Otsego Republican.

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y.

SATURDAY MORNING, Oct. 3, 1863.

Soldier's Letter.

FRIEND HENDRYX: Having satisfactorily per-
used the Republican, which comes every Mon-
to-day evening, I thought that I would let you
know in what portion of the Old Dominion the
military operations are at present pursued.

Last week, on Wednesday, we left New Baltimore and halted at Warrenton that
night, and remained there until all commissary
stores were removed, which was until the
opening of the next day, when we left for Sulphur
Springs, arriving there at 10:30 P.M.

If we had remained in New Baltimore a few
hours longer, we would have witnessed a horri-
aire race, as some of the sporting class had a fine
horse run through from Alexandria to Culpepper.

Sulphur Springs is a little village situated on
Hedgemen river; it is noted for its mineral wa-
ter, and was the resort of the F.

The principal hotel is in ruins. We
left the Springs next morning at five o'clock, and arrived here at four P.M., having traveled
twenty miles, crossed three rivers, and rode twenty
miles through it. The principal dwelling on the es-
erance of the village is a large, level
tract of land, containing several thousand acres;

The 3d and 6th Corps lie betwixt this place and
the railroad.

We were gratified to find the list in the coun-
ty papers, of those who drew "prizes" at the
country fair, and as the names were read they
were welcomed with cries of "good," "bully for
him;" and if a copperhead's name was an-
ounced, it was received with uproarious joy.

Soldier's Letter.

FRIEND HENDRYX: since I wrote you last,
we have changed our position from the rear to the
front. Last Sunday, orders came to move 
to a place about two miles from the picket line.

The Rapidan is very narrow at this place.

Yesterday we were relieved and returned to our camp, situated a
mile from the picket line.

The pickets occupy the banks of the river, and
are within talking distance of each other; sometime
they pay visits across the line.

Rebel deserters come into our lines every
day; one night an entire post, consisting of
nine men and a corporal, deserted and came over;
the Union army was surprised with the change, and expresses a desire to do all they
can for the government they were laboring to
destroy.

We can see the rebel encampments on the hills south of the river, together with
a long line of rifle-pits and embankments.

The other day I saw about one hundred of them as
busy as they could be, digging rifle-pits about
sixty rods from the picket line. I think this is
done as a blind, and that the hills will soon be
evacuated by them.

This afternoon we witnessed the execution of
a deserter from the 1st brigade of this corps
on the picket line, to which our brigade belongs.

The rebels are in force on the Rapidan to dis-
pute our crossing.

The country here is very uneven, being a suc-
cession of hill and dale. West of us the Blue
ridge looms up "high in air." There have been
no crops raised here; occasionally we see a few
acres of corn, and when we halt they are not
soon very long. Teamsters make requisitions on the
fields, for corn, and the boys find that
the stalks make tolerable soft beds.

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ounced, it was received with uproarious joy.

Soon New York will pass through the excite-
ment of another election, and we hope to hear
that she has retrieved what was lost last Fall, and
that the Union army at the polls will go
hand in hand with the Union army in the field-
on to victory.

The success of the Union ticket will cheer us; the success of the Seymour and
Wood ticket will encourage Jeff. Davis & Co.

A. DAVISON.
Soldier's Letter.

CAMP OF THE 121st NEW YORK VOL'S.,
WARRENTON, Va., Nov. 7, 1863.

Dear Parents:—We have passed through another campaign and so far I am all right. It has just five weeks ago to-day since we started on this campaign and I have been very busy ever since. I received yours of the 11th while we were all in battle near Centreville, writing very patiently for you. I gave you a call, and we thought we would have given you a warm reception than I would like, for he postponed the visit for more convenient place. While at, or near Centreville, I made a visit to a family by the name of Pierce, formerly from Burlington, Otsego Co. The family consisted of an old lady, her daughter and son, though the son had not been at home for about a month. They were good Union people, and for being so they have suffered much. The old lady's husband was taken by the rebels to Richmond, there from had treatment he died. They came south some forty years ago. They heard from one of the officers that was there, and they sent me an invitation to come and dine with them. I had a very pleasant visit. They are coming north this winter, and you need not be surprised if they give you a call. I left them your address.

