

was heavily timbered, and the abode of various wild fowls and "varmints." Near Mr. Cullen's ice-house was a small tract of land, one or two feet out of water, called by the people who lived in the neighborhood Crane Island, and on this island were some sycamore trees of immense size, on one of which were *twelve* nests, built by the blue crane or heron. They resembled twelve large brush-heaps. Many of the land-owners believed the land could not be drained, and that the money expended in the work would be thrown away. When told that the land along the line of the drain would, when cleared and properly tilled, yield from eighty to one hundred bushels of corn to the acre, and in less than twenty-five years sell for one hundred dollars per acre, they believed the one so speaking to be of *unsound mind*. The whole cost of draining was twenty-one thousand one hundred and fifty-seven dollars and seventy-five cents, one-third of which, seven thousand fifty-two dollars and ninety-three cents, was paid by the State, together with the expense of engineering.

This valley through which the canal and drain passes is rather a remarkable one. It is as large and well defined by high ground or hills on each side as the valley of the Great Miami. Mill Creek, a small stream, does not form a channel until you pass down the valley seven or eight miles, and is there only a small ditch eight or ten feet wide. Doctor Drake, in his "Picture of Cincinnati," published in 1815, speaks of the probability of a portion of the water of the Miami River having passed through this broad valley and emptying into the Ohio River at the mouth of Mill Creek, which may have caused the deposit of the vast bed of "drift" on which Cincinnati stands, probably one hundred and fifty feet in depth. The immense bed of sand at Carthage may have been deposited by the same cause. This appears very evident, and was long before the Miami River cut its channel twenty-five or thirty feet below the plain on which Hamilton stands. The level of the Miami Canal, in which now enters this valley, is only thirty-seven feet above low water in the river. A dam forty feet high, thrown across the Miami Valley, would now turn the water into Mill Creek, and thence into the Ohio. Had this broad valley not existed, the Miami Canal would have passed down to the North Bend, thence up the Ohio to Cincinnati. It is evident that the water of the Miami River entered the Ohio River by three mouths. The third is by the Little Miami River. The valleys of Dicks Creek and Mud Creek are the ones through which the Warren County Canal passed to Turtle Creek, which creek discharges into the Little Miami River. The Warren County Canal, at Middletown, was forty feet above low water of the Miami River. There was a continuous level from Middletown to the lower back near Lebanon, in the valley of Turtle Creek; this level was seventeen miles long, including the feeder-level. A dam or embankment forty-three (43) feet high across the valley of the Great Miami would turn its water into Turtle Creek, thence into the Little Miami and Ohio. Where the two valleys spoken of leave the Great Miami Valley, the excavated channel of the same is filled up with "drift" to a depth of over *one hundred feet*.

EDUCATIONAL.

Mr. John S. Marshall, in his report to the State Commissioner of Instruction for the year 1874, in speaking of the schools of Butler County, uses the following language: "Our schools, I think, will compare favorably with our neighbor counties. I am led to believe that our country schools are in better condition than they have been for years, yet they might be made much better had we a greater number of trained teachers,—teachers educated for the profession. The board of examiners feel that they have made a radical change during the past year in raising the standard of qualification of the teachers, and it is their aim to spare no time and labor in raising it still higher. The graded schools of Hamilton, Middletown, and Oxford are in a prosperous condition. The high schools of Hamilton and Middletown have a thorough course of instruction, and pupils completing this receive diplomas at graduation, as in the larger cities of the State."

MIAMI UNIVERSITY.

A splendid engraving, with historical sketch of this famous institution, is found on a page of the Atlas.

WESTERN FEMALE SEMINARY, OXFORD, OHIO.

