

# Historical Sketch of the First Battle

by A. C. H. A. A. A.

The Spring and Summer of 1861 had come and gone with its passing events, and civil war with all its accompanying horrors had broken upon this nation causing with it devastation and bloodshed.

The call by President Lincoln for 75,000 three months troops had <sup>been</sup> mostly responded to, and the boys in blue had met the boys in gray on many a field of blood.

So O of the 9th Indiana recruited in Michigan City.

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had returned from service in Western Michigan City were warm hearts the pa in its young men.

Some of the returns of So O. notably a was David Reed, the project of raising artillery to join the two in camp at Sharps to the first call of President for 300,000 three years A meeting was

in the evening at Union Hall, at  
 which 40 young men signed their  
 names and volunteered their  
 services in their country's defence,  
 40 young <sup>men</sup> representing the true  
 & bold the brave and gallant of the  
 best families of Michigan today,  
 Many were the hearts that ached  
 and the tears that fell as these 40

Young men pressed their way through  
 the audience to enlist for their country's  
 defence, and if need be to shed their  
 life's blood for the cause of  
 freedom might be maintained,  
 Monday Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> the company  
 having been increased by further

Enlistments, there are  
<sup>was</sup> were ordered into ca  
 taking the New  
 noon for the evening  
 Depart at 3 P.M. &  
 mustered into the  
 by Col. Moberg,  
 Sept 5<sup>th</sup> the comp  
 was perfected by the  
 following officers,  
 Capt. A. S. S.  
 Mark, St. G. M. S.  
 Leonard R. G. S.  
 Augustus A. S.  
 Daniel H. S.

2<sup>nd</sup>  
Dated on Sept 14<sup>th</sup> the 9<sup>th</sup> Ind<sup>a</sup> Regiment  
broke camp & marched for Western Virginia.  
The same day the 1<sup>st</sup> battery were  
ordered to Indianapolls and found  
quarters at Camp Morton, where soon  
after they were mustered into the  
U. S. Service by Col. G. J. Wood.  
Sept 19<sup>th</sup> the battery moved to Camp  
Dyers where they were supplied with  
tent, horses, guns, ammunition,  
uniforms &c. &c. There was  
presented to the company a relic flag  
by the Prov<sup>ost</sup> Department of Michigan  
City, which was afterwards captured  
we are ambalanced by the rebels at  
Stone River, the battery remained

2<sup>nd</sup>  
in camp Dyers. In  
learning the proximity  
the various duties of  
the Provost of <sup>Camp</sup> ~~the~~  
by an occasional fu-  
rity, or an escape by  
ride upon the top of  
we a horse back, a  
to attend church or to  
and more often to  
little Restaurant with  
pockets of the boys a  
delicious treat of  
the cream cake of  
Duglar Ward a  
pile upon the boys;

down a large amount of Maple Sugar stored with four hundred which greatly helped the cause, and We recall the boxes that from time to time came down from the dear hands at home, filled with certain toothsome and delicious preparations that made camp life in Indiana both a delight, Thus passed the days until the 4<sup>th</sup> until the desired order came We arrived at 4 o'clock on the morning of Nov 16<sup>th</sup> called us to meet at 9 o'clock, from there we crossed the river to Lawrenceville Nov 20<sup>th</sup> & for the first time planted our feet on Western soil.

The Patriotic's last must be remembered a beautiful speech by duty-troops through their city, The company, vicinity of Lawrenceville when we were ordered, While in camp, were visited by our Men at St Robert & Charles Warwick, having come under of Capt Smith & the first act of duty broke out, Capt,

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The example of Capt. Merrill  
ordered the whole company into  
one mess, for the purpose of disciplining  
with an extra number of cooks.

