
The UNION STANDARD

Oct-Nov 2004

Vol. 12, no 9

The Newsletter of the 1st United States Infantry, The Regulars

Dispatch from the Board

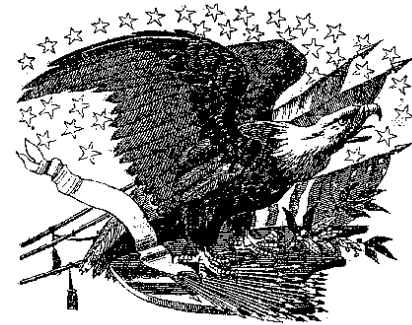
Four battles in three days. Fighting on the actual battlefield! Winning the entire weekend! Getting up before dawn to march to the sound of the guns (well we tried anyway). By anyone's account this was an excellent event. There were a couple of firsts for the 1st at this event. First time we all were in shelter tents; first time we integrated with another unit; first time we had the services of Mrs. Thomas (acting as one of the authorized laundresses assigned to the Regiment) who did more than her share of keeping us fed. (If I might digress here for a moment it has come to my attention that the men have not been making use of the services of our authorized laundress. In the future the men are strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the services provided by Mrs. Thomas and get their shirts washed – its only a quarter. The Cap'n is tired of the evil smells in camp.) Turnout was good although having seven men fall out in the last week before the event put us just shy of two companies on our own. Between us and Sykes though, we did have enough to anchor the 1st Battalion as first and fourth companies. My hats off to all of you who made the trek to central Tennessee. Your performance that weekend showed you were regulars by God!

Hopefully everyone will have recovered from Franklin by time for November Drill on the 13th. We will combine drill with a little living history and recruiting duty at Old City Park in Dallas. We'll meet a little later than usual to conduct unit drill. We'll close out the day with a

little skirmish with any rebs we may find in the Old City Park vicinity. You can't get more local than OCP so I trust we'll be out in force

Our final event of the year is Prairie Grove on 2-4 December. After the warm days at Franklin I'm ready for a winter campaign. Sibleys, A-tents, sleeping bags, and great coats; that's what I'm talking about! Try to arrive before dark on Friday but as it can be a six hour drive, don't worry about getting there late, we'll keep the coffee on for you.

Next year is an election year for the first. This issue and issues to come will contain most of the relative information. Just like the Marines the 1st is looking for a few good men. We always need people to step up and run for office. In addition to providing the leadership in the field, the NCOs and officers comprise the Board of Directors. They're the ones who run the unit. If you've been a follower, maybe its time you considered taking on a leadership role. Send your name into the election committee.



See you in the field.

Don Gross

Drill – Fri Night & Saturday - Old City Park in Dallas

1st U.S. Calendar

2004

November

12th – 13th Old City Park – The leavin o’ Texas 1861.

December

4th-5th **Prairie Grove - Arkansas**

*Note: **Bold** are scheduled maximum effort events. Italicized dates are available events or recruiting activities.*

RECRUITING POST

by George Hansen

The recruiting table will be setup at Old City on Nov. 11th. Volunteers are needed to work the booth both morning and afternoon. Those who have not earned their Regimental 1 insignia can do so by standing recruiting duty that Saturday. The recruiting booth also serves as an excellent conduit for those yearning to perform living history chores.

As always, call me if you come upon any recruiting opportunities. The replacement ranks are mighty thin and this should concern all members. Any and all ideas are fair game.

November Drill - *Saturday* *Nov. 13th, Old City Park*

The next drill will be held on November 13th at Old City Park in Dallas. Drill will commence at 10 o’clock and end at 3 o’clock. This will be a combination drill, recruiting, living history, and skirmish. For the guys who couldn’t make Franklin this will be your opportunity to show what men you are by doing your part to put down the threat to our Union posed by the treacherous actions of the militia of the State of

Texas. For those veterans of the recent campaign in Tennessee this is your opportunity to regale those unfortunate members of our fine unit with your deeds of valor on the fields of Franklin where we so gallantly turned back the confederate horde.

We will conduct unit drill in the morning. Following lunch we will defend our right to garrison ourselves in the town of Old City Park. Headquarters will be established in the mansion despite any protests from the local population of ladies. It should be remembered that there are good union men in the town who for fear of their lives seek out protection. The men are cautioned that unwarranted destruction of personal property and harassment of the local population, especially those of the fairer sex is expressly prohibited.

