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THE ARMY OF THE SOUTH-WEST, AND THE FIRST CAMPAIGN  
IN ARKANSAS.

BY SAM'L PRENTIS CURTIS,  
BREVET CAPTAIN AND AID-DE-CAMP TO MAJOR GENERAL CURTIS.

(Continued from page 833.)

CHAPTER SEVENTH.

THE REPORTS OF COLS. CARR AND DAVIS, 3D AND 4TH DIVISIONS.

DAVIS.  
HEAD QUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,  
PEA RIDGE, ARKANSAS, March 16th, 1862. }

CAPTAIN : *Sir*:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Third Division under my command in the recent engagement with the rebel forces at this place.

On the morning of the 1st inst., in obedience to instructions from the General, I broke up my camp near Cross Hollows, and took position on the heights of Pea Ridge, on the north side of Sugar Creek, commanding the main road.

On the night of the 5th, I received intelligence of the approach of the enemy, from the General, and of his intention to concentrate his force on my right and left, and give battle at this point.

On the morning of the 6th, I deployed the 1st Brigade of my Division, consisting of the 8th, 18th and 22d Indiana, with Klaus' Indiana Battery, commanded by Col. Thomas Pattison, on the right of the Fayetteville road, so as to command the approach completely.

The 2d Brigade, consisting of the 37th and 59th Illinois, (formerly 9th Mo.), with Davidson's Ills. Battery, commanded by Col. Julius White, I ordered to take position on the left of this road. This Battery commanded the valley of

Sugar Creek east and west, and strongly supporting Klaus' Battery on the right. This Battery was well posted and protected by a small earth work which I had ordered to be thrown up during the night.

The 8th and 18th Indiana, under Cols. Benton and Washburn, strengthened their positions by falling timber and throwing up some small entrenchments.

During the night, the General himself arrived, followed by a part of Col. Carr's Division, from Cross Hollows, which took position on the left.

On the afternoon of the 6th, General Sigel's column arrived from Bentonville and took position on the right. During the night, my troops bivouacked on the ground anxiously awaiting the enemy's approach. On the morning of the 7th, it was ascertained that the enemy was making an effort to turn our right flank and to attack us in the rear. In order to prevent this, Col. Osterhaus was ordered to make a demonstration in the direction of Leetown. The 1st Mo. Cavalry, under Col. Ellis, and the 22d Indiana, under Colonel Hendricks, were ordered to support this movement. Col. Osterhaus advanced about a mile beyond Leetown, and found the enemy in force moving rapidly along the road leading from Bentonville to Elk Horn Tavern, where Col. Carr's Division had already sharply engaged him. At this time, the unexpected appearance of the 3d Iowa Cavalry from the field, gave proof of the necessity of reinforcements being sent at once in the direction of Leetown, and an order to that effect was timely received. Passing through Leetown a few hundred yards, I found Col. Osterhaus, with the 44th Ills., 22d Ind., and some artillery, had taken position on the left of the road, and was contesting the approach of the enemy over a large open field on his front.

In the meantime the enemy was rapidly approaching and advancing his forces on the right of the road, and had already lodged himself in large numbers in a thick oak scrub extending to our camp. I immediately ordered the 2d Brigade to deploy to the right and engage him. This was done in a vigorous manner by the 37th and 59th Ills., assisted by Davidson's Battery, which I had put in position for that purpose.

I soon became satisfied, from the increasing and excessive fire of the enemy, that he was being rapidly increased, and ordered the 18th and 22d Ind. to make a flank movement to the right and perpendicular to the enemy's lines, and then to move forward and attack him. This was accomplished with alacrity; but not until the 2d Brigade had begun to recede before the excessive fire of the enemy, who had now concentrated his force to the number of several thousand, under McCulloch and McIntosh, with a large body of Indians under Pike and Ross. The 2d Brigade being thus overwhelmed, I ordered it to fall back and change front to rear on its left, so as to attack the enemy in his rear, who was now exultingly following up his temporary success. The 18th Indiana soon executed the movement as directed, and opened a well directed fire upon the enemy's rear, which had the effect of drawing his fire and disconcerting his pursuit, so as to enable the 2d Brigade to reform their lines as directed, but not until the enemy had succeeded in capturing two guns of Davidson's Battery, which, owing to the precipitate advance of the enemy and disabled horses, could not be withdrawn.

