

Chapter 6 Arkansas Post or Fort Hindman

MAPS

Route to Arkansas Post and location of Napoleon Ark.

Map of the environs of Arkansas Post, Ark. January. 1863. Map. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4004a.cws00018/?r=-0.175,0.324,1.703,1.027,0>

Area of Arkansas Post with names of commanders in red....enlarge and rotate to read.

Pitzman, Julius. *Map of Arkansas Post, Ark. 1863.* Map. Retrieved from the Library of Congress <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4004a.cws00019/?r=0.049,0.291,0.609,0.367,0>

Everett, Edward, 1794-1865, Frank Moore, and Ralph Newman Americana Collection (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library). *The Rebellion Record: a Diary of American Events, With Documents, Narratives, Illustrative Incidents, Poetry, Etc..* New York: G.P. Putnam, 1861-1868.

page 361

<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000832167>

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MOORE, FRANK. *Rebellion Record, a Diary of American Events: With Documents, Narratives, Illustrative ... Incidents, Poetry, Etc.* Place of publication not identified: FORGOTTEN Books, 2016. Print.

Wanted to eliminate Fort Hindman to improve Union defenses on the Arkansas River.

Thorndike, Rachel Sherman, *The Sherman Letters Correspondence Between General Sherman and Senator Sherman from 1837 to 1891, 1894.* Pp 179-180.

Has been reproduced by:

THORNDIKE, RACHEL S. H. E. R. M. A. N. *Sherman Letters: Correspondence between General and Senator Sherman from 1837 to 1891 (classic ... Reprint).* Place of publication not identified:

FORGOTTEN Books, 2015. Print

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc2.ark:/13960/t6d21sj6t;view=1up;seq=5>

Sherman letter to brother John. Must take care of Arkansas Post, but Vicksburg must be taken.

After the battle at Chickasaw Bayou many soldiers were already sick. Their time in boats coming down the Ohio and their time in the bayou at the end of December had taken its toll.

The Ashland union. (Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio), 21 Jan. 1863. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers.* Lib. of Congress. P. 3.

The Ashland union. (Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio), 21 Jan. 1863. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers.* Lib. of Congress. Page 3

<<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83035173/1863-01-21/ed-1/seq-3/>>, p 3, column 2
Letter, 6Jan1863, from WAG Emerson, on board Jesse K. Bell, begging help for the sick. Peter Heckert, Co F, lost 2 brothers, one cousin at Chickasaw. 125 from the regiment were sick

Everett, Edward, 1794-1865, Frank Moore, and Ralph Newman Americana Collection (University of

Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library). The Rebellion Record: a Diary of American Events, With Documents, Narratives, Illustrative Incidents, Poetry, Etc.. New York: G.P. Putnam, 1861-1868. page 360 and 361, Volume 6

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.31951002373636a;view=1up;seq=9>

MOORE, FRANK. *Rebellion Record, a Diary of American Events: With Documents, Narratives, Illustrative ... Incidents, Poetry, Etc.* Place of publication not identified: FORGOTTEN Books, 2016. Print.

Listing of all the regiments and commanders at Arkansas Post.

Private Ezra Stutzman, Company H, died at Foundry Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, on January 6, 1863. Or General Hospital #2, Memphis Cause: paralysis.

The men of the regiment did not know exactly where they were headed. The troops were not told. January 8, 1863, Thursday

The regiment arrived at the mouth of the White River on January 8, 1863. They were to go up that river to a cut-off that took them to the Arkansas River trying to keep their true goal undetected as long as possible.

Private Jonathan Black, Co C, died January 8, 1863, at Overton General Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee. P

January 9, 1863, Friday

Notrib's farm was three miles from the fort. The transports arrived there at five in the afternoon.

Private Henry Myers, Co I, was captured "in action" 9 Jan 1863. He did not return to the company until November 26, 1863.

January 10, 1863, Saturday

Disembarking was completed at noon and the troops were sent to their positions. General Morgan's corps was to be on the left next to the river.