The strong desire of a few hearts to bring the means of a thorough Christian education within the reach of all, resulted in the incorporation of the Western Female Seminary, in July, 1853. The work upon the edifice was commenced the following August. Soon after this the financial crisis, which agitated the commercial world, was reached, and the work of raising funds proved to be one of emphatic faith and prayer. Often for a few days suspension for want of funds would seem inevitable, but as often, manifestly in direct answer to prayer, the needed aid came. In September, 1855, the building was opened for the reception of pupils, and most solemnly dedicated to Him for whose service it had been erected. For four years and four months it moved prosperously on. On the night of the 13th of January, 1860, the building was destroyed by fire, originating under the roof, from a defective flue. A new and more commodious building was immediately commenced, and again, amid financial commotions and distracting political agitations, the work went on, while the unceasing prayers of its friends went up to *Him who was its only founder*. In 1861 this magnificent house was ready for pupils, and waiting to be given back to God in all its symmetry and completeness. The General Assembly of the New School Presbyterian Church being in session in Cincinnati the following May, were invited to come and unite with the officers, pupils, and friends of the institution, in the hearty and devout consecration of the beautiful structure. The presence of over three hundred clergymen, from all parts of our land, contributed to the making of the occasion one of peculiar and precious interest; and from that day to and through the fearful night of April 6, 1871, we were never without visible tokens of the Invisible presence. Never were we more closely folded in the arms of His protecting care than on that appalling occasion, when, for a second time, our house was burned to the ground. Owing to the construction of the building and the fact that the fire originated in the sub-basement, the smoke was taken almost instantaneously to every room through the heating-flues. The story is soon told. The sudden alarm, the almost fruitless efforts, through the suffocating smoke which had previously filled the corridors, to reach any room where precious lives were felt to be in peril, and then each one was driven into the open air to find that the Unseen Friend had safely led every dear one out of danger without the loss or fatal injury of a single one. To Him be all the praise for this wonderful deliverance. The institution since then has been rebuilt in magnificent style, and a splendid engraving of it is found in the Atlas.

PRESS OF BUTLER COUNTY.

The *Hamilton Telegraph* was established in 1814. It was the organ of the Democratic party until 1860, when Dr. Peck merged the *Intelligencer* into it, and made it a Union Republican paper. In November, 1861, the *Telegraph* passed into the ownership of Frederic Egry, by whom it is still owned. Since 1868 it has been edited by F. H. Scooby. The paper is Republican in politics, and has a large circulation in Butler County.

The *Butler County Democrat and True Telegraph* is the leading Democratic paper of the County. It is edited by the Hon. Thomas Hodder, long known in this section of Ohio as a staunch Democratic journalist. The *Butler County Dem-*

ocrat and True Telegraph is a weekly paper. Its circulation is about two thousand. Its principles are enunciated with force.

The *Hamilton Guidon* is one of the influential papers of the County. Its circulation is about fifteen hundred. It was started August 28, 1874. Its editor is Dr. John McElwee; its reporter is the Hon. Joseph McMakin; Stephen D. Cone, Esq., is business manager and foreman. This is an able leadership for a newspaper, and the principles it enunciates are commensurate with their ability and popularity. The *Guidon* is a weekly paper.