The 18th Ind. pushed rapidly forward and drove the enemy from this part of the field, and I advanced to the open ground, found these three pieces in the hands of the enemy, charged and routed him, with a heavy loss, from them. The 22d Ind., during this time, engaged a large force of the Arkansas troops and Indians, and after a sharp engagement put them to flight. In the meantime the 2d Brigade renewed the engagement, when the enemy fled from the field, leaving behind him many of his killed and wounded. Among the former were Generals McCulloch and McIntosh.

At this moment I ordered the cavalry to charge the fleeing foe, but for some unexplained reason it was not done.

The enemy made an attempt to reform on his former position near the Bentonville road, but was easily driven from it by the action of our batteries. The regiments of reinforcements, with two pieces of heavy artillery, (12 pounders,) arrived at this time from General Sigel's command.

These I ordered to take position on the right, so as to be able to move readily to the support of Col. Carr's Division, which had been hotly engaged in the vicinity of Elk Horn Tavern for several hours. General Sigel soon arrived himself, and accompanied by Osterhaus' command, moved in the direction of Carr's left. I at the same time threw forward the 2d Brigade to the Bentonville and Elk Horn Tavern road.

Finding the enemy gone and night upon us, I ordered the troops to bivouack on the field they had so gloriously won.

After reporting to the General the entire rout of the enemy at Leetown, he directed me to move my Division, during the night, to the support of our position of the previous day at Elk Horn Tavern.

The fore-part of the night was occupied by our troops in collecting the wounded and dead. Daylight, however, found us in front of the enemy at Elk Horn Tavern, where the troops under Col. Carr had so nobly fought the day before. That gallant officer, though suffering much from a wound, was still upon the ground to assist in disposing of my troops.

The 1st Brigade was deployed a few hundred yards to the right of the Fayetteville road, to support Klaus' Battery, which was placed at the edge of an open field intervening between the range of hills at Elk Horn Tavern and the timber protecting our camp.

Here the five companies of the 8th Ind., under Lieut. Col. Shunk, joined their Brigade.

These companies had, the previous day, participated in the engagement with Col. Carr's forces, and had bivouacked on the field during the night. Davidson's Battery was placed in a similar position on the left of the road, supported by the 2d Brigade.

At sunrise, the enemy's position was discovered by a few shots being thrown by Davidson's Battery, which was at once answered by the rebel batteries. Klaus' Battery soon responded, but after a sharp contest of a few rounds was forced to retire, by a sudden attack from one of the enemy's heretofore undiscovered Batteries, which opened closely upon his flank with grape and cannister. This Battery, however, soon withdrew upon discovering dispositions being made by the 1st Brigade to charge it.

The 2d Brigade, at this time, was much exposed to an enfilading fire from the enemy's guns, and I ordered it to fall back and take position under shelter of the timber. By this time the position of the enemy's batteries was well developed, and Davidson now took a more commanding position in the open field. He was soon joined by Klaus, whom I had ordered to support him, and in a few moments the contest was opened and maintained with great spirit on both sides until the arrival of General Sigel's forces, about 7½ o'clock. Sigel's artillery soon took position on the enemy's right and engaged with great spirit in the contest.

The approach of Sigel's infantry on the left of my Division, rendered the position of my batteries secure, and enabled me to withdraw the 2d Brigade from their support and prepare my entire Division for a general attack upon the enemy's left. The gradual decrease of the enemy's fire, and the withdrawal of some of his guns, offered a favorable opportunity, and I immediately ordered an advance across the field.

