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BREVET MAJOR-GENERAL SIMON G. GRIFFIN.

THE  
THIRTY-SECOND MAINE  
REGIMENT

OF  
INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS

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AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

BY

HENRY C. HOUSTON

of Co. C.

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PORTLAND, ME.  
PRESS OF SOUTHWORTH BROTHERS.  
1903.

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## PREFACE.

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The issuance of this volume from the press, marks the final completion of a task originally undertaken more than fifteen years ago.

And during all that period, most of the work involved in the preparation of this history has necessarily been done at night, after the regular labors of the day had been finished. The demands upon the time and attention of the historian made by the business in which he has been engaged, have frequently conflicted seriously with his prosecution of this undertaking, and even, for considerable intervals, rendered him unable to proceed with it. For these reasons, there is not such a degree of smoothness and polish in the literary workmanship as might otherwise have been attained. But it is hoped the reader will look leniently upon all the faults which may appear in the composition. And it is to be borne in mind, that without pretension to literary merit, this book is only designed to be a faithful and honest effort to present the story of the service and suffering of one among the many brave regiments of Maine. That it does not tell the whole story, no one can be more fully aware than is the historian. And no one can more keenly regret that omissions and inaccuracies exist in its pages. It has been his aim to make the history as complete as possible. Yet, though great care has been taken, and a vast amount of labor performed, in order to make it accurate and reliable, imperfections and errors are

inevitable. It is beyond question in the mind of the historian, that the lists of casualties as given in the various chapters, do not show the total number of losses sustained in the several engagements, and during the siege. But it has not been found possible to obtain more complete lists, as neither Adjutant Hayes' diary, the several Monthly Returns, nor the Adjutant-General's Reports give the necessary information. And the circulars sent to individual comrades, making inquiry on this point, failed to elicit reply in many cases.

To many officers and comrades, the historian is under great obligations for their kindly interest and valuable assistance. But he is compelled to express his deep regret that others, in spite of repeated solicitation at the annual reunions, and otherwise, have omitted to furnish information within their own individual knowledge, which would have added much to the completeness and value of the narrative.

His sincere thanks are due to all who have aided him in his labors, by affording him access to diaries, letters and other memoranda, from which he has been able to obtain much information. And especially he desires to express his sense of obligation to the Committee on Publication, consisting of comrades H. H. Burbank, H. R. Sargent, R. P. Eaton, J. L. Small and Cyrus Goff, for their constant courtesy and aid.

In all the years occupied in the preparation of this work, the historian has been animated by the purpose of making it a worthy tribute to the memory of the men who composed the regiment of which he is proud to have been a member, and if he has succeeded, in any degree, in placing upon record upon the page of history, their heroism, their valor and their sacrifice, in defence of the country and its flag, he is content.

PORTLAND, ME., August, 1903.



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## CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTORY.

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THE EARLY YEARS OF THE CIVIL WAR. — THEIR CONTRAST WITH THE CAMPAIGN OF 1864. — THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF WRITING A COMPLETE HISTORY. — THE ESPECIAL PURPOSE OF THIS SKETCH.

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The beginning of the year 1864 found the United States still involved in the prosecution of a great civil war which had already continued for nearly three years. Many great battles had been fought between the armies of the contending sections, with varying success, victory and defeat alternating upon either side, yet neither having as yet won such a decisive advantage as to compel the permanent cessation of hostilities.

The Army of the Potomac, which had been so roughly handled and so nearly demoralized in the first serious collision with the troops of the Confederacy, upon that memorable Sunday in July, 1861, at Bull Run, had long since bravely redeemed its credit in subsequent encounters. Its reputation for courage and endurance had been established beyond all possibility of doubt or question, by a series of engagements of vast magnitude, in each one of which it had gloriously manifested its possession of the highest soldierly qualifications. The successive campaigns through

which it had passed, in 1862 and 1863, under the leadership, first, of McClellan, and then of Pope, of Burnside, of Hooker, and more recently, of Meade, had been to that magnificent army as the refining and purifying fires of the furnace to the crude ore. And purged and set free from its dross and slag, — its incompetent and unworthy members, — by the fierce heat of battle, it had, at length, been tempered and toughened into steel. Though the several commanders of that brave and patient old army had hitherto failed to lead it in triumph into the capital of the Southern Confederacy, it had already won for itself imperishable honor and renown in its splendid, though unsuccessful, efforts to attain that anxiously-desired goal. The Peninsular campaign; the Seven Days Battles before Richmond; the masterly retreat through the swamps of the Chickahominy; the brief, but sharp and bitter, fighting during Pope's ill-starred and disastrous campaign; the fearful out-pouring of blood at Antietam, and the yet more terrible slaughter at Fredericksburg; the fruitless, but costly, struggle at Chancellorsville; all these had testified abundantly of the courage and the fighting qualities of the heroic Army of the Potomac, despite its ill-success. And the crowning achievement of all the splendid work it had performed, had occurred so recently that the thrill of pride and the glow of patriotic fervor it had sent through the hearts of all loyal people had not yet ceased to be felt when the new year of 1864 opened.

The great victory of Gettysburg was not yet six months old, when that year began, and the story of those three days of stormy conflict upon the free soil of Pennsylvania was still fresh in the minds of all.

The battle of Gettysburg has been aptly termed "the high water mark of the Rebellion", and such indeed, it was, in some respects. At no subsequent time did any considerable force of the Confederates obtain a foot-hold at any point north of Mason and Dixon's line, or upon the soil of a free state. The fighting of the remainder of the time before the final collapse of the Rebellion, was wholly confined to Virginia, so far as the Army of the Potomac was concerned, except in the case of the comparatively insignificant and unimportant demonstration of Early against the National Capital, in July, 1864.

But though Gettysburg was "the beginning of the end", it was by no means the end itself. Before the war should finally close, there was much severe service yet in store for the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac. Though the "high water mark" had, indeed, been reached, the ebbing of that sea of blood and flame was still slow and sullen. Its waves were never again to dash so high against the sturdy barriers that withstood the shock of its tide of destruction. And no more should it threaten to overleap the living walls that restrained it, and to break across the broad North in a resistless flood of desolation. But more than one wild storm was yet to sweep over those turbulent billows, and lash them into the fiercest fury, before they should be finally lulled to rest at the coming of Peace.

Grand as had been the achievements of the Army of the Potomac, and lavish as had been its expenditure of life, in previous years, it was yet reserved for the year 1864 to witness that army many times engaged in some of the most bloody battles of the war. Severe and sanguinary as had been the

fighting of former years, it was destined to be far surpassed by the stubborn persistency and the enormous losses which were the distinguishing characteristics of the great campaign of 1864, known as the "Overland Campaign". Looking backward now, through the dim vista of so many years, at the stirring events of that wonderful period, beginning with the struggle amid the tangled thickets of the Wilderness, and closing in the lines of circumvallation around Petersburg, the asseveration seems fully warranted that this was by far the most severe and costly, as well as the most extraordinary, of the several campaigns of the war. It was essentially different, in some particulars, from any of those which had preceded it. Up to the beginning of the Overland Campaign, great battles had been fought only at considerable intervals from each other, as for instance, after Antietam, fought September 17th, 1862, the army lay along the line of the Potomac for six weeks, resting and getting ready for another campaign. And it was not until the 13th of December, 1862, nearly three months afterward, that the armies again encountered each other, at Fredericksburg.

Many similar illustrations might be given, but it is not necessary to specify others, as all old soldiers will readily recall numerous instances of the same character. Indeed, it is quite safe to assert, that up to the time Lieutenant-General Grant assumed command, it had been most usual to march and manœuvre for position for a considerable time before coming to a general engagement. And when a battle was fought, after the sharp work of the actual engagement was over, it had nearly always been followed either by a more or less lengthy period of comparative inac-

tivity, in order to rest and refresh the army, or by a renewal of the marching and manœuvring for an indefinite time. In the campaign of 1864, however, all this was to be changed, and from the banks of the Rapidan to the walls of Petersburg, the advance of the Army of the Potomac was to be, practically, one continuous and unintermittent battle. And when that city had been reached, there were then to ensue many weary weeks and months of siege, without pause or relaxation, during which the army was constantly under fire, and exposed to loss, to say nothing of the numerous stubborn encounters which occurred in the progress of the investment. For nearly an entire year, from May, 1864, to the final surrender in April, 1865, the Army of the Potomac was to be constantly in the face of the enemy, and engaged in active operations against him. There were to be no more of the intervals of quiet rest in camp or winter quarters, with little to break the monotony of existence, save a round of daily drills and routine duties. But, instead, the army was first to pass through a long series of sanguinary encounters, not always, perhaps, rising to the dignity and proportions of pitched battles, but none the less destructive in the extreme. And it was then to serve for a protracted period in the trenches, under the fire of the enemy, and performing labor of the most exhaustive character in building vast and extensive lines of works.

