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Charles Francis Emery, the One Hundred Sixteenth Infantry, Illinois Volunteers

Harry Lee Degenhart

Eastern Illinois University

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CHARLES FRANCIS EMERY, THE

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH INFANTRY, ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS

(TITLE)

BY

Harry Lee Degenhart

B. S. in Ed. Oakland City College, Oakland City, Indiana
THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
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CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

1968

YEAR

I HEREBY RECOMMEND THIS THESIS BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The topic of this paper is a result of the desire for a more thorough knowledge of the history of Macon County and the Civil War. Upon inquiring at the Decatur Public Library, in Decatur, Illinois, it was discovered that the library had recently purchased the civil war papers of Charles Francis Emery.

The author is greatly indebted to Mrs. Mary T. Howe, former Public Librarian who arranged for a study of the Emery Papers and presented the author with a brief historical sketch of Charles Francis Emery and his family. The staff of the Decatur Public Library also deserves much worthwhile praise.

The author personally thanks Mr. and Mrs. Earl B. Gardner, Maroa, Illinois who made the book, History of Macon County Illinois available.

Much credit must be given to Mr. John W. Hobbs, nephew of Charles Francis Emery, recently deceased, who granted a few hours of his time in a personal interview and made several papers available.

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CHAPTER I

CHARLES F. EMERY: A MAN OF VARIED INTERESTS

Volumes have been written about Union and Confederate leaders in the War of the Rebellion, each of whom deserve much credit. For each important figure in this war there were large numbers of men who made many contributions to the war effort in helping these leaders to obtain their goals. One such man was Charles Francis Emery, who entered the war as a member of the One Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry Regiment.

Captain¹ Charles F. Emery was born May 26, 1833, the son of David and Mahala Emery, in Ithaca, New York.² Charles was the eldest son in a family of five children, three sons and two daughters. Educated in the common schools of his state, Charles entered the printing office of the Ithaca Chronicle as a "carrier boy", remaining in that position two years.³ During the winter of 1849-1850, he became first acquainted with politics, serving as "messenger boy" in the New York Senate at Albany.⁴

As a young man whose thoughts were beginning to turn to adventure, Emery decided to go to California, boarding the Stephanja, a whaling vessel bound for the Antarctic Seas, in an effort to work his way to

¹Mr. Emery was known to the residents of Maroa, Illinois as "Captain".

²History of Macon County Illinois; Brink: McDonough and Company, Philadelphia, 1880, p. 169.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

the "Golden State". He left the Stephanie in Hawaii, there taking a steamer sailing for San Francisco. Upon arrival in California, he engaged in mining for one year, then turned again to the sea, signing on as second mate on the brig Magdalena which went down the California coast in search of guano.

Mr. John Hobbs,⁵ Springfield, Illinois, recalled many incidents relating to his uncle from listening during his childhood days to Emery talk of his past. Mr. Hobbs related, "Mr. Emery was quite taken by sailing, especially ocean sailing. "He (Emery) was on the steamer⁶ called the Magdalena on a trip to the Sandwich Islands where they collected guano. While in swimming a sea lion bit his right kneecap and he was laid up for a considerable length of time at a hospital in the Sandwich Islands."⁷

After a period of two years of recovery from the unfortunate encounter with the sea lion, Emery returned to the island where guano had been discovered and served as superintendent of loading and shipping guano to Richmond, Virginia. He then returned to Hawaii, later journeying to San Francisco where he joined as second mate of a brig sailing for Australia, thence to Callao, South America. From the latter port he sailed around Cape Horn in a Spanish vessel to Barbadoes, in the West

⁵Interview with John W. Hobbs, nephew of C. F. Emery, retired business man, Springfield, Illinois, recently deceased.

⁶Hobbs. It might have been a sailboat as Mr. Hobbs implied in the interview.

⁷Hobbs.

Indies, then to New Orleans, and from there to Liverpool, England, and then to New York City.⁸

Following this long absence, he returned home to visit his parents who induced him to visit an uncle who was in business in Clinton, Illinois as a railroad contractor. It was this visit which brought Emery to Central Illinois where he later spent most of his life. After a somewhat lengthy stay with his uncle, Emery purchased land in Austin Township, Macon County. One year later, he went to Texas and engaged in sheep ranching. His stay there was short because the business failed to be as profitable as expected. An additional factor was his growing sentiment for the cause of the North in the events leading to Civil War. Emery returned to his farm in Austin Township and remained there until he entered the service of the One Hundred Sixteenth Infantry Regiment of Illinois Volunteers on August 8, 1862.⁹

During his enlistment, he returned home on the twenty-third of January 1864 to marry Miss Lydia A. Ward, a native of New Hampshire, then a resident of Macon County.¹⁰ Emery and Miss Ward were married near Maroa, Illinois, January 25, 1864 by the Reverend Isaac Wood.¹¹ Their marriage brought them two sons, Willis, who was born on January 21, 1865 and died the same day at the farm near Maroa.¹² The second son, Frank

⁸History of Macon County, p. 169.

⁹Mustering and Descriptive Roll of One-Hundred and Fifteenth and One-Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry Regiments of Illinois Volunteers. Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois, p. 45.

¹⁰History of Macon County, p. 169.

¹¹Emery family Bible, possession of John W. Hobbs.

¹²Ibid.

Charles was born on August 3, 1868 and lived to be thirty-seven years of age, dying August 11, 1905.¹³ Frank was married to Annie J. North, July 25, 1894, near Clinton, West Virginia.¹⁴

Upon completion of a service career that brought him great honor and advancement, Emery returned to his wife and farm in Macon County. Here he engaged in a real estate business, connected with New York banks, for the purpose of selling land in the area. He then moved into Maroa where he engaged in the banking business, while continuing to sell real estate, and also buying and shipping grain, as the proprietor and owner of the largest elevator in Maroa.

With a highly successful venture into banking in Maroa, and in real estate, Emery was encouraged to open two new banks, one in North Dakota, and one in South Dakota, for the purpose of loaning money to potential land buyers in these states. Emery employed one Peter Trynor, to manage the banks in the Dakotas, to arrange loans and to secure original government land grants as security.¹⁵ He continued to operate his bank in Maroa, and although he paid out enough money to government to almost break him, he remained successful. It was then that he built a large house in Maroa.

During these years as a businessman and banker in Macon County and later Maroa, Mr. Emery became prominent in local affairs. A story in the Decatur Republican reads: ". . . Mr. C. F. Emery, well known in this city, has opened a banking house and real estate office at Maroa,

¹³ ibid.

¹⁴ ibid.

¹⁵ Interview with Hobbs.

where he is doing a good business. Next Monday, Mr. Emery will leave for Washington and New York City on a business trip."¹⁶ He was also prominent in politics, soundly indoctrinated in the principles of the Republican party. "He early espoused the cause of freedom and human rights, and from his first vote through all subsequent elections, he has uniformly cast his ballot for the continuance of republican ideas and principles."¹⁷ He was very active in the Republican party, both on the township and county level. He served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors,¹⁸ gaining a reputation as a very successful and prudent member. He served as a member to the Macon County Republican Convention which assembled at the Macon County Court House, October 4, 1870 and was elected to serve as temporary chairman of the same.¹⁹ He received the nomination and was elected to the State Board of Equalization for the Fourteenth Congressional District.²⁰ Thus, Mr. Emery was very prominent in the business and political affairs of Macon County as well as a respected member of the Order of Free Masonry.

Following his retirement from the banking, real estate and grain buying business, Mr. Emery became a rural mail carrier on one of four routes out of Macon, his route lying northeast of the town, for a period of two years. Upon retirement from the postal system, Emery was still very active and engaged in selling the Matthew Brady album, Brady

¹⁶Decatur Republican, April 4, 1872, p. 1.

¹⁷History of Macon County, p. 170.

¹⁸op. cit., p. 221.

¹⁹Hobbs; and History of Macon County, p. 170.

²⁰Decatur Review, April 18, 1911.

Photographs of Civil War. This album sold for the price of \$10.00, Emery having purchased the same at \$6.00 per album. His traveling throughout the area had been arranged for through a personal friend, Congressman William B. McKinley, President of the Illinois Traction System, who presented him with a life time pass on the I. T. S. which ran from Decatur through Maroa to Champaign and from Decatur to Springfield.

His employment as a book salesman was his last, his health becoming quite frail, and that of his wife's becoming quite frail, also. Emery lived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Hobbs for one month after selling his home and during his wife's early illness. Following this short stay, they entered the Soldiers and Sailors Home at Quincy, Illinois. During his stay at the Soldiers and Sailors Home, following his wife's death, he would frequently make trips to Maroa and Decatur to visit old friends. It was one of these trips to Maroa and Decatur which proved fatal to Captain Emery, who, while sitting in a Decatur restaurant, fell from the stool and suffered brain concussion or cerebral hemorrhage on April 18, 1911.²¹

The community learned with great regret of the death of Major Charles F. Emery. He would have been seventy-eight years old May 26, and for many years was one of the most prominent men of Macon County. The obituary of Emery reads as follows; "In his prime he was identified with nearly every enterprise that was for the betterment of business and social matters. Fortune favored him for many years, but proved fickle and deserted him in his old age."²² Captain Emery's services were

²¹ ibid.

²² ibid.

held in Decatur, the body then sent to the Soldier's and Sailor's Home at Quincy where it was to be interned beside his wife in the Soldier's burying ground.

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION OF THE ONE-HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY

When the great conflict between the North and South was fought, Illinois contributed regiments of her own including or enlisting 256,000 men into the field and in the regiments of other states there were enough Illinoisins to swell the number to 290,000. Most of the soldiers volunteered since Illinois had to draft only 3,533. There were 5,857 killed in action and 23,000 died of wounds and diseases. It was not the hard tack and soldier's pay, but the desire to save the union which was the impelling force which enticed these brave sons of Illinois to answer the call.

The great victories won in the west, where most of the Illinois regiments fought, are well known. History shows that Illinois men fought to win. When everything looked dark, Illinois helped to gain victories all down the Mississippi in the drive to divide the Confederacy. Sherman took with him on his march to the sea forty-five regiments of Illinois Infantry, three companies of artillery, and one of cavalry. As his drive picked up momentum, he could not be stopped.²³

²³Sibthorp, Fred I., Decatur and Macon County History, Maroa Prairie Post and Loyington Reporter, October 20, 1960 p. 46, Vol. I. Decatur Herald and Review Library, Decatur, Illinois.

It was in this same spirit that Macon County sent to the war her own One-Hundred Sixteenth Infantry Regiment which was almost totally mustered from within the county with only a few from outlying counties.²⁴ Companies A, B, C, D, E, G, I, and K were made up almost exclusively from Macon County. Company F was the only one that had no Macon County men in it, being mainly recruited from McLean County and Company H had only three men from Macon County. Prior to the organization of the One-Hundred Sixteenth each of seven other regiments from the area had from one to three companies of Macon County Men.²⁵

The One-Hundred Sixteenth was organized as a part of a full county movement to supply forces for the Union's cause. Recruiting of the forces had started in August, 1862 and within two days four companies went into camp at Camp Macon.²⁶ It was a very willing and dedicated group of soldiers which assembled at Camp Macon as is indicated in the letter of Lieutenant Carl P. Christie in correspondence with Major General John A. McClernand.

On the 8th of September, Lieutenant Christie had received orders to proceed to Decatur to assist in organizing new troops rendezvousing at that point. Upon reporting to Major General McClernand, Christie reportedly "found a fine body of men and intelligent officers."²⁷

²⁴ Muster and Descriptive Roll of 115th and 116th Infantry Regiments of Illinois Volunteers, Illinois State Archives

²⁵ Kyle, Otto R. Decatur and Macon County in the Civil War, Decatur Herald and Review, February 12, 1961.

