



Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85 January 2020

Commander's Ramblings

Brothers,

For those that have paid their 2020 dues, thank you. I'll bring the membership cards to hand out to those that have paid and those that will be paying at the meeting. Remember, dues are \$40.00.

Please note that I've included an image of the Tri-City Record (Hartford, Watervliet, and Coloma) article on the Last Soldier ceremony for Cass county. I will have that issue at the meeting for anyone wanting to read the whole article.

I will be using the meeting ritual for January since we may have a new Brother to Induct into the SUVCW brotherhood. If so, then I'd like someone to take a photo or two of the ceremony for February's newsletter.

Recurring topics that are always relevant to discuss are recruitment and at this time of year retention. I doubt if any camp in Michigan can successfully claim that they have enough members or that they're big enough and can not be active in any recruiting efforts. While there can be consequences to having many members, those are happy things that can



Commander
to Page 5

In this Issue

Page 1 - Commander's Ramblings

Page 2 - Union Medals

Page 6 - National & Department Events

Page 7 - Civil War Time Line

Page 9 - Battle of Stones River

Page 15 - Member Ancestors List

Next Camp Meeting
January 9, 2020 - 6 p.m.

Location - Lincoln Twp Library, 2099 W John Beers Rd, Stevensville

Union Medals

The Iron Brigade



The Iron Brigade was an infantry unit serving in the Army of the Potomac during the American Civil War. Although it fought entirely in the Eastern Theater, it was composed of regiments from Western states. Noted for its strong discipline, its unique uniform appearance, and its tenacious fighting ability, the Iron Brigade suffered the highest percentage of casualties of any brigade in the war. The Iron Brigade initially consisted of the 2nd, 6th, and 7th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiments, the 19th Indiana, Battery B of the 4th U.S. Light Artillery, and was later joined by the 24th Michigan. This composition of men from three Western states led it to be sometimes referred to as the Iron Brigade of the West. They were known throughout the war as the Black Hats because of the black 1858 model Hardee hats issued to Army regulars, rather than the blue kepis worn in most other units. The Iron Brigade initially consisted of the 2nd, 6th, and 7th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiments, the 19th Indiana, Battery B of the 4th U.S. Light Artillery, and was later joined by the 24th Michigan. This composition of men from three Western states led it to be sometimes referred to as the Iron Brigade of the West.

They were known throughout the war as the Black Hats because of the black 1858 model Hardee hats issued to Army regulars, rather than the blue kepis worn in most other units. The Black Hats earned their famous Iron Brigade nickname while under the command of Brig. Gen. John Gibbon. The designation "Iron Brigade" is said to have originated during the brigade's action at Turners Gap, during the Battle of South Mountain in 1862. Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, commanding I Corps, approached Army of the Potomac commander Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, seeking orders. As the Western men advanced up the National Road, forcing the Confederate line all the way back to the gap, McClellan asked, "What troops are those fighting in the Pike?" Hooker replied, "[Brigadier] General Gibbon's brigade of Western men." McClellan stated, "They must be made of iron." Hooker said that the brigade had performed even more superbly at Second Bull Run; to this, McClellan said that the brigade consisted of the "best troops in the world". Hooker supposedly was elated and rode off without his orders. There are a few stories related to the origin, but the men immediately adopted the name, which was quickly used in print after South Mountain. Additionally, the Iron Brigade took great pride in its designation, "1st Brigade, 1st Division, I Corps", under which it played a prominent role in the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863. The Iron Brigade Association was active from the 1880s up to the early 1900s, but fell silent between 1903 through the 1920, with the last known reunion taking place in Kansas City in 1916. The last known survivor of the Iron Brigade was William Riley who served with the Company I, 6th WI. He passed on March 23, 1939 at the age of 98; the last of 7,259 who served in the Brigade. It is unlikely the medal recreated here was issued during the war, and in all probability came into being as a national reunion remembrance. However, on State financed Iron Brigade monuments erected after the war, any mention of Battery B, 4th U.S. Light Artillery was omitted. In its place the States used, in the center, the USV designation of the United States Volunteers. Regardless, the Arlington National Cemetery grave markers of General Gibbon and Major James Stewart, who commanded Battery B, which were paid for and erected by the Veterans of the Iron Brigade, and the grave marker for Colonel Edward Stuyvesant Bragg, Commanding, 6th Wisconsin Vols, in Rienzi Cemetery, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, each gives a clear indication of the high regard in which the Infantrymen of the Iron Brigade held Battery B, 4th U.S. Light Artillery. Therefore, this reproduction pays homage to their memory as well. The use of a red ribbon is indicative of the Iron Brigade's service in the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 1st Corps, Army of the Potomac.

Kearny Cross - Enlisted Mens Award

Kearny Cross (Enlisted Personnel Award) This medal was never authorized by the United States Government. If it had been, its manufacture or sale would be illegal. Therefore, this represents a rare opportunity to own a copy of an American Medal of Honor! The Kearny Medal of Honor was a military decoration of the United States Army, which was first es-



Officers 2018 - 2019

Camp Commander:
Steven Williams

SVC: Rex Dillman

JVC: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Secretary :Ray Truhn

Treasurer : Ray Truhn

Council 1: Charles L Pfauth Jr

Council 2: Keith Chapman

Council 3: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Patriotic Instructor:
Ted Chamberlain

Chaplain : Steven Williams

Graves & Memorials:
Rex Dillman

Historian: Rex Dillman

Signals Officer:
Steven Williams

Guide: Jeff Chubb

Guard: Jeff Chubb

Color Bearer: Rex Dillman

JROTC contact: Unassigned

Editor

Steve Williams

sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

established in 1862 during the opening year of the American Civil War. The original decoration was known as the Kearny Medal and was adopted as an unofficial medal by the officers of the 1st Division (Birney's Division), 3rd Corps, of the Union Army of the Potomac, which had served under Major General Philip Kearny, Jr. before he was killed at the Battle of Chantilly on September 1, 1862. The original Kearny Medal (available on eBay as the Kearny Medal of Honor) was first bestowed on November 29, 1862, and was awarded to any Union officer who had "performed acts of extreme bravery and heroism in the face of the enemy." In 1863, the medal was authorized retroactively to officers who had performed such acts while enlisted soldiers, and had been subsequently commissioned. On March 13, 1863 this second version of the Kearny Medal was



the face of the enemy." In 1863, the medal was authorized retroactively to officers who had performed such acts while enlisted soldiers, and had been subsequently commissioned. On March 13, 1863, a second version of the Kearny Medal was ordered established as a "Cross of Valor" for enlisted personnel. The new medal, known as the Kearny Cross, was awarded to any enlisted Union soldier who displayed meritorious, heroic, of distinguished acts while in the face of an enemy force. By 1865, both the Kearny Medal and the Kearny Cross were commonly referred to by the single name of the Kearny Cross. Since the decorations were issued by local commanders, the medals remained unofficial awards and were not issued after the close of the Civil War. Nevertheless, the Kearny Cross and Medal are regarded as one of the oldest military decorations of the United States Army, second only to the Badge of Military Merit [the predecessor of the Purple Heart] and the Fidelity Medallion. Original Kearny Officers' Medals are extremely rare and I've never seen one offered for sale anywhere! The medal is gold in color, in the shape of a cross patte, in the center of which is a circular medallion bearing the word KEARNEY in black enamel with a black line above and below. Encircling this is a plain band, enameled black, with the inscription Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori, in gold letters. Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori is from the Roman lyrical poet Horace's Odes (iii 2.13). The line translate into English as: "It is sweet and fitting to die for one's country." It is suspended by a red ribbon attached to a gold bar with wreath. The overall length of the beautiful, high quality medal is appx. 2 5/8 (67mm), the star itself is appx. 1" (26 mm) across.