It is expected that a large contingent of militia that is rumored to be gathering in the area will attempt to keep us from our lawful duties in the town. As such we will secure the town by posting such pickets as we deem necessary after the noon meal. Be assured men, that we will defend ourselves if it comes to that.

Uniform is early war. If you have blue trousers wear them. Frocks and scales are certainly appropriate. The park is open on Friday night for those who want to stay over. Parking inside the park is available after 5 o’clock. For those not desiring to sleep in the mansion porch or in a tent the second floor of the school house (air conditioned) is available. For those desiring, there are good opportunities to interact with the crowd.

OCP expects a large crowd this weekend. It is their “America Goes to War” day and they are publicizing it accordingly. It will provide us a good opportunity to recruit, drill, and burn

some powder. For those who wish to remain for dinner on Saturday the stew is on OCP.

OCP is located at 1717 Gano street on the corner of Gano St. and Harwood St., close the junction of Interstate's 30 and 35.

To bring everyone up to speed on what was occurring in Texas in early 1861 and to get us in the mood, the following excerpts from the Official Records are offered.

CAMP COOPER, TEXAS,

February 14, 1861.

SIR: I have just received information from a source which cannot be doubted that a force is concentrating about this post for the purpose of attacking us, and of taking possession of the public property here. This force is concentrating about the camp - coming in by small parties. An express passed thirty near here yesterday, and the herdsman saw several about the herd yesterday. I shall use what force and vigilance we can to protect ourselves and property.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. D. CARPENTER,

Captain, First Infantry, Commanding Post.

ORDERS,
HEADQUARTERS CAMP COOPER,
TEX.,

No. 12. February 16, 1861.

The commanding office has no disposition, were such a thing practicable, of keeping his command in ignorance of the common report that we are to be attacked, for the purpose of the pillage and plunder of the Federal property intrusted to our protection. This attempt, if made, will be by the identical persons whose lives and property the

Government have sent us here to defend. Every incentive to patriotism, and the fulfillment of our individual sworn obligations, prompt us, in such an event, to sell our lives at the dearest possible cost. The defense of our own honor, and that of our country we are sworn to protect, demand this of us.

The spirit that would commit this outrage is not engendered by any law of State or country, but springs from the despicable prompting of individual ambition of distinction in what they hope soon to be a dismembered limb of our glorious country.

Should their number be a thousand to one, their cause, when compared to ours, will be more than that odds against them. In a strife like this we have but one course to pursue, for each would rather lay his corpse to molder upon the plain he defends than to drag it hence to be the laugh and scorn of every honest lover of his country's glory.

The commanding officer has every confidence in the patriotism of the men of his command, and is satisfied that his prompting will be sufficient to induce, upon the part of all, a loyal discharge of duty. But, if other motives are wanting, they are found in the fact that our individual security and subsistence depend upon our defense, as the only property we have are commissary stores, means of transportation, and our arms. Deprive us of these, we are powerless in an enemy's country.

S. D. CARPENTER,

Captain, First Infantry, Commanding Post.

And what he didn't SAY....

By A. McFuddy

Well, it's a sad day lads, and that's sure, but Capt Carpenter wasn't your fool, and when the time came he saw the right way of it and rather than start the War Betwixt the States personally, he left it to the hot-heads in South Carolina. The post was surrendered, and the Texans more or less held an investigation later

on their own part to see if what happened was even legal (course by then there were far bigger fish to be fryin).

The good Captain turned the post over to the state troops and marched the men out.

Now I don't know what sort of officers and NCO's you'll have this weekend, hot headed firebrands who are eager to show their metal, or cool collected soldiers who are trying to avoid needless bloodshed. Course, the state troops may not leave us a bit of a choice don't ya know. It'll be interesting to find out....don't miss it!

AFTER ACTIONS –

FRANKLIN TENN

To all; What a great hobby this is- great battles, weather and comraderie!!!!!! Thought I'd take moment to let you guys know what I did after our Franklin victory. Headed east and visited the Petersburg battlefield. A great site- well preserved with a video presentation on a 3D map of the battle from start to finish. Highly recommend it if you are in the area. Then headed to NY to visit my family and contacted the friend who got me interested in this hobby who is in the 2nd Florida infantry. Lo and behold an annual event sponsored by the 124th New York State Volunteers in Montgomery, NY will occur on the weekend after Franklin. Sign me up!! Reported to the first sergeant of the 124th who asked me if I could galvanize because they did not have enough Confederates- can you imagine???? Not enough rebels....plenty of Yankees though about 125 infantry plus 2 artillery pieces and crews. Confederates numbered about 40 including myself and 10 other troops from the 124th NYSV which designated our company as the 1st Texas Infantry in consideration of the fact that I had come about 1800 miles to participate. Scenario= Confederate ambush of Union column. This group is big on pyrotechnics and have two members that were trained at 135th Gettysburg

