



Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Highway
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
Phone: (615) 893-9501, Fax: (615) 893-9508

Regimental File Donation Form

Donor Name: Robert Bundy

Address: P.O. Box 331

City: Fair Oaks State: CA Zipcode: 95628

Phone: (916) 682-8503 Fax: _____

Significant Person's Name: S.S. Pettit

Unit: 15th Ohio Vol. Inf.

List Contents of Donation Below:

Newspaper Article - Letter describing
the actions of the 15th Ohio Vol. Inf
Wyandot Pioneer - Upper Sandusky, Ohio
Feb. 6, 1863

Copyright Information:

Does the donor own the copyrights to the donated items? Yes _____ No X

If "No" does the donor know who has the copyrights? Yes _____ No X

Public Library
microfilm file

May the NPS make copies for the use of:

Staff and Volunteers? Yes X No _____

Researchers? Yes X No _____

General Public? Yes X No _____

If the materials are copies, does the donor know where the original documents are located? Yes _____ No X

If the donor owns the originals, would they be interested in donating them to the NPS? Yes _____ No _____

Received By _____

Date _____

Forward this form and the donated items to Jim Lewis for cataloging. **DO NOT** place uncataloged materials in the regimental files.

YAN DOTT PIONEER

"No compromise with Traitors—The Union—The Constitution—and the full enforcement of the Laws."

TERMS

PPER SANDUSKY, OHIO, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 6, 1863.

ROBACK'S
STOMACH
BITTERS
ARE NOT
BE EXCELLED
AS A
STOMACHIC
AND
Regulator
OF THE
ESTIVE ORGANS.
itters
o the public
which will
ills which
," but as a
— a great
e system.
us districts
South there
time, been
n article of
rs, which, if
quantities,
er time, are
se of
ever,
l Ague,
plaint,
r,
n,
omplaints,
s of a simi-
itters
of rare and
and herbs,
em
Tonic.
n Bitters

Army Correspondence.

CAMP NEAR MURFREESBORO', TENN.,
January 20th, 1863.

FRIEND BRUNNER —

For the information of the friends of the 15th Ohio Regiment, and company D in particular, you will please find a place in your Journal for a short letter from one of its actors.

We left our camp, near Nashville, on the morning of the 20th of December, and took the Nolinsville Pike, Sherriden and Davis' Divisions, in advance; ours the 1st, was to be held in reserve. Our advance began to skirmish with the enemy's cavalry soon after leaving our picket-lines. This continued all day. We reached Nolinsville soon after dark, and encamped in a woods near the place. Our advance met with a large body of the enemy's cavalry, posted in this woods, but soon made them skeddaddle, with some loss on both sides. The trees bore marks of shot and shell in many places.

In the evening it commenced raining hard—the boys pitched their Shelter-tents, or as they dub them, "Dog Tents"—your humble servant stretching himself on the ground by the side of a fire, with a blanket over him. It rained all night. The "Dog Tents" before despised by most of the boys, were now set down as one of the Institutions, not to be dispensed with.

On the 27th we moved forward seven miles, skirmishing all the way—rained hard all day—encamped near a deserted village, Triune, in a woods previously occupied by the "Rebs." for a camp, on the farm of Gen. Perkins, now in the Rebel Army. It continued raining all night. I turned in with three others, in one of the little tents (1 by 5 feet) but could not sleep.

On the 28th we moved on five miles, and learned that the rebels had gone to Murfreesboro', when we returned to the place we occupied the night before, and drew rations. This night I lay down on some rails—not *Old Abe's*—by the side of a good rail fire, and succeeded in getting about two hours sleep.