version of the Kearny Medal was ordered establishes as a "Cross of Valor" for enlisted personnel. This new medal, known as the Kearny Cross, was awarded to any Union Soldier who had displayed meritorious, heroic, or distinguished acts while in the face of an enemy force. Published reports suggest that 30 Kearny Crosses were distributed to each Regiment in the Division, and the task fell to the Regimental Captains to determine who in their respective companies would be awarded the medal. By 1865, both the Kearny Medal and the Kearny Cross were commonly referred to by the single name of the Kearny Cross. Since the decorations were issued by local commanders, the medals remained unofficial awards and were not issued after the close of the Civil War. Nevertheless, the Kearny Cross and Medal are regarded as one of the oldest military decorations of the United States Army, second only to the Badge of Military Merit and the Fidelity Medallion.

Berdan Sharpshooter's Medal

The Berdan Sharpshooters Medal In the summer and fall of 1861, Hiram Berdan was involved in the recruiting of eighteen companies, from eight states, which were formed into two sharpshooter regiments with the backing of General Winfield Scott and President Abraham Lincoln. Berdan was named as Colonel of the resultant 1st and 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters on November 30, 1861. His men, who had to pass rigorous marksmanship tests, which included firing ten consecutive rounds free standing at a ten inch diameter target one hundred yards away and then fire an addition ten rounds at a ten inch diameter target two hundred yards away from a resting position, without missing a single shot. They were dressed in distinctive green uniforms and equipped with the most advanced long-range rifles featuring telescopic sights. Even when assigned to a brigade, the regiments were usually detached for special assignments on the field of battle. They were frequently used for skirmish duty. Berdan fought at the Seven Days Battles and Second Battle of Bull Run. In September 1862, his



Kearny Medal of Honor - Officers Award

KEARNEY MEDAL OF HONOR The Kearny Medal of Honor was a military decoration of the United States Army, which was first established in 1862 during the opening year of the American Civil War. The original decoration was known as the Kearny Medal and was adopted as an unofficial medal by the officers of the 1st Division (Birney's Division), 3rd Corps, of the Union Army of the Potomac, which had served under Major General Philip Kearny, Jr. before he was killed at the Battle of Chantilly on September 1, 1862. The original Kearny Medal was first bestowed on November 29, 1862, and was awarded to any Union officer who had "performed acts of extreme bravery and heroism in

Medals to page 10

CAMP TRAINING AIDS

As located on the Department of Michigan web site. It is recommended that Camp members visit these URLs and familiarize themselves with the information contained within these documents.

Handbook of Instruction for the Department Patriotic Instructor
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20PI%20Handbook.pdf>

Handbook of Instruction for the Camp Patriotic Instructor
Missing link

Handbook of Instruction for the Civil War Memorials Officer
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Michigan%20CWM%20Handbook.pdf>

Department Membership Initiative
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/DeptMemInitiative.pdf>

Department of Michigan Member Recruitment & Retention Report
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

National Chaplain's Handbook
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

Recommended Education & Additional Department Officer Duties
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20Orders/Series%202017-18/Recommended%20Ed%20&%20Add%20Dept%20Officer%20Duties.pdf>



Meeting Schedule

Our meeting schedule is Alternate months between September through April meeting on the 2nd Thursday of every month except as noted. At 6:00 PM.

Location -

Currently -
Lincoln Twp
Public Library



7th corps Kepi patch



SVR Dates to Note

December:

- 14th - Gov. Crapo Camp Christmas Dinner - Clio, Michigan

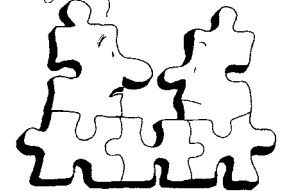
April

- 2020 Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday,

members a paper hangers since there is no, or little, effort into integrating into the life of the organization for these members. The organization must realize that there will be this percentage of new members. This should not mean that no effort should be made to change that mindset. But that it will require different means to accomplish the new member to join in.

The second portion is that of engagement. One might assert that since the members are adults, they should understand that renewing membership each year is a responsibility to be taken seriously. Of course, they are, and it is. However, consider that a member (brothers in our case) will have a need to feel that they are needed, appreciated for their commitment, and that the organization (camp) is fulfilling a need for them. When these needs are being met then there is almost always no problem in getting their renewals. Now for our specific case, meeting every other month fulfills a socialization need. A male bonding one might say because we have a similar connection – the civil war and our ancestor’s relationship with that war. The lesser recognized reason, in my opinion, is that we, individually and collectively, want to be seen as a benefit in our communities. An organization that the public will appreciate our group. And this comes about because we will be doing something more significant beyond being in parades - as fun and visually obvious as that is. Things such as Eagle Scout presentations, Grave markings, participation in any/all patriotic events.

Ever get the feeling something's missing?



Donations to SUVCW

Can you write off donations to a 501 C 4?



Contributions to civic leagues or other section 501(c)(4) organizations generally are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. They may be deductible as trade or business expenses, if ordinary and

necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer’s business.



So, let’s start off the new calendar year with the New Year’s Resolution to individually and collectively be a ‘face’ in the public of our membership in the SUVCW; to be open to any opportunities to engage prospective members; to renew membership; and to encourage our camp brothers to be engaged and willing to participate in the community.

Commander from Page 1

be dealt with. The problem of a more serious vein is having too few members to do those activities that make a vibrant camp and community member. Thus, recruiting takes on special significance and should be something that all camp brothers work at as best they can.



Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty
Steve Williams,
Frederick H. Hackeman, Camp 85 Commander



A second and equally serious consideration is that of retention of Brothers. This can generally be ascribed to a couple factors: the initial purpose/reason for joining and then engagement. Many people join lineage societies – ours is one – to document their lineage and that’s about it for the reason. Unfortunately, one might characterize these



Upcoming Events

National

Stay tuned for information about the 2020 National Encampment being hosted by our Brothers in the Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Atlanta Marriot Buckhead Hotel and Convention Center
3405 Lenox Road North East, Atlanta, GA 30326
Dates: August 13 – 16, 202

Department

December 2019

- 01 December, Saturday - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.
- 04, & 11 December, Wednesday - Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall & Museum is open 10 AM until 5 PM. Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- 14 December, Saturday 4 PM - Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 Camp Meeting and Annual Northeastern Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Decendants Association ("The Northeast-ers!") Christmas Dinner, West Vienna United Methodist Church, 5485 W. Wilson Rd., Clio, Michigan.
- 25 December, Wednesday - Merry Chritmas!

January 2020

- 01 January, Wednesday - Happy New Year!

February 2020

- 12 February, Wednesday - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday.
- 22 February, Saturday - George Washington's Birthday.

March 2020

- 01 March, Sunday - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.

April 2020

- 06 April, Monday - Founding of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1866.
- 15 April, Wednesday - Lincoln Death Day.
- 27 April, Saturday - 135th Annual Department Encampment - Okemos.

May 2020

- 24 May, Sunday - Memorial Sunday.
- 25 May, Monday - Federal Holiday - Memorial Day.
- 30 May, Saturday - Traditional Memorial Day.

Camp

- **January 9, 2020** Camp meeting & Member Induction
- **March 12, 2020** Camp meeting
- **March/April TBD 2020** Last Soldier Ceremony for Oscar Mott, Crystal Springs Cemetery, Benton Harbor
- **March/April TBD 2020** Camp members and family Tour LaPorte museum with Dept Indiana Camp 8
- **May 14, 2020** Camp meeting



The SVR roots date back to 1881 with the "Cadet Corps" of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – the largest Union Veterans organization which formed in 1866 after the Civil War. The members of the GAR encouraged the formation of their sons as the SUVCW in 1881. These units eventually became known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve, when the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War moved toward a more patriotic and educational organization in design.

Many of the Sons of Union Veterans Camps (local organizations) formed reserve military units which volunteered their services during the Spanish – American War, World War I, and with the National Guard. Just prior to World War I, over 5,000 men wore the blue uniform of the SVR. As late as the 1930's, several states regarded their local SVR units as a military training component. Since World War II, the SVR has evolved into a ceremonial and commemorative organization. In 1962, the National Military Department was created by the SUVCW and consolidated the SVR units under national regulations and command. Since 1962, there have been five SUVCW Brothers that have held the SVR rank of Brigadier General and have had the honor to serve as the Commanding Officer of the SVR.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of **Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85** of activities and events related to the mission of the SUCVW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUCVW item please submit to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to censor and/or edit all material submitted for publication to the Camp Communicator newsletter without notice to the submitter.

Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://www.sucvwm.org/camps/camp85.php>.

Sutler Links

Link to list of vendors for any items to fill out your uniform and re-enactor accessories.

<http://www.fighting69th.org/sutler.html>

<http://www.ccsutlery.com/>

<http://www.crescentcitysutler.com/index.html>

<http://www.regqm.com/>

<http://www.cjdaley.com/research.htm>

<http://www.fcsutler.com/>

<https://www.militaryuniformsupply.com/civil-war-reenactment-clothing-gear>

Department of Michigan Officers

Commander -	Robert R. Payne, PCC
Senior VC -	Terry McKinch, PCC
Junior VC -	Nathan Smith, CC
Members of the Council -	Charles Worley, PDC Steven S Martin, CC David V Ramsey
Secretary -	Dick Denney, CC
Treasurer -	Bruce S.A. Gosling
Chief of Staff	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC
Counselor -	Paul T Davis, PDC
Chaplain -	Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC
Patriotic Instructor -	David Kimble, CC
Color Bearer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Signals Officer -	David F. Wallace, PDC
Editor, "Michigan's Messenger" -	Richard E. Danes, PCC
Historian -	Keith G Harrison, PCinC
Guide -	Nathan Tingley
Guard -	Steven S Martin, CC
Graves Registration Officer-	Richard E. Danes, PCC
GAR Records Officer-	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Civil War Memorials Officer-	John H. McGill
Eagle Scout Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp-At-Large Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Military Affairs Officer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC

Civil War Time line:

January in the Civil War

1861 - **Jan 2**, President Buchanan received letter from So Carolina Commissioners demanding he remove Maj Anderson (Ft Sumter's commanding officer) which Buchanan refused to officially receive. **Jan 3 - 14**, Southern states (AL, GA, FL, MS, NC, LA) start seizing Federal installations. **Jan 9**, Mississippi became 2nd state to secede. First shots at Ft Sumter. **Jan 10**, Florida is 3rd state to secede. **Jan 11**, Alabama secedes. **Jan 19**, Georgia secedes. **Jan 21**, Southern Senators, Yulee & Mallory(FL), Clay & Franklin (AL), J Davis (MS) withdraw. **Jan 26**, Louisiana Secedes. **Jan 29**, Kansas admitted to the union.



1862 - **Jan 1**, Federal ships bombarded Ft Barrancas - Pensacola FL. **Jan 3 - 5**, Gen Stonewall Jackson forays into western VA. **Jan 14-16 & 22**, Federal gunboats operate on Mississippi and Tennessee rivers., **Jan 15**, Edwin Stanton confirmed as Sec of War. **Jan 19**, Battle of Mill Springs, KY. **Jan 27**, Pres. Lincoln issues General War Order #1 which orders land and Naval forces to begin aggressive actions. **Jan 30**, *USS Monitor* launched from Greenpoint L.I., NY. **Jan 31**, Pres Lincoln issues Special War Order specifically to the Army of the Potomac. Queen Victoria declares it her purpose to maintain neutrality in the American Civil War..



1863 - **Jan 1**, Emancipation Proclamation issued. Galveston TX surrenders to Federal forces. **Jan 2-5**, Battle of Murfreesboro continues. **Jan 6**, British blockade runner captured off Mobile. **Jan 11**, Confederate Ft Hinman AR captured. *CSS Alabama* defeated *USS Hatteras* off Galveston. **Jan 13** Federal officials authorized the raising of Negro troops for the SC Voluntary Infantry. **Jan 22** Burnside's second attempt at Fredericksburg failed due to weather. **Jan 25** Gen Hooker replaces Gen Burnside. **Jan 27** Proprietor of Philadelphia's *Journal* arrested for printing anti-Northern material. **Jan 29**, Confederate Government borrowed \$15, 000, 000 from French financier Emile Erlanger. **Jan 31**, Confederate gunboats attack at Charleston SC.