The draft does not amount to much, as you say, though I think it is for the best; the first Bull Run was a sad mistake, but we were the weaker. I think the next draft that is made is the three hundred dollar clause will be left out thereby shutting out such men as the copperheads can bring forth to stop it.

Father, what kind of a thing have the copperheads nominated for Senator? I see by his letter of acceptance that he talks of restoring the Union as it was, and the Constitution as it is. He has certainly been asleep for the last five years, or he don't know anything. He might as well try to stop the waters of a Mississippi, or has the power of a Niagaran to restore the Union as it was, and the Constitution as it is. Can he ever restore to us the treasure we have expended, or the blood we have shed, or repay us for the hardships and privations we have endured?—No! Why then should he talk in such manner, unless he is to deceive the people. Would he be so ungrateful for the services of thousands of his fellow men as to send them back to slavery? Men who have prayed for you, and fought for your liberty, and now when their hope all gone in the west, no one but a traitor and a villain would darken it. Could every man at the North, who thinks of voting the Copperhead ticket, have but one lesson from me when I received your letter, I'll wager my right arm that they would have hung their heads in shame, like men who had been caught stealing, and were obliged to own it. Let every young man of Otsego rally around the old flag, and with every Banner in one hand, the Copperheads be exchanged, and give the copperheads a lasting rebuke by voting the Union ticket. The news is good from every quarter, each State giving a large Union majority. Now is the time for the Empire State to set an example that will diffuse the man who incurred last fall, by giving us a Union victory. The men in the field will do their duty, let the men at home do theirs. I remain your son,

S. S. E. P.
than the first. When we look at the result of the late conscription, we are led to notice some of the methods adopted by individuals to have the examining Board pronounce them exempt. We were not aware that so many of our friends were among the "hands, belts and blind," and attached with so many of the "unknown lies that fail in their test" and hope for the benefit of generation yet to be, that the soldier may soon return.

We are informed that some men with M. D. attached to their names, for a fee, did endeavor to procure the exemption of several from military duty. Various modes were resorted to—one man, having the eyes inflamed with a lotion that irritated them, making men sick by borrowing them for diseases that they never had, &c.; thus bringing it to light many weak eyed, weak backed, and a great number of spiritual individuals. People who boast that they are American citizens, thus sneaked out of duty; three hundred dollars were paid, and lots of country completely ignored. The patriotism that should be burning in their bosom, has been extinguished by self-interest. They were the patriots worst, but like the pseudo Democracy, it was only done to serve the devil in. During the coming winter we hope to see our armies so augmented that the Spring will witness the falling and final blow to this accursed rebellion. The end will come, for a long sight, but to sooner tomorrow; and the dark cloud that hangs over our national existence through the efforts of our patriotic eye, trusting in the God of battles, will effectually be dispelled, and the sunshine of Peace again illuminate our Nation's pathway.

To the Editor of the Utica Morning Herald:

On arriving at the entrenchments my attention was attracted by the sound of Captain Fish's voice, who by taking an oblique direction had gained the entrenchments a little in advance of me, although at starting he was 80 yards to my left. Leaping into my gaze was the Captain; there he stood, dressed in full uniform—a prominent mark for the rebel hordes that were staring three deep in the ditch at his feet. To see him there, almost single-handed, confronting that long line of rebels, was enough to remind one of Leonidas and his 300 Spartans. One rebel leveled his gun at the gallant Captain, but quick as thought he drew his revolver and sent a bullet whistling through his brain. Two others shared the same fate: "Men, this way with your bayonets," shouted the captain in tones loud enough to be heard to say the least. Having only a bayonet but a loaded gun behind him, and a face so near hisexion in the rear of which, I rather preferred my programme all laid out. It consisted of but one performance, and that was the clearing out of that ditch, and the success was far ahead of all my expectations. In an incredibly short space of time there was not a grey cloud to be seen except those who were killed and wounded, and we were masters of the field. I do not know the exact number of our men in the ditch, but of one thing I am sure, we were more than 1 to their 10. Lient. Jackson and Sergeant Younger were there, and fought bravely, but as my mind was not on anything else but the enemy in front I had no time for observation; neither can I select any as worthy of special notice; I can only speak of such as came under my immediate observation. Corporal James Hoag of Shelby being on my left all the afternoon and very near me, I had an opportunity to notice his bravery and coolness; likewise Sergeant Fish who was near me for some time. It is sufficient to say that all did nobly. The spot where we found privates Watson and Eastwood from his close proximity to the main body of the rebels was, in sufficient evidence of his bravery.