Corporal Charles Rizer, Co K, died January 10, 1863, at U. S. General Hospital, Keokuk, Lee County, IA. Cause: chronic diarrhoea. Pension says admitted January 6, 1863 and died January 10, 1863, after contracting diarrhea on about December 10, 1862.

The brother in law of Charles RIZOR, James HARDING, wrote a letter trying to find out what had happened to Charles: [original spelling]

"Washington Iowa Respected Sir I have a brotherenlaw in the army from holmes county Ohio. his name is Charles Rizer. he was taken sick at memphis & from thare he was taken to the hospital keokuk iowa or mound city elinois & his captin says he dont no which place. we hasnt herd from him Since the first of January last. if thare is or has been Such a man plese write & let me no. & oblige yours with respect James L. Harding. Direct yours to washington county iowa"

The War of the Rebellion: Formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States (53 v. in 11), Chapter XXIX No. 22, p 750.

<https://archive.org/details/warofrebellion171unit/page/750>

Col. Lionel Sheldon: "On the 10th instant the brigade debarked and moved up the river to the open field about 2 miles from the fort and there remained for the night.

O. C. Case and company, *The American Conflict*, Volume 2, 1866, Page 294, footnotes.

<https://books.google.com/books?id=jTSNPCYZbFcC&q=293#v=onepage&q=mostly%20Texas%20cavalry&f=false>

The Missouri Republican eyewitness letter of 12 Jan 1863 was quoted" ...Of the entire force garrisoning the fort, 1,000 - mostly Texas cavalry - escaped, taking with them a great portion of the baggage. These effected an exit on the night our forces were surrounding the place, and before it could be fully accomplished." Also reports statistics of the battle.

Wooster Republican, Thursday 12 Feb 1863, pg 3, Wayne county Ohio library or pay site.
George W. Gardner letter. Success of the Union gunboats.

*****Holmes County farmer. (Millersburg, Ohio), 19 Feb. 1863. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress.

<<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84028822/1863-02-19/ed-1/seq-3/>>, p3.

Letter by Captain Benjamin Eason, Co E. "On the opposite of the Fort were posted Gen. Lindsey's Brigade and company E (my company) of the 120th Ohio in support of one section --- two 20-pound guns - of Capt. Foster's first Wisconsin battery."

January 11, 1863, Sunday, Henry Sherman Diary, on a boat at Arkansas Post

"Was unable to go with them [the regiment] on account of sickness. Been sick a week or more and got the blues awfully." [Henry apparently did not take part in the battle.]

Everett, Edward, 1794-1865, Frank Moore, and Ralph Newman Americana Collection (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library). The Rebellion Record: a Diary of American Events, With Documents, Narratives, Illustrative Incidents, Poetry, Etc.. New York: G.P. Putnam, 1861-1868.

<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000832167> p 365.

120th left of Cooley's battery; impassible ravine.

The War of the Rebellion: Formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States (53 v. in 11), Chapter XXIX No. 22, p 750.

Courtesy of archive.org. < <https://archive.org/details/warofrebellion171unit/page/750> >

"At 1 p. m. the One hundred and twentieth Ohio was ordered forward in support of a battery, and very soon thereafter advanced to the left of the battery, its left resting upon the river bank.

At 3 P. M. the regiment was ordered forward to the enemy's works. Accordingly it was formed in column, doubled on the center, and moved forward at a double-quick in very fine order, under the lead of the intrepid Colonel French, until they encountered the ditch outside of the enemy's works and at the same time encountered a heavy fire from the rifle-pits. Although being considerably in advance of any other troops the regiment deployed as far as it could in the space allowed and very gallantly maintained its ground without disorder or flinching until the firing ceased, and was the first to plant its colors on the enemy's works."

Holmes County farmer. (Millersburg, Ohio), 19 Feb. 1863. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress. <<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84028822/1863-02-19/ed-1/seq-3/>>, p3. Benjamin Eason Letter, Co E. Account of the battle.

The National tribune. (Washington, D.C.), 02 Oct. 1884. Chronicling America: Historic American

Newspapers. Lib. of Congress. <<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016187/1884-10-02/ed-1/seq-3/>>, p3.