1864 - **Jan 1**, Extreme cold - below zero - as far south as Memphis and Cairo, IL. **Jan 6**, Federal troops under Kit Carson attack the Navajo in Canon De Chelly and send captured Navajo to Bosque Redondo. **Jan 10 -31**, Blockade runners continuously captured from NC to TX. **Jan 19**, Arkansas passed new Constitution with anti-slavery measure. **Jan - Throughout the month**, President Lincoln suspended many executions.



1865 - **Jan**, Opened with little activity. **Jan 5**, Pres J Davis worrying over dissension over the draft, manpower problems, and supplies. **Jan 9**, Tennessee passed amendment to abolish Slavery. **Jan 11**, Missouri passed an ordinance abolishing slavery. **Jan 13-15**, Federal Attack on Ft Fisher (NC) begins. Gen Hood resigns. **Jan 19**, Gen Sherman orders march from Savannah through So Carolina. **Jan 23**, Confederate Congress creates General-in-Chief of the Confederate Armies. **Jan 25**, CSS *Shenandoah* reaches Melbourne Australia. **Jan 30**, Three Confederate Commissioners pass through lines for peace negotiations. **Jan 31**, US House passes the 13th Amendment 119-56 after a full month of debate. It became part of the Constitution on Dec 25th. Davis appoints Lee as General-in-Chief.



Source: *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday. Source: *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday.



William Starke Rosecrans (September 6, 1819 – March 11, 1898) was an American inventor, coal-oil company executive, diplomat, politician, and U.S. Army officer. He gained fame for his role as a Union general during the American Civil War. He was the victor at prominent Western Theater battles, but his military career was effectively ended following his disastrous defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863.



Braxton Bragg (March 22, 1817 – September 27, 1876) was an American career army officer. At

the outbreak of the American Civil War, he became a member of the Confederate States Army and was assigned to duty at Richmond, under direction of the President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis. He took charge of the conduct of military operations of the armies of the Confederate States from February 24, 1864, until January 13, 1865, when he was charged with command and defense of Wilmington, North Carolina. .



Ancestor Biographies Needed

Whatever you may have on your ancestor's life story submit for inclusion of future issues. It can be short or long as it takes to tell us about your ancestor's life, i.e., what he did before the war, where he served, and if he survived, what he did after the war - farmer, merchant, politician, etc. And if your family history has a photograph submit that, too.

Battle of Stones River

The Battle of Stones River (also known as the Second Battle of Murfreesboro) was a battle fought from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863, in Middle Tennessee, as the culmination of the Stones River Campaign in the Western Theater of the American Civil War. Of the major battles of the war, Stones River had the highest percentage of casualties on both sides. Although the battle itself was inconclusive, the Union Army's repulse of two Confederate attacks and the subsequent Confederate withdrawal were a much-needed boost to Union morale after the defeat at the Battle of Fredericksburg, and it dashed Confederate aspirations for control of Middle Tennessee.

Union Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans's Army of the Cumberland marched from Nashville, Tennessee, on December 26, 1862, to challenge General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee at Murfreesboro. On December 31, each army commander planned to attack his opponent's right flank, but Bragg struck first. A massive assault by the corps of Maj. Gen. William J. Hardee, followed by that of Leonidas Polk, overran the wing commanded by Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook. A stout defense by the division of Brig. Gen. Philip Sheridan in the right center of the line prevented a total collapse, and the Union assumed a tight defensive position backing up to the Nashville Turnpike. Repeated Confederate attacks were repulsed from this concentrated line, most notably in the cedar "Round Forest" salient against the brigade of Col. William B. Hazen. Bragg attempted to continue the assault with the division of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, but the troops were slow in arriving and their multiple piecemeal attacks failed.

Fighting resumed on January 2, 1863, when Bragg ordered Breckinridge to assault the well-fortified Union position on a hill to the east of the Stones River. Faced with overwhelming artillery, the Confederates were repulsed with heavy losses. Falsely believing that Rosecrans was receiving reinforcements, Bragg chose to withdraw his army on January 3 to Tullahoma, Tennessee. This caused Bragg to lose the confidence of the Army of Tennessee.

Background

Military situation

After the Battle of Perryville in Kentucky on October 8, 1862, Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Mississippi withdrew to Harrodsburg, Kentucky, where it was joined by Maj. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith's army of 10,000 on October 10. Although Bragg's newly combined force was up to 38,000 veteran troops, he made no effort to regain the initiative. Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, the Union commander at Perryville, was equally passive and refused to attack Bragg.

Frustrated with his prospects in Kentucky and low on supplies, Bragg withdrew fully from Kentucky through the Cumberland Gap, passed through Knoxville and Chattanooga, turned northwest, and eventually stopped in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. His army, joined with Smith's Army of Kentucky

and together renamed the Army of Tennessee as of November 20, took up a defensive position northwest of the city along the West Fork of the Stones River. During a visit by Confederate President Jefferson Davis on December 16, Bragg was ordered to send the infantry division of Maj. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson to Mississippi to assist in the defense of Vicksburg. The loss of Stevenson's 7,500 men would be sorely felt in the coming battle. Bragg reorganized his army, and Kirby Smith left for East Tennessee.

Bragg commanded two corps, under Maj. Gen. William J. Hardee (divisions of Maj. Gens. John C. Breckinridge, Patrick R. Cleburne, and John P. McCown) and Maj. Gen. Leonidas Polk (divisions of Maj. Gens. Benjamin F. Cheatham and Jones M. Withers, and a cavalry command under Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler. Bragg had to deal with a command problem that became typical for him during the war: a virtual revolt of his senior generals, who petitioned Jefferson Davis to relieve him in favor of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, the commander of all armies in the Western Theater. Davis refused to relieve either Bragg or the rebellious generals.

On the Union side, President Abraham Lincoln had become frustrated with Buell's passivity and replaced him with Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, victor of the recent battles of Iuka and Corinth. Rosecrans moved his XIV Corps (which was soon after designated the Army of the Cumberland) to Nashville, Tennessee, and was warned by Washington that he too would be replaced if he did not move aggressively against Bragg and occupy eastern Tennessee. However, Rosecrans took ample time to reorganize and train his forces (particularly his cavalry) and resupply his army. He did not begin his march in pursuit of Bragg until December 26.