²⁶ William E. Nelson, editor, City of Decatur and Macon County, Illinois (Chicago, 1910) 1, 155.

²⁷ John A. McClernand Letters, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.

The One-Hundred Sixteenth while encamped at Camp Macon proceeded to elect officers who were to lead them through the trying days ahead. Nathan W. Tupper, a prominent lawyer of Decatur was "spoken of favorably for the Colonelcy of the Macon County Regiment," but Tupper accepted reluctantly because of the death of his brother at Pittsburg landing on April 6, 1862, while leading the Forty-First Illinois Regiment. Tupper thought it was his responsibility to remain in Decatur to support his deceased brother's family. On August 22, 1862, the One-Hundred Sixteenth was organized with the following officers:²⁸ Nathan W. Tupper, Colonel; James H. Boyd, Lieutenant Colonel; Anderson Froman, Major; Charles H. Fuller, Adjutant; Lyman King, Regimental Quartermaster; N. M. Baker, Chaplain; John A. Heckelman, Assistant Surgeon.

Later joining the medical staff of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Infantry was Ira N. Barnes who was mustered on March 23, 1863 and J. A. W. Hostether, mustered October 1, 1862.²⁹ Throughout the duration of the enlistment of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Infantry, there were, for various reasons, changes made in the staff. More details on this will be found later in this paper.

There are three personalities, two of which were not on the original staff, who played a significant part in leaving behind at least a partial history of the One-Hundred Sixteenth. C. F. Emery,³⁰ leaves

²⁸James P. Boyd Diary, Illinois State Historical Library 1858-1863; Original Muster Roll-116th Regiment of the Infantry Illinois Volunteers; Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois.

²⁹Muster and Descriptive Roll of the 116th.

³⁰C. F. Emery papers, Decatur Public Library, Decatur, Illinois.

his papers which prove to be full of information about the quartermaster's duties and provide much information concerning the route and activities of the Fifteenth Army Corp. James P. Boyd³¹ In his diary, leaves a very complete and interesting sketch of the One-Hundred Sixteenth's activities from August 1862 to May 1863, although this is not the complete history of the One-Hundred Sixteenth. The Civil War Letters of Henry Clay Bear,³² also provide an enlightening survey of the One-Hundred Sixteenth during the war through the eyes of an infantry private. His letters cover the period from November, 1862 through April 15, 1865, although during the last several months he was separated from the One-Hundred Sixteenth during his confinement in the army hospital at Keokuk, Iowa. Boyd, who had been appointed to the staff as lieutenant colonel was one of the original organizers of the One-Hundred Sixteenth. On August 5, 1862,³³ he obtained a permit to raise a volunteer company which was to serve an enlistment of three years and was to be raised within ten days. By the 15th of August, he took the names of 78 enlistees to Springfield, sending another 86 one day later. Boyd was elected Captain of his Company, prior to receiving his commission as lieutenant colonel.

At the time of muster into the services of the United States, September 6, 1862, the One-Hundred Sixteenth failed to qualify as a regiment, but by September 31, the ranks had swollen to meet the

³¹James P. Boyd Diary, Illinois State Historical Library, 1858-1863.

³²Civil War Letters of Henry Clay Bear, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois, 1862-1865.

³³Boyd - August 5, 1862, Chapter 3.

requirements and the regiment was mustered. In accordance with the policy of the United States Army, the companies were lettered A through K, J being eliminated because it resembled I to prevent all possible confusion in communication and records.

Heading each of the companies, were well qualified officers, who as were their superiors, very ambitious and worth their while as soldiers. The complete listing of the company command is as follows:³⁴

Company A - W. F. Brown; Company B - Austin McClurg; Company C - Thomas White; Company D - Joseph Lingle; Company E - Lewis J. Eyeman; Company F - Samuel N. Bishop; Company G - Alonzo B. Davis; Company H - J. L. Dobson; Company I - Uriah P. Forbes; and Company K - John E. Maddux.

³⁴Boyd, November 8, 1862.

CHAPTER III

THE ONE-HUNDRED SIXTEENTH MOVES TO WAR

The One-Hundred Sixteenth was encamped at Camp Macon,³⁵ on the outskirts of Decatur, during the duration of its training from August 15, 1862³⁶ through November 8, 1862,³⁷ when the regiment departed for Columbus, Kentucky via the Illinois Central Railroad. During that same day, orders were received by the command to proceed to Memphis, Tennessee. Arriving in Cairo, Illinois at 7 a.m., November 9th, preparations were made to load onto the steamer Tigress beginning at 1:30 p.m. Arrival time at Memphis was 12:00 noon, November 12, where the One-Hundred Sixteenth soon encamped one and a half miles from the city.

Upon arrival at Memphis, the forces there were organized into five brigades as per General Orders # 93.³⁸ The brigades were divided under such: Brigadier General Morgan L. Smith - First Brigade; Colonel J. Adair McCowell - Second Brigade; Brigadier General J. W. Denver -

³⁵The area which was then known as Camp Macon is presently Fairview Park, and prior to that was the Fairgrounds.

³⁶Nelson, p. 155.

³⁷Boyd, November 8, 1862.

³⁸Official Records: War of the Rebellion, 1 ser., XVII, pt. 2, No. 5, p. 34.

Third Brigade; Colonel David Stuart³⁹ - Fourth Brigade; Colonel R. P. Buckland - Fifth Brigade. Two divisions were formed, Brigadier General Denver commanding the First Division, which was composed of the Second, Third, and Fifth brigades, Brigadier General M. L. Smith, commanding the First and the Fourth brigades.⁴⁰

The Fourth Brigade, of which the One-Hundred Sixteenth was a member, was composed of the following troops:⁴¹ Fifty-fifth Illinois under Lieutenant Colonel O. Malmberg; Fifty-seventh Ohio, Colonel W. Mungen commanding; Eighty-third Indiana headed by Colonel Spooner; One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois under Colonel Tupper, and the One-Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois with Lieutenant Colonel Eldridge in command. It was under this organization that the first march into enemy territory was conducted. On November 24, 1862, orders were received to march from Memphis on Wednesday, November 26th. With these orders in mind, the troops departed from Memphis via Pigeon Roost Road toward Holly Springs and at 8:00 p.m. landed at Germantown. Here the One-Hundred Sixteenth was wrongfully blamed for burning houses, which later was reported in a special dispatch from Cairo, Illinois, to have been burned by members of the Eighth Missouri, who were in the same brigade. The

³⁹Decatur Public Library, C. F. Emery Papers, Letter from C. F. Emery to Uncle Alvin, November 21, 1862. (In the letter Emery made reference to General Stewart-Stuart).

⁴⁰O.R., 1 ser., XVII, pt. 2, No. 5, p. 344.

⁴¹ibid.

offenders were later shot by the division commander.⁴²

By December 1st, the cavalry encountered its first skirmish with the enemy, four miles north of Wyatt. Upon continuing the march to Wyatt, the troops had to build a bridge over the Tallahatchee River. It was at this time that many men became sick with the mumps. Upon crossing the river December 5, 1862, the march continued until December 12 when they were within 22 miles of Memphis. On December 12th, the march covered 15 miles to Newhorn⁴³ Lake, six miles from Memphis. On Saturday, December 13th, the march to Memphis continued where the forces soon encamped on the east side of the city in a grove.⁴⁴ The command was issued the next day to prepare to leave for Vicksburg to attack the enemy on the

⁴²Boyd, November 26, 1862; Bear, Dec. 16, 1862. In a letter of that date Bear referred to a report of the One Hundred Sixteenth burning a house in German town . . .

"The Colonel told us we had done better on the last march than he expected, that we was the largest Regt., that we stood marching well, and had a good r(e)-putation, with the exception of burning a house in Germantown which he said he did not believe we did nor neither do I."

Chicago Daily Tribune, December 2, 1862.

⁴³Bear, Letter of December 12, 8:00 p.m. states his regiment is encamped for the night on Clear Lake, six miles from Memphis.

⁴⁴Bear, Letter of December 13, 2:00 p.m. reports that they are camped within two hundred yards of their old camping ground.

Mississippi, the final orders which were received on Thursday, December 18.⁴⁵ Because of failure of the necessary number of ships to arrive for loading and departure, the move was delayed two days until all ships

⁴⁵Battles and Leaders, III, p. 451.

"On the 21st of October, 1862, Secretary Stanton by a confidential order authorized Major General John A. McClernand, then in Washington, to proceed to the States of Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa for the purpose of raising and organizing troops for an expedition, to be commanded by him, having for its object the capture of Vicksburg, the freeing of the Mississippi and the opening of the Mississippi and the opening of navigation to New Orleans. On the 9th of November General Banks was ordered to relieve General Butler, at New Orleans, and proceed to open the Mississippi from below. General McClernand was authorized to show his confidential orders to the governors of the states named, but they were not communicated to General Grant, who, on October 16th was formally assigned to the command of the Department of the Tennessee, a command he had been exercising ever since. Halleck went to Washington in July. Being advised, however, of the President's strong desire for a movement against Vicksburg, General Grant made his preparations for a combined attack on that strong hold by a force descending the river on transports from Memphis and a heavier force under his own command moving by land along the general line of the Jackson Railroad. Some correspondence took place by telegraph between General Grant and General Halleck, as General-in-Chief, regarding a commander for the river column, to which McClernand's levies were assigned as they reported at Cairo, and General Grant was authorized to designate the commander unless otherwise ordered. General Grant had already indicated to Halleck his purpose of assigning Sherman; General Halleck replied, December 9th, that Sherman would be his choice, but that the President might insist on naming the commander. Finally, just as the expedition was ready to start from Memphis, General Grant, at Oxford, Mississippi, received General Halleck's telegram of December 18th, directing him to give the command to McClernand. General McClernand, who had also been in correspondence with the Government on this subject and had now received corresponding orders direct, was at that moment on his way to report for duty. General Grant's telegram to Sherman, intended to cause him to wait for McClernand, did not reach Memphis until after Sherman with the advance of the troops had started. The capture of Holly Springs on the 20th of December broke General Grant's cooperating movement by land. Sherman, knowing nothing of the enforced garrison of Vicksburg, at Chickasaw's Bluffs, and was repulsed with heavy loss. The following day, January 4th, General McClernand took command of the expedition, to which he gave the name of the "Army of the Mississippi", dividing it into two corps, commanded by Major-General Sherman, and Brigadier-General George W. Morgan. Without waiting for future instructions, McClernand at once moved up the Arkansas River

arrived. On the 20th of December, the One-Hundred Sixteenth boarded the Planet,⁴⁶ in preparation for departure later in the day.⁴⁷

Upon departing from Memphis, the Planet proceeded the Second the Second Division until approximately 3:00 a.m. the morning of December 21st, when she ran aground a sand bar near Helena. For the next few days, the fleet progressed down the river, without major incident, until December 25th when all four divisions were within sight around Millikin's Bend on the Louisiana side.

During the first day at Millikin's Bend, the First Brigade, composed of the One-Hundred Thirteenth Illinois, One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois, Eighth Missouri, and Sixth Missouri, proceeded to the Louisiana

and captured the works known as Arkansas Post, with about five thousand prisoners. Grant at first disapproved of the movement as having been made without orders, McClernand, however, considered himself an independent commander. All question as to McClernand's position disappeared in the reorganization of the forces under General Grant. December 18th, 1862, into four army corps: the Thirteenth to be commanded by McClernand, the Fifteenth by Sherman, the Sixteenth by Hurlbut, the Seventeenth by McPherson."

