

# Reminiscences of Logansport Civil War Veterans

By MARGARET STEPHENSON

Logansport people, like those in almost every other Hoosier community, each year for several decades have seen the Grand Army of the Republic Adjutant scratch name after name from records of members, and write memorials for stone monuments. But not until 1932 have they seen the ranks of men who fought in the Civil War dwindle fifty per cent within a few months. Each day during the past year Indianapolis newspapers have printed two or three stories of Civil War veteran deaths, and up and down state dailies have averaged one or two a week.

Because people want to pay tribute to these men of '61 and because they realize the value of stories on the tips of tongues of gray-haired men, they are eager to hear tales of the Civil War told by those who took part in it. The soldiers are as anxious to relate happenings of the struggle as young people and older folk are glad to listen. Logansport joins in the command common to all Indiana cities, "Hats off to Civil War veterans."

The "old" soldiers, like soldiers of other wars, are less sentimental about the struggle than people who stayed at home. At eighty-five or ninety years of age, they decry the fact that volumes have been published picturing the war as a bloodless pageant, and they have little patience with writers who have turned the war into an affair of moonlight and romance. Their memories do include some experiences of the war which are interesting, humorous, and historically valuable. It is these which they place first in their reminiscences.<sup>1</sup>

The only man in Logansport to boast membership in the Knights of the Golden Circle, Seth Weeden, is confident that the Civil War would have been prolonged had John Hunt Morgan received the aid which he expected from Circle members when he made his raid into the North. "Morgan was an active Knight," the 86-year old veteran relates, "and he had counted on considerably more help than he received from fel-

---

<sup>1</sup> The author had an interesting time while gathering the facts for these sketches. She writes: "The material was obtained from browsing through dusty files, talking through ear trumpets, attending G.A.R. meetings, going fishing with veterans, and visiting with them in their homes." (This and the succeeding footnotes were prepared by the Editor).

low members. But by the time he reached the North, men were disgusted with the way the war was dragging out. That, I believe, accounts for many Circle members refusing to co-operate with Morgan."

Born in Ohio, Mr. Weeden was enrolled in the Knights of the Golden Circle when only 14 years old. Although the original purpose of the Circle, according to this member, when organized in the 50's was to build an empire of people of the southern part of the United States, Cuba, a part of Mexico and Central America, with a monopoly of the rice, tobacco, cotton and sugar markets, the aim fizzled. During the early years of the Civil War, the organization in the north became pro-southern, approving secession, discouraging northerners from joining the Union army, and assisting "Rebels" in escaping from northern captors.

Concerning the order, Mr. Weeden tells the following:

The members did more talking than acting. The oath was the most binding I have ever taken. There were grips, signs, pass-words, and the vow that if a man ever divulged any secret of the group, his body should be cut in four pieces, one to be cast to the North, one to the South, one to the East, and one to the West. If you saluted a man with your right arm, and he returned the salute with his left hand, you could be assured he was a Knight. If you shook hands with him, saying, "I owe you," and he denied the statement, you were sure he knew nothing of the Knights' secrets. But if he replied, "Mutual Aid," you knew he was a member of the Circle.

It was at Rockville, Indiana, in a rambling, old deserted house about three miles out of town, that Mr. Weeden took the vows of a Knight. Meetings were always held behind barred doors, he says, and after the War started, there were discussions of every conceivable plan to aid the South. Firing a gun three times in succession at night signified that a Circle member was in need of aid. "Membership was large. In fact, as the saying goes, the woods were full of Knights," the gray-haired man explains.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Weeden tired of life as a Knight. "I was so young when I became a member that I did not realize the purpose of the organization," he explains, and adds:

I was a Union man, and I wanted to fight for the North. For a while I was afraid to desert the Circle. But in 1862 I was old enough to know that I should stand up for what I believed right, and I was mustered in the Union army at Indianapolis in that year. Immediately I began a

march to Kentucky with Company C, 78th Indiana Infantry. From that time on I was true to the cause for which the North was fighting, and I don't believe soldiers in the Union army ever knew I had been a Knight.

Mr. Weeden tells of his company, with Captain Howard in charge, being surrounded by several thousand "Rebels" at Henderson, Kentucky, on December 1, 1862. "Every fourth one ran through the woods shooting at us," he says. "The only orders Captain Howard gave were: 'Every man behind a tree and shoot as long as you live.' It wasn't long until the Captain got shot, and we were so helpless that we hoisted the white flag." Among others, Mr. Weeden was taken prisoner. When his captors let him go, he traveled to Evansville where he stayed until he enlisted in Company K, 43rd Indiana infantry, on September 16, 1864. He was discharged on June 14, 1865.