Previous to this movement, Col. Dodge had taken position with his Brigade on my right, so as to prevent any attempt the enemy might make to attack me on this flank.

The 2d Brigade, together with the 22d Ind. and five companies of the 8th Ind., soon warmly engaged the enemy's infantry, occupying a strong position in the thick scrub oaks skirting the base of the hills upon which his artillery was posted. The enemy soon began to yield to the steady fire and determined advance of our troops and finally broke and fled in much confusion, leaving behind his dead and wounded.

The heights were soon carried, and on reaching the summit of the hill, I ordered a halt, in order to bring my artillery in position on the road leading to Huntsville, my left resting at Elk Horn Tavern. Here Col. Benton, with five companies of the 8th Ind., and a section of artillery, who had been kept back guarding the road leading from Cross Hollows, joined their command. Much to their chagrin and of their gallant commander, the enemy did not give them the opportunity to add new laurels to those already won at Rich Mountain.

The Division lost during the engagement : 60 killed ; 270 wounded ; 8 missing ; total killed, wounded and missing, 338.

It affords me pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the prompt and efficient manner in which the Brigade Commanders, Colonels Pattison and White, conducted their Brigades throughout the entire engagement.

The regimental commanders, Cols. Benton, 8th Ind., Hendricks, 22d Ind., and Lieut. Col. Washburn, 18th Ind., of the 1st Brigade, and Lieut. Cols. Barnes, 37th Ills., and Fredericks, 59th Ills., of the 2d Brigade, acquitted themselves with distinction.

Col. Hendricks fell early in the engagement, after which Major Daily commanded the regiment with great credit to himself during the remainder of the battle.

The part taken by the Peoria Light Artillery, (Ills.), under Capt. Davidson, and the 1st Ind. Battery, under Capt. Klaus, have been so conspicuously described in the above report, that it would be useless to call further attention to their efficiency and gallant conduct.

The 1st Mo. Cav., under Col. Ellis, reported during the night of the 6th, from a four days' scout on White River, during which they captured fifty rebels, with their arms and horses.

The bearing and efficiency of my Staff officers, Lieutenant Holstein, Asst. Adjt. Gen'l, and Lieuts. Pease and Morrison, Aids-de-Camp, were conspicuous everywhere, fearlessly executing every order. Every part of the field witnessed their gallantry.

My Division Surgeon, Benjamin Newland, deserves the highest commendation for his promptness and skill in establishing his hospitals and taking care of the wounded.

My Division Quartermaster and Commissary, Captains Bransen and Bradley, performed their duties equally prompt and efficiently.

The superior number of the enemy's forces, engaged as he was in his favorite scrub, his utter rout when led on to desperation, at the sacrifice of two of his famous Generals, on the field, is sufficient proof of the valor and patriotism of the troops, displayed in every conflict with the enemy.

Both officers and men fought with a courage and determination seldom excelled, and will ever entitle them to the gratitude of a grateful country.

I am, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

JEFF. C. DAVIS,  
Col. Com'd'y.

TO CAPT. T. I. MCKENNY, ASST. ADJT. GEN'L,  
HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF THE SOUTH WEST.

THE LOSS OF THE THIRD DIVISION.

Regiment or Corps.	Commissioned Officers.			Enlisted Men.		
	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
1st Brigade, Col. Pattison.						
8th Inf'ty Indiana Vols.	1	1		5	26	
18th " " "				7	18	
22d " " "	2	2		9	29	
1st Battery " "						6
2d Brigade, Col. White.						
37th Inf'ty Illinois Vols.	1	8		20	110	3
59th " " "	2	2		12	50	
Peoria Battery " "					17	
Total,	6	13		53	250	9

CARR.