The peculiar and distinguishing features of the campaign of 1864 have been thus contrasted with those of preceding years, in order to show more distinctly the service which fell to the lot of the men who composed the Army of the Potomac during that year, as the regiment whose history is to be sketched

in these pages entered upon the performance of military duty at the beginning of that campaign. Under the most favorable combination of circumstances, the best endeavors to produce a complete history of any regimental organization can meet with only partial success. The full history of the service of any one among the hundreds of separate commands, whether regiments, battalions, troops or batteries, which participated in the great Civil War, can never be adequately written. Much may, indeed, be preserved from oblivion by the exertions of the historian, if he performs his duty with care and painstaking. The marches made and the battles fought may be recorded, the losses sustained may be tabulated, and camps, bivouacs, reviews and parades may all be catalogued with the most scrupulous accuracy. But all these fail to present to the reader the real and true history of the organization in its fullness and entirety. All these data belong rather to the domain of the statistician than to that of the historian, though they are by no means to be omitted from the work of the latter. But such details alone, would prove to the the average reader somewhat too dry and devoid of interest to enable them to hold his attention for any length of time. And to the surviving veterans of the old command such a history would seem to do but scant justice to the service performed by the organization of which they were proud to have been members.

He who seeks to put upon record even a small part of the real history of the service of any one of the gallant regiments that fought for the Union, has a task of no little magnitude. He must consult official reports and delve among files of orders,



returns and muster-rolls; must search through old diaries, letters and newspapers in the pursuit of items of information; and must study with care every accessible account of the campaigns and battles in which the command participated. He must strive to reconcile conflicting statements and opinions, and decide fairly upon the merits of rival claimants to particular honors and distinction. And yet, though the result of all this labor and research may enable him to piece together a narrative of more or less excellence and truthfulness, still, be his abilities what they may, his work must inevitably fall far short of being a completed history. Though the incidents of service which his patient endeavor has gathered should be presented in the eloquent periods of a master of language, and glowing words should tell, in matchless phrases, the story of the peril, the pain, the suffering, the loss and death so nobly encountered and endured, yet even this would not suffice to render it a perfect work. Much would yet remain untold, and even the genius of a Bancroft or a Prescott would be unequal to the task of portraying the true history of each of those days and years of service, as vividly as they exist in the memory of the survivors of the war.

The long, weary marches beneath a burning southern sun, when, parched with thirst and choked with dust, men toiled on till exhaustion overcame them, and they fell and died by the wayside, — what words are there that can do even faint justice to such experiences, as they are remembered to-day by those whose lot it was to participate in them? And there are many such recollections in the minds of the surviving soldiers, to which the pen of the historian

can never give complete and adequate expression in written language. Who cannot recall the memory of the groups of dusty, toil-worn and weary men gathering around the camp-fires that flickered through the growing darkness, when the evening halt was made; who has forgotten the anxious watch through the long hours of night, upon the picket-line, in the darkest depths of the forests, while the storm raged and the wind shook the swaying trees, beneath which we were crouching? And, too, those days of fierce and bitter fighting:— who does not feel his pulses thrill again with the wild excitement of the headlong rush against the hill-tops crowned with fire, and the long lines of entrenchments lit with leaping tongues of flame: who cannot see again the ghastly gaps in the charging line, as the best and bravest go down, before the tattered colors are planted in triumph on the captured works? No history can do justice to memories such as these, and none is needed to keep them fresh and vivid in the minds of those who have borne a part in such scenes.

And, mingled with these memories of the march, the bivouac and the battlefield, there are a thousand recollections of lesser and unimportant incidents, many of them too slight and trivial to be mentioned in official reports, or to be regarded by the general historian, which are yet part and parcel of the unwritten history of the old command. There are, too, numberless incidents of personal experience or of personal observation, which have no record in any of the material accessible to the historian, or which, even if known to him, might not be deemed of sufficient general importance to be given a place in his narrative. But to the mind of the comrade who wit-

nessed or who participated in the comparatively trifling affair, a regimental history which contains no allusion to its occurrence, must fail essentially of being deemed complete, since the incident, in his view, belongs to and makes a part of the history of the time he followed the old flag. Yet were it possible to collect all these individual recollections, they could scarcely be incorporated into any printed history, since their number would swell the size of the volume to unwieldy proportions, not to mention the labor which their collation would entail upon the historian. Yet, in spite of all these objections to be urged against the undertaking, it is believed that an honest attempt to tell the story, so far as it is possible to tell it within the compass of an ordinary volume, of any organization which bore arms in the late war, is a laudable undertaking.

There have already been many books written since the war ended, having for their purpose the relation of the history and services of various regimental and other military organizations. But no one nor all of these numerous historians has told nor can tell the whole story of that great contest. So vast was the scale upon which the war was carried on; so great the number of organizations engaged in its prosecution, and so remote from each other the various fields of operation, that every successive volume has been written from a different standpoint from its predecessors. And while it may be the case that some parts of the story previously told by others have been repeated by subsequent writers, because of there being main facts common to the experience of all, yet it is believed that few, if any, have failed to contribute something of interest and value to the general

fund of knowledge, which had hitherto been untold. Every contribution to the literature of the war, however humble, which deals with facts as they occurred, has a value in view of the aid it will render, the historian who, in some future generation, shall aspire to write the story of our great conflict. At present, and so long as this generation shall live, it is scarcely possible that a history can be written, which will be wholly free from sectional bias and partisanship. But when the passion and the prejudices of the present shall have been obliterated and removed by the lapse of years, some genius will arise who will worthily and dispassionately relate the story of the Civil War in America. And the more regimental histories there are written now, while soldiers who participated in the struggle yet survive to criticize and correct any inadvertent errors of statement, or misrepresentation of fact, the more copious and trustworthy will be the mass of material which that future historian shall find awaiting him. And were there no thought of the historian of the future in this connection, still it would seem a praiseworthy undertaking to preserve in some more permanent form than that of mere oral tradition, the record of the noble deeds performed by the soldiers of the late war.

Loyalty and patriotism are lessons which should be taught those who are to succeed us as citizens of the American Republic, from their earliest youth upward. And what better methods of instruction can there be than to make them familiar with the services rendered and the sufferings endured for the sake of Freedom and the Union, by the men who made up our splendid armies? Let the children of those who fought under the old flag be afforded every

facility to learn in detail the history of those eventful years in which their fathers established by force of arms the supremacy of the National government. And especially let them be enabled to read of the service rendered by the particular command in which their fathers were enrolled, that they may feel a deeper personal interest in the narrative, because it is the story of their father's regiment, and they know that he was an actor in the stirring scenes therein described.

For the reasons above cited, it has seemed to be expedient to add another to the number of regimental histories already in existence, and imperfect as is this work in a literary point of view, yet it is hoped that it may add some slight contribution, at least, to the general fund of military history, and that it may teach some lesson of loyalty to those of the rising generation into whose hands it may chance to fall. A further motive for the preparation of this work lies in the fact that the regiment whose history it seeks to relate, it may be safely asserted, has never yet received from the general public, its full share of credit and honor for the services which it rendered during its period of existence as a separate organization. The reason for this, it is believed, is to be found in the peculiar circumstances and conditions under which its service was performed. And to explain those circumstances, and point out those peculiarities, is the principal purpose for which this historical sketch has been undertaken.

The Thirty-Second Maine Regiment of Infantry was, in many respects, unique among the regiments from Maine, and, indeed, few organizations, from any State, had the same peculiarities of service which fell

to the lot of this command. In some respects, it may be said to have been especially fated to misfortune from the beginning of its organization, but however numerous its misfortunes and disasters, its survivors can assert, with just pride, that it never disgraced itself, nor the State it represented. It was the last fully organized regiment of infantry raised in Maine during the war, being recruited early in 1864. There were thirty (30) separate *companies* of infantry, equivalent to three full regiments, subsequently organized, at various times, before the war finally ended. But these were not united in regimental organizations, but were sent mainly to fill up old regiments in the field, the only exception being in the case of four companies which were formed into what was known as the First Maine Battalion, in the spring of 1865.

In addition to these thirty separate companies, there was also a battalion of seven (7) companies of infantry raised and organized in Maine during 1864-65, known as the Coast Guards Battalion, so that there were organizations nearly equivalent to four regiments of infantry in numbers, mustered into the United States service from Maine *after* the Thirty-Second Regiment was raised. But that command was the last which was given the form of a regimental organization, placed in the field as an independent body under its own field officers. Recruited in the beginning of 1864, so great was the demand for every available man at the opening of the campaign of that year, that the Thirty-Second was hurried out of the State, and sent to the front even before it had completed its organization. Four of its companies had not been recruited up to the number required for muster into the United States service, when the first bat-

talion, of six companies, was sent into the field, under command of the Major. The second battalion, consisting of the four companies just mentioned, was permitted to remain behind only a few weeks, when it was despatched to join the companies which had preceded it.