on setting explosions. Well after a spirited fight the Confederates win. We recorded most of the battle on an 8mm and if anyone knows how to put this on the internet please let me know. The event normally has about 400 but Cedar Creek was the following weekend. Got it in my mind to try to extend my vacation and do the Cedar Creek event but could not register...oh well. Bring on next years schedule!!!!!!

P.J. Graham 72/D/1st US

After Action Report: The Meyerson

By
A. Thurn (inkstained wretch)

Some of us fought the culture wars at Dallas' Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center recently.

'Twas thought that a War of the Rebellion presence would be a good send-up of Charles Ives "Three Scenes from New England." The composer included "Battle Cry of Freedom," "Marching Through Georgia," and "Old Black Joe." in his piece. In typical Ivesian fashion, he ran the three headlong into each other, leaving the audience to sort things out.

It was a hoot.

1st U.S. members Glen, Margaret Jo, Amy Elizabeth (a.k.a. Frank Thompson*) Hargis, Alan Prendergast, and Kevin Doughtie were "Meeters & Greeters" along with Sesech ground pounders and hoop-skirters. Our duties included passing out programs and hobnobbing with the Arts Crowd. We were an Assistant Hospital Steward, an Authorized Camp follower (Laundress), Private Soldiers and an N.C.O.

Footnotes:

*Frank Thompson was a private in F Co., Second Mich. She was a New Brunswicker originally named Sarah Edmonds. She earned a pension for her war service. She joined the G.A.R. under

her post-war married name of Seelye (said to be the only distaff member of the vet. group.) She is buried in a G.A.R. cemetery in Houston.

**Messrs Prendergast and Doughtie were accompanied by their beautiful brides in 21st century attire. The whole crew changed breath (well, most of us) and shared a repast at a popular city watering hole. This delightful event *did* require a march by divers routes through Downtown Dallas, much to the amazement (vocal) of the populous.

Thurn, A., Asst. Hospital Steward, 5 A-1

Test Your Civil War IQ

(see answers elsewhere)

1. What controversial military decision did Jefferson Davis make on July 17, 1864?
2. What important wartime event occurred at 3:15 pm, Sunday, May 10, 1863?
3. Who delivered this last line at Wilson's Creek, Missouri, on August 10, 1861: "Lehmann, I am killed!"?
4. What major reorganization of the U.S. Army occurred on March 9, 1864?
5. What famous Northern figure said, "I failed, I failed, and that is about all that can be said about it?"
6. What was "Virginia Quickstep"?
7. Hoping to receive a wartime officer's commission, a retired army officer waited for two days in the Cincinnati office of George B. McClellan, but McClellan did not have time to see him. Who was the officer McClellan ignored?
8. About whom did Lincoln make the comment, "I know the hole he went in at, but I can't tell you the hole he will come out of?"
9. How many men were in a Civil War regimental color guard?
10. What was the name of Gen. Grant's favorite horse?

Prairie Grove December 3-5

General Information

Prairie Grove Battlefield Historic State Park welcomes all invited units and their members to this year's event. Individual registration begins at Noon, Friday, December 3 and continues through Midnight at the Latta Barn. Participants will need to pay their \$3.00 fee at that time. (Please bring small bills.) Late arrivals will need to register in Hindman Hall Saturday morning before Noon. This fee will help the park provide straw, portable toilets, wood, and black powder for artillery during the event. All registered participants will get an identification which will allow them to obtain straw, wood, water, and to take part in the battle demonstrations. No one will be allowed to take part without the proper identification.

Straw will be issued at about 1/3 of a bale for each person. Firewood will be conveniently located near each camp. Please only take what you need and do not hoard it. Please do not dig any fire pits (ring your fire with extra wood). Water will be readily available at all three camps. While the park will not provide any food, there will be a powder ration for artillery.

Uniforms and accouterments must be authentic in style and material. Weapons should be accurate with infantry carrying military issue black powder rifles or muskets; cavalry armed with carbines, shotguns, and/or revolvers. Artillery will be full-scale reproductions only. Swords and sabers will be carried by officers, NCOs, and mounted cavalry only.

