

The Artillery At Hazel Grove

When Jackson's advance struck the Eleventh Corps, four batteries had been for some time waiting orders in the extensive clearing known as Hazel Grove. Of these, "H," 1st Ohio Light Artillery, and the 10th and 11th New York Independent Batteries belonged to Whipple's division of the Third Corps. They were left there when that division passed through an route to join the force operating under General Sickles near the Furnace. Later, Martin's horse battery, with Devin's cavalry brigade, arrived and took ground on the opposite or south side of the field. When the sound of battle indicated that the enemy were approaching Hazel Grove, the batteries of Whipple's direction, as acting chief of artillery. Although the movement was delayed by causes beyond my control until its execution had become exceedingly difficult, our eighteen guns were established in battery, ready to open before the enemy fired a shot or were in a position to do so. General Pleasonton seems to be unaware of that fact, or he would hardly have failed to allude to it. It is, therefore, fair to presume that his attention was engrossed by the supervision of Martin's battery, as detailed in his paper. General Sickles, on his arrival, soon after the firing ceased, sent for me and warmly expressed his approbation of the manner in which my command had held the ground.(1)

Nothing on wheels from the Eleventh Corps passed through Hazel Grove. The vehicles that stampeded through my lines while in process of formation were forges, battery-wagons, ambulances, etc., belonging to the Third Corps, left in the cross-road leading to the Plank road, when son's column. So whatever else may have formed the components of the remarkable tumulus described by General Pleasonton, it certainly did not contain the debris of the Eleventh Corps. As for the tumulus itself, it escaped my observation when I crossed the bog he refers to on Sunday morning with my battery, or what there was left of it, at the pressing solicitation of Archer's Confederate brigade.

BOSTON, October 14th, 1886.

(1) General Sickles says in his official report: "I confided to Pleasonton the direction of the artillery- three batteries of my reserve-Clark's, Lewis's [10th New York, of Huntington's command] and Turnbull's, and his own horse-battery ... The fugitives of the Eleventh Corps swarmed from the woods and swept frantically over the cleared fields in which my artillery was parked. ... The enemy showing himself on the plain, Pleasonton met the attack at short range with the well directed fire of twenty-two pieces double-shotted with canister." According to this one of Huntington's three batteries Lewis's (10th New York) was placed under Pleasonton's control. Probably this battery, with Turnbull's, Clark's, and Martin's, made up the twenty-two guns mentioned by both Sickles and Pleasonton. General Hunt, the chief of artillery of the army, says: "When the Eleventh Corps was broke up and routed on th 2d,... General Pleasonton collected some batteries belonging to different corps /Martin's Horse Artillery, 6th New York, six 3-inch guns, Clark's B, 1st New Jersey, six 10- pounders; Lewis's 10th New York, six light 12-pounders; Turnbull's F and K, 3d U.S., six 12-pounders, and with them formed a large battery of twenty-four guns."- EDITORS.

Source: "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War" Article by James F. Huntington, Captain, Battery H, 1st Ohio Artillery