Lieut. J. P. Van Nest [Joseph P. Van Nest, Co F]

"The 120th Ohio held a position on the left of the line, near the river, about 20 rods from the fort, with orders to advance and charge the fort when the signal was given. But before the bugle sounded, which was to be the signal for a general charge all along the line, the white flag was displayed in the fort, and, although the command was given to halt, the 120th rushed pell-mell into the fort closely followed by other regiments. Lieut. R. P. Wallace [Robert P. Wallace, Co E], who was Color-Sergeant of the regiment was in the lead and scaled the ditch and ascended into the fort by jumping on the back of another soldier and planted his flag on the fort and commenced to cheer. Now, these are the facts in the case, as hundreds of the members of the 120th and 42d Ohio and Gen. Osterhaus, who commanded the division, if living, can testify. Lieut. Wallace says he had a good view of the fort and could not see another Union flag on the fort until soon after he planted the 120th's colors."

The War of the Rebellion: Formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States (53 v. in 11), Chapter XXIX No. 39, p 780

The Confederates, Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill

"The fort had now been silenced about an hour [by Porter's boats on the river], most of the field pieces had been disabled, still the fire raged furiously along the entire line, and that gallant band of Texans and Arkansians having nothing to rely upon now save their muskets and bayonets, still disdained to yield to the overpowering foe of 50,000 men, who were pressing upon them from almost every direction. Just at this moment, to my great surprise, several white flags were displayed in the Twenty-fourth Regiment Texas Dismounted Cavalry, First Brigade, and before they could be suppressed the enemy took advantage of them, crowded upon my lines, and not being prevented by the brigade commander from crossing, as was his duty, I was forced to the humiliating necessity of surrendering the balance of the command."

The War of the Rebellion: Formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States (53 v. in 11), Chapter XXIX No. 22, p 717.

In the 120th Ohio there were 2 enlisted men killed, 9 enlisted men wounded and 11 enlisted men captured or missing.

Wilson, John Laird, *Story of the War: Pictorial History of the Great Civil War, Embracing Full and Authentic Accounts of Battles by Land and Sea*, national Publishing Company, 1881, p 388. [Archive.org https://archive.org/details/storyofwarpict9228wils/page/388](https://archive.org/details/storyofwarpict9228wils/page/388)

"...Colonel Dunnington, the commander of the fort, surrendering to Admiral Porter, and Colonel Churchill surrendering to the military authorities.... Five thousand soldiers, with their officers, made prisoners, and all the property of the place, including 17 guns, constituted the prize of victory."

The Wooster Republican, 22 Jan 1863, p. 2. Wayne County Public Library or pay site
Capt. Benjamin Eason, Co E, reported that one of his company, Private David R. Firestone, of Chester Township, Wayne County, Ohio, was missing

Killed at Arkansas Post

Private **William Brown**, Co F, killed Sunday, January 11, 1863, Arkansas Post. Pension Card: Widow, Elizabeth Brown, applied 11 May 1863, Application 21189, Certificate 8085.

Letter from Rev. W. A. G. Emerson. 120th Reg't O. V. I., on board Jesse K. Bell, Miss. river, Jan 19, 1863.

Ashland Union, [Ashland OH] 18 Feb 1863, page 1

The Ashland union. (Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio), 18 Feb. 1863. *Chronicling America: Historic American*

Newspapers. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83035173/1863-02-18/ed-1/seq-1/>>

"Among the killed was Mr. Brown from Jackson township, Ashland county, a member of company F, Capt. Buck [said about Brown]: he was a brave man and faithful soldier, and loved his country. When it was known he was killed, the remark was made by those who knew him, 'one of the best men in our company has fallen.' I understand he has left a wife and seven children to mourn his loss."

Killed

Pvt. **Stephen Davis** Co C, was instantly killed at the battle of Arkansas Post on January 11, 1863. He was buried at Arkansas Post.

