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### STEPHENSON'S DEPOT.

The Battles of the Rebellion Again Fought.

NINETY FIRST REGIMENT O. V. I.

The Battle as Reported by A. H. Windsor, Chaplain of the Ninety-First Regiment O. V. I.

By request of some of our citizens who were member of the Ninety-First Regiment O. V. I. THE HERALD publishes the history of the battle of Stephenson's Depot:

WINCHESTER, VA., July 22, 1863.  
EDITOR GAZETTE:—Permit me, through your columns, to give an account of the late battle at Stephenson's depot. This depot is three miles from Winchester, situated near the pike leading from that place to Martinsburg. In this pike, and on either side of it for half a mile, raged the battle of the 20th of July. The rebel forces were commanded by Major General Ramseur, and consisted of one division of three brigades, about three thousand in number, as the advance, and one brigade of a thousand men in reserve. These were all infantry. Besides these there were about fifteen hundred cavalry to protect either flank, and the whole accompanied by a battery of four twelve pound brass howitzers. The rebels fought strictly upon the defensive, and therefore had a choice position. Opposed to this force, and about to assail it, was the Second Brigade of the Second Division of the Army of West Virginia, recently from Lynchburg, and more recently from the Kanawha Valley, very much reduced in numbers by hard fighting, and much more so by fatiguing marches and sickness. To assist in this perilous enterprise was a considerable number of cavalry, but greatly inferior to that with the rebels. The only thing in which we greatly excelled the rebels was artillery, we having twelve pieces, while they had but four. This in the morning rendered us valuable assistance in silencing the rebel guns, and thereby permitting us to advance through the open fields upon their position. But in the afternoon, when the real battle of the day took place, our artillery could not be made so effective without endangering the lives of our own men; indeed, it was silenced during a considerable part of the engagement; yet whenever it could be brought to bear upon the enemy the opportunity was quickly seized, and those huge monsters of death went whizzing through the air, inspiring a wholesome fear in the hearts of the enemy, bursting oftentimes amid their ranks, spreading death and destruction all around, and bespeaking the skill of our artillerists, as well as heightening the courage of our men. While we were moving at a distance through the fields towards the enemy's position, the roar of our own cannon, as it heralded our approach, sounded like sweet music to our ears, and was no doubt very effective. But when we rushed to the assault, and the enemy tarried to abide the onset—when the real encounter took place—when the "combat deepened," and the brave rushed down to the "Harvest of Death," to dispute for the possession of the field, in a hand to hand conflict, the artillery ceased to fire, the cavalry on either flank did little or nothing, while the "tug of war," in all its fury, fell upon the devoted men of that little brigade. Their musketry met the musketry and artillery of the rebels, and notwithstanding all the disadvantages, gained a most complete victory. On the morning of the 20th we arrived within two miles of the battlefield at 11 o'clock. While a reconnaissance was being made, and a brisk skirmish was being kept up in front, the soldiers partook of the midday meal, very many of them for the last time, that they might with more zeal and energy wrest the victory from an unwilling foe, or offer up all of life to their country's cause. Immediately after this we advanced in line of battle. It seems that by this time the rebels were fully aware of our approach in force, and having ascertained as much about us as they could from scouts and skirmishers, they withdrew these and permitted us to approach very close before they opened upon us. This was the strategy they used, and having a superior force they thought doubtless by allowing us to come within short range, and then by an impetuous charge of overwhelming numbers, to utterly annihilate our little brigade. We advanced as unconcerned as if there were no rebels between us and Winchester. The rebels had posted themselves upon a gentle

