island, Va.; then for the next two months in Smith's building, Richmond, Va.; then at Danville, Va., until April 6, 1864, when he was removed to the famous prison at Andersonville, Ga. He remained at Andersonville until about the middle of September, when he was transferred to the race-track prison, Charleston, S. C., held there for about three weeks, and then taken to Florence, S. C., where he was exchanged on Dec. 15, 1864. Up to the time of his capture, Mr. Kennedy had been with his command, obedient to the orders of his superiors, and always at his post of duty. In recognition of his meritorious services he was promoted to the rank of corporal in May, 1863. He was in all the engagements in which the regiment took part, and was in a number of expeditions involving skirmishes and dangerous situations. As instances of the valor of the 18th regiment, it is worthy of mention that at the battle of Stone River it lost 102 officers and men, and at Chicka-

mauga forty-eight were either killed or mortally wounded. Corporal Kennedy received his honorable discharge, and was mustered out with his regiment at Camp Thomas, Ohio, Feb. 10, 1865, having served four months and fourteen days more than the three years for which he enlisted. On Nov. 11, 1869, he was married to Miss Maria Crawford, at Hites, Allegheny county. After a few years of happy wedded life, she passed away, and on July 6, 1892, he was united in marriage to Idaletta M. Dickey, of Tarentum. To this union two sons have been born: Robert Dickey, born May 13, 1898, and George Russell, born April 7, 1901. Mr. Kennedy is a member of Eli Hemphill post, No. 135, department of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he served one term as commander. He is also a past master of his Masonic lodge, has served twelve years as a school director and one year as road supervisor. In all these positions he acquitted himself with credit and acquired a reputation for that conscientious discharge of his duties which marked his career as a soldier in the army of his country.



SILAS AUSTIN WILL, a well-known attorney of Pittsburg, was born July 28, 1846, in Milford township, Somerset Co., Pa. His parents, Silas and Harriet (Chorpenning) Will, were both natives of Somerset county. During his boyhood the subject of this sketch attended the common schools of Somerset county, but in August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company C, 142d Pennsylvania volunteer infantry, and served with that regiment until January, 1864. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Company K,

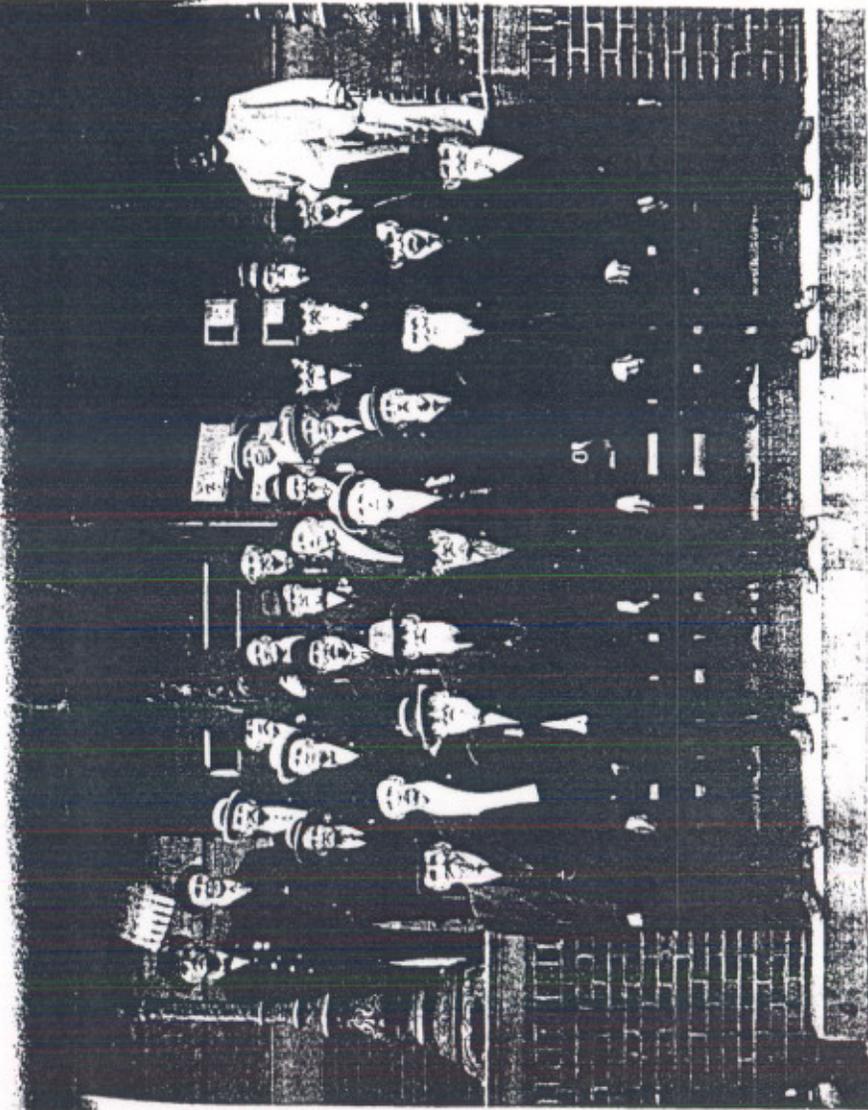
5th heavy artillery, and served in that regiment until the close of the war, when he was mustered out with the rank of corporal. While in the infantry service he participated in the famous battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and while in the artillery he was chiefly engaged in guerrilla warfare. After the war was over he set to work to complete his education, and graduated from the Millersville normal school, near Lancaster, Pa. For the next six years he taught in the public schools, and on April 1, 1875, was duly registered and began the study of law in the offices of Gazzam & Cochran, of Pittsburg. On April 14, 1877.