Killed

Pvt. **Cyrenius Wells**, Co A, age 28, was killed "at the battle of Kansas Post being shot in the head whilst charging on the enemy on the 11th day of January 1863" according to the widow's pension. His remains were moved from Arkansas Post to Little Rock National Cemetery.

Died

of

Wounds

Pvt. **William Wilson**, Co I, was wounded on January 11th and died on January 12, 1863. The widow's pension record says that he was wounded in the abdomen by a Minnie ball from the enemy. Sgt. John S. B. Matson of Company I stated, "William Wilson was shot....while charging the army on double quick, and that while running he was shot and fell." He was 5 ft 10.5 inches tall, dark complexioned, with brown eyes, dark hair.

The men of the 120th who were buried at Arkansas Post were to be moved to Little Rock National Cemetery. But only Cyreneus Wells of Co. A is listed there and has a grave stone. Perhaps the others were buried at Little Rock as unknowns, but their remains may have been lost.

Wounded

Pvt. **Franklin Getz**, Co I, was said to have a slightly wounded thumb. However, his Dayton National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers record states that his disability was the "loss of his right thumb." He was 6½ feet tall, with a dark complexion, dark eyes, and black hair.

Wounded

Pvt. **Davidson Long**, Co H, was wounded January 11th.

Wounded

Corporal **William Johnson**, Co G, was 5'11", dark complexion, dark eyes and black hair.

Wounded

Sgt. **James L. McClure**, Co K, was wounded January 11, 1863. Record at National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Leavenworth County, KS: #15468 James L. McCLURE: Enlisted 23 Apr 1861 at Wooster, OH, Co C 16th OH Inf., Pvt., discharged 18 Aug 1861 at Columbus; Enlisted 24 Sep 1864 at Mansfield, Pvt, in Co K 120th OH Inf., discharged at Houston TX 27 Nov 1864 and transferred to Co F 48th OH Inf. as a Sgt. discharged 14 Oct 1865 at Houston TX. Born OH, age 63, height 5'7", dark complexion, hazel eyes, brown hair, can read and write, Protestant, occupation farmer, residence subsequent to discharge was Emporia [Lyon Co] KS, single. Nephew, Robert C. McCLURE, Millersburg, Holmes Co OH. Admitted 14 June 1905. Died 10 Aug 1914, myocardial degeneration. Died at hospital at 4:10 pm. Noted that he had an ankle injury at Arkansas Post.

Wounded

slightly

Pvt. **Judson Wells**, Co A, aka Adorian J. Wells. In the Wooster Republican, 29 Jan 1863: At St. Marks Hospital, Paducah, Ky: Jackson Wells of the 120th is listed as wounded slightly. The 1890 veterans Schedule stated that he had been shot in the hip. His pension record could shed more light on exactly where he was when he was wounded. Pension Index: Adoniram [Adoniran] J WELLS , Judson WELLS [alias], C 10th OH Cav and A 120th OH Inf. Invalid pension 5 July 1872, Application 176027, Certificate 121455. Widow, Clara WELLS, filed 1906 Nov 14, Application 858.483; Certificate 637.252 filed in OH.

Died of Wound

Corporal **John Straher**, Co D, died Wednesday, February 4, 1863 at St. Louis, Missouri of wounds received on 11 Jan 1863 in the battle of Arkansas Post. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865: Jno H. STRAHER, Corporal, Co D 120th OH Inf., died at Lawson General Hospital St Louis MO. Cause: vulnus sclopet [wound inflicted by gunshot].

Letter contributed by Jackie Riblett Horvath, the great great great granddaughter of John H Straher and Sarah Hoag.

Letter to widow:

Headquarter Army of Mississippi,
Feb. 14, 1863 }

Mrs. Sarah Straher - Dear Madame: It is under a deep sense of feeling I am thus compelled to convey to you the sad and painful intelligence of the death of your husband, John Straher. I this day received official notice from St. Louis, Mo., that he died on the 4th inst. of musket shot wound in the ankle. His wound was not considered dangerous when he was taken off the field. But thus it is - man is like the grass that is cut down and wilted in an hour. I can deeply sympathize with you in your deep and sore bereavement, hoping that you may bear up under it with a Christian spirit, yielding submissively to Him that holds us as it were in the palms of his hand and doeth all things well. He was a faithful, honest and true soldier, and laid down his life honorably in the defense of his country. Thus we have lost another true patriot and good and faithful citizen and neighbor, and our company of which he was a member deeply lament his loss.

