

MARCH 1983 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS

Monthly, third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Trinity Presbyterian Church. Next meeting - April 18, 1983 - Roll Call, "How long has your family been in Iowa?" - Program, "Preserving Your Pictures" by Marieta Grissom. Invitations have been sent to the chapters in the adjoining counties so this will be a special meeting. Don't miss it!

CEMETERY BOOKS will soon be gone - we have only 29 left, all have been located now except two - No. 478 and 479. Maybe spring housecleaning will bring them to light!

BIRTH RECORDS - work is progressing on these and we have high hopes of being ready to publish by early next spring!

DUES

Membership dues are \$5.00 per person or \$7.50 per family. They are payable April 1 of each year. New members accepted any month of the year.

GENEALOGICAL TOURS

Round trip by air to Salt Lake City. Seven day, six nights. Leave Des Moines Sunday, May 15 at 4:30 p.m. Price ranges from \$425. for single occupancy to \$325. for triple occupancy at Temple Square Hotel, 2 1/2 blocks from Library. Meals not included. Tour can be shortened or lengthened to suit individual needs. Contact Margaret Thomas, Johnny's House of Travel, 504 42nd St., Des Moines 50312.

Bus tour to Washington, D. C., June 5 through June 12. \$400. includes motel for 7 nights and use of bus in D.C. Register before May 1, including \$200. with registration, balance due June 1. Karen Holder, 803 Woodlawn, Chariton, IA 50049. Phone 515-774-2474.

FREE - GENEALOGICAL SEMINARS - FREE

Five-week seminars are being held at the Church of Latter Day Saints, 3301 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines. Douglas and Barbara Pimentel will be the instructors until July but others will continue the work indefinitely, teaching the basic methods and tools needed to trace ancestors. The next course starts the first of April. However, the size of the classes is limited to 15 or so and they have 100 people on the waiting list! If interested, call the Pimentels at 224-1396.

Our society was represented at the IGS Quarterly Meeting last Saturday by Marieta Grissom, Thelma Pehrson and Louise Pilmer. Mrs. Donna R. Hotaling spoke on Irish Research.

QUERY

RANS Marilyn Henry, 507 Columbus N., #4, New Prague, MN wishes to RANTZ contact descendants of any of the RANS who settled in Warren County in 1860.

A book, Confederate Cemeteries in Ohio lists 2200 names from 14 states. The book is available from Franklin County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 09324, Columbus, Ohio.

YOU KNOW YOU ARE GETTING OLD WHEN your back goes out more than you do!

WORTHINGTON If you are researching **WORTHINGTON** you may be interested to know that there is a quarterly newsletter, Worthington Descendants published by subscription of \$12.00 yearly, which covers all branches of the surname and its many allied lineages. Write to the editors, Frances Brengle and Bette Brengle-Poole, 6619 Pheasant Road, Rt. 16, Baltimore, MD 21220.

ANCESTOR BORN OR DIED AT SEA? If this occurred on a British vessel between 1864 and 1921, records may be obtained by writing to the Registrar General, Custom House, Dublin, Ireland. If the birth occurred at sea, date was recorded if at least one person was Irish; in case of death, the date, age and sometimes additional information was recorded. Another source for births at sea on British vessels, from 1586 to the present, is St. Dunstan's Parish, London, England.

For all resident males, citizens or not, born between 1873 and 1900, there are World War I Selective Service records on file at the Federal Records Center, 1957 St. Joseph Ave., East Point, GA 30344.

For male citizens born between 1818 and 1843, there are northern Civil War draft records, whether they served or not, in the National Archives, filed by Congressional Districts. See Directory of the 2nd Session of the 38th Congress to determine the district. This book may be found in your large libraries.

