

yet learned the particulars of the capture, or to whom was due the credit of the achievement.

To Colonel Geddes, as we have seen, is due the instigation of the attack. To his planning and direction and to his brigade, and prominently of it, to the bravery and discipline of the 8th Iowa, is due the lodgment made upon the enemys' walls; and from this bold and successful movement resulted the evacuation of this place by the enemy, and the capture of six hundred and fifty prisoners and the aforementioned ordinance and stores. The 8th Iowa alone capturing five hundred of the prisoners.

Not a regiment outside of his brigade fired a gun in the victorious movement; not a division commander, except Gen. Carr, not a corps commander, nor Canby the commanding general, knew of the assault until after the lodgment had been effected and a staff officer of the colonel was sent back to convey notice of its success.

MINOR INCIDENTS OF THE WAR---No. 1.

At the battle of Mission Ridge the 10th Iowa did excellent service. There were few steadier regiments under fire than this. The sharpest encounters at the West—Iuka, Corinth, Champion Hills and Mission Ridge, were its schools of discipline. To its line officers it owed much for its uniform steadiness in trying positions. Brave, cool and true men were they all.

The following incident will illustrate the character of one of them, and show the reason why one of its companies never failed when needed.

Captain Solomon Shepherd, a grey-bearded elderly man of nearly sixty years, commanded Co. D of this regiment. The Captain had been "in" with his boys through all their hardest battles and held them firm by his command and example through several tempests of grape and minnie, but, for several weeks before the battle of Chattanooga had been pros-

trated by sickness. Only a few days prior to it had he rejoined his company after a "leave" and absence to a northern latitude, a trip which unquestionably prevented him from becoming a permanent denizen of the great city of the dead that surrounds the insignificant living city of Vicksburg. His health was not fully restored, yet enabling him to look to the business affairs of his company.

On the morning of the charge up Mission Ridge it would have seemed not only justifiable but proper that the invalid Captain of Company D who walked but feebly, should have turned over the command of the company to his Lieutenant and stayed behind. Not so thought the Captain. Such a proposition could not be entertained; he should go as far and do as long as his strength enabled him, and not until then, to his understanding, did his duty cease. That his *boys* of Company D should go into battle without him could not be thought of. Buckling on his sword he joined them at the foot of the mountain and took his place at their right in the charging column. The ascent commenced; grape and canister from the enemy's batteries along the summit, swept the mountain side—an awful tempest; but on and upward moved the "boys in blue."

Half way to the summit where the hill grew more steep, his feeble strength began to fail him; his knees grew weak; yet with vigorous effort he pushed on. A half of the remaining distance was gained, but the hill growing more steep and rugged, he was unable longer to stand. Yet firmly determined not to be behind in the final storming of the works on the summit, he fell back to the first principles or primitive mode of locomotion, (according to some theories of human origin,) and on hands and feet dragged himself up the remaining distance over rocks and fallen timber and the dead bodies of his companions in arms, in time to render efficient service in the direction of his company, and in rallying the broken forces of another regiment near, and encouraging them back against the enemy until the victory was achieved.

Such manifestations of heroic appreciation of duty and de-

terminated will in execution, oftener indicate the "stuff" of which the true soldier is made, than the suddenly executed dash of battle line wherein "the deadly imminent breach" is scaled and heroes made immortal.

His Brigade Commander (General Matthias,) passing along the charging line and witnessing his novel method of "approaching the enemy" and admiring the soldierly spirit which prompted it, often afterward took occasion when meeting him in the presence of others, to narrate this "pursuit of duty under difficulties,"—fierce from without and feeble from within—with ample embellishments, especially of that portion about his "charging the enemy on all fours," much to the confusion of the modest veteran who could stand the assaults of rebel soldiers with more calmness than these flattering notices of his commanding general.

Captain Shepherd is an old resident of Iowa City.

STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF IOWA.

IOWA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

BY PROF. BENJAMIN TALBOT, SUPT.

Our State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb is entitled to some notice in the pages of the "ANNALS," and the following sketch has been prepared for the information of its readers.

The Institution was first opened about the middle of November 1854, by Mr. W. E. Ijams, who had been a teacher in the Illinois Institution at Jacksonville. Previous to that time the Iowa Legislature had appropriated a certain sum for the education of each deaf mute in the State, at first \$50; and afterwards \$100 per annum. With this help a few of the deaf and dumb (not to exceed ten,) had been sent to school in the Institutions of Illinois and Wisconsin.

Mr. Ijams opened the school in Iowa City as a private enterprise, being encouraged to hope that the next General

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