Initial movements

While Rosecrans was preparing in Nashville, Bragg ordered Col. John Hunt Morgan to move north with his cavalry and operate along Rosecrans's lines of communications, to prevent him from foraging for supplies north of Nashville. The Battle of Hartsville, at a crossing point on the Cumberland River about 40 miles (64 km) upstream from Nashville (north of Murfreesboro) was an incident in Morgan's raid to the north, before Rosecrans had the bulk of his infantry forces on the move. The relatively small battle that followed Morgan's surprise attack was an embarrassing Union defeat, resulting in many captured Union supplies and soldiers. The Union also engaged in a strategic cavalry raid. On December 26, the day Rosecrans marched from Nashville, a small force under Brig. Gen. Samuel P. Carter raided the upper Tennessee Valley from Manchester, Kentucky. Until January 5, Carter's men destroyed railroad bridges and fought a few skirmishes, including a serious one on December 28 at Perkins's Mill (also known as Elk Fort). But none of the cavalry raids, Confederate or Union, had any significant effect on

Stone River To Page 11

MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER

is a quarterly publication of and for the membership of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Current Spring Issue is at

https://www.suvcwmi.org/messenger/2019/V28_N2.pdf



National Officers

Commander-in-Chief Edward J. Norris, PDC CinC@suvcw.org
Senior Vice CinC Brian C. Pierson, PDC SVCinC@suvcw.org
Junior Vice CinC Michael A. Paquette, PDC JVCinC@suvcw.org
National Secretary Jonathan C. Davis, PDC secretary@suvcw.org
National Treasurer D. Michael Beard, PDC treasurer@suvcw.org
National Quartermaster James L. Lyon qm@suvcw.org

Council of Administration

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Council of Admin (21) Bruce D. Frail, PDC CofA4@suvcw.org
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Medals from Page 3

sharpshooters were at the Battle of Shepherdstown. Berdan commanded the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, 3rd Corps, Army of the Potomac in February and March 1863, then he commanded the 3rd Brigade at the Battle of Chancellorsville. At the Battle of Gettysburg, his two regiments of sharpshooters played an important role in delaying Confederate attacks on Devil's Den and the Peach Orchard. In a sharp encounter in Pitzer's Woods on Seminary Ridge, the 1st U.S. Sharpshooters stalled the advancing Alabama brigade of Cadmus Wilcox. Berdan assumed command of J. H. Hobart Ward's brigade when the latter became acting division commander (David B. Birney having become acting corps commander following the wounding of Daniel Sickles) and led the division throughout the rest of the campaign, as well as during the subsequent Bristoe and Mine Run Campaigns. According

to a report of the American Numismatic Society published in 1902, the The Survivors Association of Berdan Sharpshooters was first suggested in a meeting held in Gettysburg on July 3, 1888 and "perfected" in Boston on August 11, 1890. Original Berdan Sharpshooters Medals are extremely rare and can sell for over \$1,000 in poor condition.

Army of the James - Butler Medal - U.S. Colored Troops



In his book, *Autobiography and Personal Reminiscences* of Major-General Bej. F. Butler, published in 1892 by subscription only, General Butler writes: "I had the fullest reports made to me of the acts of individual bravery of colored men on that occasion (Battle of Newmarket Heights - outside Richmond, VA, September 29-30, 1864) and I had done for the negro soldiers, by my own order, what the government has never done for its white soldiers - I had a medal struck of like size, weight, quality, fabrication and intrinsic value with those which Queen Victoria gave with her own hand to her distinguished private soldiers of the Crimea. I have caused an engraving of that medal to be printed in this book in honor of

the colored soldiers and of myself. The obverse of the medal shows a bastion fort charged upon by negro soldiers, and bears the inscription "FREEDOM WILL BE THEIRS BY THE SWORD" (Freedom will be theirs by the sword) The reverse bears the words, "Campaign before Richmond," encircling the words, "Distinguished for Courage," while there was plainly engraved upon the rim, before its presentation, the name of the soldier, his company and his regiment. The medal was suspended by a ribbon of red, white, and blue, attached to the clothing by a strong pin, having in front an oak-leaf with the inscription in plain letters, "Army of the James." These I gave with my own hand, save where the recipient was in a distant hospital wounded, and by the commander of the colored corps after it was removed from my command, and I record with pride that in that single action there were so many deserving this it called for a presentation of nearly two hundred. Since the war I have been fully rewarded by seeing the beaming eye of many a colored comrade as he drew his medal from the innermost recesses of its concealment to show me". Three months after having the medals struck, Butler was relieved of command and African-Amer-



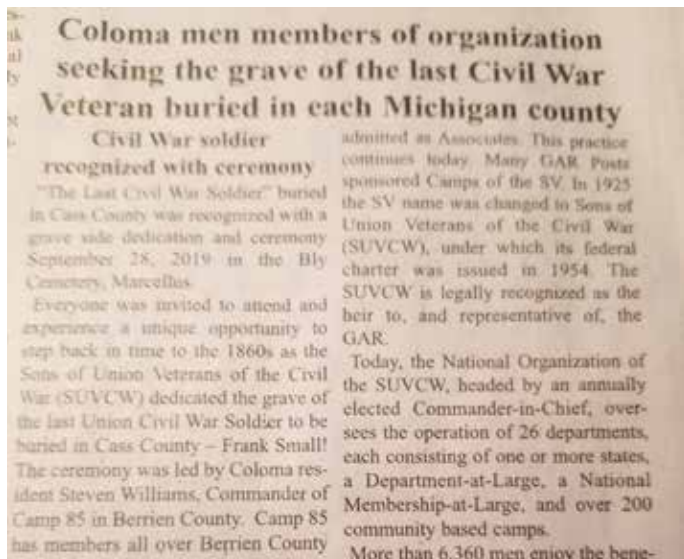
ican soldiers were forbidden from wearing the medal on their uniform. The names of any of the actual 200 recipients remains a mystery!!!!!!! By the end of the Civil War, roughly 179,000 black men (10% of the Union Army) served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another 19,000 served in the Navy. Nearly 40,000 black soldiers died over the course of the war—30,000 of infection or disease. Black soldiers served in artillery and infantry and performed all noncombat support functions that sustain an army, as well. Black carpenters, chaplains, cooks, guards, laborers, nurses, scouts, spies, steamboat pilots, surgeons, and teamsters also contributed to the war cause. There were nearly 80 black commissioned officers.

Cavalry Spurs

The Order of the Spur is a Cavalry tradition within the United States Army as silver spurs are awarded to Soldiers for having served as a member of, or with, a Cavalry unit and who have demonstrated a profound knowledge of their craft while never having had the opportunity to serve in combat. The spurs are to be worn with the military uniform during Regimental ceremonies and events or as designated by the Cavalry unit commander. Within the tradition, silver spurs hold a similar relationship for the cavalry as the Expert Infantry Badge in the U.S. Army Infantry. The tradition of having to “earn your spurs” reaches back to the beginning of the cavalry. When green Troopers first arrived at their new cavalry assignments they were assigned a horse with a shaved tail. This led to the nickname “Shave Tail” for newly assigned, spur-less Soldiers. These new Troopers were in need of extensive training, especially in the area of swordsmanship from atop a horse. The horse with a shaved tail was given extra space in which to operate since its rider was marked as an amateur. During this phase of training, the Troopers were not allowed to wear spurs because this would only serve to compound their problems. Only when they were able to prove their ability to perform with their horse and saber were they awarded spurs.