died gallantly in battle or achieved some rank of success in the conflict. Eli Hemphill held the rank of Lieutenant and was part of the 12th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was a member of an honored Tarentum family who was very prominent in the affairs of this borough and in the business community. Hemphill's Men Store, which was located at East Sixth and Lock Street in Tarentum for 100 years was an institution all of its own. There is no evidence to support any claim that Eli Hemphill was anything other than a brave lad who gave his life in defense of his country. His military record in Washington sustains his honored reputation.

John Calvin Stewart, also a noted business man in Tarentum played a noted part in the formation of the other post, but the post eventually disbanded and Stewart became a Commander of Eli Hemphill Post about 1912.

Among civil war veterans active in the post in 1896 were R.S.P. McCall, Benjamin F. Noel, W.W. Calpass, John Denny, George Klugh, Joseph Borland, Charles Uhlinger, John Orris, Samuel Weaver and W.T. Anderson.

The formation of the Grand Army of the Republic was conceived in the mind of Major Benjamin Franklin Stephenson eleven months after the end of the civil war. He claimed that he thought of the idea during the war and that he discussed it with his friend, Chaplain Wm. J. Rutledge. The organization would be made up of "posts" and the officers would be classified as military officers with the meeting rooms arranged after the fashion of most fraternal lodges of the day. It is this organization that instituted the first "Memorial" or decoration day in 1868. By 1879, when the Tarentum post



Civil War Veterans in 1912

CIVIL WAR VETERANS PHOTOGRAPH

The photograph shown on the previous page appeared in the August 2, 1912 edition of the Valley Daily News. The old bearded civil war veterans and their wives attended a dinner given in their honor at the Allegheny Valley Y.M.C.A. The photo was taken by S.W. Baker.

1st Row, l-r: J.C. Anderson, J.G. Stewart, J.E. Karns, W. Graham, David Baker, DR.A.L. Chapman, J.R. Mahaffey, Sylvester Kennedy, Matthew Young, and J. Phillips.

2nd Row, l-r: Daniel Singer, Samuel Adams, Wallace Calpass, A. Gillespie, John McCall, William White, M.E. Crooks, Fred Eslip, James Stitt, and Matthew Byers.