35TH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Hamilton, Ohio, during the months of August and September, 1861. Companies A and F were recruited in Warren County, H in Montgomery, E and part of G in Preble, and the others in Butler County. The regiment was composed mostly of young and intelligent men. When organized it numbered less than nine hundred, rank and file. On the 26th of September, 1861, the regiment broke camp at Hamilton and moved to Covington, Kentucky, and on the same night, under orders from General O. M. Mitchell, took a train on the Kentucky Central Railroad, and, placing parties at all the bridges along the road, through Harrison and Bourbon Counties, made the headquarters of the regiment at Cynthiana. It was at this time apprehended that the rebels would burn these bridges before troops could reach them, but by seizing the telegraph offices at every point on the way, the movement was a complete surprise, and entirely unsuspected, until guards had possession of every bridge. Afterward the regiment was removed to Paris, where it remained until the first days of December, when it marched to Somerset, and reported for duty to Brigadier-General Schœpff. At the battle of Mill Springs they were not actively engaged, having been ordered by General Thomas to remain at Somerset. Here they were brigaded with the 18th Regulars, 9th Ohio, and 2d Minnesota, under the command of Brigadier-General Robert L. McCook, remaining with the last two regiments during the whole term of service. This was one of the brigades long composing General George H. Thomas's division. After the battle of Mill Springs the regiment marched to Louisville, and thence took steamer to Nashville. Soon after, Buell having organized the Army of the Ohio, they marched to Pittsburg Landing. Thomas's division being the rear guard did not get up in time for the fight at Pittsburg Landing. The 35th participated in some of the skirmishes during the siege of Corinth, and was among the first to enter the works at that place. Afterwards they marched to Tusculum, Alabama, and about the last of July, 1862, to Winchester, Tennessee. It was on this last march that General McCook was killed by rebel guerrillas, near New Market. Shortly after commenced that memorable race between Buell and Bragg, the goal being Louisville. From Nashville northward the regiment made about twenty-eight miles per day. In the movement on Bragg, the fight at Perryville, and the pursuit to Crab Orchard, they bore an honorable part. After Buell had been superseded by Rosecrans, the division, then commanded by General Speed S. Fry, marched to Bowling Green, and thence to a camp near Gallatin, Tennessee. In February, 1863, Colonel Vanderveer was assigned to the command of the brigade, and Lieutenant-Colonel Long assumed command of the regiment. All through the campaign, which began at Murfreesboro' and ended at Chattanooga, the 35th was in the front of the marching and fighting. In July of that year Lieutenant-Colonel Long resigned, and Major Boynton was promoted to the vacancy, Captain Budd receiving the majority. From this time until it quit the service the regiment was under Colonel Boynton's command when he was able for duty. On the first day of the fight at Chickamauga the 35th and the other regiments composing Colonel Vanderveer's brigade were stationed on the extreme left of our line, where they engaged, and, after several hours of a fair stand-up fight, repulsed and beat back three several attacks of Hood's division, of Longstreet's corps, the *élite* of the rebel army. On the next day, September 20, they were again brought early into action, and, with the rest of the brigade, made a charge upon Breckinridge's division, which at that time had passed entirely around the left of our fortified line. The conflict, like that of the previous day, was severe and desperate, in the open field and without any protection. Here was presented the uncommon spectacle of two armies charging each other at the same instant. That of the enemy was disorderly and with but little attention to discipline, while our men moved as if on drill, and under complete control. The brigade had been moving through the woods in two lines, the first composed of the 2d Minnesota and 87th Indiana; the second of the 35th and 9th Ohio. Suddenly emerging into an open field, they found themselves exposed to a murderous fire from artillery and musketry, under which they changed front, and, in pursuance of orders, laid flat upon the ground. The enemy were then at about one hundred and fifty yards distant, and charging on a run. When the distance was decreased to seventy-five yards, the first line rose and delivered their fire. Immediately the order was given: "35th and 9th pass lines to the front: Brigade, charge." The order was executed promptly, and the rebel line hurled back for almost half a mile at a double quick, finally making a stand in the woods, where they were protected by their reserves. For more than an hour an obstinate contest was kept up, most effectually ending the attempt to flank the National line upon the left. When the order was given to return to the position occupied by the brigade previous to the charge, it was done in order, by passing lines to the rear, each regiment delivering its fire as it retired. At half-past two, on that day, the brigade was reported for duty to General Thomas, who was then holding a ridge to the rear and right of the line of the morning. Here the 35th was placed in the front line, where it built a slight work of wood and stone, less than a foot in height. Behind this it remained until the enemy had retired, repelling repeated charges of the most formidable and desperate character. Line after line of fresh troops of rebels were sent to the attack, always meeting the same reception, always beaten and crushed. Late in the day anxious inquiry was made for ammunition, but the wagons had been ordered to Chattanooga. Then men and officers could be seen searching the cartridge-boxes of the dead and wounded, and finally, when the brigade commander ordered them to hold their position with the bayonet, these heroes laughed and promised to stay there. When night came the 35th was formed on and facing the left of the line; and when it was too dark to recognize friend from foe, a force of the enemy appeared before them. Those who had ammunition fired, and the enemy precipitately retreated. These were the last shots fired on the battlefield of Chickamauga by friend or foe. Not a single musket was heard afterwards, and the whole army having marched on the road toward Rossville, Vanderveer's brigade, the last to leave the field, under orders from General Thomas, followed. In the two-days' fight at Chickamauga the 35th Ohio lost just fifty per cent. of those engaged. Scarcely a man was taken by the enemy: they were killed or wounded. Colonel Boynton was conspicuous during the whole fight for his gallantry and the skill with which he managed his men, and the regiment was highly commended in the reports of that action. During the fall, 1863, they lay with the rest of the army at Chattanooga, and frequently engaged in skirmishes before that place. They were on the front line at Mission Ridge, and were among the first to reach the enemy's works on the crest, from which they drove the rebel force and captured three pieces of artillery. Early in the fight Colonel Boynton was severely wounded while leading his men up the height, when the command devolved upon Major Budd. Next morning the enemy was pursued to Ringgold,