⁴⁶Boyd spells "Planet"; Bear spells "Plannet"; Emery spells "Planet".

⁴⁷Q. R., 1 ser., XVII, pt. 1, No. 24, p. 614. Boyd, Dec. 20, 1862: The Second Division under General M. L. Smith was assigned the following steamers: Universe-Sixth Missouri; Westmoreland-Fifty-fifth Illinois; Sarce City-Thirty-third Iowa; Omaha-Fifty-seventh Ohio; Sunny South-Fifty-fourth Ohio; Planet-One Hundred Sixteenth Illinois and Battery Eight Ohio, also on the Silverspar; City of Memphis-Eight Missouri, Spread Eagle-One Hundred-twenty-seventh Illinois, and Edward Walsh-One Hundred Thirteenth Illinois.

and Texas Railroad, where one mile of track was destroyed,⁴⁸ and four men were wounded. On December 26th the forces⁴⁹ started up the Yazoo River and on the 27th proceeded for an attack upon Vicksburg. At this point, the Fourth Division skirmished with the enemy with a few of the Ohio Fifty-eighth killed and wounded. The morning of December 28th saw battle starting at 7:50 a.m. and by 10:30 a.m. the One-Hundred Sixteenth was placed in the general line of battle. It was a fierce battle when several were wounded by sharp shooters in rifle pits, the union forces receiving more injury than the enemy.⁵⁰

The night of December 29th was spent next to the enemy, and the "picquets" of the One-Hundred Sixteenth were ordered to take position in speaking distance of enemy picquets on the 30th, however, they were ordered not to fire. The following day was one of little action and the

⁴⁸Boyd, December 25, 1862.

⁴⁹Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, December 1862. Account of Activities.

"The Regt. left Bowles Mills, Miss., near Tallahatchie River December 7, 1862 and arrived at Memphis, Tenn. Dec. 13, 1862, left Memphis, Tenn. Dec. 20, 1862 and proceeded by steamboat to Millikin's Bend, La. where Regt. was disembarked on evening of Dec. 25 and proceeded to destroy railroad track of Louisiana and Texas R. R., west of Vicksburg, which being effectually done by command of Genl. M. L. Smith, reg't returned to Boats, and embarked for Yazoo River and arrived on south bank of Yazoo River, near Walnut Hills, Miss., Dec. 27, 1862, and was under fire and in action from Dec. 28 to Dec. 31st, 1862, with loss of six wounded. Four men were wounded at tearing up R R track at night on Dec. 25, 1862. Strength of Regt, much reduced from fatigue and exposure in Yazoo Swamp. C. H. Fuller, Regt. Adjutant."

⁵⁰Boyd, December 27, 1862.

troops moved back to the boats; the boats proceeded down the Yazoo River and on January 3rd made a permanent landing at Millikin's Bend.⁵¹ For several days, the action was limited, but on January 10th the One-Hundred Sixteenth prepared for battle.⁵² The next day a very severe three hours of cannonading, and fighting ensued. A second advance resulted in a victory for the Union forces, who captured some 5,000 enemy prisoners. They also lost the services of a Captain Eymon,⁵³ Lieutenant

⁵¹Boyd, January 3, 1863.

⁵²Battles and Leaders, III, p. 452. General Sherman had returned his army to Millikin's Bend, which was accomplished on January 3rd. That same day General McClelland arrived at Millikin's Bend and the very next day assumed command of the expedition. Having nothing better to do, he determined to capture the Post of Arkansas, and to occupy the State. Following the attack McClelland received peremptory orders from Grant to return to Millikin's Bend with his entire command.

Q. R. I., Vol. 17, part 1, No. 24, p. 775. Col. G. A. Smith reported the movement upon Arkansas Post, the First Brigade, as such: The Sixth Missouri on the right, the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois in center, and the Eighth Missouri and the Thirteenth United State Infantry in Reserve. He commented, "This being the first time the 113th and 116th Ill. were ever under fire they sustained themselves nobly throughout the engagement."

⁵³Lewis J. Eymon, Harristown, Captain Company E., killed January 11, 1863. Report Adjutant General State of Illinois, 1861-66 (rev. ed.), VI, p. 257. Captain Eymon had been designated as flag bearer of the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry. The flag had been donated through the efforts of Misses Martha Eymon and Mary Elinor McGuire who "rode horseback mile after mile soliciting funds to buy a company flag for the boys." --

"The flag was presented with due ceremony and intrusted to the care of the Captain at the time Captain Eymon came to Macon County from St. Clair County and was a veteran of two wars, having fought in the war with Mexico. On coming to Macon County in 1856 he made a claim of 160 acres of land with the land warrant he had received from his services in the Mexican War."

Sibthorp, Fred L., Macon Prairie Post and Lovington Reporter, "Illini Battle Flag Survives the Civil War." October 20, 1960.

Taylor,⁵⁴ and three privates who were killed. The battle which has heretofore been described was known as the Battle of Arkansas Post.⁵⁵

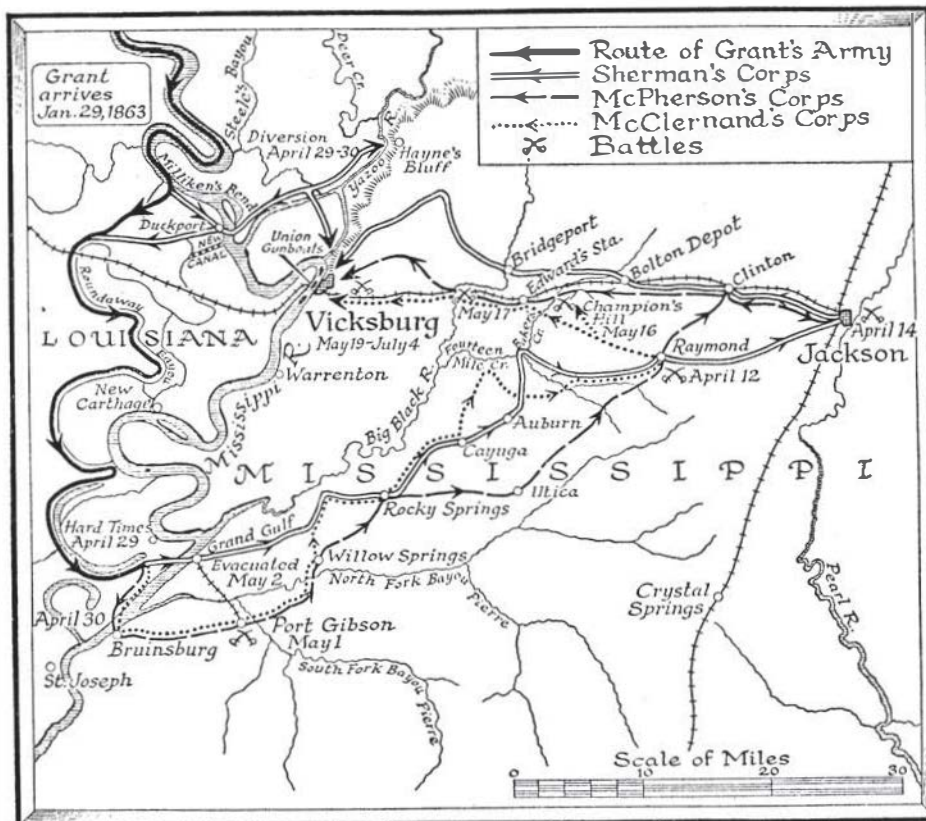
The period immediately following the seizure of Fort Hindman (Arkansas Post) brought about much illness. There were at least 400 sick on the boat and Colonel Tupper and Major Froman were reported to be extremely sick.⁵⁶ During this time, the boats were enroute down the river to Millikin's Bend. Upon spending one night there, the forces were conducted to Young's Point, where the Union armies were digging a canal,

⁵⁴John S. Taylor, First Lieutenant Company B, killed January 11, 1863. Report Adjutant General State of Illinois, VI, p. 251.

⁵⁵Battles and Leaders, III, p. 445. Arkansas Post was established by Major-General T. C. Hindman, who was to command Confederate forces in the District of Arkansas. At the time of the attack the garrison was under the command of Brigadier-General Thomas J. Churchill. Bear, p. 29. Made reference to Fort Hindman.

⁵⁶Boyd, January 17, 1863.

(See map.) in order that they might avoid Vicksburg.



On January 23, 1863⁵⁷ the One-Hundred Sixteenth Regiment began to dig on the upper end of the canal in attempts to widen the same. The days

⁵⁷Returns of One-Hundred and Sixteenth, January, 1863.

"January 2nd. Regiment embarked on "Steamer Planet" at mouth of Yazoo River proceeded up the Mississippi River to the Mouth of White River up White River and through the cut-off to Arkansas up Arkansas River to Arkansas Post. Disembarked and were under fire and in action on the 10th and 11th when the enemy surrendered the post with all its forces, munitions, ect. The Regiment lost two officers and four men killed and seven men wounded. Remarked on the 15th and proceeded down the Arkansas River to Napoleon-remained there one or two days and then passed down the Mississippi River to Young's Point, La. when the Regiment arrived on the 22nd January since which time the Regiment has been doing Fatigue duty--digging a canal across the point. Strength of the Regiment much reduced from exposure and long confinement on Boats and in the Yazoo Swamps. J. C. Bishop. Lt. and Adjutant."

spent working on the canal were spent under very unsatisfactory conditions, with the water rising rapidly and many troops seriously ill.⁵⁸ Most days were spent with the several troops working shifts of two and four hour reliefs.

By February 1, 1863, Boyd reported that work was progressing well and many of the boys of the One-Hundred Sixteenth had been cheered up by the morning appearance of Robert Timmons from Macon County, who had brought many letters and nicknacks.⁵⁹ At sunrise on the second day of February the ram the Monarch attempted to run the blockade at Vicksburg, striking a rebel boat too far forward and suffering extensive damage herself. The ram was struck twelve times, with five shells penetrating, one of which, a 120 pound shell, going into and on a berth without exploding.⁶⁰

The month of February saw things beginning to become a little more liveable when a (H.) Harris⁶¹ succeeded in building a regimental oven, and the health of the regiment was improving,⁶² and more men were arriving to provide labor dally. Although the health was improving,

⁵⁸Boyd, January 27, 1863.

⁵⁹Boyd, February 1, 1863.

⁶⁰Boyd, February 2, 1863.

⁶¹Boyd, February 3, 1863; Henry Harris, Decatur, private of Company 1, mustered out June 7, 1865. Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 265.

⁶²Returns of One-Hundred and Sixteenth, February, 1863.

"Regiment has been engaged in fatigue duty during the month digging a canal across the peninsula opposite Vicksburg, Miss., Health of Regiment has been very bad, but is now slowly improving. Rufus C. Crocker, Actg. Adjutant."

five hundred sick were on board the steamer Memphis, and many soldiers were still dying daily. The dead were buried on the side of the levee.⁶³

James P. Boyd reportedly had gone to Memphis to the hospital due to his illness and upon returning to the canal found the conditions much improved. Following several weeks of dedicated work in digging the canal, the dam across the upper end of the same broke letting a cross current of water from the east enter which proved very destructive to the west bank. By 4:00 p.m. of the same day, March 7, the area where the army was camped was threatened by flood, and the troops were ordered to be prepared to evacuate at half an hour notice. Several days passed and the Union forces were still biding time with the river, even though it was raining heavily every day.