But the men seemed uninterested  
to the strict discipline of military  
life. He felt, therefore, that the company  
needed a nuisance and a trespasser  
upon their rights, & directed over  
the camp kettle, spiked the Capt's,  
put to board the cooks, & took up  
the company mess,

For their conduct on this & other  
occasions they were removed from Capt.  
Merrill the command of Capt.  
Faxon's. The result was

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Another similar  
occurred, Capt. Merrill  
to his quarters and  
a keg of whiskey  
regard & return,

The battery was  
Munfordville sent  
Munfordville sent  
shortly, & Merrill,  
then a long walk & a  
a general preparation  
every one went at  
in full force such as  
The camp was to  
damp spot on the  
and all at Merrill's

The thousands of soldiers encamped  
there were taken from ponds of  
standing water whose water  
part of the clayey soil of the  
region, sickness & disease  
made its way upon the once  
healthy troops, and the hospital  
was being filled with those who for  
the lack of the proper food and  
nourishment went down to early graves.  
Here are buried Allen Bellings  
& Edmund Corey the first of  
our numbers,

The camp was abandoned several  
miles from town to a high & dry  
point, and to the place of

Beauty came from  
diseased his file  
the already reduced  
troops, Feb 13th  
was ordered with other  
Grand at Fort Stone  
of camp in a storm  
soon turned to snow.  
Crests are seen  
Fort Donelson has  
and to join the main  
advance on that  
this march was  
hard and almost im-  
possible for the  
of nature, the one

Our stock nearly exhausted as their  
Haversacks contained, with a  
complement of old salt meat  
obtained at Forting Green,

John Bouchard Hunt and  
Captured a barrel of flour, and  
of which the boys made flapjacks  
which would never have  
melted in our throats butchers,

Marched by the common effort  
of army and navy full an easy  
march to the snow fields, here  
the army remained until March 29  
beginning the state's action of Camp  
and the hills do recently with the enemy  
Balderson, and indulging in the

Plains and high  
Capital of Tennessee  
been reorganized it  
some fails one to  
long march of 120 m  
Cumberland Mountains  
the Valley of the Tennessee  
mud & grass, or of  
foraging parties with  
returned laden with  
Chickasaw war, the  
one week after the  
of the Cannon Rock  
Mountains 40 miles  
Signs of the attack  
was still visible in the

Remains of Green Horse,  
 On the way from Shiloh to Corinth  
 We were made glad by a visit from  
 our townsman P. & D. Briggs & by  
 who came down to see how we  
 fared & to visit the battle field.

Here we recalle the writer who  
 pitched his tent in our Camp &  
 exhibited many cases of ague  
 for sale, but the increasing cases  
 of drunkenness prevented the  
 fact that not equal to the whiskey  
 were the contents.  
 The battle participated with Adams  
 in Corinth & in final capture without  
 the loss of a man, from here

Ref. Section of the Army near to being seen by  
 We passed east of  
 & in summer of 1862  
 at Adams, July 5  
 left Adams for Sta  
 mont, without accom  
 entire distance by land  
 onight in the Camp  
 by the Rebel govern  
 in Franklin Aug 1  
 train, Aug 13th to the  
 near ordnance to form  
 under Col John M  
 Sum, where after a  
 they fought a Rebel  
 program, Sept 14th  
 joined the main ar-



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Col James Barrett Chief of Artillery

Regt Page's 15,

Capt Phil Sheridan Commanding

The brigade page-pago 289 to 292 & 307,

The loss to the battery in the fight

is officially reported as follows,

Killed 6, Wounded 17  
 Prisoners 3 Total 26

2 Horses 2 Guns & 10 Shrapnel Captures

17 Stoves & Stoves,

1160 pounds of Ammunition Expended,

For four days the Army of the

Confederates had fought against over

thirty numbers, on such terms General

and the main's mind of a Southern Army,

The 14th battery from's stationed by the

Personnel is a list of

Sergeant John Henry  
 Corporal James Smith  
 Private

James E. Dale  
 James W. Dale

Edmund Shreve  
 Edmund Smith

Sergeant Major H. H. Smith  
 Corporal Edgar Smith  
 Private Smith

Go down  
 James Smith  
 Robert Smith  
 William Smith  
 Charles Smith  
 William Smith  
 Edw. Price  
 John Price  
 John Price  
 James Smith  
 James Smith  
 James Smith  
 James Smith  
 James Smith

