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## The Raid at Plattsburg.

*A full Detailed and Correct Account—The Death of Captain Turney—The Flight of Thraikill, Etc.*

Correspondence of the Morning Herald.

PLATTSBURG, Mo.,  
July 23d, 1864.

Your account of the operations in the neighborhood of Plattsburg contains many inaccuracies, and I desire the use of your columns for the purpose of correcting them. Captain Turney while scouting on horseback, east of town, was informed by fleeing citizens that Thraikill, with about three hundred men, was advancing on Plattsburg from the east, in the brush and woods north of the road we were then in. We immediately fell back to the environs of the town, when Capt. Turney dismounted the men, and having detailed a sufficient force to take the horses to quarters, formed the remainder as skirmishers, and entered the brush through which we had been told that Thraikill was advancing. Our force was eighteen men, Captain Turney and myself. We advanced through the brush without meeting any one, Thraikill and his men having passed down the road, and we entered the road in his rear. After making inquiries of a lady, whose house they had passed, we again took to the woods, going in the direction of where they were said to be, and were presently halted by their rear guard. Captain Turney advanced into open ground and to the challenge "who goes there?" answered "A friend." "A friend to who?" was called out by the picket. Captain Turney answered, "A friend to the Union," and levelled his pistol to fire. A volley from their whole force was immediately discharged at us. Captain Turney was struck at the second fire, and fell into my arms, and the arms of Thomas D. Viglini, a private in his company. He discharged his pistol once before falling, and after we laid him on the ground, he raised himself on his elbow and fired again, and half cocked his pistol again, when it fell from his grasp. He lived about two minutes after being struck. We poured a volley into them, when they broke and fled in the wildest confusion, riding over and against each other in their haste. We chased them, firing at them, until we had exhausted the loads in our guns and revolvers, when we returned to our dead captain, formed line and carried him in our arms to our quarters in the Court House. No further demonstration was made against Plattsburg, and Thraikill led off his men in the greatest confusion.

The demand for the surrender of the town

The demand for the surrender of the town was made *before* Captain Turney was killed. Captain Poe returned a spirited and positive refusal, and I am told by a citizen, who was Thraikill's prisoner at the time, that he was writing another dispatch to Poe, when the firing commenced. He immediately threw away the paper and mounted his horse. In his demand for a surrender, Thraikill stated his force to be four hundred and fifty men.

Captain Turney was in his twentieth year. He was unanimously elected Captain of his Company when barely eighteen years of age. Your notice of him in your issue of the 23rd inst., does him no more than justice. He was universally beloved. Bearded men served under him, and obeyed his orders with implicit confidence in their wisdom and propriety. You will oblige me and my company by publishing this communication.

I am, very respectfully,

GEORGE W. McCULLOCH,  
1st Lt., Capt. Turney's Co., E. M. M.