HEAD QUARTERS 4TH DIVISION,  
CAMP NEAR ELK HORN TAVERN, BENTON COUNTY, ARKS., March 10th, 1862. }

SIR:—Pursuant to Par. I, of General Orders No. 5, dated Head Quarters Army of the South West, Pea Ridge, Arks., Mar. 9, 1862, directing commanders of Divisions to report, as soon as practicable, the movements and casualties in their respective Divisions, during the campaign, I have the honor to report as follows:

On the 9th of February, at Lebanon, Mo., the General organized the 4th Division and placed it under my command.

I had previously conducted the operations of the Cavalry movements, and the

force under Col. Osterhaus, up to the time when the General Commanding the District, arrived in person at Lebanon.

The troops ordered to constitute the 4th Division were :

1st Brigade—Col. Dodge, Commanding:

✓ 4th Iowa Vols., Col. Dodge,                      35th Ills. Vols., Col. Smith,  
✓ 1st " Battery, Lieut. David.

2d Brigade—Col. Vandever, Commanding:

✓ 9th Iowa Vols., Col. Vandever,                      24th Mo. Vols., Col. Boyd,  
Dubuque Battery, Capt. Hayden,                      3 Battalions 3d Ills. Cavalry, under  
Majors Ruggles, McConnell and Capt. Manst.

With this command I started from Lebanon, Mo., on the 10th of February, and arrived at Marshfield, on the 12th, where the whole army had assembled. On the 13th, we marched to within eight miles of Springfield, I leading the advance on the direct road ; and my advance of Cavalry, under Maj. McConnell, together with Major Bowen and Col. Wright's Cavalry, and the mountain howitzers under Capt. Stephens, skirmished the enemy during the latter part of the day's march.

I placed a picket of four companies, 3d Ills. Cavalry, a mile and a half in advance, at the fork of the road, immediately after arriving in camp.

This picket was attacked by the enemy, but gallantly held its ground and drove the enemy away.

The next morning, at 4 o'clock, my Division took the advance in the direction of Springfield. Upon arriving five miles from Springfield, before daylight in the morning, I halted to wait for the other Divisions to come up and deploy, but a company of the 4th Iowa, which had been thrown forward as skirmishers, did not receive the order to halt, but marched into Springfield and took it, with some prisoners and stores, the enemy having evacuated in the night.

The next day, the 3d and 4th Divisions moved on to McCulloch's store, twenty-nine miles.

The next day my Division led ; the cavalry advance, composed of the 3d Ills. Cavalry and the Cavalry of the 3d Division, and the mountain howitzers, overtook the rear guard of the enemy, artillery and infantry, on Flat Creek, and brought them to bay.

The Dubuque Battery brought up, and under the personal supervision of the General, fired upon the enemy, doing him considerable damage, but the infantry could not come up until it was too late to pursue any farther.

The next day the 3d Division led, preceded, however, by all the cavalry, including the 3d Ills. ; they had a skirmish after passing Keetsville, and at Cross Timber Hollows, a party with Col. Davis commanding, 3d Division, who went forward to reconnoitre, consisting of three companies Ills. Cavalry and about a company of the 1st Mo. Cavalry, charged the enemy's pickets and ran them to their camp—my men having several men and horses wounded and one horse killed. The next day, my Division leading, with Ellis, Wright and McCrillis' Cavalry, came upon the enemy at Sugar Creek.

The General ordered a charge of cavalry, which was gallantly executed by the Mountain Howitzers, under Major Bowen, who was wounded in the wrist.

My Cavalry, though in the rear of the column, advanced well up by flanking to the left and did considerable execution.

I came on as rapidly as possible with the 2d Brigade, under Col. Vandever, and opened with the Dubuque Battery, Capt. Hayden, the enemy having made a stand a mile and a half from the creek.

He was quite obstinate, and showed some good artillery practice at our Battery, disabling two horses, but Capt. Hayden finally drove him away and we camped where we were.

