## Some War Experiences

As related of Thomas Kelsey, a resident of our city and a member of Veteran Post No. 84, G. A. R.

August 28, 1861 at Huntington, Ind.

of war on September 16, 1861, go- lines but were never successful. Toing through Louisville, Kentucky to wards the last the lines of the two Nelson, Ky, where they spent the armies were not over a rod apart, and winter in plain army tents for shelter against the weather.

For warmth, they dug fire-places

to the Ohio River, a little below their arms, and within a few minutes Louisville, Ky., where on February afterwards he was in Vicksburg grat-17 they embarked on transports; they ifying his curiosity about the place. were attached to Gen. Nelson's divis- In this seige his regiment lost thirion of the army, Disembarked on teen in killed and wounded. the west bank of the Mississippi river below Cairo, Illinois and marched arms was fed by the Union army to New Madrid, Missouri, here they took part in the siege of this place, which the rebels evacuated on again during the war and were al-March 14, 1862; the rebels taking to lowed to go home their boats and retreating down the river, leaving three prisoners.

another company of his regiment as- rebel Gen. Johnson had gathered ansisted in dragging two 32-pound seige other rebel army. He took part in guns about twenty-five miles through the pine days' siege of Jackson, his timber and swamps, and before day- regiment losing ten men in killed light the cannons were in position on and wounded. They returned to Vicksthe river pank. At daylight 'they burg and embarked on transports on were discovered by the rebel fleet and at once attacked. The rebel which is below New Orleas. After a spirited engagement one of up the Teach Bayou and Carrion the rebel gunboats was sunk and the Crow Bayou, where on Nov. 3, 1863, others beat a hasty retreat. This they had a spirited engagement with action having dispersed the rebel the rebels. From here his regiment fleet that supported the rebel posi- marched to New Iberia, Louisiana, tion on Island No. 10, this rebel sronghold was soon thereafter sur- ment re-inlisted for three years rendered, and was occupied by his more of service. Then marched to regiment.

soon took transports for the White 1864. River in Arkansas, going up this river as far as Aberdeen.

had an engagement with the rebels nois and from their by train to Indianten miles from Aberdeen, and soon apolis, Ind., where they arrived April drove them to Duvall's Bluff. They 1, 1864. Here his regiment was then again embarked on transports for Helena, Arkansas, where they went into winter quarters. Their cam | went back to New Orleans, rejoining was in heavy timber, of which they his regiment, doing guard duty until made shanties breast high, using their December, 1864, when his regiment tents for roofs. Made chimneys of embarked on transports for Brazos sticks and mud on the outside. They Island, Texas, which is situated at were occupied during the winter do- the mouth of the Rio Grande river, ing guard duty, guarding government the boundary line beween the United property and cotton.

During two weeks of this time they were engaged in removing heavy battle of the war, fought at Palmetto timbers which the rebels had felled Ranch, Texas, on May 13, 1865. In in the stream at Yazoo Pass.

ports up the Arkansas river to Pine ig two companies of prisoners; their Bluffs and Little Rock, where they total loss being eighty-two in killed, attacked the rebels some miles back from the river, surprising the rebels tle was after the Surrender of Lee at daylight before breakfast in heavy at Appomatax. As soon as the news timber. Closed in on the rebels in of the close of the war was received line of battle, firing as they could; the rebels released their prisoners. went right in on them, driving them The day he learned the war was out and dispersing them. They then over was one of the gladdest days returned down the river to its junc- of his life. He was then back at tion with the Mississippi river, and Brazos Isalnd. went down the Mississippi some miles, landing on the west side, north of the Rio Grande river on a scout after Vicksburg.

Vicksburg campaign. During this til February, 1866. This was on time they built bridges to facilitate account of the trouble arising from the march of the army from Milli-the French occupation of Mexico. ken's Bend to a point below Vicksment property while the army was four years and a half. He was then digging the canal.

The regimet crossed the Mississippi river below Vicksburg on trans- missed guard duty but a few days ports, his company going over on a tug boat on the night of April 30, wounded or taken prisoner. 1863. They marched all night over a partly hilly and partly level coun- Report of The Condition try, well timbered, with dusty roads. His regiment was in the fighting next morning at Port Gibson, Miss., making a charge, capturing two cannons and many prisoners. His regiment lost forty-nine in killed and Charter Number 708, incorporated in the wounded in this engagement.

On the same day he was in the battle at Champion Hills, where his Loans and discounts ... regiment captured the 46th Alabama Banking house furniture and fixtures Infantry with its colors, and arms; Current expenses and taxes paid.... Due from nat'l, state and private here his regiment lost seventy-nine killed and wounded.

He took part in the seige of Vicksburg, his camp being about two hundred yards over the hill from the trenches and out of range of the He made his own coffee, cooked his own pork and beans and lived on hardtack. He was engaged in digging trenches for over a month. Would dig up he dirt and throw it out three or four feet toward the rebel lines until the trench was deep enough to afford shelter from the rebel cannon and small arms.

I. Clyde Thacker, cashier of the above statement is a correct and true copy of the report made to the State Banking Board. the rebel cannon and small arms.

There was a trench running up from the rear in which soldiers could reach the front trenches without being under fire. Would be in the trenches about four hours at a time

At the age of eighteen, he en- and then be relieved for eight hours listed in Co. C. 34 Indiana Infantry.on Kept digging the trenches up closer and closer to the rebel fortifications all the time. The rebels tried sev-His regiment started for the seat eral times to break through the Union many a night he talked with the rebel soldiers across the intervening space.

When the rebels displayed the in the ground, with underground pas- white flag of surrender, the Union sageway for smoke; the opening army was in line of battle ready being far enough outside to pre- too charge the rebel works. He was vent burning the tent. It smoked bad not over three hundred yards from the rebel army when it marched out In the spring of 1862, they marched of its fortifications and laid down

The rebel army after stacking their with army rations. They soon signed papers of parole not to fight

Next day after the surrender his regiment joined Gen. Sherman's army On the next night, his company and and marched to Jackson, Miss., where August 4, 1863, for Brazos

He was wih Gen. Banks' expedition where he and 464 others of his regi New Orleas where they boarded He also assisted in the capture of transports December 23, 1863, bound Fort Pillow; afterwards went by for Port Cavalla, Texas, on the Gulf transports to Memphis, Tennessee c: Mexico. From here they reon June 15, 1862, where his regiment turned to New Orleans February 24,

In March, 1864, those who had reenlisted went home on a thirty-day On the night of July 2, 1862, they furlough by transports to Cairo, Illi-

welcomed by Gov. Morton, of Indiana. At expiration of his furlough he States and Mexico.

His regiment was in the last this engagement his regiment was In the spring of 1863 went on trans- overpowered and had to retreat, loswounded and prisoners. This bat-

His regiment went 250 miles up this, returning to Brownville, Texas, On April 10, 1863, started on the in August, 1865, where he stayed un-

He was mustered out on February They also guarded govern- 19, 1866 having served in the army twenty-three years old. During his service in the army he never on account of sickness and was never

of the

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 Time certificates of deposit
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 \$13,000.00 Total ..... \$41,898.30

STATE OF NEBRASKA.

County of Richardson. Ss.

W. C. MARGRAVE, Director W. A. GREENWALD, Director.

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