

Company C, 3rd Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers
Captain Martin Flood

This regiment went out east and participated in an engagement at Harper's Ferry (Bolivar Heights) in 1861, the Valley Campaign between General Banks and Stonewall Jackson in May and June of 1862 and at Cedar Run (called by Edwin E. Bryant in his letters the Battle of Slaughter Mountain) in August and Sharpsburg (Antietam) in September of 1862. The lieutenant of Company C, Moses O'Brien, mentioned so often and who was killed in battle, was promoted to captain of another company in the same regiment, Company I. The letters which came back from this company were always signed E.E.B, and in looking through the regimental listings, the transcriber feels this was Edwin E. Bryant.

http://www.civilwaralbum.com/misc6/harpers_ferry_battle1.htm

http://blueandgraytrail.com/event/Battle_of_Cedar_Mountain

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/anti/battle.htm>

Monroe Sentinel, April 3, 1861

On Friday evening last, a meeting was held at the court house for the purpose of initiating a movement towards obtaining a company of volunteers from Green County. Appropriate remarks were made by Judge Dunwiddie, Martin Flood and Rev. Morris who is fully awake to the problems of the times. The national song, "The Star Spangled Banner" was sung by G.H. King. Judge Bingham came forward and on behalf of Ludlow, Bingham and Company claimed the privilege of fitting out the company to be organized. B.J. Bullard made a very sensible talk and attested to his sincerity by there and then volunteering to serve his country. Moses O'Brien, brim full of emotion and patriotism, spoke directly to the point and he too volunteered. Joseph E. Stevenson with his wonted coolness and promptness came up and volunteered. They boys were all eager to put their names too. Several enlisted and some are exceedingly anxious to go but their duties and relations at home are such they cannot and ought not leave. Before the meeting closed 23 names were on the roll:

Moses O'Brien
S.E. Gardner
J.W. Hunter
B.J. Bullard
Josiah Underwood
Charles W. Case
T.B. Andrews

J.E. Stevenson
Gilbert Shaw
Richard Jackson
S.E. Mosher
G.W. Amelin
T.J. Hurlbut
Henry Fuller
Joel Rice
George L. Booth
William H. Booth
George Sherman
Augustus Horn
John D. Beebe
Jacob Cumley
Harrison Hopkins
John W. Kline
John P. Disch
G.C. Miller
A.T. Edwards
Emanuel Silence
Andrew Warner
G.W. Williamson
John Hattery
Marvin Campbell
Isaiah Blunt
G.W. McCulloch
Henry Raymone
George Erlewine
Lucius A. Beldin
William F. Bosick
George Gay

At a following meeting the following names were added to the list:

Jonas Cramer
Anson Lovelace
Jefferson Lovelade
Charles Crossman
William Martin
Melville Hopkins
C.S. Smith
William Robert
Seth Raymond
John Kohls
William Johnson
Fred C. Reger

William Brisbane
William Springstead
William Foster
Cyrus Beede
Abner Webb
T.O. Daughenbaugh
Franklin Loveland
Thomas R. Cook
Isaac Thurlow
Dwight Pierce
Adelbert Betts
Thomas Hayden
George W. Whitney
J. Wilcox
O. Allen
Martin Flood
Z. Birmingham
James Collins
Sidney Brayton
Jesse Collins
Eugene R. Wilter
George Cook
John Coon
Fluette Annis
Joseph Bridge
L.P. Yarger
Miles D. Kean
John Grace
J. Richardson
S.W. McFarland
John Becker
Joseph Ely
John S. Waldo

Monroe Sentinel, April 19, 1861

Departure of the Green County Volunteers

The marching orders which our volunteers have been anxiously awaiting came Monday evening. At this late hour and before going to press we can give but a brief sketch of the departure Tuesday morning. At 6:30 the company marched to the court house square where a box of Testaments was presented by Rev. Mr. Sweetland for the use of the volunteers. Then followed the presentation to the company of the beautiful flag and to Captain Flood of an elegant sword both from the ladies. The flag is of durable material, army size, mounted with ball and eagle, a piece of work credible to the ladies.

The court house square was filled with hundreds of interested spectators who seemed to look upon Old Glory with more than usual admiration. The flag now symbolizes the American government, the best upon the face of the earth; and traitor's hands all over the South are extended to dishonor and destroy it and all it expresses.

The presentation remarks were made by Judge Dunwiddie and were well adapted to the occasion. Captain Flood responded on behalf of the men and himself in a voice firm but slightly tremulous, pledging loyalty under all circumstances to the Stars and Stripes.

It is due to Mrs. Cady and Mrs. Witter to say that they have been especially active in preparing the flag and procuring the sword.

After a stirring song by Leland's Glee Club (solo by Mrs. Foulds), Lt. O'Brien made a few earnest remarks, then headed by our brass band and attended by the citizens en masse, the volunteers marched to the depot, shook hands with friends and received teary goodbyes from relatives. Amid the waving of handkerchiefs, swinging of hats and loud cheering from the crowd, mingled with the music of the band, the cars moved slowly off with their precious burden. We watched them as they passed around the curve of the road and observed the officers standing in the rear of the car waving a final adieu.

The occasion was one of mingled sadness and joy—sadness on account of the terrible state of the country, requiring a friend to part with a friend—joy at knowing of their brave hearts and strong arms to bear aloft our national flag and maintain the integrity of this Union.

The sympathies of those remaining are with the volunteers. They go to fight not only their battles but ours; and effects of the results of the present struggle must be felt beyond the limits of the United States. Should the American government now prove a failure the calamity would be world wide. Heaven bless and protect the volunteers and return them to their homes, crowned with the laurels of victory. We give their names below.

