



## 2nd MINNESOTA BATTERY

# “ACTION FRONT”

Circular No. 239

August–September 2016

## On This Date-155 Years Ago

### September, 1862

The morning reports of the Battery for this month make no bones about what was going on—the Union Army was pursuing the Confederates through Tennessee and Kentucky.

(Numbers indicate the day of the month)

- 1        Marched 15 miles
- 2        Marched 16 Miles
- 3        Murfreesboro
- 4        Marched 14 Miles toward Nashville
- 5        Marched 13    "        "        "
- 6        "        "        "        "
- 8        Broke Camp and marched through Nashville to camp on east side of Cumberland river -- 3 miles
- 11       Marched to junction of Louisville & Clarksville Rail Roads --9 Miles
- 12       "        to Tyre Springs on road to Bowling Green        16 "
- 13       "        to Camp, 20 "
- 14       "        "        "        "        "
- 15       "        "        "        near Bowling Green, 13 "
- 17       Marched toward Louisville, 9 miles
- 18       "        "        "        "        "
- 19       "        "        "        "        7 "
- 22       Marched to Camp near Munfordsville, 17 Miles
- 23       "        "        "        Elizabethtown, 20 "
- 24       "        "        West Point,        18 "
- 25       Crossed Salt river at its mouth and marched to camp near Louisville 20 M
- 26       Marched to camp in Louisville    4 "
- 27       Lt. Woodbury arrived in Camp from Recruiting Service with 26 Recruits
- 29       Notified of the death of E. Briggs & John Stockton

Disease and discharges had reduced the Battery's strength by mid summer of 1862, so Lt. Woodbury had been sent back to Minnesota to do some recruiting. Most of the new recruits came from his home area of Anoka County and they arrived at the Battery's camp a little more than a week before these new men were thrown into the battle at Perryville. One has to wonder if these "fresh fish" had much time to train before the battle started?

## Upcoming Events

### August 13-14    Reenactment, Pipestone, MN

This event is only held in even years and is a nice event in very unique setting, the Hiawatha Pageant grounds on the north edge of the city of Pipestone. It is always a good time and you never quite know what will happen at Pipestone! BRING YOUR GRAY UNIFORMS JUST IN CASE. If you want to modern camp, there is a campground next to the site. For more on the event, go to: <http://www.pipestoneminnesota.com/cwd/Home.html>

### August 27-28,    Morristown, MN

Fort Ahlman Encampment & Firing Demonstration at what is without question the wildest event we attend all year. We'll be firing our gun on a regular schedule so members will have plenty of time to visit the many other activities happening at this event (and eat shaved ice!).

### September 10    Thunder in the Valley, Patriotic Concert and celebration, New Ulm, MN

This is a fun event where cannon fire joins the musicians for a patriotic concert. Contact Daryl or John Cain for more info.

### September 24-25        Wabasha, MN

SeptOber Civil War Encampment. There is a lot of publicity for this event and it is expected to draw a large attendance. There will be a main 40' x 60' tent for activities as well as many learning stations. We will be bringing both our full-scale gun and James Livingstone's Howitzer. The schedule of events: [www.wabashamn.org/wabasha-county-civil-war-weekend/](http://www.wabashamn.org/wabasha-county-civil-war-weekend/)

## An Action Front Two-for-One

Based on the editor's upcoming schedule, this is both the August AND September issue. I hope to have the October issue out a little early, but that is not a promise. Fall is an exceptionally busy time for your editor.

### Next Meeting

**September 17, 2016        11:00am**  
 Marie's Underground Dining, Red Wing  
 Call Ken Cunningham with questions  
 (651) 388-2945.



## Battery Profile

### Goyne Hamilton

Goyne was born in “north Ireland” in 1825. His first job was bleaching linen. He came to New York in 1845 and worked in various places around the country until the Mexican War broke out. He enlisted in the regular army where he served in Mexico and on the Pacific coast. When his term of enlistment was up, he stayed in California and worked the gold fields. He returned east some time prior to the Civil War and enlisted in the Second Battery when he was in Winona County, Minnesota, though his enlistment papers state his home town as New York. He enlisted on January 28, 1862.

Goyne was 34 years old, had hazel eyes, dark hair and a fair complexion. He stood 5’ 7” tall and was married.

