

For the Hillsborough Recorder.

Melville, Aug. 1st.

Mr. Huang—Dear Sir!—I had intended writing you a lengthy account of the fight at Manassas, but was prevented by sickness from so doing. Two days previous to the fight I was sent off by Col. Fisher as Quarter-master, and for that reason did not get into the engagement until about 2 o'clock. As soon as I get better I will try to give you some items which will be of interest to your readers.

In the Standard I notice a letter from Capt. York, which does not give justice to the Company from the Howfields, which I have the pleasure to command, and I write to-day to ask you in your next editorial to make a statement for them. In addition to the two Companies that charged upon Sherman's battery, under their brave commanders, Capts. Avery and Kirkland, the writer neglects to add the one from How Fields. This Company fought bravely through the entire battle, was in the charge upon the battery, and even went beyond it, and at night as large a proportion as from any other Company followed in the pursuit. I can say this without any egotism, as the Company was under the command of my most efficient first Lieut. Carter. In this Company James P. Stewart and James Simpson (privates) were killed; Paisley White severely wounded; Elbridge Thompson Bush wound in the arm; Samuel Younger wounded in the foot; Jo. Thompson (son of Samuel) marked in the ear. Many others received slight marks, but not of sufficient importance to notice.

The dispute as to whom belongs the credit of taking Sherman's battery, in my opinion, arises from our not being able fully to identify which was really his battery. That we charged upon and took a battery there is not a shadow of doubt, but whether it was Sherman's, or a part of it, or some other battery, my impression is no one can say positively, and so many having been taken the confusion may have thus arisen.

I am yet very feeble, but hope soon to be able to return to my post. By making some notice of what I have written you will, I know, gratify your many readers in the Howfields.

Yours, very truly,
JAMES W. WILSON.

6th NC James W. Wilson

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Fri, Jul 31, 2020