---

To this day Judge John C. Nelson, a Civil War veteran, ninety-one years old, former Mayor of Logansport and Judge of the Superior Court, assails Governor Oliver P. Morton, whom he knew personally, because "he wanted all the honor and glory in war for himself, and would not consent to there being any great Hoosier generals." "Lew Wallace should have been a general," Judge Nelson contends, "but Governor Morton wouldn't permit it."<sup>2</sup>

Fighting in the front lines at Shiloh, one of the bloodiest battles of the War, and marching with Sherman to the sea were among the experiences of Judge Nelson as a soldier. Born in Adams county, Ohio, in 1841, he enlisted as a private in Company C, 70th Ohio Infantry, in October, 1861.

He was teaching school in Brown county, Ohio, in April, 1861, when Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. He then believed his job of teaching the three R's more important than going to war, but when he signed a contract to teach the following fall, he reserved the right to leave the classroom for the battlefield, which he did at the beginning of the school year.

In a brief synopsis of his military career prepared for his children, Mr. Nelson says of the battle of Shiloh:

The Union troops were commanded by General U. S. Grant, and the Confederate by Albert Sidney Johnston. The first day I served with Colonel Buckland as his aid; the second I commanded my company, the first lieutenant being sick. This battle was one of the most sanguine of

---

<sup>2</sup> Judge Nelson refers here to the case of General Wallace in the early part of the war.

the war, taking into consideration the number engaged.

Nelson had little patience with "blockheads" in command of troops. His dislike for General H. W. Halleck, who was placed in command of the Tennessee and Ohio army at Pittsburgh Landing soon after the battle of Shiloh is shown in this critical passage:

He proposed to march to Corinth, a distance of twenty miles, and attack Beauregard who was concentrating an army there. We would march two or three miles, and then throw up immense breastworks, and by the time we were finished, which would require several days, we would again take a forward movement, halt, cut down trees, dig up earth, and form another line of works. This continued about six weeks. When we reached the vicinity of Corinth Beauregard was in command of from thirty-five to forty thousand men. When we were about ready to attack his works, he withdrew his army further south, and we captured the place with a few broken guns, but not a single Confederate soldier. We occupied six weeks in marching twenty miles, when the distance should have been made in three days. The weather was hot, the water poor, the men became sick and died rapidly. We lost more men in that campaign than we did in the two days' battle at Shiloh. If there ever was a military 'blockhead,' it was Halleck.

The ability of Nelson was soon recognized, and in June, 1863, soon after his Division had been ordered to re-enforce Grant at Vicksburg, he was named First Lieutenant of his Company in the 70th Ohio Infantry. Following the battle of Missionary Ridge and many minor skirmishes, this later Logansport man was made Captain of his company in March, 1864.

One of the most prized possessions of Judge Nelson is his Diary, kept during the war. Each day that he could find a few minutes to jot down notes, he took out a small black leather book, and with pencil wrote of the army's maneuvers, of the expense account of his company for food, of the weather, and of humorous incidents.

During March and April of 1864 some of the items of expense of his company, were set down in his Diary by Nelson:

March—1864

	Butter and eggs .....	\$ .60
	Bread .....	.50
	Coffee .....	.80
April 1	Bread .....	.50
April 10	1 Ham and Kraut .....	2.80
April 10	2 pies, apple .....	.40
April 11	Bread .....	.50

April 12	Sugar and coffee .....	2.65
April 14	Bread .....	.50
April 14	Bread .....	.50
April 18	Bread and pies .....	.90
April 20	Rations .....	3.95
April 22	Rations .....	3.00
	To cook .....	3.00
	Mess kettle .....	15.00
	Coffee mill .....	1.00
	Frying pan .....	.75
	2 screw drivers, one cartridge box, 2 Springfield muskets (damaged and left on field for want of transportation) 1 gun- sling, 1 waist belt, 1 wagon, 1 camp kettle (broken while on wagon.) <sup>*</sup>	

A list of clothing received of Lieutenant C. A. Grimes on June 21, 1864, included, as Mr. Nelson's Diary says: "5 trousers, 6 drawers, 17 bootees, 8 stockings, 1 wool blanket, 1 knapsack, 2 blouses (unlined) 3 shirts."

