

John D. Toomey

Chicago Board of Trade Battery

Record Sheet on John D. Toomey
Toomey, John D. 1841-1907

Comrade John D. Toomey.

Born March 7th 1841 in Ohio came to Chicago State of Ill. Aug 1853 Admitted to Geo. H. Thomas Post, No. 5, G.A.R. of Chicago June 24th 1887 Enlisted Chicago July 23 1862 as Private in Co. Chicago Board of Trade Battery Vol for the period of 3 years, and was discharged therefrom [sic] as Corporal by reason of orders of War Department at Chicago Ill June 30th 1865 Wounded at the battle of Stone [sic] River Dec. 31, 1862 and Jan 1 and 2 1863 wounded at the battle of Decatur Ga July 22 1864 and cared for in the hospital at Columbia Tenn [sic] rejoined the Regiment Oct. 1864 Severed in the Division 14 Army Corps and took part in the following battle and campaigns:

Our Battery after being finally equipped broke camp Sept 9th 62 at Camp Douglass and started for Louisville from there to Bowling Green and went into Camp. Capt [sic] Stokes wired Rosecrans at Nashville for permission to get to the front Request granted the Cannoneers were furnished with muskets and marched to Nashvill [sic] with out Escort it was eater a daring Exploit—and Rosecrans complimented the Battery [sic] very highly. on Dec. 20, 1862 the Battery was attached to the pioneer Brigade an organization formed of 2 men from each company of the Army of the Cumberland under command of Capt [sic] St. Morton. on Dec. 26 62 we started on our march from Nashville and met Brags [sic] at stone [sic] River This was my first [crossed out] Battle Engagement the world knows the history of that Battle. Our Battery was kept in reserve 2 hours or more after the engagement began. It would be impossible for me to describe my feeling during this interval the roaring of cannon the rattle of musketry and the [illegible] movements of troops into position made the suspense Dreadfull [sic]. Finally old Rosey appeared on the scene and ordered our command into action this was somewhat of a relief to me and yet I didnt [sic] relish the Idea of going up to the front to be shot at. Now for the first time our Battery was under fire. My position was No. one on the Gun and after we got in to position and commenced firing I had no further fear of being shot as it took all my time and attention to load and sponge out the gun The order was to Load and fire at will with terrible efect [sic] as the enemy fell within 30 yards of our guns and although many comrades fell dead and wounded all around me was I was so completely exhausted that I did not realize my position or care anything about Bullets [sic] whistling over my head as the Battle continued with [illegible] fury until darkness compelled both Armys [sic] to cease firing and under the cover of darkness we Burried [sic] our dead, and slept or rested that night on the frozen corn field and

renewed the conflict on the early morn of the new Year Jan 1st 63 about 4 pm while in the act of loading the Guns I was hit in the abdomen with a spent ball I fell forward to the ground I heard the Lieut [sic] say another man gone and I thought so myself for I was in great pain and at the time. I was taken to the field hospital by comrades I thought I was shot through the body, while I was waiting my turn for Exanimation I took Courage and thought I had better Examine the wound myself. I did so and to my great surprise found the bullet in my clothes and only a flesh wound I applied some salve to the wound and immediately returned to the Batterry [sic] and assumed my position on the Gun, that evening while changing position on the field I was sitting on the ammunition chest of the Guns when the wheel struck a stump and threw me up into the air it would take to [sic] much time and space to tell all my thoughts while in mid air surface [sic] it to say I did not think that I would ever get down to the Earth alive but fortunately I hit on my feet and recognized the voice of one of our postillions I yelled to him he recognized my voice and stopped, I mounted one of the Guns, got in to position on our left and spent another night on the field of Stone River

Jan 3/63 Have had continuous fighting all day and every reader of our history knows how desperate Gen [sic] Bragg fought to hold Murfreesboro but without avail as on the night of Jan [sic] 3/63 he evacuated Murfreesboro and ended the Battle of Stone [sic] River with our knowledge the fowling [sic] dispatch was sent to Chicago Nashville Tenn [sic] Jan 3 1893 [sic] Murry Nelson and Co. Chicago Murfreesboro is ours Terific [sic] fighting Friday no more casualties in the Batterry [sic] it has won Glorious Distinction. Batterry remained in camp at Murfreesboro Tenn [sic] from Jan [sic] 6 to June 23/63 the only notable event during our encampment was the changing of our Batterry [sic] from field to horse Artillery and attached to the 2nd Division of Cavalry Army of the Cumberland commanded by Brig [sic] Gen [sic] John B. Turchin and were the only Batterry of flying Artillery in the western Armies. June 24/63 brok [sic] camp and advanced with the Army keeping on its flanks following Braggs [sic] Army through tullahoma [sic] and winchester [sic] to McMinnville and Pikesville crossing the Tennessee river [sic] on the left of the army and at Ringold Ga[sic] fired the first gun which opened the Battle of Chickamauga Sept 19th/ 63. from Sept 23 to Oct the 1st the Batterry with the 2nd Division of Cavalry and in Brig [sic] Gen [sic] George Crook was guarding fords above Chattanooga on the 1st the Rebel Gen [sic] Wheeler crossed at Washington 40 miles above with 6000 men 2 other columns were preparing to cross below one at bellfronte [sic] the other at countland [sic] Ala. Intending to form a junction with Gen. Wheeler on Oct 3 we decended [sic] the Cumberland Mountains