Soon after we had driven the enemy out of the first intrenchments up came the 5th Maine and 121st N.Y. charging, us making one of the most brilliant and successful charges on record—the 6th Maine and 5th Wisconsin having already so gallantly charged on the left. With the details of that brilliant charge you are already familiar. Although not a native of New York, having been born in the sturdy hills of New Hampshire, I am nevertheless proud of the fact that I belong to the gallant 121st. And of one other fact I am a little proud, and you will pardon me (for I say it modestly), that is, although not myself a native of New York, I am the possessor of one of Herkimer county's best and fairest daughters, whose patriotic letters have contributed so much to keep up my spirits during my long absence from home with all its endearments. One thing more and I will close, having already written too much. It is impossible to say too much in praise of Col. Upton. Such daring coolness and judgment as he displays are so wonderful as to make one forget the past, and take into consideration his youth. Long live our gallant Colonel. We are expecting a move soon in the direction of the enemy. Yours truly,
in the course of the war.
The troops who took the colors presented them to General Meade, with nine cheers. They were composed of the One Hundred and Twenty-first New York, Fifth and Sixth Maine, and the Fifth Wisconsin, belonging to the brigades of General Bruce, and Colonel Upton, First division Sixth army corps. General Meade surrounded by his staff, received the troops upon their arrival. Colonel Upton, in a short but very appropriate speech, presented the colors. General Meade in accepting them, spoke so clearly and distinctly that every word could be heard from one end of the line to the other. In language admirably suited to the occasion he assured both officers and men that he accepted the colors with great satisfaction. He had informed the President that their capture was one of the most brilliant acts of the war. And with such trophies of their courage before him he had every confidence that they would be prepared to encounter, if need be, even greater obstacles and more imminent danger, should he call upon them to do so.

Major General Sedgwick, of the Sixth corps, with Generals Wright, Russell, Talbot, Howe, Neil, and their respective staffs, were present at the presentation.

I have already reported your good conduct and gallantry, and I receive with great satisfaction the battle-flags, evidences of the good conduct and gallantry you displayed on the 7th inst. in the assault upon the enemy's position at Rappahannock station. Accompanied by redoubts and rifle-pits, and defended by artillery and infantry. Carried as it was, at the point of the bayonet, it was a work which could only be executed by the best of soldiers, and the reader will see that his description is far superior to any yet published. The reader will see that his description is far superior to any yet published. The historian be dependent, to great extent, upon his materials, but the men who are making history look to the press for such a record of their hard-earned victories, as shall satisfy for the services you have rendered, particularly for the sacrifices all have undergone. With the true soldier a desire for military reputation is second only to love of country, and an army which, like this, has felt the glow of so many victories, requires the influence of every ray of glory which favoring Providence may cast upon its path. I have, as yet, seen no description of the late engagement at Rappahannock station which, in my opinion, conveys a correct idea of what is universally conceded, to have been one of the most brilliant actions of the war; and I am therefore induced to send to your journal the following statement of facts.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE:

