

Chenango American.

Greene, Thursday, July 2, 1863.

The 114th in Battle.

Our own brave 114th has at last had the opportunity they so long and ardently coveted to cover themselves with glory upon the battle field. Kept back by force of circumstances they have not had a chance to exhibit their valor until recently. In company with several other regiments forming Weitzel's brigade, five companies of our regiment joined in a desperate attack upon the works at Port Hudson, and bravely and gallantly did they bear themselves. Charging up to the very cannon's mouth, with a storm of leaden hail dealing death and carnage through and through their ranks, not a man faltered, but with cheers and shouts they dashed on where duty led them, leaving behind a record of fame and glory which will outlive them all.

We have not many of the particulars. Col. SMITH, who was wounded, has since died. Nearly every line officer, was either killed or wounded. Among the killed is Capt. TUCKER, of Hamilton. Letters have been received here by the friends of those engaged in the attack, which give interesting accounts of the gallant affair. Capt. DEDERER, of Co E, went with his company to Port Hudson, but was obliged to return to New Orleans to Hospital, in consequence of a severe attack of jaundice. Letters from others in the same hospital say that the Captain chafes under the galling necessity which compels him to lie upon a sick bed while his brave boys are winning laurels upon the battle field. We await with anxiety a fuller account of the doings of our boys, and an accurate statement of the casualties.

This news brings the horrors of the war home to us more clearly than any previous engagements have done. The blood of the best and bravest of Chenango's sons waters the soil around Port Hudson. Many tears will flow and many lamentations go up from around our hearthstones, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that with our mourning for the dead we can mingle congratulations that they died no

bly, fighting bravely for their country's salvation.

We publish in another column a letter received from an Irish lad, named WM. CORBETT, who enlisted in this village, addressed to his guardian, R. P. BARNARD, Esq. CORBETT was in the whole of the fight, and his statement will be found interesting. He gives a list of the killed and wounded from this vicinity which is doubtless as accurate as could be gathered the day after the battle, though other letters do not corroborate all of his account of the list of wounded.

Letter from Port Hudson, from a Member of Co. E. 114th Regiment.

REAR OF PORT HUDSON, LA., }
June 15, 1863. }

DEAR SIR: It is with pain I have to relate the proceedings of yesterday, which day will ever be remembered by the 114th Regiment. On the evening of the 13th we were all served out with sixty rounds of cartridge, and at twelve o'clock at night, our cooks made their appearance with rations of which we supplied ourselves. We were soon ordered to fall in and in a few minutes were ready to march. Accordingly five Companies of our Regiment started with Col. SMITH and Major MENSE as our leaders. Soon were joined by the 75th and 160th New York Regiments, 8th Vermont and 12th Connecticut, which Regiments constitute WIERZEL'S Brigade. We marched along silently through the woods, except some remarks about what we were going to do, every one forming his own opinion; but it being Sunday, a day so remarkable for the battles of the American army, every one was satisfied that we were going to charge the enemy's works. As we went along from one ravine to another we found troops under arms, and after a little while we came up with a group of officers, among whom was Gen. WIERZEL. The sight of our General seemed to give us new courage. Gen. WIERZEL is highly esteemed by his command and their confidence in him is such that when even he is near we anticipate no danger.

Soon our artillery opened fire and as we turned in a ravine we halted and fixed bayonets. We soon heard a cheer on our left which told us that PAYNE'S Brigade charged the enemy's works, and the roar of artillery and musketry told the bloody work had commenced. We started ahead but soon had to halt on account of the 91st New York Regiment, which was in the ravine before us. Soon the General's Aids run by us to see what was the matter. As soon as the way was clear for our Regiment we proceeded in the best of spirits expecting to cover ourselves with honor by entering the enemy's works. About