IOWA CHURCH RECORDS: The State Historical Dept. in Iowa City has a collection of church records and printed volumes of histories of individual churches. Among the most prized are collections of a number of prominent church leaders. They also have a church related collection consisting of 36 reels of microfilm of the Iowa Records of the American Home Missionary Society 1838-1893. This is mostly reports of missionaries serving in Iowa, however, they do include comments on local residents and details of frontier life. - Pioneer Trails, Mar. '83

NATURALIZATION RECORDS - The first Naturalization Law was in 1790. Other major laws came into effect in 1802, 1824 and 1926. If using Naturalization Records for research there are three different certificates: (1) Declaration of Intention, (2) Petition for Naturalization, and (3) Final Decree. Of these three, the one that will be beneficial to genealogical research is No. 1, Declaration of Intention. To receive this information, first write to the Courthouse in the County where Intention was filed. Naturalization papers are kept by various record centers. Each state and county differ. You will have to do some research to locate where your desired record is filed. - Clark County (Wash.) Gen. Soc. Newsletter of February 1983.

PASSENGER ARRIVAL RECORDS RELEASED

The restrictions have been lifted on access to name indexes to passenger arrivals and lists of passenger and crew, in the custody of the National Archives. Those released were Passenger Arrival Records 1883-1954, which were previously subject to a fifty-year restriction. This opens 6055 rolls of microfilm to researchers. Now there is available 11,476 rolls of Immigration & Naturalization Service microfilm. For a copy of a catalog describing microfilm publications of passenger arrivals, crew lists and Indexes, with a description of roll-by-roll listings, write to: Publications Sales Branch (NEPS), National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D. C. 20408. - Clark Co. Genealogical Soc. of Vancouver, WA.

The Resin Wilkins' Story starts in this issue and will be continued in the next few issues. Maude Wilkins regrets she can (as yet) claim no relationship.

THE LIFE OF RESIN WILKINS

Des Moines, Iowa

Jan. 7, 1896

The subject of this sketch was born in Belmont, Ohio, April 8, 1824 of poor but respected parents, and the fourth child of a family of twelve children, two dying soon after birth. When about five years old we moved to Gurnsey Co., Ohio. Father took a lease to clear the ground of timber for the use of the ground for so many years. But he sold his lease before his time was out and moved to Muskingum Co., Ohio, seven miles from Zanesville near Uniontown on the Hatcher farm. My father taking another lease where he proceeded to put up a cabin. But did not clear a very big patch till he moved to another place not far off. Father took to carpenter work and as I was a good sized boy by this time I was put to work at a little of everything. But when about nine years old Father took a notion to move to Knox Co., Ohio, a few miles n.w. of Fredricktown. Here Father rented a farm on shares. He got together an old plug team when my brother older than I did the plowing, and I worked with father and done what I could at scoring timber for houses and barns. At that time saw mills were scarce and nearly everything had to be hewed - rafters, braces, and girts large and small. But timber was in abundance and was burned in every shape to get it out of the way.

Father made it a rule to move about once a year on an average but that was sport to us little chaps to go to a new place. In 1833 we moved into an old cabin called the Ealy place. This was the year known as the star falling year. I remember it well. It was late in the night I think in November 1833. Mother first discovered it and woke us up. She thought that the end of the world had come sure. It was a grand sight. Being only nine years of age I did not scare or care much.

Father kept moving until we got to Mt. Vernon, county seat of Knox Co., Ohio. There he got carpenter work more plenty but times were hard and wages low so it was all father could do to make a living for his family which had now increased to ten children, 5 boys and 5 girls, two of the girls having married just previous to moving to town, but still lived in Knox Co. until the fall of 1844, when I left home but my folks stayed some time longer. I was 20 years old the 8th of April 1844 but had to work by spells to get my clothing and work was hard to find and wages low and had to take orders on stores for most of pay. 8 dollars was all a good stout hand could get and money was hardly seen. It was Democratic times, and free trade was preached and Polk was elected President. Manufacturers were shut down. So I made up my mind to seek a better location. So one of my neighbor boys Mordecai Disney agreed to go down to the Ohio River on public works. They were deepening the channel by government contract. On the 4th day of October '44, we packed a trunk with what few duds we had, each took an end and we started afoot on our journey by way of Newark, Licking Co., to Zanesville, Muskingum Co., Ohio, from there to Marietta on the Ohio River.

