

THE WOLVERINE.

"ONE COUNTRY—ONE DESTINY."

Vol. I.

LEBANON, MARION COUNTY, KENTUCKY, APRIL 7, 1863.

No. 1.

THE WOLVERINE

IS PUBLISHED BY

MEMBERS OF THE 8th REGIMENT MICHIGAN INFANTRY,

And will be issued as often as circumstances will permit.

A Brief History of the Eighth Regiment from its Organization to the Present Time.

The 8th regiment was organized on the 7th August, 1861—Wm M. Fenton, of Flint, formerly Major in the 7th Michigan Infantry, having been promoted to be Colonel and assigned to its command—rendezvoused at Camp Anderson, Grand Rapids, August 21st; proceeded to Fort Wayne 16th Sept., and was mustered into the U. S. service by Capt Henry R. Mizner, Sept 23d. Left Fort Wayne for Washington on the 27th, reached Washington on the 30th, and went into camp on Meridian Hill. On the 10th Oct., proceeded to Annapolis; embarked on the steamer *Vanderbilt* the 19th, as a part of the great Southern expedition which was to operate against the cities of Charleston and Savannah. Laid off Fortress Monroe till the 29th, when it sailed for Port Royal, S. C.; Nov. 4th anchored off Port Royal; 7th, fleet reduced batteries on shore; 8th, landed at Hilton Head.

At this time the regiment was in the 2d Brigade, Expeditionary Corps, under command of Brig.-Gen. Isaac I. Stevens. On the 8th Dec. took possession of Beaufort, S. C., and went into camp there. Detachments from the regiment occupied Grey's Hill, Brickyard Point, Ladies' Island and several plantations. Frequent reconnoissances were made to ascertain the position of the enemy. The first man killed from the regiment was Serg't Burns Foote, Co. A., Dec. 18th, while two companies were reconnoitering on Coosaw River. Jan. 1st, 1862, engaged in the affair of Coosaw River, Port Royal Ferry. Loss, two killed, one missing, six wounded.

Upon the regimental records frequent orders occur in regard to drill, making promotions, warning the men to be in readiness to move at any moment.—During the most of February engaged in usual duties. Feb. 24th, moved to Grey's Hill, and relieved the 79th N. Y. Highlanders, on picket duty at advanced posts. March 4th, returned to

Camp. 9th of April moved to Tybee Island, Ga., and reported to Brig.-Gen. Q. A. Gilmore. 10th and 11th, present at bombardment and surrender of Fort Pulaski. On the 16th, two hundred of the Regt. engaged with Georgia 13th, eight hundred strong, in a skirmish fight of two hours, which resulted in the rout of the enemy at sunset.—Loss, thirteen killed and thirty-two wounded; among the number the brave Adjutant N. Miner Pratt and Lieut. Badger, Co. C. Returned to Beaufort on the 19th. During the month of May engaged in picket duty, &c., on Port Royal Island. 5th June, relieved 28th Mass. on picket duty at advanced post on Stono river. 7th, attached to 1st Brigade, Col. Fenton commanding, 2nd Division, under Gen. Stevens.—Regt. in command of Lieut. Col. Graves. 16th attacked the enemies' works near Secessionville, on James Island; under a heavy fire crossed the ditch and mounted the parapets. Not being properly supported were compelled to fall back. Loss, fifty-five killed, and one hundred and thirteen wounded. Here the noble Captains Guild and Church fell, while nobly doing their duty.—21st Col. Fenton, returned to command of Regt. July 5th, returned to Hilton Head; on the 10th, to Beaufort. On the 13th embarked on steamer *Vanderbilt* to join the army of the Potomac.—Disembarked at Newport News, Va., 17th, and went into camp, Aug. 4th, left Newport News for Fredericksburg via Aquia Creek. 13th, marched to Culpepper, thence to the vicinity of Raccoon Ford, from thence to Barnett's Ford, Kelly's Ford, Rappahannock, Sulphur Springs, Warrenton, Warrenton Junction, Manassas Station, Centreville and Bull Run. Engaged with the enemy at the last named place Aug. 29th and 30th. 1st Sept. marched towards Fairfax; met the enemy at Chantilly. In this engagement the lamented Gen. Stevens was killed. On the 2nd, marched to Alexandria; the 5th, to Washington; 7th, to Clarkville, Md.; 9th, to Rockville; 11th, to Damascus; 12th, to Frederick City, 13th, to Middleton; 14th, engaged at South Mountain; 15th, and 16th to near Sharpsburg. On the 16th, Regt. transferred from 1st Brig.,