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six o'clock we got to the scene of action, and soon the command was given to charge on a double quick. With a yell we darted forward under a raking fire from the enemy from behind their works, until our colors got shot. At this time we poured a volley into their works and lay down until reloaded. Our gallant Major stepped in front and asked us if we were ready, to which we responded yes. He then told us to give three cheers and follow him. This time a number of us got into a ditch under the enemys works where our boys were slain like sheep. Our Major, like the Colonel, got wounded in this charge. Most all of our officers were either killed or wounded. Once more our shattered companies tried a charge led by Lieut. SEARLES, of Co. G. He also got wounded at this time—nearly half our men lay wounded on the field. It was a most thrilling scene to witness the groans of our brave men in their agony of pain—all our color guards were wounded, and the color bearer killed, but a Lieut. of the 160th New York picked up our colors, and one of our boys stepped forward and demanded them, so we had the honor of bringing them off the field.

After laying two hours under fire and making three charges, we fell to the rear to form again. Never did five Companies of men go into a charge more willingly or with better courage, than did the officers and men of the 114th; but there was no such thing as entering the works, for we had to charge over fallen timber and brush, and there was a ditch at least six feet wide and six feet deep on our side of their works, the breast work or parapet being eight or ten feet high so it was impossible for any man to scale them without use of ladders or plank. If we had any fair kind of a chance we would enter the works, for never was there a more determined lot of men as the number of killed and wounded will show. There were several other charges made but without effect. There was a Regiment sent in ahead with bags of cotton to fill the ditch for us to charge over, but they could not be made to go there. Out of the officers of our five Companies there were only three came out whole. I don't intend to give only a faint idea of what it was, for if I tried to I could not. Those who lived or was not wounded remained under fire until after dark. To look round the little place our Company occupied in the woods, and to see so many missing made us very sad.

The following is a list of casualties in Co. E. Lieut. LONGWELL, of Co. D., who took command of our Company, was wounded in the hand while leading us into action. Much praise is due him, as he is the only man who ever led Co. E. into action yet. Indeed he is a brave officer.

Sergts. Uri Rorapaugh, acting Lieut., Wm. J. Rogers, Seymour C. Herton, wounded. Corpl. John C. Steughton, missing. Privates, Jack Chidester, David McBirney, Chas. R. Hayward, Robt. Wedge, Benjamin Pittsley, Chas. B. Davis, Sophronus Henmon, Joseph J. Smith Freeman S. Wedge, Edw'd Post, Lewis Handy,* Preston R. Peck, all slightly wounded, excepting Preston and Handy who were mortally wounded and left on the field, probably dead. Col Smith is living. Capt. Tucker, and Lieut. Corben, of Co. G., are killed.

I remain truly yours,

WM. B. CORBETT.

*Since heard from, likely to recover.

A SOLDIER'S ADVICE.—The New Orleans Era publishes a bit of poetry entitled "A Wounded Soldier to a Copperhead Relative." The writer, a member of the 114th New York regiment, gives this advice to Copperheads:—

"What right have you, a traitor
To your nation and your God,
To malign the glorious country
That our ancestors have trod?
If you think 'the cause is righteous,'
And the Rebels surely right,
Shoulder gun, and strap on knapsack,
And come out with them and fight."

For the 114th Regiment.

Lieut. E. P. Pellet will leave for the 114th Regiment on Monday, August 17th. All persons wishing to send *small parcels* to their friends in the Regiment must leave the same at the Eagle Hotel in Norwich, on Friday or Saturday, August 14th or 15th. *No package will be received after Saturday noon.* No large boxes or bundles can be taken—owing to the numerous parcels—which of themselves will fill a large box. Lieut. Pellet will not be responsible for the delivery of packages to those absent from the regiment.

RETURNED.—Dennison D. Palmer, (of Co. D. 114th Reg't) son of Mr. N. T. Palmer of this village, reached home last week from New Orleans, where he has been quite sick for several weeks. He is yet confined to the house by illness.

The 114th Regiment.