The account of the march from Kingston, Georgia, to Atlanta as recorded in his Diary follows:

May 5, 1864—Passed camp of 79th[,] Company J.

May 7—Halted for a short time by a house. Men found a large darkey called Jerry. He weighed about 250 pounds. Had him make a speech for them, and they had their own fun with him.

May 13—Received orders to march about 4 a.m., but waited till 7. Marched about 4 miles. When we arrived at the front the 4th division was formed in line of battle and supports. We formed in column and in mass and moved about 1½ miles, our skirmishers driving the enemy steadily. About 5 we formed in line of battle. All afternoon the skirmishing was very severe, but the enemy had fallen back all day.

May 14—Skirmishing commenced at daylight. The enemy was fortifying the front all night. At 8¼ a.m. we received a field order announcing Grant's victory. Morgan L. Smith going to attempt taking Strong Ridge. Hooker has driven them all day with considerable loss. Heavy firing on the right. Morgan L. Smith succeeds in taking the hill.

May 15—Report from Hooker he has taken another line of works. Sherman has ordered McPherson to open all his artillery on the R.R. bridge.

May 23—Started at 8 a.m. Marched 15 miles over a very poor country. Water scarce. Very hot. Great many men gave out.

May 24—Marched 10 miles. Camped about 3 p.m. Passed through Van Wert.

<sup>\*</sup> It was not the aim of Lieutenant Nelson to keep a cash account. What he did was merely to indicate purchases as he had the time or the inclination to do so.

May 26—Passed through Dallas which is about 10 miles from Atlanta.<sup>4</sup>

May 27—Advanced about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Heavy skirmishing all along the front. It is generally supposed the Rebel army will make a stand between this point and the R.R.

May 28 (Sunday)—During 3 days of fighting, 70" [70th Regiment] has had 1 killed and 9 wounded.

June 7—Did not move. Men washed clothes.

June 15—Captured the whole Rebel line of skirmishers, the prisoners amounting to 500 with 2 field officers. Our loss slight in killed and wounded.

June 24—Weather very warm. No firing during the day by Rebs from mountain. The extreme quiet was the cause of various conjectures as to what the enemy was doing. But an advance of our skirmishers found they were still there.

June 25—Just after dark left camp and moved to the right. After getting lost several times and counter marching, we at last found Jeff Davis' Division 14 corps and relieved him of one of his Brig.

June 28—During the last 60 days our army has been skirmishing and fighting the enemy 33 days. Deserters say that our batteries make it hotter for them here than it was at Vicksburg.

July 3—While eating our breakfast we were aroused, and looking in the direction of the hill, saw the Stars and Stripes floating to the breeze, the Rebs having got wind of our movements and left again. Marched from camp about 8 a.m. for Marietta, a distance of 7 miles, and camped for the night.

July 18—It is reported that the Rebs have left Atlanta.

July 20—Left camp at 8 a.m., passed through Decatur, and marched on the road to Atlanta. About 3 miles from Atlanta commenced forming our lines.

July 22—(Friday) Early in the morning the Rebs fell back from their works in our front. Our lines were immediately advanced to the ones the Rebels had left. Fighting desperate. We attacked with at least 40,000 force. Rebels loss is heavy in killed and wounded. We have quite a lot of prisoners.

July 23—Day spent strengthening lines and burying dead.

July 25—The Tenn.-Ohio army was transferred from the left to the right wing. Marched about 12 miles. It appears when any flank movement is to be made, this army has to do it. Has been transferred from one wing to another three times within the last twenty days.

---

<sup>4</sup> Dallas is more nearly thirty miles from Atlanta.

During the siege of Atlanta, Judge Nelson, while in charge of the skirmish line, was wounded. A bullet struck him on his right side, passed through his body, and came out at the left side. He was confined to the field hospital for ten days.

Telling of Sherman's march to the sea he wrote in his memoirs:

This march was a picnic. The weather was beautiful, the roads good, and food plentiful. I had been detached as commissary of musters for 2nd division, 15th corps. When not engaged in my official duty I acted as one of the aids on the staff of General Hazen, in command of the division. During the march I had charge of the pioneer or engineer corps. The duty of corps members was to build or repair roads when necessary. We captured the Fort by assault in about 30 minutes, this division losing a large number of men killed and wounded. After capturing the Fort we communicated with our fleet and received our mail and clothin. In a few days Hardy evacuated Savannah, and our army moved in about December 25, 1864.