All camps will remain authentic throughout the event, including after dark. No radios, telephones, televisions, tape or cd players will be allowed in camp without permission. All modern objects will be hidden from the view of the public and their fellow campers. All vehicles should be unpacked and parked in the designated parking area by 8 a.m. Saturday morning. No vehicles are allowed in the camps until after the battle demonstration Sunday afternoon without permission from the park staff.

The Confederate Commander is John Back and the Federal Commander is Stan Prater.

Participant Schedule of Events

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Saturday, December 4

8:30 a.m. Officers meeting in the Latta Barn
9 a.m. – Noon All camps open to the public
1 p.m. Battle demonstration near the Borden House
2 p.m. – 5 p.m. All camps open to the public
7 p.m. Dance at the Latta Barn

Sunday, December 5

8:30 a.m. Officers meeting in the Latta Barn if necessary
9 a.m. – Noon All camps open to the public
10 a.m. Church service at log church and near Borden House
1 p.m. Battle demonstration near the Borden House

Directions

Prairie Grove is located on Hwy 62 in NW Arkansas. From DFW go North on Hwy 75 which then merges with Hwy. 69 In Denison.

Stay on 69 to I-40, go east on I-40 to Sallisaw, OK, and then north on Hwy. 59 to Hwy 62.

Go east on 62 about 15 miles to Prairie Grove State Park.

The Battle of Prairie Grove December 7, 1862

The Battle of Prairie Grove was the last time two armies of almost equal strength faced each other for supremacy in northwest Arkansas. When the Confederate Army withdrew from the bloody battlefield at Prairie Grove on the night of December 7th, it appeared that Missouri and northwest Arkansas would remain in Federal hands.

Major General Thomas C. Hindman's Confederate Army of the Trans-Mississippi attacked the Union Army of the Frontier under the command of Brigadier Generals James G. Blunt and Francis J. Herron

about ten miles southwest of Fayetteville, Arkansas near the Prairie Grove Church, for which the battle was named. There were about twelve thousand Southern troops from Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, as well as the Cherokee and Creek Nations. The Federal force had about ten thousand soldiers from Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, as well as from the Cherokee and Creek Nations.

The fighting began at dawn on a beautiful, mild Sunday morning when Confederate cavalry routed the forward cavalry regiments

of General Herron's command and about one mile south of the



Prairie Grove Church. The Federals retreated towards Herron's main force coming from Fayetteville with the Southerners in pursuit. After a short skirmish near Walnut Grove, the Confederate cavalry fell back to the Prairie Grove ridge.

Hindman's Confederate infantry and artillery heard the fighting in the distance and formed a line of battle on the wooded ridge northeast of the church overlooking the Illinois River valley. Herron's troops crossed the river under artillery fire; positioned their cannons; then returned fire at about 10 a.m. The superior rifled artillery in the Union Army silenced the Southern batteries. Federal infantry charged up the ridge near the home of Archibald Borden at about Noon only to be driven back by the Confederates who counterattacked into the open farm fields where Union canister shot forced them to fall back into the woods. Another Union

charge and Southern counterattack followed, adding to the heavy casualties in both armies.

The arrival of General Blunt's Kansas Division at about 3 p.m. extended the line of battle the entire length of the Prairie Grove ridge, about two miles. The heaviest fighting shifted to the vicinity of the William Morton house where four families hid in the cellar. A final Confederate charge near sundown faced the wrath of all forty-four Union cannons and suffered heavy casualties. Darkness ended the struggle with the Federal Army sleeping on the grounds without campfires and very few tents or blankets despite freezing temperatures that night. A shortage of ammunition and food caused General Hindman to retreat southward during the night. The Confederate Army lost 164 killed, 817 wounded, and 336 missing in action. The Union Army lost 175 killed, 813 wounded, and 263 missing. While the battle was a tactical draw, it was a strategic Union victory.

Entertainment for OLD soldiers.

You old soldiers will recall some of the names even if time has dimmed the faces for you. This was what brought us to Texas as a unit way back in '46.

Major-General Zachary Taylor, at Monterrey, Mexico, to Roger Jones, Adjutant-General of the Army at Washington, D.C. Dispatch communicating particulars of military operations at Monterrey.

Head-Quarters, Army of Occupation,

Camp before Monterrey, Sept. 22, 1846.