Captain Martin Flood

1st Lt. Moses O'Brien

1st Sgt. J.W. Hunter

2nd Sgt. Silas Gardner

3rd Sgt. Seth Raymond

4th Sgt. Dwight Pierce

1st Corp. James Collins

2nd Corp. Jonas Cramer

3rd Corp. George H. Cook

Privates:

Oliver Allen

Fluette Annis

Daniel Auchanbauch

Clark Austin

Levi C. Bryant

William H. Booth

George L. Booth
William L. Busick
Isaiah Blunt
Edward E. Bryant
William Brisbane
Adelburt A. Betts
Josephus C. Bridge
John Becker
Jos. W. Beemis
Zelo Brimingham
John L. Boyer
William L. Carter
Jacob Cumley
Charles A. Crossland
John D. Coon
Thomas R. Cook
Jessie Collins
Thomas Conroy
James Conroy
Alonzo P. Crawford
William F. Crawford
G.F. Diffenderfer
John Drake
Henry Fuller
William H.H. Fleek
William H. Foster
John B. Frasher
George J. Gay
Charles R. Green
John M. Green
Jas. Golden
George Gans
John Grace
William F. Goodham
Jerome C. Godfrey
John Hattery
Samuel Hayden
Melville Hopkins
Richard Jackson
William J. Johnson
Guilford B. Jennings
Charles H. King
John Kobls or Kohls
William A. Kimberly
Benjamin Leonard
Anson W. Lovelace

Jefferson Lovelace
Franklin Loveland
Stewart E. Mosher
William M. Martin
Robert McFarland
Phillip Morris
Alonzo McKinney
Horace Northrup
John Parks
Robert W. Patton
August Pitzcold
Joel Rice
Edgar Ross
Henry Raymond
William Roberts
Fred C. Rager
George H. Richardson
David Roarke
Orvin Royce
George W. Rollins
J. Gilbert Shaw
William Springstead
Seymour J. Sheffield
Isaac Thurlow
John Thorp
A Thurlow
Josiah Underwood
Abner Webb
Jacob Warner, Jr.
Andrew Warner
John S. Waldo
Eugene Witter
Junot Wilcox
George W. Williamson
Willard M. Walker
Isaac W. Winans
L.P. Yarger

Monroe Sentinel, August 7, 1861

Letter from Company C, 3rd Regiment (Capt. Flood's company)
Camp Near Harper's Ferry
July 27, 1861

My last was written from Hagerstown on the eve of our departure from that place on the 19th inst. Whether it was ever mailed or reached the Standard office I do not know as I

handed it to a Connecticut volunteer who met us on the way after we had begun the march.

Phew! A dusty and sweaty march we had from Hagerstown hither. We pushed on six miles without a halt, the men carrying their knapsacks, muskets, cartridge boxes and haversacks with two days rations and canteens filled with water. This was our initiation of the romantic past time of a forced march.

The first day we made sixteen miles. On the last half of the journey the men were relieved of their knapsacks through the kindness of the wagoners. At our halt we stacked arms and ate our dinner in a hog pasture just this side of Boonesboro.

We camped for the night on a stony hillside thirteen miles from Harper's Ferry, a weary, foot sore set of fellows. One hundred poor soldiers were detailed for the guard during the night. The rest pitched tents, made their coffee and after eating our lunch laid our weary bodies down to rest. Then an angry shower of rain came pouring down deluging our tents, and drenching us to the skin.

Early the next morning we struck tents and returned to Harper's Ferry. The hills on either side gradually closed up and the last part of our march was through almost a gorge and over a hilly road, a broiling sun above us and not a leaf stirring. At 1:00 on the 20th we struck the Potomac about ten miles below the Ferry and took our first look at the "sacred soil".

Turning up the river we marched towards the Ferry one mile and then turned onto a mountain road to a piece of sloping, stony land and at the base of this was the Maryland Heights. Here we pitched our tents and now remain. Our camp overlooks the Potomac, a sharp projection of the mountain shuts out our view of the Ferry. Beneath us on the same side of the river, is a small hamlet of a half dozen houses, called Sandy Hook. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad runs along the Maryland side of the river as does the Cumberland Canal.

I am unable to tell when or where we shall move. Preparation for the defense will go on and would indicate that we will remain here for some time. Probably we shall, until the Army of the Potomac is re-organized on a more durable basis.

These past months of hard service have been enough to satisfy any one but it would be shabby to leave the country in the present emergency. We are glad that we have enlisted for the war. Our friends, dear and yearned for as they are, must look for peace before they look for us.

E.E.B. (Edwin E. Bryant)

Monroe Sentinel, October 16, 1861

We make the following extract from a letter bearing the date October 10 from Frederick City, Md. It arrived here on Monday last. (This would be Company C, 3rd Regiment of Infantry, mostly Green County boys.)

“The company has gone to Harper’s Ferry to cross the Potomac there and capture a lot of grain and other produce that the Rebels have taken from the inhabitants and stored on a farm of a noted secessionist and it is guarded by a number of Rebels until it can be conveyed to the interior of Virginia. **Captain Flood** is in command of the expedition and he took with him 300 of his regiment and a battery of Captain Best’s artillery making in all 380 men. They took the cars at this place at 2:00 yesterday going to Harper’s Ferry by rail in two hours. I could not go with them being a marker, I have to remain with the regiment. I was very much disappointed. I suppose the boys have gotten possession of the grain ere this or they were badly whipped. **Lt. O’Brien** told me before he went that there was a prospect of a good ‘brush’ with the enemy and he also told Lt. Rollins who was sick in a tent ‘should I fall sent my trunk to my father’”.

Monroe Sentinel, October 31, 1861

Letters from Captain Flood’s Company in Maryland state that Edwin Ross who was wounded and taken prisoner in the battle at Harper’s Ferry has since died.