Camp 85 in the News



Stone River From Page 9

the Stones River Campaign.

The Army of the Cumberland marched southeast the day after Christmas in three columns, or “wings”, towards Murfreesboro, and they were effectively harassed by Wheeler’s Confederate cavalry along the way, which delayed their movements. Although Rosecrans had reported his army to have 81,729 effectives in Nashville, his force on the march was barely more than half of that since he needed to protect his base and supply lines from the harassment of the Confederate cavalry. The left wing of 14,500 men under Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden (divisions of Brig. Gens. Thomas J. Wood, John M. Palmer, and Horatio P. Van Cleve) took a route that was parallel to the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, passing through La Vergne and south of Smyrna. The right wing of 16,000 men under Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook (divisions of Brig. Gens. Jefferson C. Davis, Richard W. Johnson, and Philip H. Sheridan) marched south along the Nolensville Turnpike to Nolensville, south to Triune, and then eastward to Murfreesboro. The center wing of 13,500 men under Maj. Gen. George Henry Thomas (divisions of Maj. Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau and Brig. Gens. James S. Negley, Speed S. Fry, and Robert B. Mitchell) moved south along the Wilson Turnpike and the Franklin Turnpike, parallel to the Nashville and Decatur Railroad, then eastward through Nolensville and along the same route used by Crittenden south of the Nashville and Chattanooga. Union cavalry under Brig. Gen. David S. Stanley (a single cavalry division under Col. John Kennett) preceded each of the three columns. The separation of the wings was designed to conduct a turning movement against Hardee at Triune, but when the U.S. march began, Bragg moved Hardee back to Murfreesboro to avoid a confrontation.

Geography and Location

Murfreesboro was a small town in the Stones River Valley, a former state capital named for a colonel in the American Revolutionary War, Hardy Murfree. All through the war it was a center for strong Confederate sentiment, and Bragg and his men were warmly welcomed and entertained during the month of December. It was located in a rich agricultural region from which Bragg planned to provision his army and a position that he intended to use to block a potential U.S. advance on Chattanooga. Hardee noted afterward that “The field of battle offered no particular advantages for defense.” Despite this, Bragg was reluctant to move farther south, say to the arguably more defensible Duck River Valley, or farther north, to Stewart’s Creek, where Rosecrans thought Bragg would defend. Sensitive to the political requirements that almost no Tennessee ground be yielded to U.S. control, he chose the relatively flat area northwest of the politically influential city, straddling the Stones River. Portions of the area, particularly near the intersection of the Nashville Pike and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, were characterized by small but dense cedar forests, in places more impenetrable to infantry than the Wilderness of Spotsylvania in Virginia. Short limestone outcroppings, separated by narrow cracks as if rows of teeth, impeded the movement of wagons and artillery. Hardee’s Corps was initially placed in Triune, about 20 miles (32 km) to the west, Polk’s on the



Illustration of the Battle of Stones River, which occurred on December 31, 1862 and January 2-3, 1863. Commanding the forces were General Rosecrans for the Union and General Bragg for the Confederacy. Artist: Kurz & Allison

west bank of the river, and a detached division from Hardee's Corps under Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge on the low hills east of the river. None of the troops were ordered to construct field fortifications.

Disposition of armies

By the time Rosecrans had arrived in Murfreesboro on the evening of December 29, the Army of Tennessee had been encamped in the area for a month. By nightfall, two thirds of Rosecrans's army was in position along the Nashville Turnpike, and by the next day Rosecrans's army numbered about 41,000 and Bragg's 35,000. The odds were closer than those figures would indicate. Bragg had the advantage of the detached, but cooperating, cavalry commands under Forrest and Morgan, who raided deeply behind Union lines while Wheeler's cavalry slowed the Union forces with hit-and-run skirmishes. (Part of Rosecrans's reluctance to move from Nashville was the inexperience of his cavalry forces in comparison to their Confederate counterparts.) On December 29, Wheeler and 2,500 of his men rode completely around the Union army, destroying supply wagons and capturing reserve ammunition in Rosecrans's trains. They captured four wagon trains and 1,000 Union prisoners.

On December 30, the Union force moved into line two miles (three km) northwest of Murfreesboro. The two armies were in parallel lines, about four miles (six km) long, oriented from southwest to northeast. Bragg's left flank was weak at the start, and Rosecrans could have attacked there when he arrived and wheeled left, around the flank and directly into the town of Murfreesboro, but he did not know the full disposition of Bragg's forces because of the skillful screening of the Confederate cavalry during the Union march. In a manner similar to the previous year's First Battle of Bull Run, both commanders devised similar plans for the following day: envelop the enemy's right, get into his rear, and cut him off from his base. Since both plans were the same, the victory would probably go to the side that was able to attack first. Rosecrans ordered his men to be ready to attack after breakfast, but Bragg ordered an attack at dawn.

Bragg's forces were situated with Leonidas Polk's corps on the west side of the river, and William J. Hardee's men on the east. He had expected Rosecrans to attack on December 30, but when that did not happen, his plan was to drive Hardee's corps and the cavalry under Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton deep into the Union rear. He began moving the bulk of Hardee's corps across the river to his left flank to prepare for the next morning's attack. This left Breckinridge's division in reserve on the east side of the river on the high ground.

Plans

Rosecrans intended to have Crittenden cross the river and attack the heights east of the river, which would be an excellent artillery platform to bombard the entire Confederate lines. However, Crittenden—facing Breckinridge on the Union left—failed to notify McCook (on the Union right) of these troop movements. McCook, anticipating the next day would begin with a major attack by Crittenden, planted numerous campfires in his area, hoping to deceive the Confederates as to his strength on that flank, and to disguise the fact that his flank was not anchored on an obstacle (the nearby Overall Creek). Thomas, in the center, was ordered to make a limited attack and act as the pivot for Crittenden's wheel.

The armies bivouacked only 700 yards (640 m) from each other, and their bands started a musical battle that became a non-lethal preview of the next day's events. Northern musicians played "Yankee Doodle" and "Hail, Columbia" and were answered by "Dixie" and "The Bonnie Blue Flag." Finally, one band started playing "Home! Sweet Home!" and the others on both sides joined in. Thousands of Northern and Southern soldiers sang the sentimental song together across the lines.

Battle

December 31, 1862

At dawn on December 31, about 6 a.m., Confederate William J. Hardee struck first, attacking the Union's right flank with the division of Maj. Gen. John P. McCown, before many in Union Brig. Gen. Richard W. Johnson's division had finished their breakfast. This was the third major battle, after Fort Donelson and Shiloh, in which an early morning attack caught a Union army by surprise. The 10,000 Confederates who massed on their left attacked in one massive wave. McCook's deceptive campfires and the relative inexperience of McCown caused his division to drift away to the left, which left a gap in the front, but the gap was filled seamlessly by the division coming up from his rear, under Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne. These two divisions swept all resistance aside. Several artillery batteries were captured without having time to fire a shot. Johnson's division, on the right, suffered over 50% casualties. His neighboring Union division to the left, under Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, was able to hold only briefly.