Sir: - I have the honor to report that the troops under my command, including the mounted volunteers from Texas, marched from Marin on the 18th, and encamped before Monterrey on the 19th inst. It was immediately discovered that the enemy occupied the town in force, and had added greatly to its strength by fortifying the approaches and commanding heights. A close reconnoissance was made the same evening by the officers of engineers and topographical engineers on both flanks of the town, and it was

determined, from the information procured, to occupy the Saltillo road in the rear of the town, carrying, if practicable, the several fortified eminences in that direction. The 2d division of regular troops and a portion of Col. Hays' regiment of mounted volunteers was accordingly detached under Brig. General Worth on this service, at noon on the 20th. A 10-inch mortar and two 24-pounder howitzers were placed in battery during the night, to play upon the citadel and town. At 7 o'clock these guns opened and continued a deliberate fire, which was returned. To create a still farther diversion in favor of General Worth's movement, the remainder of the force, except a camp guard, was displayed around the centre and left of the town. The infantry and one battery of the 1st division made a strong demonstration on the left, and soon became so closely engaged that I moved forward the volunteer division under Major-general Butler to its support, leaving one battalion (1st Kentucky) to cover the mortar battery. A close contest then ensued, which resulted in the capture of one strong battery of four guns, which with some adjacent defences our troops now occupy. A garrison was left to hold this position, and the remainder of the force returned to camp. In the mean time General Worth had engaged the enemy early in the morning, and defeated him with considerable loss. In the course of the day two of the batteries in rear of the town were carried by storming parties of the 2d division, and a third was carried this morning at dawn of day. - The Bishop's Palace occupied the only remaining height in rear of the town, and is completely commanded by the works already carried. Gen. Worth's division occupies the Saltillo road, and cuts off all succor or support from the interior. I must reserve a more minute report of the important operations of yesterday, until those of the different commanders are rendered, and also until a topographic sketch of the country can be prepared. I regret to report that our successes have not been obtained without severe loss, to be attributed in a good measure to the ardor of the troops in pressing forward. No returns of killed and wounded have yet been received, nor is it known what corps of Gen. Worth's division have suffered most. In the other portion of the army,

the 1st, 3d, and 4th regiments of infantry, and regiment of Tennessee volunteers, have sustained the greatest loss. The following is believed to be an accurate list of the officers killed and wounded:

KILLED. - 2d infantry - Brevet 1st Lieutenant J. S. Woods, (serving with 1st infantry.) 3d infantry - Capt. L. N. Morris; Capt. G. P. Field; Brevet Major P. F. Barbour; 1st Lieut. and Adjutant D. S. Irwin; 2d Lieut. R. Hazlitt; 4th infantry - 1st Lieut. and Adjutant C. Hoskins. 8th infantry - Capt. McKavett. Maryland and Washington battalion volunteers - Lieut. W. H. Watson.

VOLUNTEER DIVISION. - Ohio Regiment - 1st Lieut. M. Hett. Tennessee regiment - Captain W. B. Allen; S. M. Putnam.

WOUNDED. - Corps of Engineers - Brevet Major J. K. T. Mansfield, slightly. Corps of Topographical Engineers - Capt. W. G. Williams, (in hands of the enemy.) 1st infantry - Brevet Major J. L. Abercrombie, slightly; Capt. J. H. Lamotte, severely; 1st Lieut. J. C. Territt, (in hands of the enemy;) 2d Lieut. R. Dilworth, severely. 3d infantry - Major W. W. Lear, severely; Capt. H. Bainbridge, slightly. 5th infantry - 1st Lieut. R. H. Graham, severely. 5th infantry - 1st Lieut. N. B. Rossell, slightly. 7th infantry - 2d Lieut. J. H. Potter, severely. 8th infantry - 2d Lieut. George Wainwright, severely.

VOLUNTEER DIVISION. - General Staff - Major-general W. O. Butler, slightly. Ohio regiment - Colonel A. M. Mitchell, slightly; Captain James George, slightly; 1st Lieut. and Adjutant A. W. Armstrong, very severely; 1st Lieut. N. Niles, severely; 1st Lieut. L. Motter, slightly. Mississippi regiment - Lieut. Col. A. M. McClung, severely; Captain R. N. Downing, slightly; 1st Lieut. H. F. Cook, slightly; 2d Lieutenant R. K. Arthur, do.

DIVISION OF TEXAS MOUNTED

VOLUNTEERS. 1st regiment - Capt. R. A. Gillespie, mortally.