Friday, March 13th, 1863, did not prove to be the unlucky day for the troops at Young's Point, as they received back pay for time up to 31st October, 1862. They did, however, encounter bad luck when a coal barge broke the steam line and crowded the dredge against the bank slowing the progress of the work.

On Monday, March 16, 1863, the One-Hundred and Sixteenth received orders to march to the boats at the upper landing, there to prepare to embark on an unknown expedition, preparations being made which consisted of one days' rations in their haversacks and three days rations placed upon the steamer Silver Wave. The next day, the second brigade,⁶⁴ under Colonel Giles Smith, attempted a short cut into Steele Bayou by land,

⁶³Boyd, February 14, 1863.

⁶⁴Boyd, March 17, 1863.

but encountered a cross current of water which had to be bridged.⁶⁵ The brigade awaited the return of General Stuart who had been reconnoitering and had met with many obstructions, much delay and disappointment. By Thursday,⁶⁶ the current had been bridged and the troops boarded the Silver Wave at Steele Bayou. On Friday the mouth of the Black Bayou was reached and shortly after seeing the troops of General Sheridan and General Price, the Eighth and Sixth Missouri and the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois⁶⁷ landed below Hill's Farm, where they found a well cultivated land, which promised good forage. Later that day orders were received to hasten to Deer Creek, twenty-one miles, in order to meet the

⁶⁵O. R., ser. 1, XXIV, pt. 1, No. 36, p. 453. The Illinois One-Hundred Sixteenth was mentioned in construction of bridge across two impassible crevices in Muddy Bayou for troops to cross. Report of Col. Augustus C. Parry, Forty Seventh Ohio Infantry.

⁶⁶O. R., ser. 1, XXIV, pt. 1, No. 36, p. 439, Report of Col. Giles A. Smith, Eighth Missouri Infantry, commanding First Brigade, reporting movements of the First Brigade in the expedition up Steele's Bayou, Black Bayou, and Deer Creek.

"The Sixth Missouri and One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Regiments embarked at the mouth of Muddy Bayou on the evening of Thursday, March 18 (19), and proceeded up Steele's Bayou to the mouth of Black; thence up Black Bayou to Hill's Plantations and junctioned with Deer Creek, where we arrived on Friday at 4:00 p.m., where we joined the Eighth Missouri, Lieutenant Colonel Coleman commanding, which had arrived at that point two days before."

⁶⁷O. R., ser. 1, XXIV, pt. 1, No. 36, p. 432. Letter from General Sherman to Colonel John A. Rawlins.

Department of the Tennessee
Headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps
Camp at Intersection of Black
Bayou, and Deer Creek, Mississippi
March 21, 1863

" . . . Steamers Eagle and Silver Wave came up far enough to land two regiments, viz, the Sixth Missouri and the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois at the first ground above water from the Yazoo to this point . . ."

gunboats. During the march the Sixth Missouri skirmished with the enemy.

Upon arrival at the gunboats, the three regiments were just in time to help defend the men clearing the creek from obstruction. The Troops were sent back six miles to guard the Bayou, the One-Hundred Sixteenth falling back three miles to prevent the enemy from falling timbers at night.⁶⁸

It was during this maneuver that the second Brigade was surrounded by the enemy, the union gunboats taking their toll and eventually General Sherman and a division of Infantry driving the enemy off. Following this small encounter, the union forces continued the retreat the next few days, and on March 25th, the brigade received word the enemy was approaching in force, the result being that a line of battle was formed, sleeping in the same. No action ensued and the next day the One-Hundred Sixteenth and One Hundred Fifteenth Illinois boarded the steamer Diligent to proceed to Young's Point. Upon return to Young's

⁶⁸O. R., ser. 1, XXIV, p. 1, No. 36, p. 435, Letter from Sherman to Rawlins, the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois was mentioned as being a part of the troops landed at Black Bayou, one and one half miles from the mouth, two and one half miles from Hill's Plantation. They prevented the enemy from falling trees in Deer Creek to the rear of the fleet.

Point it was evident that the canal was indeed a failure.⁶⁹ With the failure of the Vicksburg cut off, Boyd reported that the efforts were to be concentrated on a new canal ten miles up the river which would complete a navigable bayou of some nine miles. The first weeks of April were spent with very little activity other than working on the new canal.

Many unsuccessful attempts by the Union forces had been made in an attempt to gain control of Vicksburg. A naval expedition had been unsuccessful in reducing and capturing the city during May and June, 1862. General Sherman was unsuccessful in his impossible approach via Chickasaw Bayou, during which assault the Union forces suffered severe losses, in the assault at Chickasaw Bluffs. The Vicksburg cut off had proved a failure and an attempt to break a levee in order to form a channel from the Mississippi to the Yazoo failed.

⁶⁹Boyd, April 5, Decatur Democrat, Friday, April 14, 1871.

"A Vicksburg Cut Off - Probably more work was done during the late war in the unsuccessful effort to turn the waters of the Mississippi away from the city of Vicksburg than in any one thing which was attempted. What man failed to do then, however, is reported that nature is quietly doing now. Engineer officers who have examined, say the river is so changing its channel that unless immediate preventive measures are taken, Vicksburg will become an inland town. The main channel now, immediately under the bluffs on which the town stands, makes one of the best harbors upon the river, but, in a few months, the engineers are confident a cut off will be formed across the low, sandy peninsula opposite the city, through which a greater portion of the amount will pass, leaving not enough water on the levees of the town to float steamboats. To prevent this it will be necessary to construct an expensive stone work called a revetment, which is estimated to cost \$2,745,345."

Unable to achieve Vicksburg from the north and west, Grant abandoned unsuccessful military theories and endeavored to move his troops from Millikin's Bend above Vicksburg to a point far below, where the forces awaited to be transferred to the Mississippi side of the river. Having ferried the troops across the river at Millikin's Bend, the fleet was then to run the blockade at Vicksburg, in order that they would be available to ferry the troops to the Mississippi side. With this maneuver Grant's troops prepared to advance on Vicksburg from the east, one of two accessible sides.

On April 22, 1863, Boyd reported that four steamer transports loaded with subsistence supplies were to run the blockade at Vicksburg. Before the steamers were able to undergo the mission, the regular crews ran off. Leaving the steamers with out crews, volunteers were needed, and it was reported that three men of the One-Hundred Sixteenth offered their services. They were Lieutenant Charles Emery, John Borgo of Company F, and one man from Company C whose name was not given.⁷⁰ Their services finally were not needed, as Logan's division had furnished all. The transports were successful in running the blockade.

On April 25, 1863, the One-Hundred Sixteenth was ordered to prepare to go to Carthage on the Mississippi River via Millikin's Bend and Richmond. On the morning of the 26th, Boyd and Charles Emery, quartermaster, made preparations for obtaining 1,008 new Enfield rifles for the regiment, aboard the steamer Lathan, the same not to be received until several days later. The final days of April became more involved, when

⁷⁰ Boyd, April 22, 1863, John Borgo, Company F, Detroit, Michigan, Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 260.

the combined forces of the Thirteenth Army Corps of General McClelland and the Fifteenth Army Corps of General Sherman began the pursuit.⁷¹ At Chickasaw Bayou the Thirty-seventh Ohio and the Eighth Missouri skirmished with the enemy. During the morning of the 30th, the gunboats Chocktaw and DeCaib engaged in heavy fire, the Chocktaw reportedly being hit fifty-three times, and no one being hurt. During this time, all regiments encountered some fire with enemy cannon, but no one reportedly was wounded.

The month of May provided a maximum of marching but few encounters with the enemy as the combined forces moved throughout some of the finest land they had ever marched over before. During the time these troops were engaged in the heavy marches, they received word of the success of General Logan and the Battle of Raymond.⁷² By Friday, May 15th, the One-Hundred Sixteenth and others had reached Raymond, to receive the many prisoners and the wounded. The next day they marched toward Edwards, where only three miles out they battled for two hours with the enemy,⁷³ eventually capturing 400 prisoners and guns. By 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, the Big Black was reached and the One-Hundred Sixteenth and others skirmished with the enemy.⁷⁴ At this time Captain

⁷¹Q. R., Ser. 1, XXIV, pt. 3, No. 38, p. 252. The One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry was listed as part of the Department of Tennessee, under Major General Ulysses S. Grant, April 30, 1863. The command was as follows: Fifteenth Army Corps. Major General William T. Sherman; Second Division—Major General Frank P. Blair, Jr.; First Brigade—Colonel Giles A. Smith, including the One-Hundred Thirteenth Illinois, the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois, the Sixth Missouri, the Eighth Missouri, the Thirteenth U. S. First Battalion.

⁷²Battles and Leaders, New Ed., III, p. 503.

⁷³Battles and Leaders, p. 503.

⁷⁴Battles and Leaders, p. 515.

Lingle,⁷⁵ Company D, was wounded in the ankle, disabling him for some time. General Sherman ordered that the enemy skirmishers be shelled, and after four shots, they were dislodged. It was now possible to lay the pontoon bridge across the river, the same which was crossed by Boyd and 200 men to serve as skirmishers and pickets.

At 5:00 a.m. the morning of May 18th,⁷⁶ the march upon Vicksburg started. By 2:00 p.m.⁷⁷ the next day, the two wings formed the line of battle and prepared to charge the enemy breastworks. During the ensuing Battle of Vicksburg, many boys were reportedly killed and wounded, including Baty,⁷⁸ the flag bearer who was wounded by the side of Boyd. Colonel Giles A. Smith was also wounded on the right hip, along with James P. Boyd, who reported that he was wounded while "rallying a large squad that hesitated by reason of galling fire,"⁷⁹ during which he was shot through the body and left lung by a sharpshooter. Boyd reportedly concluded that he was killed, as he bled profusely while lying on the ground. It was later believed that he might live if the bleeding could be stopped.

⁷⁵Joseph Lingle, Maroa, Captain of Company D, Resigned February 29, 1864. Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 255.

⁷⁶Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 269, The battle of the date was known as "Champion Hills."

⁷⁷Battles and Leaders, New Ed., III, p. 517, O.R., ser. 1, XXIV, pt. 2, No. 37, p. 257. Report of Major General Frank P. Blair, Jr., U. S. Army Commanding Second Division, Morning of May 19, 116th and Thirteenth U. S. Infantry mentioned as having pushed forward to the position in the siege of Vicksburg.

⁷⁸Samuel Baty, Corporal, Company A, Killed Vicksburg, May 19, 1863. Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 249. Boyd referred to Baty as "Beatty."

⁷⁹Boyd, May 19, 1863.

Major Froman sent for the stretchers and Boyd was taken by ambulance to the division hospital (a house).⁸⁰ In conclusion of the day, only part of the forces were successful in reaching the breast works. That night many troops remained in place near the breast works at the foot of the bluff. The next days saw frequent cannonading and skirmishes, along with heavy bombardment of Vicksburg.⁸¹ It was rumored in the Camp that McClernand had failed to fulfill his orders for the 19th and was deprived of his command.⁸² Throughout the night of the 22nd,⁸³ Vicksburg was

⁸⁰Boyd, May 19, 1863, Report Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270.

⁸¹O. R. I, V. 27, part 2, #37, p. 159. Return of Casualties in the Union forces engaged at Vicksburg, May 19, 1863.