The Sixth Army Corps broke camp at Warrenton about daybreak, on the 7th of November, marched upon the Rappahannock, the distance to which, at the point where the railroad crosses, is about twelve miles. A plain about a mile in width, stretches from the north bank of the river back to a wood large and dense enough to cover the movement of an army. This wood was reached by the Sixth Corps, at about 1 o'clock. The several regiments marching by both flanks doubled, in line they came up in such a manner that, by simply facing to the right, they formed two lines of battle toward the enemy, but con-
At about 3 p.m., skirmishers were called for from the Second and Third Brigades. From the former, two companies of the 121st N. Y., from the latter, six companies of the 6th Maine, were detailed. The line followed by their supports, consisting of about half of the detail, advanced across the plain over the ridge before alluded to, and up to within three hundred yards of the pit, driving before them the rebel skirmishers, who had been thrown out upon their appearances. "Our line here halted, and seeking such cover as they might, kept up a brisk firing for more than two hours." At about 5 o'clock the whole division was ordered to advance. In two lines of battle, and with their customary steadiness, they marched through the iron storm which fell before, behind, among them, and halted about a thousand yards nearer the enemy's works than before, under partial cover, and having suffered but a slight loss. By this time the sun had nearly set. As his last beams were falling athwart the plain, General Russell ordered forward the 3d brigade, commanded by Col. Ellmaker of the 119th Pa., and consisting of the regiment of the 6th Maine, the 5th Wisconsin, and the 49th Pa. The 6th Maine, supported by the 5th Wisconsin, led the attack. The skirmishers of the brigade fell in as their regiment came up, and joined in the charge. Capt. Fish, with his fifty-three men of the 121st N. Y., advanced with the 3d brigade, exclaiming, as they came up, "by —— you shall not take the fort alone; we have been helping to drive them all the afternoon, and we want our share of the glory." On went the charging party, their path marked by their dead and dying,—up to the pit,—over the wall,—into the rifle-pit. Hand to hand,—using the bayonet,—they drove the North Carolinians out of their own stronghold, and captured the rebel gunners at their guns. Sergeant Roberts of the 6th Maine, tears the rebel colors from the hands of the standard-bearer, unwilling to relinquish them; another young hero of that regiment brains a rebel officer still trying to sight a cannon on the "Yankees," and the fort is in our possession within fifteen minutes after the attack commenced.

But the long line of rifle-pits is still filled with the famous (in southern hearts) Louisiana Tigers, carrying on their banners, the name of every battle field from West Point to Bristol, in which the Stonewall Division has taken part, for they were the pot brigade of...
enemy were still there, so

The General directed that the two regiments hold their ground and thus protect the fort. Before these orders reached Col. Upton, however, that officer had determined that the moment was propitious for a more brilliant manœuvre: Reforming the line on the outside of the rifle-pits, the regiments moved by the right flank, and at a double quick right along the works. When nearly opposite, the rebel force, Col. Upton shouted, "Don't fire a shot; if they fire at you, lie down; there are three lines of battle behind; let them march over you, and storm the works." Capt. Wilson, Assistant Adjutant General, though wounded through the right arm, waved a captured color in his lap, and shouted, "Forward, every lover of his Country." Major Mather cried, "Remember Salem Chapel," and the line formed in an instant, by the left flank, for the second time went over the works. This time they were crowded with the enemy, but confused by their recent change of front, supposing as they afterwards strongly expressed it, that "all hell was coming," and thinking that their only chance for mercy, lay in non-resistance to our overwhelming force, over fourteen hundred rebels surrendered to five hundred and sixty-eight loyal men, and throwing down their arms begged for that quarter, which the Louisiana brigade reserved for the unfortunate prisoners they have taken. The left of the 121st was swung around to the river, cutting off all retreat, and nothing remained but to gather the spoils. They were even beyond expectation. As the result of less than an hour's engagement, the 3d brigade had captured a fort, four pieces of artillery, a battle-flag, and many prisoners. The 2d brigade had captured a rifle-pit, a bridge train, a hundred and three officers, thirteen hundred and thirty-seven enlisted men, six battle flags, and about fifteen hundred stands of small arms. The rebel General Hayes, unfortunately escaped, having important business to transact on the other side of the river, just after the commencement of the at-