I need hardly add, that the conduct of our troops, both regulars and volunteers, throughout the operations, has been every thing that could be desired. The part which each corps contributed to the successes of the day will appear more fully in future reports. To Major-generals Butler

and Henderson, and Brigadier-generals Twiggs and Worth, commanding divisions, I must express my obligation for the efficient support which they have rendered - particularly so to Brigadier-general Worth, whose services, from his detached position, have been most conspicuous.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,

Major-general, U.S.A. Commanding.

MONTERREY – Sept 1846

6600 or so of us climbed out of the dusty lowlands of Mexico up towards the Sierra Madre. “Dark blue, the peaks towering up towards the skies”. Took us a month to go from Mier on the Rio Grande up to Monterrey and we finally went into camp 3 miles outside of town alongside the Camargo road on Sept 19th. In a shady grove with plenty of springs and the country all round planted in corn and pastureland. Companies C, E, K and G of the 1st under under Lieutenant Colonel Henry Wilson, who commanded the brigade, and Capt (Bvt Major) Abercrombie who commanded the battalion.

On September 21st Gen'l Bill Worth went round the city to the right to cut the road from Saltillo that runs along the Saint Catarina river. Down south of the town and to the west the Mex's had fortified the Bishop's palace above the town, and had a fort on the ridge to the south called Fort Soldado. They had another fort to the east of the city on the river where part of the city lay, called Fort Teneria– which in English means “The Tannery”. You can go ahead and call it a fort if you like, but that's a pretty jumped up name for it to go calling it a fort (we called it Redoubt #1). To the west of that, and along the northeast corner of the city proper was ‘The Citadel’, which was a high walled, well armed, honest to Joseph, fort. We called it the Black Fort. All in all the Mex's had fair turned the city into a fort with stone walls pierced for shooting muskets and roofs around the town equipped with gun parapets. Garrisoning this awesome labyrinth of defenses were 10,000 regular troops led by General Pedro de Ampudia.

They had their headquarters in the central plaza and had stored their ammo in the Cathedral right handy to it. That's important to remember on

account of the way things played out, so keep it in mind.

While Worth was driving them out and around down on Federation hill (overran Fort Soldado because the Mexicans didn't get chance to depress their guns low enough to guard the approaches!), we were supposed to 'demonstrate' on the northeast side of town to keep Ampuیدا from sending men to reinforce against Worth's attack. Pretty poorly demonstrated was the result, we felt, but the volunteers had it worst that day. It wasn't long into the advance we were taking fire from right, left and front.

Davy Twiggs was leading us then, and we got into a right hornets nest – here's what he had to say in his official report about what happened once we got out of the fields and into the edge of town...(how I got to see the official report is another story that doesn't need to be told, now, or ever...)

“In moving forward on this order we soon encountered direct fire of artillery from redoubt #1 and an enfilading fire from the Citadel. I then ordered the command to quicken their pace and this soon brought us within range of their musketry. The chief of the engineers indicating a movement to the right which would enable us to gain a position in the town and in the rear of the 1st redoubt. We soon found ourselves on narrow streets where we received a most destructive fire from three directions. At this point Capt Bragg (*that's the same fellow we know today!*) came up with his battery and asked for orders. One gun was speedily placed in a position to rake a narrow street from the direction which we had sustained some loss, but finding, after several shots that but little impression could be made upon the barricades I ordered the captain to retire with his battery to a place of greater security. The infantry continued to press ahead and the chief engineer, then wounded, who seemed to have no care for himself, advised us to retreat. This was not before we had lost many men. But Major Abercrombie was also wounded by my side and thrown from his horse. Cpt Lamotte had been badly wounded more than a hundred yard in advance of the point and in the direction of the 1st redoubt where Capt Backus with indomitable courage and perseverance had succeeded with his company in gaining the roof of a stone building and not having heard the order to retire continued to pour fire into the rear of the redoubt until the volunteers of General Quitman's brigade rushed in and took and kept it at point of the bayonet.”

Now from where Quitman was standing, out to our right things looked different. They were in full view of the Citadel and taking fire at range until Old Rough noticed the attack was faltering over on the left where we were falling back ('cept Backus of course...)

He ordered Quitman forward – “From this position I was ordered by you to advance my brigade by the left flank of regiments to the support of a body of troops under command of Col Garland (*it wasn't Garland, but in battle nothing is exactly clear, as any who have been will tell you*) who appeared to be engaged in an attempt to force some strong works the enemy had constructed for the defense of the city opposite our line. I ordered Col Campbell of the Tennessee volunteers, it being armed with musket and bayonet to file past Col. Davis's (*that's right, old Jeff the devil*) regiment to the left in this order.”