The 29th we started for Murfreesboro', reaching our camping place after dark, it being six miles from the town. Here we were not allowed to build fires, as we were encamped in a corn-field. After the recent rains, the ground being very muddy, the men fixed for the night's rest, the best they could under the circumstances; myself and several others taking to rails, here again. "Morpheus" was destined to de-

the raise we had occupied, and within one hundred and fifty yards yelling like so many savages, it sent terror among our already broken ranks, then there was skeddadding on our part, the rebels were coming down on us five columns deep, with their dirty colors flaunting in our faces, yelling and firing volley after volley, and our men not able to check them, there was no alternative, we must run or be taken prisoners. Many were wounded and taken prisoners, some gave out and were taken. All were trying to get out of the way as best they could. our Lieut. Colonel was wounded at the first fire and also our Major. The Colonel had not time to get on his horse, he got lost from the main body of the regiment. No General, no Colonel! What could we do? Several times the officers partly succeeded in rallying the scattered forces, but after a volley, would break again. these things continued till we reached the Nashville Pike, here we were met by reinforcements, posted behind a crest or ridge on the right of the Pike. McCook seeing this was the last and only chance to stop them, and went personally, as the rebels came on the ridge, and by his presence and encouragement, succeeded in checking the enemy and driving them back with great slaughter. Cheer after cheer arose; the dispirited troops catching it up and began to rally. The day was ours if we could hold them. Our men still drove them. Our Batteries making sad havoc among their ranks. we regained half a mile of lost ground, and night set in, our men still holding what they had gained.

Col. Wallace joined us on our retreat but could not rally the men. After the rebels were checked our division was ordered back to reorganize and get ammunition. We then went to the support of the other division in front, this ended the doubtful day, I had some 15 or 20 men left with me. In the evening our Brigade was moved back and to the right to protect the flank.

January the 1st, all quiet till 9 o'clock; the rebels came down on our center with tremendous force. Gen. Rosecrans had taken the precaution to mask his batteries in the center, so that they could play on both flanks as well as the center. The rebels came out from the woods in front. Division after division, seemingly in overwhelming numbers. Our men were laying behind their breast-works, cool and determined. The batteries were doubled shotted with grape and canister. On came the columns of rebels determined if possi-

of the hardest fought battles of this rebellion.

Saturday January 3d; nothing of interest transpired till just after dark. Our men made a push and succeeded in taking some breast works, and destroying several houses, in which the rebel Sharpshooters had concealed themselves, picking off our men. This continued for about an hour. Our men were entirely successful. The firing ceased and all was again. Next morning (Sunday) not a shot was heard. Many were the conjectures. Some thought the rebels had left, others that they would come on our right again. It was known by General Rosecrans in the morning that they had evacuated the town, but was not known generally throughout the camp, until afternoon, then such cheering as reverberated through the heretofore silent woods. It would have done your heart good to have seen the countenances of the men; who before wore a downcast look, now brighten up with joy. Everything seemed changed in a moment, from mourning to rejoicing.

The rebels left the night before, leaving us in possession of the hard earned Field of Blood. Thousands of valuable lives were lost, making vacant and cold many a household. Wives mourning for their husbands—parents for their sons—sisters for their brothers; but the little slab or board on yonder ridge tells too plainly the fate of those noble men. The resurrection alone can tell the result. The wind stirs the trees over these newly-made mounds. They sleep their last sleep. No sound of the cannon will call them to battle again. Rest, soldiers, rest! And what can I say for the noble boys of the 15th regiment, and particularly of company D? All that I can say, is—with one or two exceptions—they done their duty, and done it well. Some twenty men stood by me all day, on that fatal Wednesday. Others who had got separated, came to us next morning, as soon as they could find the regiment; but for them that only stopped when they reached Nashville, deserve the execration of all true men and soldiers. My company had none killed. John Hahn of Nevada, was wounded and taken prisoner. Amos E. Miller of the same place was wounded and taken prisoner, but relieved by our cavalry. Henry Schriver was wounded and taken to the Division Hospital. John Hessor, also of Nevada was wounded, and is in a Hospital at Nashville, No. 18th.

I will give the names of those taken prisoner.

rare and
and herbs,
in

onic.

Bitters
A's Friend.

Bitters
can many

Bitters
n's Soluce

Bitters
weak and

Bitters
melancholy
enjoyable.

Bitters
Friend, by
rheia, Dys-
entery, etc.

cut up in quar-
ters is a fine sim-
ilarly engraved, and
safe-guard from
\$1 per bottle, or

proprietor, No. 6
Cincinnati, to whom
addressed.