It may be gratifying to those who have friends in the 114th Reg't, to know that this Reg't was not in the battle at Port Hudson on the 27th. The Regiment had been temporarily detached from its division for guard duty, and did not reach Port Hudson until the 30th.

Obituary.

News has been received of the death of JAMES LOOMIS, of Capt. LAKE's company, in hospital at Donaldsonville, La., on the 23d of July, after a very short illness.

—A funeral discourse on the death of THORON L. VINCENT, of Co. K, 114th, was preached at De Ruyter, on Sunday last, by Rev. WM. CLARKE, of this village. There was a very large congregation. Several from this village were present.

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RETURNED—Lieut. JOHN C. REYNOLDS, of Co. E, 114th Regiment, N. Y. S. V. has returned home. He tendered his resignation upon the Surgeon's certificate of disability, which was accepted. He reports much sickness among the boys of the regiment. Corporal JOHN C. STOURGTON, who was reported missing is believed to be dead. Previous to REYNOLDS' return an order was issued for all the officers of the 114th to report for duty or tender their resignation. In consequence of this order Capt. DEDERS who was too ill to join his company tendered his resignation. If it were accepted he may be expected home soon. HORATIO MOSHER and JAMES IRLAND, of this village, privates, and Corporal GEORGE PALMER, of the same regiment, have returned, discharged on account of sickness. They look as though the land of alligators did not agree with their constitutions. They are however improving rapidly.

FROM THE 114TH.—We publish an interesting letter from our regular correspondent with the 114th Regiment, now at Port Hudson.

PROMOTED.—Lieut. Col. S. R. PER LEE has been promoted to be Colonel of the 114th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, vice Col. E. B. Smith, killed in our assault before Port Hudson, Louisiana.

PERSONAL.—Among the citizens of Oxford present at the funeral of Col. Smith, we were gratified to observe Lt. Gov. Tracy, now a venerable Octogenarian. The Governor retains the brilliancy of intellect which characterized his younger days and we are glad to see the hand of time lies so lightly upon him. Hon. Henry E. Mygatt, also of Oxford was present, and was one of the pall bearers upon the occasion.

FROM THE 114TH—An Adventure on the River—The Surrender of Port Hudson—Captured Men of the 114th Paroled and Sent to Ship Island, &c., &c.

The following private letter from "Q. M. S." is handed to us for publication, and fills what

OUR THANKS—Are due Capt. W. H. SHAW, of the 114th, and Mr. E. N. SPENCER, Esq., (bye the bye, we should have mentioned last week, that this gentleman has become a Washingtonian, by residence, we mean,) for copies of interesting papers. The former sends us, from Beaufort, a copy of the *Free South*; the latter a copy of the *Washington Daily Chronicle*—both awful abolition papers. Shades of Calhoun, think of it! An abolition paper published in South Carolina, and by Massachusetts Yankees at that!

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—The body of the lamented Col. Smith which passed through here last Friday, met an appropriate reception. Both Fire Companies were out, accompanied by the Band; cannons were fired and the defferent church bells were tolled. The streets were filled with people, and there were but few who could suppress the tears.

LIEUT. G. G. DONNELLY.—The friends of this brave man have received news of his death. When he enlisted into the 114th Regiment he was pastor of the Baptist Church in Afton, Chenango county, and he left his charge and proceeded with his regiment as Lieutenant of one of the companies to New Orleans, in Gen. Banks' expedition; where he saw considerable hard service. Just before his death he had been quite sick, but had so far recovered as to be doing duty when by accident he fell through a draw bridge, while out on picket, at Brashear City, La., April 26th. He had been in the ministry but about three years, and was beloved by his Church at Afton, and the community at large. He left a pleasant home, and kind friends, and associated himself with those who went forth to fight for the old flag, the Stars and Stripes, and has fallen a victim to this wicked Rebellion, at the age of 39. His widow will have the sympathy of all her neighbors and friends.—*Oneonta Herald.*

Those having articles to send for our sick soldiers in the 114th Reg., will please bring them to Lewis' Hall on Wednesday, Aug. 12th. The Army Relief will meet to put things in proper shape for sending by Express, at 2 P. M. We have a loud call from the Surgeon for assistance.

