

Nathan Swan

## 42nd Regiment, Illinois Infantry

### Battle Unit Details

UNION ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS

42nd Regiment, Illinois Infantry

**OVERVIEW:** Organized at Chicago, Ill., July 22, 1861. Left state for St. Louis, Mo., September 20, 1861. Attached to Dept. of Missouri, to February, 1862. Flotilla Brigade, Army of Mississippi, to April, 1862. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Army Miss., to September, 1862. 1st Brigade, 13th Division, Army of the Ohio, to November, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 3rd Division, Right Wing 14th Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland to January, 1863. 3rd Brigade, 3rd Division, 20th Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland, to October, 1863. 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division, 4th Army Corps to June, 1865. 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 4th Army Corps, to August, 1865. Dept. of Texas, to December, 1865.

**SERVICE:** Joined Fremont at Tipton, Mo., October 18, 1861. Fremont's Campaign against Springfield, Mo., October 18-November 9. Duty at Smithton, Mo., December 13, 1861, to February 3, 1862. March to St. Charles, Mo., thence moved to Fort Holt, Ky., February 2-20, 1862. Operations against New Madrid, Mo., and Island No. 10, Mississippi River, February 28-April 8. Engagement at New Madrid, March 3-4. Actions at Island Number 10, March 15-16 and 25. Action and capture at Tiptonville April 8. Expedition to Fort Pillow, Tenn., April 13-17. Moved to Hamburg Landing, Tenn., April 17-22. Advance on and siege of Corinth, Miss., April 29-May 30. Action at Farmington May 3. Reconnoissance [sic] toward Corinth May 8. Action at Farmington May 9. Pursuit to Booneville May 31-June 12. Skirmish at Rienzi June 3 (Detachment). Reconnoissance [sic] toward Baldwin June 3. Camp at Big Springs June 14 to July 22. Moved to Iuka, Miss., July 22, thence to Courtland, Ala. Skirmish at Courtland August 22. Duty along line of Memphis and Charleston R.R. till September 2. March to Nashville, Tenn., September 3-12. Action at Columbia, Tenn., September 9. Siege of Nashville September 12-November 6. Repulse of Forest's attack on Edgefield November 5. Duty at Nashville till December 26. Hardin Pike near Nashville December 3. Advance on Murfreesboro December 26-30. Battle of Stone's [sic] River December 30-31 1862, and January 1-3, 1863. Expedition to Columbia March 5-14. Middle Tennessee or Tullahoma campaign June 24-July 7. Occupation of Middle Tennessee till August 16. Passage of Cumberland Mountains and Tennessee River and Chickamauga, Ga. Campaign August 16-September 22. Battle of Chickamauga September 19-20. Siege of Chattanooga, Tenn., September 24-November 23. Chattanooga-Ringgold Campaign November 23-27. Orchard Knob November 23-24.

Mission Ridge November 25. March to relief of Knoxville, Tenn., and Campaign in East Tennessee November 28, 1863, to January 15, 1864. Camp at Stone's Mill, Tenn., December 27, 1862, to January 15, 1864. Regiment veteranize January 1, 1864. Moved to Dandridge, Tenn., January 15, 1864. Operations about Dandridge January 16-17. Moved to Chattanooga January 21. Veterans on furlough February 21 to April 27. Atlanta, (Ga.) Campaign May 1 to September 8. Demonstration against Rocky Faced Ridge May 8-11. Buzzard's Roost Gap May 8-9. Battle of Resaca May 14-15. Calhoun May 16. Adairsville May 17. Kingston May 18-19. Near Cassville May 19. Advance on Dallas May 22-25. Operations on line of Pumpkin Vine Creek and battles about Dallas, New Hope Church and Allatoona Hills May 25-June 5. Operations about Marietta and against Kenesaw Mountain June 10-July 2. Pine Hill June 11-14. Lost Mountain June 15-17. Assault on Kenesaw June 27. Ruff's Station Smyrna, Camp Ground, July 4. Chattahoochie River July 5-17. Peach Tree Creek July 19-20. Siege of Atlanta July 22-August 25. Flank movement on Jonesboro August 25-30. Battle of Jonesboro August 31-September 1. Lovejoy's Station September 2-6. Moved to Bridgeport, Ala., September 28. March to Chattanooga, thence to Alpine, Ga., and return October 19-30. Nashville Campaign November-December. Columbia, Duck River, November 24-27. Spring Hill November 29. Battle of Franklin November 30. Battle of Nashville December 15-16. Pursuit of Hood, to the Tennessee River, December 17-28. Duty at Huntsville and Decatur, Ala., till April 1, 1865. Expedition to Bull's Gap April 1-22. Moved to Nashville, Tenn., and duty there till June 15. Moved to New Orleans, La., June 15-18, thence to Fort Lavacca, Texas, July 18-23, thence to Camp Irwin and duty there till August 17. Post duty at Port Lavacca till December. Mustered out at Camp Irwin December 16 and discharged at Springfield, Ill., January 10, 1866.

Regiment lost during service 13 Officers and 168 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 5 Officers and 201 Enlisted men by disease. Total 387.

Letter No, 3

Camp in front of the enemy Ga,  
June 24th 1864.

Dear Cousin Elizabeth,

Your welcome letter of the 2nd inst, [sic] was received some days ago, and was truly glad to hear from you once more and learn that you were all well. Owing to the present [sic] circumstances I have not been able to respond to your wishes until the present [sic] time. I hope you will excuse me when I relate the circumstances to you, one cause was that we have been engaged a fighting or on duty of some kind nearly every day since I received your letter, and another cause was I have been under the weather for some

two weeks past and have not felt like writing or doing any thing else, only keeping my self as quiet as possable [sic]. I havenot [sic] yet got my strength, but I feel a good deal better than what I did.

I have not been out of the hearing of the roaring of the cannon or the snapping and cracking of the musket a day since the [crossed out] about the fifth of May. I am getting tired of the sound of a musket or cannon. God only knows how much longer this will last, in this kind of a manner, but I hope not long, before this rebellion [sic] will be crushed and peace again be restored to our loved country once more, and, all weary soldiers that are spared can again return home to their family and friends.

My likeness I will get it taken the first opportunity I have and send it to you, I have not been any place where I could get it taken for some three months past. I received a letter from home yesterday The folks were all well at home when the letter was written. We are now in the 4th A.C. instead of the twentyeth [sic] the 20 and 21st Army Corps has been consolidated and is now the 4th Corps. I am in the 3rd Brigade 2nd Division 4th A.C. Give my love to all the folks, and family, and a potion [sic] to yourself.

By stating I have written all the news that I can think of at presant [sic], I will close by stating I am not very well, but hope when this reaches you it will find you all well is the wish of your affectionate cousin and well wishes

Nathan Swan

Write as soon as convenient. [sic]