Although meeting stiff resistance, Hardee drove the Union troops back three miles (5 km) to the railroad and the Nashville Pike by 10 a.m., where Johnson was able to rally them. Rosecrans canceled Crittenden's attack on the Confederate right, which had begun with Brig. Gen. Horatio P. Van Cleve's division crossing the river at 7 a.m.,

and instead rushed reinforcements to his own right flank. He had been slow to recognize the threat, assuming incorrectly that McCook would be capable of turning back Hardee's assault. As Rosecrans raced across the battlefield directing units, seeming ubiquitous to his men, his uniform was covered with blood from his friend and chief of staff, Col. Julius Garesché, beheaded by a cannonball while riding alongside.

December 31, 9:45 a.m.

The second Confederate wave was by Polk's corps, consisting of the divisions of Maj. Gens. Jones M. Withers and Benjamin F. Cheatham. What saved the Union from total destruction that morning was the foresight of Brig. Gen. Philip Sheridan (McCook's wing), who anticipated an early attack and had the troops of his division up and ready in the center of the right half of the line by 4 a.m. Withers hit Sheridan's right flank first (and Davis's left) but was repulsed in three separate charges. Then Cheatham, with his reserve division, hit Sheridan's front as Cleburne struck his flank. Cheatham's assault was sluggish and piecemeal; observers claimed he had been drinking heavily and was unable to command his units effectively. While Sheridan's men slowed the enemy advance, they did it at heavy cost to themselves; all three of Sheridan's brigade commanders were killed that day, and more than one third of his men were casualties in four hours of fighting in a cedar forest surrounded on three sides that became known as "The Slaughter Pen." By 10 a.m., many of the Confederate objectives had been achieved. They had captured 28 guns and over 3,000 Union soldiers.

December 31, 11:00 a.m.

Two Confederate blunders aided Rosecrans. Breckinridge, on the east side of the river, did not realize that Crittenden's early morning attack had been withdrawn. He refused to send two brigades as reinforcements across the river to aid the main attack on the left. When Bragg ordered him to attack to his front—so that some use could be made of his corps—Breckinridge moved forward and was embarrassed to find out that there were no Union troops opposing him. At about that time, Bragg received a false report that a strong Union force was moving south along the Lebanon Turnpike in his direction. He canceled his orders that Breckinridge send reinforcements across the river, which diluted the effectiveness of the main attack.

By 11 a.m., Sheridan's ammunition ran low, and his division pulled back, which opened a gap that Hardee exploited. The Union troops regrouped and held the Nashville Pike, supported by reinforcements and massed artillery. Repeated attacks on the left flank of the Union line were repulsed by Col. William B. Hazen's brigade in a rocky, 4-acre

(16,000 m²) wooded area named "Round Forest" by the locals; it became known as "Hell's Half-Acre". Brig. Gen. Milo S. Hascall sent the 3rd Kentucky to the Round Forest as reinforcements. When he was informed that the 3rd's regimental commander was dead, he decided to take personal command of the defensive position. He declared that it had to be held, "even if it cost the last man we had." Hazen's brigade was the only part of the original Union line to hold. The Union line was stabilized by the strong leadership of Rosecrans and by the rallying of the divisions under Johnson and Davis. The new line was roughly perpendicular to the original line, in a small half oval with its back to the river.

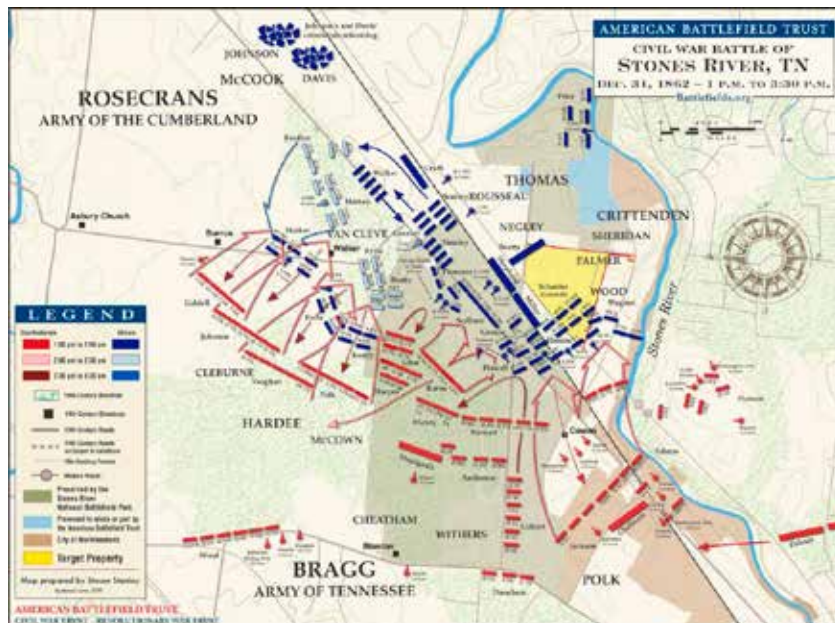
Bragg planned to attack the Union left, a portion of the oval line facing southeast, manned by Hazen's brigade. The only troops available for such an assault were Breckinridge's, and Bragg ordered him to cross the river, but Breckinridge moved slowly. By 4 p.m., Breckinridge's first two brigades assaulted Hazen in piecemeal attacks and suffered heavy repulses. Two more brigades arrived, and they were sent in, reinforced by other elements of Polk's corps. The attack failed a second time. Thomas responded with a limited counterattack that cleared his front. By 4:30 p.m., the battle was finished.

December 31, 4:00 p.m.

Bragg's plan had had a fundamental flaw: although his objective was to cut Rosecrans's line of communication (the Nashville Pike), his attack drove the Union defenders to concentrate at that point. Bragg's biographer, Grady McWhiney, observed:

Unless the Union army collapsed at the first onslaught, it would be pushed back into a tighter and stronger defensive position as the battle continued, while the Confederate forces would gradually lose momentum, become disorganized, and grow weaker. Like a snowball, the Union would pick up strength from the debris of battle if they retreated in good order. But the Confederates would inevitably unwind like a ball of string as they advanced.

That night Rosecrans held a council of war to decide what to do. Some of his generals felt that the Union army had been defeated and recommended a retreat before they were entirely cut off. Rosecrans opposed this view and was strongly supported by Thomas and Crittenden. Thomas has been quoted by different sources in the council meeting as saying either "This army does not retreat" or "There's no better place to die." The decision was made to stand and fight, and as the Union line was reinforced, the morale of the soldiers rose.