3rd Row, l-r: Joseph Boreland, Mitchell Kennedy, W.T. Anderson, James G. Kaney, John Carrel, John Rodgers, William H. Barker, Harvey Potts, and J.C. Stewart.

The occasion of the dinner was the 50th Anniversary of companies I and F of the 123rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry of Tarentum.

The photograph was provided through the courtesy of Helen Sefton Knight, a descendant of James Elliott Karns shown in the photo.

was organized, the national organization was comprised of 400,000 members.

The Circle 40, Ladies of the G.A.R. was formed in 1890 at Tarentum by Mrs. Carrie V. Sheriff, who was Department President in Pennsylvania at the time and later became national president of the society. In 1896, the circle had sixty-six members. In 1922 this organization initiated a project to raise \$2000. to erect a memorial to the veterans who made up Co. F and Co. I of the 123rd Pa. Volunteer Infantry from Tarentum. The monument was erected on the front lawn of the Grandview School at East 9th Avenue and Wood Street on August 25, 1923.

The large granite monument which stands eleven and a half foot high was unveiled by Mrs. Jackson McConaha and Mrs. Clara Weaver Leezer. Mrs. Leezer was one of the founders of the circle and at the age of 12 witnessed the first inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. The marker was officially presented by Burgess E. K. Campbell. G.A.R. Post Commander Jacob H. Keiser made the principal address. Mrs. Slatterly, Department President of the G.A.R. Ladies also spoke. Others taking part in the program were the Reverends C. N. McCandless and A.B. Allison, Mrs. A.D. Endsley, William T. Anderson, and Major A.B. Hay and the Keystone Band.

Civil War veterans who were members of Eli Hemphill Post who attended the dedication were: J.H. Keiser, E.B. Silliman, W.T. Drury, J.A. Woodward, W.T. Anderson, A.J. Bell, J.R. Hoak, W. Thompson, J. McConaha, E. Nicholas, R. Kennedy, G. Dumphorn, S.S. McQuilken, T. Donnehower, J.A. Yingling, L. Cramer, R. Walker, E. Kesner, A. Viocck, J. McKenna, J. Correll, J. Hemphill, G. Westerman, and W. Waltenbaugh. They were the sole surviving members of Hemphill Post.

November 18, 1967

Foreword

ROBERT KENNEDY for many years resided in Tarentum, Pennsylvania. He lived on Ninth Avenue.

He had two sons, Robert and George. George was a medical doctor. His widow, Mary Berkes Kennedy, lives in the eastern part of the USA.

The author was a friend of my father who when he was young went to the Indian Territory to work on the building of the railroads there. It was at this time that he was with Mr. Kennedy. The area is now Oklahoma.

Mr. Kennedy at one time must have known much about Abraham Lincoln. He was invited in to First Ward School on Lincoln's birthday to speak to the students. We students were always envious of the first warders- we were in second ward.

The reader will understand why I was delighted to "find" this diary.
-Helen W. Dyer

November 15, 1967

Forwarded

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The reader will understand why I was
in second ward - I was

Return to Miss Dyer
1004 Carlisle Street
Natrona Heights, Pa.

ARMY LIFE AND EXPERIENCES

of

ROBERT KENNEDY

1861 - 1865

Copied in 1943 by permission,
(in writing) from the third wife of
Robert Kennedy. Mrs Kennedy^{III}, widowed
again, resides in Natrona, Pennsylvania.
The original manuscript was brought
to school by her grandson who is
no blood relation to Mr. Kennedy.
Mr. Kennedy had two sons, Robert
and George, who are married, but,
who have no children.

This copy belongs to
Helen W. Dyer
1004 Carlisle Street
Natrona Heights, Pa.

.....
December 21, 1998

Mr. Thomas Crew
1021 Pino Street
Long Beach, Mississippi 39560

Dear Thom,

Well, I went to Kinko's and got this material copied. Hope you can make it out. I'll be sending a similar packet to Mark Johnson when he sends his address to me.