Even now I can see those fellows come forward across that field, in fine order. I recall, must have been a 12 lb shot, hit those Tennessee boys, throwing pieces of men into the air and covering the living with their gore. I think half of us stopped shooting in awe of them coming forward. Several times the artillery fire cut down many in their ranks, and when they got close to the northwest corner of Redoubt #1 they were able to force their way in and over the wall, clambering up using clubbed muskets and bayonets, pushing their way into the fort and killing or capturing everyone inside.

When they counted us all later I heard that we lost 394 dead or wounded in our 'diversion'. The 1st lost 43 officers and men killed or wounded. Lieutenant Territt was killed and the Mex's got his body, Lieutenant Dilworth mortally wounded, and Captains Abercrombie and Lamotte were wounded as well. With the capture of the Tannery fort the Mexicans withdrew into Monterrey proper, leaving us in possession of the outskirts of the town. The diversion was over, and Worth was doing well south of the city. Hard fought it was, but not near hard fought as we was about to find when we went into Monterrey to drive Ampuیدا out.

On the 22nd, it rained. And I heard at 3:00 am that Worth's men began to claw up Independence Hill, the Texans going up in front like the devils. They took the parapets above the Bishop's palace and aimed a howitzer down on them, The Mexicans counterattacked Worth, but his men drove em back and the Mexicans in the palace couldn't fire to cover their retreat without killing their own men. Worth's boys were so hot on their heels they couldn't get the gate closed quick enough the keep us out and the palace fell to Worth's division. On our side of the

city old Ampudia had pulled his men back from the works on the southeast and concentrated them in the center of the city. Even with the Citadel firing on us again, we were inside the city walls by mid-morning. Then it was Katy bar the door, the nastiest fighting from house to house I ever saw. We pushed in from the east and Worth hit them from the west. Every damned house a little fortress made of stone or adobe. We spent 2 days clearing them out. I heard later old Rough was walking around regardless of danger and when they reminded him of it he says "Take that axe and knock in that door!". By every chance he should have been shot dead they say, but he was leading a charmed life. Those Mexican's hadn't a round in the whole country that could touch him.

We broke down doors or fired 6 lb shot through the walls and then we'd stick in a fused shell, blow em all to hell and rush in after the blast to kill or capture any that was left alive. Shells, and shrapnel and grapeshot rained down from the roofs into the narrow streets. We finally got close enough to lob shells into the Cathedral area and Ampudia, fearing his stockpile of ammunition would send em all to a speedy meeting with the Lord sued for a truce. Our ammo was low, plenty of men were dead or wounded. We weren't exactly upset by the prospect of calling a halt to it. Twixt the 25th and the 28th Ampudia withdrew his men from Monterrey, leaving us in command of the city.

I should mention one more thing – There was a Mexican woman killed there, known as the Maid of Monterrey. One fellow wrote afterwards –"I saw a Mexican female carrying water and food to the wounded men of both armies. I saw her lift the head of one poor fellow, give him water, and then take her handkerchief from her own head and bind up his wounds...I heard the crack of one or two guns and she, poor good creature fell...she was dead! I turned my eye to heaven and thought 'Oh God, and this is war!' ”

She cast a look of anguish
On dying and on dead;
Her lap she made the pillow
Of those who groaned and bled...
And when the dying soldier
For one bright gleam did pray,
He blessed the Senorita,
The Maid of Monterrey.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Jefferson Davis removed Gen. Joseph Johnston from command of the Confederate Army of Tennessee, then defending Atlanta, and replaced him with Gen. John Bell Hood.
2. Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson died.
3. Union Gen. Nathaniel Lyon spoke these last words to an orderly seconds after suffering a mortal wound at the Battle of Wilson's Creek.
4. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant was commissioned lieutenant general in a reorganization which made Grant general-in-chief of the U.S. armies and his predecessor, Gen. Henry Halleck, the new chief of staff.
5. Abraham Lincoln used these self-critical words to dismiss his Gettysburg Address moments after delivering it.
6. Union troops jokingly coined this name to refer to diarrhea – the most common ailment in the army.
7. Ulysses S. Grant.
8. Lincoln made this remark when asked the destination of Sherman's March to the sea.
9. Each regiment had a color guard of four carefully selected soldiers – two who carried the regimental colors and two who guarded them.
10. Grant's favorite mount was named Cincinnati and was given to him in 1864. Noted for his equestrian skills, Grant liked large, powerful horses.

