

he could scarcely realize how others could entertain such a feeling. He moved through life singularly loving and beloved, widely known and respected by all among whom he had passed his days; and when called away from earth all classes of his fellow citizens evinced the sense of the loss they had sustained in his death by the eulogies of the press, by crowding to the utmost, during a fearful storm, the large church in which the funeral services were held, and by their manifestations of sorrow when he was carried lovingly to his long resting place.

Of his family life we may not speak further than to say that his home was his delight, and that to his wife and children he was all that a husband and father could be. He was a firm believer in religion, and for years was a member of the Presbyterian church. He lived as one called of God to do a work for Him, and conscientiously endeavored to do that work in the fear of God and in the spirit of Christ. In the faith of Christ he lived, and in the hope of a blessed immortality he died, entering into that "rest which remaineth for the people of God" upon the 26th day of January, 1868.



REPORT OF CAMPAIGN AGAINST MAJOR GENERAL STERLING PRICE, IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1864.

[Continued from page 79, Vol. XII., No. 1.]

I MADE every effort within my power to comply with instructions as above stated. The public transportation not yet returned to the depot, I was compelled to gather transportation from every available source, to enable me to forward supplies as directed. To do this, I hired such wagons and teams as I could, purchased mules to replace those worn out on the march, and to fit out teams, and impressed all others in the vicinity.

The night of October 26th, I loaded and sent, in charge of Lieutenant Jasling, Fourteenth Kansas, fifty wagons, loaded with corn and commissary stores; October 27th, in charge of Lieutenant Ehle, Third Wisconsin cavalry, forty-five wagons, loaded with corn and commissary stores; October 28th, in charge of Captain Young, fifty-two wagons, loaded with corn, commissary, and ordnance stores; October 29th, in charge of Jeff. Anthony, wagon master, thirty-seven wagons, loaded with corn, commissary, and ordnance stores; November 1st, in charge of J. McKinny, wagon master, fifty-three wagons, loaded with ordnance, corn, and commissary stores; November 3d, in charge of J. Richards, wagon master, forty-one wagons, loaded with corn and commissary stores; November 13th, in charge of Lieutenant Jasling, Fourteenth Kansas, twenty wagons, loaded with hard bread, corn, and two ambulances.

After the battle of Osage, I saved the following list of captured property, viz: Seven head of cattle, twenty horses, three mules, six U. S. mules, re-captured from the enemy, and eighteen army wagons. A very large amount of transportation was entirely destroyed at their encampment, on the night of the 26th of October. Colonel C. W. Blair, commanding the post, rendered all facilities within his power, by furnishing escorts, and otherwise, in sending forward the necessary supplies to the command.

I am, major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

M. H. INSLEY,

*Captain and Assistant Q. M. U. S. Army.*

HEADQUARTERS SIGNAL DETACHMENT, }  
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, }  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, Nov. 23, 1864. }

SIR:—In obedience to published instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment, department of Kansas, during the late campaign after the rebel, Price:—

On the 10th of October, learning that it was the intention of the commanding general to take the field in person, I applied for and obtained permission to mount all of my officers, and such number of my men as was absolutely needed, and to draw one wagon. This being accomplished, on the 11th of October, with thirty minutes' notice, we started with the headquarters of the commanding general at noon for the front. In the meantime, Lieutenant Roberts, acting signal officer, by your order, had been appointed an acting aid-de-camp. At the close of the first day's march, there being no staff quartermaster, Lieutenant J. R. Fitch, signal corps, U. S. A., was appointed, by your order, staff quartermaster.

Passing rapidly through Olathe, Wyandotte, and Kansas City, we first met the enemy on the Little Blue, near Independence. While at Wyandotte, Lieutenant Hubbard, acting signal officer, was, by your order, appointed acting assistant adjutant general, in charge of returns. After falling slowly back, our lines were formed on the Big Blue. Early next morning I sent Lieutenant Hubbard to the extreme right of the line, about two miles from the road, for the purpose of making observations of the enemy's movements, and Lieutenant Neely to the left of the line, one-half mile from the road, for the same purpose.

The places selected by these two officers (assisted by Lieutenant Roberts) were admirably adapted for the purpose intended. Each one had a fine view of the Independence road and surrounding country, and could see any and all important movements of the enemy. These two officers were instructed to report every thirty minutes, whether they had anything of interest to report or not. On account of heavy timber, we could not open signal communication, and messages had to be sent to the commanding general, at his headquarters on the cross-roads, by courier. During the day the general rode to Westport. The signal messages, however, were regularly transmitted to him by courier. By your order, copies of all messages were also sent to Major

General Deitzler, Major General Blunt, and Colonel Blair. These stations were held all day, and the reports sent in were of great importance, as the entire movement of the enemy to our right was discovered, as was also their wagon train. As the line was withdrawn about dark, I received your order to report, with Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely, at headquarters, established at Kansas City. Next morning, the 23d of October, I sent Lieutenant Hubbard to the front to open communication with Lieutenants Quinby and Neely, placed on top of a high house in Westport. Before communication was fairly established, the enemy were fleeing, and as the general moved to the front, the line was abandoned. Lieutenants Quinby and Neely, however, sent valuable observation messages to the general, as did also Lieutenant Hubbard, from the front. Before daylight of the next day Lieutenant Hubbard left Santa Fe, and took position on "High Blue church," and sent back important information. He was with the advance all this day, and until noon of the 25th, sending back such information as he could pick up. On the morning of the 26th, Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely collected valuable information, from different sources in the vicinity of Fort Scott, of such importance that the general commanding, as I am informed, based his orders for that day upon the information sent back by those two officers. During all these movements the other officers of the corps were used by the commanding general as aids. On the 1st of November I received a verbal offer from the general commanding, to furnish a quarter master detail, and in obedience to that I ordered all my men, not used as orderlies, to report to Lieutenant Fitch, staff quarter master. On the 5th of November Lieutenant Quinby, acting signal officer, was detailed, by your order, to proceed to St. Louis on special duty. On the 8th of November the Arkansas river was reached, and the chase abandoned.