DAVIS—At the Marine Hospital New Orleans, July 8, 1863, of consumption and chronic diarrhoea, Mr. Ira A. Davis, of Company B, 114th Regiment, N. Y. S. V., aged 26, years.

This young man, surrounded by friends and home attractions, felt nevertheless a strong attraction for country and its welfare. When the call was made for volunteers in 1862 he responded and went, hoping to be of service in checking the fratricidal hosts which were gathering for the purpose of destroying the government which had so long nourished them. His hopes were never blighted by sickness. He was taken sick while his Regiment was at Fortress Monroe from which he never fully recovered, but lingered in feebleness more or less till he died. His letters to his wife and friends breathed the spirit of the christian patriot. He sleeps with the brave who have fallen victims and martyrs for their country. He leaves a wife and numerous friends to mourn his early departure.

FORD—In Mt. Upton, August 11, 1863, Russell Ford, Esq., in the 65th year of his age.

The deceased was born in Delaware County, in this State, and came to this County when a boy. He held many important positions in his town. He was elected a Justice of the Peace of the town of Guilford in 1830, and held the office until a few years previous to his death. He was admitted to practice in all the Courts of this State on motion of his old friend, Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, at the General Term of the Supreme Court, at Binghamton, in the year 1837, and continued the practice of law until his failing health compelled him to withdraw from the active and exciting pursuits of his profession. At the time of his decease he was a member of the Baptist Church and had been for 20 years. Ability, integrity and purity were his characteristics in all the relations of life. He was a consistent christian, a kind husband, and an affectionate father, and was beloved by all who knew him. As his earthly pilgrimage drew near its close he looked back upon a life well spent, and died without regret, regretted by all. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of his fellow citizens, and he has left a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

The late Col. Elisha B. Smith

**FUNERAL OBSEQUIES—MANIFESTATION OF
PUBLIC SYMPATHY AND RESPECT.**

The remains of Col. Elisha B. Smith, fell at Port Hudson, were brought to Chertsey county on Friday last. As they passed thru the villages they were received with ever demonstration of respect by the multitude.

At Greene, the Masons, members of the Fire Company, and citizens generally, turned out in procession, and to the tolling of bells and the firing of minute guns, escorted the remains through the village. Bouquets of flowers were also presented by ladies to be placed in the coffin. At Oxford nearly the same manifestations of public sympathy and sorrow exhibited as at Greene. The firemen and citizens turned out in procession to escort the remains through the village, and bells were rung and minute guns fired.

The funeral services at Norwich were impressive. The hearse was accompanied to Court House Square, where the various Companies and Societies were drawn up in order together with an immense concourse of citizens and strangers, and where the Rev. Sam'l J. Child rendered an eloquent tribute to the character of the deceased; and afterwards the remains, in pursuance of the last request of the deceased, were passed over to the Masonic Order. The procession was thereupon formed in the same order as before, and while minute guns were fired, marched to the sound of appropriate music to the grave, where the exercises were according to the Masonic ritual.

The deceased was 47 years of age. He was a member of the Convention of 1846, which framed the Constitution; and was subsequently Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner and for various other offices.

Funeral of Col. Smith.

The funeral obsequies of Col. Smith of the 114th Reg't N. Y. Vols., took place at Norwich last Sunday, and were attended by a very large concourse of people from every place within a distance of many miles. His body was committed to Mother Earth according to the beautiful and impressive rites of the Masonic Order, witnessed by at least five thousand spectators. The funeral service at the Grave was read by Bro. R. K. Bourne, Master of Norwich Lodge, in an impressive manner.