A letter from Lt. O’Brien to E. Mosher, Esq., of this place, the father of Stewart Mosher who was killed in the Battle at Harper’s Ferry says: “I was standing near your son when he fell and had been speaking to him but a moment before. He remarked to me ‘Lt. I want to fetch my man this time’ and ‘where is the best place’. I advised him to go into the house and fire through the window but he went round the corner of the house and about ten feet from it was in the act of raising his gun to shoot when he fell. He is the first man from Green County that died on the battlefield in defense of his country’s flag and we may well be proud of him. He was a brave man. Peace to his ashes.”

Monroe Sentinel, November 27, 1861

On Saturday last, William Foster and George Gay, members of Captain Flood’s company who were wounded in the Battle at Harper’s Ferry on Bolivar Heights arrived here on a furlough. Their wounds are doing well and they hope to soon be able to re-join the regiment. Gay was wounded during a retreat from a position held by our forces closely pressed by the enemy and he attributes his escape from capture to the noble conduct of Silas Gardner who at great risk to himself assisted him off the field.

The following is a copy of Lt. O’Brien’s official report to Colonel Geary of the Battle of Bolivar Heights at Harper’s Ferry. Mr. Bryan, who was in the surgeon’s unit, in his private communication to us, speaks in the most flattering terms of the coolness and bravery displayed on that occasion by Lt. O’Brien and his men. They were in a precarious position; three companies of infantry on the Virginia side of the Potomac without adequate means of re-crossing the river, without artillery, and for a long time

without support, attacked by over 2,000 men, infantry and artillery; nothing but their determination saved them from defeat and capture.

Frederick City, Maryland, October 18, 1861

Colonel John W. Geary, Commanding, 28th Regiment Pa. Volunteers

Colonel:

I have the honor to report that on the 16th inst., the company under my command, Company C, 3rd Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, was quartered in the town at Harper's Ferry. At about 7:00 a.m., cannonading was heard beyond the heights known as Bolivar Heights. I ordered the company to prepare for action and as soon as we were in ranks I moved out upon the road in the direction of the fighting; meeting Col. Geary I was ordered by him to protect the left flank and rear of Captain Bertram, Company A, 3rd Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, on my right on the Halltown Turnpike.

I immediately deployed my company into a skirmish line. On reconnoitering I observed a column of infantry and also a squadron of cavalry advancing towards Bolivar Heights from the Shenandoah Road and also one other column of infantry and cavalry stationed by a heavy piece of artillery. The enemy's right was bearing down on Captain Bertram. I then advanced on the double quick to his assistance.

At this time the enemy commenced shelling us from a battery on Loudon Heights. The enemy gained the outskirts of the town of Bolivar and planted their guns behind a large brick house well covered from our batteries and supported by a large force of infantry.

I opened fire upon them just as they began to retreat from the house under heavy fire from Captain Bertram. I then advanced my line and connected with Captain Bertram as we advanced to gain the position of a brick house—the enemy opened a heavy cross fire upon our right and front. Their skirmishers being deployed along and behind a ridge northward of Bolivar, our musketry could not reach them from the cover of the brick house so we deployed again to the left and along the turnpike towards their line; as we advanced we observed their gun planted ahead of us on the road and protected by artillerists.

We, in connection with Bertram's Company, charged upon it, which the enemy perceiving it, they endeavored in haste to haul off their gun. In doing so the axle broke and after spiking it they were forced to leave. As we drew near the gun the enemy being strongly entrenched to our right upon the ridge, opened upon us a terrible fire from which we were forced to seek the shelter of trees and to lay upon our faces.

Not being supported and the right flank not closing in to dislodge the enemy, we fell back out of the fire. As we began to retreat the enemy cavalry dashed upon us almost surrounding a portion of our small force.

I saw the danger and ordered with a retreat to rally and repel the cavalry and cover the flight of our men. They responded gallantly and poured a volley into the cavalry and threw them into confusion and drove them from the field with several saddles empty.

We then retreated into Bolivar upon the main body; and held our ground under cannonading from the enemy at Loudon Heights and from the high ground beyond the town.

We then waited for the arrival of the artillery and as soon as it came to our assistance we advanced in skirmish lines towards the enemy. The enemy fell back under the fire of our artillery and we advanced rapidly upon their position. In our advance we passed the gun which the enemy could not remove and occupied the position on the ridge. The enemy then fell back out of sight upon Halltown Turnpike.

In our advance upon the brick house, Private Stewart, E. Mosher of Company C were killed and Private Edgar Ross of Company C was wounded and taken prisoner; and Corporals George Gay and William H. Foster of Company C were each wounded in the leg and Private Thomas Hayden of Company C was slightly wounded in the leg which comprise the whole loss of my command.

Yours Very Truly
Moses O'Brien
1st Lt., Commanding Company C

Monroe Sentinel, December 4, 1861

A letter from Captain Flood brings the sorrowful intelligence that another of the brave men who first responded to the call of the President from this county and went forth to maintain the integrity of the government has died in the hospital. Perry H. Yarger died at Frederick, Maryland on the 26th ult., of typhoid fever.

Monroe Sentinel, December 11, 1861

Died, of typhoid fever at Frederick, Maryland on the 26th ult., Lewis Perry Yager. The memory of this young man who left the parental roof at the call of his country and proved his love to the cause of human rights by the sacrifice of his life will be ever green in the hearts of all true patriots.

Monroe Sentinel, December 25, 1861

Camp Brownlow
Frederick, Maryland
December 13, 1861

To the Editor of the Sentinel:

On Monday, 2nd inst., we packed up at Camp Jo Holt, set fire to our log cabins, and turned our faces towards Frederick. The roads were very muddy but the day was cold, the air bracing and we started off on a light step, the band playing very appropriately "I

Am Glad When Out of the Wilderness". Our regiment was the first in the division to start and we made good time.