Each battalion, upon its arrival in Virginia, was at once placed upon active duty in the midst of the stern work which characterized Grant's great campaign. With scarcely a respectable knowledge of the manual of arms, even, and generally unfamiliar with military duties, the regiment was thrust at once into the heat of the contest, and went under fire in less than three weeks after breaking camp in Maine.

Denied the privilege of the usual introductory period of drill and instruction, the raw, green boys, ignorant of the first principles of the art of war, as many of them were, found themselves brigaded with veteran troops, of three years experience. Few civilians can appreciate the real hardships of the situation, but severe as they were, the regiment faced them manfully. Within the space of five months from the time of leaving the State, the Thirty-Second Regiment had borne an honorable part in such conflicts as the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, the Mine Explosion, Weldon Railroad, Poplar Spring Church and Hatcher's Run, not to mention minor engagements and skirmishes of almost daily occurrence. And before the first year of the three for which it was enlisted, had been completed, so heavy had been its losses in officers and men, and so greatly was its effective strength reduced by its severe service, that in December, 1864, the War Department ordered it to be consolidated with the Thirty-First Maine. This order was carried

into effect on December 12th, by the transfer of fifteen 15 officers and four hundred and seventy (470) enlisted men of the Thirty-Second, which ceased to exist as a regimental organization after that date. Of the number thus transferred upon the rolls, many, both of officers and men, were absent on account of wounds, or prisoners in the hands of the enemy, so that the figures given above are largely in excess of the actual number present for duty, who became members of the Thirty-First Maine.

The brief term of separate service and existence of the Thirty-Second being only from May to December, 1864, or for about eight months, has no doubt had a tendency to render it much less prominent than many regiments which served two or three years, but which actually were not so actively engaged, and suffered less loss during their entire period of service. And the fact that it was consolidated with another command, which continued to exist until the close of the war, has undoubtedly occasioned it to be less clearly recognized and distinguished as having been a separate organization. For these reasons, it has failed hitherto to receive full justice and consideration for what it really did accomplish during its short but stirring existence. We, who served in its ranks, have no wish to claim any credit or honor which does not belong to us, nor do we desire to disparage the services of any other regiment, from our own or any other State. But we firmly believe that, as a regiment, we are justly entitled to claim the honor due to a performance of duty at all times, and in the face of all dangers. And to afford some imperfect idea of the basis upon which our claim rests, is the purpose of the narrative submitted to consideration in the following pages.



## CHAPTER II. THE CAMPAIGN OF 1864.

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ITS TERRIBLE BATTLES AND WEARY MARCHES. — FROM  
THE WILDERNESS TO PETERSBURG. — RECRUITS  
MADE VETERANS BY SEVERE AND  
UNREMITTING SERVICE.

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Allusion has already been made in the previous chapter, to the peculiar features of the campaign of 1864, but in order to point out more distinctly the nature of the service of the Thirty-Second Maine, it seems proper to devote some space to the further consideration of that campaign, before beginning to speak of the part the regiment took therein. In its long-continued fighting, of the most desperate and sanguinary character, and its consequent terrible slaughter and destructiveness, that campaign is unquestionably without a parallel, not only among the previous campaigns of the War of the Rebellion, but in the whole history of the conflicts of civilized nations, from the earliest recorded time down to the present age. History is full of the wars waged by great military chieftains in all ages, and on almost every page there is the record of some great battle which has become famous throughout the world. But it is hardly too much to say that in the first portion of the campaign of 1864, embracing the operations from the Rapidan to the James, which covered a period of about six

weeks, the Army of the Potomac fought one of the most remarkable series of battles, and performed, in addition, a succession of some of the most skillful movements which have ever been recorded in the annals of military affairs.

In the remote ages of antiquity, the Macedonian phalanx, with Alexander the Great as its leader, penetrated to the heart of the Persian Empire, and subjected the Eastern world to the rule of the brave son of Philip. Again, almost three centuries later, the veteran legions of Rome, with Julius Cæsar at their head, conquered Gaul, subdued Spain, overthrew Pompey the Great, and invested their general with the power and dignity of Dictator. And, in still more recent days, amid the convulsions and anarchy which marked the close of the eighteenth century in France, there arose the star of that great soldier, Napoleon Bonaparte, under the guidance of whose transcendent military genius the armies that fought beneath his victorious eagles won such triumphs as those of Lodi and Arcola, of Marengo and Austerlitz. But no one nor all of these famous armies, in ancient or modern times, ever exhibited more heroic valor or more persistent determination than were manifested by the Army of the Potomac throughout the whole of that protracted struggle, which might well be considered as one uninterrupted battle from the Wilderness to Petersburg.

The soldiers of the Macedonian, the Roman, and the Corsican won their victories over opponents who were not their equals in a military point of view. But the troops under Grant and Meade were contending against their own countrymen, equally brave, well-disciplined, and confident of success. And it should

be remembered, further, that during the whole time occupied in the advance from the Rapidan, the Army of the Potomac was constantly fighting at a disadvantage. The Confederates were found strongly entrenched in advantageous positions, and fought mainly from the shelter of their works, while the Union forces were compelled to expose themselves and act upon the offensive. From day to day the northern troops were engaged in fierce assaults upon earth-works, behind whose strong and formidable defences were massed the flower of Lee's veteran battalions. And when with the most unflinching courage, and most reckless disregard of life, our men had flung themselves, again and again, in wild and daring charges against those works, how often did they see the sun set, leaving the enemy still in possession of his entrenchments and ready to meet our renewed attacks upon the morrow.

Had such battles as that of Spottsylvania, for instance, been fought in open ground, or where the armies could have had space for manœuvring, there can be little doubt but that the result would have been far different from what it actually was, since the desperate fighting which enabled us to hold the "Bloody Angle," would under more favorable conditions, have made it possible for us to win a lasting victory. But there is not one of the several great battles which were fought so stubbornly in the few weeks between the beginning of May and the middle of June, 1864, that can be said to have resulted in anything like a decisive advantage to either of the antagonists. To begin with that in the Wilderness, which was, perhaps, the strangest and most singular contest of equal magnitude which the world ever wit-

nessed, nothing of practical value had been gained on either side when it was ended.

Hidden in the depths of a vast extent of tangled forest, two great armies strove for three days, each seeking to accomplish the destruction of its adversary. And yet, deadly and persistent as was the struggle, neither was able to win so great an advantage as to materially affect the final issue of the conflict between the sections. Lee had no doubt entertained the hope that, wearied and broken by the fierce encounters of the prolonged battle, Grant's army would fall back across the Rapidan, as it had done more than once before, when under other leaders. On the other hand, Grant had hoped to accomplish much more than merely to struggle blindly in an impenetrable forest, but found the Confederate position far too strong to be forced by an attack directly in front. But instead of retreating across the river, and taking time to refresh and recuperate his army, the Federal leader sought by a sudden and unexpected manœuvre to throw himself between Lee and the rebel capital. And the old Army of the Potomac, under his masterly guidance, began the first of that series of great flank movements which has become world-famous. But the Confederate chief was a wary and skillful soldier, who soon penetrated the secret of Grant's strategy, and set about defeating its purpose. A part of his forces was hurried by interior roads to Spottsylvania, and stood ready to confront us upon our arrival there, and dispute our further advance.

Then came another great battle, in which the Federal army was as prompt to attack, and their opponents as ready to meet that attack, as if there had been no collision in the forest paths of the Wilder-

ness. When the next lines of Confederate entrenchments were developed, in the advance upon Spottsylvania, there was no faltering, — no lack of spirit and resolution, — though the attack of the Union forces was delivered against works planned by the ablest engineers of the Confederacy, and intended to be, as they proved, practically impregnable. Again and again the Federals charged these strong defenses, but with no result in any degree commensurate with the terrible loss of life involved by these repeated attacks. Almost the only fruit of their reckless bravery was to cover the ground in the front of the hostile position with dead and dying men, till thousands had fallen in the attempt to carry works which still defied capture. It is true that Hancock's magnificent charge upon the salient won for us the possession of a portion of the rebel line, but Lee's position was as invulnerable as ever.

The struggle for the possession of the angle was a protracted and bloody one, and at this point, the Confederate leader departed from his general policy of receiving the Union attack from the shelter of his entrenchments, and became himself the assailant. Early in the morning Hancock had charged and entered the entrenchments of the enemy, and after a hand-to-hand struggle, in which bayonets and clubbed muskets had been freely used, had captured many guns and colors, and thousands of prisoners. The remainder of the Confederate forces at that point were thrown into great confusion, and driven to the rear in disorder. Hancock's men were elated at the success of their first assault, and pursued the fugitives through the thickly wooded forests. For the distance of half a mile or more, they found no difficulty in

driving the flying enemy before them, but their advance was then abruptly checked, and their triumphant progress brought to an end. The rebels had reached a second line of works, and taken shelter behind them, and reinforcements had come up to their relief. The barrier was too strong to be broken, and Hancock soon found that it was not only impossible to advance further, but that he could not remain where he was.