During the campaign a great many observations and reports were made by the signal officers, which were given to the general verbally, and of which we have no record.

From the fact that we moved so rapidly and spent so little time in any one place, no signal lines of communication could be opened, although we were always ready and anxious to do that kind of duty. The observations made on the line of the Big Blue, and at other places, proved to be reliable, and I believe gave satisfaction to the commanding general.

My thanks are due Lieutenants Hubbard, Roberts, Quinby, and Neely, and the men of the detachment for the energy displayed and the willingness, under any circumstances, to obey all orders given them. With the exception of Lieutenant Roberts, it was their first experience in the field as signal officers, and they did their duty well. The men of the detachment were all new recruits, and this was their first campaign. Lieutenant Fitch, signal officer, being staff quarter master, was entirely taken up with his duties, and he scarcely came under my command at all. It is presumed, however, that he gave entire satisfaction to the general and staff. I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ED. J. MEEKER,

*Captain, Chief Signal Officer, D. K.*

✓ MAJOR GENERAL CURTIS, *Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, }  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, DEC. 1, 1864. }

MAJOR C. S. CHARLOT, *Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Kansas* — *Sir*:— In obedience to orders from the major general commanding, I have the honor to report the part taken by myself, in the battles and pursuit of Major General Sterling Price, commanding the rebel force.

I left Fort Leavenworth with Major General Curtis, as an additional aid-de-camp, on the 11th day of October, 1864, it being generally understood from numerous reliable sources that the rebel general designed devastating Kansas. Camped on the evening of the 11th, having made ten miles.

October 12th, proceeded to Olathe, twenty-five miles. At this place the state militia had been ordered to rendezvous.

October 13th, General Curtis, becoming convinced that this was not a proper place for the accumulation of a large force, on account of scarcity of water, fuel, and forage, sent me with orders to General Deitzler, commanding the militia, directing him to countermand his order, making Olathe his headquarters, and direct all the militia immediately south of the Kansas or Kaw river to go to Shawneetown, and those still north of that river to Kansas City, and those already arrived at Olathe to Hickman's Mills, stating, at the same time, Blunt, Jennison, and Moonlight, with their forces, had been ordered there. Proceeded this day to Wyandotte, through Kansas City, a route we were obliged to travel, on account of the bridge being down across the Kaw. Twenty-eight miles.

October 14th. Lay this day in camp. By order of the general commanding, made an inspection of the Twelfth Kansas militia, Colonel Treat, camped in the Kaw bottom. Signed receipts for immediate wants of rations, horse shoes, &c. Found them well armed and supplied with ammunition, and with a few exceptions, eager for the expected fight. Gave Lieutenant Fitch, assistant adjutant quarter master, the order of the general commanding, directing him to procure five hundred tents or more for the militia, all of which were to be pitched, to make a demonstration of a great force.

October 15th, accompanied General Curtis in a reconnoissance to Independence, and from that place to Hickman's Mills, and from there to camp, near Wyandotte, where we arrived at two o'clock, A. M., having traveled fifty miles.

October 16th, was sent to select camp ground in Missouri. Selected one near Kansas City, which the general commanding named Camp Charlot, in honor of his adjutant general, headquarters being removed to that point the same day.

October 18th, was sent with orders to intercept Colonel Blair, Commanding militia, then *en route* to Independence with orders directing him to camp on the Big Blue or im-

mediate vicinity. Removed headquarters to Independence, distance twelve miles.

October 19, lay in camp at Independence.

October 20th, learned of the battle near Lexington, and received information from General Blunt that he had fallen back on the Little Blue, and wished for reinforcements. General Curtis dispatched me with orders to General Blunt to fall back to the Big Blue, but at the same time to leave a strong guard at the Little Blue bridge, with directions to burn the same when the proper time had arrived. This, in view of the fact that he had strongly fortified at the Big Blue, and did not wish his best forces to be fatigued and worn down, but wished them to reserve their strength until attacked at the Big Blue. Accordingly General Blunt left Colonel Moonlight with the requisite force, and fell back on Independence.

October 21st, was dispatched early this morning to Colonel Blair with directions for him to send all his light artillery, including Dodge's battery, then momentarily expected, to the front, as he had determined to feel the enemy on the Little Blue. I was also directed to say that the First Kansas battery, to arrive, would report to him.

Returning, I found the battle of the Little Blue in progress, and our forces slowly falling back to the Big Blue, but contesting every inch of the ground. That night at ten o'clock was assigned the duty of placing the pickets, and planted ours within two and a half miles of Independence, and within sight of the enemy, as seen on the following morning.

Fears being entertained that the enemy might flank our position, the general commanding directed his chief engineer, with a heavy pioneer force extemporized for the occasion, to fortify Kansas City, which duty was most faithfully performed.

October 22d. On this day was fought the battle of the Big Blue. The general commanding, being fearful that a sufficient force had not been stationed at Bryan's Ford, di-

rected me to order Major General Deitzler to send the greater part of his forces to Colonel Jennison, holding the ford. General Deitzler stated that he could not see the necessity, as there were already the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, besides one hundred and fifty infantry, also some odd troops, with four guns at that point, but that he would send more. I designated an independent company from Independence, numbering about one hundred, which I had that day armed on my own responsibility, with arms taken from wagons going to Kansas City, as a proper force to be sent. It was understood these should constitute part of the force sent. I afterwards learned from Colonel Jennison that no reinforcements came, and the important ford was abandoned, not however, without being stubbornly contested. The general commanding being desirous of information from the front, particularly Hickman's Mills, dispatched me to ascertain what could be learned. Taking the wrong road I came near Bryan's Ford, and there found Colonel Jennison, slowly falling back, and observed the enemy in his front, and a large body of men on his right flank, supposed to be the enemy. Retraced my steps and got on the Hickman's Mills road. Traveled several miles, when I met a body of men, which proved to be Colonel Johnson's militia in rapid retreat. I stopped them and caused them to go to the rear slowly, at the same time I sent Colonel Jennison notice. I now proceeded on my road, but had not gone far when I became satisfied that I would soon be cut off, as the enemy were already rapidly advancing, having captured many of the militia near Hickman's Mills, besides one gun. I now rode rapidly to the rear, overtaking the militia. I placed them in line of battle in the edge of the timber, with directions to hold their ground and retard the enemy's progress, and retreat only when absolutely necessary. I will state here that General Fishback was present and manifested the greatest willingness to meet the enemy. I afterwards learned that this regiment did good service.