The General had joined the 3d brigade and were among his troops, when not before them, sees the desperate state of affairs, and sends an order to Col. Upton, commanding the 2d brigade, to bring up two regiments and occupy the rifle-pits to the first angle. The skirmishers of the 6th Corps advanced at the same time with those of the 6th, had been checked at the railway embankment as they were coming up on the left, and although a few brave fellows had joined the 6th brigade and were with them in the fort, the main body were too far off to render the immediate assistance required. So General Russell ordered two regiments up from the 3d brigade. The 5th Maine and 121st were in the first line; the 95th and 96th Pa., in the second. The first line was selected for the attack. Upton told the men what was expected of them by Gen. Russell and by himself; said some of us will fall—and those who do will go to heaven; those who remain will take the work forward; 5th Maine and 121st. The two regiments advanced; the former commanded by Col. Edwards, the latter (Col. Upton's) commanded by Major Mather; Col. Upton in command of the line. Double columns were formed; muskets were loaded and the step changed to double quick. Fifty rods from the works the columns were deployed; twenty-five rods further halt was ordered; knapsacks were unsprung; bayonets fixed; "charge bayonets." "Forward, double quick, march," shouted the Colonel, and the two regiments had, in five minutes, more accomplished their work without firing a shot, and thanks to the darkness with slight loss. But the rebel line of battle had been formed still further to the right than the angle of the rifle-pits indicated, by Gen. Russell, and at which the right of the 5th Maine rested. The main body of the
This regiment and an admirer of the Republican, you will not be offended. I hope you will insert knowing you be the soldiers' friend, and hoping by the boys that represent old Otsego in this regiment.

For the last few days, on Tuesday evening, it has nearly all disappeared, and bad roads or the fruits of a snow storm in Virginia.

Our camp is very beautifully located on the banks of the Hazel River, about three miles from Brandy Station. And let me say that from the 121st, will follow him. He is a splendid officer, and is well liked by both officers and men.

Col. Penn is in command of this brigade. Major Mather is assigned to a colored regiment, also Capt. Campbell of company B, and Lieut. Bates of company F.

E. E. Pierce is in command of company B, and makes a good officer, although the boys of company F regret the loss of the bold and gallant Capt. Woodell, who they all worshipped; but they find in Lieut. Pierce a noble and generous officer, and he has the confidence of the company. He is always looking out for the wants of his men, and ever ready to benefit a private to the extent of his ability.

Capt. Croebbein has just returned from old Otsego, where he has been on a short leave of absence. He is looking hale and hearty. One of the great features of our camp is a white house that was built for Col. Olcott by members of the regiment. It excels anything in the army; and I think the Colonel appreciates its value.

You would be surprised to see with what eagerness the boys look for the Republican.

York State has proclaimed that her soldiers shall have the right of suffrage while absent, battling for the free government that once existed; and loyal men of Otsego need have no fears but what the voice that will come from the 121st, will be all they could ask for.

As to that man that stopped his paper because Leonard Spicer was not willing the soldiers should vote, we would say to him and Leonard, depart ye into rebeldom, and there worship a government and ruler that nothing but fiends would approbate.

The regiment will soon be presented with a new stand of colors, on which will be inscribed the battles of Salem Chapel and Rappahannock Station, in which it will be remembered the regiment fought nobly.

We expect, soon, to be inspected by Lieut. Gen. Grant. The boys are all anxious to see the hero of Vicksburg.

A PRIVATE.

Camp of 121st N. Y. V.

NEAR SPOTTSYLVANIA COURT HOUSE, May 20, 1864.

From the little Otsego Journal.

From the 121st Regiment.

A PRIVATE.

Near Rappahannock Court House, May 30, 1864.

It is some time since you have heard from us, who have left our firesides and friends to free our country of rebels and disgrace. I will give you a brief sketch of our battles and travels for fifteen days, under the care and command of Col. Upton, the hero of Rappahannock Station, in which it will be remembered the regiment fought nobly.