I appreciate your information about the 18th. I guess I feel that Corporal Kennedy would have wanted to be dealt into efforts to keep the 18th alive and known. I hope his memoir will help in that process. As I said to Mark Johnson, Kennedy was not an historian and was likely moved to record what he could remember for the hell of it. He must have had a keen memory and fine mind, but had few opportunities to formalize his education and training. He wrote this at a time when events of the twentieth century had well overtaken memory of the Civil War, probably dictated to a secretary in the early twenties.

I really admire how matter of fact he presents his narrative, without much regard for formality and by understating his role in the story. His description of time spent in Andersonville reads as though McKinley Kantor had talked to Kennedy. Of course he didn't but, again, Kennedy understates prison life as though that was the way it was, well before the more dramatic version Kantor wrote.

I believe Kennedy saw his life in modest perspective and believed he did what everyone who served in the war did- nothing more, nothing less. Again, as I mentioned to Mark Johnson, I am moved by the tremendous casualty rate of the units Kennedy fought with. And yet I can find no reference to his ever having been wounded.

His survival skills and medical fluency during captivity seem to presage his sons eventually becoming medical doctors.

Thom, let me know what you think about this stuff. Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

Linn A. Pittman
.....

In 1861, when the Civil War broke out, I lived in the state of West Virginia. The sentiments of the people of the state were about equally divided between the North and the South. Over one-half of my school mates went into the Southern army under Col. William Jackson who raised a regiment in that neighborhood.

As the war progressed the bitterness between North and South increased to such an extent that the Southern men bushwhacked Northern men in their fields while they were working.

At that time I was boating oil on the Kanawha River and coming home to my father's about once a week. My friends informed me that, if I valued my life, I had better leave that country as they had heard threats against me. I left and went to Parkersburg and enlisted under the first officer I met, who was Lieutenant Ogden of the regular army. As I was not yet twenty years of age, I had to get my father's consent to join the army. The lieutenant fixed up the papers for me. I took them away, forged my father's name to them, took them back to him and was sworn into service on the 27th day of August, 1861, by a justice of the peace; and thus became a member of Company C., 2nd Battalion, 18th U.S. Infantry.

From Parkersburg, West Virginia, I went to Marietta, Ohio. There I joined some more recruits, stayed there three or four days and then went to Columbus, Ohio, and to the Regimental Headquarters at Camp Thomas. There we drilled company and battalion drill until the first of December. We then broke camp with 1600 men and were taken on cars from Columbus to Cincinnati. From Cincinnati we went by boat to Louisville, Kentucky. Our first hostile camp was at Lebanon, Kentucky, 65 miles north from Louisville. We lay there five or six weeks and spent our first Christmas there. Col. O.L. Shepherd treated every company, 15 in number, with a turkey. We also drew wagons and six mules for each company. These mules had never been broken to harness and you should have seen the fun. We hitched them to the wagons which we filled half full of stones, took them out in a big field and there was run and kicking. We drove them round that way for four or five days.

Being assigned to one of General Thomas' brigades, consisting of the 9th Ohio, 35th Ohio, 2nd Minnesota, the 18th Regiment, Company I; 4th Regular Battery, commanded by Brigadier General Robert L. McCook, we received our first marching orders. We broke camp on New Year's day and started out for Somerset, Ky., where the Rebel General, Zollicoffer, had a fort on the Cumberland River, some few miles below. The morning we left camp it commenced raining and it poured down all day as hard as I ever saw it rain. The first enemy we met was Russell Creek which we forded 21 times in one day. The roads became so bad that each company was detailed to go with its wagons and lift them out of the mud holes. There were seven men as drivers for each team, each man armed with a pickaxe with. Then we heard swarming and saw mud fly. The Chaplains were in the rear, bringing up the rear guard and what few chickens were left.

Zollicoffer, hearing that Thomas did not have his full command, came out and attacked him at Mill Spring on January 19, 1862. We, being some miles in the rear, received orders to leave our teams and make a forced march to the field of action. This we did, and reached there three or four hours after the fight was over. We lay there in camp some three or four days. Then we started for Bowling Green, but before we reached there it was evacuated. We countermarched back to Louisville, losing on our first march 300 men out of our 1600 by exposure to rain, mud, and having to ford creeks.