The Confederates, in heavy masses, now emerged from their works, and in their turn, charged the Union forces. Hancock's troops had become somewhat broken and disordered in the course of their rapid advance through the forest, and the weight of the rebel onset drove them back to the line they had at first captured. Here they rallied and offered a stubborn resistance to the fierce attacks directed against them. Lee was firmly resolved not to suffer the angle of his works to remain in the possession of the Federals, and to enable him to recover it, he put forth the utmost endeavors, concentrating his strength upon that single point. Reinforcements came to the aid of the Union troops, but Lee was not easily beaten off. Again and again his heavy columns dealt terrific blows against the Federal lines, but failed to dislodge them from the coveted position. Five times the Confederates charged against the salient, and five times they were repulsed, after a severe struggle. And it was not until late at night that the enemy finally relinquished the effort, and withdrew his wearied and shattered masses to his interior lines, leaving the "Bloody Angle" still in our possession as the prize of a battle that was one of the bloodiest of the whole war. Yet we had not

gained any decisive advantage by all this terrible carnage and sacrifice of human life.

The next day found the Confederates confronting us as firmly as ever, strongly entrenched behind an inner and less extended line. The troops on both sides were wearied and worn out by the exertions of the previous day, and neither army was disposed to take the offensive. For a week the two armies continued to be in nearly the same general position, and though almost constant skirmishing went on, and there were some minor affairs in the course of reconnaissances toward the enemy's line, and the like, no battle was fought during that time. A sharp engagement was had upon the 18th of May, the Second, Sixth and Ninth Corps attacking the Confederate position, and carrying the first line of works, without much difficulty. The second line, held by a strong force, proved to be much more formidable, and after a vigorous contest in which no advantage was gained by the Federal forces, the three Corps were withdrawn, and the attempt abandoned.

Then followed the flank movement to the North Anna river, the accomplishment of which found the enemy inviting an attack, in a position even stronger than those he had previously occupied. Lee had most probably anticipated some such manœuvre on the part of the Federal leader, and prepared to render it unavailing. Having the shorter interior lines on which to move his troops, he was able to outstrip his antagonist in the race toward Richmond. And when the Union army reached the north bank of the North Anna, the Confederates were already in position on the southern side, in works of great strength and upon ground peculiarly favorable for purposes of

defence. General Grant was soon convinced that his opponent was too well fortified to be dislodged by any direct attack, and again put into execution his favorite manœuvre of a movement by the flank.

As the result of these tactics, the armies again confronted each other at Cold Harbor, the Confederates quietly awaiting our assault, behind a new line of works, of great extent and strongly fortified. An attack upon this position followed the arrival of the Federal army upon the scene, and in spite of their previous frightful losses, our forces rushed upon the enemy's lines as undauntedly as if they had met with no reverses theretofore. But the assault failed to produce the desired result, notwithstanding the bravery and determination with which it was made. The strong and well-defended works against which the charging masses hurled themselves so desperately, sustained the shock, and their assailants were repulsed with great loss. The battle was a gallant one, and contested with great vigor on the part of the Union troops, but human bravery and endurance have their limits, and the assault from which General Grant had hoped so much, proved a costly failure. Then there followed days of danger and constant loss, though we fought no battle in the time. But for more than a week, the army lay upon the sandy plains about Cold Harbor, under the unceasing fire of rebel sharpshooters, who were exceedingly annoying, and occasioned large daily losses of officers and men.

The conviction that there could be no hope of winning a decisive victory from any direct assault delivered against the works which now barred his progress, became settled in the mind of the Lieutenant-General. And another great flank move-



ment was soon undertaken, and the Federal army put in motion toward the James river. The successful execution of that manœuvre brought the Union forces something more than twenty miles south of Richmond, and immediately around Petersburg, which was practically the gate through which entrance was to be obtained to the first named city. The arrival of the army upon this ground may be said to complete the first portion of the campaign of 1864, and it is frequently the case that the events of this period between the first of May and the middle of June are spoken of as a separate campaign, under the name of the Overland Campaign, as previously mentioned.

The second portion of the military undertakings of the year 1864, so far as matters in Virginia are concerned, is comprised under the general name of the Siege of Petersburg, but it may be questioned whether that distinction is absolutely necessary, or if all the events of the year might not as well be considered incidents of a single grand campaign. The character of the operations became changed after the army arrived in front of Petersburg, it is true, but there was no period of inaction intervening between the termination of one series of operations, and the beginning of another, as was usual between separate campaigns. General Grant first endeavored to carry the defenses of Petersburg by direct assault, immediately upon reaching a position before them, and for several successive days, vigorous attacks were made upon the Confederate lines. One of these attacks, made in the early morning of the 17th of June, the Thirty-Second Maine has especial reason to remember, since the brigade to which it belonged had the honor of leading the column of assault, and the regiment occupied a

position in the first line. Of this charge, and its results, more extended mention will be made in another portion of this narrative.

Finally becoming satisfied that he could not hope to capture the city by assault, General Grant began his preparations for a regular investment and siege of the place. Movements were begun, having for their object the envelopment of Petersburg, and the cutting of its lines of communication, especially that known as the Weldon Railroad. The work of entrenching and strengthening our own position was also commenced, and elaborate fortifications were rapidly constructed. The labor was very hard, as the troops were wearied by their previous severe service, and the weather was extremely hot. Added to the exhausting character of the work they were now called upon to do, the men suffered much from the almost constant fire of the enemy. The works were in many places closely up to the rebel lines, and exposed to their artillery and sharpshooters. Men were killed and wounded in the trenches, as they labored in the fortifications, and day after day, for a month or more after the army first sat down before the city, engagements of considerable magnitude were constantly taking place in some part of our extended lines.

So the siege progressed until the last of July, when an event took place which will ever be a memorable one to the survivors of the Ninth Corps especially, and to none more so than to those of the Thirty-Second Maine. This was the disastrous mine explosion, upon the 30th of July, in which our regiment, in common with so many others, suffered such terrible loss, while penned for hours in the dreadful

“Crater”. Of the details of that day of carnage and destruction this is not the place to speak, but due consideration will be given the sad affair in a subsequent chapter. Following this disastrous repulse, there came a period of comparative inaction in the immediate front of Petersburg, although active operations were in progress north of the James river, and in the vicinity of the Weldon Railroad. Yet there was sufficient activity, even in the most quiet portions of the lines, to render life in the trenches not only fatiguing but dangerous. Heavy artillery and picket firing went on from day to day, and the fatal bullets of the enemy’s sharpshooters found many victims.

Near the middle of August the successful attempt to secure possession of the Weldon Railroad took place, and the Thirty-Second Maine, with its comrades of the Ninth Corps, made a toilsome march over muddy roads, to support the Fifth Corps in its struggle for the coveted prize. From this time until the last of September, while there was constant activity in some part of Grant’s extensive lines, the story of the siege in general is but little more than a repetition of what has been heretofore said. The advanced lines, closely in proximity to the Confederate works, were frequently subjected to severe shelling, and desultory firing was of daily occurrence. The troops were in hourly danger by day and night, from the rifles of the lurking sharpshooters, and the huge shells thrown by the mortar-batteries, and there was scarcely a moment when the sound of near or distant firing was not audible.

Siege-guns and mortars thundered on each side, musketry came in sharp rattling volleys from the opposing picket-lines, the air was filled with the shrill

whistle of solid shot and the duller sound of the exploding shell as they burst above our heads,—and now and then some missile better aimed than the rest would strike in our midst, and scatter death and wounds around. Yet the casualties were comparatively few, as the troops had learned to construct bomb-proofs, or as they became better known among the soldiers, “gopher-holes”, in which they were accustomed to shelter themselves when the shelling became heavy. On the 30th of September, however, a strong column of troops, consisting of two divisions of the Ninth Corps, and two divisions and a brigade of the Fifth Corps, was pushed out toward the South Side Railroad. At Peeble’s Farm, on the Squirrel Level road, the column came in collision with the enemy, and in the course of the action which ensued, the Second division of the Ninth Corps, to which the Thirty-Second Maine belonged, met with a severe repulse, and was thrown into confusion, losing heavily, and having many men captured. The Federal forces, however, were able to establish themselves firmly about four miles from the South Side Railroad, and entrenched the position, connecting their new works with the old line at Petersburg.

The time passed in this labor, together with the usual picket and similar duties, until the 8th of October, when a general advance was made by the Fifth and Ninth Corps, but after a hard day’s march, and some amount of skirmishing, both corps returned to their old positions without having secured any advantage by the movement. Again there was comparative inactivity for some two weeks after this reconnaissance, but on the 26th of October the whole army received orders to move early on the following morning. Before the day-break of the 27th the troops were

in motion, moving upon various roads, the general direction of all the columns being toward the southwest. The Ninth Corps, in conjunction with the Fifth, soon struck the enemy at Hatcher's Run. His works were too strong to be penetrated, and they were able only to maintain their position in his front, which they did throughout the day, at a considerable loss. The other columns of advance meeting with but slightly better success, the movement was relinquished, and the army returned to its former lines.

