

THE SALEM RAID.

Weeks of Wrestle with the West Virginia Mountains in the Worst Winter Weather.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In the issue of Nov. 10, Comrade D. O. Carpenter, Co. I, 5th W. Va. Cav., says that the comrade who corrected Maj. Shaw requires a little correcting himself. He does not give name or company of the comrade. Now, Comrade Carpenter, in future if you want to correct a comrade, give name and company, so that all may know you. Comrades are not afraid to have their names published in The National Tribune. You say you hope to see all troopers fairly represented; and here is where I take issue with you. What troopers did I misrepresent or represent unfairly? You say the 6th W. Va. Cav. was composed of the 2d, 5th and 6th Va. M'd Inf. and 3d Va. If we are to count numbers in the English language here would be four separate organizations consolidated into one regiment? when, in fact, there were but two. The 2d and 3d W. Va. Inf. were made the 5th and 6th W. Va. M'd Inf.; later the veterans of the 5th and 6th M'd were consolidated into the 6th W. Va. Cav. Again: "The Salem Raid was commanded by Gen. Averell. The entire force was: 5th and 6th Va. M'd Inf. and 14th Pa. Cav. I never saw the 8th Va. Cav." Well, 40 years is a long time ago, and for us to see all things now in detail as they were then would be a miracle. I was there, too, comrade. The entire force on the Salem Raid was the 5th, 6th and 8th W. Va. M'd Inf., the 14th Pa. Cav., and McEwen's W. Va. Battery of six guns. Comrade, how fairly do you represent one regiment, and one battery of W. Va. troops on the Salem Raid? Now, let us see what a comrade says. After reading my letter in The National Tribune, George Stover, of Gamble, S. Dak., wrote me a private letter. I give it word for word.

"Myself and two brothers were members of the 8th Va. M'd Inf., later the 7th W. Va. Cav. Your statement is correct in every particular. Dear old comrade I am proud of my services to my country. I did my whole duty; was on hand all the time—only for a short time when I got my feet frozen on the Salem Raid, with Averell."

"Does this show the 8th Va. M'd, later the 7th W. Va. Cav., was not on the Salem Raid? Comrade, do you remember how, on falling back, the command swam Craig Creek seven times? Got ropes across to opposite bank to pull the artillery across? How we took a blind path, thought to be impracticable for troops, and flanked the enemy on Sweet Spring Mountain? Then the burning of the bridge across Jackson River—cutting off a portion of the command; how they were urged by the enemy to swim the river to save themselves? And how we went seven days without rations? Surrounded by the enemy, in a mountainous country, where commissary stores were unknown? How the battery killed off its horses—one gun

PICKET SHOTS.

From Alert Comrades Along the Whole Line.

SAW STONEWALL SHOT.

Comrade John M. Dawlen, Co. K, 154th N. Y., writes from Towanda, N. Y.: "I see in The National Tribune of April 21 another claim to the knowledge of the death of Stonewall Jackson. I wish to give you the true story of his death. I was in that much-talked-of Eleventh Corps, First Brigade (Gen. Bushbeck's), Second Division. You can see by the map in The National Tribune, on the road leading southeasterly, past the Brick Church, toward the Chancellorsville House, where the Eleventh Corps was stationed. My brigade (the First) ran along the road and across to the north; my regiment (154th N. Y.) reaching up to the road and joining the 73d Pa., on the other side. This road is the one on which Jackson and his Aids came out to find us and crossed our line, and saw us lying down. They wheeled around and rode back in a hurry. Our line saw then who they were and fired at them. We were sure that we hit several of them. This was about sundown, or nearly 7 o'clock p. m., Saturday (I think May 2).

"Just after this we were ordered to fall back to the next line, and in that move nearly half of my company were taken prisoners and taken back to the Brick Church and held there over night. One of my company saw a man come out of the church several times for fresh water, and asked him who he was tending? He answered that it was Stonewall Jackson; that Jackson had gone too far to the front and was wounded in the elbow and the ball came out near the wrist.

"I know still more to substantiate the fact that it was the 154th N. Y. and the 73d Pa. that caused the death of Jackson. I went down South two years after the war and stopped at Guinea's Station, about 30 miles south of Fredericksburg, or half-way to Richmond, and visited Dr. McKeever, a very fine man and a good entertainer. He told us that Jackson was brought as far as his place the next day after he was wounded and died there in his house, of lockjaw, that night, and that the next day they took the body to Richmond.

"Now you can see who has the evidence, and who was in the same part of the field with Jackson. I saw the firing that gave him his death wound, and could produce many more if death had not gathered them."

WANTS HOWARD'S STORY.

Comrade E. G. Mansfield, 27th Conn., writes from West Haven, Conn.: "Referring to Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac records of the Chancellorsville battle, I have read many descriptions of Jackson's raid on our right. Can we have Gen. Howard's description of this affair some time? Why not publish his report?"

who are disabled in any way, to receive a pension of \$12 a month."

ANOTHER MOUND CITY SURVIVOR.

Comrade Timothy Dexter Guptill, Co. K, 11th Mass., writes from Belfast, Mass.: "Thomas McElroy is mistaken in his supposition that he is now sole survivor of the original crew of the Mound City. My brother, James H. Guptill, Santa Rosa, Cal., was on that gunboat, and served his time on her—was at Island No. 10, and was on her when she was blown up. Keep Si and Shorty to the front. Swinton's Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac is all right."

WHO KNEW COSTIN?

Comrade J. J. P. Costin writes from Bellefontaine, Ohio: "I would like to have the address of John Costin, a Chief Gunner on one of the U. S. battleships during the late Spanish-American war. A John Costin, of Pignish Bridge, New Brunswick, Canada, has written me for information concerning a John Costin of the U. S. Navy, who, he claims, was a Chief Gunner on one of our battleships during the war with Spain. I do not know how to get the information, except through your valuable historical paper. If you or any comrade can give any clew to his whereabouts I shall feel under many obligations, not only for my correspondent's sake but on my own account."

WHO CAN SOLVE THIS?

Comrade Thomas Cochrane, 9th N. Y. (Hawkins's Zouaves), writes from No. 2 E. Front St., Spokane, Wash.: "While camping at the abandoned Fort Sherman, near Coeur d'Alene City, Idaho, one of our party, Walter Young, accidentally found at the foot of a tree, and about six inches below the surface, a pair of spectacles and an open-face silver watch; the latter bearing this inscription: "Presented by Colonel L. Wood to H. C. Bancroft, Apr. 25th, 1865. Manufactured by the Union Watch Co., Boston, Mass. No. 28408."

Question: "Who is H. L. Bancroft, and how did the watch get there?"

ALWAYS THERE, TOO.

Comrade John Delahanta writes from Wilmington, Ohio: "Referring to the letter from the Department Commander of Colorado and Wyoming, concerning Comrade C. C. Washburn, who was never absent from his company for an hour during his three years' enlistment, I wish to say that I was a member of Co. G, 1st N. J., enlisted May 28, 1864, was discharged July 6, 1865, a service of over four years. I was never absent from my company; never reported sick call, was never excused from duty; never missed a roll call when not on guard duty; was never under arrest for conduct unbecoming a soldier; was with my company continuously through my full term of service."

MOST GENEROUS OFFER.

Comrade W. A. Badgley, 8th and 11th Mich. Cav. and 12th Ill. Cav., writing from Litchfield, Mich., submits this very generous offer to reimburse certain oppressed citizens made opulent by the sacrifices and services of the veterans who are themselves poor because they served and saved their country."