Killed - Off.	-
En. Men.	6
Wounded - Off.	6
En. Men.	58
Captured or missing - Off.	-
En. Men.	<u>1</u>
Aggregate	71

⁸²Battles and Leaders, III, p. 526. McClernand was not deprived of his command at this time. Grant in his report of "The Vicksburg Campaign" wrote:

"On the 17th (June) I received a letter from General Sherman and on the 18th one from McPherson, saying that their respective commands had complained to them of a fulsome congratulatory order published by General McClernand to the Thirteenth Corps, which did great injustice to the other troops engaged in the campaign.

This order had been sent north and published, and now papers containing it had reached our camps. The order had not been heard by me, and certainly not by troops outside of McClernand's command, until brought in this way. I at once wrote McClernand, directing him to send me a copy of this order. He did so, and I at once relieved him from the command of the Thirteenth Army Corps, and ordered him back to Springfield, Illinois. The publication of his order in the press was in violation of War Department Orders, and also of mine."

⁸³Report of the Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 269. Battle was known as Black River Bridge.

bombarded heavily, and by 10:00 a.m. a general advance was ordered, and again the army failed to get into the breastworks, but the flag was planted upon the same.⁸⁴ During that specific advance one hundred and fifty men went in and only twenty-five came out, Captain Maddux was wounded in the leg.⁸⁵

Additional losses and casualties other than previously mentioned were, Captain Gustin F. Hardy, Company A; who was mortally wounded and died in the hospital; Lieutenant Nathan W. Wheeler, Co. K., who was killed May 22nd, and Captain William Grason, Company A., who was shot through the breast but recovered. Captain Austin McClurg, of Company B, was wounded, and upon recovery was promoted to Major.⁸⁶

⁸⁴Battles and Leaders, III, p. 518. The list of the storming party of the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, led by Captain J. H. Groce, Thirteenth Ohio Infantry, in the assault on the works near Vicksburg, Mississippi, May 22, 1863, included the following volunteers from the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois; First-Lieutenant Nicholas Geschwind, Co. F, wounded; Corporal-Bennona Sprague, Co. F; Corporal Stephen Fornam, Co. E; Private Charles W. Rundle, Co. A; Private John Peck, Co. A; Private John Widick, Co. G; Private John H. Shepherd, Co. G; Private Andrew J. Widick, Co. B; Private John H. Stoner, Co. C; Private Benjamin W. Schenck, Co. D; Private Jacob J. Hobbs, Co. E; Private Thomas J. Ward, Co. C; Private Andrew Johnson, Co. G; Private Martin K. Davis, Co. H; and Private Hiram Epler, Co. K; wounded. Q. R. ser 1, III, pt. 1, p. 63.

⁸⁵Q. R. I, V. 27, part 2, #37, p. 264. Report of Giles A. Smith to Major General F. P. Blair. 116th as part of the storming party under Lt. Nicholas Geschwind and Lt. George H. Stockman of Sixth Missouri Infantry. Fifty men from each of the brigades part of storming party.

⁸⁶Q. R. I, V. 24, part 2, #37, p. 162. Return of Casualties in the Union forces in the assault on Vicksburg, May 22, 1863.

Killed - Off.	1
En. Men.	-
Wounded - Off.	1
En. Men.	7
Captured or missing - Off.	-
En. Men.	-
Aggregate	9

CHAPTER IV

SIEGE OF VICKSBURG AND PURSUIT OF GENERAL JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON

General Grant upon seeing the risk of the assaults and the great loss of life, was determined at that time to attempt no more. He decided to rely upon a regular siege, to "out-camp the enemy."⁸⁷

The days following the unsuccessful assault of the 22nd developed with the work of the regular siege in preparation. Roads were completed from the Yazoo River and Chickasaw Bayou to bring in supplies of food and ammunition as the troops encamped, with the idea of a lengthy stay. This was the first time the troops had been able to take advantage of tents and cooking utensils since they had crossed the Mississippi River.

At this time it was the intention of General Grant to "make our position as strong against the enemy, as his was against us . . ."⁸⁸ and the work to fulfill this was very great. Among the first was to establish camps, and to construct rifle pits and covered ways to connect the entire command by the shortest route. Additional protection was to be provided through the use of bullet proof sand bags and logs on top of the original parapets. Grant's troops were even successful in making and using wooden coehorns, a small mortar for throwing light shells, of the toughest wood available and used them to hurl six and twelve pound

⁸⁷Battles and Leaders, III, p. 518.

⁸⁸Battles and Leaders, III, p. 521.

shells at the enemy trenches.⁸⁹

Much of the work in preparing the defense was done by pioneers and Negroes who came into the Union lines and were paid for their work. By June 30th, the preparations had been made with 220 guns in position, which was mostly light field artillery, along with the heavy guns of the navy.

Considerable effort was placed in undermining the enemy's lines, and through explosions, causing a large enough gap, in order that troops might attack. This first being not highly successful, a second followed, which did bring about loss of an entire rebel redan. Although the work of mining continued with great vigor, no more mines were to be exploded until several could be exploded at different points and an immediate assault could ensue.

During much of the time, the pickets of the Confederate and Union troops were close enough to carry on a conversation. It was through this communication that the Union troops learned of the intent of Pemberton's troops in Vicksburg to attempt an escape into Louisiana,⁹⁰ and the necessary precautions were taken to alleviate this possible escape. At the same time, the troops of General Joseph E. Johnston were in the rear of the Union forces preparing for an attack in order that Pemberton's forces could escape, the plan being that it should take place on the 7th of July.

Prior to this, Pemberton, seeing little hope of outside relief, proposed an armistice with Grant's troops for a few hours, the proposal being declined. General Grant made a counter-proposal that Pemberton's

⁸⁹ Battles and Leaders, III, p. 521-522.

⁹⁰ Battles and Leaders, III, p. 528-529.

troops would be allowed to surrender the city of Vicksburg and the Confederate troops be allowed to leave with limited provisions, weapons, etc. the sick and wounded being allowed to leave as they were to become able to travel.

The terms of the surrender of Vicksburg allowed for a very rapid exchange of command, and also did not encounter a vast amount of time and money in handling prisoners, as normally was done in an unconditional surrender. Therefore, Vicksburg came under the control of Union forces July 4th, at 10:00 a.m.⁹¹ With the surrender of Vicksburg, July 4th, 1863, the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry and others followed in pursuit of the troops of General Joseph E. Johnston,⁹² which resulted in their chasing him to and beyond Jackson, Mississippi, and on across the Pearl River.⁹³

⁹¹Battles and Leaders, III, p. 533-534.

⁹²Battles and Leaders, III, p. 537. On the 3rd June, when negotiations for Vicksburg began, General Grant notified Sherman "to be ready to take the offensive against Johnston, drive him out of the State, and destroy his army if he could."

⁹³Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270. Emory, Letter of July 4, 1863 to Lydia.

Chickasaw, Bayou
July 4, 1863

Dear Lydia,

I write you a few lines this evening from this place I hope for the last time for I am tired of it. Vicksburg has surrendered at last and our troops took possession today. I have been all over the city this afternoon. It is now eleven o'clock at night and I am awful tired have been busy all day and I have to be up at three in the morning as we are to start for Jackson to attack Jo Johnston but I do not think he will stop to fight us. I think we will return here in the course of ten days but still may not. Do not be worried about me if you do not hear from me for a long time for if we should get out in the country I may not be able to send letters very often. I will also take good care of myself and not go into any needless danger. All the prisoners which we have taken here have been paroled. I have not ascertained how many there were but probably near 20,000. Ell Listen is improving as fast as possible(,) Knight Brown

The troops of General Sherman entered permanent encampment on July 25th near Black River, at Camp Sherman,⁹⁴ until such time as they were called into action by General Grant following the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863,⁹⁵ which resulted in the defeat and partial rout of General Rosecrans's army.

The One-Hundred Sixteenth marched from Vicksburg to Memphis and then, via Corinth, to Chattanooga, reaching the latter on the 21st November, 1863. Under the command of General Giles A. Smith, the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois and the Sixth Missouri Regiments floated down the Tennessee River in pontoon boats to the mouth of Chickamauga Creek, there capturing rebel pickets and holding the position until the whole Corps had crossed over.

November 24th saw an advance to the fort of Missionary Ridge and during a lively squirmish General Giles A. Smith was severely

also. Knight Brown has just started up the river and Ell will probably go in a day or two. Enclosed you will find \$20.00 which you will take care of for us or for me (.). Lydia I am very tired so please excuse this short letter from I hope your Charlie.

P. S. Schenk, Boys and Scott are all well.

⁹⁴Return One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, July 1863. First Lieutenant William E. Crissey noted that the infantry was stationed at Camp Sherman.

⁹⁵Cadwalader, Sylvanus, Three Years With Grant, (New York: Knopf, Alfred A.) 1955, p. 132. In order received from Washington, Halleck, suggested that reinforcements be sent to Rosecrans to assist in the capture of Chattanooga, and it was suggested that some suitable corps commander be sent with them. Grant decided to send Sherman. Orders were telegraphed from Washington, September 13th, repeated more urgently on the 19th. Grant reported in his "Memoirs" he received the order the 27th; Cadwalader reported he received them two days earlier.

wounded.⁹⁶ The next day the combined battles of Missionary Ridge and Tunnel Hill were fought, with the One-Hundred Sixteenth and other regiments of the brigade, forming the extreme left of Sherman's army, and gaining the credit of turning the Confederate's right flank. Colonel Nathan W. Tupper, the father of the One-Hundred Sixteenth, assumed command of the forces of General Smith, and was credited as being "the right man in the right place."⁹⁷ A great loss was incurred by the One-Hundred Sixteenth with the illness and death of Colonel Tupper who passed away March 10, 1864.⁹⁸

The impressive victory at Chattanooga did not result in a well earned rest for Sherman's troops⁹⁹ because immediate relief was needed by Burnside at Knoxville, with the aforementioned troops marching forth, without replenishing winter supplies of blankets or overcoats. The greatest effects of the very cold winter were suffered at night while encamped, the days being liveable while marching. In addition to the cold nights, during which the bonfires were being hugged closely, the rations were also listed as being short. They were unable to live off of the land.

⁹⁶Battles and Leaders, III, p. 702.

⁹⁷Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270.

⁹⁸Returns of One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, March 1864. Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270.

⁹⁹Q. R., ser. 1, XXXI, pt. 2, No. 55, p. 86. Returns of the casualties in the Union forces, including skirmishes at Orchard Knob (Indian Hill) and Bushy Knob (23rd), battle of Lookout Mountain and skirmish at foot of Missionary Ridge (24th), skirmishes at Chickamauga Station, Pea Vine Valley, Pigeon Hills, Tennessee, and near Graysville, Ga. (26th) and engagement at Ringgold Gap, Taylor's Ridge, Ga. (27th) reported two enlisted men wounded and one enlisted man captured or missing.

It was not to be disputed by the troops of the One-Hundred Sixteenth and others under Sherman's command, that they had just completed the hardest campaign of their service, when they entered winter encampment on January 9th, 1864.¹⁰⁰

The next months were dedicated to rest and recuperation for the deserving troops who were soon to see more action as of May 1864 when the Army of the Tennessee, including the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois, moved against the enemy, and initial contact was made on May 14th, at Resaca, Georgia. In the encounter which was to follow, the One-Hundred and Sixteenth was "hotly engaged" and suffered extremely heavy losses, but eventually drove the enemy across the creek, and obtained control of the enemy works, which it never relinquished. It was during this same battle that Major Anderson Froman of the One-Hundred Sixteenth received wounds, which caused him to die in the field hospital at a later date.¹⁰¹

Following the engagement at Resaca, Georgia, was a quick succession of the battles of Dallas, Big Shanty, and Kennesaw Mountain. During the battle of Dallas, Captain Thomas White, who had temporarily assumed command following the casualty suffered by Major Froman, was

¹⁰⁰Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270. Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry February 1864, and March 1864. Lt. W. E. Griskey, Adj., reports that the site of encampment was at Larkensville, Ala., upon completing the returns of February and March 1864.