Georgia. In February, 1864, the regiment was engaged in the first battle at Buzzard's Roost, near Dalton, after which they were stationed at Ringgold until the beginning of the Atlanta campaign. They were with Sherman from the initiation of this movement until the expiration of their term of service, which occurred while lying before Atlanta. They were engaged at Dalton, Resaca, Pine Mountain, Kenesaw, Peach-tree Creek, and several fights of that bloody contest. The 35th was mustered out in August, 1864, at Chattanooga. In their term of three years the regiment never turned its back upon the enemy, and was never driven from a field.

69TH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

This regiment was mainly recruited in Butler County. On the 19th of February, 1862, seven companies, which had been organized in camp, near Hamilton, moved by rail to Camp Chase, Ohio. While here three companies, recruited in Harrison County, were added, thus completing the regiment. On April 19, 1862, the 69th received orders to report for duty at Nashville, Tennessee, at which place it arrived on the 22d. It went into camp on Major Lewis's grounds, near the city, and was reviewed by Andrew Johnson, then Military Governor of Tennessee. Remaining here until the 1st of May, it then went to Franklin, Tennessee, and was there detailed to guard forty miles of the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad. Aside from frequent alarms, nothing of moment occurred while the regiment was performing this duty. The rebel women of Franklin were especially bitter, and on one occasion evinced their venom against the national dead, buried in the cemetery, by dancing on their graves. Colonel Campbell, of the 69th, issued an order commenting in severe terms on this indignity, and warning the people of Franklin against a repetition of such dastardly insults. On June 8, the regiment left Franklin and returned to Nashville. From thence it went by rail to Murfreesboro', where it joined an expedition under General Dumont, of Indiana, to McMinnville, and thence marched across the Cumberland Mountains to Pikeville. Its object having been effected, the expedition returned to Murfreesboro'. This march and counter-march was very severe, and the suffering was much aggravated by the fact that the rations were almost completely exhausted. June 20 found the 69th at Nashville again, where it remained, performing provost and guard duty until the last of July. Its Colonel, Hon. Lewis D. Campbell (since Minister to Mexico) was appointed Provost-Marshal of Nashville, which position he held until his resignation, in the following August. During the stay of the regiment here, the rebel General Morgan made a raid on the town of Gallatin. The 69th Ohio and 11th Michigan were ordered there, and drove the enemy from the place, the 69th losing one man, killed,—Isaac Repp, of Dayton. This was the first loss of the regiment in battle. When Bragg's army attempted a flank movement toward Louisville, the 69th and other regiments were left at Nashville as garrison for the city. On December 26, 1862, the 69th moved, with the army under General Rosecranz towards Murfreesboro'. It was brigaded in the 14th corps. It became involved in the disaster on the right, and was compelled to fight its way back to the Nashville turnpike. On this day the regiment suffered severely both in killed and wounded. It was not engaged in the movements on the 1st of January, 1863. On Friday, January 2, the 69th took part in the brilliant and desperate charge across Stone River against Breckinridge's rebel corps, in which the rebels were driven back with heavy loss. In this charge it captured a section of the famous Washington Battery from New Orleans. Sergeant Frederic Wilson, of Company E, captured the flag of the battery. This fight lasted until after dark, and proved the termination of the battle, as on the next day the rebel army was not to be seen. Captain L. C. Counsellor, of Company H, Sergeant McGilliam, of Company B, Corporal D. P. Albright, and private Stophor, of Company E, were killed in the charge. Many others were wounded.