From this time until the close of the year, with the exception of Warren's movement toward the Meherrin river, in which the Ninth Corps did not participate, there were no operations of general importance. And as the separate service of the Thirty-Second terminated, as has been said, upon the 12th of December, it is not deemed necessary, for the purpose of this narrative, to make further reference to the occurrences of the campaign at this time. In subsequent chapters they will be dealt with in detail, in their relation to the experiences of the regiment during those brief months into which were crowded so many stirring events. But enough, it is believed, has already been said to prove the assertion made at the beginning of this chapter, that the campaign of 1864 was without a parallel in the history of military affairs. And a regiment which bore itself creditably throughout such a remarkable campaign has no reason to blush for or regret its record, even though that may have been its first and only participation in the events of the war. That the Thirty-Second Maine Regiment did so bear itself, and perform honorably the duties devolving upon it, from the beginning to the end of its military service, the following chapters will clearly show, it is confidently believed.

## CHAPTER III.

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### THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC AT THE OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN. — CONSOLIDATION AND REORGANIZA- TION. — RECRUITING NEW REGIMENTS IN MAINE. — ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-SECOND AT AUGUSTA.

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The last operation of the campaign of 1863, so far as the Army of the Potomac is concerned, may be briefly summed up as follows: A general advance of that army took place late in November; a partial engagement was had with the enemy after the crossing of the Rapidan had been effected; the movement developed the whole Confederate army strongly posted at Mine Run, whereupon the advance was abandoned, and the Union forces returned to their winter quarters north of the Rapidan, without any general action having been fought. No other active operations were carried on during the winter, except the cavalry raid of Kilpatrick toward Richmond, and the movement made by Custer's cavalry command, and the Sixth Corps, toward Charlottesville. But great preparations were made to ensure a most vigorous prosecution of hostilities when the return of spring should permit the renewal of active campaigning.

The army was reorganized and consolidated, and recruiting was briskly carried on throughout the loyal States during the winter in order to fill up the ranks of old organizations, thinned by their previous service, and in many cases reduced to mere skeletons of regiments. And in addition to recruits furnished to these veteran regiments, new organizations were raised in many of the States, to swell the numbers of the grand army which was once more to confront Lee and his legions upon the old battle-ground of Virginia.

General Humphreys, in his work entitled "Virginia Campaign of 1864 and 1865", states that in the spring of 1864 "the Army of the Potomac lay between the Rapidan and the Rappahannock. The infantry was posted chiefly in the vicinity of Culpepper Court House, covering the roads leading from Lee's position, the First and Third Corps about two miles in advance of the Court House, the Second Corps near Stevensburg, the Sixth Corps near Welfords' Ford on Hazel river, and the Fifth Corps guarding the railroad from the Rappahannock river back to Bristoe Station, near Manassas Junction. The Ninth Corps, under General Burnside, began to relieve the Fifth Corps from this duty on April 25th, and between the 1st and 3rd of May encamped along the railroad from Manassas Junction to Rappahannock Station."

General Humphreys goes on to say that "on March 4th General Meade recommended to the Secretary of War to consolidate the five Infantry corps of the Army of the Potomac, and form three corps of them. This consolidation was effected by orders from the War Department dated March 23rd, the Second, Fifth and Sixth Corps being retained, and the divisions of the First and Third Corps transferred

to the three retained corps, though preserving their corps and division badges and distinctive marks. This re-organization required brigades and divisions in all the five corps to be consolidated."

It may be well to state here, although a little in advance of the regular progress of events, the organization of the Army of the Potomac as it existed at the close of April, 1864. On the 30th of that month the army was organized as follows:

Major-General George G. Meade, Commanding the Army; Major-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Staff; Brigadier-General Henry J. Hunt, Chief of Artillery; Major James C. Duane, Chief Engineer.

SECOND CORPS, Major-General Winfield S. Hancock commanding; First Division (old Second Corps), composed of four brigades, Brigadier-General F. C. Barlow commanding; Second Division (old Second Corps), composed of three brigades, Brigadier-General John Gibbon commanding; Third Division (old Third Corps), composed of two brigades, Major-General D. B. Birney commanding; Fourth Division (old Third Corps), composed of two brigades, Brigadier-General G. Mott commanding.

FIFTH CORPS, Major-General G. K. Warren commanding; First Division (old Fifth Corps), composed of three brigades, Brigadier-General Charles Griffin commanding; Second Division (old First Corps), composed of three brigades, Brigadier-General J. C. Robinson commanding; Third Division (old Fifth Corps), composed of two brigades, Brigadier-General S. W. Crawford commanding; Fourth Division (old First Corps), Brigadier-General J. S. Wadsworth commanding.



SIXTH CORPS, Major-General John Sedgwick commanding; First Division, four brigades, Brigadier-General H. G. Wright commanding; Second Division, four brigades, Brigadier-General G. W. Getty commanding; Third Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General James B. Ricketts commanding.

CAVALRY CORPS, Major-General P. H. Sheridan commanding; First Division, three brigades, Brigadier-General A. T. A. Torbett commanding; Second Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General D. McM. Gregg commanding; Third Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General J. H. Wilson commanding.

To the above, constituting the Army of the Potomac proper, should be added the Ninth Corps, which, as mentioned by General Humphreys, relieved the Fifth about the last of April, operating with the Army of the Potomac, though continuing as an independent command until the 24th of May, when it was incorporated into General Meade's command. Its roster was as follows:

NINTH CORPS, Major-General Ambrose E. Burnside commanding; First Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General Thomas G. Stevenson commanding; Second Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General Robert B. Potter commanding; Third Division, two brigades, Brigadier-General Orlando B. Willcox commanding; Fourth Division (colored troops), two brigades, Brigadier-General Edward Ferrero commanding; and a provisional brigade which, about May 21st, was incorporated in the First Division, and became its third brigade.

The consolidated Morning Report of the Army of the Potomac, dated April 30, 1864, gives its numerical strength on that day, "present for duty equipped":

	Officers.	Enlisted Men.	Guns.
Provost Guard, . . . .	70	1,048	
Engineers, . . . .	50	2,226	
The Three Infantry Corps,	3,506	69,884	
Artillery (of the Infantry and Cavalry Corps and Reserve Artillery with its guard), . . . .	285	9,945	274
The Cavalry Corps, . . .	585	11,839	
Total, . . . . .	<u>4,496</u>	<u>94,942</u>	

Making an aggregate of ninety-nine thousand, four hundred and thirty-eight (99,438) officers and men, with two hundred seventy-four (274) guns.

The Ninth Corps at the same date had, according to its Monthly Return for April, 1864, "present for duty":

	Officers.	Enlisted Men.	Guns.
Infantry and Artillery, . .	850	17,209	42
Cavalry, . . . . .	73	1,199	
Total, . . . . .	<u>923</u>	<u>18,408</u>	

Making a total force of nineteen thousand, three hundred and thirty-one (19,331) men, with forty-two (42) guns. This added to the preceding, shows the aggregate forces operating in Virginia at the opening of the Overland Campaign to have been:

Officers.	Enlisted Men.	Guns.
5,419	113,350	316

For the above tables credit should be given to General Humphreys, from whose work above referred to, they have been taken.\* Allusion was made above to the fact that new organizations were raised in several of the northern States during the winter of 1864, and among the new regiments, for the raising of which authority was given by the War Department at

\* "Virginia Campaign", — foot note, p. 13. and p. 14.

that time, there were two from the State of Maine, known respectively as the Thirty-First and the Thirty-Second Regiments of Maine Infantry Volunteers. The military authorities of the State first received official instructions relative to the recruiting of these organizations by telegrams from the War Department at Washington, under date of February 3rd, 1864, and upon the following day, February 4th; the regiments were assigned, in advance of their organization, to the Ninth Corps, by letter from Col. T. M. Vincent, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army. The Corps to which these embryo regiments were thus assigned for service, when they should have been recruited up to the proper number, and become organized and ready for duty, had been in Tennessee during the campaign of 1863, but it was generally understood that it was to return east in the spring, and would be employed upon some coast-wise expedition, or similar duty, co-operating with the Army of the Potomac.

In pursuance of the orders and instructions received from Washington, as mentioned above, the State authorities took immediate action to commence recruiting for the two new regiments. General Order No. 12, series of 1864, issued from Headquarters, Adjutant-General's Office, Augusta, Maine, under date of February 8, 1864, and as this order was the legal authority under which our regiment existed, it appears to be proper to copy the material portions thereof in this place. These are as follows:

Headquarters, Adjutant-General's Office, }  
Augusta, February 8, 1864. }

General Order No. 12.