¹⁰¹Returns One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, May 1864. Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 248-270. Date of death was June 15, 1864.

killed on the skirmish line, May 26th,¹⁰² The regiment again suffered heavy losses the next month, June 27, 1864, in the assault on Konesaw Mountain.¹⁰³

Upon crossing the Chattahoochee River, the regiment engaged with the enemy at Stone Mountain, and followed in pursuit driving him into the vicinity of Atlanta. The Army of the Tennessee fought in the battle of Atlanta, July 22, during which General McPherson was killed. The One-Hundred Sixteenth joined with General Logan's Fifteenth Army Corps during the hot battle of Ezra Chapel, July 28th.

Throughout the month of August there was scant fighting, with a few major encounters resulting in the loss of personnel. On August 31st¹⁰⁴

¹⁰²Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 270. Q. R., ser. 1, XXXVIII, pt. 3, No. 74, p. 193. In the report of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith, Captain White was killed Friday, May 27th, 1864. On May 26th the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois was deployed against the enemy driving them some distance from Villa Rica Road on the march of the First Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth A.C. to Dallas.

¹⁰³Q. R., ser. 1, XXXVIII, pt. 3, No. 74, 194. The assault on Konesaw Mountain was commanded by G. A. Smith. Two lines of attack were formed, the first brigade, the center of three brigades attacking. The One-Hundred Sixteenth, Captain Windsor commanding, was placed in front center, of the line, the Fifty-Seventh Ohio on the right, the One-Hundred Seventeenth on the left. The second line was composed of the Sixth Missouri, the One-Hundred Twenty-seventh Illinois and the Fifty-fifth U. S., right to left. Very heavy losses were suffered in the assault of the Mountain, four officers and twenty enlisted men killed, six officers and one hundred twenty-two men wounded, two men missing.

¹⁰⁴Q. R., ser. 1, XXXVIII, p. 3, No. 74, pp. 199-200. Colonel Theo. Jones, Thirteenth Ohio Infantry, commanding the First Brigade, observed the activities of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois. The One-Hundred Sixteenth was brought up to support the line on attack upon Atlanta, August 31. The One-Hundred Sixteenth was deployed to the left of the One Hundred Twenty-seventh Illinois, the Sixth Missouri was deployed on left of One-Hundred Sixteenth. He regarded their maneuvers in the fighting as being a job well done.

and September 1st, under the command of Captain John S. Windsor of Company E., the One-Hundred Sixteenth had two men wounded on the skirmish line during a hot engagement at Jonesboro, Georgia.¹⁰⁵ On the second day of September, the pursuit of the enemy followed with the pursuit leading from Jonesboro to a point on the Macon and Western Railroad near Lovejoy Station. Here they remained in reserve until the morning of the sixth, thence returning to Jonesboro. On the seventh the troops moved to Merrous Mills, and on the eighth entered permanent encampment at East Point, six miles west of Atlanta. Considerable work was done on fortifications, drilling and preparing for another campaign during this encampment.

General Sherman at this time was making preparations to sweep through the south on his "march to the sea." The purpose of which was to gain more control of the down trodden south that suffered greatly with the fall of Atlanta. At this point the Confederate forces and Sherman's troops separated, the former invading Tennessee, while Sherman invaded Georgia. General Hood's main intention in invading Tennessee was to strike at Sherman's lines of communication, in order that he might change his direction and prevent a deeper invasion of the South.

Feeling that he could not turn back in pursuit of Hood, Sherman abandoned his lines of communication and supply, lightening his luggage, thereby plundering and living off the country. It was with this idea in mind that the troops of Sherman was to advance by four parallel roads, fifteen miles a day, foraging on the country, and destroying whatever could be of beneficial use to the Confederate forces. It was in carrying

¹⁰⁵Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, September 1864.

out this philosophy that the One-Hundred Sixteenth conducted their "march to the sea."

Prior to joining Sherman's march, the One-Hundred Sixteenth and others marched northward on a reconnaissance maneuver. During the duration of the march, little action was encountered for a period of eleven days. On October 15th the march had to be halted in order to dislodge a small body of rebels near the south entrance of Snake Creek Gap. Upon accomplishing this, many obstructions blocking the gap had to be removed, slowing the progress of the march. A small force of the enemy was found on the skirmish line at Taylor's Ridge on the sixth, but they were dislodged before the One-Hundred Sixteenth came within gunshot distance of them. During the afternoon of the twenty-fifth, the forces in advance of the One-Hundred Sixteenth skirmished with the enemy until nightfall, the One-Hundred Sixteenth standing in reserve. Upon completion of the month's activities, the combined forces had marched from East Point, Georgia to a place sixteen miles west of Rome, Georgia.¹⁰⁶ Having marched a distance of approximately 250 miles during the month of October, and skirmishing only a few times, with very few losses, the activities of the regiment were routine marching tactics.

Pay issuances were as few and far between, as were the supplies the troops needed. Often the pay would be in arrears several months, as was the case during November 1864. The troops received eight months back wages, drew more clothing and supplies, captured over two hundred

¹⁰⁶Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, October 1864.

horses and mules, and were able to subsist principally off the country.¹⁰⁷ The march continued from near Rome, Georgia in the direction of Kenesaw Mountain. On the eleventh and twelfth the One-Hundred Sixteenth assisted in destroying a portion of the railroad leading from Chattanooga to Atlanta. The One-Hundred Sixteenth was on the skirmish line with the enemy from the twenty-first to the twenty-third, when relieved by the Fourth Division. The One-Hundred Sixteenth again skirmished, along with another regiment of the division, assisting in the dislodgement of a small body of rebels on the opposite side of the Oconee River.¹⁰⁸ During the month a distance of over two hundred miles had been accomplished, as the troops were marching in the direction of Savannah.

The campaign of late November and December resulted in the One-Hundred and Sixteenth being selected as one of nine regiments to accompany General W. B. Hazen in the assault upon Fort McAllister which climaxed an eventless march, with the exception of an attack by a portion of Wheeler's Cavalry upon the forages. On the thirteenth at daylight the One-Hundred Sixteenth crossed at Kings' Bridge and moved upon Fort

¹⁰⁷Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, November 1864.

¹⁰⁸*O. R.*, ser. 1, XLIV, No. 92, p. 113. Report Theo. Jones, 30th Ohio Infantry commanding the First Brigade, on the campaign from Atlanta to Savannah related the following information. On November 25th, at Ball's Ferry on the Oconee River, the 57th Ohio, Maj. McClure commanding and the 116th, Lt. Col. Maddux commanding, were deployed as skirmishers along the river bank and opened fire on the enemy across the river. The enemy fled during the night.

McAllister.¹⁰⁹ While participating in the storming and capture of the fort at four o'clock p.m., Lieutenant Isom Simmons¹¹⁰ was killed, and seven enlisted men were wounded, four severely and three slightly.¹¹¹ During the remainder of the month, the One-Hundred Sixteenth furnished many large details for the Quartermasters Department in labor at sanding and others in dismantling the fort.

Rest was the order of the day upon completion of the clean up activities at Fort McAllister, Georgia. During the middle of January preparations were made for the Carolina campaign, which resulted in pursuit and constant skirmishing from the time they left Pocotaligo until reaching the city of Columbia, South Carolina. The march had covered a distance of over two hundred miles through low swampy country much of which was flooded. The One-Hundred Sixteenth participated in the capture of Columbia, the destruction of various railroads, and other public works of the enemy. Casualties for the month was only one man severely wounded at Columbia by a shell from enemy guns.¹¹²

¹⁰⁹Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 271. The assault reportedly lasted only a short period of about five minutes from the time that the bugle "Forward" was sounded and the time that the Regimental Colors were on the works and the garrison captured.

¹¹⁰Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, December 1864.

¹¹¹O. R., ser. 1, XLIV, No. 92, p. 95. The list of casualties in the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps. (Brig. Gen. W. B. Hazen, commanding) in the assault of Fort McAllister, Dec. 13, 1864 listed an officer killed and seven enlisted men wounded.

¹¹²Returns of the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, February 1865.

It was reported that during this specific campaign the troops of the Fifteenth Army Corps had a very short supply of chewing tobacco, this being the case they turned upon Columbia, South Carolina, which reportedly had a plentiful supply, the result being the capture of the city. Upon spending a few days in Columbia the One-Hundred and Sixteenth resumed the march toward home, as the South was wearing out and the war was soon to be over. The One-Hundred and Sixteenth was ordered to gather all refugees from the camps of General Sherman and to conduct them to Wilmington.¹¹³ The army reportedly "marched from Lynch's Creek, South Carolina to Goldsboro, North Carolina at which place we arrived on the 24th inst. The Regt. being engaged in but one skirmish (sic) near

¹¹³ O. R., ser. 1, XLVII, pt. 2, p. 835.

Hdqs. Military Division of the Mississippi
 In the field, Fayetteville, North Carolina
 March 17, 1865

General Dodge,
 Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington (Present):

Dear Sir:

I am compelled to clear my camps of refugees, white and black, that have clung to us during our March through South Carolina, and have ordered Major Windsor's One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois to gather them and conduct them, with such means as we can spare to Wilmington. I hardly know myself what numbers will go, and what portions are able bodied, but fear they are all helpless. You may send all blacks to General Rufus Saxton, at Beaufort, S.C. and all whites not absorbed by the usual demand you may send in return chartered vessels to New York, consigned to the commissioners of emigration.

Yours truly,

W. T. Sherman
 Major, General, Commanding

Bentonville . . .¹¹⁴ The skirmish (sic) was the final battle of the war for the One-Hundred and Sixteenth, the foe being the army of General Joseph E. Johnston,¹¹⁵ whom they had encountered frequently since leaving the area of Vicksburg."

With the final battle of the war the troops rested and were re-equipped in Goldsboro, there to begin a final journey to Washington, D. C. where they were to participate in the grand review before the President in May, 1865, and to be mustered out June 7, 1865.¹¹⁶

¹¹⁴Returns of the One-Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, March 1865, Q. R., ser. 1, XLVII, pt. 1, p. 67. Return of the casualties in the Union Forces, Bentonville March 19-21, 1865 reported one enlisted man wounded and one enlisted man captured or missing.

¹¹⁵Report of Adjutant General, State of Illinois, VI, p. 271.

¹¹⁶Q. R., ser. 1, XLVII, pt. 3, p. 600.

Headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps
Washington, D. C., May 30, 1865

Lt. Col. Max Woodhull,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Army of the Tenn.

Colonel:

In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Army of the Tenn., under date of May 29, 1865, I have the honor to report that the following regiments and detachments of this command will be mustered out under General Orders No. 9th, current series, Adjutant General's Office: First Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods, commanding, 25th Iowa Vols., 30th Iowa Vols., 100th Indiana Vols., 29th Missouri Vols., 93rd Illinois Vols. (one company), 26th Iowa Vols., 97th Indiana Vols., 27th Missouri Vols. (major portion of), 31st and 32nd Missouri Vol. (consolidated battalion of) 12th Indiana Vols. Second Division: Brig. Gen. J. M. Oliver, commanding 111th Illinois Vols. and 116th Illinois Vols. (all the company organized) 99th Indiana Vols. (six companies mustered out) 83rd Indiana Vols. (nine companies mustered out) 127th Illinois Vols. (nine companies mustered out) 90th Illinois Vols. (nine companies mustered out) there are detachments in all the other regiments entitled to be mustered out.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully your obedient servant,
Hubert S. Brown,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

116th included as number of regiments to be mustered out at
command of Brig. Gen. J. S. Martin. Gen. Order #37 Head-
quarters Fifteenth Army Corps, Washington City, May 31, 1865.