1st Div., Col. Christ, to 2nd Brig., Col. Welch. 17th, in action at Antietam. 19th, marched beyond Sharpsburg towards Harper's Ferry. 24th, transferred to 1st Brig., Col. Fenton, Maj. Ely commanding Regt. Gen. Willcox was in command of the Division, and Gen. Burnside of the Corps. Oct. 7th, moved to Pleasant Valley. 11th and 12th, to Frederick City, by rail from Weaverton, at the time Stuart was making his raid into Maryland. 16th, returned to camp at Pleasant Valley. Col. Withington assumed command of Brig., Col. Fenton in command of Division, Gen. Willcox of Corps. 26th, moved from Pleasant Valley, across the Potomac to Lovettsville; 28th to Waterford. Nov. 2nd, marched to Philemont; 3d to Upperville Gap; 5th, to Rectertown; 6th, through Salem to Orleans; 7th, to near Waterloo; 12th, returned to Orleans with Brigade as rear guard to the army, and returned same night. 14th, to Sulphur Springs; 2nd Mich. transferred to the Brigade. Gen. Poe assumed command. 15th to Warrenton Junction; 16th and 17th, to within eight miles of Fredericksburg; 18th, to Fredericksburg. Five companies detailed on Provost Guard. Remained in camp till Dec. 12th, when, with the army of the Potomac, it crossed the Rappahannock. Not actively engaged in the battle. Returned on the night of the 15th. Transferred to 2nd Brigade, Col. Christ commanding. Re-transferred to 1st Brig. Engaged during the month in usual camp duties. February 13th, moved to Aquia Creek, embarked on steamer *Swan*, disembarked the 15th at Newport News, and went into camp. Remained encamped upon the banks of the James river, engaged in drill, picket and camp guard duties until the 19th, when Regt. embarked on the steamer *Swan*. Lay off Fortress Monroe two days in a storm. Reached Baltimore Sunday morning, the 22nd. Gen. Burnside here took command of the Corps, which had been under command of Gen. Smith. Passed through Harper's Ferry same evening on Baltimore & Ohio R. R.; reached Parkersburg on the Ohio river; on the evening of the 24th embarked on steamer *Minerva* and sailed down the Ohio, reaching Louisville, Thursday, the 26th; at noon encamped and remained until Sunday, 29th; then proceeded by rail to Lebanon, sixty-five miles distant, in the central part of Kentucky, at which place, with the remainder of the Brigade, under command of Gen. Poe, it is now encamped.

THE WOLVERINE

LEBANON, KY.

TUESDAY, : : : APRIL 7, 1863.

OUR "BOW."

From time immemorial it has been customary with publishers when launching upon the literary sea a new publication, to define their position and purpose, making large promises for the future, beg the kind indulgence of the public and its favorable consideration of their efforts at literary fame or in whatever else their aim may be. But we, not aspiring to literary honors, have no positions to define other than can be found at our head, "*One Country—One Destiny*;" no favors to ask, other than the favor of Divine Providence upon our efforts to preserve the country from the doom which so boldly stares it in the face; no assistance to ask of the public, other than a strict and willing compliance with the laws, and not only their word but deed in support of the Government in this its hour of peril. A single word in regard to our little sheet will suffice. The members of the Regiment have commenced the publication of the WOLVERINE, upon uncertainties—the issuing of a second number depending entirely upon circumstances, which proving favorable, a second will be forthcoming. The publication of a sheet like this will add another page to the historic record which this Regiment already has, and will lay before its friends at home some items of interest to them. This accomplished, and the object aimed at by this little sheet will have been reached.

THANKS.—To Mr. W. H. Wetherton we are largely indebted for so kindly volunteering the gratuitous use of his office, from which to issue our little sheet. Mr. W. formerly published the *Lebanon Democrat* at this place, but on account of the strong Union tone of his paper, and the secession proclivities of this vicinity, he was compelled to discontinue its publication. We hope he may soon be enabled to revive the *Democrat*.

PROVOST MARSHAL.—Immediately upon our arrival in Lebanon on the 29th ult., Capt. Belcher, of the Eighth, was appointed Provost Marshal of the town, which position he still holds, and which he is particularly adapted to fill to the best interests of all concerned.

Col. Morrison, of the 79th N. Y., is in command of this post.