I had but \$1.37½ cts and my pardner hadn't a cent. When we got to Jacktown on the national pike we struck the stage lines and they were running opposition lines from there to Zanesville so they took us to Zanesville for 25¢ each and here I saw the first steamboat. It was about to start down the river to Marietta. We tried to get passage on it but they wanted more money for fare than we had so we picked up our trunk and took it afoot again.

When we got to McConnellsville that evening we found the same boat at the wharf, so we tacked the Captain for a ride and the Captain said as we had been so plucky he would take us the balance of the way.

for 50 cents but it just about strapped us. But when we got to Marietta on Saturday night we went bravely up to a tavern and told the landlord our condition. He said we could stay a day or two until we got work if we would leave our trunk for security. Owing to the lateness of the season the work on the river had stopped and we had to hunt work elsewhere.

Sunday morning we started up the river to see if we could get wood cutting for steamboats at some of the wood yards. We were out all day without a bite from early breakfast till about sundown we got back to our tavern. As luck would have it Disney got to talking with a man who was a blacksmith and needed a hand a short time and said he would give him \$5. for a half month's work and commence next morning. As Disney had learned that trade it just suited him. I hadn't found work so I staid around the blacksmith shop. That day about 4 o'clock in the afternoon there came along an old cub that the blacksmith knew and he asked him if he did not want a hand to cut cord wood and hoop poles. So I made a bargain with him to work a half month for four dollars.

He lived over at Point Harmon on the other side of the Muskingum River. We started over about 4 or 5 o'clock. When we got there he unyoked his cattle and we went in. He struck a light there. The floor was literally covered with children and dogs besides two strapping big wood choppers and hard looking customers at that. But one room and one bed in the house, and the old lady and a lot of little ones had the bed. I thought I had got in purgatory sure. But the grub capped all. for every meal it was corn bread, stewed apples, punkin sauce and red pepper tea now and then a little bacon. That was the lowest half month I ever put in. When my time was up he tried to cheat me out of my pay. I had to take one dollar and a half out of the store to get even.

Disney and I had made up our minds to go down to Lawrence Co., Ohio to work in the iron works. So when our time was up we boarded a steamer for Hanging Rock, now called Ironton. There we came across a man by the name of Hargrove who Disney had got acquainted with. He had been at work there a year or so and had the run of things and kept a boarding house. So we went in with him, making shingles for the Lagrange furnace. After that we dug ore for a while then went to the Ohio furnace and filled for a couple of months but wages were low and we could not get much ahead so we got dissatisfied and concluded we would go to Cincinnati, O. Late in the fall of 1845, with our friend Hargrove, we went to Cincinnati, but we did not get a job except Hargrove, he got work at pattern making in a stove foundry. As Disney and I were sauntering along the levee at Cincinnati there was a well-dressed man stepped up to us and asked us if we did not want to take a trip to New Orleans on a boat load of bailed hay. We told him we did, so we hired at \$12. per month to help load and run her down. We got on board the empty boat that evening and dropped down to near Vevay, Indiana and next day commenced loading her with bailed hay of which we put on 108 ton with 400 sacks of oats, a bushel in each sack. And when loaded we started for New Orleans with 6 hands and a Captain or Pilot. We were 9 weeks loading and running down. We got there on the evening of the 7th day of January, 1846. Next day the 8th, the City was very lively celebrating the battle of New Orleans and a big time they had. We were paid off in brand new silver right from the mint and in 10 cent pieces rolled up, 5 dollars in a roll. My but we felt rich.

So after staying 4 or 5 days taking in the City we boarded a steamer for the mouth of Red River. Then we got a skiff and went across to the Louisiana side and got a job cutting cordwood for a

steamboat woodyard. We got \$1. a cord for chopping four foot wood out of big cottonwood timber. I cut and corded four cord a day on an average. My partner cut 2½ cord and done most of the cooking. We had a shanty and pier place and a very comfortable bed of Spanish moss and two blankets and got along fine till along in March it got rather warm to chop so we had heard of the new purchase in the then Territory of Iowa. So we pulled up and settled up and boarded a steamer for Cario, there we changed for St. Louis and from there to Muscateen, Iowa. There we stowed away our baggage and struck out afoot for Ft. Des Moines on Raccoon Forks as it was commonly called.