eminence, and in rather a thick forest extending for a quarter of a mile on either side of the pike lengthwise, and half a mile laterly. In the front of their position on the meadows on either side of the pike stretched away to the distance of a mile and a half, with no obstruction except in a single instance, where a forest of four or five acres upon the left flank of the enemy, served to protect our cavalry in the first engagement. Otherwise than this, the artillery commanded the whole plain, which was nearly level, and afforded the best possible position for a defensive engagement. If we would gain a victory here it must be done by hard fighting. We must walk up like brave men, amid the angry shower of grape that will be hurled against us, meet the leaden missiles of death flung from unerring muskets, and perhaps with the bayonet, precipitate ourselves upon the entrenched behind rock and logs, with a terrible impetus, crying "victory or death," ere they will yield the palm to inferior numbers. At 12 o'clock our advance being within about half a mile of the enemy's position, they opened upon us with four pieces of artillery. It was in some measure a surprise, not that we were not in battle array, or that we did not soon expect to meet them, or that we were thrown off our guard, or that in any way we neglected to be vigilant, but it was the first intimation we had of the presence of artillery. "The cannon's opening roar always surprises, and as that first shell broke the stillness of the march, and burst immediately in our ranks, we became sensibly aroused to a realization of the fact that the battle was about to begin. Never was more life and animation manifested in so short a space. All our appearances of a complete rout were exhibited,—but it was only in appearance. The cavalry dashed off to the right and left, and took a position in perfect order, the infantry were already in line, and the road was soon cleared of that long line of artillery—A few rapid evolutions and it was ready to reply to the unfriendly welcome of the rebels. The unnecessary guns and caissons, with their six horses attached, went flying down through the field to a place of safety, and a miscellaneous crowd of non-combatants went hurrying with "hot haste" to a more secure retreat. The music of our own artillery was soon heard, and never did it sound sweeter to the weary soldier than then. It began with a single gun, and scarcely a minute had elapsed ere it was a continuous roar, and ten were not gone when the rebel guns were silenced. In the meantime the infantry had gone forward, and were resting behind a stone wall. It was a cessation of hostilities—it was the lull that succeeds the first dash of the storm; the heavens are gathering a darker hue; the storm-god frowns, and the earth will only be satisfied when it is moistened with a copious shower of the blood of the brave. We have felt the premonitory symptoms of the battle; the strife is sure to follow. Bloody Mars will soon stride in triumph over the fields and smile with demonic delight as he listens to the "din of battle," and beholds the contestants covered with human gore. General Averill reconnoiters the position, and tells Colonel Duval that he sees no reason why we should not advance. The Colodel is equally explicit. I see no reason why we may not take supper in Winchester. The command to move onward is given, and all move forward. It is a single line of courageous men, with no supports. If that line is broken, or if by any accident it gives back, defeat and ruin is the consequence. It is hazardous to do thus—a fearful undertaking to charge upon such a position, occupied by three times our numbers. It is well that we have tried troops there, soldiers that have listened to the roar of the cannon, and walked up undaunted to the entrenchments of the enemy, while their comrades fell fast around them. The Ninth Virginia and the Ninety-first Ohio, are to carry the enemy's center. They have fought on bloody fields and naught but success has hitherto crowned their efforts; and ere they will yield the palm of victory to rebels, or lose the prestige so dearly bought on other fields of strife, the field shall be crimsoned with the life tide of many a brave heart. Victory, despite the untoward circumstances, shall surely be ours. The rebel artillery had been silent so long, that many no doubt thought it totally disabled or taken from the field, but we soon learned to our cost that it was there to do fearful work. As I scanned the field for the omens of success, I could see naught but signs of defeat. At this moment the infantry, within fifty yards of the enemy, laid down in the grass to load. The artifice was successful; it drew the fire of the enemy, who invariably over shot our men. At this movement our cavalry on either flank were driven back, and all seemed lost, but an enflaming fire from the Thirty-fourth on our left flank, and the Fourteenth Virginia on the right checked the impetuous charge of the rebels, and drove them back finally with great slaughter. Our entire line then rose and advanced, and the battle raged with increased fury. The musketry was terrible. The artillery hurled its shower of grape into our ranks, mowing down our brave men as falls the grass before the scythe; and above it all you can hear the shout of the advancing column, and the yell of defiance from the woods. Veterans were here by accident to see the fight. They speak of it as the most brilliant charge of the war. I had seen the Ninety-first Ohio and the Ninth Virginia charge side by side at the battle of Cloyd Mountain—I had seen them dash in triumph upon the rebels lines at Lynchburg, but their present charge far surpassed all their

other achievements. Nothing could withstand their impetus and determination. The charge was so quick, and the onset so sudden, that some of the rebels were clubbed over the head with the butt of the musket, ere they could rise from their hiding places; many were taken prisoners; many threw away their guns and took to flight. The four brass field pieces were captured, two by the Ninety-first Ohio, and two by the Ninth Virginia, together with the horses attached to the caissons. The defeat was complete. They fled through the woods pursued by our forces, and in the open fields beyond, large numbers were killed and wounded. The chase was stayed, and when night gathered around us, it was not unwelcome to those weary soldiers who had stood "the burden and the heat of the day." We lay down to rest that night proud of the achievements of the little brigade, and realizing that "the battle is not to the strong alone, but to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Yours Truly,  
A. H. WINDSOR,  
Chaplain 91st O. V. I.