KENTUCKIANS!—We came to this thriving city of Lebanon upon the order of our commanding General. We came not as enemies but as friends,—friends to the State of Kentucky and its Union-loving citizens. To all who stand by the Constitution and Union we extend our most cordial greeting. With Kentucky's gallant sons, companions in arms, who have left homes and firesides to repel invasion and crush out rebellion, we clasp hands in friendship. A part of our work is to drive prowling rebel bands from the State—not to war upon institutions, or violate the rights of law-abiding citizens. Willingly have we left our homes, and cheerfully will we endure whatever hardships a soldier may have to pass through—nay, we count them as nothing, if thereby armed traitors against the Government may be dispersed, and the old flag, as of yore, float on every hill-top and fortress—over a united nation. To rebels in arms, their aiders and abettors in private life, we have not one word of sympathy, but have arguments for them in laws and battle fields. The laws of the land must be enforced, and we congratulate the people of Kentucky upon having a General in command, honest, loyal and energetic, whose whole military career leads us to believe that much will be accomplished by him during the present campaign. We have every reason to be hopeful. With many tears for the memory of the long list of brave ones fallen, nothing deters us from pressing on to the sure result—success, the crowning act—victory. After all shall be over, friendships formed in this quiet place may be renewed, our editorial sanctum may be revisited, and the memory of these chats of the WOLVERINE brought to mind.

ASA MATTER OF INTEREST to friends at home, and for future reference, a brief and concise history of our regiment since its organization in August, 1861, has been condensed from the regimental records, and is published on the first page of this little sheet. In it will be found a mention of the different battles and skirmishes in which the regiment has been engaged, the different positions it has occupied, the travels it has had, and under whose command it has been through the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Virginia and Kentucky. This, together with the date of each movement, makes the article not only interesting but valuable as a historic record of the doings of the Eighth.

RE-JOINED THE REGIMENT.—Capt. Doyle, who was wounded at the battle of James Island, S. C., on the 16th of June last, since which time he has been absent in hospital, on the 2d inst. re-joined the regiment. He still carries his arm in a sling, and notwithstanding his disability is permanent, having lost almost the entire use of his left arm, he joins us to again take the field and battle for his country. Although we are aware that to a man of his character public praise is not desirable, and is considered in an unfavorable light, yet in remarking that he is one of the very best officers the regiment ever had, we may be pardoned the offence, as we but do justice to a brave man, and give utterance to the unanimous voice of both officers and men, and it is with a just appreciation of his excellent military qualities that he is welcomed among us once more.

The esteemed lady of Col. Ely is now paying a visit to friends in Cincinnati. She was with the Col. in camp for two months. During her stay she endeared herself to all the members of the Regiment by her many acts of kindness. Their best wishes follow her as she returns to her Northern home.—We would respectfully tender to the Col. our condolence at his loss.

THE SEVENTY-NINTH N. Y.—This veteran and toil-worn regiment, which has been with the Eighth in all its "tramps," and whose name is almost as familiar in Michigan as our own, we are happy to count among those here with us. Should ever the "chances of war" separate us, it would be with the feelings of leaving an old and tried friend, that we should part with them.

LEBANON is an incorporated city, containing, we are informed, about 900 inhabitants. There is evidence of its having been a thriving little city, but, like most towns throughout the South, it is suffering under the blighting effects of secession.

The Eighth left the State with an aggregate of 915 men, since which time it has received 328 recruits. It now numbers 619, which makes the loss from the Regiment by death, discharges, &c., upwards of 600.

SOME TRAVEL.—By careful computation we find that since its organization the Eighth regiment has traveled, by water, rail and on foot, nearly six thousand miles, of which probably one thousand has been marched.

"BONNIE BELL."

The smiling Spring comes in rejoicing,
And surly Winter grudgingly flies;
Now crystal clear are the falling waters,
And bonnie blue are the sunny skies;
Fresh o'er the mountains breaks forth the morn-
The evening gilds the ocean's swell, [ing,
All creatures joy in the sun's returning,
And I rejoice in my bonnie Bell.

The flow'ry Spring leads sunny Summer,
And yellow Autumn presses near,
Then in his turn comes gloomy Winter,
Till smiling Spring again appear.
Thus seasons dancing, life advancing,
Old Time and Nature their changes tell,
But never ranging, still unchanging,
I adore my bonnie Bell.

—Burns.