Night now closing in found us in rather a doubtful position. Our forces being pressed fell back towards Kansas City, where most of them arrived at ten o'clock. The Second Colorado, with the exceptions of two companies, with the Eleventh, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Kansas remained on the field confronting the enemy.

I was sent about nine o'clock at night to assist in placing the troops in the trenches as they arrived. I was much delighted when I found General Blunt already there and filing troops right and left, and placing batteries in commanding positions, and perfectly cool and collected as if nothing unusual was going on. I placed Colonel Hubbell's militia in the north-west part of the city, another militia regiment on the north-east part of the city to support Dodge's battery, and two companies of the Second Colorado at the Fort.

During the night information was received by the general commanding, that the troops in front of the enemy were without provisions and ammunition. The commissary at Wyandotte was telegraphed for supplies, there being none in Kansas City, but failed to respond. By direction of the general commanding, I ordered Captain Simpson to repair to Wyandotte and take possession of the subsistence department, also steamer Tom Morgan at the levee, and furnish with all possible speed the required supplies. I, at the same time, went in search of the ordnance train, finding it on the bottom near the pontoon bridge, and got the required ammunition. I also unloaded extra teams and brought them to Kansas City. About this time the Morgan arrived, and by three o'clock A. M. we had the required subsistence and ammunition loaded and on the way. It is due to General Blunt to say that he was indefatigable in superintending this business, refusing to sleep, but was constantly on the move, making arrangements for the morrow.

October 23d. At four o'clock this morning I was ordered by the general commanding, to repair to the trenches and assist in placing the remaining militia and the remaining guns in position, most of the militia being ordered to the

front. At nine A. M. was ordered to the front to notify General Blunt that the enemy were coming in on his right flank. After performing this duty I volunteered my services to General Blunt, and by his order dismounted two regiments of militia, sending every sixth man to the rear with the horses. This militia, the names of the regiments I now forget, were formed to support Dodge's and McLain's batteries. Another fractional regiment, commanded by Colonel Montgomery, and a number of colored soldiers which I placed under command of Colonel Montgomery, I formed on the left of McLain's battery, and in a dense wood far in the advance, and it is with pleasure I state they behaved gallantly under a hot fire. The enemy being pressed on all sides, gradually fell back. Generals Curtis and Blunt were in the front ranks directing the artillery, and urging the men forward. It was about this time General Pleasanton opened out on the enemy's right flank, when ensued a rapid flight and pursuit which continued for many miles. This battle is known as the battle of Westport. The enemy retreated by the road to Hickman's Mills and Little Santa Fe. Our forces pursued through the latter place. Colonel Jennison being in the advance, I fell in with his command. About five o'clock we again came up with the enemy in force. Enemy advanced on us opening out with artillery and small arms, to which we responded with small arms. Colonel Jennison slowly retired to an adjacent hill and formed a new line. The enemy advanced in large force, opening as before, but with artillery alone. At this juncture it was deemed prudent with our small force to retire, which we did, falling back five miles, near Little Santa Fe, where the balance of our forces had encamped for the night, with the exception of Moonlight's command, that took the right-hand road at Little Santa Fe, which goes to Mound City.

October 24th, went to General Curtis' head-quarters where I met and was introduced to General Pleasanton and General Sanborn. Was ordered to go in the advance with

General Blunt, with special instructions. The command was halted, by orders of major general commanding, about night-fall, to cook some beef at a small place called West Point. At eight p. m. an order came from the major-general commanding, directing General Blunt to remain in present position, that General Pleasanton would take the advance. Proceeded until three o'clock at night, it being exceedingly dark and rainy, when the column halted. I was ordered forward to ascertain the cause. Found General McNeil, who said he had instructions from General Sanborn in the advance, to halt and build fires to dry. At this time an order came from the front to extinguish fires. I reported these facts, when I was again ordered to the front to ascertain from General Sanborn the cause of the halt. Found General Sanborn in bed some two miles in advance, and about three miles from Trading Post. He told me that he had ascertained to his satisfaction that the enemy was in full force, perhaps ten thousand strong, immediately on the high hills in his front, and that he thought it unsafe to proceed further. These facts being communicated, we bivouaced for the night.

October 25th. General Pleasanton in the advance. Skirmished with the enemy across the Marias des Cygnes. I received permission to go to the front, and was riding by the side of General Pleasanton when cannonading was heard in the front, not far distant. We rode rapidly forward, the battle progressing. I volunteered my services, when I was ordered to the rear to bring up a battery and hurry up McNeil. The battery I brought up, and as I saw another aid after McNeil, I preceded the battery to the front, but did not arrive there until the main part of the battle was over, and the enemy in retreat. I joined in the pursuit. It was during the pursuit I was stopped by Colonel Blair who wished to turn General Marmaduke, a prisoner of war, over to my charge. I declined, being under orders. Towards noon, General McNeil coming up, took the advance, and I went with him in the charge across the