The 114th.—Surgeon Beecher of the 114th Reg't. writing to the New Orleans *Era* in regard to the killed and wounded in that Regiment in the battle of the Teche, after giving the list as we have heretofore published it, says in relation to some of our well known boys—

"Upon the authority of the commanding officer, Col. Elisha B. Smith, I would add that the names of Sergt. Ballou, private Weston, and Corporal Fish have been recommended for promotion, for bravery and meritorious conduct upon the field. Sergeant Ballou is an old soldier—was in the famous "Burnside Expedition," and is in every sense an efficient, competent and well disciplined officer.

The recommendations are well deserved and eminently fitting.

Respectfully, your obedient servant.

H. H. BEECHER.

Asst Surgeon 114th Reg. N. Y. V.

We are glad to hear that Col.

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are so well appreciated. The latter is likely to earn as many laurels with his musket as he has already with his pen. Let the promotions come quickly.

From the 114th.—We have been permitted to peruse a private letter from Capt. W. M. Rexford, of the 114th, to his friends in this village. The *Atlantic*, upon which his company was had a boisterous passage to the Gulf, but not so much so as the *Thames*. The four companies landed on Ship Island, December 15th, where the Expedition was to rendezvous. All the ships but the *Atlantic* and *Baltic* had gone up to New Orleans, the final destination of the Expedition. The troops on board these two vessels had landed on Ship Island, to remain there until smaller boats come in to take them to New Orleans.

The Captain describes the Island as being a "great pile of sand," which is quite uninviting, even to the storm-tossed soldiers, and they were quite impatiently waiting the time when they should be ordered away from the "Desert."

Col. Smith and the remaining six companies of the regiment had not arrived on the 19th, the last date of the letter. The boys were mainly well, some were slightly sick from colds and fever attacks. One man in Capt. Rexford's company, from Madison County, had died upon the Island. Name not given. Nothing further of general interest is given. We hope to hear from the Captain often.

Masonic.—At a special meeting of Norwicn Lodge, No. 302 F. and A. M., held at their Lodge room, July 12th, 1863, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased the all wise Grand Master of the Universe to remove from this earth the soul of our beloved brother, Col. Elisha B. Smith, and while sorrowing with humble submission to the fiat of His will, "who doeth all things well," we deem it proper to offer this last tribute to the memory of our departed friend and brother.

Resolved, That in the departure of Brother Smith, this Lodge has lost a true and faithful brother, his family a kind and affectionate husband, son and father, society a genial, noble man, and his country a brave and accomplished officer.

Resolved, That while the members of this Lodge, in common with this whole community, deplore the calamity which has suddenly removed from our midst a useful and honored citizen, in the very strength and vigor of his manhood, yet we have the melancholy satisfaction of knowing that he died a brave man, nobly defending his country, and while we duly honor the names of the thousand patriots who have fallen in this fearful struggle, his memory like the emblem of immortality we have just deposited in his grave will be ever green in our hearts.

Resolved, That while called to mourn the loss of our esteemed brother, and to offer up to his memory this last tribute of affection, we safely trust his spirit to "Him who rules in that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved widow and relatives the hand of sympathy and voice of consolation in this their dark hour of trial and affliction, and commend them to the care and protection of "Him who, holding the destinies of nations in his hand, notes the fall of a sparrow."

Resolved, That the Lodge be clothed with the customary badge of mourning for thirty days

Resolved, that the Resolutions be placed upon the records of this Lodge, and that the Secretary present a copy to the widow and mother of the deceased, and that they be published in the papers of this county.

tory.