PORTICAL.—We supposed that recent resignations had left our Regiment without a "poick," but the following from "A Contributor" convinces us that we have "still another," and he is evidently disgusted with somebody or something. Hear him:

CRITICISM

OF AN "HISTORICAL COMPLIMENT" PAID TO THE EIGHTH MICH. REGT.

The fame of him who wrote those lines,
Like glow worm's spark obscurely shines;
Self conceit the prompting cause
Suggested them to win applause.
His stock of wit and brains did mingle,
The result was naught but empty jingle.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.—If the bell shall ring, and the House be open, there will be the usual prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at the Presbyterian Church, if not, and there should be a coincidence in these events, you may expect a prayer meeting the following Wednesday, *ad infinitum*.

TABLEAUX VIVANTS at "Shuck's Hall," on Friday evening next, by the young ladies of "Braddock's Institute," the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of a Sabbath School Library. Admittance 25 cents. As the cause is good, the house should be filled.

A PUFF.—Blair, the sutler of the Eighth, who by the way, claims to be the ranking sutler of the Brigade, is receiving a new stock of goods, and we notice, is doing a thriving business.—He is said to keep good segars. We can tell better after trying them.

OUR BRIGADE.—The 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 9th A. C., composed of the 79th New York, 20th, 8th, 17th and 2nd Michigan Regiments, under command of Brig.-Gen. O. M. Poe, formerly Col. of the 2nd Michigan, is encamped at this place.

GOOD NEWS.—As we go to press the glad intelligence reaches us by telegraph that Fort Sumpter and Charleston have fallen into Federal hands. It comes through rebel sources, and may be relied on.

Officers of the Eighth Regiment.

Colonel.—

Lt. Col.—Ralph Ely.

Major.—W. Ely Lewis.

Surgeon.—

1st Asst. Surgeon.—Sam'l R. Wooster.

2nd "—John Willett.

Adjutant.—

Quartermaster.—Elias G. Williams.

Serg't Major.—Orrin Bump.

Qr. Master Serg't.—Geo. A. Wells.

Commissary Serg't.—Wm. Tracy.

Hosp'l Steward.—Aaron Vanderveen.

COMPANY A.

Capt.—James S. Donahue.

1st Lt.—John S. Freeman.

2nd "—Charles F. Eddy.

COMPANY B.

Capt.—Robert G. Hutchison.

1st Lt.—Edwin M. Hovey.

2nd "—Alonzo Cheney.

COMPANY C.

Capt.—Chas. F. Smith.

1st Lt.—Geo. W. Chandler.

2nd "—Wilbur Nelson.

COMPANY D.

Capt.—Jno. C. Buchanan.

1st Lt.—Geo. P. Baker.

2nd "—Otis Smith.

COMPANY E.

Capt.—Edward Marum.

1st Lt.—Martin Willey.

2nd "—John A. Elder.

COMPANY F.

Capt.—Chas. H. McCreery.

1st Lt.—John D. Sumner, [act. Adj't.]

2nd "—John W. Doane.

COMPANY G.

Capt.—Horatio Belcher.

1st Lt.—M. A. Hogan.

2nd "—John I. Phillips.

COMPANY H.

Capt.—Richard N. Doyle.

1st Lt.—Austin W. Green.

2nd "—Erastus N. Gilbert.

COMPANY I.

Capt.—Geo. E. Swinscoe.

1st Lt.—Thomas Campbell.

2nd "—Alex. C. McKenzie.

COMPANY K.

Capt.—Geo. B. Fuller.

1st Lt.—Milton M. Fenner.

2nd "—Benjamin F. Darling.

Ten Days Travel with the Michigan 8th.

[EXTRACT FROM A DIARY.]

Newport News, Va., March 19th.

In accordance with orders received last night, we march from camp at an early hour this morning, and in the midst of a beautiful storm of sleet and snow, embark on the steamer transport *Swan*, and drop down the river to Fortress Monroe, and anchor. Our boat is like many other government transports, entirely unfit for ocean navigation. The Captain says he dare not venture into the bay in such weather as this, so we have to wait for smoother sea. The men are very much crowded and have hardly room to lie down, while the officers' cabin is partly used as a hospital. Some urgent calls have already been made upon unfortunate individuals to render up their accounts, but sea-sickness is not very general.

