

Chapter I

Enlistment - Life in Camp - War Reminiscence -
Capture by the Enemy.

The author was born in Pulaski County, Kentucky, December 27th 1848. Was enlisted in the 20th Indiana Battery at Indianapolis January 1863. Consequently was but a little over fourteen years of age when he started out to help save the Union.

The 20th Indiana battery was commanded by Captain Osborn of Greencastle Indiana. Osborn was one of those cool quiet men that was ready for action on the spur of the moment. He was fearless and daring - stood high in the estimation of his men; This grand man had one failing peculiar to the generality of military men that was esteemed and honored by us all.

Military discipline was one of the lost arts to Osborn, whose genial good nature prevented him from executing any of the West Point penalties upon his men, any soldier in the battery could approach Osborn on common ground and share in his sociability.

The second officer in command First Lieutenant Armstrong was a West Point officer and had an eye to business. Osborn shirked the responsibility of introducing discipline