We came by way of Iowa City, Mt. Pleasant, Fair Field, Oskaloosa, thence to Middle River where Capt. Allen was commencing to build a saw and grist mill. We got there on the eve of the 10th of April 1846. We found quite a lot of hands, they were eating supper and said they could not keep us that night for want of a place to sleep. We had ate a lunch that afternoon at Uncle Thomas Mitchell's so was not hungry. We went about 1½ miles west to Simpson Hargis' place. They took us in though they had a big family of small children and a new cabin that had not been chinked or daubed yet and no furniture except store boxes for table and a puncheon floor but they took us in.

And next day Hargis showed us vacant land adjoining his claim. We staked off all we wanted for 3 claims for there was 3 of us together then. For when we got to St. Louis we accidentally run across Ed Hedley, a boy we knew in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. He was an orphan boy and had wandered off to St. Louis. We persuaded him to go with us as he had no work and no money and hardly clothing to be comfortable.

In the evening after we got our claims staked off we sat down on a knoll in the prairie and talked matters over and drew cuts who should go back to Muscateen for our baggage and I was the lucky one. So about sundown there came down the trail two empty wagons on their way back to Burlington on the Miss. River. They had moved a man and family by the name of Spurlock to a claim a few miles south of ours so I made a dicker with them to go with them by furnishing my own grub and bed by crawling under the wagon at night and borrowing a blanket of my comrads. They also let me lunch with them until we got to the old part of the Territory where it was settled up more thickly then I got along all right. When I got to Burlington I took a steamer to Muscateen, got our goods and got on another steamer to Burlington.

There I had to wait to catch a team that was loaded with goods for the Raccoon Forks as Des Moines was called at that time, and sometimes Ft. Des Moines. After waiting a few days I found a team and got my traps on the load and took it afoot myself. When we got to Thos. Mitchells I took my baggage off as that point was nearer my destination than Des Moines. So I went over to Hargeses and got an ox team and wagon and hauled them to our claim.

When I got home they had just buried Headly, the young man that joined us at St. Louis. He was buried on the knoll where we sat after staking our claims, he made the remark while we sat there that if he died in this country he wanted to be buried on that ground. He got his request. This ground is near Carlyle South and is used for Cemetery purposes and has a large number of graves, it being now nearly fifty years. There has been a great change in things.

We went to work and built a cabin to batch it in, also a blacksmith shop. Disney being a blacksmith by trade got some second hand tools and got a little tinkering to do such as mending log chains and sharpening plows, etc. I got work at Allen's Mill or Parmley's Mill as some called it. Parmley was manager but Allen paid expenses.

I worked there on the dam a good deal till sometime in the summer or early fall I took the ague, first every other day and then every day and Sunday too. It makes the chills run over me to think of it. Well I had to retire from work and take to the cabin and shake over the coals every afternoon. Well it run on this way until late in the fall, and there came in the neighborhood an old galoot they called Dr. Yates so I sent for him and with a great deal of flourish he commenced to go for Mr. Ague. He took about a 1/2 ounce bottle and put a tea-spoon full of quinine in the bottle then filled it up with water, when it dissolved I had to take 10 drops first dose, 9 drops second dose, and so on till I reached 5 drops and then go back to 10 drops to be 2 hours apart. I had never had occasion to take quinine before and was green in the matter but I learned something. Yates got about all of my money but I kept the ague. That fall nearly everybody had the ague more or less. My partner Disney had it. He shook in the forenoon and I in the afternoon.

I went up to the Fort one day and got to talking with a person by the name of Crews. He said he could give me a sure cure or kill Rat. for 50cts so I forked it over and he said it was Cayen pepper, sulphur, and whiskey, take one teacup of whiskey and one tablespoon of pepper, mix and swallow all of it and crawl under all the covers I could stand. Take just as you feel the chills coming on, the sulphur take morning, noon and night. I got the stuff and went home. Next day at the right time I fixed it up and went according to directions. It was not so bad till the fever came on. Then came the tug of war. I thought I was being boild, fried and roasted, but I stuck to it and repeated it the next day and the next but the fever kept decreasing and it entirely ceased and never troubled me any more.