March 20th and 21st.—We are still at our old anchorage. The storm has but slightly abated, and we are in hopes of sailing this evening. Sealed orders have come on board, not to be opened until we are clear of the harbor. Many surmises are being made as to our destination, but as these range from South Carolina to Tennessee it is impossible to form an accurate opinion.—We amuse ourselves dancing, singing, and spinning camp yarns—anything to kill time and keep down our breakfasts. About 3 P. M. (21st) we got under way, and, in company with the other steamers having on board the regiments of our Brigade, move out into the broad Chesapeake. Soon the captain opens his orders, and turning the bow of his boat to the north, announces our destination to be Locust Point, Baltimore.

March 22d.—It is Sunday morning, and by 6 o'clock we are at the wharf in the "monumental city," and we find cars ready on the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. to take us—who knows where?—Orders are received from Major-General Burnside, who re-takes command of this, the Ninth Corps. We are informed that cooked rations will be issued twice a day while we are *en route*. This looks like a long journey. Early in the afternoon we are off, and our train moves up the bank of the Patapsco. We pass many flourishing towns and villages containing numerous factories. It is a beautiful evening, and the whole population seem to be aware of the fact, for they are out in their "best," enjoying the air and welcoming us in every possible manner. There is but little secession feeling in this part of the State. The people are engaged mostly in manufacturing pursuits.

But suddenly the train comes to a halt. A terrible accident has occurred. A soldier of one of the regiments has fallen from a car, and a party is immediately sent back to pick up his lifeless remains. Sudden death among soldiers is not considered very seriously, being of so common occurrence, and does not produce a very deep impression upon men so used to danger, and in five minutes after the train had stopped many were deeply engaged in an impromptu flirtation with the factory girls. But soon we perceived the crowd bringing back the unfortunate man. When found he was stretched upon his face, perfectly dead—drunk. Had he been sober the fall would have killed him. Another argument against temperance.

At midnight we reached Harper's Ferry, and were told that cooked rations awaited our gentle attentions. The writer waded through about forty acres of mud to reach the spot where these rations were being issued, and was rewarded with a small loaf of bread, coffee and meat being invisible, as far as he could perceive.

March 23d.—Spent a hard night.—Slept on a rough seat nine inches wide. Soldiers covered the floor around me, and I was quietly informed by a big Corporal near, that if by any accident I

rolled off on to him, I would come in for a training. It is unnecessary to state that I passed a restless night.

At noon to-day part of our train ran off the track, or rather ran through it. The ties on this part of the road are very old and rotten, and we had to stop until several new timbers had been put in. The boys took advantage of this delay to cook a cup of coffee all round; at 4 P. M. we were in Cumberland, a prettily situated town in the mountains, and here we found supper all ready. The Union is strongly supported here, particularly by citizens of the female persuasion. Judging from the number we saw, all the handkerchiefs in the county must have been called into service, to wave us a welcome.

March 24th.—Changed the programme, and slept on the floor myself, big Corporal on the seat above. About daylight he rolled off and came down on me edgewise. I woke up and found we were in Grafton, West Virginia—were delayed an hour for breakfast, then off we went through this portion of the State, which by the way, is very rough and broken. We passed through twenty-five tunnels between Grafton and Parkersburg, and were under ground about half the time. About 5 o'clock in the evening we reached the last mentioned city, and found transports ready to take us down the Ohio river. At dark all our baggage was on board the steamer *Minerva*, and we were on our way down the stream.—The boat was commodious, and, although the men had but a deck-plank for a bed, still they enjoyed a good night's rest. State rooms and meals were furnished the officers in the cabin, and before leaving, they drew up a set of resolutions, complimenting Captain Young and the other officers of the boat, for the kind treatment experienced at their hands.

March 25th.—A beautiful spring morning, and all on board are in the best of spirits; the boys gaze with delight on the Ohio shore. It is a long time since we last caught sight of free soil, and an apprenticeship of twenty months in the trade of war in southern States has only endeared us the more to our Northern homes.

March 26th.—We reported at Cincinnati last night and received orders to continue our trip to Louisville, and we have now disembarked in that city. In column, with the other regiments of our brigade, we marched to the Soldier's Home on 7th street, where bread, meat, and coffee was in readiness. After a short rest we wheeled into column by company, and paraded up Broadway; and, notwithstanding the dusty and travel-stained trim we were in, the brigade made a fine appearance. We went into camp in Preston's Wood, a fortified position commanding the upper portion of the city.

March 28th.—We remained quietly in camp all day yesterday, and were this morning delighted by the advent of our dear old paymaster, Maj. Russell Errett.

