



Eng. by J. C. Buttre Co. N.Y.

B. A. Ogden

ANNALS OF IOWA.

VOL. V, No. 7.

DES MOINES, IOWA, OCTOBER, 1902.

3D SERIES.

THE IOWA NORTHERN BORDER BRIGADE OF 1862-3.

BY CAPT. WILLIAM H. INGHAM.

The news of the Sioux outbreak in Minnesota, under the leadership of Little Crow, reached the Algona settlement in the latter part of August, 1862. It received but little attention at the time, however, more than to be passed along from one to another with such comment as each saw fit to make. Ordinarily it would have created quite a stir among the border settlers of the State, but the war in the south, for which urgent calls were being made for more men, absorbed attention. President Lincoln had made a call for three hundred thousand in June, and again for as many more on August 4, with an order for a draft to meet any deficiency in case the quotas of the different states were not filled by August 15. Governor Kirkwood had issued several proclamations to the people of Iowa in which he made strong and earnest appeals for prompt enlistments to fill up the new regiments forming and the depleted ranks of the old ones that were fighting at the front. He also expressed a great desire that Iowa might furnish her quota of men without delay, and so avoid the necessity of making a draft. This, with the prospect of a long continued struggle, caused a depression that made it the darkest hour of the entire war. Under these conditions it was hardly possible for an Indian disturbance not close at hand to get the attention of even the border settlers of the State, who were naturally so largely interested.

At that time Algona was dependent on a tri-weekly mail

from Fort Dodge and a semi-weekly from Blue Earth City to bring the news. As railroads and telegraph lines were almost unknown west of the Mississippi, it was slow in coming as compared with the present time. Later mails seemed to confirm the first report of the outbreak, and when it was learned that a large section of country had been overrun by the Indians, all the settlements destroyed and many people massacred; that New Ulm was being closely besieged, and that the settlers on the Blue Earth river and for some distance to the east had abandoned their homes, it created an alarm all along the exposed border of the State. It was very evident that only prompt action of some kind that would tend to allay the fears of the people could possibly hold the settlements and prevent a like panic and stampede in Iowa. For this purpose the people of the county, especially those subject to military duty, were hurriedly notified to gather at the town hall in Algona to organize a military company and for such further action as might be thought best for the security of the settlements. About the same time similar action was taken by the citizens of Emmet county at Estherville, in order to hold the settlements on the west branch of the Des Moines river. At the appointed time for the meeting at Algona, nearly all of those notified and many others were present. On motion of J. E. Stacy, Dr. J. R. Armstrong was called to the chair. He briefly stated the situation and the object of the meeting. Enlistments were then made and the company was fully organized in a very short time, without a dissenting voice. As the new company had no arms or ammunition, Lewis H. Smith was chosen to go to Des Moines and procure a supply, and also to do whatever else might be necessary to put the company in proper form. It then fell to the lot of William B. Carey and myself to go to Mankato and see the disturbed section of country, and learn the extent of the trouble and also what was being done for the protection of the Minnesota border, that the people in our own State might be better informed as to what should be done.

On the following morning Mr. Carey and I were off on horseback and crossed the thirty miles of unsettled prairie to Hagen's place, at the upper grove on the Blue Earth river. From there on the vacant homes and stock at large showed too plainly what had taken place. We found a company of militia, at Blue Earth City where we stopped over night, busily engaged in preparing for defense and in caring for the town. As we passed through Winnebago City on our way to Mankato the next day, we saw a mounted field piece standing at the roadside with about a bushel of cast iron broken up into small pieces, lying at its side, to be used instead of shot and shell; it gave the place quite a warlike appearance. On reaching Mankato we learned that the Sioux had withdrawn from their attack upon New Ulm and that the citizens and fugitives, some two thousand in all, had abandoned the town and gone to different parts in the older settlements of the state, taking with them many from Mankato as they passed through. The next morning we were told that there were several at the hospital who had been wounded at Lake Shetek. We called on them and found among the number, Mr. Ireland, who had the reputation of being "one man that the Indians could not kill." He seemed to be fully entitled to this distinction, as he had walked about fifty miles, with others, in making his escape, after having been wounded some eight times. We found him quite feeble, as he told us in a faltering voice that the settlements on the west branch of the Des Moines river from Lake Shetek to the Iowa boundary, and in the country from the lake to New Ulm, through which he had traveled while getting away, had all been broken up by the Indians and the greater part of the settlers had been killed. We were not able to find any person in town who could furnish us with definite information such as was wanted. So on learning that there were likely to be troops stationed at New Ulm some twenty-five miles up the Minnesota river, we decided to go there and see more of the effects of the outbreak. On our way the broken down fences

and the appearance of the road and fields near by all went to show the intense excitement of the people as they hurried and crowded on their way, after leaving the town, and the terrifying scenes which they had witnessed. When we arrived at the once thrifty town of fifteen hundred inhabitants, we found only the business houses, a large hotel and a brick building left to mark its location. The blackened ruins of homes, and the bullet marked buildings, showed plainly the effects of the two different attacks made by the Sioux for its capture. It may be of interest to introduce a brief sketch of the time and manner in which these attacks were made.

The Sioux commenced their depredations and murderous work early on the morning of August 18, 1862, at the Lower Mission, and then worked down the Minnesota River during the day to within six miles of New Ulm, burning the homes and killing many of the settlers on their way. During the afternoon several fugitives reached the town and told the people what was being done up the river. Soon after, many more began to arrive. This created the wildest excitement and caused the entire population to gather at the business center, where they quickly went to work putting up a barricade around a large square for protection. On the following day the work on the barricades was vigorously pushed forward without any signs of Indians until the middle of the afternoon, when columns of smoke were seen to rise above the timber in different localities. As other columns were soon noticed nearer by, the imprisoned people well knew what to expect. By six o'clock one hundred Indians or more made their appearance and began burning the buildings at the outskirts of the town. They then undertook to reach the central part, fighting with the citizens from house to house as they went, and using the dense smoke from the burning buildings as a screen to protect themselves from being seen. The consternation in the camp at this point was at its highest pitch. Fortunately, just at this time Mr. Boardman with fifteen mounted men came into town from

St. Peter. He and his men, without stopping, went charging down the street firing their guns rapidly as they went. This brought out all the available forces from the barricaded square, and they at once joined in the fight. Altogether they drove the Indians back, who evidently thought large reinforcements had arrived and so took to their horses and went away after a loss of several killed and wounded on both sides. About nine o'clock the camp was greatly relieved by the arrival of Judge Flandreau from St. Peter with one hundred men. He was then chosen to take command. Early on the following morning about one hundred men from Mankato and LeSeur arrived and joined the forces. As there were no Indians in sight all hands were set at work strengthening the barricades. This, with scouting the country a few miles out, burying the dead and caring for the camp, kept the force busy until the 23d inst., when Little Crow with some five hundred warriors made his appearance. After considerable skirmishing outside of the town they finally obliged Judge Flandreau and his men to fall back and seek shelter within the town. They then nearly surrounded the town when a desperate fight began which lasted until dark with no marked advantage on either side. Judge Flandreau now ordered the barricaded square to be made as small as possible about the two thousand people huddled together, and the surplus material to be used for strengthening the works. He then ordered all wooden buildings standing outside of the square to be burned. This was done in order to prevent the Indians from carrying on a skulking fight from house to house as they had done the day before and oblige them to come out into an open field. The prompt action of Judge Flandreau undoubtedly saved the town from a general massacre, as the Indians after making a feeble attack and firing random shots from the hill at the west during the next forenoon, withdrew and went off northward. The authorities after burying the dead and caring for the wounded decided it would be best for the people to abandon the town, as there

were no means at hand for taking proper care of so many sick and wounded persons. A complete abandonment was made on the 25th inst., five days previous to the arrival of Mr. Carey and myself. We found Captain Dane with a squad of cavalry in command; he kindly invited us to stop with him over night at the hotel building where he and his men were making their headquarters. During the evening we listened to the reports of those who had been out on detail, ranging through the desolated settlements for the purpose of burying the dead and rescuing any who had escaped. From these reports it was very evident that the Indians had lost none of their usual cunning in devising means to torture, before their death, many of their unfortunate victims, especially women and children. Judging from the number of dead already reported, Captain Dane was of the opinion that the massacre would prove to be the largest in the history of the country. Later it was found to number eight hundred victims or more, making it nearly three times as great as the famous Wyoming Valley massacre in 1778.