Little Osage. General Pleasanton coming up directed me to order Colonel Catherwood's brigade to charge the enemy who had again formed in our front. I gave the order—the charge was made, but the enemy fell back as our forces advanced. The rebels continued their retreat across the vast prairie, without our forces, with their jaded horses, being unable to bring them to bay until about one hour by the sun, when they formed in great force near the Mannaton, about seven miles from Fort Scott. General McNeil's brigade promptly formed to resist them; the rebels outflanking him three-fourths of a mile either way. It was at this time, the rebels advancing, General Pleasanton sent me forward to order McNeil to advance his right wing. McNeil replied, "I obey the order with pleasure; it is the most joyful news I have heard this day." Colonel Cole now opened out on their right and centre with two Rodman guns, which did great execution and broke their column, our forces at the same time pressing their left, when they gave way. At this time our guns were pointed to their left, the extreme of which, as well as our right, was in low ground and could not be seen by our artillerists; our shot falling immediately in front of our ranks, came near creating confusion. At the request of General McNeil I rode rapidly to the rear and communicated the facts, when the firing ceased. Sun was now about one-half hour high. General Pleasanton, not knowing where he was, remarked that he thought he should order the troops to fall back to the last stream crossed (Little Osage), to the rear seven or eight miles, where wood and water could be had, as his troops were much fatigued and needed rest. I urged that he should press forward, as I understood it was but a few miles to the Mannaton, and I thought that we could drive the enemy. While we were talking a courier came from McNeil asking for reinforcements, as the enemy were flanking him on both sides, which was plainly to be seen as he was only distant about one and a half miles. Pleasanton answered by saying, "Tell McNeil to hold his ground until reinforced by fresh troops." Lieu-

tenant Ayle, of the Third Wisconsin cavalry, now arrived from Fort Scott stating that it was but two and a half miles to that place. Pleasanton now gave the order to all his troops that had come up, to file right for Fort Scott. A conversation occurred between Pleasanton and myself in regard to General Blunt's forces coming up to relieve or assist McNeil. The advance had got about one mile on the road to Fort Scott, when I, too, started for that place. I had not gone in that direction more than eight hundred yards, when I came across a lake or lagoon, with plenty of water. I immediately addressed a note to General Pleasanton notifying him of the fact, and at the same time stating it would be a proper place for Blunt's command to camp, and provisions could be sent out to him. I arrived in advance of others in Fort Scott, after a tedious ride of six or seven miles instead of two and a half. General Curtis arriving about half past eight o'clock, I made known the subject of conversation with Pleasanton, when, by his direction, assisted by Major Curtis and a number of citizens, teams were obtained, and by eleven o'clock had them loaded with sixty-five hundred rations and started for Blunt's command, but which, I understood, they did not receive until the next day, as that command arrived at Fort Scott during the night.

October 26th, continued the pursuit, General Blunt being in the advance. General Pleasanton not being well, declined going further, and returned to St. Louis, taking with him prisoners, ordnance, &c., captured from the enemy by troops under General Curtis's command. Struck Price's trail at or near Shanghai, where we camped for the night. Distance traveled, twenty-five miles.

October 27th, General Blunt again in the advance. Traveled all day and until three o'clock at night, when we encamped at Carthage. Distance traveled, forty miles.

October 28th, was dispatched early this morning with a flag of truce, the object being to exchange prisoners, as we had learned that our prisoners were enduring great hardships; also to induce, if possible, their surrender; this as

an act of humanity, considering their straightened circumstances, many having fallen into our hands, literally starving. I had advanced some ten miles, when I came in sight of the enemy. This information was sent to the rear by the advance guard, which brought a courier from General Blunt, ordering the flag down, which was obeyed. I now took my detachment, numbering some thirty, and forming with the advance guard, pursued the enemy to the woods, when I ordered them to dismount, as skirmishers, at the same time sending word to the rear that the enemy was close at hand, in force. The enemy now rapidly retreated, and our skirmishers pursued through the woods for three hours, capturing three prisoners. Resting from fatigue and expecting our forces momentarily, and they failing, I went to the rear and found it halted, about half a mile from the timber. I made known the facts, when the army again moved, but not until some two hours had elapsed. Our forces, under Blunt, again came up with the enemy in the evening at Newtonia, and after a brisk fight repulsed them on every quarter. Intelligence was now received from General Rosecrans, ordering all the troops belonging to his command back to their respective districts and commands, by the nearest route. This astounding order was given, when the enemy, beaten, disheartened, and starving, were on the very point of falling into our hands. Retrograde movements were now made by the different brigades of Rosecrans' command, and General Curtis left with less than fifteen hundred effective men, was forced to turn homeward and abandon the pursuit. Marched to Neosho and encamped for the night. During the night information was received from General Halleck, ordering General Curtis to assume command and pursue Price to the Arkansas river. I was awakened in the night, and conveyed these orders to the different commanders, also started messengers for Generals McNeil, Sanborn, and Colonel Benteen, commanding brigades, to concentrate at Cassville for the pursuit.

October 30th, I made an inspection of the troops, ascer-

taining the command to have, on an average, fifteen rounds of ammunition. Moved to Newtonia, ten miles.

October 31st, moved to Keetsville, by the way of Gad Fly, Colonel Benteen, with a brigade one thousand strong, arriving there about the same time. Distance traveled, thirty miles.

November 1st, moved to the head of Cross Timbers, distant some ten miles, the roads being very bad, and raining constantly.

November 2d, Major Charlot, assistant adjutant general, being very sick and unable to attend to the business of his office, I was ordered to assume its duties, temporarily. Snowing and very cold.

November 3d, camped near the ground on which General Curtis fought the battle of Sugar Creek, 1862. The general commanding received information about midnight from Colonel Harrison, commanding at Fayetteville, that he was surrounded by some four thousand troops, under command of General Fagan.

November 4th, commenced moving at daylight, Blunt's division in the advance, and arrived at Fayetteville about two o'clock, having traveled eighteen miles. The enemy getting wind of our approach, raised the siege, after having thrown some seventy shots in the place, without doing any material damage.

November 5th, General Blunt in the advance, with an advance guard of Colonel Harrison's troops, camped for the night near the battle ground of Prairie Grove. Distance traveled, eighteen miles.

November 6th, General Blunt in the advance, proceeded through Cane Hill. Found many rebel wounded, and was ordered by the general commanding to parole them. With the assistance of Major Weed, paroled forty-four during the day; having the paroles all to write, was compelled to leave many behind for want of time. Among the number paroled, were one major, one captain, and one lieutenant. Nearly all had been taught to believe they would be killed,

if they fell in our hands. A rebel surgeon left in charge of their wounded, abandoned his charge and disgracefully fled, leaving them destitute of medical aid. This day Colonel Benteen had two men killed by bushwhackers, and in the skirmish and chase which ensued a portion of the flag captured by the rebels at Bareter Spring, on which was the name of General Blunt, was re-captured by our men.