He drops into camp like a welcome sun-beam, glowing with "green backs" and postage currency, and by five o'clock we all have more money than we know what to do with. Peddlers and hucksters swarm among the tents, and find a ready sale for their "trimmings."

March 29th.—We have been under marching orders for forty-eight hours, and this morning we left camp and moved down Broadway to the Nashville depot, where in company with the 79th New York, we took the cars, and after five hours ride we find ourselves in the town of Lebanon, Marion Co., Ky.

E.

Our Late Colonel.

On the 15th ult., just before the regiment left Newport News, Colonel Wm. M. Fenton resigned his position as commander of the regiment, and returned to his home in Michigan, the feeble state of his health forbidding him longer to remain in the service. Before leaving he issued a patriotic and feeling address to the regiment which we give below. Although it is not new to the members of the Eighth, it will be read with interest by the friends of the regiment at home:

Officers and Soldiers of the Eighth Regiment Michigan Volunteers:

The time has come when I am to bid adieu to those who with me have stood in battle array—have endured the burning sun of a southern clime, and the inclemency of Virginia winds and storms in mid-winter—and to one and all of you, on this, my parting, my heart warms with the emotions of a brother and friend. I cannot leave you without giving utterance to the sentiments which prompted my first acceptance of the trust, and the feelings which arise as I bid you farewell. And now let me dispose of myself: I entered the service of the government as a duty, believing that under its gentle influence I was so far prospered, and the wicked rebellion organized by ambitious and designing men, who considered themselves entitled to rule, should, by the strong arm of military power, be put down, and that I, a recipient of its bounties, was in duty bound to offer my services. It was so done, and I have the satisfaction of saying to you, without fear of successful contradiction, that no more gallant band than the Michigan Eighth has ever volunteered to serve the country. But my connection with this regiment for the last nineteen months, has developed, to my regret, the fact that my health is insufficient longer to continue in the service. I must, therefore, decline the honor of any longer looking after your interests with that jealous care by which I have during the past term of duty been governed, and submit to the necessity which prompts my resignation as Colonel of the regiment. In parting with you I feel it a duty to leave you the warning voice of your friend and companion.

Comrades, you have been in many a well-fought field—you have gained imperishable laurels. It is your duty to preserve them unsullied. The field of battle tries men's courage. You have been found equal to the emergency.—Preserve the spirit which animated you on entering the service—unsullied patriotism. Keep it as the idol of your souls. Let not petty jealousies of rank or promotion, or any ill-judged bias against those who are your superiors in command, ever influence you to disregard your duty, or be guilty of a mean, dishonorable act. *Stand by the Flag!* It is the one under which you were born, or reared, or obtained protection and the blessings of a free government—a government of the people. Leave politics to our friends at home. Ignore all political influence or bias. Stand by your colors, so often borne in triumph, and be obedient to your superiors in command. You have already a record of noble, heroic, and historic deeds.—Let it not be sullied by any act of yours. Port Royal, Pulaski, Wilmington Island and James Island attest your valor. Be ever ready to maintain the honor you have there gained.

Leaving you, I shall none the less be with you in hope and confidence of your steady and patriotic zeal, and expect that the star of the Eighth, which now shines brightly, will never be dimmed. I leave you with regret sincere and heart-felt. I leave you with every officer in the regiment who has stood by us, promoted; with many non-commissioned officers promoted to commissioned officers; with privates promoted in proportion; and, with the inward conviction established after, that no man in the rank and file ever reasonably asked assistance which was not readily granted, so far as the public interests would permit. I leave you to go home with our fellow-citizens, there to care for your families and friends, and with no higher hope of honor than hereafter to be useful to you and yours. Impaired health prevents my being longer with you in person; but in the future my hope and my prayers will go with you, and I invite you, one and all, to look to me on my return for any assistance you or your families may need. Nothing but the rules of the service has kept me from you, separated to a higher command since our transfer the 1st of June, 1862, to James Island, and on retiring from active duties, my heart turns, as it always has, to you. My desire and prayer will be for you individually and collectively—that the flag borne by the Eighth Michigan will hereafter, as it has been heretofore, be borne honorably to the State which sent you forth, and to the north-west, which we for eight months alone represented on the sand of South Carolina and Georgia.

WM. M. FENTON.

Complimentary resolutions were passed at a meeting of the officers of the regiment held for that purpose, but our limited space will not permit their insertion in our little sheet.