The Commander-in-Chief orders and directs as follows :

I. Two regiments \* \* \* of infantry to be credited to the quota apportioned to this State, under the call of the

President of the United States, of the first instant, are authorized by the Secretary of War to be enlisted and organized prior to the first day of March next. \* \* \*

II. These regiments, the 31st and 32nd of Maine Volunteers, will be commanded by Col. George Varney, of Bangor, late of the Maine 2nd, and Col. Mark F. Wentworth of Kittery, late of the 27th, and will, by special order of the War Department; be rendezvoused and organized at Augusta.

\* \* \* \* \*

XII. It is both desirable and practicable that two-thirds of the commissioned officers of these regiments shall be those who have heretofore held commissions in active service. One lieutenant of each company may be a civilian. \* \* \*

XIV. The 31st Regiment will be raised by volunteer enlistments from the counties, and in the proportions following, viz: Kennebec, 200; Aroostook, 75; Piscataquis, 75; Hancock, 100; Knox, 75; Somerset, 100; Penobscot, 200; Waldo, 100; Washington, 100. The 32nd Regiment will be composed of the number set against the following counties, viz: York, 300; Oxford, 100; Franklin, 100; Lincoln, 100; Cumberland, 200; Androscoggin, 100; Sagadahoc, 100. \* \* \* \* \* By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

JOHN L. HODSDON,

*Adjutant-General.*

While not explicitly stated in this order, it was understood that the authorities desired that as large a proportion as possible of the enlisted men of these new regiments should have seen some previous service. It was thought that this would tend to secure a greater degree of efficiency than was usual in new organizations, and the liberal terms offered for the re-enlistment of veterans were believed to be likely to induce many such to again enter the service. The nine-month regiments having completed their term

and returned home in the previous summer, it was hoped that many of the men who had served therein would again enlist in these new three-years' regiments. This hope, however, was not fulfilled to the extent contemplated by the State officers, although a considerable number of veterans were to be found in each of the companies, when the regimental organizations were perfected. But by far the larger part of the enlisted men had never seen any previous service, and were wholly untried and inexperienced in the performance of the duties which pertain to a soldier's life.

In the case of the commissioned officers, however, the conditions were more nearly in accordance with the expectations of the authorities. The General Order quoted above expressly required that two-thirds of the commissioned officers should have previously held commissions in other regiments. While this requirement would appear not to have been strictly complied with so far as regards the actual holding of commissions in previous service, yet it is true that a large proportion of the officers had been members of other regiments, either as commissioned officers or enlisted men. Of the field and staff, and line officers of the Thirty-Second Maine, some twenty-five in all had seen more or less service before receiving their commissions in that regiment. And of the rank and file, a careful examination of the reports of the Adjutant-General of Maine, which should be good authority, shows the whole number of veterans among the enlisted men to be about one hundred and forty (140) out of a total of one thousand and ten (1,010) men in the organization.

As was natural, a large proportion of these hun-

dred and forty old soldiers were non-commissioned officers of the several companies, their previous experience rendering them more familiar with the duties of such positions. But while this statement as to the composition of the regiment as a whole has been made at this early stage of its history, it is not to be understood, of course, that its organization was completely effected immediately upon the issue of authority for its recruitment. The process of filling its ranks to the necessary number was a gradual one, and extended over a period of several months, with the best efforts that could be made by those interested in its speedy completion. Recruiting was carried on as rapidly as possible, but there were good reasons to prevent the regiment from filling up with any greater rapidity.

Enlistments were being made at the same time for old organizations then in the field, and these seemed to offer some advantages not possessed by a new regiment. Or, at all events, many of those who entered service at this time, went into the ranks of old regiments, for some reason, whose enlistment otherwise would have filled the two new organizations to the maximum in much less time than really was requisite. But in spite of all obstacles, the regiment began to assume form by degrees, as all through the winter and early spring, larger or smaller squads of men were coming into the rendezvous, and beginning to learn the preliminary lessons of military life.

Augusta was at that time a central point for the encampment of Maine troops, and during the winter quite a number of organizations were in process of formation at various localities within the limits of the city. Among these organizations were the Second

Maine Cavalry, which left the State in January, 1864; eight companies of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, which went to Washington in March; the Seventh Maine Battery, which went out early in February; and the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Infantry Regiments, the larger part of which left Maine in April, as will be more fully explained hereafter.

The camp occupied by the Thirty-Second was located upon one of the numerous hills which rise back of the more thickly populated portions of Augusta, upon the western side of the Kennebec river, and at some distance from the business part of the city. It was known as "Camp E. D. Keyes", that name having been given in honor of General Erasmus D. Keyes, well known as the old commander of the Fourth Corps, in McClellan's campaign upon the Peninsula and in front of Richmond in 1862. The situation was unquestionably a fine one for a summer camp, but its elevation rendered it bleak and cheerless when occupied in the colder seasons of the year. Rows of long wooden barracks, somewhat roughly constructed, and with but slight claim to architectural beauty, stood at one side of the spacious, snow-covered field, and the chilling wind of a northern winter was blowing keenly across the wide, white expanse, when the writer beheld it for the first time, on the afternoon of a short February day. Turning to look toward the city, the eye was caught first by the dome of the State Capitol, a little to the right and farther down the slope, and below this and to the left, clustered the dwellings, covering the hillsides as they fell off toward the river.

New and strange as was the scene, but little more

than a hasty glance was taken, before entering the barracks which was to take the place of home until we bade farewell to Maine. The interior view of the barracks, with their triple tiers of rough "bunks" running lengthwise on each side, the bare, unplastered walls and rafters, and the broken and smoking stoves at each end of the central floor-space, was an equally novel sight. But the little groups gathered about the stoves or lounging in the "bunks", contributed to give a somewhat more cheerful, yet scarcely more home-like appearance in-doors than was presented outside to unaccustomed eyes. We soon became in a measure accustomed to our surroundings, however, and the constraint of our first introduction to camp-life rapidly passed away. Days and weeks went by without the occurrence of important incidents in our experience.

By degrees the number of recruits in camp increased, and new faces appeared in the barracks, day by day. Acquaintances began to be formed among those previously strangers to each other, but now by the chance of fortune, brought into the closest association. Those who had never met before, now entered upon an intimacy which has had as its result, a friendship based upon common service, — a spirit of comradeship more deep and lasting than can be realized or appreciated by civilians. It has been well and truly said of the warm affection which soldiers entertain toward old comrades that "the ties which bind us to one another were welded in the fires of battle". And, in that winter camp in Augusta there were laid the foundations of many a friendship which subsequent service in the field strengthened and developed into a sentiment that has survived the



passage of years, and shall continue unchanged till the last comrades who shared with us the experiences of those days shall have answered to the final roll-call.

As time passed, that winter, some of the routine duties of military life began to receive our attention, and we soon began to fancy ourselves already trained soldiers, as we learned to perform such duties with more or less precision and alacrity. Little did we know or realize, then, how deficient we were in the knowledge deemed so indispensable to the production of good soldiers. As the spring gradually advanced, and the deep snows became less of an insurmountable obstacle, some slight opportunities of drilling were afforded us, but it was extremely little. As late even as April, there was a wild, tempestuous snow-storm of two or three days' duration, which drifted in heaps about the camp, until the details for guard were obliged to wade almost knee-deep in it.

Of course, under these circumstances, there could be no attention paid to drill in the open air, and the limited space of the barracks rendered it impossible to manœuvre even a small squad under cover. Therefore, from these and other causes, we were almost wholly ignorant of the proper execution of company and battalion movements, and knew only imperfectly even the manual of arms. When the months of time devoted by most other regiments to perfecting themselves in drill and in acquiring a thorough familiarity with the school of the battalion, is taken into account, it might be said of our regiment that we were permitted no opportunity whatever to become acquainted with even the simplest movements when an inexorable necessity compelled our being sent into the field.

But we will not dwell longer upon this point at present, though it will be again alluded to later on.

As rapidly as possible, when the several companies were filled up to the required number of men, they were mustered into the service of the United States for a term of three years, by Lieutenant L. M. Hamilton, of the regular army. The first to be in readiness for muster in was one from York County, which was duly organized and mustered as Company A, on the 3rd day of March, with the following as its commissioned officers:

Captain, Seth E. Bryant, of Kennebunk;

First Lieutenant, Horace H. Burbank, of Limerick;

Second Lieutenant, Samuel A. James, of Kittery.

On the 10th of March, the Oxford County men were mustered as Company B, with the following as its officers:

Captain, Amos F. Noyes, of Norway;

First Lieutenant, Joseph E. Colby, of Rumford;

Second Lieutenant, Henry M. Bearce, of Hebron.

On the 23rd of March, two companies, one from Cumberland County, and one from Androscoggin County, were mustered, and officered as follows:

Company C, Captain Herbert R. Sargent, of Portland;

First Lieutenant, Joseph B. Hammond, of New Gloucester;

Second Lieutenant, Charles F. Burr, of Freeport.