Well I got a bid to work again and in the spring of 1847 hired to Parmley to work at a little of everything working on dam and on farm and about saw mill but along in the fall of that year I hired to James Dowell to work at carpenter work. He had contracted to build a house on Agency Prairie for William Lowery. I got 50 cts a day and board.

I liked the land on this side of the river best and sold my first claim for one hundred dollars and got a claim over on Agency Prairie for fifty dollars in Section 7-78-23, only one mile from corporate limits of Des Moines but now in the city. I had to pay 1 1/4 dollar per acre it being river land. I could not buy land warrants like those on even sections. I hadent much money to and had to improve as best I could. I had a little broke at a time just as I could pay for it. In 1848 I rented Peter Newcomer's farm on shares, he furnished ground, team, seed and board and gave me one-third. I had a good crop of corn and wheat which paid me better than working by the day or month. I got 40 cts for wheat & about 20 cts for corn.

In the meantime I was courting Martha J. Henderson and on July 5th 1849 we were married and soon after went on our claim. But I had no team and no money to buy one but my wife's father gave her a colt and I worked around and got a mate for it but they being young I had to wait until they grew into a team but I could hire a team very cheap and pay for it in work. And in the spring of 1850 my father-in-law took a notion he would go to California and he had a good big farm and his boys being small he got us to go on his place and farm it while he was gone, furnishing teams and everything. We staid there one year. My father-in-law came back in the Jan. 1851.

In the spring we went back on our claim. Then on the 18th day of Apr. our first child was born, a boy, the first of a family of seven boys and three girls, all living but two boys. Names, LaFayette, Thomas J., Robert H., William R., Eliza E., James, Adolphus A., Mary Alice, Emma, and Charles C., All married but the last named boy.

As I had not saw any of my kinfolks since I left them Oct. 4, 1844 in Knox Co., Ohio, I rigged up a team of horses and covered wagon in the fall of 1852. My wife and child and myself started to Ohio on a visit, camping out and sleeping in our wagon, we were 27 days on the road but enjoyed the trip first rate. This was the last time I saw my dear old mother, she died in 1855 aged 80 years. She was born near Dublin in Ireland 1795.

I was very glad I made that visit, we staid there till Oct. 1853, and came as we went by wagon. My father was born in 1794, died 1874 aged 80 years. He was the father of 15 children. He was married the second time and had three children by his last wife and 12 by his first wife.

We got to our farm which we rented while we were gone and in the spring of 1854 I concluded to build a frame house to live in instead of the old log house or cabin which was made with round logs with the bark on and covered with clapboard roof held on by weight poles, and puncheon floor. Our cupboard was made by putting pins in the logs and clapboards for shelves. Our bedstead was made by having one leg out on the floor and poles from that to the wall and clapboards laid across for the bed tick.

Being sort of a carpenter I set to work on a frame house 16 x 24, 1 1/2 stories. Saw mills were scarce so I got nothing sawed but weather boarding, sheeting, and flooring and studding, there was no lumber yards here then. I hewed out the rest of the frame and shaved the shingles and rive out the lath for the plastering. I had also to tend a crop of 20 acres of corn and other truck. I hired a man 4 or 5 days was all the help but I was very rugged and could stand a good deal of hard work. I have put in 18 hours work many a day when there was moonlight night, and get up fresh of a morning another day and I had a good help mate in my wife, she was saving and industrious. We had lots of eggs & butter to sell although the prices were low it helped a good deal. We have sold hundreds of eggs for 5 cts per doz., butter 14 & 15 cts., did all of our own trade in Des Moines which was a very small place and no shipping facilities and the town had but a few consumers and the county had outgrown the City. Hogs sold for 1-1/2 cts gross and very often driven to Burlington or Keokuk to be butchered. Corn had no sale only now and then a family would move in and have to buy enough to winter him over. The price of corn was very fluctuating going sometimes below 15 cts then again when the emigration came in a rush in the spring for California, corn would bring from one to two dollars a bu. Since getting R.R., prices do not fluctuate so much but still corn is generally lower than it ought to be.