November 7th, started at daylight, Colonel Benteen, commanding Second division, in the advance, our route lying through a desolate country, inhabited by the Cherokees, but few persons being at home, and those women and children, principally of loyal Indians or Pin Indians, a term by which the loyal Indians are known. Stopped about one hour, by sun, to let our stock graze in the cane-brakes, and moved again about nine o'clock. Traveled until near two o'clock in the morning, when we bivouaced for the balance of the night. During the night captured a cannon and carriage complete, the rebels had abandoned.

November 8th, command commenced moving at daylight. Major Charlot's health being restored, assumed the duties of his office. Word was soon received that the enemy's pickets were close in front, which proved false. Arrived at the Arkansas river about twelve o'clock, and learned from a released prisoner that the enemy had crossed the evening before. Some of our men crossed and fired at their pickets, but soon returned. Our artillery coming up, fired a national salute in the direction of the enemy, who were doubtless encamped on the high ground, after leaving the bottom. Our tired and completely worn down forces, retracing their steps across the muddy bottom of the Arkansas, encamped for the night. General Curtis issued his congratulatory order on the evening of the 8th, ordering the troops to their respective commands, by different routes.

November 9th, proceeded homeward by the way of Fort Gibson, taking with him the Second Colorado regiment and his body guard. Camped first night on the Illinois river. Distance traveled, twenty-five miles.



November 10th, arrived at Fort Gibson, where General Curtis was received with honors due a major-general. Distance twenty miles. Crossed most of our teams over Grand River by ten o'clock at night. Failed in getting forage as we expected to for stock at this point, everything being exceedingly scarce, since the capture of the big train at Cabin Creek, the soldiers living on beef, having had no bread stuff for two weeks.

November 11th, traveled twenty-two miles and camped. By order of the general commanding, dispatched an express to Captain Insley, Fort Scott, to load six ambulances with hard bread and corn, instructing them to travel sixty miles a day and take the risk of capture.

November 12th, was placed in the advance to regulate the movements of the command. Traveled twenty miles and camped. By direction of the major-general commanding, what little corn was left was ordered to be issued to the body guard, they having neither meat nor bread.

November 13th, camped at Duck Springs. Distance traveled twenty miles.

November 14th, was placed in command of the rear this day to keep up stragglers, both men and horses, also to keep wagons properly closed up. Reached and crossed the Neosho river. Distance traveled eighteen miles.

November 15th. This morning it was announced that two ambulances had arrived with hard bread and corn, when a shout went up from the soldiers, as if a great victory had been gained. Together with Major Hunt, I was assigned the duty of equally distributing the five and a half sacks of corn, and six hundred pounds of bread. This done, the order was given to march. Traveled ten miles and met more supplies. It was at this point the general commanding, together with his staff and a small guard of fresh troops, proceeded forward, and reached Fort Scott about two o'clock, where we were received with military honors. Distance traveled, since the morning of the 15th, eighty-five

miles. Left Fort Scott same evening, and camped thirteen miles out.

November 17th, traveled to Paola, a distance of fifty miles.

November 18th, arrived at Leavenworth City where we were received by the military with due honors.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

T. J. MCKENNY,

*Major and Inspector General Department Kansas.*

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, }  
November 29, 1864. }

MAJOR C. S. CHARLOT, A. A. GENERAL—SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit my report as staff officer with the general commanding army of the border in the campaign just concluded. I have sent to Surgeon Buckmaster, U. S. Volunteers Medical Director of the department, a report, enclosing classified returns of wounds and injuries. I will, at an early day, forward to your office a list of the Union wounded in the different engagements, with rank, regiment, and seat and nature of injuries.

I have the honor to be, Major, very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

S. B. DAVIS,

*Surgeon, U. S. Volunteers.*

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, }  
November, 26th, 1864. }

MAJOR C. S. CHARLOT, A. A. GENERAL—SIR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with his order, I joined Major General Blunt at Paolo, Kansas, the 11th ult., and, as medical director of his command, accompanied him to Lexington, Missouri, where, on the 19th, he first ascertained that the enemy was in Missouri in force. Notwithstanding there was considerable firing on both sides, and the rear of General Blunt's retiring command was warmly pressed, I saw and heard of but few casualties. At Independence, the following day, I was announced, by order of General

✓ Curtis, as Medical Director of the army of the border in the field.

During the battle on the Little Blue, the 21st, a hospital was established, by my direction, in Independence, where the wounded were cared for as fast as they were brought from the field. The slightly wounded, and such as were able to ride their horses were permitted to go back to Kansas City. In the afternoon, when our army fell back to the Big Blue, it was deemed impracticable to move the wounded, and they were left, thirty-one in number, under the care of Surgeon J. P. Earicksen, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteers cavalry. I sent an ambulance, and got from the commissary stores, which had been ordered to be destroyed, sufficient subsistence for those in hospital for several days. I also left a good supply of medical and hospital stores.

Late that night, I took Surgeon Harvey, U. S. Volunteers, and went up to Kansas City, to prepare accommodations for wounded, as a battle was anticipated next day. The fighting on the 22d was confined to our right; and, as our troops were compelled to fall back at that place, none but the slightly wounded, and such as those able to get away themselves were cared for on that day. Some of the wounded were subsequently taken back to Independence with some of Pleasanton's command, who were wounded near the same place. The next morning, I started from Kansas City with all the ambulances, to gather the wounded from this field, as I heard the enemy was retreating; but when I reached Westport, I found our troops assembling, and, about seven o'clock, the battle of Westport began. During this engagement, the ambulances were sent to every accessible part of the field, and the wounded brought into Westport, where a temporary hospital was established. I was in the front when the final charge was made, and Price's retreat became a route. I returned, by consent of General Blunt, to superintend the gathering and preparations for the care of those left wounded on the field. Every part of the battle ground was carefully searched, and all, as I believe,

Union and rebels, were carried into Westport. It was night when I reached that place, and, as better accommodations could be had in Kansas City, I directed all who could be safely transported to be taken to that place. The rebels, and fourteen Union soldiers, who were too seriously wounded to be moved with safety, were left at Westport under the care of Assistant Surgeon Graham, Thirteenth Kansas.