He was wounded at the battle of Arkansas Post, on the 11th of January 1863. The next day he was put on board a steamboat along with many others that were wounded in the same battle, and started up the river.

I never was informed where they [had] taken him nor heard from him until I received official notice from the St. Louis Hospital of his death, which took me very much by surprise. I mentioned it in two of my letters I wrote after it happened. Whether they were received or not I do not know. I must close, hoping this may reach and find you well. Yours truly,

G. P. Emrick

Capt. George Perry Emrick, Co D

Wounded

Private **Albert Gouter**, Co G, was discharged 20 March 1863 after spending two months in the hospital because of a wound in his right side. He was probably wounded at Arkansas Post or shortly after. His obituary says he was wounded during battle. He was 5' 7", with light complexion, gray eyes and light hair

Private **David Hay**, Co B, died January 11, 1863 at Regimental Hospital, Arkansas Post.

Cause: typhoid fever.

Private **Jeremiah Chacey**, Co E, died Sunday, January 11, 1863 at Regimental Hospital, Arkansas Post. Cause: typhoid fever

Letter by George W. Gardner, Wooster Republican, Thursday 12 Feb 1863, p3.

"On Sunday evening after the fight, Jeremiah Chacey, a member of our Company, died with fever and his remains were interred on the banks of the Arkansas River. He was much beloved by his companions, and his loss is deeply mourned. He was sick with the mumps at Memphis, after which he took the fever. He suffered a great deal, but is now freed from pain. He was under eighteen years of age, but feeling the fires of patriotism burning in his bosom he lay his life on the altar of his country and sacrificed it to freedom. He leaves a mother and father and a large connection of friends in Congress Township, to mourn his untimely end."

Hardesty's historical and geographical encyclopedia, illustrated ... : containing ... maps of each state and territory of the united states, and the provinces of canada ... history of the united states, history of each state and territory of the united states ... special military history of ohio ... ohio's rank and file in the war of the rebellion ...pub ny, sketches of wayne county, oh, 1885, page 501.

"While that [battle] was being fought he [Daniel Chacey, Co E] was kneeling beside a young brother, 'Jerry,' who went out with him a member of the same company, and who then lay dying with mumps, which had taken a fatal turn from a severe cold contracted. Amid the booming of cannon and the rattle of musketry the young soul went out from its tenement, and the elder brother was left alone."

Corporal **James Patrick**, Co D, died on Monday, January 12, 1863, at Arkansas Post. Cause: typho mal fever and measles. Below is a letter written by Capt. G. P. Emrich to Mrs. Henry Jennings, sister of Corporal **James Patrick, Co D**, 120th OVI.

[Note: Ohio, County Marriages: Soldier's sister, Margaret J. PATRICK, married Henry JENNINGS at Wooster, Wayne County OH on 14 Oct 1858.] Letter follows. Wooster Republican newspaper, Thursday, 5 Feb 1863, pg 3

"Arkansas Post, on the Arkansas River, 50 miles above its mouth, on board the steamer Jess. K. Bell, **Jan. 12, 1863.**

Dear Madam - It is under a deep sense of feeling that the present circumstances are such as compel me to record upon this sheet which was enclosed with yours dated the 27th ult., and this day received; also containing a postage stamp and envelope to carry back and be the winding sheet of the intelligence of the lamented death of your dear brother, James Patrick. He died this day at half-past 6 o'clock P. M., about two hours after the receipt of your letter. His disease was pronounced by his physician Typhoid fever and measles. I had him furnished with the best medical treatment that circumstances would admit, and also well attended by nurses. I had furnished him with a good bed in a state room, in the cabin of the boat. He having become insensible before the receipt of your letter, consequently it could not be recognized by him. I therefore took upon myself to open and read your kind favor. And I feel sorry to record in answer the sad intelligence of the death of a dear brother. But his is the course of nature, and the Lord's will be done. I sympathize with you in this affliction, hoping you may bear it with a Christian spirit, and that your prayers may ascend to heaven in behalf of the balance of the company and officers, of which your brother was a worthy member, two of which have already gone before him.