Captain Nelson recorded many facts relative to later events of the War. Concerning Charleston and Columbia, he wrote:

General Sherman suggested the march from Savannah to Columbia, and from Columbia to Goldsborough, N.C., by which we captured Charleston, but were never within 100 miles of the City. For nearly four years our government had been pounding away at fortifications in this harbor and had accomplished nothing.

I saw Columbia burn. The fire was caused not by any act on the part of Sherman's army, but by members of Wade Hampton's cavalry, who when they evacuated the City set fire to a large quantity of cotton piled in the street. A severe wind was blowing, which carried the burning cotton to the residences, and started a fire which resulted in almost total destruction of the place.<sup>5</sup>

The Division of which Captain Nelson's regiment formed a part heard that Lee had surrendered before the Division reached Raleigh. Joseph E. Johnston, nearly three weeks later, surrendered to Sherman, the Logansport veteran relates, and then all the soldiers went to Washington City to take part in the "grand review." They were then sent to Little Rock, Arkansas, on July 4, where they were mustered out on August 10, 1865.

---

<sup>5</sup> "Who fired Columbia?" is a question that historical investigators have found it difficult to answer. Some have accepted the testimony of soldiers, who, like Judge Nelson, were present, and, who like him, believed that the town of 8,000 inhabitants caught fire from burning cotton which had been ignited by retreating Confederates. All agree that a strong wind was blowing which could have spread the flames to many buildings. There is other testimony, however, to the effect that bands of Union soldiers carrying torches marched through the streets of Columbia during the night following the capture of the city firing houses. Certain it is that the fair city was in ruins by morning.

Judge Nelson was then offered the rank of second lieutenant in the regular army, but preferred to return to civil life. "When the war was over, the army no longer had any attraction for me," he says.

He came to Logansport in 1866, studied law in that city, and was graduated from the Albany law school. During the World War he was named president of the Board of Management of National Military Homes. Recently he and Mrs. Nelson celebrated their sixty-first wedding anniversary.

---

Logansport school children as well as adults are fascinated with stories of Civil War veterans, and during the past year several of the men have been guests in classrooms to tell of their parts in the battles about which the youngsters are studying. Charlotte Painton, bright-eyed twelve-year old Logansport girl, is one of the most fortunate children in school. Any of her classmates at Lincoln junior high school will say so. Her grandfather, William Ziegler, 87 years old and commander of the Cass county G.A.R. post, delights in telling her stories of war times. She sits on a stool at his knee and listens by the hour. Nor is she uninformed about the Civil War. If he is silent for a minute or so, she asks questions.

Mr. Ziegler claims that he put the torch to the Franklin railroad bridge. "I had orders to set fire to the bridge—just south of Nashville, Tenn.,—and in war a command means action," he explains. "So I prepared the torch and had the place ablaze in no time."

He recalls how soldiers in his regiment almost froze to death at the beginning of January, 1864. "Our dog tents were made of two pieces of thin cloth buttoned together, and we had a piece of gum cloth on which to sleep," he tells. "On New Years day—one of the coldest on record—several of us almost died from exposure as we slept in eastern Tennessee."

This G.A.R. Commander fought at Mill Spring, Shiloh, and Missionary Ridge, but he fared worse at Chickamauga and Murfreesboro. He was shot through the arm during the latter battle, and was in a hospital for several weeks.

Mr. Zeigler was born in Putnam, O., and enlisted as a private in Company E, 19th Ohio Infantry, in September, 1861, when he was sixteen years old. He served until October, 1865.



When discharged he was a corporal. He came to Logansport in 1873.

---

A yam bought from a southern planter was a luxury to W. B. Enyart, an old Logansport veteran, now past eighty-seven, who fought in many battles in Dixie. Remarching paths tramped by his regiment, he often tells war stories at meetings of the D.A.R., Daughters of Union Veterans, Lincoln Circle, G.A.R., and the Women's Relief Corps.