It being important that we should return soon, we decided to take a direct course for Algona by way of Iowa Lake and so save time. Learning that a couple of soldiers were detailed to burn a building in which they had found the putrid body of one of the unfortunates, early the next morning, a mile or two out on our way, we arranged to be called in time to breakfast with the company mess and go with them. In starting out through the town we passed a line of the barricade that had not been disturbed. It was made up in sections of cord wood, lumber, wagon wheels, piled up layer upon layer, and kegs of nails set upright, tier upon tier, with broken joints. Quite a large section was built up with trunks and boxes filled with goods from the stores, that were still exposed to the weather. More than one hundred and fifty lumber wagons had entered into its make-up, with everything else available. The wagons had been taken away for the purpose of carrying the women and

children as well as the sick and wounded, at the time the town was abandoned. We soon brought up at the doomed building and saw its lonely occupant lying upon the floor. He added one more to the list of the unknown dead, as there was nothing about his person by which he might be identified. We now left our escort to perform their task while we went on our way. During the forenoon we came to a newly made, unoccupied, log structure, marked "Fort Madelia," in large letters, evidently having been put up by the settlers for a place of refuge where they might be better prepared to defend themselves in case the Indians should make an attack. At noon we went to a farm to feed our horses. In looking about we noticed a large field of grain ready for the stack. In the yard there were several finished stacks; one was partly finished with the rack over turned near-by and a part of the load lying under it on the ground. Going to the house not far away we passed through the open front gate and walked up to the open door; the spirit of the home seemed to say, "Just in time. Walk in. Dinner is ready and waiting for you." We went in and found the table fully prepared for the meal; a large baked goose was lying on the platter, with carving knife and fork at its side. Had it not been waiting so long and had Captain Dane not cautioned us about eating anything found at the homes on our way, on account of possible poison, we should have been inclined to accept the seeming invitation. As it was, we preferred a vegetable lunch such as we could find in the well kept garden near-by. Everything about this home seemed to be in order and undisturbed, so that from what we had seen it became an easy matter to read the circumstances under which the family had left. The last load of grain before dinner was being put into the stack. The conque shell lying on the shelf had been used in giving the dinner call. When the grain was about two-thirds unloaded parties came out of the oak openings near-by and gave the alarm of Indians. A few persons stopped to raise the rack

from the wagon and turn it off. The wagon box was hurriedly put on, the folks from the house rushed out, not stopping to take anything with them or even to close the door, and all were off. Thousands of people over a large part of the state of Minnesota abandoned their homes in a similar manner at all hours of day and night, whenever the alarm was given. There was an immense loss of property in consequence, but this was nothing in comparison with the injury and suffering from exposure and excitement on the part of the people themselves. After lunch our course led us across a large unsettled prairie, as at that time no settlements had been made away from the timber.

It may be presumed that from the time we left New Ulm we were alert in noticing whatever might be going on about us, so that when we saw some large, dark objects in front, crossing our course to the east, and so far away in the smoky, dusty air that we could not make out what they were, we gave them our closest attention. We watched them carefully for some distance, with the thought of Indians uppermost in our minds. Whatever they were, however, it was quieting to know that they were going away from us at good speed. But when they were seen to stop and soon after turn about and retrace their course partly toward us we were decidedly anxious. We rode on quickly to where we could plainly see them when passing in front and stopped. We did not have to wait long, however, before we were well pleased to see the objects that we had been watching develop into two teams and wagons, with several men in each. The men were standing up, beating, prodding and urging their teams in a way to bring out their best possible speed. It now became a puzzling matter for us to determine what the cause might be for such a terrible fright. If it was from seeing us we could not account for their stopping and then turning back partly toward us. It was more likely that they had seen Indians in front or something mistaken for them, from whom they were trying to make their escape. If they had really

seen Indians we felt it to be rather important for us to know it and to plan accordingly, as we were not armed. Under the circumstances Mr. Carey and I decided to overtake them as quickly as possible and learn the cause of their fright, so that if it came from us we could make ourselves known and thereby relieve them and also save their teams from further violent work. When we rode up to their side and called on them to stop, they only made a greater effort in urging their teams forward. Finding we could not get their attention in this way, we rode up partly in front of the horses, and managed to make ourselves known, when their teams were slowly brought to a halt. We found the party to be made up of Norwegians who hardly knew how to give expression to their feelings when they found they were not to be harmed. When they recovered sufficiently to talk we were told that on first seeing us they became very much alarmed, thinking we were Indians, and so hurried their teams as best they could on their way. After going some distance it occurred to them that the whole country was being overrun by Sioux and that it would be useless for them to go any farther expecting to escape. They then quickly unloaded their goods and started back hoping to reach their cabins, some five miles from where we were, up the Watonwan River. They also told us that when the first alarm of Indians reached their settlement they had taken their families to Albert Lea but had returned to get a supply of bedding and other articles for their use, and were on their way back when they first saw us coming from the north. We now got off from our horses while they got out of their wagons and so we met and became acquainted, with a vigorous handshake over the affair. As I remember, it was a pretty good feeling group just then on the prairie of the Watonwan. After talking it over they decided to go back to their homes and stay over night and invited us to go with them, which we did. It proved to be very fortunate for us as we found good quarters for the night and were well cared for by our newly made friends. On the following

morning, before parting with them, they asked to be advised as to the safety of their returning and wintering their stock on the farms. We answered them at once that we should not like to take the risk. They evidently did return, however, and quite likely lost their lives by so doing, in the following March, as a report came out at that time that the Sioux had killed a party of Norwegians at the head waters of the Watonwan.

Our trip from here on, through an unsettled section of country to Iowa Lake was uneventful; there we stayed over night at the Thompson home. We had now traveled beyond the places where Captain Dane's cautious advice could apply and so made free use of the abundance of supplies found at this home. From that place we reached home by one more day's travel, on Sept. 2, 1862, making six days in all from the start. We found that Mr. Smith had returned from Des Moines without being able to do anything for the company, as Governor Kirkwood had called Mr. S. R. Ingham of Des Moines to his aid and had commissioned him to take full charge of the Northern Border disturbance, as shown by the following order, dated August 29, 1862, the day before Mr. Carey and myself started for Minnesota:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, DES MOINES, August 29, 1862.

S. R. Ingham, Esq.:

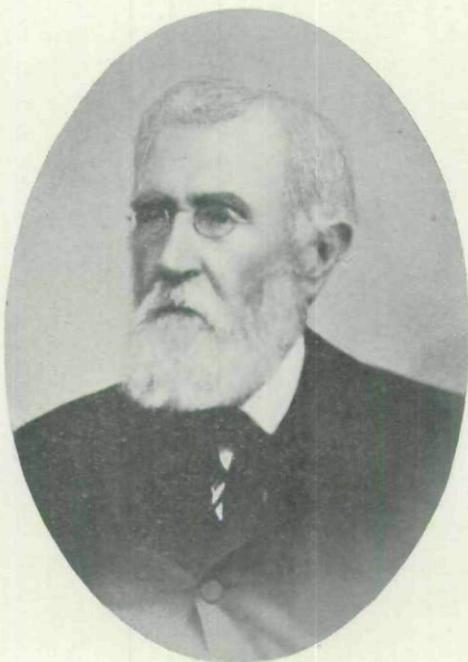
SIR:—I am informed there is probable danger of an attack by hostile Indians, on the inhabitants of the Northwestern portion of our State. Arms and powder will be sent to you at Fort Dodge. Lead and caps will be sent with you. I hand you an order on the Auditor of State for one thousand dollars.