Towards night, a good portion of the regiment began to limp like knocked up veterans. While at Jo Holt many of the men had encased their feet and legs in large boots of grain leather and they proved a sorry substitute for Uncle Sam's boots.

At evening, we halted at Barnesville. We camped on the windy side of a hill without tents, blankets or overcoats. A fierce wind chilled us to the very heart. We built large fires of rails but one side was untenable because of the driving smoke and the other, the westward side, let but a one sided comfort.

On the 3rd we left Monocassey Junction three miles south of Frederick and on the 4th we moved over five miles to the southward of Frederick to the location selected for the winter quarters of our brigade in a hilly, woody, region abounding in winter and stone as well as fuel. It was a dreary place and we were right glad to receive orders on the 5th to hasten to Frederick.

Col. Ruger had been appointed Provost Marshall of Frederick and his regiment detailed as the provost guard and to act as military police. The Provost Marshall takes charge of all prisoners under sentence of general court martial and confined for offenses of a grave character. The duties assigned to us are very onerous.

We are now back in the old camp which we fixed up nicely and lost so suddenly on the 22nd October and are alternately by companies addressing ourselves and our new duties.

Captain Flood has been ordered home to recruit for the regiment but is hardly strong enough yet to travel. But he may be expected home in a week or so. Corporals Foster and Gay of Company C have returned safely to the regiment well pleased with their visit and encouraged to do their whole duty in this struggle. Gay "has been and gone and done it" and the state will be \$5 per month to the newly installed "dependent on him for support."

I hope our country will fill up the ranks of Company C to the maximum with good, hardy men. There are now seven of the company who will never again answer the roll call. Underwood left the van through the dark valley. Mosher and Raymond fell bravely at Bolivar Heights. Ross, who died of wounds received there was a noble boy and bore all the hardships of camp life with a manly cheerfulness that put all grumblers to shame. Yarder faded away until death found him but a shadow. Austin ministered to the sick until the sufferers all loved him and then sank down among them and died. Northrop, too, inhaled the malodorous vapors of death and is gone.

E.E.B.

(Edwin E. Bryant of Monroe, member of Company C, 3rd Regiment of Infantry)

Captain Flood arrived home in Exeter on Saturday last. He has a commission to enlist 200 or more recruits to fill up the third regiment to the maximum.

Monroe Sentinel, January 15, 1862

Captain Flood has sworn in the following recruits: Daniel Starr, Reuben Webb, Willard Payne, Amos L. Lindley, Charles Sackett, Andrew W. Connor, Emory S. Winans(?), Isaac Godfrey, and John Durrell. Company C has already made a place for itself by its gallant conduct at the Battle of Bolivar Heights at Harper's Ferry.

Monroe Sentinel, February 5, 1862

Captain Flood is making progress in filling up his company. There is now no doubt that his company will be full shortly. Since our last item, Captain Flood has enlisted and sworn in Hezekiah D. Kilby, Hilan Scott, David Corbett, Thomas G. Elliott, Cader Powell, and Samuel W. Mayes.

Sgt. Silas Gardner, belonging to Company C of the 3rd Regiment, arrived home on a furlough Thursday evening last. He reports the company is in fine condition not having lost one man on the sick list.

Monroe Sentinel, February 12, 1862

From Company C, 3rd Wisconsin Volunteers at their barracks in Frederick, Maryland:

A short time before tattoo, a member of the company came into the quarters of Lt. O'Brien (transcriber's note, this would be Lt. Moses O'Brien) and preferred a grievance charge against a comrade. While this disorder was rifling the temper of "Moses" another came in complaining that a gross outrage had been perpetrated in the cook house. This additional evidence of insubordination threw "Moses" into a rage. He swore he would go down to the barracks and set things to right with a vengeance. Down he went with strides and found the company formed for roll call. He then began to reprimand them for the various offenses which complaint had been made in terms which showed he was in earnest. Just as he was at the height of his denunciations, which seemed to make little or no impression upon them, Orderly Hunter tapped him on the shoulder saying, "Lieutenant, here is a sword which is on behalf of the company, I present it to you." At the same time he handed him an elegant sword and sash valued at \$75. This, of course, took "Moses" admidships. He dried up on the scoldings, looked first at the head of the company, then at the foot, then at the sword, then at the orderly, as non-plussed a specimen as one would wish to see. "Boys", he said at last, "I don't know what to say". "What about the cook house?", said one. Finally, "Moses'" tongue came to him. His voice trembled, the tears trickled down his cheeks as he vowed that from the token of their regard, the sword would never be dishonored in his hands. Just like the boys. A formal presentation was not for them. The Lt. must have his sword but too must the boys have their joke and they put it in a sense in which the impressive and the farcical were honorably blended.

E.E.B. (Edwin E. Bryant)

Monroe Sentinel, February 26, 1862

Since our last report, Captain Flood has enlisted John Robert Santos, Samuel Bowden, Francis M. Hawkins, Amos W. Rutledge, John Ault, Samuel Case and David Agnew.

Monroe Sentinel, March 5, 1862

Captain Flood has enlisted since our last Herbert H. Emerson, Silas Ullem, Jacob M. Case, Evan(?) Rood and Andrew Rood. The last two are twin boys from Wyota. Sgt. Spencer is industriously engaged in drilling the recruits and preparing them for active duty.