The first three days' fighting was most severe on both sides, but after a time the tide turned and we lay for three days in line of battle shifting from right to left, the rebels shelling us and pouring in smaller shot like hail. But our men stood firm as a rock, taking it as it came, and confident of ultimate victory. At the last hour of daylight the division of rebel General Johnson made a flank movement on our lines on the right and panic like yelling bloodhounds over the hills, but their fun was
soon ended, for our gallant 2d brigade, with the
3d, rallied and drove them back with a heavy
bravery, and his regiment have received great
praise for their action in the engagement.
We have traveled night and day, fighting ev-
every foot of the ground over, exhausting our-
selves at every point to be prepared to meet
them. On the morning of the 21th we did meet
them. They massed upon 12 of our guns
and away we went, onward to victory. The
men rose up—Forward, double quick!
and a half o'clock gave the command, "Attention!"
The bullet flew fast and thick around us. On
we pressed and gained the three first rifle-
pits, when our flankers failed to come up and
we had to fall back in the face of a galling fire.
We also took a battery of artillery but could
not bring it off. We suffered greatly in this
charge.
On the afternoon of the 9th we did meet
them. They rushed out upon 12 of our guns
and we gave the command, "Attention!"
The men rose up—Forward, double quick!
and a half o'clock gave the command, "Attention!"
The bullet flew fast and thick around us. On
we pressed and gained the three first rifle-
pits, when our flankers failed to come up and
we had to fall back in the face of a galling fire.
We also took a battery of artillery but could
not bring it off. We suffered greatly in this
charge.

We have been fighting like fury for fourteen
days, watching nights and fighting day-times
and are now nearly worn out, as you may well
imagine. We have captured many stand of colors, many prisoners
and many pieces of artillery.

Out of 15 officers only 4 are left. Capt. Dow
commands the regiment, our Johnny Burrill the
first company, Lieut. Redway the second, Lieut.
Van Scoy, the third, Lieut. Weaver, the fourth.
We have 144 men for duty. We started out with 400 muskets and 20 officers; but many of the missing and the slightly wounded will
doubtless soon be with us again.

Truly yours,

J. H. BLAIR.

SUMMARY OF KILLED, WOUNDED AND Missing.
Officers killed ........................................... 6
Wounded ........................................... 56
Missing ........................................... 26
Wounded and missing ................................ 8

PROBABLY KILLED.—A letter to Mr. R. Rus-
sell, of this village, from his son, reports Lieut.
S. B. Kelley missing. (probably killed.) This
announcement creates in us, and a host of oth-
ers, a pang of deep regret. Young Kelley en-
listed near two years ago as a private in the
121st N. Y. Vol., and for bravery and good
conduct had recently been promoted to Second
Lieutenant. Entering his country's service from
purely patriotic motives, we hoped that his life might have been spared to enjoy the
blessings of a restored and happy country. Yet
he may not be dead. God grant that he may
be restored to us.

Lieut. Frank Foote, of the 121st, is re-
ported killed. We regret this, as Frank was a
noble fellow, a good soldier, and his death will
create a void in a household already overbur-
ded with sorrow. His brother Morris was a
member of Gen. Wessell's Staff, and is now a
prisoner in Richmond. We hope the sorrows
of a fond mother may be somewhat alleviated
by the speedy release of the brave Morris.

Soldier's Letter.

CAMP OF 121st N. Y. REGIMENT, NOV. 17, 1864.

To the Editor of the Otsego Republican:

Cooperstown, N. Y., Dec. 3, 1864.

Dear Sir:—The name of this

Cooperstown, N. Y.

Soldier's Letter.

Cooperstown, N. Y.

December 3, 1864.

Mr. Editor,—Dear Sir:—The name of this

Otsego Republican.

SATURDAY MORNING, Dec. 3, 1864.