Real Estate Transfer.

Following are the real estate transfers compiled by Polk Bros., abstracters and publishers of the Daily Report:

- Thomas M. Howard et al to Geo. A. Hagenack, q c d, \$100, lots 5, 6, 7, and 8, block 4, Weeping Water
  - Sarah M. Wonslow to L. C. Kirkpatrick, release, w $\frac{1}{2}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  33-11-11
  - Equitable Trust Co. to Francis Campbell and husband, release, n $\frac{1}{2}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  14-11-13
  - Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co. to John W. Holenbeck and wife, release, n $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  2 and n $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  3-10-10
  - Security Investment Co. to same, release, same description.
  - J. E. Magee to Wm. Wilken, w d, \$1,550, s $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  5-11-10
  - Omaha Loan & Trust Co. to Daniel Drum and wife, release, n $\frac{1}{2}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  w $\frac{1}{4}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  and s $\frac{1}{2}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  20-10-11
  - S. G. W. Ely and wife to John Schwab, w d, \$3,200, e $\frac{1}{2}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  6-10-10
  - Stephen Wiles and wife to Benjamin F. Wiles, w d, \$2,900, e $\frac{1}{2}$  of d $\frac{1}{4}$  36-12-13
  - Same to Stephen Wiles, Jr., w d, \$2,900, w $\frac{1}{4}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  21-11-12
  - Same to Isaac Wiles, w d, \$2,000, w $\frac{1}{2}$  of n $\frac{1}{4}$  21-11-12
  - Same to Joseph L. Wiles, w d, \$2,900, s $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  14 and s $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  15-12-13
  - Dora W. Cole et al to John V. Egenberger, Sr., w d, \$50, pt w $\frac{1}{2}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  20-12-14
  - Nebraska Farm Mortgage Security Co. to Wm. H. Ashmun, release, n $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  and n $\frac{1}{4}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  36-11-11
  - Same to same, release, same description.
  - Timothy Clark and wife to Maritta I. Booth, w d, \$135, lot 3, block 3, Clark's addition to Weeping Water.
  - Same to Henry W. Congdon, w d, \$135, lot 2, block 3, Clark's addition to Weeping Water.
  - J. Lynn and wife to Thos. Baker, w d, \$309, lots to 8, inclusive, block 6, Lynn's first addition to Union.
  - Lombard Investment Co. to Geo. E. Vandenburg, release, south 70 acres of w $\frac{1}{2}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  27-11-10
  - First National Bank of Plattsmouth to Jonathan Gibson and wife, release, pt lot 75 in 15-12-13
  - F. Mews and wife to Peter J. Johnson, q c d, \$55, lot 6, block 171, Plattsmouth.
  - Ellen Child and husband to Frank and Andrew Dietrich, w d, \$75, 9 acres near Louisville.
  - Geo. E. Nolin and wife to Samuel Johnson, w d, \$2,800, w $\frac{1}{2}$  of s $\frac{1}{4}$  26-10-11
  - N. J. Madsen and wife to William Schleifert, w d, \$8,000, s $\frac{1}{4}$  11-11-11
  - Andrew and Frank Dietrich to J. C. Huber, w d, 9 acres near Louisville.
- World's Fair Notes.
- The Hon. W. C. P. Breckinridge of Kentucky, according to present plans, will deliver the oration dedicatory of the exposition buildings, on October 12, 1892.
- The United States Potters' association has applied for 32,000 square feet in the manufactures building, and announces its intention of making an exhibit that will not be surpassed by any showing made by the famed potteries of Europe.
- The Columbian Navigation company has been incorporated with a capital of \$500,000 for the purpose of running steamboats to Jackson park during the exposition, for the accommodation of visitors. It is believed that many thousands of visitors will prefer the lake route in reaching the exposition.
- The Chemical National bank of Chicago has been granted the privilege of establishing and operating a bank on the exposition grounds. It will afford to exhibitors and visitors all the conveniences and safeguards of a metropolitan bank, including safety deposit vaults.
- Secretary Dickinson estimates that \$125,000 will be necessary for the expenses of the national commission for the year ending June 30, 1893, divided as follows: Two meetings of the commission, \$30,000; salaries, \$50,000; rent, \$5,000; board of control and committees, \$10,000; stationery, printing, etc., \$10,000; expenses connected with admission of foreign exhibits, \$20,000.
- For abstracts of title at reasonable rates, go to J. M. Leyda, Union block.