E BY
preparation by J. A. Max-
sky; H. Flock, Wy-
co; A. Saffell, Syc-
amsburg; J. M. Ches-
druggists and mer-
the United States
31yl

arranted non-explo-
for sale by
WELL, Druggist

son-explosive, — jar-
per gallon at
OM SHIBLER'S
Drug Store.

Japan, Cocoa
shes.
T. J. SAISLER,
Druggist.

getting about two hours sleep.
The 29th we started for Murfreesboro,
reaching our camping place after dark, it
being six miles from the town. Here we
were not allowed to build fires, as we were
encamped in a corn-field. After the re-
cent rains, the ground being very muddy,
the men fixed for the night's rest, the best
they could under the circumstances; my-
self and several others taking to rails, here
again. "Morpheus" was destined to de-
sert us, for we had not more than fixed
for sleep, when it began to rain, and con-
tinued during the night. We weathered
it through till break of day, when we all
made up for loss of sleep and cold, by
burning rails, making coffee, frying meat
on a stick, and warming our "hard-tack"
to soften them. Our meal being over, we
again set out. The skirmishing was now
becoming more brisk as we advanced, un-
til about 4 o'clock, P. M. We found the
enemy posted in a thick woods and under
the cedar brush. Our columns cautious-
ly advanced, until they came within the
range of the enemy, and then opened their
batteries, the rebels quickly replying.—
The action now became general along the
whole line, and continued until night set
in, our forces gaining little or no ground,
and losing a number of men. Our divi-
sion was still on the reserve. In the even-
ing the enemy were found to be moving
around to our right, with the intention of
flanking us. Our division was called out
on the extreme right, and posted very
quietly, after dark. Our pickets were
then thrown out, and everything done to
guard against a surprise. Sentinels were
kept up at every company. At 5 o'clock
in the morning, (Wednesday 30th) the
sentinels roused the camp, and the men
all stood under arms until nearly day-
light. Up to this time, all had been
quiet along the picket lines. We were
now ordered to build small fires, and make
some coffee. We had just got our coffee
ready to drink when bang, bang, went sev-
eral guns on the picket line, immediately
in front of our Brigade, and the next se-
cond volley after volley, and the bullets
were whistling in too close proximity to
our heads, to be comfortable. The cry
to arms, came up to the regiment from the
Colonel. We left our coffee—threw our
tents and blankets on a pile, and sprang
for our arms. By this time we could dis-
tinctly hear the rebels cheering. They
were charging on our batteries, (two in
number) the horses all being off to water
but those belonging to one section, which
succeeded in getting away; the rest were
captured, and turned against us in fifteen
minutes. We were taken by surprise.—
General Willich was wounded and taken
prisoner, without giving a command. The
men became panic stricken. The other
regiments were running in all directions;
ours being the last to leave. We fell back
in an open field, and underook to counter-
march in the center of the field, and had
partly succeeded, when the rebels sent
a volley into our ranks thinning them
some. I had given the order to Compa-
ny D, to lie down which they had done
in time to save themselves from the
murderous volley, no other company in
the regiment doing it, we returned in
the fire, the rebels were now coming over