Born in Cass county, Mr. Enyart enlisted at the age of seventeen as a private in Company 8, 73rd Indiana Infantry, in 1864. Besides fighting at Athens, Huntsville, Decatur, and Triana, all in northern Alabama, he engaged in many minor skirmishes. Few old soldiers have forgotten the sufferings experienced when food was scarce or poor:

It was while we were on plantations that we had so little to eat. Once in a while we would get so hungry that we would forage, and the biggest luxury we could find was a large, yellow yam. There is hardly a Civil War soldier who will eat beans. We used to put a big potful on to cook, and about the time the beans were getting tender, we'd have to begin fighting. Then we ate burned beans or nothing.

Mr. Enyart was discharged on December 11, 1865. He serves as Quartermaster in the G.A.R., and makes a daily trip to the city's main street.

---

Logansport's Civil War veterans are known for talents other than speechmaking. R. P. Creager, 86-year old soldier, is known as the city's fisherman, extraordinary. Each summer he and Mrs. Creager go to a cottage at Webster Lake, where he gets into a boat by himself and fishes by the hour.

At fourteen he ran away from his home near Williamsburg, Ohio, to join the army. He jokingly contends that his wife has taken advantage of his fourteen months' experience as chief cook and bottle washer at Camp Denison. In October, 1864, he entered service as a private in Company I, 60th Ohio Infantry, and was in the hundred-day service. He then re-enlisted and served until the close of the war.

Mr. Creager was in the battles of Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga and Franklin. He remembers particularly the curse of having no food at times:

The government provided crackers and sauer belly—pickled meat,

you call it now, and beans and hard tack were sent us. But the hard tack was so hard we had to bore holes in it and let it soak in the river over night before we could eat it. Then there wasn't enough to go around.

The worst scare I had during the war was when I had moved up in the brushes pretty close to the Gray lines. I heard the "click, click, click" coming nearer and nearer. I shouted, "Halt!" But on came the "clicks." I pulled out my gun, and just then a bunch of little niggers pleaded, "It's jus' us, boss. Yuh ain't gonna' kill us, huh?" The Lord knows whatever became of those little pickaninnies. The commander did something with them, but there's no place for questions in war.

---

Charles E. Hale, of Logansport, fought in the battle of Gettysburg, but he is still young enough to be in his law office ever day. At eighty-three, he is both agile and versatile, and his philosophy that it is better to wear out than rust out is known to both old and young in Logansport.

Born in Rutland, Vt., Mr. Hale had his early schooling there, and then enlisted as a private in Company H, 14th Vermont Infantry in 1862. In the battle of Gettysburg, he was with the Second Vermont Brigade, which with other regiments, met Pickett and repelled him at the time he tried to go over the top.

"No, I didn't hear Lincoln deliver his Gettysburg address, but I saw him later," the veteran answered in reply to a question. "I remember too, when we met Lee's men and captured more of them than the total number of our brigade."

Mr. Hale was discharged from the army in July, 1863, and immediately enrolled as a student in Middleburg College, a literary school in Vermont. Following his graduation there, he attended the Law School of the University of Michigan where he was graduated in 1876. He came to Logansport in 1880 to be a member of the faculty of Smithson College. He is now Adjutant of the Cass county G.A.R., having been named in October, 1932, to succeed the late J. E. Crain.

---

Alexander Young, a veteran who is eighty-eight, was present at the second inauguration of Abraham Lincoln, and holds that to be one of the most interesting experiences of his life. He relates how the captain of his corps held more than 400 soldiers in Washington for seven days in order that they might witness the inauguration. "And then we couldn't get within two blocks of Lincoln," Mr. Young recalls. "I remem-

ber he came out on the balcony and we could see him raise his hand to take oath. Later we got a better glimpse of him. There were thousands at the inauguration."

It was in November, 1863, that Mr. Young, at the age of 20, left his farm in Cass County, and enlisted as a corporal in Company B, 128th Indiana Infantry. He served until April 12, 1866, having been stationed in North Carolina for several months after the war ended.

The battle of Franklin, Tenn., was one of the worst he experienced, and tells of 1,750 men being killed in less than six hours. "Breastworks protected us there," he recalls, "but at the siege of Atlanta we fought in the open and 18,000 men were killed in about two hours. I was on the march with Sherman from Chattanooga to Atlanta, but when he went to the sea, my company was sent back to Tennessee. We met Sherman again in North Carolina." Some times there was an unexpected food shortage:

When we neared Marietta, Ga., the latter part of June, 1864, the "Rebels" cut us off from our provisions, and we had nothing to eat for several days. Finally we found a little corn which we parched, and then we ran onto a wheat field and some berry bushes. For six days we lived on wheat and berries.