CHAPTER V

THE MILITARY CAREER OF CHARLES F. EMERY

Charles Francis Emery entered the service of the One-hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry Regiment as wagoner.¹¹⁷ At the time of his muster he was listed as being twenty-nine years of age, five feet and five inches in height, with brown hair, gray eyes, and a dark complexion. He was listed as single and also as a farmer from Maroa, Macon County, Illinois, having been born in Tioga County, New York. Emery entered the service August 8, 1862, for a period of three years, being recruited by Joseph Lingle. The One-hundred Sixteenth, Emery included, was mustered into the service of the United States on September 6, 1862, at Decatur, Illinois, by Captain Rathbone. The position as wagoner seemed to please Emery, especially the fact that he could maneuver as he wanted.¹¹⁸ He received the pay rate of forty cents per day for duty as wagon master and during the months of October, November, and through December 20th, received a total wage of thirty-two dollars.¹¹⁹

On the 20th of December, Emery was to receive his last pay as wagoner and accept the duties of regimental quartermaster, most recently

¹¹⁷Muster and Descriptive Roll of One-hundred Fifteenth and One-hundred Sixteenth Infantry Regiments of Illinois Volunteers. Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois p. 45.

¹¹⁸Emery Papers, Letter from Emery to Uncle Alvan, Memphis November 21, 1862.

¹¹⁹Emery Papers, Service Vouchers, Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1862.

filled by Lyman King who had become very ill.¹²⁰ James P. Boyd, in recording his diary, noted on December 16th, that Emery was to take charge as quartermaster and Lyman King was to leave for home soon.¹²¹ Colonel Nathan Tupper was very pleased with his choice to fill the position of Regimental Quartermaster. In his letter of recommendation to Governor Richard Yates, he said of Emery:

"Mr. Emery has for the last three months with great efficiency discharged the duties of that office, and I consider him eminently qualified for the position. If the above meets your approval would respectfully request that his commission bear date from the commencement of vacancy March 2nd, 1863."¹²²

Yates, following the recommendation of Colonel Tupper, appointed Emery Regimental Quartermaster¹²³ on April 20, 1863, retroactive to March 2, 1863, at Young's Point, Louisiana.¹²⁴ Prior to receiving this appointment Emery had been "discharged as Regimental Wagoner 116th Ills. Vols. by order of Maj. Genl. W. T. Sherman, April 16th, 1863 to be mustered into the service as First Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster:

¹²⁰Returns One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Infantry Regiment, December, 1862.

¹²¹Boyd, December 16, 1862.

¹²²Colonel H. W. Tupper, Letter of Recommendation to Governor Yates, Civil War Records, Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois.

¹²³Emery Papers, Letter of Acceptance from Emery to Adjutant General, State of Illinois.

"I have this 31st day of March 1863, at Springfield in the State of Illinois received a Commission as Quartermaster of Volunteers, and hereby accept the same."

¹²⁴ Muster and Descriptive Roll, p. 33.

of the 116th Illinois Volunteers."¹²⁵

Upon having obtained the rank of Regimental Quartermaster, Emery was soon to receive the title of Acting Assistant Quartermaster, First Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps during the latter days of June or the early days of July. Several documents bear this title alone or in addition to Regimental Quartermaster.¹²⁶ It is evident that during the months of July, August, September, and into October, Emery served in both positions, but on October 8th he transferred quartermasters property and commissary property to Byron Barrett,¹²⁷ Second Lieutenant and Acting Regimental Quartermaster, One-Hundred Sixteenth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, while stationed at Memphis, Tennessee. While encamped near Buzzard's Roost, Alabama, Emery transferred to Barrett the sum of ninety-

¹²⁵Muster In Roll, Charles F. Emery, First Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster, Field and Staff One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois Volunteers, Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois.

¹²⁶Emery Papers, Remarks on the Property Accounts of Lieutenant C. F. Emery for July, August, and September 1863, Camp Sherman, Mississippi; Monthly Return of Clothing Camp and Garrison Equipage, July 1863, Jackson, Mississippi; Abstract of Articles received from Officers at Jackson and Vicksburg, Mississippi during the month of July 1863 by Lieutenant C. F. Emery.

¹²⁷Emery Papers, List of Quartermaster's Property, Received of C. F. Emery, First Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster, One-Hundred Sixteenth Regimental Illinois Volunteers, Memphis, Tennessee, October 8, 1863. Invoice of Commissary Property transferred to Byron Barrett, Second Lieutenant and Acting Regimental Quartermaster, One-Hundred Sixteenth Regiment Illinois Volunteers.

nine dollars and sixty cents which was regimental savings.¹²⁸ At this point, Emery had not received an official appointment and had not completely given up his duties as Regimental Quartermaster, as indicated in several papers.

On the tenth of January while stationed at Larkinsville, Alabama, Emery received the appointment as Assistant Quartermaster United States Volunteers¹²⁹ from the President and immediately transferred his property to Lieutenant T. H. Capron, Regimental Quartermaster, Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteers. In addition to receiving this new position, he also was appointed to the rank of Captain. Upon acknowledging the returns for January 1st through 10th, Emery illustrated his honesty and careful accounting by reporting himself to be in arrears of several articles of clothing, amounting to a cash value of forty-seven dollars and twenty-six cents, which he was ready to compensate for in whatever manner the United States Government desired. The most recent appointment left a vacancy in the rank of Regimental Quartermaster for the One-Hundred Sixteenth Illinois, as indicated in the letter of Major Froman to Adjutant General Allen C. Fuller, State of Illinois.¹³⁰

¹²⁸ Emery Papers, Receipt of Savings Transfer, Buzzard's Roost, Alabama, October 21, 1863.

¹²⁹ Emery Papers, Letter from Edwin W. Stanton, Secretary of War to Captain C. F. Emery, Assistant Quartermaster Volunteers, Washington D. C., December 5, 1863. Letter from Emery to Brigadier General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster General, U.S.A., Larkinsville, Alabama, February 8, 1864.

¹³⁰ Emery Papers, Letter from Major Andrew Froman to Allen C. Fuller, Adjutant General, State of Illinois, February 12, 1864:

"I would herewith respectfully notify you that Chas. F. Emery 1st Lieut. and A. C. M. 116th Illinois Vols. has accepted the position of Captain and A. C. M. Leaving a vacancy in the grade of Regimental Q. Master. And has been mustered as such, to bear date from the 9th day of January 1864."

At this point, Emery was detached from the One-Hundred Sixteenth and assumed his new role at Madison Station, Alabama. He spent the months of February, March, April, and part of May at Madison Station. Among the basic duties of the new position was the responsibility of acquiring and issuing forage for the horses of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

On May 19, 1864,¹³¹ a letter was sent to Emery from Lieutenant Colonel J. Condit Smith, Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps giving him orders to take general charge of all transportation, and granting him the privilege of signing his name to all orders he may deem expedient.

Papers of May and June indicate that Emery was assigned to the field in the march through Alabama and Georgia. Having served as Assistant Quartermaster United States Volunteers for only a period of six months, Emery was to replace Lieutenant Colonel J. Condit Smith as Chief Quartermaster Fifteenth Army Corps.¹³² Major General Logan spoke very highly of both Smith and Emery as is indicated in this extract from his report to Lieutenant Colonel William T. Clark, Assistant Adjutant

¹³¹Emery Papers, Letter from J. Condit Smith to Captain C. F. Emery. Woodland, Georgia, May 19, 1864.

¹³²Emery Papers, Special Field Orders No. 57, July 16, 1864.
"Lieut. Col. J. Condit Smith, Chief Quarter Master, 15th Army Corps having received official notice of the acceptance of his resignation is hereby relieved from duty.

Capt. Charles F. Emery, A. Q. M. U. S. Vols., is hereby announced as act'g chief Q. M. 15th Army Corps and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. By command of Major General John A. Logan.

R. B. Townes,
Assistant Adjutant and General"

General Department and Army of the Tennessee:

" . . . Lieut. Col. J. Condit Smith, chief quartermaster, until he retired from the service on the 30th day of June, performed the duties of his department completely. He was succeeded by Capt. C. F. Emery, who supplied the command with all it needed promptly and efficiently, and soon entitled himself to my confidence . . ." ¹³³

With the acceptance of the position of Acting Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps, Emery was again the recipient of two prominent positions in the United States Army and served each well. As Acting Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps, Emery continued to be a part of the movement of General Logan's troops through Atlanta and Georgia. In special field orders, dated July 27th, 1864, ¹³⁴ reference was made to Emery in regards to his duties during the Atlanta campaign. Emery was to take charge of wagons not needed in the initial event of attack.

¹³³ U. S. G., ser. 1, XXVIII, pt. 3, p. 112.

¹³⁴ U. S. G., ser. 1, XXVIII, pt. 5, p. 278. Special Field Orders, No. 63.

Headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps
Before Atlanta, Ga., July 27, 1864

"It is important that these movements be made before daylight and division commanders should communicate with each other at once, through staff officers, the better to facilitate the movement. All wagons that are necessary to be had by the command will be brought forward and parked at convenient distances in the rear, the rest will be left in charge of Captain Emery, acting chief quartermaster, until needed. Ammunitions sufficient to make 100 rounds per man will be brought forward tonight and placed near enough to the several commands to be accessible, should it be needed. Each division commander should know just where to get it.

By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan
R. R. Townes
Assistant Adjutant General

On September 28, 1864,¹³⁵ Emery was issued orders to proceed to St. Louis on business connected with the Quartermasters department, thence forth to be granted a twenty day leave of absence. In journeying to St. Louis, Captain Emery carried with him a letter of introduction to Colonel L. B. Parsons, as written by Lieutenant Colonel G. L. Fort, who had replaced Emery as Chief Quartermaster.

H'd Q'rs, 15th A. C.
Atlanta, Ga.
Sept. 29, 1864

Dear Colonel:

Allow me to introduce to your favorable acquaintance, Capt. C. F. Emery, A. Q. M. Vols. whose acquaintance I have made here in the field, and who visits St. Louis on business. Should he call on you any attention or assistance you might show him would be accepted as a favor to me. Capt. E. has been the Act. Ch'f Q. M. of this corps, and stands high as an officer and man of character among the officers of the army.¹³⁶

I am Colonel Very Respectfully,
Your Most Obt. Servant
G. L. Fort

Col. J. B. Parsons
Chf. Q.M. (W.R.L.)

¹³⁵Emery Papers, Special Orders No. 220, East Point, Ga.,
September 28th, 1864.

Headquarters Department and
Army of the Tennessee
East Point, Ga., Sept. 28, 1864
Special Orders, No. 220

Capt. Charles F. Emery, A. Q. M. 15th Army Corps will forthwith proceed to St. Louis, Mo. on business connected with his Department after transacting which he has the privilege of availing himself of a Leave of Absence of twenty days hereby granted him in accordance with provisions of Sec. 11, Act of Congress promulgated in General Orders No. 216 War Dept. current series.

W. G. Military R. Rd. and Quartermaster Dept. will furnish him the necessary transportation.

By order of Major General O. O. Howard Clark
Assistant Adjutant General

¹³⁶Emery Papers, Letter of G. L. Fort to Colonel L. B. Parsons,
Atlanta, Ga., September 29, 1864.