"We expect to proceed to-morrow and place his remains beneath the sod, on the right bank of the Arkansas River, called the Arkansas Post, along side of three of the brave boys of the 120th regiment, already buried there, having fallen in the battle here yesterday, of which you have no account yet. We had a very successful battle with the enemy at this place yesterday. We took their fortifications, and a large amount of commissary stores, several hundred head of horses and mules, and between 5000 and 6000 prisoners, with all their arms,

ammunition, &c. If it were possible, I would be glad to send the remains of your brother to your parents, but it cannot be done now, but we will mark his grave in a conspicuous manner, so that it may be found hereafter. The particulars of our battle yesterday, I cannot give at this time, as I am very busy, and surrounded with confusion. We had three killed in the 120th. Serene Wells, of Wooster, is among the killed. But one, of our company was wounded, slightly in the ankle. Our loss in killed, is small, perhaps will not exceed 25, while that of the enemy is over one hundred. You will hear the particulars more fully hereafter. Accompanied herewith, I send a package to you, containing the scrap-book, likenesses, pocket-book purse with one dime of money in it, a number of letters, pen knife, &c, belonging to James, hoping all will reach you in safety. I hope to hear from you as soon as you receive this. Direct to Memphis, Tenn., to follow regiment. - You will please immediately hand this note to the parents of James Patrick.

Your humble servant, G. P. Emrich, Captain, 120th Regiment O.V.I."

Corporal **Daniel Lair**, Co F, died Tuesday, January 13, 1863 in a hospital in Keokuk, Iowa.

Corporal **William J. Hunter**, Co C, died on January 13, 1863 near Arkansas Post and was buried there. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865: Wm J. HUNTER, Corporal, Co C 120th OH Inf. Died 13 Jan 1863 at Regimental Hospital. Cause: typho mal fever.

Private **Samuel Foreman** [Fuhrman], Co F, died Wednesday, January 14, 1863. The Evangelical Messenger 3 June 1863, page 182 states that he was buried on the White River Island No 62 on the Arkansas shore and that his body was not found after. He was being transported to Cairo, Illinois, on the steamer "Die Vernon" with sick and wounded from Arkansas Post when he died and was buried on the Arkansas shore of Island No 62.

Private **Joseph Winemiller**, Co I, died January 14, 1863 on hospital steamer "Die Vernon." He was being transported to Cairo, Illinois, on the steamer with sick and wounded from Arkansas Post when he died and was buried a few miles above the mouth of the Arkansas River.

Captain Rufus Brayton, Co B, resigned January 14, 1863; returned home and became a doctor.

1st Lieutenant John E. Strickler, Co B, resigned January 14, 1863. He died 16 July 1863 of the illness he had acquired during his time in the regiment.

Second Lieut. Isaiah Jones, Co A, resigned January 14, 1863. When his health improved, he joined a regiment in Caldwell county, Missouri, and became a Lieutenant Colonel fighting the lawlessness in Missouri.

First Lieut. Robert M. Zuver, Co F, resigned January 14, 1863.

JANUARY 16, 1863, FRIDAY, IT WAS REPORTED THAT THERE WAS SIX INCHES OF SNOW ON THE GROUND AT ARKANSAS POST.

COMPANIES B, G, AND K REPORTED BEING ON THE "CRESCENT CITY" FOR THE TRIP DOWN TO YOUNG'S POINT. E AND I REPORTED BEING ON THE "JESSIE K. BELL." CAPT. EMERICK OF CO D WAS ON THE "JESSIE K. BELL.'

January 16, 1863, Henry Sherman Diary

"On board the boats again. Moving down the river." [Henry is still not well.]

Pvt **William Spencer**, Co D, died January 16, 1863, at Memphis, TN.