Otsego Republican.
closely to the officers and men of this regiment. Having for a long time been associated with the 2d Brigade, I have had ample opportunities to learn the character of the regiment; and it gives me great pleasure to bear testimony to its well-earned reputation for intelligence, bravery and soldierly bearing. You need not be reminded by me of its valorous deeds, prior to its campaign in the Valley of the Shenandoah, but it has occurred to me that it might not be amiss for me to note some incidents for the last few weeks.

On the 19th of September we broke camp near Berryville, and in a few hours were engaged in the memorable battle of Winchester. The brigade was commanded by Gen. Emery Upton. He was formerly Colonel of the 121st, and has so far won the confidence of this regiment, that officers and men are willing to follow wherever he shall lead. At one point, his quick eye saw that the troops on his right were giving way. Without waiting for orders, the officers under him were marched double-quick, to fill up the gap and strengthen the line. This rapid movement saved the fortunes of the day—for, unable to break the line, the enemy were soon forced to retreat, and the victory, on our part, was complete. When Gen. Upton gave the order to advance, he raised the colors and said, "Follow me, and I will tell you where to plant them." Soldiers are never loth to follow such a man. Shortly after this, the Gen. was wounded—but he would not be borne from the field until he was carried by the stretcher bearer to the crest of the hill, that he might see with his own eyes the retreat of the foe. Stretching out on his pallet of straw, he said to me, "I would willingly give a leg for such a victory"—though his shattered limb was then giving him intense pain. I suppose you are aware that Gen. Upton is from Batavia, in your State. He graduated at West Point with honor, and was assigned to the Artillery, till he was appointed Colonel of the 121st. Temperate, moral and brave, he richly deserves his growing fame, and for his recent services at Winchester, has been made a Brevet Major-General. This is doing well for one only 24 years of age!

If the 121st did its part well at Winchester, on the 19th, so did it at Fisher's Hill, on the 22d. Whether on the skirmish line, or charged to charge, or occupy the extreme picket, and its too often hard fighting and wearisome marches, it has been prompt to do its duty faithfully and without murmuring.

I need not give particulars of the march toward Staunton, nor of our subsequent return to Cedar Creek, near Strasburg. Had I time, it would afford me pleasure to describe the marching columns, as the three corps in parallel lines, with wagons and artillery in the center, were distinctly seen moving over the open country, while the mountain ridges were in relief on either side, with a clear sky, bracing air, and with no scanty rations, gleaned from the country. The men were in the best of spirits—for victory was perched upon their banners!

The quietness of our encampment was broken on the morning of the 19th of October, by the unexpected attack of Early on the 8th and 9th corps. The particulars of that day's fight, with the crowning victory in the afternoon, are always saddened by the thought that they are purchased by the blood and lives of brave men. Capt. Tocier was killed while boldly following up a charge. He now rests in a quiet grave, on the brow of the hill where he fell, with a head-board denoting the place of burial. Nine of the men were killed, and subsequently buried. Four officers and thirty-six men were wounded. Two of these officers have since died—Capt. J. D. P. Dow, of Albany, and Capt. Burrell, of Fallsburg. Both of these were brave and honorable men; highly esteemed by officers and men, who deeply feel their loss.

This Regiment is commanded by Lieut. Col. Egbert Olcott, of Cherry Valley. Temporarily, he has been in command of the Brigades during the absence of superior officers who were wounded and are now absent. Though in the thickest of the fight, fortunately he escaped unharmed. With a keen and well-furnished mind, of polished manners, cool and sagacious, and of undaunted courage, well versed in the Manual, personally looking after the interests of his men and never leaving to subordinates the duties which devolve on himself, he is admirably fitted to command. Months ago he received his commission as Colonel, but during the existing orders cannot be mustered as such, without a special order from the War Department, till the regiment is raised to its maximum. It is hoped that such an order will be issued in his behalf, in view of his late gallant services. Will not the good people of your section see that the maximum is raised, so that our distinguished ranks may be filled up by brave and valiant men!