I have since learned that the enemy had come to that point from Cross Hollows to assist Price, and intended to fight us there, but that his heart failed him and he retreated in considerable confusion before my 2d Brigade, and that if we had pursued at that time, we might have routed him and done him considerable damage. But the positive orders of the General, based upon the reason that it was too late in the day to go as far as Cross Hollows and fight a battle, and that that point had long been spoken of as one where the enemy intended to make a determined stand, forbade my going farther.

The next day we waited for General Sigel's Divisions to come up; the next we marched to Osage Springs, where we found that the enemy had decamped from Cross Hollows. My Division was then moved to that place. Col. Phelps' regiment of Mo. Vols. having been assigned to the 2d Brigade and Col. Boyd's regiment relieved.

While at Cross Hollows, Lieut. Jones, of the 1st Iowa Battery, received his commission as Captain and took command, relieving Lieut. David. The ammunition of that Battery and also the Dubuque Battery was defective, the powder being poor, the charges too light and the fuses uncertain. I was told that this ammunition was put up by contractors; and on the day of battle, the blood of our soldiers paid over again the unjust debt which had once been paid from the public treasury.

On the 24th of February, an expedition of cavalry and artillery, under General Asboth, was sent to Fayetteville. My cavalry led the charge into town, capturing several prisoners.

During my occupation of Cross Hollows, up to the 5th of March, several parties went out in different directions. Col. Dodge making two expeditions, and Col. Vandever one, taking a good many prisoners and killing some of the enemy.

On the 5th of March, his cavalry appeared in strong force on the Fayetteville road and captured some of our wagons and men which were out foraging. We at the same time received intelligence that he was advancing in force.

The General directed me to move back to Sugar Creek, to which place he had ordered the other Divisions and where he intended to fight.

I moved that night, but on account of the loss of my wagons was obliged to destroy a few stores and some camp equipage and valuable private baggage.

**BATTLE OF THE 7TH.**—Having heard that the enemy had made his appearance on the west of us, General Curtis had called us in consultation, on the morning of the 7th, about changing front in that direction, when news came from the rear (north) that parties of the enemy were in close vicinity to the Elk Horn Tavern, where our depot of supplies had been placed together with the Provost Marshal's guard and prisoners.

The General immediately directed me to send a Brigade to that point, and I gave the order to Col. Dodge, who was present.

Elk Horn Tavern was about a mile and a half north of our camp, the ground being smooth and gradually ascending with open fields on each side of the road from about three quarters of a mile from camp to within about a hundred yards of the house. The house is situated on the west side of the Springfield and Fayetteville road, at the head of a gorge known as Cross Timber Hollows, (the head of Big Sugar Creek,) through which the road runs about seven miles north towards Keetsville.

Behind the house to the west is a rocky hill about one hundred and fifty feet high, running off in a ridge towards the north west. In front of the house is a level ridge, on which a road runs towards the east, having on the south side the smooth slope mostly timbered, and on its north side the heads of rugged gorges running down into Cross Timber Hollows.

About a half a mile from the town, on the north side of this road, is Clemens' house, with a field mostly on the south side of the road of about twenty acres. About the Elk Horn Tavern, is an open space of about ten acres. With these two exceptions, the ground is mostly covered with trees and underbrush, which comes up close to the Tavern on the north side.

As I left the General to go with my leading Brigade, he remarked to me, that I would clear out that hollow in a very short time.

On arriving at the Tavern, I found that the enemy were trying to flank around to the east beyond Clemens' house.

I sent out the cavalry under Major McConnell to skirmish them, followed by Col. Dodge with his regiment and two pieces, ordered Capt. Jones to remain with two pieces as a reserve at the Tavern, and took two other pieces myself down the road, (which led down the hollow,) three or four hundred yards to where the bushes were open enough to see a little to the front and to the right, bring Col. Smith, with the 35th Ills., to support the Battery, and opened fire on a battery on a bluff on our right front. They immediately replied, and as long as my guns staid there, there was a perfect storm of shot, shell and grape.

In the meantime, Dodge had driven back the enemy on the right flank and frustrated his first attempt to out-flank us.