Loss of Men, guns & horses took into Camp  
 mid of brigade to the County of Murphysboro  
 to recruit at Abingdon Virginia,  
 Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 1863, the return of the  
 battery was sent to Nashville & returned  
 at Estuary 21<sup>st</sup> with 2-12 pound mortar  
 four guns & horses,

The army remained in the vicinity  
 of Murphysboro Tenn, until June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 when orders were received to break camp  
 & prepare 9 days rations,

Under the command of Genl. Sherman

an advance was made which cul-  
 minated in the terrible battle of Chickamauga,

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June the battery reached  
 Atterton Gap & went into camp under

fire of the Rebels on  
 the 26<sup>th</sup> at the  
 on the brow of a hill  
 Rebels, towards an  
 movement was made,  
 fled towards Murphysboro  
 Greener & Conner then  
 of the Nashville & Chattanooga  
 The action of the  
 Army of the Cumberland  
 crossing of the Tennessee  
 Army was a remarkable  
 Four days were con-  
 passage of the Army at the  
 crossing, to effect the  
 lower bank of the river

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ordered one pontoon bridge to be  
 laid down at Capertons ferry, 3 miles  
 from Stearns, 1250 feet in length,  
 and another pontoon bridge, at  
 Bridgeport 12 miles up the river  
 nearly seven hundred feet.  
 The 4th Battery being in Stearns  
 Corps crossed the Tennessee river at  
 Bridgeport by Stearns, Mandalahead  
 and above of Mountains and through  
 deep gravel gulches to the Lookout  
 Valley, followed that narrow & meander-  
 ing channel to another depression  
 crossed through at Capertons & Stearns  
 Maps after following Stearns over the  
 head of Mountain Roads. And

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took position at the  
 gaps in Pungo Pass  
 Chaltanoga 20 miles  
 McGecko Corps was  
 about 40 miles from  
 of Lookout Mountain  
 way to Chaltanoga  
 The Rebel Command  
 fully aware of Rosecrans  
 off his supplies, & occurred  
 of Dept - Pungo River  
 going south mainly to  
 Friday the 11th Dept  
 was in line of battle &  
 with Army legs Drive  
 about 40 miles of

Was killed by a Sharpshooter while  
 moving along the line, 3 P.M. our  
 lines were forced back by the Rebels  
 2 miles & great riot action on the town  
 of a hill entertaining the enemy with  
 shot & shell, Rebels, Henry Young  
 wounded, one horse shot & Thomas  
 Stearns captured, 11 P.M. we  
 advanced one half mile & lay in  
 this position all day the 12<sup>th</sup> with  
 the Rebels in our front holding the  
 creek & woods, we at 1 P.M. moved  
 out of camp about dusk & marched  
 all night, the air was chilly & damp,  
 but no more cheer'd on the way by  
 the flight & pursuit of occasional

fires of burning  
 late 19<sup>th</sup> of Sept at the  
 Division fell with line  
 & heavy, at 8 A.M. we  
 permitted to be pressed  
 with coffee & hand  
 while moving on a  
 through a dense for  
 the Rebels displaying  
 Major, & forward in  
 threatened to remain  
 & finally the gun  
 & shot & shell & Johnson  
 crashing through the  
 but Division after  
 their fire upon the

forward to abandon the battery for  
 much of support & fell back to the  
 West Line, After the departing the  
 1st & 21st Wisconsin's killed & drove  
 the enemy back through our guns &  
 half a mile beyond, The 24th forming  
 up this victorious charge found ab-  
 gins safe, but 12 of ab-fired horses  
 dead, 20 persons & 20 mounds were  
 the work of a moment, & soon the  
 battery was again in line of battle,  
 which position it retained throughout  
 the day, At night by command of  
 Genl. Starkweather to, "Take that  
 battery to the Rear," it was moved  
 to a place of safety, but made ab-