On the Confederate side, Bragg was certain that he had won a victory. Although he had suffered 9,000 casualties, he was convinced that the large number of captured Union soldiers meant that Rosecrans had lost considerably more. The Confederate army began digging in, facing the Union line. Bragg sent a telegram to Richmond before he went to bed: "The enemy has yielded his strong position and is falling back. We occupy [the] whole field and shall follow him. ... God has granted us a happy New Year."

January 1–3, 1863

At 3 a.m. on January 1, 1863, Rosecrans revived his original plan and ordered Van Cleve's division (commanded by Col. Samuel Beatty following Van Cleve's wounding the previous day) to cross the river and occupy the heights there, protecting two river crossing sites and providing a good platform for artillery. But the day was relatively quiet as both armies observed New Year's Day by resting and tending to their wounded. Polk launched two probes of the Union line, one against Thomas, the other against Sheridan, to little effect.

In the rear, Wheeler's cavalry continued to harass the Union line of communication on the turnpike back to Nashville. Convoys of wounded had to travel under heavy escort to be protected from the cavalry, and Wheeler interpreted these movements as preparations for a retreat, and he reported such to Bragg. Buoyed by his sense that he had won the battle, Bragg was content to wait for Rosecrans to retreat.

At 4 p.m. on January 2, Bragg directed Breckinridge's troops to attack Beatty's division, which was occupying the hill on the east side of the river. Breckinridge initially protested that the assault would be suicidal but eventually agreed and attacked with determination. The Union troops were pushed back across McFadden Ford, but the Confederate charge ran into heavy fire from massed Union artillery across the river, commanded by Crittenden's artillery chief, Capt. John Mendenhall. Mendenhall deployed his guns perfectly—45 arrayed hub-to-hub on the ridge overlooking McFadden's Ford and 12 more guns about a mile to the southwest, which could provide enfilading fire, completely commanding the opposite bank and heights beyond—and saved the day for Rosecrans. The Confederate attack stalled, having suffered over 1,800 casualties in less than an hour. A Union division under the command of James S. Negley (Thomas's wing) led a counterattack at 4:45 p.m., and the Confederate troops retreated. Breckinridge was devastated by the disaster. He lost nearly one third of his Kentucky troops (Hanson's Brigade, also known as the Orphan Brigade because it could not return to Union-occupied Kentucky). As he rode among the survivors, he cried out repeatedly, "My poor Orphans! My poor Orphans."

On the morning of January 3, a large supply train and reinforced infantry brigade led by Brig. Gen. James G. Spears reached Rosecrans. Wheeler's cavalry attempted to capture the ammunition train that followed it but was repulsed. Late that evening, Thomas attacked the center of the Confederate line with two regiments in reaction to constant enemy sharpshooting against troops in his division under Lovell H. Rousseau. Thomas drove the Confederates from their entrenchments, taking about 30 prisoners. Despite this

action, the main battle is generally accepted to have ended on January 2.

Bragg knew that Rosecrans was not likely to retreat and would continue to receive reinforcements—the Confederates had only about 20,000 men ready to resume a battle and intelligence reports convinced Bragg that Rosecrans would soon have 70,000—and he knew that the miserable weather of freezing rain could raise the river enough to split his army. Beginning at 10 p.m. on January 3, he withdrew through Murfreesboro and began a retreat to Tullahoma, Tennessee, 36 miles (58 km) to the south. Rosecrans occupied Murfreesboro on January 5, but made no attempt to pursue Bragg. Rosecrans was quoted after the battle as saying, "Bragg's a good dog, but Hold Fast's a better."

Aftermath

Casualties

Total casualties in the battle were 24,645: 12,906 on the Union side and 11,739 for the Confederates, or 31.4% of all troops. Considering that only about 78,400 men were engaged, this was the highest percentage of casualties (3.8% killed, 19.8% wounded, and 7.9% missing/captured) of any major battle in the Civil War, higher in absolute numbers than the infamous bloodbaths at Shiloh and Antietam earlier that year. Four brigadier generals were killed or mortally wounded: Confederate James E. Rains and Roger W. Hanson; Union Edward N. Kirk and Joshua W. Sill.

Effect on the Confederacy

The battle was tactically inconclusive. Bragg received almost universal scorn from his Confederate military colleagues; only the support of Joseph E. Johnston and President Jefferson Davis's inability to find a suitable replacement saved his command.

Effect on the Union

The battle was very important to Union morale, as evidenced by Abraham Lincoln's letter to General Rosecrans: "You gave us a hard-earned victory, which had there been a defeat instead, the nation could scarcely have lived over." The Confederate threat to Kentucky and Middle Tennessee had been nullified, and Nashville was secure as a major Union supply base for the rest of the war.

Rosecrans spent five and a half months reinforcing Murfreesboro. The massive earthenworks "Fort Rosecrans" was built there and served as a supply depot for the remainder of the war. The next major operation, the Tullahoma Campaign, did not come until June, when Rosecrans finally moved his army against Bragg.



We are always looking for content suggestions, comments, Book Reports, Family Civil War stories, advice.

Send your contributions to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

Member Ancestors

Compiled from current and past member information.

Red Text indicates publication of a biography in the *Camp Communicator*

Current Members		Ancestor		Unit
Theodore J	Chamberlain	Chamberlain	Jeremiah M	Pvt, Co B 176 th OH Vol Inf
Keith Alan	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Steven	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Jeffrey L	Chubb	Brownell	(William) Henry	Pvt., Merrill's Horse, MO
Harold L	Cray	Barrett	George W	Pvt., Co F 54th Reg Ohio Inf
Rex	Dillman	Yaw	Benjamin Franklin	Pvt, Co G 26 th MI Inf Reg,
Richard	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Glenn	Palen	Palen	Charles	Pvt Co E 128 th IN Inf
Rodney Samuel	Krieger	Jacob	Krieger	Pvt, Co I, 19th MI Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Jr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Sr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Ray	Truhn	Goodenough	Alonzo	Pvt, Co A 2 nd VT Inf
Steven Allen	Williams	Carter Mountjoy/ Munjoy Wetmore	Oren George W Abiather Joy	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf Pvt, 11 th MI Vol Cavalry & 1st MI Sharpshooters Pvt 66 th IL Inf
Matthew Carter	Williams	Carter	Oren	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf
Past Members		Ancestor		Unit
Roger C	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Kenneth A	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Dennis L	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Michael	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Irving	Hackeman	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Richard	Horton	Horton, Jr	William	
Virlin	Dillmam	Mason	Daniel W	
Daniel	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Amasa	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN

Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85

Happy Birthday to Brothers

As of today we don't have any January birthday Brothers, Let's get out there and get one!

Address Label here