I then sent back to the General a request to send forward Vandever's Brigade, brought Jones' two pieces down the road, which took some time owing to the fact that they had gone with Dodge instead of remaining as reserve.

About that time one of the pieces which I had become disabled by a cartridge sticking half way down, and was sent off.

The enemy seemed to have the range exactly. Col. Smith, 35th Ills., was wounded in the head by a shell, which took off part of his scalp, he received a bullet in his shoulder and his horse was killed, all about the same time. Col. Smith and his regiment showed the utmost gallantry and deserve great credit for their steadiness in supporting the Battery as well as for their conduct subsequently when fighting the enemy's infantry near the same point.

Just before Col. Smith was wounded, five or six ammunition chests burst one after the other. Capt. Jones and Lieut. Gamble were wounded by my side, and



all but one of the pieces were disabled. This one piece was commanded by Corporal Lebert, 1st Iowa Battery, and was the only gun which was in the action from beginning to end, and both Corporal Lebert and his cannoniers deserve great credit for coolness, gallantry and activity through the entire action.

About this time General Curtis came up to see how we were getting along.

At this juncture, two pieces of the Dubuque Battery arrived, under Lieut. Wright, and were served with admirable zeal and activity. Lieut. Wright showed great coolness and skill during the entire action, and was slightly wounded.

The remainder of the Dubuque Battery then came and continued firing until I became satisfied that it was disadvantageous to remain there any longer, and retired to the top of the hill. I had then been struck three times.

I then sent word to the General that I had need of reinforcements, having become satisfied that it was no small party, merely to annoy the road, with whom I was contending, but a very considerable force, perhaps his main body.

From subsequent information, I learn that it consisted of between ten and fifteen thousand men, comprising all the Missourians, some of whom were called Confederate troops, and were under Col. Little; others, Missouri State Guards, under General Price; there were other rebel forces, including Indians, the whole commanded by General Van Dorn in person; with about twenty guns, some of which were rifled, while I had not quite two thousand five hundred men on the field, with twelve guns which came up successively, were disabled and ran out of ammunition in such a manner that I never could have more than five playing at the same time.

I know of the following Divisions being engaged there, viz: Frost's, Slack's, Parsons', Raines' and Little's. Also, the following batteries: Ghebor's, Clark's, [Emmet,] McDonald's and Wade's.

Against this force my Division, with the slight assistance mentioned further on, held its ground for upwards of seven hours.

After retiring from my first advanced position down the road, there was a lull in the action, and I went over to see Col. Dodge, who was about three-quarters of a mile distant near the road running to the east along the ridge and beyond Clemen's house.

During this time the enemy advanced up the hollow in the brush, along the main road, and Col. Vandever ordered forward the infantry, when there ensued a desperate conflict with small arms, our men driving them back to the foot of the hill, when the enemy opened his batteries.

As our wounded men were being brought back by their comrades from this desperate encounter, many of them would hurrah for the Union and utter expressions of joy that they had an opportunity to suffer for the cause.

Col. Vandever, 9th Iowa, commanding the Brigade, exhibited the utmost coolness and bravery. He was everywhere where his presence was most needed, cheering and encouraging his men, who, however, needed but little encouragement, and directing their efforts to the best advantage. His horse was hit twice.

Col. Phelps, commanding Phelps' regiment of six months Missourians, had three horses shot under him and received a contusion from a shell. Both he and his regiment behaved nobly.

Major Geiger, of the same regiment, had a horse shot under him.

Major Weston, 24th Mo. Vols., had three or four companies on Provost Guard duty, a part of which were stationed on the hill and did good service in protecting the flank.

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

Major William H. Coyl, 9th Iowa, was here wounded in the shoulder. His gallantry had been very conspicuous.

I sent word to Col. Dodge to draw his force near. After our men retired from the range of the Battery, there was another short lull, when the enemy advanced and there was another desperate encounter, in which the enemy failed to drive us out of the edge of the timber, but was driven back himself, we being materially assisted by two mountain howitzers under Major Bowen and his Lieut., Madison, which had been sent up by the General.