Well, I must go back to my old partner Disney. He sold his claim or land sometime in the first part of the fifties, and went with a man by the name of Beach to Portland, Oregon where Beach was going to erect a saw mill. Disney being a blacksmith his trade would just suit. But after he got there I did not hear anything of him for quite a number of years and then I heard he had got drowned in the river or had committed suicide by jumping off a steamboat. I happened to meet a man at the State Fair one year ago last Sept. He said he had saw a letter that was from Disney and gave his P.O. So I wrote him a letter and took him by surprise and he surprised me by answering. He had just got married to a lady 65 years old & he is 72 and not near dead. It has been 40 years or more since we parted, he had never married before and it was only by accident I found out where he was.

In 1859 & 60 the gold fever broke out in Pikes Peak and I thought strong of going to try my fortune so I wrote to my brother James then a single man in Ohio to come out and take charge of the farm and fam-

ily while I tried my luck of mining. He came in the spring of '59, but I had got about over my gold fever.

The great war broke out in '61 and everybody was talking of war and enlistments were being made for companies and regiments for the service. So about the 1st of Nov. 1861 they were making up a Co. of sharp shooters here to join Bragg's sharp shooters at St. Louis. Cap. W. T. Smith was to be Capt. and he would not take any but the very best marksmen - he came to me and made big offers as to good position in the command so I enlisted for 3 yrs or during the war and made corporal to start on and in the latter part of Nov. we were moved to Keokuk and went into winter quarters & into drilling. We soon had our Co. full, Smith Capt., A. G. Studer 1st Lieut., C. Landstrum 2nd Lieut., and a full set of Sargents & Corprls, but as they were making up companies to form the 15th Iowa Inf. we were all put in the same barracks and finally they persuaded Cap. Smith to attach his Co. in that organization as Co. B as Skirmish Co. and to be drilled in that drill.

Some of the boys kicked on that and would not be sworn into the U.S. Service, there was but few that backed out. It was about the middle of winter when the 10 Co's. were full but drilling went right on every day and at night. They had a big hall to drill officers that wanted to learn drill, this was done by our first Major W. W. Belknap who became afterward a noted General & Sec. of War under Grant, he was a natural born soldier.

It took the boys a good while to get the hang of things. The grub was not like what they had been used to and growling could be heard on every hand. It consisted of bread, pork, beef, onions, coffee, crackers, all in plenty and mostly of good quality. Drill and camp guard was all the duties to perform but most of the boys would slip past the guard at night and go on a spree, whiskey & beer was plenty. I remember being sent one night with two guards to hunt & bring in a soldier by the name of Pursley, he was a desperate fellow while drinking and had a single barreled pistol which he always took with him when on a spree. We were aware of this and governed ourselves according. It was a very cold night and we wore our overcoats. We had a long hunt before we located him, we peeped in every saloon window from the outside, we were about to give it up when one of the boys saw him standing at the bar. I told the boys to go around the back way and stop at the back door till they heard me inside, I waited till I thought they had time to get there, when I opened the front door, he looked around and saw me. I stepped briskly up to him just as he pulled his pistol and as he cocked it I grabbed it with my left hand and my coat sleeve got between the hammer and cap and did not explode. I jerked the pistol out of his grasp. Just then my help came in and took the lad to guard house. He begged so hard I did not report him and told the other boys to say nothing and they didn't. It was a close call for me. He was finally changed off to the 17th Iowa, he was no good to stand up in battle, would always run at first fire, was always quarreling & fist fighting with the other boys, especially if they were under size.

