

March 29, 1864

Dear Captain:

Re: Medical Services Report – 2nd Florida Regimental Field Hospital

I am now in receipt of the *Killed, Wounded and Missing Report* from Crystal River Camp. This was presented to Medical Services Assistant Surgeon Bo Bodiford and anesthetist Chuck Riley from Field Hospital Clerk Corpsman Dwight Dorr and Clint Griffith on Saturday around 3 pm in the afternoon, under sunny skies and gusty winds, near the battlefield at Camp Narcoossee Mills.

After a short struggle, we lost a Private name unknown, a young man that suffered a belly wound due to a bayonet that was taken to our 2nd Florida Regimental Field Hospital only to lose his life after battling courageously. He died at 3:52 pm on March 27, 1864. Please share this young man's bravery with his family *post haste* identification.

The other surgical intervention was Sgt. Matt Saunders, who fought with his brigade and fought with distinction prior to having been disabled by a projectile to the lower right leg (tibia/fibia) just below the knee – forcing us to perform immediate amputation (BKA) on his right side. In keeping with his leg, we will bury this nearby his family location of choice. This soldier is lucky to have lived thru this surgical procedure and was fighting fever and confusion.

All other wounded were treated and released including:

Private Devin Suskey – Head Wound – Fully recovered
Private Gerech Diggins – Right Upper Arm Wound – Fully recovered
Private Union Soldier – Left Hand – gunshot – Fully recovered

Luckily, Cpl. Tim Saunders took a Yankee Nurse and she was instrumental to the cause. The nurse provided us with much needed chloroform, whiskey, other medicines and vials, in a Union Field Hospital rack.

Reverend John Butler administered much needed prayer and service to all the souls and helped in our relief of the pards.

The report is to also to give you all Medical Services Department Muster report below. I want to personally thank all our dedicated medical personnel, otherwise we would not be able to serve you and your men faithfully as you deserve.

Field Hospital Staff:

Chuck Riley - Anesthesia
Bo Bodiford – Asst. Surgeon
Rev. John Butler – Minister
Sgt French and Alonzo – Ordnance Sgts
Dwight Dorr – Steward
Clint Griffith – Steward

Nursing Staff:

Janice – Head Nurse

Paula – Nurse

Storm – Nurse

Sam – Nurse Asst.

Hannah – Nurse Asst.

We are prepared to move the Field Hospital and follow your troop movements south to a safe distance away from the northern aggression. This time we had to break camp Narcoossee Mills in advance of upcoming troops approaching our Field Hospital. Medical Purveyors office will be notified regarding Privates Saunders and the unknown soldier. Hospital Report will be presented as soon as possible.

Proud to serve under your command,

2nd Lt. Sonntag, Medical Services

Robert J. Sonntag MS

Surgeon - Acting

2nd Florida Volunteer Infantry

Company E, The Hammock Guards

Fifth Company

Florida Battalion, CSA



Bringing in the wounded.



Caring for the injured.





Comforting the dying.





Saving the soldier, but losing the leg.





The operation was a success.