You will please proceed at once to Fort Dodge and to such other points there as you may deem proper. Use the arms, ammunition and money placed at your disposal in such manner as your judgment may dictate as best to promote the object in view, to-wit: the protection of the inhabitants of the frontier. It would be well to communicate with Captain Millard commanding the company of mounted men raised for U.S. service at Sioux City. Place any men you may deem it advisable to raise under his command. Use your discretion in all things, and exercise any power I could exercise if I were present, according to your best discretion.

Please report to me in writing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.



JAMES A. SAWYERS.

He served in the Mexican War; First Lieutenant Sioux City Volunteer Cavalry,
1861-62; Lieutenant-Colonel Iowa Northern Border Brigade, 1862-63;
died in California, March 27, 1898.

Under this order from Gov. Kirkwood, Mr. Ingham came to the north part of the State and after consulting with the people in several of the northern counties arrived in Algona on Sept. 2, 1862, the date of our return from New Ulm. On meeting him we made a brief verbal report as to what we had seen and learned about the massacre in Minnesota. A meeting of the people was then called to be held at the town hall next day, Sept. 3, at which Mr. Ingham, after listening to the views of several speakers as to what should be done to quiet the excitement and for the protection of the settlers, authorized the enlistment of forty men to be furnished by Humboldt, Palo Alto, Kossuth and Emmet counties. These were recruited without delay and were quickly organized into a company and sent out to Iowa Lake and Estherville to meet the pressing emergency. Under a subsequent order, dated Sept. 12, 1862, from Gov. Kirkwood, Mr. Ingham organized four more companies for the border service, stationing one company at Iowa Lake and the remaining companies at posts along the exposed border of the settlements from Spirit Lake to Sioux City. After Lt.-Col. James A. Sawyers* had been elected and had taken command of the forces, Mr. Ingham filed his report with Gov. Kirkwood. This report furnishes a full and complete history of all that was done up to that time for the protection of the northern border of the State, as follows:

To His Excellency, S. J. Kirkwood, Governor of Iowa:

SIR:—Under your instructions placed in my hands August 29, 1862, I have the honor to report, that in compliance therewith, I at once proceeded to the northern border of our State to ascertain the extent of the supposed

* James A. Sawyers was born in Tennessee, Dec. 16, 1824. He died in California on the 7th day of March, 1898, and was buried at Sioux City on the 3d day of April, 1898. He served in the Mexican war in Company E, First Tennessee Cavalry. On Sept. 27, 1861, he enlisted in the Sioux City Volunteer Cavalry to go south in the war of the rebellion. But at this time the Indians were troublesome on the frontier and the company was required in Indian service. He was elected first lieutenant by his company, and served until Aug. 1862. He was urged by Gov. Kirkwood to accept a commission as lieutenant-colonel of the Northern Border Brigade of the Iowa State Militia, which he did Sept. 1, 1862. He was mustered out Sept. 19, 1863. The most important service Col. Sawyers ever rendered the government of the United States was doubtless the opening of the road from the mouth of the Niobrara river to Virginia City in Montana.

difficulties, and to do the needful for the protection of our frontier settlements, should circumstances warrant or demand.

I visited Dickinson, Emmet, Palo Alto, Kossuth, Humboldt, and Webster counties, found many of the inhabitants in a high state of excitement, and laboring under constant fear of an attack by Indians. Quite a number of families were leaving their homes and moving into the more thickly settled portions of the State.

This feeling, however, seemed to be more intense and to run higher in the more inland and remote counties from the border, than in the border counties themselves. In Emmet and Kossuth, both border counties, I had the settlers called together in order that I might learn from them their views and wishes as to what ought to be done for their safety, or rather what was necessary to satisfy and quiet their fears and apprehensions. They expressed themselves freely and were very temperate in their demands.

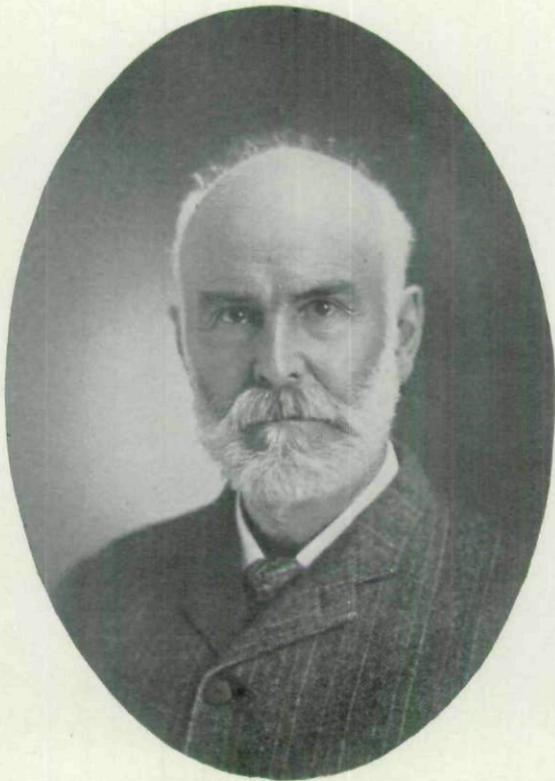
They said all they wanted or deemed necessary for the protection of the northern border was a small force of mounted men stationed on the east and west forks of the Des Moines river, to act in concert with the United States troops, then stationed at Spirit Lake; but that this force must be made up of men, such as they could choose from amongst themselves, who were familiar with the country and had been engaged in hunting and trapping for years, and were more or less familiar with the habits and customs of the Indians, one of which men would be worth half a dozen such as the State had sent up there on one or two former occasions.

In a small force of this kind they would have confidence, but would not feel safe with a much larger force of young and inexperienced men, such as are usually raised in the more central portions of the State. I at once authorized a company to be raised in Emmet, Kossuth, Palo Alto and Humboldt counties. Within five days forty men were enlisted; held an election for officers, were mustered in, furnished with arms and ammunition, and placed on duty,—twenty at Chain Lakes and twenty at Estherville on the west fork of the Des Moines river.

I authorized them to fill up the company to eighty men, if necessity should demand such an addition to the force. At Spirit Lake, in Dickinson county, I found some forty men stationed under command of Lieut. Sawyers of Capt. Millard's company, Sioux City Cavalry in the United States service. From the best information I could obtain I deemed this a sufficient force and therefore took no action to increase the protection at this point, further than to furnish the settlers with thirty stand of arms, and a small amount of ammunition, for which I took a bond as hereinafter stated.

Not being able to see Captain Millard, he being at Sioux City, I did not place the company raised under his command, but simply made an arrangement with Lieut. Sawyers by which the forces were to act together until such time as I should be able to see the captain.

I found that arms and ammunition had been distributed in several of the counties by the State, but owing to the reckless waste of ammunition



LEWIS H. SMITH,

Pioneer settler of Kossuth county; First Lieutenant and Quartermaster of the Iowa Northern Brigade. Mustered into State service September 7, 1862.

in shooting game, and the total want of care for the arms, when the time came when they were needed, they were either not to be found, or when found were almost wholly unfit for service. The arms in many instances, as I was reliably informed, had been carried or traded off, and as to ammunition, they had none; it had all been wasted on small game. In order to avoid this in the future, I advised the collecting together of the arms, putting them in order, and in all localities thickly settled enough to make it practicable, that they be deposited, together with what ammunition might be found, in some one place in charge of some reliable person, who should make it his business to look after and take care of them. This, in my opinion, is the only way that State arms can be made of much avail to the great majority of the settlers, particularly in all localities where the population is sufficiently dense to warrant it. In this way they would always be in order and ready for use. It would be economy on the part of the State, to pay even a reasonable compensation to some good man in each locality where distribution is made, to take charge of and hold himself responsible for them.

The settlers of Emmet and Kossuth counties were very desirous of having arms distributed to them, but owing to the limited number of arms and the small amount of ammunition at my disposal, I was unable to do so.