the rebels came down on our center with
tremendous force. Gen. Rosecrans had
taken the precaution to mask his batteries
in the center, so that they could play on
both flanks as well as the center. The
rebels came out from the woods in front.
Division after division, seemingly in over-
whelming numbers. Our men were lay-
ing behind their breast-works, cool and
determined. The batteries were doubled
shotted with grape and canister. On came
the columns of rebels determined if possi-
ble to break our center, until within range
of our batteries; when all of a sudden the
ground trembled under our feet. Four
batteries belched forth; and in a second
others chimed in, till it made one feel as
if heaven had opened and all her artillery
was let loose; such a roaring for half an
hour or more, was never exceeded on this
Continent. On came the rebels, deter-
mined to take the batteries. Once, twice,
they made the attempt, and were met with
a shower of balls from our infantry, that
made them quail and fall back under cov-
er of the woods, leaving the ground cov-
ered with dead and wounded.
Heavy skirmishing was kept up along
the whole line, the rest of that day, but
the rebels did not try to turn any point.
After their failure on the center Jan. 2d,
a few shots were fired along the lines by
the Sharpshooters. Our brigade was
moved to the front and held in reserve
ready for action. A good many of the
boys had come in the day and night be-
fore. Nothing of moment transpired to-
day, till about 4 o'clock P. M. when the
rebels made a dash on our extreme left,
driving our men back across the river
from where they were. The conflict
became dreadful. Both armies went into
the work as though this should be the
last trial (and so it proved,) our men
fell back to a ridge on the south side of
the river, and made their final stand—
On came the rebels, through the river
and began to ascend the hill. Our men
now opened a deadly fire literally cutting
them to pieces. They turned, and our
men taking advantage of the panic, pur-
sued them driving them back across the
river, and retaking the ground lost,
when within a half mile more, during this
time our batteries had done their work;
it far exceeded that of the day before,
while the rebels were advancing the 1st
brigade, (that's ours) was called on to
make the final charge, every man seem-
ed anxious to redeem something of what
we had lost on Wednesday, and as we
started you might see in the countenance
of the men a determination to do or die,
as our column reached our front lines,
a cheer went up, and was continued till
we were over the hill. We advanced
under the fire of our batteries. Soon af-
ter the cheering commenced, we came in
sight of the rebels, they must have
thought the whole army was coming
down on them, for the way they skedad-
dled was glorious, leaving one battery
and a stand of colors, as trophies in our
hands. Nobly did our brigade do their
duty. Generals Rosecrans and McCook
were in our rear, cheering and encour-
aging the men, they complimented our
brigade afterwards on keeping in line on
the charge. Thus virtually ended one

true men and soldiers. My company was
none killed. John Hahn of Nevada, was
wounded and taken prisoner. Amos E.
Miller of the same place was wounded and
taken prisoner, but relieved by our cav-
alry. Henry Schriver was wounded and
taken to the Division Hospital. John
Hesser, also of Nevada was wounded,
and is in a Hospital at Nashville, No.
18th.

I will give the names of those taken
prisoner:
Privates, William H. Cavins, of Nevada.
" Christian Nofsgur, "
" John Hahn, "
" Frances M. Carter, "
" Butler Readey, Lit. Sandusky
" George Tucker, Up. Sandusky
" John A. Clark, "
" William Wolford, "
" John Hartt, (Irish) "
" Charles H. Huffman. "

This list includes all that are missing.
Whether there are any more wounded,
than those named, I am not prepared to
say. The wounded are all doing well, as
far as I know. Miller is with the compa-
ny. He was shot through the arm.

Well, I set out to write a short history
of our doings, but it has extended to such
a length that I am apprehensive it will
alarm you, and yet the half is not told.—
Let me close by saying that Wyandot,
may well be proud of her sons in the ar-
my, who have clothed themselves with
more lasting honor. Hoping you may
find something in this to pay you for the
reading, I remain

Yours Truly,
S. S. PETTIT.

Items of News.

Brigadier Gen. James A. Garfield,
who whipped Humphrey Marshal in East
Kentucky, and who afterward distin-
guished himself in command of a brigade
at Shiloh, has reported to general Rose-
crans for duty. He will probably be as-
signed to the command of a division in
the Army of the Cumberland.

Captain Elmer Otis, 4th U. S. Cav-
alry, who distinguished himself conspic-
uously in a splendid and successful
charge upon the enemy, in the battle of
Stone River, and who is now in com-
mand of a brigade of cavalry, has been
recommended by Major General Rose-
crans, Brigadier General D. S. Stanley,
and all the officers of this brigade, for
promotion to Brigadier General.

It is reported that the enemy are
being reinforced. An intercepted letter
from a member of Bragg's staff, indicates
that the feeling against Bragg is so strong
that he will be superseded. The writer
admits that, notwithstanding the rebels
captured most guns and several thousand
prisoners from us, they were badly whip-
ped. He says the slaughter of their offi-
cers was awful, and although the fight-
ing of the rebel army was splendid, they
were beaten by the superior generalship
and by the obstinacy of the Yankees.—
The whole number of rebel prisoners cap-
tured in battle was about 3,500, with 8
guns and 4 standards.