The following morning, 24th, I applied to the Quarter Master at Kansas City for a boat, who placed the "Tom Morgan" at my service. She was sent to Independence Landing, and two ambulances, in care of Hospital Steward Kinnar, were sent direct to Independence with instructions to Surgeon Earickson to place all the wounded in his hospital, Union and rebel, on board, to be transported to Fort Leavenworth. Surgeon Harvey was left in charge of all the hospitals established up to this time, with instructions to telegraph Surgeon Buckmaster, department medical director, as soon as the "Tom Morgan" should return to Kansas City, the number of wounded on board, and the time she would probably reach Fort Leavenworth. As soon as these arrangements were made I started for the front with the remaining medical officers and ambulances.

Surgeon Ainsworth and Assistant Surgeon Adams, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer cavalry, and Assistant Surgeons Aiken and Vance, Second Colorado Volunteer cavalry, had gone forward with the command. Surgeon Ainsworth had an abundant supply of medicines, dressings, &c., for the temporary wants of the command, but for some unaccountable cause his ambulance containing his instruments and supplies was sent back to Olathe, where it remained. I arrived at Trading Post the evening of the battle of Mine Creek, 25th, and learned that the wounded in that engagement had been uncared for, and were lying on the ground where they had fallen. I stopped but a few hours to rest and feed the teams, and then pushed on, arriving on the field two hours before daylight. Leaving the ambulances

with Surgeon Pollock, who was directed to load them as soon as it was light, I went on to Mound City to prepare a place for the wounded. There was but one building in the town at all suitable, and this was filled with commissary and quarter-master stores. These I had taken out, and with the aid of the citizens, who liberally contributed beds, bedding, &c., every Union soldier brought in was well and comfortably cared for. The rebel wounded were placed in other buildings and every attention, dictated by humanity, given them. Surgeon Twiss, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer cavalry, was placed in charge, and after I was satisfied that every necessary attention would be paid the patients, I started again for the front, accompanied by Surgeon Earickson, who had joined me the evening previous. I had the day before sent Surgeon Pollock with several ambulances, with directions to join the command as soon as possible. When I arrived at Fort Scott I found Surgeon Pollock there waiting for an escort. Colonel Blair was sending forward a train with supplies, and could furnish no troops, except for the train, and we were compelled to remain with it until it reached Newtonia. Here I found Assistant Surgeon Aiken, Second Colorado Volunteer cavalry, in charge of the hospital. There was also a rebel hospital in the vicinity, in charge of rebel medical officers. Supplies were issued for both hospitals, and I pushed forward the next day, overtaking the command at Pea Ridge. While at Mound City I received a telegram from Colonel Blair, commanding at Fort Scott, directing me, by order of General Curtis, to proceed immediately to the front. When I reached Fort Scott I learned that the army was still advancing, and that there was a deficiency of medical officers and medical supplies with the command. I immediately telegraphed to Surgeon Harvey, U. S. Volunteers, at Kansas City, that his services were required at the front, and directing him to proceed to Fort Scott and report to Colonel Blair for instructions. Surgeon Harvey did not go to Fort Scott, for the reason, as he reports, that Surgeon Buckmaster, medical

director of the department, ordered him to remain in his district, notwithstanding he was notified of my order. Surgeon Harvey reports that he visited the hospital at Mound City, after being sent to Paola, and remained a short time, but was not again in the field.

From Pea Ridge to the Arkansas river the medical officers kept with their respective commands, and notwithstanding the long and dreadful marches of the campaign, scarcely a single case of sickness was reported. When the pursuit of the army was abandoned and the army divided, at General Curtis' suggestion, I joined Colonel Jennison's brigade, with the view of returning by way of Newtonia with the ambulance train to take the wounded from that place to Fort Scott. When within eighteen miles of Newtonia, being in camp three-fourths of a mile in advance of Colonel Jennison's headquarters, I requested of Major Ketner, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer cavalry, an escort, which he gave me, and I went forward to make the necessary arrangements to move the wounded, without delaying the march of the command. In the afternoon when Colonel Jennison arrived, he issued an order for my arrest, a copy of which is herewith transmitted (*vide* paper marked "B"). In a conversation that he had with me, the colonel told me that the arrest was not made so much for the reasons stated in the order, as for "certain connecting circumstances." The "circumstances" referred to I have no knowledge of, unless he referred to a protest which I signed with twenty-two other officers. I enclose a copy, not with the view of volunteering information that may be detrimental to Colonel Jennison, but in the belief that therein lies the cause of the above-mentioned arrest; and that Colonel Jennison's action in my case calls for an explanation by him, or an exposition by me. The following morning I wrote him a note, giving my reasons for leaving the command and going forward, and calling his attention to paragraph 224, Revised Army Regulations. In a short time I received an order releasing me from arrest. The day following, 20th inst., Col-