At Louisville we took the steamboat, Abalta, for Fort Donelson. We went on the Ohio River to Paducah, then up the Cumberland River, passed Fort Henry which Commodore Foote had taken, and on up to Fort Donelson. We reached there the second day after the fight. We did not leave our steamboat, but went on up to Nashville. There we unloaded our boat, took our mules and marched back of Nashville about a mile and there encamped a couple of weeks.

General Buell, getting orders to join General Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing, we broke camp and marched leisurely for several days until Sunday morning April 6. Being 30 miles from Pittsburg Landing, we got orders to leave everything and make a forced march to that place. This was one of the hardest day's marching I experienced during my service. The mud was axle-deep. The artillery had as high as ten spans of horses. We reached our destination that night about ten o'clock. Nelson's division was ferried over the Tennessee River that night and took part in Grant's grand charge which was one of the greatest victories ever a soldier could witness. Every boy on the opposite bank of the river was watching that grand charge and wishing he was there to take part in it. We now had our second experience in burying the dead by the hundred,--both Northern and Southern. Here the good people of Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania came with their steamboats laden with nurses, provisions of all kinds, and even an abundance of old rye. This was very necessary at this time as a majority of the men had jaundice caused by the stench from the dead animals and men, and also by the poor drinking water. Here General Halleck came to us and took charge of the army.

Corinth, lying some 21 miles due south of Pittsburg Landing, was the next point of attack. We started out and marched some four or five miles. We had our first experience building corduroy roads as the land was very swampy and marshy. The morning of the third day out, we surprised a Rebel camp while they were baking their cornbread and biscuits for breakfast. They got up and left without ceremony and the breakfast they had prepared was very acceptable to us who had had a very light one. We skirmished on up to within a mile of Corinth. Here General Halleck formed his lines, 21 miles and three lines deep, being 125,000 men. Then we commenced sieging Corinth, Miss. We were under siege there for 12 days. It was continual skirmish during that time. General Pope, being on our left and facing the fortifications, did all the hard fighting. On the night of the 12th of May, 1862, Bragg and

Beuregard evacuated the town. As they left we could hear the beating of drums and the bands playing. Burnt paper came flying over into our lines. The next morning we charged into Corinth; there was nothing there. Halleck let them get away with everything. Here I saw one of the funny sights of the war. I think it was an Illinois regiment that got into the town first. They captured a dry-goods store and every man got a black and white parasol, raised it, and marched under it. The weather was very hot and it was a hot day on us boys. We marched until twelve o'clock that night, and stopped on the ground where General Price had camped with his mixed army of Mexicans and Seminoles. We lay down and slept until morning and got more than we bargained for--lice. We started the next morning on the raid without a change of clothes, and that gave the descendants of General Price's "leftovers" time to multiply by the millions on us. Whenever the brigade stopped, there was a stripping off of clothes and you should have heard the cracking, as we made an onslaught on this new enemy-- not with guns, but with thumb nails. We returned to our camp. From there we marched to Iuka, Miss. There were five mineral springs there which came up in less than an acre of ground. They were all different kinds of water. These springs made the place a summer resort for Southern people. There were tin pin alleys and billiard rooms which the boys enjoyed highly. Here we lay three or four weeks guarding Bear Creek. At the end of that time, we broke camp and started for Chattanooga, Tenn., by way of Huntsville and Decatur Station. Around Huntsville, Ala., is the prettiest country I ever saw. We lived well on that march as peaches and blackberries were ripening and the roasting ears were good.)