Company D, Captain William R. Ham, of Lewiston;

First Lieutenant, Charles B. Rounds, of Danville;

Second Lieutenant, James J. Chase, of Turner.

Company E was mustered on the 2nd of April

and was composed of men from Franklin County. Its officers were as follows:

Captain, Ebenezer S. Kyes, of Jay;

First Lieutenant, Charles W. Keyes, of Wilton;

Second Lieutenant, James A. Stanley, of Farmington.

The second company from York County was mustered on the 5th of April, as Company F, with the following officers:

Captain, Isaac P. Fall, of South Berwick;

First Lieutenant, Fred S. Gurney, of Saco;

Second Lieutenant, John G. Whitten, of Alfred.

The six companies above named constituted the First Battalion of the regiment, which, as has been said, left the State some weeks before the remaining four companies were in readiness. And the record of these six companies is for a time distinct from that of the others, as will appear more in detail in the course of this narrative. A sufficient number of companies having been mustered to comply with the requirements of military law regarding field officers, Arthur Deering, of Richmond, was on the 7th of April, mustered as Major. Some changes occurred at a little later period among the line officers, Lieutenant Burbank of Company A being promoted to the captaincy of Company K, which resulted in the promotion of Second Lieutenant James to fill the vacancy as First Lieutenant of A and of sergeant William B. Pierce to be Second Lieutenant of that company, in the place of James, promoted.

At about the same time, just prior to the departure of the First Battalion from the State, sergeant Thomas P. Beals of Company C, was promoted to be First Lieutenant of Company H. The organiza-

tion of the Second Battalion was proceeded with as fast as possible, in the following order:

Company G, from the County of Sagadahoc, was mustered into the service of the United States on the 16th of April, with the following commissioned officers:

Captain, James L. Hunt, of Bath;

First Lieutenant, Thomas Childs, of Bath;

Second Lieutenant, James B. Carrier, of Greenwood.

Company H was the second company from Cumberland County, and was mustered on the 21st of April, and officered as follows:

Captain, George H. Chadwell, of Portland;

First Lieutenant, Thomas P. Beals, of Portland;

Second Lieutenant, Henry G. Mitchell, of Portland.

Company I was raised in Lincoln County, and was mustered on the 5th of May, with the following officers:

Captain, Marcus L. M. Hussey, of Newcastle;

First Lieutenant, Wilmot Whitehouse, of Newcastle;

Second Lieutenant, George L. Hall, of Nobleboro.

Company K, the third and last from York County, was mustered May 6th, with officers as follows:

Captain, Horace H. Burbank, of Limerick;

First Lieutenant, Stephen G. Dorman, of Wells;

Second Lieutenant, Silas M. Perkins, of Kennebunkport.

The organization of the regiment being thus completed by the muster of Company K, the remainder of the field and staff were at once mus-

tered into their several grades, on the same day,— May 6th,— and the regiment thus provided with its full and proper quota from that date.

The list of line officers having been given above, it is only necessary here to give the following roster of the original field and staff, to show the constitution of the command on the 6th of May, 1864:

- Colonel, Mark F. Wentworth, of Kittery, with rank from May 6, 1864;
- Lieutenant-Colonel, John Marshall Brown, of Portland, with rank from May 5;
- Major, Arthur Deering, of Richmond, with rank from April 7;
- Adjutant, Calvin L. Hayes, of Kittery, with rank from February 19;
- Quartermaster, John Hall, of No. Berwick, with rank from February 24;
- Surgeon, Clark L. Trafton, of Kennebunkport, with rank from February 19;
- Assistant-Surgeon, John H. Kimball, of Bridgton, with rank from February 27;
- Assistant-Surgeon, Henry S. B. Smith, of Brunswick, with rank from May 6;
- Chaplain, William A. Patten, of York, with rank from May 6.
- Sergeant-Major, William B. Barker, of Limerick, with rank from May 6;
- Quartermaster-Sergeant, Ferdinand W. Guptill, of Saco, with rank from May 6;
- Commissary-Sergeant, James B. Walker, of Turner, with rank from May 6;
- Hospital-Steward, Henry Bond, of Kittery, with rank from May 6.

Of the field and staff. Colonel Wentworth, as previously stated, had already been in service in the Twenty-Seventh Maine, a nine-months regiment, in which he had been Lieutenant-Colonel, and subsequently, Colonel; while Lieutenant-Colonel Brown was Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General on the the staff of General Ames, and had been previously Adjutant of the Twentieth Maine; and Major Deering had previously been Captain in the Twenty-Fourth Maine. Adjutant Hayes had been sergeant-major of the Twenty-Seventh and Quartermaster Hall had been quartermaster-sergeant and afterward Lieutenant of the same regiment. Assistant-Surgeon Kimball had held the same rank in the Fifteenth Maine which he now had in the Thirty-Second. And of the non-commissioned staff, sergeant-major Barker had served as corporal in the Twenty-Seventh, and commissary-sergeant Walker as a private in the Ninth Maine.

Among the line officers, Captains Bryant, Sargent, Fall, Hunt and Chadwell had all previously held commissions of the same grade in other regiments, Bryant and Fall having served in the Twenty-Seventh, Sargent in the Tenth, Hunt in the Twenty-First and Chadwell in the Twelfth Maine. Captain Noyes had previously been Lieutenant in the Fourteenth, and Captain Hussey a sergeant in the Sixteenth, while Captain Burbank had been a member of the non-commissioned staff of the Twenty-Seventh, and Captain Kyes had served as a sergeant in the Twenty-Eighth.

Of the Lieutenants, Pierce and Whitten had been respectively sergeant and corporal in the Twenty-Seventh, Colby had been a private in the First, and

Bearce a Lieutenant in the Twenty-Third. Hammond had been formerly a sergeant in the Fifth, and Gurney had held a Lieutenant's commission in the same regiment, and afterwards had been a sergeant in the Twenty-Seventh. Burr and Childs had been privates in the Tenth and Nineteenth respectively, and Beals had served as sergeant in the Seventh, while Whitehouse and Perkins had been sergeant and private respectively in the Fourth. More extended biographical sketches in such cases as it has been possible to obtain the necessary data, will be found at the close of this and following chapters.

It should be observed here that while the dates given on a preceding page are those upon which the several companies were mustered, they do not show correctly in all cases the date of muster of some of the officers named. For example, Lieutenant Burr of Company C, was not mustered in that grade until April 19th, and Captain Burbank of K, was not mustered as such till June 7th. Lieutenants Rounds and Chase of D, were mustered April 19th and April 5th respectively, and Lieutenant Hammond of C, was not mustered on his commission as such till July 22. But it was deemed most advisable to insert the name of each officer as if mustered in his grade at the time of muster-in of the company to which he belonged, in order to avoid confusion.

The circumstances attending upon the organization of the Thirty-Second Maine have now been briefly stated, but before closing this chapter, it seems proper to add a few words as to the men thus brought together from so wide a territory as that covered by no less than seven counties of the State. One characteristic which presented itself to the attention at the

first glance was the great preponderance in the ranks, of very young men. — boys in their teens, as many of them were. The legal military age was between eighteen and forty-five, and as a matter of course, upon enlistment-papers and muster-rolls, none were represented as being *less* than the minimum age, except in the case of one or two of the musicians. — drummers, about whom there was not so particular enquiry as to age and physical capacity. But it is at once curious and suggestive to glance over the rolls, and observe how many of the enlisted men had just reached, according to their own statements, the exact age at which the Government would accept their services.

At least one-third of the entire number of enlisted men are recorded as being eighteen years of age, while only a very small proportion are shown as being above thirty. Some considerable number range from twenty to twenty-five and another fraction are between twenty-five and thirty, but about every third man is exactly eighteen. This does not apply, however, with so much force to non-commissioned officers as to privates, the former being, as has been said, in many instances men who had already seen some service in other regiments. But among the privates there were unquestionably a considerable number who in claiming to have arrived at the legal age for enlistment, had anticipated the course of events, and “borrowed time” to some extent.

The writer is willing to confess now that he was himself guilty of having “borrowed” something near a year and a half to add enough to his actual age to enable him to “pass muster”. And he is sure he was by no means the youngest man.— or boy.— in the regiment, but that there were many who had seen



fewer years than himself. Indeed, the honor of having been the youngest soldier from the State of Maine who carried a musket, and did duty in the ranks, has for some time past been generally conceded to Edwin C. Milliken of Company H, who was but a few days more than fourteen when he and his father, Benjamin F. Milliken, entered the service together. And there were many others in our ranks, who while somewhat older than Comrade Milliken, would yet have never served their country as soldiers if they had waited till they were actually eighteen before enlisting. The collapse of the rebellion, and the end of the necessity for soldiers in the field would have come before they had arrived at that age.