It was during this leave of absence that Emery became ill with pneumonia in Marcoa. The few records available for the months of October, November, and December, in addition to surgeon's certificates indicate he was at his home.

On November 21st, 1864, Dr. J. H. Axton, prepared a surgeon's certificate stating:

"I certify on honor that I have been and am now attending on Capt. C. F. Emery, Ass't. Quarter Master, U. S. Vols. in a severe case of pneumonia and to the best of my knowledge and belief he will not be able to return to his command within less period than twenty days without endangering his life."¹³⁷

The same was witnessed by J. A. Race of Macou County Illinois. The certificate was thence sworn to J. G. Austin, Justice of the Peace, on the 12th day of December 1864.

Upon receiving the report dated November 21st, the Adjutant General's Office ordered Emery to "repair as once to Cincinnati, Ohio and report to Brig. Genl. A. J. Slemmer, Senior Officer to the Board convened by Special Orders 205 of 1863 from this office, for the examination of sick officers."¹³⁸

An extension of sick leave was requested on the 12th of December by Emery, as indicated in the surgeon's certificate dated December 11th. In the certificate, Dr. Axton, indicated that Emery is "slowly convalescing, but still weak and unable to leave the house, from the effects of a very severe attack of pneumonia, under which he has been laboring since the 9th day of November, and to the best of my knowledge and belief he

¹³⁷ Emery Papers, J. H. Axton, M. D., Surgeon's Certificate No. 1, November 21, 1864.

¹³⁸ Emery Papers, Order to Repair to Cincinnati, Rec'd December 14th.

will not be able to return to his command in less period than (20) twenty days."¹³⁹

In response to the request for an extension of his leave of absence, Emery received a reply from the Adjutant General's Office, informing him that "extensions of sick leave cannot be granted in orders; and also on the 9th instant, orders were mailed to you at Haroa, Macon County, Illinois, directing you to report to the Senior officer of the Examining Board in session at Cincinnati, Ohio, . . ."¹⁴⁰

Additional certificates were prepared by Dr. Axton, dated December 14, December 29, 1864, January 12th, 1865, January 31, 1865, and February 8, 1865. All placed emphasis on the statement that Emery could not travel without "endangering his life." The certificate of January 1, stated that Emery had suffered another attack of pneumonia on January 8th, and was still sick from the effects of the same. During the absence of Emery from his command, the Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps was discontinued and assignments were made so as each brigade and battery was to be absorbed by the remainder of the Corps.¹⁴¹

Upon recovering from the effects of pneumonia and preparing to return to active duty, Emery received orders from Brigadier General A. J. Slemor to report to Headquarters Fifteenth Army Corp at Beaufort,

¹³⁹Emery Papers, J. H. Axton, M. D., Surgeon's Certificate No. 2, December 11, 1864.

¹⁴⁰Emery Papers, Letter from Adjutant General's Office to Captain C. F. Emery, Washington, D. C., December 20, 1864.

¹⁴¹Emery Papers, Special Orders No. 115, East Point, Ga., September 15, 1864. At this time the 116th Illinois Volunteers Infantry joined the Second Division, Brigadier General William B. Hazen commanding First Brigade, Colonel Theo. Jones commanding.

South Carolina. In his report to the Adjutant General, Emery relates his activities for the month of March.

Assistant Quartermasters Office
Near Kinston, N. C. April 1st, 1865

Adjutant General,
U. S. Army:

General:

In pursuance of Paragraph V., G. O. No. 165 A. G. V. series of 1863. I have the honor to report that on the 4th of March 1865 I reported at Hd Qrs 15th Army Corps at Beaufort, S. C. as per order received from Brig. Genl. A. J. Slemmer U. S. Vols. dated Cincinnati Feb. 11th, 1865 and was ordered to report to Lieut. Col. G. L. Fort Chief Q.M. 15th A.C. in the field via Morehead City and Newbern, N.C. I arrived at Newbern March 18th and was on the 19th assigned temporarily to duty by Col. J. L. Conklin Chief Q.M. Dept. and Army of Tenn. until the arrival of the 15th A.C. at some point where I could join them. On March 26th I reported to Lt. Col. G. L. Fort Chief Q.M. 15th A. C. at Goldsboro, N.C. and was by him assigned to duty at Neuse River Bridge near Kinston, N.C. to receive clothing, camp and garrison equipage for the 15th A. C. and am at present on duty here.

I have the honor to be Very Resp'y Your Obt. Servt¹⁴²
C. F. Emery
Captain and A.Q.M.
15th A. C.

Having complied fully with the orders of his command, Emery hastened to have his record cleared in the Quartermasters' department, in asking that a commission¹⁴³ be appointed to determine whether or not he had been absent from his station without proper authority. On April 6th,¹⁴⁴ Emery assumed the duties as Assistant Quartermaster, Fourth

¹⁴² Emery Papers, Letter from C. F. Emery to Adjutant General United States Army, Near Kinston, North Carolina, April 1st, 1864.

¹⁴³ Emery Papers, Special Order No. 87, April 5, 1865.

¹⁴⁴ Emery Papers, List of Clothing, Camp and Garrison Equipage Received from Capt. Thomas P. Wilson, Assistant Quartermaster United States Army, at Goldsboro, North Carolina, April 16, 1865.

Division Seventeenth Army Corps, having relieved Captain Thomas P. Wilson at Goldsboro, North Carolina. With this assignment he was serving under E. M. Joel, Lieutenant Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, 17th Army Corps. On the 17th of April, Emery received a letter confirming his appointment.

On May 27th, 1865,¹⁴⁵ in accordance with Special Orders No. 253, May 25, 1865 Emery was ordered to immediately turn over all horses and mules, and all supply and ammunition trains to the Quartermasters Department, reserving six teams for each regiment in the division. The following day, May 28, Emery received orders to turn over all public property in his possession to the officers designated and upon completion to report to the Chief Quartermaster, E. M. Joel, Seventeenth Army Corps.¹⁴⁶ Emery later received a note from the Office of the Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Tennessee, dated May 29, 1865, inquiring as to whether he would desire to continue in service as Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.¹⁴⁷

Upon completion of his duties with the Seventeenth Army Corps, Emery transferred to the First Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, and served as Assistant Quartermaster, at Brownsville, Texas, as indicated

¹⁴⁵Emery Papers, Letter from E. M. Joel, Lieutenant Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, Seventeenth Army Corps to Emery, Washington, D. C., May 27th, 1865.

¹⁴⁶Emery Papers, Special Orders No. 66, Near Washington, D. C., May 28, 1865.

¹⁴⁷Emery Papers, Letter from J. T. Conklin, Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, Army of Tennessee to Captain C. F. Emery, May 29th, 1865.

by papers examined for the month of June and July.¹⁴⁸ His assignment was only temporary with the Twenty-fifth, receiving orders on the 26th of July to report to Major General R. H. Sheridan, Headquarters Military Division of the Gulf.¹⁴⁹ On the 28th all government property in possession of Emery was transferred to Major Fred Cralvor, Assistant Quartermaster, First Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.¹⁵⁰ In his communications with the Internal Revenue, Emery requested that his receipt be forwarded to Maroa, Macon County, Illinois.¹⁵¹ When reaching the Headquarters Military Division of the Gulf, Major General Sheridan commanding, Emery was relieved from duty and issued orders to proceed without delay to his home in Maroa, Illinois, at which time he was to report by letter to the Adjutant General of the Army confirming his arrival.¹⁵²

The trip from New Orleans, Louisiana to Maroa, Illinois, totaled one thousand two hundred and eighty-six miles for which Emery received seventy five dollars and sixteen cents at the rate of six cents per mile.¹⁵³ He arrived home on August 14, 1865, and at the time letters to

¹⁴⁸Emery Papers.

¹⁴⁹Emery Papers, Special Order No. 43, Brownsville, Texas, July 26, 1865.

¹⁵⁰Emery Papers, Receipt of Transfer, Giles A. Smith, Brownsville, Texas, July 28, 1865.

¹⁵¹Emery Papers, Letter of Emery to Joseph J. Lewis, Texas, July 31, 1865.

¹⁵²Emery Papers, Special Order No. 19, New Orleans, Louisiana, August 6, 1865.

¹⁵³Emery Papers, Mileage Voucher, No. 16, C. F. Emery.

Brevet Major General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster General, Washington, D. C.¹⁵⁴ and the Adjutant General, United States of America,¹⁵⁵ was still awaiting orders. A survey conducted by the Bureau of Pensions, in obtaining information essential to process Emery's pension application, revealed that he was honorably mustered out of service, September 10, 1865.¹⁵⁶

Communications for several months provided information that Emery was still updating records with the Quartermaster Generals' Office and the United States Treasury in Washington, D. C. One of the last communications Emery received from Washington, D. C. and the Quartermaster Generals' Office, in regards to his position as Assistant Quartermaster, United States Volunteers, was a request from General Meigs for cartes de visite in duplicate and autographed. The request was to help fulfill General Meigs's desire to "form a collection in this office, of these portraits of the officers of the Quartermaster's Department, especially of those who have served during the late war for the Union."¹⁵⁷

At the age of fifty-seven, Charles F. Emery, Maroa, Macon County, Illinois, filed a "Declaration for Invalid Pension"¹⁵⁸ form on the date

¹⁵⁴Emery Papers, Letter from Emery to Brevet Major General M. C. Meigs, Maroa, Macon County, Illinois, September 1, 1865.

¹⁵⁵Emery Papers, Letter from Emery to Adjutant General, United States of America: Maroa, Macon County, Illinois, September 1, 1865.

¹⁵⁶United States Office General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, File No. SC600711, Bureau of Pensions Resume, Washington, D. C., February 4, 1891.

¹⁵⁷Emery Papers, Letter of Request from Quartermaster General's Office, Washington, D. C., January 3, 1867.

¹⁵⁸National Archives and Records Service, Declaration for Invalid Pension, Washington, D. C., July 11, 1890.

of July 11, 1890. The pension had been made available by Act of June 27, 1890. Emery noted "that he is now unable to earn a support by manual labor by reason of fracture of the ligament which holds the kneecap in place, also muscular atrophy of the left thigh."¹⁵⁹ The application was the first attempt of Emery to receive pension funds from the United States Government, and he was granted a sum of twelve dollars per month.¹⁶⁰

At the age of seventy-one, Emery made application for an increase in pension based on having received a fractured collar bone as a result of being run over by a heavy laundry wagon while in Chicago in 1894.¹⁶¹ At the time of examination on December 5, 1894, the board of surgeons discovered that Emery was "suffering from an injury of the left knee, fracture of the thigh at the lower third, causing shortening of nearly two inches, muscular atrophy of the thigh and inability to stand erect, and only getting along by a limp or limping, dragging the left leg after him, and loss of the sight of the left eye."¹⁶² Further testimony indicated that he had also received injury to his right eye almost completely destroying the sight and leaving the possibility of complete blindness.

¹⁵⁹ ibid.

¹⁶⁰ National Archives and Records Service, Report of Mr. McCumber, Bureau of Pensions, February 1, 1904.

¹⁶¹ ibid.

¹⁶² ibid.

By act, approved February 26, 1904,¹⁶³ Emery was granted a pension at the rate of thirty dollars per month in lieu of that he was then receiving. The same was received from the date approved until the death of Charles F. Emery, April 18, 1911.¹⁶⁴

¹⁶⁴National Archives and Records Service, Notice of Pensioner Dropped, Chicago, Illinois, April 28, 1911.

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