At Ft. Dodge, I received from the adjutant general, arms and ammunition as follows, to-wit:

One hundred and ninety-four Austrian rifles, 43 Springfield muskets, 3 kegs of powder, 293 lbs. of lead, 2,000 percussion caps, 5,000 cartridges. I received from Hon. J. H. Hatch, acting quartermaster at Des Moines, 1,000 cartridges, and of the clerk of the district court of Webster county, 2,600 percussion caps belonging to the State. I purchased at Ft. Dodge 10 lbs. of buck shot. Of the above described articles, the following were delivered to the commanding officer of the company stationed at Chain Lakes and Estherville, to-wit:

Sixty Austrian rifles, 20 Springfield muskets, 2,000 cartridges, 26½ lbs. powder, 30 lbs. lead, 2,500 percussion caps, 10 lbs. buck shot.

The following were delivered to Adolphus Jenkins for the use of settlers in Emmet county: Seven lbs. powder, 10 lbs. lead, 300 percussion caps.

To Martin Coonan for the use of settlers in Palo Alto county: Five lbs. powder, 10 lbs. lead, 300 percussion caps, and to Henry Barkman and Leonidas Congleton, for the use of settlers in Dickinson county: Ten Austrian rifles, 20 Springfield muskets, 15 lbs. powder, 20 lbs. lead, 500 percussion caps.

Bonds were taken for the arms and ammunition distributed as afore-said.

All the arms and ammunition remaining on hand were subsequently turned over to Quartermaster Lewis H. Smith.

Having done all that seemed necessary for the protection of the settlers of the more exposed of the northern border counties, I returned to Fort Dodge on the 8th day of September, intending to proceed at once to Sioux

City, and make all necessary arrangements for the protection of the settlements on the northwestern border.

At that point I was informed that the legislature, then in extra session, had passed a bill providing for the raising of troops for the protection of our borders against hostile Indians. I therefore deemed it best to report myself to you for further instructions, and did so report on the 10th day of September. On the 13th day of that month you placed in my hands the following instructions, together with your General Orders No. 1.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, DES MOINES, Sept. 12, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 1.

1. The number of companies that will be received for service under the Act to provide for the protection of the northwestern frontier of Iowa from the hostile Indians, passed at the extra session of 1862, and the Acts amendatory thereof, is as follows, viz: One to be raised at Sioux City, one at Denison, Crawford county, one at Fort Dodge, one at Webster City, and one now stationed at Chain Lakes and Estherville.

2. These companies shall contain not less than forty nor more than eighty each. They will elect the company officers allowed, and in the manner prescribed by law. As soon as company elections are held, certificates of the result must be sent to the Adjutant General for commissions. After being mustered and sworn in, they will proceed, on a day to be fixed by S. R. Ingham, to vote at their several places of rendezvous by ballot for a Lieutenant-Colonel to command the whole. The returns of this election will be made to such point as Mr. Ingham may direct, and these canvassed by five tellers, one to be selected by each company, and the result sent to the Adjutant General. The highest number of votes cast for any one candidate shall elect.

3. The men and horses will be inspected and mustered in by Mr. Ingham. They must be fit for the proposed duty, also equipments.

4. The points at which the troops will be stationed, will, in the first place, be fixed by Mr. Ingham, and afterwards by the Lieutenant-Colonel elect.

5. Sufficient tools will be furnished to enable the men at such points as may be designated to erect block houses for quarters, and inclose grounds with a stockade. These houses and grounds are intended as rallying points in the future for the settlers in cases like the present, at which they can maintain themselves until help can reach them. This, in my judgment, is the only way in which security can ever be given to the border. The State cannot, and the United States will not, maintain an army all the time in the field for their protection, and unless some means can be devised by which the settlers can be prevented from abandoning their homes in case of alarm, it will be long before settlements will be made. These block houses, it seems to me, afford a means by which this may be done.

6. The officers and men composing these companies, so long as they remain in service, shall devote themselves exclusively to their duty. It is made the duty of each officer commanding a company or squad stationed at any post, to keep a daily record of absentees, with the causes for which leaves of absence have been given. Leaves of absence must not be given merely for the convenience of the person seeking it, but for sickness only; or for some cause affecting the public interest, which must in each case be stated on the returns. Absentees without leave must be noted on the rolls in all cases, and their pay will be stopped for the time they were absent, and for an equal time after their return, unless excused for some cause which in all cases must be reported to the Governor for his approval.

Consolidated monthly reports will be made by each company up to

the first day of each and every month, which reports must be transmitted to the Adjutant General within ten days thereafter.

Drunkenness of either officers, non-commissioned officers or privates, while on duty, will be deemed sufficient cause for dismissal from service without compensation or pay.

7. Each man shall be required to furnish his own horse and equipments. Subsistence and forage will be furnished by the State. The same pay will be allowed for this service as is now provided for like service by the United States.

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD, Governor of Iowa.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS BY GOV. KIRKWOOD.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, DES MOINES, IOWA, September 13, 1862.

S. R. Ingham, Esq.:

SIR:—You are intrusted with the organization of the forces provided by law for the defense of the northwestern frontier, and with furnishing them with subsistence and forage during and after their organization; also, with the posting of the troops raised at such points as are best calculated to effect the object proposed, until the election of the officer who will command the entire force, and generally with the execution of the orders issued of this date in connection with this force.

It is impossible to foresee the contingencies that may arise, rendering necessary a change in these orders for the prompt exercise of powers not therein contained, and delay for the purpose of consulting me might result disastrously. In order to avoid these results, as far as possible, I hereby confer upon you all the powers I myself have in this regard. You may change, alter, modify, or add to the orders named, as in your sound discretion you may deem best. You may make such other and further orders as the exigencies of the case may, in your judgment, render necessary. In short, you may do all things necessary for the protection of the frontier, as fully as I could do if I were personally present, and did the same.

The first object is the security of the frontier; the second, that this object be effected as economically as is consistent with its prompt and certain attainment.

All officers and citizens are enjoined to co-operate with you, and yield to you the same assistance and obedience they would to me, and I hereby ratify and confirm all you may do in the premises.

And you are further fully authorized to employ any person or persons whom, in your judgment, you may deem necessary to assist you in the execution of your commission.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.

DES MOINES, IOWA, Sept. 13, 1862.

S. R. Ingham, Esq.:

SIR:—You are hereby authorized and empowered to collect together all the arms and equipments, or so many as you may desire, belonging to the State, now in the possession of any person or persons in the northern and northwestern portions thereof, and distribute them according to your best judgment, for the use of troops and settlers in the protection of the northwestern frontier.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.

In pursuance of these orders and instructions, I proceeded to Fort Dodge, and mustered and swore into the service of the State, for nine

months, unless sooner discharged, the company raised at that place, first inspecting the horses and equipments, and having them appraised.

I then proceeded with due dispatch to Webster City, Denison and Sioux City; and in like manner mustered in the companies raised at those places.

In the inspection of the horses and equipments, it was found utterly impracticable to be governed by a strict compliance with the rules and regulations which govern the United States service. In each of the companies accepted, many of the horses and equipments were of an inferior character; but being convinced that the utmost exertion had been made by the members of the companies to procure those that were better, without success, and it being evident that to reject such as were furnished would only work a detriment to the service, they were in many instances accepted with the understanding, however, in some cases, that others should soon be substituted, that would more nearly comply with the requirements of the service.

These four companies, and the one that had previously been stationed at Chain Lakes and Estherville, were all that were authorized under your General Orders, and mustered in all about two hundred and fifty men, rank and file.