onel Jennison, while at Sarcoxie, gave me, at my request, an escort of fifty men, and I came through with the wounded, fifteen in number, to Fort Scott with all possible dispatch. The soldiers wounded in the various battles of the recent campaign were as well cared for as it was possible for them to be, under the circumstances, when it is remembered that probably half the medical officers with the command had little or no experience in the field, that the means and appliances for taking care of wounded men were confined to such as could be transported in light ambulances, that the campaign was one of forced and rapid marches, and of short and decisive battles, that hundreds of miles intervened between scenes of battles, fought at intervals so short that they seemed but one engagement, and that notwithstanding such unparalleled and unlooked for obstacles, it is not known that any life was lost for want of timely assistance; but, on the other hand, the wounded, friend and foe, all found hospitals and surgical aid. Justice would seem to claim an acknowledgment that the medical officers of the Army of the Border had done their duty. Among those of my assistants deserving of special notice, are Surgeon Philip Harvey, U. S. Volunteers; Surgeon Pollock, Second Colorado Volunteer cavalry; Surgeon E. Twiss, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer cavalry; Surgeon J. P. Earickson, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer cavalry; and Assistant Surgeon Aikin, Second Colorado Volunteer cavalry. These officers were very active and untiring in the discharge of their several duties. Mention is due to Mr. J. R. Brown, agent U. S. Sanitary Commission, who went to Kansas City and Westport with supplies that were much needed. He accompanied me to Mound City, where he rendered efficient aid in preparing and furnishing the hospital at that place, and subsequently returned to Leavenworth for fresh supplies, which he judiciously applied to the comfort and relief of those in the various hospitals. The number of Union wounded, as reported in the different hospitals, is: at Independence, fifty; Kansas City, sixty-four; Mound City,

fifty-six; Fort Scott, sixty-two; Westport, fourteen; and Newtonia, forty-three; total, two hundred and eighty-nine. Of rebel wounded at Independence, twenty-three; Westport, thirty-nine; Mound City, sixty-two; Fort Scott, sixteen, and Newtonia, forty-six; total, one hundred and eighty-six. The rebel medical officers at Newtonia stated that their retreating army was taking with it over four hundred wounded officers and men. In the vicinity of Cane Hill they had left forty-three, too badly wounded to be taken further. So far as I have been able to learn, the mortality among the rebel wounded has been much greater than that among our own, there being a greater proportion of wounds of the abdomen and lower extremities in the former than in the latter. At Newtonia, on my return, I found that out of forty-six treated by their own surgeons, seventeen had died, while at the hospital under the care of Dr. Aiken, six only had died. At Mound City, I found, on my return, that sixteen rebel and three Union wounded had died; the number of each treated being about equal. I have heard nothing of those brought to Fort Leavenworth for treatment. I should, in the proper connection, have stated that the wounded at Mine Creek belonged principally to General Pleasanton's command, and that I found one assistant surgeon who claimed to have charge of them, but was without means or ability to provide for them. As soon as they were placed in hospital, said officer went forward to join his command, which he met near Fort Scott returning from the field.

I have the honor to be, Major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. B. DAVIS,

*Surgeon, U. S. Volunteers.*

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS, }  
November 24th, 1864. }

CAPTAIN GEO. S. HAMPTON, ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL  
FIRST DIVISION, ARMY OF THE BORDER—SIR: I have the  
honor to submit herewith, a report of my own participation,



and that of the troops under my command, in the stirring events connected with the recent invasion of the Departments of Kansas and Missouri by the rebel army under General Price.

On the 13th of October, at nine o'clock A. M., I received an order from Colonel Jennison, commanding the First Sub-District, to move with all the mounted troops of my command in the direction of Kansas City, leaving the dismounted men under a careful officer for the defense of the post. Accordingly, I placed Captain Vittum, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, in command at Fort Scott, and at three o'clock P. M. took up my line of march with the following troops: Companies A, C, D, F, and M, Third Wisconsin cavalry; Companies D, E, and S, Fifteenth Kansas cavalry; Company D, Sixteenth Kansas cavalry; right section, Second Kansas Battery, under Lieutenant D. C. Knowles, four howitzers and an ordnance train under Captain George J. Clark, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteers cavalry, acting ordnance officer of the district, assisted in the command of the guns by Lieutenant William B. Clark, Company E, Fourteenth Kansas cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Eve's Battalion of Bourbon County militia, and Captain John Wilson's company of independent cavalry scouts, the whole command numbering about one thousand men.

I stopped at Mound City four hours to rest and feed, and then pushed on to Paola, arriving there about three o'clock P. M. on the 14th, having accomplished a march of sixty miles in twenty-four hours. At this place I drew rations for ten days, and at daylight next morning was *en route* for Hickman's Mills, pursuant to orders received the night before, where I arrived about dark the same day.

On my arrival, I received Major-General Blunt's order brigading the troops of the First division of the army of the border, and learned that all my volunteer troops, except the field artillery, were taken from me and assigned to other brigades, and I was placed in command of the Third brigade, consisting of the following troops:

Captain W. D. McLain's colorado battery, six guns; Lieutenant D. C. Knowles' Second Kansas Battery, two guns; Company E, Fourteenth Kansas cavalry, Lieutenant W. B. Clark; Captain Wilson's company of independent cavalry scouts; Lieutenant-Colonel Eve's battalion Bourbon County militia, and the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth regiments Kansas State militia.

Brigadier General W. H. M. Fishback, of the State militia, had been in the immediate command of the three last named regiments, but being indisposed, as he said, to "turn over his command to the regular military authorities in the field (a phrase which I could not comprehend), and doubt whether he did either, he had disobeyed General Blunt's order, and was consequently placed in arrest.

Lieutenant-Colonel Snody, of the Sixth regiment Kansas State militia, was likewise arrested for similar disobedience of orders, and his regiment proceeded to the election of a new commanding officer, which resulted in the veteran Colonel James Montgomery being chosen as its chief.

These difficulties consumed all of the 16th and the most of the 17th, and it was fully night before all my brigade had reported to me. On the evening of the 16th, at seven o'clock P. M., General Blunt started with Jennison's and Moonlight's brigades, leaving me in charge of the camp, to await orders from Major General Curtis or himself.

On taking command of the Fifth, Sixth and Tenth regiments Kansas State militia, I found them without subsistence, but partially armed, and with little or no ammunition—the result, doubtless, to some extent, of the hurry with which they left their homes, and the inexperience of many of the company officers in charge.

Before I had the brigade equipped, I received (on the morning of the 18th) an order from General Curtis to move towards Independence, and to come by Westport to complete my supplies.