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 So after making the fire  
 batteries, they having  
 order, The night  
 on the battlefield, &  
 Sept 20th Calles & the  
 the battery behind a  
 of logs thrown up in  
 The command was  
 the position at all here  
 Corps being the Regt  
 The quick of the  
 met was broken by  
 sharpshooters killed  
 some distant fire  
 men at the guns, as  
 opens along the line,

part of artillery, the third note  
of the hands of under Messengers  
of death, the strikes of the ground,  
the commences of the officers private  
air, the dust of a shell as it strikes  
a kniter full of ammunition follows  
by the sudden explosion of the contents  
of the shell carry condemnation  
into our ranks, towards night  
the ammunition is expended & there  
George Goodhue & Matt Stapp,  
are taken prisoners while returning  
to the battery with a new supply.  
The 60th's Artillery Corps had been  
probably fighting all the morning but  
about 1 PM by the Messengers

of an order, one of  
threw in the morning at  
gap was left open in  
at the point of success  
Thomas & Westbrook, &  
quickly perceived, the  
rapidly & heavily as  
columns in at the gap  
The 60th & Thomas on a  
Confederate Corps & Co  
the order of battle,  
By the movement of  
completely cut off from  
the main army & for  
Charlottesville, but  
Thomas had his own

Phil Sheridan succeeded by a flank  
movement in getting to his left flank,  
& thus threw the whole Confederate  
Army forward by that flank with 3  
fresh brigades sustained their position  
till night ended the conflict, when  
the army fell back 3 miles to Knoxville,  
from whence to Chattanooga a distance  
of 5 miles which they entered on the  
evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> in order, with  
all their material,

The loss to the battery in this engage-  
ment was 1 man killed, 11 wounded  
Lieut. Mackenzie & 3 men captured  
12 horses killed,  
The battery remained in Chattanooga

the following winter  
in face of the city  
by the enemy  
to the mountain pattern, &  
the Rebels in the  
mountain & the  
great expedition  
from northern  
in the spring  
battery was deta-  
ched to the  
And the summer  
occasional deta-  
chments against  
Sumner, who can  
the destruction of the

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for Sherman's Army in the  
advance on Atlanta,

Friday Sept 3rd the long expected  
order for relief came,

Orders of joy filled the air when  
Lieut Wallis called the battery out  
and read the order relieving  
the battery after 3 years active service.

A Company of Reserve Cavalry

Co. H, Johnson had arrived from  
Indianapolis to take our place,

and the next day the Command  
was under way with the 44th Sta

Regiment for Indianapolis to be mustered  
out, with what vigorous assistance

we were secured to our homes

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Let these fathers & Da  
the speak, let these  
arms recall,

and now 16 years

gone since our 1st  
that were our fathers

The shades that are  
growing gray, &

growing up among  
our shores of the

these dreadful years  
suffering are as a

But you may be  
some of whom are

of the bullet wound,

Come you tell us why,

You must fight to fight perhaps to die?

Was it from the love of fame

You march forth to earn a name?

Was it from the love of duty

All mankind owe their country?

Or, was there one Almighty Power

Whom, young & old, we do adore?

Ah! the curse of Marsy lay on our land

And blood alone could make amends,

The curse's grown of Africa's shores.

Went up to God in prayer & song

And could you sing, let city by

And hear the standard's bondage's sigh

For freedom's a right to be

With all mankind and equality!

No! No! Gods love he

Do take the black man's

and you & I should

Stand proudly at the

Man's banner flag in

And Southern blood:

For Justice gave to Man

To give our lives for

Let then due to our

The weary march, the

The rights of suffering

That Freedom might

From South to South,

Or all this land for

And may there be

Then one & all with