On June 24, 1863, the Tuelahoma campaign was commenced. The regiment moved with the 14th Corps, under General George W. Thomas, on the Manchester Road. No opposition was met with until, in the passage through Hoover's Gap, the enemy's rear-guard was engaged in a brisk fight. At Elk River, also, the enemy made a stand, but was quickly driven off. Reaching Cowan's Station, on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, the army went into camp, it being impossible to make further progress through the deep mud and terrible roads of that region. When the army moved again, the 69th was left at Cowan's Station as guard to the General Hospital, and it remained at that point until the 8th of September. It was then detailed as guard to an ammunition train of four hundred and fifty wagons going to Bridgeport on the Tennessee River. It then marched to Chattanooga. Preparatory to the battle of Chickamauga the 69th Ohio, with the Reserve Corps under General Gordon Granger, marched from Rossville to Chickamauga Creek. At this point, in obedience to an order from Colonel Daniel McCook, commanding the brigade, the regiment advanced under Colonel Brigham, and burned Reed's Bridge, thus preventing the enemy from coming in on the rear of the National Army. The regiment then fell back to Rossville, and immediately thereafter took charge of the division trains. For this reason it did not participate in the battle of Chickamauga. On September 20, in the afternoon, the 69th was ordered to report at the front, near Rossville, where it performed picket duty, and aided in covering the retreat of the 14th Corps toward Chattanooga. The regiment participated in the battle of Mission Ridge, and was among the first to reach the top of the mountain. In this charge it was commanded by Major J. J. Hanna, who was highly complimented for his bravery and efficiency. In ascending the ridge, Lieutenant J. S. Scott, Color-Sergeant Jacob Wetzell, Color-Corporals D. W. Leach, and John Meredith, Corporal E. J. Manch, privates Kluger, Elsom, Vankirk, Sewers, and Heffing were killed, and a large number were wounded, many of whom subsequently died.

On March 16, 1864, the regiment, after having re-enlisted as veterans, started for Ohio on a furlough of thirty days. At the end of their furlough the men reported promptly at Camp Dennison, and on the 22d of April again started for the field. Arriving at Nashville, the regiment was compelled, for lack of transportation, to march to Cowan's Station. It joined Sherman's forces at Buzzard's Roost on the 11th of May. On May 14 the regiment, with the army, moved through Snake Creek Gap to a point near Resaca, where the enemy was met and engaged. At this place Color-Sergeant John A. Compton and four others were killed, and twenty-six wounded. At Pumpkin-Vine Creek, and at Dallas, the enemy was again engaged. In these affairs the enemy lost five killed and nineteen wounded. Kenesaw Mountain was reached in the evening of June 14. During this siege two men were killed. At Marietta, July 4, another engagement was had with the enemy, in which the regiment lost one man killed and seven wounded. The next stand was at the crossing of the Chattahoochee River. In this affair the regiment escaped without loss. On the 21st, the regiment lost one man killed and ten wounded. July 22 brought the regiment and the army before Atlanta. During the siege nine men were wounded, two of whom subsequently died. On September 1 the 69th took part in the fight at Jonesboro', and lost Lieutenants Jacob S. Pierson, Martin V. Bailey, Color-Sergeant Allen L. Jobs, of Company D, and five men killed and thirty-six wounded, some of whom died in a few hours after the fight. The regiment participated in the subsequent chase after Hood through the upper part of Georgia and into Alabama. It then returned to Atlanta, and joined Sherman's march to the sea. On that march it lost one man by disease, and four captured. Arriving in front of Savannah, it took position in