While Col. Olcott is in command of the Brigade, and during the absence of Major Gilpin, who is again wounded, the regiment is temporarily commanded of Capt. D. D. Jackson, of Gerrattsville. The Adjutant of the regiment is Lieut. G. C. Weaver, of Laurens. Both of these officers entered the army as privates, but have won their distinction by their strict attention to duty and by their bravery. In every battle, they have been at their post of danger without flinching, and have set an example that has not been paramount with their men. With garments pierced with balls they have escaped unharmed, except in one instance, when Capt. J. received a severe wound.

Several Sergeants have received honorable promotion of late. Sergeants Doarme, Burton, Barr, Armstrong, Post and Oakes, have been appointed Lieutenants since the late battle of the 19th ult. The standard of morality is high with the officers of this regiment. I was recently present when an official, though verbal...
message was sent to notify the officers of the 121st that they could obtain whiskey of the Commissary. The answer was, “None of the officers of this Regiment use whiskey.”

The men of this Regiment have been of a superior class. There has been an unusual degree of intelligence among them, with a becoming self-respect, and with very many a devout regard for the precepts of the religion they learned by the firesides and in the churches of their distant homes. There are frequent meetings for social prayer, while the respectful attention observed at the Regimen’s Services on the Sabbath, and which all are required to attend, unless specially excused, shows that the soldier in the field does not forget the customs or instructions of his earlier home. So it should ever be! Men should honor each other in a cause like ours, the God who ruleth the Heavens and the Earth! To perfect our National prosperity, we need his Divine blessing.

While referring to the present officers of this Regiment, we have a pious memory of Captains Fish and Butts, and Lieut. Pierce, who fell at their posts and now sleep in their unrequited graves in the “Wilderness.” It was there, too, that Captains Gordon and Kidder, and Lieut. Van Scy received wounds which have compelled one of them to be “honorably discharged,” and the others to be absent from active service since May last. Neither do we forget your townsmen, Lieut. Foote, who was wounded and taken prisoner, and who, for a time, was reported dead. His amputated limb shows his zeal for his country’s service—but we rejoice that his wounded mother and loving friends, who had mourned for him as dead, can change the habiliments of grief into “garments of praise,” when they embraced him anew as the living son and brother.

Capt. Paine, with his manly and dignified form, is missed from our circle, for he is still a prisoner of war—and so is Lieut. Kelley. Well do we remember the sweet songs of the latter, and deeply do we pity him if any ill usage in Rebeldom should change the melodies of his voice to the Minor Key! But he has the right of the King in his bosom, and can change the blues of grief into “garments of praise,” when he embraces him anew as the living son and brother.

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burg, Salem Heights, Gettysburg, Funktown, Rappahannock Station, Locust Grove, Mine Run, Wilderness, May 5 and 6, 1864, Spotsylvania, C. H., (three days,) Cold Harbor, Petersburg, July, 1864, Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Hatcher's Run, Petersburg, March 28; charged the enemy's work, near Fort Fisher April 2d, Sailor's Creek.

The regiment captured four Rebel flags at Rappahannock Station and two at Sailor's Creek. These trophies are borne in their ranks.

The regiment has been in the Sixth Corps ever since it went into service. It lost in killed 250, and in wounded between 600 and 700. Less than 40 men were taken prisoners. There were left in the field 415 men, transferred to the 66th New York. But two of the officers that went out returned with the regiment. Sixteen officers were killed and twenty-six wounded.

Col. Upton succeeded Col. Fanchet in command, and now holds the rank of Brevet Major-General.

The following are the officers returned with the regiment:

Colonel—E. Olcott.
Lieutenant-Colonel—James S. Kidder; went out as Captain.
Major—James Cronkett; went out as First Sergeant.
Adjutant—W. W. Llew; went out as private in the 32d N. Y. V.
Quartermaster—Theodore Sternburgh; went out as First Lieutenant.
Surgeon—John Stoumm.
Chaplain—Rev. Dr. Adams.

Second Lieutenants—Piper, Armstrong, Post, Pelt and Smith.

The regiment was fed at the Stanwix, Mansion, Blake's and Brayton's, after which it marched to the Troy Road Barracks, where it will remain until mustered out and paid off.