Between Huntsville and Decatur Station happened one of the sad things of the war. The regiments were marching five miles apart. Here our beloved Brigadier General Robert L. McCook left his old regiment to come up to ours. Being sick he was in an ambulance. When about half way between the two regiments, the Guerrillas rushed in on him and killed him. His orderlies escaped, one going back to the 9th Ohio and the other coming up to our regiment. When word reached the 9th Ohio regiment, they employed skirmishers and were so enraged that nothing could be done with the men. They shot and burned everything before them. Men, horses, and cattle all fell before them. When we reached Decatur Station, finding Bragg had left for Nashville Chattanooga, we started for Nashville. When we reached Nashville we found Bragg had started for Louisville. We left for Louisville on Buell's retreat. Our brigade was the rear guard of an army of 60,000 men and 21 miles of a wagon train. The weather being very hot and dry, the dust was almost unbearable. The water was very poor, as we had to get it out of stagnated pools covered with a green skum. Our rations were raw flour and we had to cook it as best we could as we marched from daylight until dark. We beat Bragg to Louisville by one day. When we got there we lay there four days and then started for Perryville. There we met Bragg in battle on the 8th day of October. This was a hard fought battle. Thomas's, Crittendon's and Schofield's departments lay watching Bragg and McCook fighting all day. Buell would not let this body of men go into action, as he did not want to bring on a general engagement. Just as the sun was setting McCook sent to General Thomas this message, "For God's sake, send me my brother Robert's old brigade". It was commanded by General Steadman. The brigade consisted of the 9th Ohio,

35th Ohio, 2nd Wisconsin, 18th Regular and Battery I of the 4th Artillery. We double quicked into the field just in time to save McCook's right as the Rebels were flanking him. Here was one of the grandest sights I ever saw. Fireworks such as few can describe filled the air as the musketry, firing along both lines, with shells flying in the air and bursting, scattered fire in all directions. The sight was magnificent but very dangerous. The battle ceased about nine O'clock and we lay that night on our arms. The next morning we found that Bragg had taken wings and flown. He retreated to Murfreesboro.

back

From Perrysville we started and marched across to Nashville. We lay there until Christmas morning, when we left with flags flying and drums beating, for Murfreesboro. The second day out the cavalry commenced skirmishing with the Rebels. The third day the infantry commenced skirmishing, and it was a continual skirmish until we got to Stone river. The morning of December 31, 1862 the bloody battle of Stone River was opened.

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I wish to relate an incident connected with this battle that is not recorded in history. The night before the battle, Corporal Thomas Long, my mess-mate, dreamed that he was the first man killed in the regiment, and that he would never fire his gun. On seeing the sun rise he said, "Bob, this is the last time I shall see the sun rise". As we fell into battle line, I informed Captain Denton of Corporal's strange presentment. The Captain went back to him and said, "Long, do you think you will be shot today?" He answered, "Yes, Captain, I'll never fire my gun". The captain said, "Long, if you think that, fall out and go to the hospital". He said, "No, Captain, I'll die like a man, right with this company". We marched down the pike about a quarter of a mile and formed our line of battle. There we lay down on the ground. We had not lain there more than five minutes until a ball went through Corporal Bartlett's right arm and struck Corporal Long above his left eye. He rolled over and never spoke.

The morning of the Stone River fight, our right being under General McCook, gave way and division after division fell back until it struck General Thomas's center. As our brigade, which was the regular brigade, was held as a reserve, General Rocaerana and General Thomas came flying up and said to Col. O.L. Shepherd who was commanding the brigade, "We will have to sacrifice your brigade. Double quick up in front of those cedars and hold the lines for twenty minutes, until we can form new lines behind the railroad". We started on a double quick with our hands down facing the bullets. The 16th and the 19th regiments never got their lines formed until they were swept off the field. The 15th and 18th got their lines formed. We checked the Rebels for eighteen or twenty minutes and then got orders to retreat. We lost in those twenty minutes 316 men out of 600, -- fourteen commissioned officers out of the 18th Regulars. In falling back we tried to rally between the railroad and the cedars, but Sgt. Fleagle, of Lancaster, Pa., fell mortally wounded and the Captain said, "For God's sake men, get back of the railroad, or we will all be killed." There were only ten men of our company left when we reached the railroad.