It was at this time that one of the guns of Hayden's Battery was lost, in the attempt to place it on the top of the hill, by going into a large body of the enemy who were concealed in the brush.

There was now a lull for a considerable time, the enemy being engaged in arranging his forces for a final attack.

From the Tavern I could not see him, on account of the thick bushes, but on the right, the timber being more open, Col. Dodge saw him plainly advancing and placing his batteries and out-flanking.

At this time I was satisfied that the enemy was two strong for me, although my troops had fought with most heroic gallantry, and I would have retired but for the following reasons :

The position which I now held would, if occupied by the enemy, have commanded our camp.

We had some stores in a barn near the Tavern, and I was constantly expecting reinforcements which I knew the General was using every effort to get up to me, and if they arrived in time we could hold the ridge, which would be as valuable to us as to the enemy, and the General sent me word repeatedly "to persevere." I determined, therefore, to hang on to the last extremity, knowing that every moment saved brought my reinforcements nearer. I sent what was left of the 35th Ills. to Dodge, as it belonged to his Brigade.

I received about this time a battalion of the 8th Ind. and three rifled pieces, all of which I placed in position at the Tavern ; but soon after, the enemy opened on Dodge with artillery and infantry, and I sent the last arrived troops to him.

Inclosed find report of Lieut. Col. Shunk, 8th Ind., of his part of the engagement.

While Col. Vandever was closing the gap thus occasioned, the enemy commenced swarming up the road and hollows, and through the brush in front of us.

My troops fought with most heroic courage and devotion, officers exposing themselves freely, cheering and encouraging their men ; but it was impossible to withstand such overpowering numbers, and the men retreated across the field, but rallied again handsomely along the fence not far back.

Lieut. Col. F. J. Herron, 9th Iowa, had his horse shot under him, was wounded and taken prisoner. He had commanded his regiment during the entire engagement, and his courage and conduct won the admiration of all, and will add to the laurels he gained at the battle of Wilson's Creek.

Here my horse was hit three times. The artillery fired until the last moment, and in consequence thereof lost two pieces, several of the men being shot down while trying to attach them to the limber. The three pieces of artillery lost that day by Capt. Hayden's Battery were recovered by our troops on the next.

Upon retiring to the fence above mentioned, we fortunately met General Curtis with reinforcements, under General Asboth, advancing. The commanding General conducted the remainder of the operations in person.

During all this time, Col. Dodge had sustained a constant engagement with the enemy.

He had placed himself on the hither side of the field, near Clemens' house, and though immensely outnumbered, and in point-blank range of grape, held his position until his ammunition gave out, when he retired a short distance, waited for the enemy's approach, gave him a last volley, which checked and turned him, and then marched off the field with colors flying, bringing his wounded men along. Col. Dodge had three horses shot under him, one of them being struck with twenty balls, and received a slight wound in the hand.

Lieut. Col. J. Galligan, 4th Iowa, was wounded in the hand. Lieut. Col. Wm. P. Chandler, 35th Ills., was taken prisoner while rallying a squad of men to check the enemy who were very near the left flank.

Major John McConnell, with two Battalions of the 3d Ills. Cavalry, supported the right during the entire engagement, and Col. Dodge speaks in the highest terms of their conduct. They were much under fire of artillery, they skirmished constantly, and frequently dismounted to fight on foot. Some of the men whose horses were disabled joined the infantry and fought out the battle with them.

Capt. Sparks was wounded. Capt. Davis had a horse shot under him.

The 2d Battalion of the 3d Ills. Cavalry supported the left, and was, a part of the time, placed on top of the hill to the west of the Tavern, skirmishing with the troops there, some of whom were Indians.

Lieut. S. F. Dolloff received a dangerous wound in the thigh. Lieut. W. S. Lee had a horse shot under him.