Monroe Sentinel, March 12, 1862

A letter from the Army of the Potomac from Captain Flood's Company C, 3rd Regiment. This individual always signed the letters he wrote "E.E.B." and by going through the roster this transcriber has determined it must have been Edwin E. Bryant of Monroe Charlestown, Virginia

Here in the cemetery is the grave of Edgar Ross, Company C, who was wounded at the Battle of Bolivar Heights at Harper's Ferry and taken prisoner. He was tenderly cared for by the ladies of the town, especially by one worthy widowed lady. His youth, beauty and misfortunes touched the chords of humanity here and he had every attention a mother could wish for a suffering son. His few pocket effects were given over by the lady above mentioned to Lt. O'Brien whose kindness and motherly demeanor had won the confidence of the poor boy.

The recruits enlisted by Captain Flood have arrived safely. They have been distributed among the weaker companies and Company C has six of them. They are highly spoken of by the officers as soldierly men.

E.E.B.

Monroe Sentinel, March 12, 1862

Since our last issue Captain Flood has enlisted the following recruits: Ziba A. Cook, Francis Morton, Thomas Brown, William H. Hefferman. Fourteen of those who had been drilling go to headquarters today at Madison and thence to the Potomac.

We are informed that Lt. Moses O'Brien will probably receive a lieutenant's commission in the regular army. Such an honor is under the administration of the War Department and is only conferred as a mark of distinction, bravery or superior merit.

We were not aware until recently that Green County was represented at the Battle of Fort Donelson. We are informed that John Blount, son of William Blount of Clarno who some time ago was transferred from one of the Iowa regiments to the Mississippi gun

boat flotilla was at the Battle of Fort Donelson and was wounded there. He arrived home some days ago on a furlough to have a better opportunity to recover from his wounds. We have not learned the nature or severity of the wounds. William Blount has three sons in the service of their country. One is in the Kansas brigade and one is in the 3rd Wisconsin Volunteers and John. The son who is a member of the 3rd Regiment was at the Battle of Bolivar Heights near Harper's Ferry and was said by his officers and comrades to be a gallant soldier.

Monroe Sentinel, May 14, 1862

Reverend B.J. Jackson of this place has three sons in the Federal Army.

Lt. Moses O'Brien, of Company C, 3rd Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers has been promoted to the captaincy of Company I in the same regiment. This is a well deserved mark of merit.

From a letter received from Sgt. J. Walkey of Captain Jackson's Company we learn that so far as they knew, not one of their number was killed in the late battle near Pittsburg Landing which was called by the Rebels the Battle of Shiloh. From a complete list of the members of the company sent us, we learn that the following were taken prisoner by the enemy, viz:

Lt. Thomas A. Jackson

S.S. Frowe, 3rd Sgt.

J.L. Shaw, 2nd Corp.

M.R. Cunningham, 3rd Corp.

Privates C.A. Coule, J. Davis, A.M. Green, H. Hitchcock, A.J. Lucia, R. McGuire, H.M. Wright, W.F. Wilder and M.J. Busby

Wounded: E. Combs, H.E. Bailey, W.H. Spencer

Monroe Sentinel, May 21, 1862

A son of William Blunt, Esq., of Clarno, Isaiah Blunt, member of Company C, 3rd Regiment, arrived in town Thursday evening last. He has come home on a furlough to regain his health. He has been sick and unfit for duty for some time and was offered a discharge from the service but refused to accept it.

Monroe Sentinel, June 4, 1862

Private letters received in town state that of Company C, John Becker, R.M. McFarland, J. Waldo, G. Booth, C. Sackett, C. Crossland, W. Fleek and W. Kimberly are missing since the retreat of General Banks. (Transcriber's note, this would be Capt. Flood's company, 3rd Regiment, during the Battle of Winchester, Va., part of the Valley campaign of Stonewall Jackson against General Banks). A member of Company I states that he saw one of Company C's men fall near him while they were fighting from behind the stone wall at Winchester. Dwight Pierce, who gave the names of the missing as above, says: "I think George Booth was killed but this is doubtful". Mr. Bryant who had

his hip sprained by one of the cavalry riding against them when they became panic stricken, in a brief letter to his family says “after the battle we marched 38 miles without food during which I became so lame that I dared not sit down lest I could not walk on rising. I am so completely prostrate I find it difficult to write. In a day or two I will send full particulars to the Sentinel. Our regiment covered itself with glory. Companies C, I, E held the enemy in check and covered the retreat.”

Monroe Sentinel, June 11, 1862

Letter from Company C, 3rd Regiment
Williamsport, Maryland, May 30

(Transcriber’s note, this regiment participated in the “Valley Campaign” in the Shenandoah Valley, under General Banks, who was pitted against General T.J. “Stonewall” Jackson)

On the 22nd inst., Banks’ command lay quietly at Strasburg, little dreaming of the gigantic plans the enemy were then upon the eve of executing for its utter annihilation. Banks’ forces having been left by Shields—were two small brigades with the proper complement of cavalry and artillery. On his hands were several hundred sick left by Shields with an immense train of over 500 teams, ambulances and cattle.

One company—G—of our regiment, which Captain Hubbard was guarding a railroad bridge midway between Front Royal and Strasburg. Captain O’Brien’s Company (I) was at work on the fortifications then being erected for the better defense of the position at the latter place.

While the regiment was at supper a report came that Captain Hubbard had been attacked and overwhelmed. Also, that the 1st Maryland at Front Royal was contending against fearful odds.

The excitement caused by this news was at its height when an order was given to march instantly. In a few minutes the regiment was at the double quick down the track towards Front Royal, yelling like mad and in fighting trim.

Arriving at the bridge where Captain Hubbard was stationed they found that he had made a gallant defense of the bridge, foiling the enemy’s attempt to surround him and by his gallant fire killed 13 of their number and among them two noted guerilla captains, Sheets and Fletcher. His loss was two killed, seven wounded. Several of his men and a distant picket were cut off and probably taken prisoner.