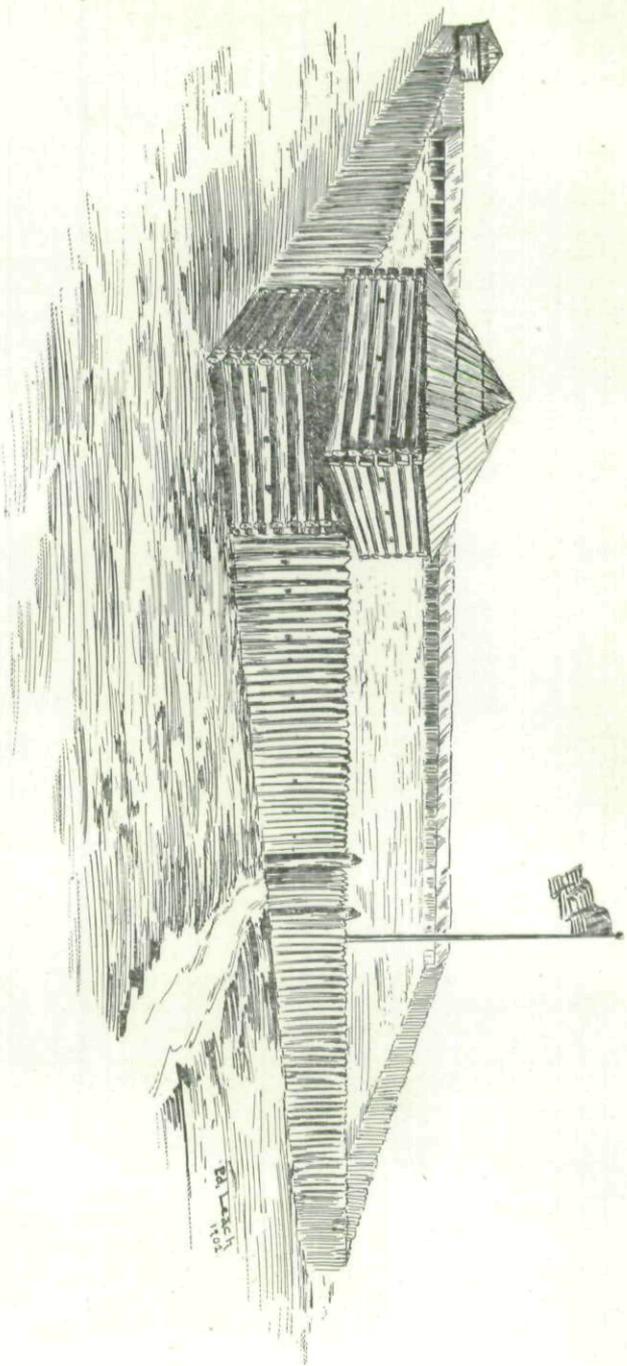
As each of the companies were sworn in, marching orders were at once given to the commanding officer, and such other orders as seemed advisable for the purpose of carrying out the objects in view, as expressed in your orders and instructions.

One company was stationed at Chain Lakes, one at Estherville, and portions of companies at each of the following points, to-wit: Acheyedan, Peterson, Cherokee, Ida, Sac City, Correctionville, West Fork, Little Sioux and Melbourne, thus forming, in conjunction with the portions of Capt. Millard's Company stationed at Sioux City and Spirit Lake, a complete line of communication between Chain Lakes and Sioux City.

After consulting the feelings and wishes of the settlers along the line, and after a careful survey of the grounds, it was determined to erect block houses and stockades at the following points, to-wit: Correctionville, Cherokee, Peterson, Estherville, and Chain Lakes.

At Spirit Lake a stockade had already been built around the court house by Lieut. Sawyers. The court house being constructed of brick makes the work of a very permanent and durable character. In making these locations, I was of course governed in a great degree by the desires and wishes of the settlers, at the expense of what might be regarded by military men as a proper location, in a strict military point of view. In conceding these points to them, I assumed that in as much as the State was constructing the works solely for their use and benefit, if the settlers themselves were satisfied, certainly the State would be.

At the points above indicated are the principal settlements on our extreme Northwestern border, and they are the only ones at which it was necessary to construct works as contemplated in your orders. This plan of protection was well received by most of the settlers, and at all the places



The stockade and works built at Correctionville, Woodbury county, Iowa, in 1862, by Company E, Northern Border Brigade, Capt. James M. White, for the purpose of a refuge and defence against hostile Indians.

named, except Peterson, they furnished the timber with which to carry it out, free of cost to the State; and not only this, but in some instances delivered it on the ground. At Peterson the parties owning the largest bodies of timber refused to furnish it without being paid five dollars per M., standing in the tree. Regarding this as ungenerous, to say the least, in as much as the use to which it was to be put was for their own benefit, I gave orders to the captain in command at that post to get what material and assistance he could from such of the settlers as showed a disposition to favor the enterprise in a practical manner, and if he found that enough timber was not furnished in that way to complete the work, to cut such additional amount as might be necessary, keeping a correct account of it and returning the same to me, together with the owner's name; and in doing so, to assess the amount as nearly equal as possible to the different owners in proportion to the number of acres owned by each.

In some of the localities, owing to the scarcity of timber, sods were used to good advantage in the construction of the works, particularly so in building the stables.

I am informed that the orders for building the block houses and stockades have all been carried into effect, and that the work in most instances is fast approaching completion.

One of the greatest obstacles to be met with in maintaining a force of mounted men on the northwestern border (and none other is fit for the service) is in providing forage at anything like reasonable cost. This was overcome, in a measure, however, by each company or squad going to work and putting up hay as soon as they reached their several posts. But owing to the lateness of the season when they were placed on duty, enough could not be obtained in this way and what they did get was of an inferior quality. Corn and oats are raised in but limited quantities as yet, in the immediate vicinity of the posts, and what surplus the inhabitants have to dispose of is held at extremely high prices, when it is considered that they have no market for it except the one created by the demand for supplies for the use of the troops. Most of the corn and oats have to be hauled from twenty to sixty miles, which increased the cost very materially by the time they are delivered at the post. Still, notwithstanding these difficulties, up to this time, Quartermaster Lewis H. Smith, through his indomitable energy and perseverance has been able to supply them at comparatively low prices; but I am apprehensive that holders will undertake to force prices up before spring, should it be necessary to keep the troops there until that time.

In accordance with your orders, I fixed Friday, the 7th of November, as the day on which the several companies should hold an election for Lieutenant Colonel to command the whole. At the election so held James A. Sawyers, 1st lieutenant of Capt. Millard's company, was chosen. And permit me to say that an excellent selection was made. In my opinion, no better man could have been found for this service.

From information in my possession, I am entirely satisfied that it will be unnecessary to keep this entire force on duty after the completion of

the block-houses and stockades, on which they are now engaged. These completed, in my opinion, unless some new phase of the Indian troubles presents itself, at least two of the companies could be mustered out without detriment to the service. There is one whole company stationed at Estherville, also one at Chain Lakes. After the completion of the works, one company could as well hold both these posts. Three companies are stationed along the line further west. One could be mustered out and the remaining two divided in such a manner as to afford all necessary protection. The increased protection afforded to the settlers by the block-houses and stockades, in case of an attack, would more than counterbalance the diminution of the force.

Herewith I hand a report from Quartermaster Lewis H. Smith, showing the amount of arms, accoutrements and ammunition received and distributed by him. All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. R. INGHAM.