Private **John Kizer**, Co K, died on hospital boat Saturday, January 17, 1863.

January 17, 1863, Saturday, Henry Sherman Diary

"Arrived at Napoleon, Ark. where we remain tonight."

See Maps

January 18, 1863, Sunday, Henry Sherman Diary

"Moving down the Mississippi. Still feeling badly. Disgusted with army life. Suffering both in body & mind. Would to God that I could get home again."

January 19, 1863, Monday

Private **Martin V. Taggart**, Co I, **captured** near Gaines' Landing

See maps.

Pvt. Ira Burnett, Co H, died January 19, 1863 on a hospital steamer probably going to Memphis.

January 20, 1863, Tuesday, Henry Sherman Diary

"Feeling worse if anything. Lieut. Jones & others received their acceptance of resignations yesterday and, of course, they feel good over the idea of getting home soon."

Pvt. **William H. Stougt [Stough]**, Co E, died January 20, 1863, of typhoid fever on the hospital boat "Die Vernon" on the Mississippi River shortly before reaching Cairo, IL.

Pvt **Calvin McKee**, Co B, died January 20, 1863, of rubeola on the steamer "Crescent City," near Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865, gives death as 17 Jan.

January 21, 1863, Wednesday Henry Sherman Diary

"Still moving down. Feel rather better today. Expect to disembark tomorrow and then hope to get well."

Pvt **Daniel Weaver**, Co A, died January 21, 1863, at Young's Point, Louisiana. US Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861 - 1865: Daniel WEAVER, Co A 120th OH inf, died 1 Feb 1863, Regimental Hospital, Typo Mal Fever. [Notice the death date]

Pvt **Samuel Hunt**, Co B, died Wednesday, January 21, 1863, in Regimental Hospital at Young's Point, Louisiana of typhoid pneumonia.

Pvt **William Martin**, Co F, died January 21, 1863, in a General Hospital, New House of Refuge, St. Louis, MO. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865: Wm T J MARTIN, Private Co F 120th OH Inf., died 30 Jan 1863 at General Hospital New House of Refuge, St. Louis MO. Cause: typhoides febris. [Notice date of death.]

On the way back down to Young's Point, LA, the boats stopped at Napoleon, AR.

See Maps.

David Dewitt was captured 21 Jan 1863 at **Skipper's Landing, Mississippi**; died 17 Mar 1863 while a prisoner of war. Sgt Shannon CLEMENTS testified that Pvt. David E. DEWITT and Pvt. Charles SHOTT

were both taken prisoner by the enemy near Napoleon Arkansas on or about 21 January 1863. [All with Co K] Charles returned some time in November and reported that David died about 5 May 1863. [In Company K there were two soldiers who were taken prisoner near Napoleon Ark. on or about 21 Jan 1863. It seems that after leaving the battle at Arkansas Post, there was a decision to cut through the peninsula at Beulah Bend where the Arkansas river and the Mississippi come together. The Rebels were able to fire on boats going past there, so something action needed to be taken. The cut was done. Pvt David Dewitt and Charles Shott must have been on shore there at that time. Where were they held prisoner? Charles Schott said in pension records that Dewitt died a prisoner at Jackson, MS. That makes sense since Jackson would have been a convenient place to send those prisoners. So, Schott survived but there is a conflict on the date that Dewitt died. Best guess is April or May 1863. There was an army hospital in the capital building at Jackson MS. It could be that Dewitt was in that hospital when he died. Sherman, after the second battle against Jackson MS, did not have that building burned. Two reasons, there was a Mason's organization that used that building (he was a Mason) and second that the building housed the hospital. Interestingly, because of that cut in the peninsula, gradually Napoleon and Wellington, Arkansas, both were flooded by the Mississippi and no longer exist.]

January 22, 1863, Thursday, Henry Sherman Diary

"Arrived at mouth of Yazoo river. Still feeling badly. Capt. Brayton, Lieut. Strickler, Zoorn (?) & Jones went home today. Wish from the bottom of my soul that I was going too."

End Chapter 6

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