---

William Bechtel's legs still take him up and down Logansport's streets as well as they took him over hill and vale during the Civil War. At eighty-five, he looks back over the days of the war, and is glad they are not to be lived again. He does not regret that he had a chance to fight for what he believed right.

Too young to get in the regular service, Mr. Bechtel when a lad of fourteen summers, was hired as cook for a corps of men who started from Howard county, Indiana. They were trapped near Richmond, Virginia, by Confederate soldiers and forced to live for three days on a hard cracker and a thin slice of fat meat.

But this did not disillusion Mr. Bechtel. He enlisted as soon as he was old enough as a private in Company H, 153rd Indiana Infantry. It was in northern Kentucky that his company encountered guerilla warfare. Mr. Bechtel reminisces:

The men who fought from behind bushes were familiar with every cow path in those parts. And we didn't know a single section. They

would steal our food, clothing, horses, mules—everything on which they could lay their hands. Then squads of soldiers would be detailed to round them up. We never knew in what valley or behind what tree they might be.

When companies of soldiers from the southern battlefields returned to Louisville to be mustered out, Mr. Bechtel was on guard duty there. He recalls an incident which might have developed into a riot. He relates the story:

One of the camp rules was that the guards were to eat first, Sherman's "coffee coolers" second, and the rest of the fellows third. Well, the "coffee coolers" decided they wanted to eat first. So they lined up for mess and when the door was opened, they started in. The first man was ordered to the rear of the line by the captain. Then a man from the back rushed up, faced the captain, and snatching a sword, stuck it near his own heart and shouted to the line behind him, "Now shove!" Well, the captain couldn't stand that—to murder a man just for food and rules. So the "coffee coolers" got their way.

Questioned concerning the origin of the expression, "coffee cooler," Mr. Bechtel explained:

When the army was on the move, coffee was cooked in iron camp kettles and served boiling hot in tin cups. All the men stood around blowing their coffee, and they often dubbed each other "coffee coolers." The term, "Sherman's coffee coolers," originated when soldiers in Company H, 153rd Indiana Infantry, were hurrying to catch an army train near Louisville. They had made a big kettle of boiling coffee, and were so anxious to drink some before getting on the train that they poured it back and forth in kettles to cool it.

At the end of the war, Mr. Bechtel enlisted in the regular army and served until 1869. He then returned to Kokomo where he was a shoemaker until about twelve years ago when he moved to Logansport to make his home with his daughter, Mrs. Homer F. Howell. He is Senior Vice-Commander of the Cass county G.A.R.

---

Besides these veterans who fought with muskets in the war of the states, Logansport boasts the only living Civil War nurse in Indiana, and one of the five still alive in the United States. She is Mrs. Mary E. Miller, who will celebrate her ninetieth birthday on January 27, 1933. She lives with her son, Edwin P. Miller, who is sixty-two years old. Her husband died in 1922 after they had celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary.

This war nurse chats as vivaciously as a girl about such household tasks as washing, cooking, and dish-washing. She tended a large garden during the past summer, and her cupboards are filled with canned vegetables, strawberry preserves, and blackberry jam. Her flower-garden is the pride of the neighborhood.

Mrs. Miller tells of her journey to Vicksburg, Mississippi, to join her husband who was convalescing in a hospital there. In a short time he was assigned to nurse duty, which he performed until pronounced fit for active duty in the lines again. While at the hospital, Mrs. Miller was asked by her husband's superior officer to join the nursing staff which she did. She states that while a nurse she suffered no privations and was safe at all times. The nurses of that day had no uniforms, but wore the hoop-skirts in vogue at the time. This Hoosier girl, who went South to cheer her soldier-husband, was the youngest nurse on the payroll and received \$18 a month.

After seven months at the hospital, Mrs. Miller returned to Indiana. While returning by boat, she was wounded. The slow moving boat, *The Empress*, was fired on from ambush, and a ricochetting bullet struck Mrs. Miller in the arm, causing a flesh wound. She relates the story briefly:

We were ordered to lie down when the first shots were fired. But if you have ever seen a hoop-skirt, you can imagine what a task that would be. I finally got down on the floor, but not soon enough, and the first thing I knew it seemed a ball of fire had struck my arm.

---

\* The Logansport chapter of Daughters of Union Veterans honored this nurse, who served soldiers at Vicksburg, by calling the chapter the "Mary E. Miller Tent".