From the foregoing report it will be noticed that twenty men from the first company enlisted were ordered to report at Estherville, where Lieut. Coverdale was to take command, while the balance of the company was ordered to Iowa Lake under my charge. On our arrival at the lake we took possession of the Thompson home for temporary quarters, while engaged in making hay and putting up stabling for our horses. We had been there only a few days before receiving a copy of the Governor's General Orders No. 1, dated Sept. 12, 1862. After a suitable site for the buildings and stockade, as contemplated in these orders, was selected, I left the work in charge of Lieut. McKnight and went to Estherville. Here I found Lieut. Coverdale and men occupying the school house for their quarters, which had already been stockaded by the citizens with two-inch plank, with stabling inside the inclosure for their horses. While looking about for a site for the works, as contemplated in the order, Robert E. Ridley generously offered to donate for this purpose lots one, two and three in block fifty-nine, as shown by the town plat. As this site was satisfactory to all parties concerned, his offer was accepted, when he and his wife Esther, after whom the town of Estherville takes its name, conveyed them to the State free of charge. It will be noticed in the report, that Co. B, Capt. William Williams (our old time Major Williams

of Fort Dodge), was ordered to report at Iowa Lake and complete the works there. On their arrival Lieut. McKnight and men came to Estherville, when for the first time the members of Co. A were all brought together for roll call. The people at Estherville manifested much interest in the construction of the works, and gave encouragement to the company in many ways. As this was the only post with a sawmill and plenty of timber near by, the works were laid out on rather a more extensive plan than at any of the other posts on the line. Then the larger settlements on the west branch of the Des Moines would necessarily require this, in case there should be any occasion for the settlers to make use of them thereafter as a place of refuge. From now on we were kept busy as well as the other companies in getting out material for their respective works. In addition to this there were the camp duties, drilling, scouting, target practice, and the keeping up of communication between the different posts and the U. S. forces at Fairmont, Minn., and at Sioux City. Now and then government dispatches were passed along the line, and whenever of great importance they were sent through from post to post on limited time. This service came to be known as the "pony express." A part of the brigade was supplied with Austrian rifles from Gen. Fremont's famous purchase. While they were not the best, they were probably the best that could be obtained at that time. Many of the cartridges were defective so that when discharged it became a question as to the direction in which they were likely to do the most harm, as many of the boys will remember.

It was the latter part of November before Lieut.-Col. Sawyers made his first inspection of the several posts on the line and reported to Gov. Kirkwood under date of Dec. 15, 1862. As no final report was made by him on the works at Iowa Lake, owing undoubtedly to the mustering out of this company soon after the works were completed, only that part of the report concerning the Iowa Lake post is here given.

REPORT OF LIEUT.-COL. SAWYERS.

SIOUX CITY, IOWA, Dec. 15, 1862.

To His Excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood:

SIR:—In compliance with an order from Col. S. R. Ingham, by order from the Governor, dated at Fort Dodge, Nov. 12, 1862, I have the honor to report that I have visited the different detachments comprising the northwestern frontier forces, and find the progress of the work up to Dec. 1, 1862, as follows:

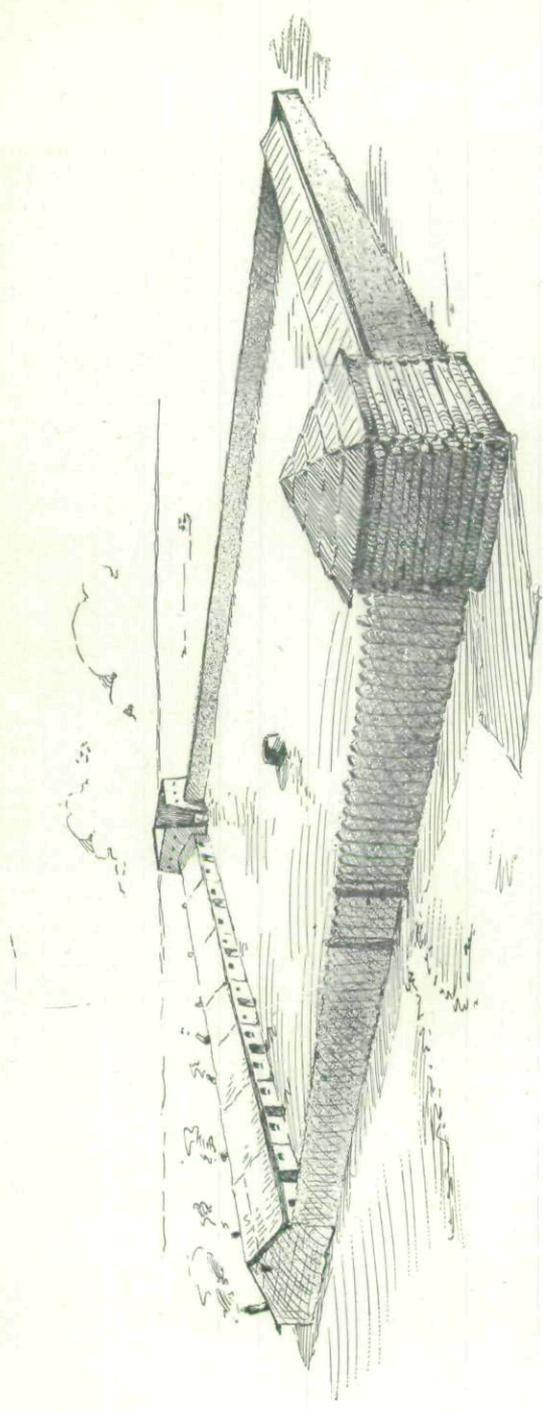
Captain Williams' company, B, stationed at Iowa Lake, have built and completed five buildings for quarters and have the timber in readiness for two more, which when completed will enclose the west side of the enclosure 160 feet. On the east side of the square they have built and completed excellent stabling, 140 feet long, with two tiers of stalls and a passage way between the tiers, enclosed with strong sod walls with port holes and by log bastions on the south end, with port holes, calculated to cover the entrance to the stable and make the east wall. The stable is substantially built, and covered with poles, grass and sod. The north side is enclosed with a wall of sod eight feet high and five feet thick at the base, with port holes. Bastion on northwest corner complete. They have done the work in a neat and substantial manner. Aside from the work done in constructing quarters and stabling this company have been engaged in digging a well, cutting and hauling hay, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SAWYERS,

Lieut.-Col. Comd'g N. W. F. Forces.

It will be noticed that Col. Sawyers, in making the foregoing report to Gov. Kirkwood, signed his name as commander of the Northwestern Frontier Forces. When the commissions for the officers of the companies were received soon after, no one seemed to be prepared to interpret the meaning of the letters "N. B. B." following the name of the company in each commission. In order to find out I wrote to Gen. Baker asking him to explain. He playfully answered by return mail, "N. B. Baker or Northern Border Brigade, just as you choose." The reading of these mysterious letters was now well understood, and the new name was passed along the line without delay. It appears that the name of the big-souled general might have had something to do with the finding of a name for the northwestern forces. However, it is quite likely to have been only a mere coincidence. From now on



SKETCH OF THE DEFENSIVE WORKS,

Stockade, block-houses, barracks and stables, erected at Iowa Lake in 1862-63, by Company B, Iowa Northern Brigade, Capt. William Williams.

the troops were known as the Northern Border Brigade, as shown by the company and brigade rosters to be found on subsequent pages. The many changes that took place in Co. A, as shown by its roster, were owing to the hurried manner in which its members left their homes to meet the great emergency, with the expectation that only a few weeks' service would be required to quiet the excitement, and more especially to the condition of their horses, which did not strictly meet the requirements of the service later on. It will be noticed the names of Howard Graves and John D. Goff do not appear on the roster of Co. A as it was made up and put in print before their enlistment. Mr. Graves served the company very efficiently as orderly sergeant from the time he joined the company in March, 1863, until it was mustered out on the 26th day of the following September.

As before stated Company B was mustered out of service when the works at Iowa Lake were finished, and thereafter the post was occupied by a small detachment from Co. A. The works at some of the smaller posts down the line had been completed so that Co. D, Capt. James M. Butler, had already been mustered out of service and their places filled by detachments from Companies C and E, so that all the posts were still occupied by State troops. The winter of 1863 quickly passed without cause for alarm from the Indians until in March, when a message from Fort Ridgely passed over the line bidding the troops to be on the lookout as the Sioux were on the move and had already massacred a party of seven Norwegians at the headwaters of the Watonwan. This brought out active operations all along the line and stirred up quite an excitement which lasted only a short time. It was an easy matter for the people now in their excited condition, to transform almost any object seen on the prairie into a lurking, stealthy savage, which gave rise to some disquieting reports. These reports were investigated and explained away whenever coming from any apparently reliable source.