At this place the regiment remained under arms until morning when it was ordered back to Strasburg.

During the night it became known that the enemy had forced through our lines at Front Royal and actually gained our rear. We hastily packed up, loaded the immense stores and prepared for the worst. Early in the morning the train had started with a few cavalry for

Winchester. Near its center was Douellys Brigade and near to the rear was General Gordon's brigade including our regiment followed by the provost guard which included our company. Behind us were any amount of wagons, sutlers, etc., a drove of horses and cattle and refugees fleeing for their lives.

A wild, exciting march was made. The droves of horses would occasionally take flight and dash through the columns. The teamsters were constantly getting into a panic and thundered along raising clouds of dust and throwing the columns into confusion. The enemy were seen hovering on our flanks and at every road crossing making some demonstration that increased the excitement and added to the confusion.

At Middleton, they attacked the head of the train but were occupied by the Vermont Cavalry which was terribly cut up while the train slipped by. Again at Newton, 8 miles from Winchester, they pounced upon the train behind Gordon's brigade and poured the shot and shell while the infantry and cavalry moved down. Some of the teamsters cut loose from the wagons and fled; forty wagons and the rear guard turned back to Strasburg and took a by-road and fled towards the mountains and after a toilsome march of over 100 miles they reached the Potomac at Hancock.

The 2nd Massachusetts and 27th Indiana of Gordon's brigade moved back to the point of attack and forming lines of battle began a brisk fight with the enemy, retiring so slowly that the train slipped by unmolested and gained Winchester. Slowly retiring the two regiments kept the foe at bay from three until midnight when our regiment moved out to the front and kept an anxious watch until morning.

Early dawn disclosed the enemy upon us in overwhelming numbers. A few minutes served to put their position and plan of approach into focus. Their line was three times as long as ours and thrown out into a concave, the center commanding the pikes from Strasburg and Front Royal and the flank thrown forward so as to close upon our left and right and coiling up completely around the town, our field train and all would be captured en masse. Against this long line our two brigades drew up our lines. It seemed that the shorter segment of a small circle as the long lines of the enemy lapped around it and defeat stared us in the face.

Our batteries were got into position in the southern suburbs of Winchester behind our feeble line of battle. The ball opened upon the right; a regiment appeared upon a commanding ridge southwest of town. Our batteries opened upon them in accurate range and drove it back in sheep-flock confusion. An attempt to plant a battery on this ridge proved equally abortive. But the Rebels held it long enough to reconnoiter our force and position.

Then followed a lull of about half an hour which was significant of great activity upon the flanks. Soon an overwhelming column was hurled up over the ridge upon our route and batteries opened upon Gordon's brigade from all directions. The 3rd Maryland, 29th Pennsylvania and 27th Indiana broke from the field. The 3rd Wisconsin stood firm. Col. Ruger commanded us to "about face". It was done and we marched to the rear in perfect

line of battle, we leaped over a stone wall and the column was ordered to stand behind it, which was done and it checked the onset of the enemy, obliging them to halt and get their batteries into position

Again marching to the rear, the three center companies, H, I, and C, made a stand in a little field by a stone wall. From this we opened at galling fire which checked them and forced them to unlimber their guns and fire grape.

Meanwhile the Union troops were pouring through the town in full retreat. Hastily collecting my company who were guarding the several streets and sending stragglers to the rear, we joined with the regiment as it marched through town amid whistling bullets and fanatical yells.

Windows were thrown open and guns and pistols were fired upon us and some were shot down in the streets as we went along. Among those who fired upon us we recognized those citizens who had enjoyed protection and patronage from our officers and men. The skirmishers of the enemy entered the town from the south and west and galled our retreating columns with a galling fire.

As we emerged from the town on the north side, the enemy columns of cavalry were abreast of us and their artillery were belching behind us. Their cavalry dashed along and threw us into confusion and for a few moments it seemed fair like Bull Run. But the coolness of the officers soon restored comparative order. The infantry marched in columns through the fields on either side of the road which was crowded with trains, ambulances, batteries and horsemen. As the enemy pressed us, hotly a stand was made some four miles from Winchester. Our batteries opening upon them and while checked, our shattered columns were collected and something like form given to our retreat.

Night found us, jaded and weary, on the banks of the Potomac after a march of 35 miles. Early in the morning we commenced crossing and with one ferry boat and two pontoons the whole command were after much delay safely landed on the Maryland shore. Once across the troops sank down upon the shore, in the streets and on the sidewalks and slept.

The conduct of our regiment throughout was commendable. Such is the testimony to the officers of the other regiments. Col. Gordon's conduct of his men says "the regiment moved like a horse guided by a hand". Its bold stand while the other regiments were in full retreat enabled thousands to make their escape. Its heavy loss in missing shows how closely it was pressed.

Our losses in killed, wounded and missing is still not known. About one hundred men from our regiment are missing. Company C lost none known to be killed. Five are missing—George Booth, John Becker, John Waldo, Robert McFarland and William Fleek. The chances are in favor of their being taken prisoner.

E.E.B. (Probably Edwin E. Bryant)

Kilby, of this place, who enlisted with Captain Flood last winter was taken by the Rebels during the late retreat of Banks' division, escaped from his captors and arrived at home some days ago. We understand that he has an impression that he is now released from further obligation to join his regiment.

Mr. Bryant informs us that Captains Flood and O'Brien (transcriber's note, this would be Moses Obrien, who had been promoted from Captain Flood's company to be the captain of Company I) did nobly during the late retreat down the Valley of the Shenandoah. The coolness and bravery of our 3rd Regiment is highly spoken of by all. Nobly did they perform their part and when panic and confusion prevailed throughout nearly the whole command and when pressed on every side by superior numbers, they maneuvered as steadily as if on dress parade. Now halting and engaging whole brigades to gain time for the columns to pass on and then marching steadily on in the rear.