The first time Goyne left the Battery for the hospital was in Winchester, Tennessee, in mid August of 1863. He returned to the Battery on October 10. The Battery reenlisted in March of 1864, Goyne among them, so he got a veteran’s furlough. As the Battery reorganized its returning veterans and brought in new recruits in the spring of 1864, Goyne was promoted to sergeant. Shortly after returning to Tennessee, Goyne was sent to Hospital #2 in Chattanooga where he would remain for over two weeks.

Another promotion came for Goyne on November 6, 1864, when he was made First Sergeant for the Battery. He served in this rank until the Battery was mustered out in August of 1865.

In his pension application, Goyne described the journey home at the end of the war. He said they left Indianapolis and went to Chicago on a train. From there, another train took them to Prairie Du Chein. That was where the train ride ended and the men of the Battery were loaded onto an open barge for the remainder of their trip to St. Paul. For two days, the men were “exposed to prevailing fogs, dew and dampness.” Goyne caught a severe cold, one that the doctor called pneumonia by the time they reached Fort Snelling.

After his discharge from the Army at Fort Snelling, Goyne west to Stearns County where he settled on 160 acres in Eden Lake Township. He worked at improving the land and two years later, in 1867, he was elected to be a supervisor on the first town board for the Town of Eden Lake. In 1870, the census showed Goyne and his wife, Clara, living on their farm in Eden Lake with a daughter, Elisa, age four. His wife died in December of 1877 and her grave marker lists her as Catherine. Which name she went by is unknown. Goyne eventually sold his first farm and bought a second one. He remained on this farm, working it “profitably and intelligently” for the rest of his life.

Goyne died at the age of 82 years on January 18, 1907. His obituary appeared in the Eden Lake newspaper--a newspaper published in German. There, his name is “Geo.” an abbreviation for George, so he may have Anglicized his name at some point after the war. He is buried in the Eden Lake Cemetery near Eden Valley, Stearns County, Minnesota, with a marker that reads “Goyne.”





# ***Some Quick Facts about the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky***

## **October 8, 1862**

Like many Civil War battles, this battle has more than one name, Perryville or Chaplin Hill. It takes its names from the nearby town of Perryville or from the stream that flows through the town, Chaplin River.

### **The Town**

The history of this small town starts with a fort built on the banks of the Chaplin River. It was known as Harbeson's Station, settled during the final stages of the American Revolution. The fort was founded by James Harbeson and a group of settlers from Virginia. They strategically placed the fort near a cave and spring. When troubles with local Indians arose, they fled across the water and into the cave to seek shelter from attack. The cave, which can still be viewed today, formed the settlers' first line of defense.

Shortly after the War of 1812, two men named Edward Bullock and William Hall organized plans to build a village along the river near the original fort. Bullock and Hall named the village Perryville in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, hero of the Battle of Lake Erie. In the late 1830s, a line of buildings next to the Chaplin River formed the basis of the village of Perryville. Now called "Merchants' Row," these buildings still stand and house small shops and offices.

The early nineteenth century brought an interest in classical education for the small town. Many institutions of higher learning, mostly all-women's colleges, were established, including the Ewing Institute, the Elmwood Academy, and Harmonia College. One of Harmonia College's graduates achieved national prominence--she was Carrie Nation, the national temperance leader, who boarded at the Karrick-Parks house while living in Perryville. As Nation "cleaned out" a number of local spots, it is believed that Perryville became the first location in the United States to exercise Local Option laws. A "local option" is the ability of local political jurisdictions, typically counties or municipalities, to allow decisions on certain controversial issues based on popular vote within their borders. In practice, local option usually relates to the issue of alcoholic beverage sales.

In October 1862, the fields west of town were where Union and Confederate forces clashed. The Perryville Battlefield is preserved as a state park. In 1961, Perryville and the surrounding area was made part of a National Historic Landmark area. In 1973, the entire town of Perryville, because of the contribution the village has made toward American history, was put on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2012, the population of Perryville was 751.

