

to orders, Btry. C & F at first delayed its fire, then carefully targeted rebel batteries north of the Klinge Farm across the Emmitsburg Road. Major General Winfield S. Hancock of the II Corps, concerned that the low volume of Federal artillery fire was demoralizing his infantry, instructed all Artillery Reserve right flank batteries to open fire in earnest. Thompson was glad to receive the order, saying

"it [was] easier to fight than lay idle under such a storm of shot, shell and missiles."<sup>36</sup> The increased firing provoked a retaliation; two Confederate 20-Pdr. Parrott rifles near the Klinge Farm hit Thompson's Battery and put two pieces out of action. Ten enlisted men, four officers, and a dozen horses were also cut down. The wounded men were sent about two hundred yards to the rear where they sheltered

behind a large boulder. Four men died there: Capt. Joseph Miller and privates Jacob Kiersh, Hugh Purdy, and Adam Rath. They were all originally members of Hampton's Battery F.<sup>37</sup> As the long-awaited Confederate infantry appeared from the woods, Thompson's gunners switched to anti-personnel ammunition:

*...when we saw Pickett's Division, supported by others, emerge from*



Modern day view of the Abraham Trostle Farm. The two 12-Pdr. Napoleon cannon are part of the monument to the 9th Massachusetts Battery which lost five of its six guns and 80 of their 86 horses during the battle. (Peggy Melton)



Dead horses of Capt. John Bigelow's 9th Mass. Btry. The photo caption reads: "This battery was posted at Abram Trostle's (i.e. Abraham Trossel's) house. In the battle of second day it fought with fixed prolonges until the enemy was within six feet of the guns. Nearly all the horses of the battery were killed."

(Library of Congress)