At eight o'clock A. M. I was on the march, and, pressing

through Westport, camped on the west side of the Big Blue, on the road from Kansas City to Independence. I spent the whole of the night and a portion of the next day in procuring subsistence, arms, blankets, and tents for the command. While engaged in this duty, I was instructed by Major General Curtis not to move camp until further orders from him.

On the morning of the 20th, Lieutenant Robinson, chief engineer on the staff of the commanding general, arrived from the front with orders to fortify the line of the Big Blue, as General Curtis intended making his stand on that line. The 20th and 21st were spent in examining the country, felling trees, forming abattis, obstructing fords, and strengthening the defences as much as possible.

During the 21st the Fourteenth regiment Kansas state militia, Colonel McCain, and the Nineteenth, Colonel Hogan, reported to me, by order of Major General G. W. Deitzler, Kansas state militia, and were assigned to duty in my brigade. Captain Dodge's Ninth Wisconsin battery had also been assigned to my command, in place of McLain's, taken to the front.

In the morning of the 21st, all the troops having fallen back on this line, I established my command in the position of battle, where they supped, slept, and breakfasted next morning, their horses, together with all the transportation having been sent back to Kansas City to avoid unnecessary incumbrances.

My line of battle occupied a front of six miles, with one regiment, McCain's, still higher up, at Byrom's Ford, where the crossing was finally effected.

Two hundred and sixty of Hogan's regiment held the cavalry ford at the mouth of the Blue, three miles from the main body of the regiment, which formed my left. Next came the colored militia and the Sixth regiment, Colonel Montgomery, Dodge's Ninth Wisconsin battery, and the colored battery occupied a fine artillery position in the center, cut out expressly for the occasion, supported on the

right by Colonel Colton's Fifth regiment Kansas state militia, and Eve's Bourdon county battalion.

At the ford, two miles above, was stationed Lieutenant Knowles, Second Kansas battery, supported by the Tenth regiment Kansas state militia, while still above, at Byrom's Ford, was stationed Colonel McLain's Fourth regiment Kansas state militia.

To this point Jennison's brigade was ordered, and at eleven o'clock, A. M., the sound of the guns showed that battle had commenced on our right.

The Sixteenth Kansas cavalry and McLain's battery, which, up to this time had been in my rear, were ordered off to the right to the support of Colonel Jennison.

I remained in position until four o'clock, P. M., when I received orders to fall back to Kansas City. As Colonel Hogan's regiment was leaving the line to bring up the rear of the brigade, a rush was made upon him by a party of the enemy who had been concealed in the brush to his front, across the creek. They waded the creek, pushed through and over the abattis of fallen trees, clear up to Hogan's line, where, after a short, sharp little skirmish, some twenty of them were taken prisoners, and the rest driven off.

It was after dark when we entered the entrenched lines of Kansas City, and whilst I was placing Colton's regiment and Eve's battalion in position behind the earth-works, some officer, without my knowledge, carried off the residue of my brigade and placed them so securely that I never found them until next morning.

Reporting to General Blunt at the Gillis House, I received orders to be in readiness to march at three o'clock, A. M., but it took the whole night to collect the horses of the brigade, which, by some blunder, had been sent across the Kaw, and while in the discharge of this duty I missed the chance of getting some hard bread for my men, a sort of grab game being played by the soldiers in its distribution.

Colonel Montgomery got his regiment off promptly at the hour indicated, and by daylight I had the residue of the

brigade under march for Westport, at which point I arrived shortly after the battle opened.

Pursuant to General Blunt's orders, I formed my brigade on the high ground south of Westport, overlooking a little creek, the southern activity of which was covered with a dense growth of timber and underbrush. After the line was formed and the artillery in position, I dismounted the militia, leaving every sixth man to hold horses, and pushed them through the timber to the front, where I formed them behind a fence, and in front and on the left of the Fifteenth Kansas cavalry, under Lieutenant Colonel Hoyt. Before us was an open field, on the other side of which was the enemy in considerable force, and strongly posted behind a stone fence, which formed an admirable cover. We were partially protected by the edge of timber and a rail fence.

Firing was kept up rapidly and heavily for a half hour, the enemy being held firmly in check, but I attempted no advance, as I did not know whether our flanks were clear or not.

In a short time the Fifteenth retired, in obedience to orders, and very soon after I received an order, through Colonel S. J. Crawford, of the staff, to fall back to my first position. Accordingly I marched to the rear through the timber and formed immediately on the north bank of the creek without going clear back to my original position.

During this, the first introduction to fire of my militia, I received invaluable assistance from Colonel C. C. Willets, my chief of staff, Captain Geo. J. Clark, ordnance officer, who having supplied the whole army with ammunition, came forward to the front and volunteered his services on my staff, knowing I was scantily supplied with staff officers, and Lieutenant F. J. Beam, Fifteenth Kansas cavalry, my acting assistant adjutant general. They all worked with cool intrepidity and self-possession, and by their manner and deportment gave steadiness and nerve to the men. A rumor reaching me that the enemy was attempting to flank our position on the right, and fearing to wait for orders lest

it might be accomplished, I dispatched a messenger to General Blunt to inform him of what I was doing, and hastily threw my line up into the dense timber on my right, twice its own length, and then pushed it steadily forward.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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### INDIAN COURTSHIP AND WHITE WEDDINGS.

BY HAWKINS TAYLOR, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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IN the day of Blackhawk's disgrace, after the Blackhawk war, and before we had got sufficiently civilized to try by court martial and shoot the savages, before the days of furnishing the Indians tin hoes, spades, and other implements of husbandry to learn them to be farmers, before the system of robbing them had become a science as now, the government took all power and authority in the tribe from Blackhawk and his followers. After their murders and the war that followed, the effect was that there has been harmonious peace with the tribes since. To Blackhawk it was far worse than death. After the war, up to his death, he wintered and his wife and daughter made sugar on Devil creek, in Lee county. His wigwam was large for an Indian's, and was always kept in perfect order. It was a few hundred yards from the creek, and about one hundred yards above the old Fort Madison and Montrose road, on the Fort Madison side of the creek. I often stopped at the camp

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