The total loss of the Division was: Killed, 97; wounded, 488; missing, 78; total, 663. We brought on to the ground: Infantry, 1,790; cavalry, 469; twelve smooth-bore guns, with 204 men; total, 2,463.

In giving the above narrative, I have spoken of those officers and troops whom I personally noticed or whose conduct has been specially reported to me. There are many others deserving, of whom I have not yet heard. All the troops behaved with such gallantry and devotion that it is the proudest boast of my life to have commanded them.

My Staff were of the greatest service to me; 1st Lieut. T. W. Sullivan, Adjt. 3d Ills. Cavalry, A. A. A. G. of the 4th Division, rode the same horse on which he made the gallant charge at Dug Springs, where both he and his horse were desperately wounded. He carried a great many orders and went forward many times to reconnoitre, exposing himself freely; his horse was wounded.

Lieut. L. Shields, 4th Iowa, acting Aide, was of great assistance; he had a horse shot under him while conducting a battalion of the 8th Ind. to Col. Dodge.

Lieut. A. Bowman, 9th Iowa, acting Aide, was of great service in transmitting orders, &c.

Mr. John E. Phelps, who has been acting Aide since February 17th, was with me in all the hottest parts of the engagements and was wounded in the leg.

Sergeant Major Jas. Wm. Wooster, of my regiment, was killed while trying to disentangle an artillery team in front of the troops.

After the engagement we lay on bivouac in front of the enemy until the morning, when the action was again renewed. My Division being on the right, did not come in contact with the enemy.

Capt. Hayden's Battery, however, did excellent service, having been posted by the General in person, so as to cross-fire on the enemy.

The 1st Iowa Battery also, under Lieut. Davids, did good execution with what little ammunition he had been able to obtain during the fight, and the 3d Ills. Cavalry, as on the previous day, was of great benefit to us by skirmishing on the flanks.

Before closing, I wish to remark on the facts, that Col. Dodge, with a large part of his Brigade, by special direction of the General, had been out the night before the battle until 12 o'clock, blockading the road by which the enemy traveled an hour or two afterwards to get in our rear. This blockading delayed the enemy and was of great advantage to us.

Also, Col. Vandever, with a large part of his regiment, Phelps' and the 3d Ills. Cavalry, composing more than half of his Brigade, being on detached service, made a march of forty miles the day before the battle to join us.

The horses had absolutely nothing to eat from the morning of the 6th till the evening of the 8th. These facts show that my Division was tired when it went into action, account for the absence of some of the men who were absolutely worn out and demonstrate what our soldiers cheerfully endure for the cause.

I inclose herewith reports of Col. G. M. Dodge, 4th Iowa, and of Col. Wm. Vandever, 9th Iowa, with the accompanying papers, likewise the report of Col. David Shunk, commanding Battalion of 8th Ind.

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

E. A. CARR,  
Col. Comd'g Division.

CAPT. T. I. MCKENNY, A. A. A. GEN'L, ARMY OF THE SOUTH WEST.

THE LOSS OF THE FOURTH DIVISION.

Regiment or Corps.	Commissioned Officers.			Enlisted Men.			
	Men in Action.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
1st Brigade, Col. Dodge.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4th Inf'ty Iowa Vols.	548	1	6	18	136	3	
35th " Ills. "	402	.....	2	15	47	55	
1st Battery Iowa "	114	.....	2	3	11	.....	
2d Brigade, Col. Vandever.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
9th Inf'ty Iowa Vols.	565	4	5	1	34	171	4
Phelps' " Mo. "	275	1	7	1	11	65	9
Dubuque Bat'y Iowa Vols.	90	.....	2	2	15	.....	
1st Bat'l'n 3d Cav. Ills. "	162	.....	1	4	13	7	
2d " " " " "	107	.....	2	.....	10	.....	
3d " " " " "	200	.....	1	4	9	5	
Total,	2463	6	28	2	91	477	83

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