From the 114th Regiment.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a private letter written by a member of the Chenango regiment. It breathes the pure spirit of patriotism, and indicates the sentiments of "our boys" on the prosecution of the war. The letter was written during the siege of Port Hudson, and shows the estimation in which Copperheads are held by patriotic soldiers:

"I am not ashamed to belong to the 114th; they are true as steel; our regiment has 480 men fit for duty. I have just been relieved at the rifle pits; we have a breastwork clear round the Rebs and cannon planted. The negroes have made several charges. They are terrible to fight; they charged seven times in succession. The Rebs hang every one they catch of them, and the negroes don't wait for the gallows, but put the bayonet into them. They are just the boys to fight the Rebs, they will not have any paroled prisoners to fight over the second time. We have been attacked in the rear by a Guerrilla band. Our boys have been chasing them, but without success; they are like the bands of Copperheads north who are continually attacking us in the rear, they are hated worse than the enemy in front. I hope the time will soon come when they will be hunted like the bands of the South and shot down at sight. You wished to know what the soldiers' feelings was about this. They are in favor of military law over the north that will make them loyal by force as Jeff. Davis does in order to control his minions in rebellion. We hope there will be a draft and they will bring some of the Copperheads down here with us. We understand they are to fill up the old regiments. There is more men needed, and we feel that our breasts have been a bulwark for such men about long enough. Had it not been for the brave volunteers our homes would have seen such sights as we see here. We are ready to endure the hardships to sustain the Union, for without this we are ruined forever. We desire peace on no other terms than an unconditional submission to the United States. The *Chenango Union* is taken by three of the Company. They swear and curse the editor and say he ought to be hung. The brave boys that are facing death and bearing wounds under a scorching sun to ward off the blows aimed at their homes hate such men worse than the armed foe in front. c. c."

From Port Hudson.

The following extract from a private letter from C. E. Thompson to his parents, will not be without interest to those who have friends in the 114th Regiment. The letter is dated at Port Hudson, June 19:

Last Sunday morning about 7 o'clock, five companies of our Regiment, B, D, E, F and G, were ordered up, and with the rest of Weitzel's brigade began moving around to the left, leaving the other five companies for picket on our lines. About daylight we arrived at the mouth of a deep ravine which our men had been clearing

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out for the purpose of making a charge on some earthworks running parallel with it. They wanted these works to plant some artillery on. Our artillery began to roar about this time, throwing shot and shell over our heads into the rebel lines, and soon we heard the yells of our boys charging on the works, and then how the muskets popped. We pushed along through the ravine as fast as we could, and soon it came our turn to charge. We had to file right, out of the ravine and go up a hill, over logs and brush about ten rods, to the rebel breastworks. From the time we filed out of the ravine until we got within a rod of the works, it was a continual whiz of bullets sounding more like bees swarming than anything else. Capt. Tucker was at the head of the company until we filed out of the ravine, he stopped on the corner saying, "I don't know about going in there." As the rear of the company passed by he rushed toward the head, and was within two feet of me when a bullet entered his breast and he fell over a log exclaiming, "Oh, my God! I am shot," and died within fifteen minutes. The last words he said were to tell his friends that he died for his country. I had just seen Capt. Tucker fall when four men came down with Col. Smith, who was shot at the head of the Regiment, the ball passing near his spine. He died last night and his body is now on the way home. Capt. Tucker was buried at Baton Rouge. We rushed on over every conceivable obstacle, the bullets flying thicker than hailstones all the time, and finally reached the foot of a little hill, about a rod from their works, which partly covered us from their fire. Major Morse was shot through the ankle, and there was no one to lead the regiment. They called for the Captain of Co. B, but he was nowhere to be found. Capt. Fitch of Co. F, had been wounded, and there were but two officers of our regiment to be found, Lieuts. Searles and Corbin of our company. The 160th N. Y. were supporting us. Their cowardly old Colonel kept bellowing for an officer of the 114th. Finally, as he was the senior officer on the field, he got orders to take command of the brigade and charge again. Instead of taking the lead as Col. Smith had done, he lay down in a ditch and roared out for the 114th to go on, saying he would support us. Lieuts. Searles and Corbin made a dash and the boys after them. Corbin was going into the ditch in front of the works when he was shot in the head, killed instantly and fell into the