Monroe Sentinel, July 2, 1862

Silas Gardner has been promoted to the position of orderly sergeant in Company C, 3rd Regiment. Sgt. Hunter has been commissioned as 2nd Lt. in Company F, same regiment. A son of William C. Green has been discharged on account of sickness and Amos Lindley was expected to be discharged soon. Charles King was left at Williamsport sick. The regiment is at Front Royal.

Monroe Sentinel, August 6, 1862

We regret to hear that Captain M. Flood is again sick with the fever and is confined to his bed in Washington. His gallant conduct in the engagement at Winchester and on the retreat from that place has strengthened the bonds by which his fine social qualities had attached him to his men.

Lt. George W. Rollins, who went from this place as a 2nd lieutenant in Captain Flood's company has been forced to resign his commission and retire from the service on account of ill health. Mr. Bryant writes to us that the regiment parts with him with regret.

Monroe Sentinel, August 20, 1862

Moses O'Brien is no more. He was mortally wounded at the Battle of Cedar Run and died two days later. A letter received by one of our citizens from Company C states that Captain O'Brien was first shot in the thigh, that he went to the rear, tied up his wound with a handkerchief and went again to the head of his company and that afterwards he was twice wounded—once he was shot through the breast and one of his lungs and once through the bowels. Captain O'Brien was the first man in Green County to respond to the call of the President for troops. He enlisted in the ranks as a three month man but before the company was filled the call for three month volunteers was full so the company offered themselves for three years or the war. He was elected by the company as first lieutenant and has since been promoted to the command of a company in the same

regiment. A braver, truer, more noble spirit has never been sacrificed for the demon of slavery than was that of Moses O'Brien. At the time of his death he was district attorney for the county. Whether we regard his private virtues, his public worth or look upon him as one of that long list of names who have gone from Green County to risk their lives in defense of human nature and of free government it will do as good to record upon a tablet of marble our high appreciation of the nobility of his nature and leave it to be read by our children and our children's children.

We regret to say that since the Battle of Cedar Run, Lt. Bryant has been prostrated by sickness.

Monroe Sentinel, August 27, 1862

Letter from 3rd Wisconsin Volunteers, Camp at Culpepper, Va.
(From E.E.B.—Edwin E. Bryant)

I have not before been able to chronicle the Battle of Slaughter Mountain (Transcriber's note, this is also known as the Battle of Cedar Mountain or Cedar Creek, fought between General Stonewall Jackson, reinforced by General A.P. Hill, and Union General Banks) in which our army corps was engaged and suffered severely.

Our Division is commanded by General Williams, and left Culpepper on the morning of the 9th and moved out of the Orange County Court House Pike about eight miles where we found Crawford's brigade feeling after the enemy, who were strongly posted on a timbered elevation known as Slaughter Mountain. Its approaches from the front were all through open fields though to its left and westward a grove of clumpy trees and undergrowth afforded partial protection to the assailants.

Our artillery got in position and opened upon the enemy. Their batteries were masked in the woods on the hillside and answered with spirit being mostly posted on their right. The artillery fire was brisk and terrible but to us harmless.

Our brigade, Gordon commanding, had the right of the line and on the opening of the engagement six companies from the right in our regiment were ordered to skirmish forward and feel the position of the enemy. The remainder of the brigade my company included were held in reserve. Crawford's brigade moved forward under cover of our skirmishers, gained the grove above mentioned, passed through it and were soon before the enemy.

Our skirmish line then assembled and turned on the right of Crawford's brigade. These movements were not completed before a terrible fire of musketry burst upon them. It was short range—the enemy's principal force was hidden behind the woods on the edge of which they were posted and his lines of battle, one behind and on high ground, poured a terrible and death dealing torrent of lead upon our devoted ranks.

Under this appalling state of things, General Crawford ordered a charge upon the enemy battery. All felt and knew it was madness; nevertheless his brigade and our regiment on its right advanced boldly. The 3rd Wisconsin advanced lead it upon a little knoll where it was peculiarly exposed to fire from the front and a sheet of flame and torrent of lead burst from a piece of the woods on its right. *It was exposed to a direct fire from two lines* of battle and also to an enfilading or cross fire. It was now a military impossibility. To charge after your flank is turned is a decided mistake. Our brigade fell back; Crawford's Brigade, less exposed, pushed forward a little further but soon its shattered remains fell back not again to be rallied.

At this critical juncture our brigade was ordered forward to the rescue at a double quick that took the wind out of us. Rushing through the grove we were soon before the enemy who received us with the same fierce fire that had wasted our first advance. We stood it for some fifteen minutes, returned it with spirit and held our ground firmly but the Rebels far outnumbered us; soon burst upon our flanks with fierce volleys and wild yells. The sweeping cross fire and wild charge forced us to fall back. We returned to our first position and there waited for the enemy. Soon after dark, Richett's Division of McDowell's command came forward to relieve us and while a fierce fight was raging by moon light our shattered brigade, surrounded by shot and shell, withdrew from the field.

Lt. Col. Crane fell dead from his horse at the first fire—Major Scott was shot through the shoulders, Captain Hawley was shot through the ankle. Early in the advance Captain O'Brien was shot through the leg near the thigh. The wound would have sent any but the lionhearted to the rear. But binding his handkerchief over his wound he returned to the front, and was again in the heaviest of the fight and fire, cheering on his men and yelling defiance to the enemy. He was shot through the side and arm and sank down and was laid on the field when we fell back. There he lay where he fell two days struggling against death, his life blood slowly ebbing away.

