

was received : " Form battery and load with cannister, as the enemy will presently be upon us ! " Major Bridges, still lingering in the very presence of their advance, being so close as to be summoned by them to surrender, but emptying his revolver into their faces by way of reply, he then came dashing back to the artillery, which let him pass with his Texans, and then opened on the enemy with eight rounds, sweeping the road clear for the distance of more than three hundred yards. The effect on them was decisive ; they were thrown into the greatest confusion, many saddles were emptied and their advance checked.

The artillery limbered up again, and set off at a gallop, not stopping till they had crossed Black Bayou, a distance of six miles. The enemy followed, but at length retired to Greenville, burning the town and neighboring residences, in revenge for their losses in the fight.

The next day Major Bridges learned that the enemy held Haynes' Landing and Snyder's Bluff, and were likely to attempt his capture by sending troops up the Yazoo River in his rear. The same evening orders were received from General Ferguson to leave the Mississippi at once and proceed to Greenwood, on the Yazoo River by the way of Deer Creek, Bogue Phaliah and Moon Lake. At midnight the camp at Fish Lake was broken up, and the command proceeded on its way, and reached the Yazoo on the 24th, after marching a distance of seventy miles. Obstruction in the river prevented the enemy from ascending to the point where Major Bridges crossed. From Greenwood the battery was ordered to Yazoo City, where it arrived on the 1st of June. After one more engagement with the enemy's vessels on the Yazoo, the Maryland section proceeded, on the 12th, to Vernon, Mississippi, where it was attached to General McNair's Brigade of Walker's Division. Six days after it was transferred to Ector's Brigade of the same division. A section of Captain McNally's Arkansas battery, under Lieutenant Moore, was also attached to this brigade, and, as he was the senior officer, he took command of both sections. Walker's Division constituted part of the army which General Joseph E. Johnston was assembling for the relief of Vicksburg.

On the 1st of July the movement toward Vicksburg began. While waiting for the pontoons on which the Big Black River was to be crossed to come up the news was received at headquarters that Vicksburg had capitulated. How great a calamity to the Confederacy this event was, is well known. It was especially painful to the detached section of the Third Maryland, as much the larger part of their battery was lost with the city. As before stated, three officers, seventy men and five guns of the Third Maryland were surrendered. They were paroled on the 12th of July, and on the 26th at Enterprise were furloughed for thirty days, with orders to report at Decatur, Georgia.

Johnston's army reached Jackson on the night of the 7th, and before daylight