One incident of this kind occurred in April, when several persons came hurrying to the quarters just at evening to see me and reported Indians near by. One of the party, who had barely escaped with others from being captured, as he seemed to think, told me that he, with Mr. and Mrs. Palmer (and I think one other), when on their way up the river to visit their claims in Minnesota, met five Indians at Twelve Mile creek, who had followed and tried to capture them before they could get back to town. He was so agitated at the time that it was difficult to get any definite information from him, but I learned that they had been traveling with a pair of cattle and when getting to the south bluff of the creek, some twelve miles up the river, they had seen the Indians across the deep cut valley on the opposite bluff about eighty rods away. While questioning him closely as to their appearance and what they did, he with the other persons present seemed almost indignant that we did not at once send out all the force in pursuit. He finally made out to tell me that the Indians were lying on the necks of their horses, which they held facing towards them, so as not to be seen, and that they plainly saw their white blankets as they drew them up from near their saddles just as they turned and started off. It took but one glance to see all this, on their part, and in alarm their poor cattle were wheeled about and urged to do their best in covering the distance to town. At the same time a little band of elk might have been seen trotting away in a northeasterly course. The white blanket part of the story told plainly the facts in the case, for whoever is acquainted with wild elk will remember well their appearance when the long yellowish-white hair in helmet form on the rump is raised up as a signal of alarm. This report caused quite an excitement for a short time until the people were partly convinced that these parties might have been mistaken and that elk instead of Indians were at the bottom of the scare. Early the next morning Chas. W. Jarvis, who was well acquainted with the river country, was sent out with oth-

ers to make an examination. When they returned and reported that they had found fresh elk tracks at the place where the Indians had been seen, the usual quiet of the people in town was fully restored, and nothing more of this kind was brought to the attention of the company.

Soon after this occurrence arrangements were made with Mr. Charles Jarvis and family, who were living at Emmet some five miles up the river, to house two or three men of the company, with frequent changes, for scouting purposes on the river above. In this way their daily trips could be extended much further up the river than when starting out from town. This service proved to be very useful in quieting any excitement in the settlements on the river below and was kept up the greater part of the time until the company was mustered out.

The work at Estherville had been delayed for some time in consequence of a new channel some four feet wide being washed out around the dam in the river under the frozen ground. We were obliged to extend the dam across this new channel before the mill could be used in sawing the lumber needed in finishing up the works. Owing to this the works were not completed until June 8, when a final report was made. The final reports of all the other works on the line had already been made by Lt. Col. Sawyers, so that the brigade was liable to be disbanded and mustered out at any time. This did not occur, however, until Sept. 26, 1863, by General Order No. 121, as shown in connection with the final reports, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN BORDER BRIGADE, }
SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA, April 7th, 1863. }

To His Excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood, Governor of Iowa:

DEAR SIR:—Herewith I submit my final report of the work on block houses and stockade, at Peterson, Clay county, Iowa, together with plan and specifications of same. The erection of said buildings and stockade was assigned to Co. C, commanded by Captain H. N. Crapper, and has been completed in a substantial and workmanlike manner. The block houses and officers' quarters are built of oak and ash timber, ten inches square. The buildings are roofed with soft maple boards jointed together,

and grooved on the sides to convey off the water. The stockade on the west side is built of oak timber six inches thick, sawed. On the east and south, the stockade is built of hewed timbers six inches thick. The well is $26\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep; the lower half curbed with ash, the upper half with oak plank. The gate is framed together, and planked on both sides.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SAWYERS,

Lieutenant-Colonel N. B. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN BORDER BRIGADE, }
SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA, April 7, 1863. }

To His Excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood, Governor of Iowa:

DEAR SIR:—With this, my final report on the progress and condition of work assigned to Company E, commanded by Capt. J. M. White, you will find plans of work at Correctionville and Cherokee, Iowa, together with specifications of the same. The work at the former place was commenced and completed under the supervision of Capt. J. M. White. The work at Cherokee was commenced by Capt. J. M. Butler, Company D, since the disbanding of which company, Lieut. Rustin, of Company E, has had charge of the work, and the same is now complete in accordance with plans submitted. The block house at Cherokee is made of timber one foot square, and is covered with walnut shingles. The stockade is made out of logs faced on one side; there are two rows; the faces of the rows are all brought together so as to break joints. The well is seventeen feet deep, walled with boulders. The gate is framed and planked on both sides.

The buildings at Correctionville are made of timbers one foot square, and are covered with earth. The stockade is made of logs split in two, with the faced side in. The space where those logs join is filled with timbers pinned in on the outside to break joints. The gate is made of hewed timber five inches thick. The well is sixty feet deep, curbed with hackberry.

Your obedient servant,

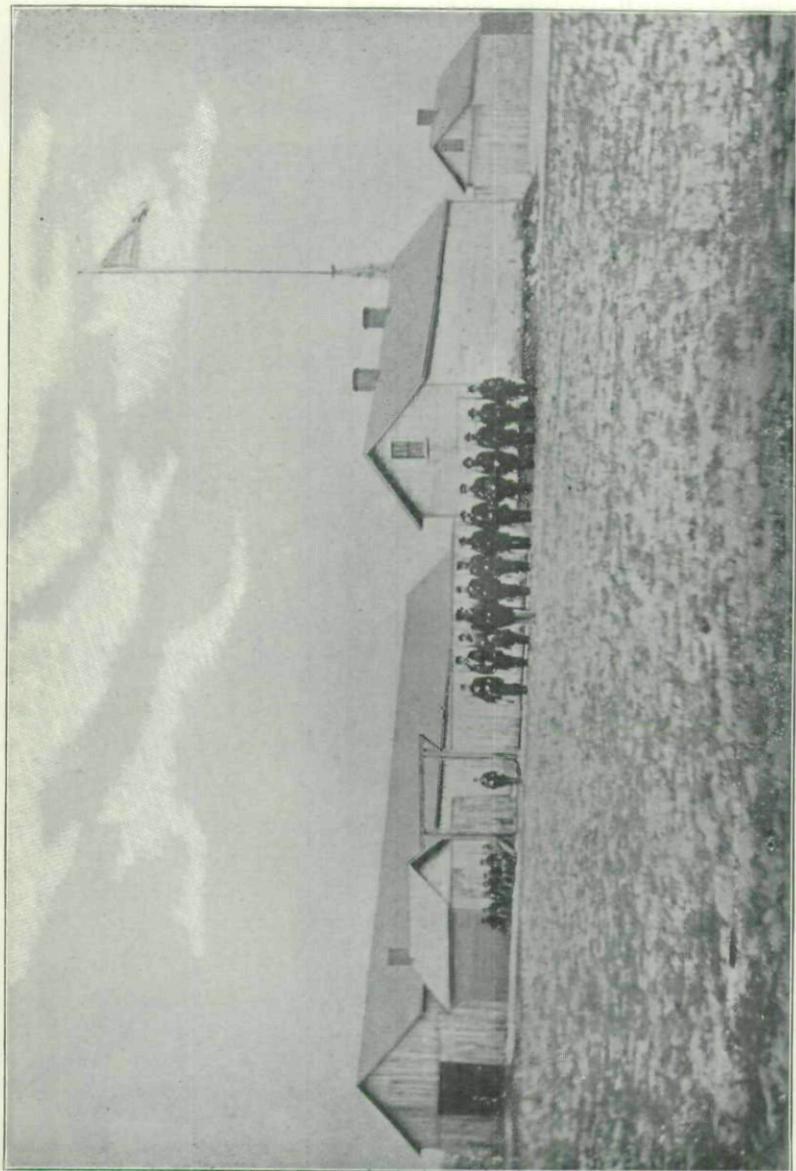
JAMES A. SAWYERS,

Lieutenant-Colonel N. B. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN BRIGADE, }
SPIRIT LAKE, June 8th, 1863. }

His Excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood, Governor of Iowa:

DEAR SIR:—I am pleased to report that the works at Estherville, Iowa, are completed in strict accordance with the accompanying plan, of which the following is a description, and are situated upon a high gravelly bench on the east side of the Des Moines river, and about one hundred rods from it, in the village of Estherville, on Lots Nos. one, two and three, (1, 2 and 3,) Block No. fifty-nine, (59,) conveyed by Robert E. Ridley and wife to the State of Iowa. The ground inclosed is about one hundred and thirty-two feet square, upon the north side of which is located the barracks, being a building fifty-two feet in length, eighteen feet in width, made of timbers eight inches thick, and laid up in the usual manner upon foundation posts of durable wood. It is partitioned off in three rooms, above and below,



Works erected at Estherville, Emmet county, Iowa, in 1862-63, by Company A, Capt. Wm. H. Ingham, Northern Border Brigade, to protect the settlers from incursions of the hostile Indians.

with lined floors throughout; each lower room has an entrance from the inclosure, and one window; the upper part is lighted by windows in each end. The roof is made of shingle, and the body of the building is covered with black walnut siding, and has a sufficient number of port-holes from the lower rooms. It projects six feet beyond eastern line of inclosure, serving as a bastion for the eastern side; it also projects six feet over northern line. Upon each partition rests a large, substantial brick chimney. The office and commissary room (a building fourteen by thirty-two feet) projects six feet over western line, serving the purpose of a bastion, is made of square timbers eight inches thick closely fitted together, and in other respects finished the same as the barracks. The intermediate space between these two buildings is filled up with a stockade of plank eleven feet long, four inches thick, firmly set three feet in the ground, with a cap-piece spiked on top, and has a sufficient number of port-holes. The barn forms the south side, being a frame building with twelve feet posts, is twenty-six feet wide, one hundred and twenty (120) feet long, and rests upon foundation posts. The sides are covered with inch boards, with cracks battened, the ends are covered with four inch plank, forming a portion of east and west sides of work. The roof is made of shingle. There is in each end an outside door ten feet in width, also one in center of side from the inclosure eight feet wide; also a passage through the south side. Each side is partitioned off in double stalls eight feet wide, leaving a space in center through the barn ten feet wide. For the protection of the rear side of the barn, and six feet from it, is a sod wall, five feet at its base and two feet wide on top, seven and one-half feet high, with holes through the same, at the western end of which is a sod bastion covering the side of the works; the space between the wall and the barn at the ends is filled by stockade. The west side of inclosure is stockaded the same as stockade on north side. On the east side, four feet from the barn, is located the guard-house. It is fourteen feet wide, sixteen feet long, forming a portion of east side, and is put up the same as the other buildings. In the center of this side is the passage to the works, filled by two gates six feet in width and the same in height, and same material as the stockade. The balance of this side is stockade same as north side. The sinks are in the northwest corner of the barn, with passages from the yard, using a double stall for the same. The well is near the center of the yard, and is walled up with boulders, and furnishes an abundance of excellent water. The flag-staff is situated near the center of the north line of the works.

You will see from this report, together with the plan of work, that the works at Estherville are more extensive than at any other point on the line, and have been completed under many difficulties. It reflects much credit upon the taste, ability and untiring energy of the commandant of this post. The fortifications along our northwestern frontier are now complete.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SAWYERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel N. B. Brigade.

THE BRIGADE DISBANDED.

STATE OF IOWA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 DAVENPORT, September 26, 1863. }

GENERAL ORDERS No. 121.

I. The Northern Border Brigade, as now organized, is hereby disbanded.

II. All officers of the Northern Border Brigade are hereby directed to turn over all arms, equipments, ammunition, and all other public property to Lieut. Lewis H. Smith, 2d Quartermaster of said brigade, and who is hereby continued in said office, for the company ordered to be organized by this department, under order of this date, in place of said companies of the Northern Border Brigade, hereby disbanded.

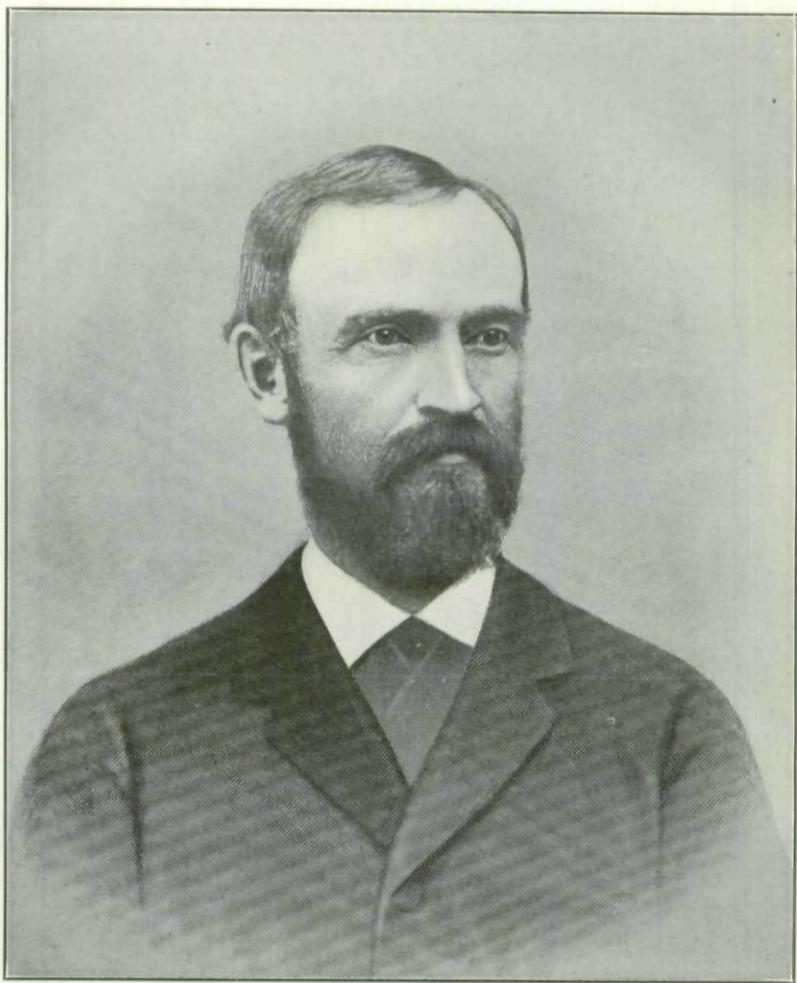
III. Wm. S. Pritchard, of Des Moines, will at once proceed to the post where any of the said companies of the Northern Border Brigade are located, and muster out said companies of said brigade, as herein directed, and will muster in the company to be raised in accordance with these orders; the company to be mustered for service until relieved by U. S. unless sooner discharged by order of the Governor.

IV. Said Pritchard will also inspect all horses, equipments, and arms, and will accept only those fitted for the proposed duty.

By order of the Governor.

N. B. BAKER, Adjt. Gen. of Iowa.

Under this General Order No. 121, and with other instructions, W. S. Pritchard and myself passed along the line of posts occupied by detachments of the brigade for the purpose of mustering them out of service, and at the same time mustering in all persons who might consent to remain and join the new company. Lieut. Lewis L. Estes, with nearly all the men in Co. C, continued in the service, with headquarters at Spirit Lake. Capt. Jerome M. White, with nearly all of his men in Co. E, also remained and became a part of the new company, he serving as second lieutenant, with headquarters at Cherokee. It was well understood at the time that the service would probably be of short duration and only to such time as Gen. Sully might be able to relieve the posts with U. S. troops. The following correspondence will show how active the department was in trying to bring this about. On November 21, 1863, General Orders No. 127 was issued, disbanding the company on January 1, 1864, unless sooner relieved by U. S. troops. This order will be found in connection with the correspondence that now follows:



CHARLES B. RUSTIN,

First Lieutenant of Company E. Enlisted from Sioux City,
Woodbury county, September 27, 1862.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.