Our entire regiment was quartered in an old brick house which had 3 rooms for each Co., the first or lower rooms were used for cooking & eating & the next rooms were bunked off for sleeping rooms & the upper rooms were used for guard house so there were 30 rooms they ran back 80 or 90 feet in the sleeping rooms were used for stag dances till taps or 9 oclk, we had plenty of fiddles & fiddlers.

(To be continued in our next issue.)

When the Siege of Corinth commenced in earnest every one was put at something either pickett or fatigue duty but there was hundreds of soldiers unfit for duty by reason of sickness mostly Chronic Dyshrea a great many was sent off to hospital and some dying in Camp very few but had it more or less. I was one of the lucky ones and did not have it till later on.

While part were engaged in skirmishing with the Rebels the rest were throwing up slight breast works. This was followed up as the enemy was driven back sometime the pickett firing would allmost amount to a battle this was kept up till we had pretty near surrounded Corinth. When Johnnie Reb crawled out and got away. When we got possession of Corinth our Regiment was placed on Pro Vost duty at Corinth till about the latter part of Aug. '62 when we were ordered to Boliver with expectations of meeting Price there and giving him a drubbing but he failed to come to the scratch so we lay there till about the middle of Sept when word came that Price was making for Inca so we struck for that place before we got there Rosecrans ran into Price and gave him a dale of a licking but Price got away as usual so we staid there till the first of Oct doing picket duty till we got orders to hasten back to Corinth as Price and Vandoren was marching on that place with a large army and as Corinth was full of Govermt supplies it would be a good haul our army being scattered they thought they could come right in and help themselves.

A big part of our forces were west of Corinth that we wanted bad so on the morning of the 3 of Oct our forces were placed in the woods to hold the Rebels in check till our forces could get into the forts. We were drawn up in line of battle 15 & 16 Reg in line and 11 & 13 in rear we lay for Mr. Reb till they got pretty close when they raised the Yell we got up and gave them H-. Johnnie went back faster than they came but formed again and came again but not quite so close but fought from behind trees and stumps. About sundown they fell back into heavy timber while we drew back to the forts. Our reenforcements did not arrive so we lay on our arms that night knowing they would attack the forts the next day sure enough at daylight next morning they commenced throwing shells and our batteries promptly returned the compliment for quite a while it was a duel between artillery finally they found they could not take the place they would charge and take it by storm they made several charges but they met repuls at evsry charge with fearful slaughter only a few got into Ft. Robinet but they were cut down or taken prisoner finaly they gave it up late in the afternoon our army was about worn out and hungry so we recruited up and filled our haversacks that night and started after them by day light next morning we soon overtook their rear guard and took lots of prisoners who were half starved and glad to be taken when they could get something to eat. Price got away with most of his army but they threw away canons and guns and wagons. It was on this trip in pursuit of Price that I got to feeling unwell a fetid discharge from my nose. The Regimental Surgeon pronounced it Oyna or first stage of Catarrh and being the only officer with the Co I had to go sick or well but I stuck to it there was no hlep for it. There was no place to go to get Doctored for it without throwing up my commission and I did not want to do that after working hard for it the army was on the move and I had to move with it.

Grant started to go the rear of Vicksburg by land and we got below Holly Springs some distance but the Rebs got in behind us at Holly Springs and we had to get back. I was so weak by this time I could hardly walk. Dihrea set in which weakened me more than Cattarrh. Gen. Crocker came to see me one day when we had halted tole me I had better resign and go home and be doctored up then if I got well in time

he would give me a place on his staff. I told him I had spoke to the Colonel about it but he had said I could not go I was the only officer with the Co. General Crocker said I will see about that so he went to Reeds Headquarters and gave the Colonel to understand he was running things he was in Command of the brigade he came back to me and said he had fixed it up all right so I resigned as soon as I saw a chance to get out to Memphis. A chance opened by a sick train and a provision train for Memphis, guarded by the 10th Ia Inf. There was a Cap Craig of Co. D in about as bad shape as I was except Dihrea he was stronger than I & he helped me a good deal we came together to Keokuk then I staid till I could get word to my Brother at Des Moines. I got him to meet me at Edyville with a carriage Edyville being the terminus of the R R at that time.