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E-Mail/Mailing submissions to The Union Standard –

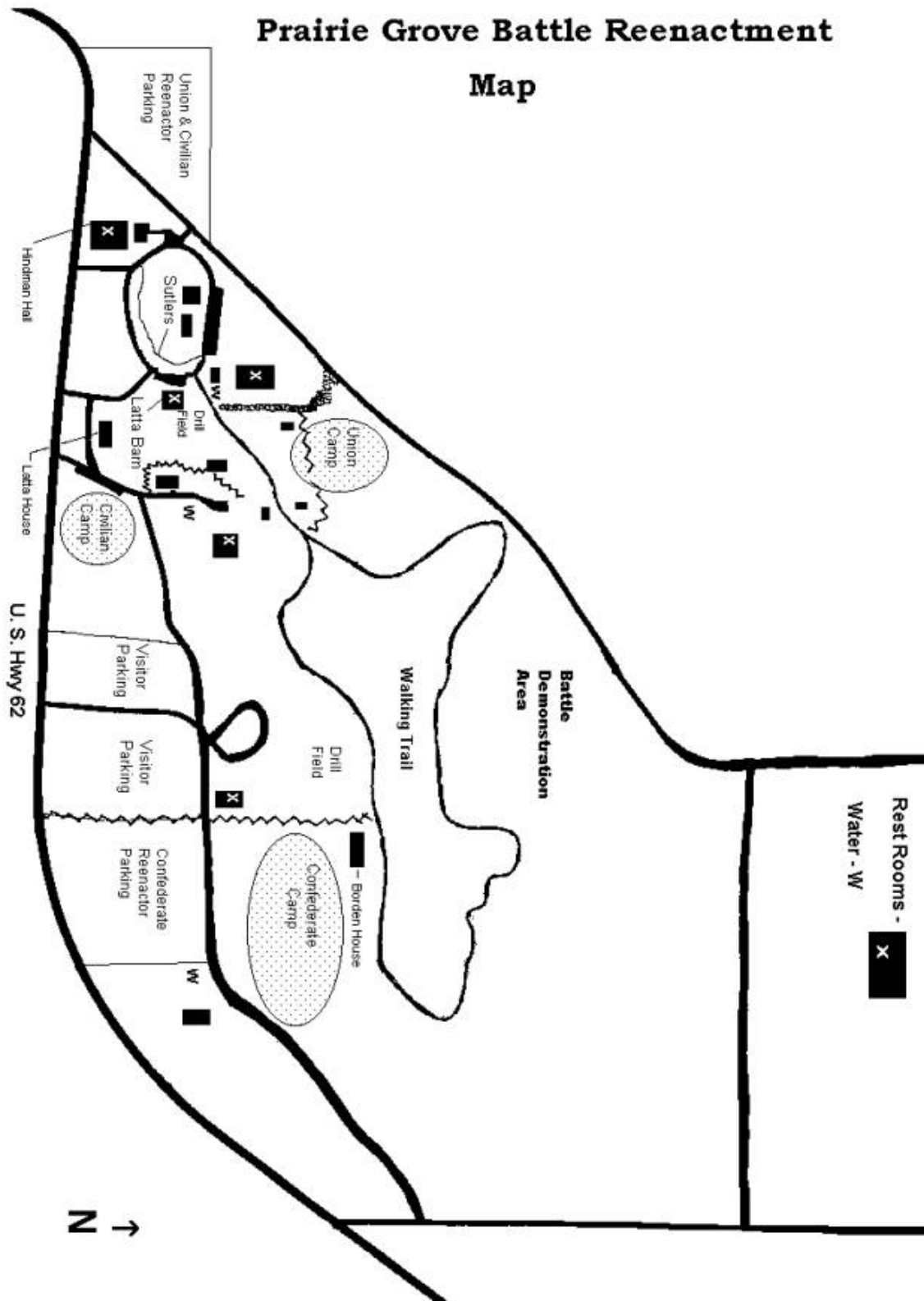
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Address/Telephone changes – any mailing/e-mail address changes or telephone number changes should be submitted to John Bowen, jbowl1stus@comcast.net or (972) 539-6167.

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Prairie Grove Battle Reenactment Map



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