### **The Battle**

Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's autumn 1862 invasion of Kentucky had reached the outskirts of Louisville and Cincinnati, but he was forced to retreat and regroup. On October 7, the Federal army of Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, numbering nearly 55,000, converged on the small crossroads town of Perryville, Kentucky, in three columns. Union forces first skirmished with Rebel cavalry on the Springfield Pike before the fighting became more general, on Peters Hill, as the Confederate infantry arrived. The next day, at dawn, fighting began again around Peters Hill as a Union division advanced up the pike, halting just before the Confederate line. The fighting then stopped for a time. After noon, a Confederate division struck the Union left flank and forced it to fall back. When more Confederate divisions joined the fray, the Union line made a stubborn stand, counterattacked, but finally fell back with some troops routed. Buell did not know of the happenings on the field, or he would certainly have sent forward reserves. Even so, the Union troops on the left flank, reinforced by two brigades, stabilized their line, and the Rebel attack sputtered to a halt. Later, a Rebel brigade assaulted the Union division on the Springfield Pike, but was repulsed and fell back into Perryville. The Yankees pursued, and skirmishing occurred in the streets in the evening before dark. Union reinforcements were threatening the Rebel left flank by now. Bragg, short of men and supplies, withdrew during the night, and, after pausing at Harrodsburg, continued the Confederate retreat by way of Cumberland Gap into East Tennessee. The Confederate offensive was over, and the Union controlled Kentucky.

The battle at Perryville was considered a Union strategic victory. There were 7,407 casualties of which 4,211 were Union soldiers.

(This description is from the CWSAC Battle Summaries)

## ***National Event at Perryville, Kentucky***

For those interested in attending the national event at Perryville this coming October, each participant **MUST REGISTER ONLINE**. Here is the link to the registration page: [http://www.perryvillebattlefield.org/html/registration\\_2016.html](http://www.perryvillebattlefield.org/html/registration_2016.html)

You may pay the \$20 registration fee with a credit card or a PayPal account. **KEEP** the number you are given with your receipt as this will be what gets you onto the battlefield site. The Battery will reimburse the registration fee to those who attend the event.

Please register as Second Minnesota Battery, Federal Artillery and MIXED CAMP.

There will be a convoy traveling to Kentucky. If you are interested in joining the convoy group, contact John Cain, Battery coordinator for this event.





# Recap

## July 16-17 Olmstead Co. Historical Society, Rochester, MN

This was a nice event on a great site—until it rained 2+ inches Saturday night and we discovered camp was on the lowest spot on the grounds! Despite needing to wade through camp to rescue breakfast (which was cooked in the Wendel camper since our fire pit was doubling



as a swimming pool), the sun came out and both days were very nice. There were smaller crowds than we expected, but the people who came were interested and we had a good time. It was great to see some soldiers in camp that we have not seen recently! Privates John Watkins and Bracy Bahm joined us after a long absence. It was nice to see Private Jay Overby who had been MIA for a while as well.



## July 23, Battle Lake, MN – Prospect House & Civil War Museum

Threatening skies may have put a damper on this event, but it never did rain more than a few drops and the organizers were still pleased with the turn out. Our boys fired a “guest gun” on the front lawn of the house twice and our gun in the lower back yard once during the day, a bit of a disappointment for both us and visitors, but that was all the shots the city would allow. Morning



formation saw the official promotion of Corporal Wendel (been a long time getting those stripes on him!) We met young Master Will Cunningham—it would appear we have a new Battery baby and we can’t wait to have him in camp! Visitors stayed a long time, asking lots of questions and taking in all of our stations. Some of the infantry boys from Fort Abercrombie joined the event and it was nice to see them again. We are also getting young Master Tristan Overby trained in well. After hearing the ladies in the SAS tent talking about helping the soldiers, he decided he wanted to help them too, so he took a pail of apples and a pail of cookies around to feed all of our soldiers! The day ended with our boys riding on the gun trailer through the parade which saw huge crowds!



## July 24, Grave marker dedication, Fergus Falls, MN

We had given up finding Henry St. Cyr until Sandy Frojen contacted us and we learned Henry was buried in the Fergus Falls State Hospital Cemetery. Thanks to her efforts, we were able to dedicate marker for him. It was a special treat as residents of the nearby Veterans



Home joined us in the dedication. We had a great time visiting with them before and after the dedication when the Veterans Home invited us for cookies and some very appreciated ice water!



**The Second Minnesota Light Artillery Battery is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Civil War history by living it.**

Membership is \$12 per year. Non-member newsletter subscription rate is \$6.00 per year.

For information on the Battery, please contact:

### President

Ken Cunningham  
1170 Golf Ridge Circle  
Red Wing, MN 55066

Phone: (651) 388-2945

### Treasurer

Daryl Duden  
1210 West 4th Street  
Red Wing, MN 55066

Phone: (651) 388-6520

### Twin Cites Metro Area Contact

Ron & Vickie Wendel  
12419 Redwood Street NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Phone: (763) 754-2476

E-mail: [momwendel@hotmail.com](mailto:momwendel@hotmail.com)

Battery Website:

<http://www.2mnbattery.org>