On Monday, flags of truce passed and permission was given to each side to go upon the debatable land and bury its dead. Captain O'Brien was found in a very low state and was brought to camp and sent thence to Culpepper. There he died during the night, peacefully and gently as only the brave and good die.

Thus passed from earth Moses O'Brien in the prime and vigor of youth. One of the first enlisted from our county he was also one of the first to die.

Oh, what tears of grief and pride we shed over his lifeless perforated clay—grief that we had lost so faithful and honored a friend and pride that he died so gloriously and so well.

The character of Moses O'Brien was one that stamped nature's noblemen. Manliness, energy, benevolence, sincerity, ardent devotion to country and principal of his adoption were qualities that distinguished him as a citizen. With these, a lion hearted courage and intrepidity gave him distinction as a soldier. Keenly and bitterly we feel his loss.

He was born of a liberty loving stock. His grandfather fell at the head of a troop of horse, struggling for Irish independence in 1798. He inherited a deep seated hatred of tyranny in every form and regarded oppressors of his native land with inflexible aversion. He emigrated to this country at the age of 17. By his own energy and application he became a surveyor, accurate and energetic. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1857(?) and by his diligence and application was rapidly rising in his profession when the war summoned him forth to glory and the grave. Honor to his name!

The loss in Captain Flood's company is as follows:

Killed: Anson Lovelace

Wounded: Sgt. James Collins, Corp. Juno Wilson, Privates Wesley Winans, Emery S. Winans, George Gans and Andy Warner.

Missing: Corp. David Rourke, Privates Frederick Reger, William Martin, Alonzo P. Crawford. The missing are doubtless in the hands of the enemy.

Our regiment has been shamefully slaughtered by the drunken hangers on of General Crawford; who try to fasten failure of this rash charge upon our regiment. We are complimented highly by our commanders and General Banks who ordered the pimp of Crawford who lied about us to make amends honorably which he has promised to do.

E.E.B. (Edwin E. Bryant)

In another part of the same paper:

Killed, Wounded and Missing from the 3rd Regiment in the action near Culpepper Court House (Cedar Mountain) August 9, 1862:

Company C:

Killed: Pte. Anson Lovelace

Wounded: Sgt. James Collins, in leg; Corp. Junot Wilcox in shoulder; Pte. J.W. Winans in hip; Pte. E.S. Winans, in side; Pte. Andrew Werner, in leg; Pte. George Gans, in ankle

Missing: Corp. David Rourke, Pvt. F.C. Regie, Pvt. William Martin, A.P. Crawford

Company I:

Killed: Captain Moses O'Brien

Wounded; Corp. R.H. Williams, very slight; Pte. Alf Milton, fatally in bowels; Pte. D. McDaniels, head; Pte. William Snook in leg; Pte. J.W. Leslin in hand

Missing: Corp. Wilson Buck, Corp. William A. Leach, Pte. W. Sweat

Lt. H.C. Spencer of the 3rd Wisconsin, captured at Winchester, died because the Rebels would not permit him to have medicine. A committee of his fellow prisoners solicited from the officer in charge the privilege of purchasing a coffin and giving him a decent burial. He replied that the man was an enemy and should never have a funeral. The corpse was taken out and buried in the yard. *New York Tribune*

Many of our citizens will remember the murdered man spoken of above as Sgt. Spencer who assisted Captain Flood in drilling his recruits in this village last winter.

The following note sent from the Secretary of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Aid Society to Washington, D.C. will interest some of our readers:

Washington, D.C.

August 20, 1862

Editor of the *Monroe Sentinel*

Dear Sir:

J. Wesley Winans, private in Company C, 3rd Wisconsin Volunteers, enlisted at Monroe, Wisconsin and was badly wounded in the Battle of Cedar Mountain in the left thigh. He died on the evening of the 18th inst., at the St. Paul's Church Hospital at Alexandria, Virginia. Will you please publish this for the information of his friends and relatives.

Norman Eastman

Monroe Sentinel, September 3, 1862

The funeral service in memory of the late Captain O'Brien will take place tomorrow at 10:00 at the Catholic Church. We learn by the *Milwaukee Sentinel* that his body will be entered in that city on Monday.

Monroe Sentinel, October 1 and October 8, 1862

Casualties from Sharpsburg (Antietam)

Company C, 3rd Regiment

Killed: Corp. George Gay, Isaac Thurlow, Seymour J. Sheffield

Wounded: Corp. William Foster, hand; 1st Lt. Wurham Parks, leg; Corp. Charles F. Diffendeffe, leg; William Brisbane, slightly; William Booth, slightly; J.L. Roger, leg; Albert A. Betts, both legs; Zeba Z. Cook, hand; Thomas Conroy, slightly; Henry Fuller, side; John B. Frazer, back; John W. Green, thigh; Melville Hopkins, leg; William A. Kimberly, hand; Jefferson Lovelace, side; Benjamin Leonard, arm; Frank Loveland, leg; George H. Richardson, both hands; Reuben Webb, leg; Eugene Witter, slightly; Dwight Pierce, hand

Monroe Sentinel, October 1, 1862

We have seen a letter from William H. Booth, one of Captain Flood's company in which he confirms Lt. Gardner's statement that only six of Company C's men came out of the battle of Antietam unhurt; three were killed and the rest except six wounded. The killed are George Gay, L. Thurlow and Lemmuel Sheffield. Foster and William Booth are among the wounded but their wounds are slight. The regiment had only 68 left fit for duty. They are now located at Harper's Ferry.

We understand that E.T. Gardner, Esq., has received a letter from his son (who is a lieutenant in Company C, 3rd Regiment) since the recent battle in Maryland stating that their regiment was severely cut to pieces. Company C brought but six sound men out of the battle.