And many of our number sleep in unknown graves in far-off Virginia to-day whose brave young lives were quenched in blood before they had seen their eighteenth birthday. Yet, boys as they were,—mere striplings, beardless and immature, they fought side by side with the bronzed veterans of Burnside's Corps who captured Roanoke, and charged the bridge at Antietam. And though they left many of their number on every battle-field, those who survive have no cause to blush either for themselves or for those who fell, because of any failure in the performance of the full measure of a soldier's duty. Ignorant of much that pertains to military life, because of the lack of opportunity for instruction, and sorely at a loss as regards the knowledge of intricate and complicated manœuvres, because they were permitted no time in which to learn the details of drill, there was yet one order that they never failed to understand and never hesitated to obey, and that was the command to advance against the enemy.

## Biographical Sketches.

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### GENERAL MARK FERNALD WENTWORTH.

Mark Fernald Wentworth was born in Kittery, York County, Maine, on March 14, 1820. He was the son of William and Mary (Fernald) Wentworth, his ancestry upon both sides being of the good old colonial stock. One of his paternal ancestors was the first Governor of New Hampshire, and on the maternal side, he was a descendent from William and Marjory Pepperell. His great-grandfather was a captain in the "old French war", and his grandfather and two great-uncles served in the war of the Revolution, the former as a captain.

In boyhood, and until he was about twelve years of age, the subject of this sketch attended the schools in his native town for four months in the year, and worked on his father's farm the remainder of the time. His father having died in 1832, he worked on the farm half of the year, from that time forward, and attended the high school and the academy the other half. At the age of twenty-one, he began the study of medicine with Dr. Trafton of South Berwick, and during the years 1842 to 1844, attended medical lectures at Dartmouth College. In 1845 he was appointed as chief clerk to the naval store keeper at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, in which position he continued to serve until 1849, when he accepted a clerical appointment to the State Valuation Commission at Augusta. Upon the completion of his work there, he went to Philadelphia, where he finished his medical studies, and received his diploma from the University of Pennsylvania. He first began to practice his profession in South Boston, but subsequently moved back to his native town. Here he soon established a large practice, which he continued to enjoy for many years.



BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL MARK F. WENTWORTH.



He possessed a taste for military matters, to gratify which he was instrumental in the organization, in 1854, of a company of militia, known as the Kittery Artillery. Of this company he was chosen as captain and retained that position until 1862. During this time he was appointed Chief-of-staff to Governor Hamlin, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. But the holiday service of the militia was soon to be exchanged for sterner and more serious duties. In the turbulent days which preceded the outbreak of the Civil War, Dr. Wentworth was an active and ardent member of the Republican party. And he took much pleasure in his selection as one of the delegates from Maine to the National Convention in 1860, at which he cast his vote for Lincoln and Hamlin. When the war came, at the first call for troops, in April of 1861, Captain Wentworth with the Kittery Artillery was ordered to Fort McClary at Kittery Point. They were stationed here until June, when he received the appointment of store keeper at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

Desiring active service, however, when President Lincoln, in 1862, called for troops to enlist for nine months, he assisted in raising the Twenty-Seventh Maine Regiment, of which, at its organization, he became Lieutenant-Colonel, and later was promoted Colonel. After having served its full period of enlistment, and when about to return home and be mustered out, Lee's invasion of the North threatened serious danger to the Union cause. And at the request of the President and the Secretary of War, Colonel Wentworth and a large portion of his command, volunteered to remain for the defense of Washington, although their time was expired. They continued in service until after the battle of Gettysburg, and when finally permitted to return to Maine, their homeward journey was a continuous ovation from Washington to their native State. And subsequently the survivors of the regiment received a medal of honor, by vote of Congress, in recognition of their patriotism.

Soon after his return home from this service, Colonel Wentworth, at the urgent solicitation of Governor Cony, accepted the colonelcy of the Thirty-Second Maine Regiment, then about to be raised. The regiment was recruited, organized, equipped and officered under his personal supervision, early in 1864. As is well known, the regiment was sent to the front in two detachments, the first leaving the State under command of Major Deering. Colonel Wentworth accompanied the second battalion, which joined the detachment which had preceded it, at the North Anna river, in May, 1864.

From that time until the end of July, the history of the regiment is told elsewhere. The story of its participation in the Mine Explosion in front of Petersburg on July 30th, shows that it bore an honorable part in that famous affair. And it was in that gallant service that Colonel Wentworth received wounds which almost terminated his earthly career. When the mine was blown up, the regiment proceeded directly into the crater, in the hope and expectation of penetrating the rebel lines. It had passed through the first line, and was reforming, to push further on, amid the network of traverses and covered ways. Colonel Wentworth was struck by a bullet which passed entirely through the left side of his body, inflicting a wound of the most serious character. It was with the utmost difficulty that he was rescued and carried back into the Union lines, but at great risk, this was accomplished. He was sent north, but after being at his home in Kittery for some time, his wound was found to be of such a serious nature as to prevent his returning to active service, and in November, 1864, he resigned his commission. In 1865, he was brevetted Brigadier-General of Volunteers, "for gallant and meritorious services during the war".

After returning to civil life, General Wentworth served his State and country in various official positions. He was

re-appointed as store keeper at the Navy Yard, and held the office for a considerable time. He was representative in the State Legislature in 1873-4 and 1880-1. In 1887 he was made a member of the Board of Inspectors of State Prison, and in 1891 he was appointed by President Harrison as Surveyor of Customs at Portland, in which capacity he served for four years. He was always prominent in politics, and served on State, County and Town committees of his party. He was a delegate in 1868 to the National Convention which nominated General Grant for President, and in 1873 made an unsuccessful contest for Representative from the First District, coming within a few votes of winning the honor.

General Wentworth died at his home in Kittery on July 12, 1897, leaving surviving him, a widow and two daughters, and one brother.

## GENERAL JOHN MARSHALL BROWN.

John Marshall Brown, son of John Bundy and Ann Matilda (Greely) Brown, was born in Portland, Maine, December 14, 1838. He attended the Portland Academy, Gould's Academy, Bethel, and Phillips (Andover) Academy where he was chosen class orator. He entered Bowdoin College, was winner of the declamation prizes in his sophomore and junior years, and class orator at graduation, in the class of 1860. Began the study of law, but was not admitted to the bar, having been commissioned August 29, 1862, as First Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Twentieth Regiment, Maine Volunteer Infantry. After participation in the battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg he was detailed for staff duty, and appointed Acting Assistant Adjutant-General on the staff of General Ayers.

On June 23, 1863, he was appointed by President Lincoln, as Assistant Adjutant-General of Volunteers with the rank of Captain, and ordered to report to General Ames, commanding First Brigade, Barlow's Division, Eleventh Corps. He served in the battle of Beverly Ford, in which General Ames commanded a temporary division, and then rejoined the corps on the movement to Gettysburg. General Barlow being severely wounded on July 1, General Ames assumed command of the division. And in his report he says: "Captain J. M. Brown, my Assistant Adjutant-General, rendered most valuable services during the three days' fighting; with great coolness and energy he ably seconded my efforts in repelling the assault made by the enemy on the evening of the 2nd." Subsequently General Ames was assigned with his brigade to Gordon's division, ordered to South Carolina, and there participated in the siege of Fort Wagner and the movement on John's Island. On February 22, 1864, the brigade was ordered to Florida, and General





BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL JOHN M. BROWN,  
(AS CAPTAIN AND ASST.-ADJT.-GENL. IN 1863.)



Ames put in command of a provisional division of four brigades, covering the left wing of the defenses of Jacksonville.

On March 26, 1864, Captain Brown was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Thirty-Second Regiment, Maine Volunteers, and reported at once at Augusta, Maine. A portion of the regiment having been sent to the front, he followed with the remaining companies, on May 11th. Colonel Wentworth being temporarily disabled, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown commanded the detachment on the march from Belle Plain to the North Anna, between May 22nd and 25th. And was also in command of the regiment at Totopotomy and Cold Harbor, and during the preliminary movements at Petersburg. On June 19th, 1864, he was severely, and at the time it was thought mortally wounded, in the left arm and side. After suffering for several months, the surgeons having decided that he could not return to duty for a long period, he was discharged "on account of physical disability from wounds received in action". He was brevetted Colonel "for distinguished gallantry in the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.", and again "for gallant and meritorious services in the battle before Petersburg, Va.", and also brevetted Brigadier-General "for gallant and meritorious services during the war." Shortly after leaving the service he entered the firm of J. B. Brown & Sons, managers and owners of the Portland Sugar Company, and is now president of the P. H. & J. M. Brown Company.

In 1865 he was elected a member of the Common Council of Portland, and a member of the School Committee. In 1866 he married Alida C. Carroll, of Washington, and in 1867, having been appointed Commissioner to the Paris Exposition, visited Europe. He was much interested in the reorganization of the volunteer militia of Maine during the administration of Governor Chamberlain, and rendered efficient aid. He served on the staff as Aide-de-camp and

Inspector-General, and later as Assistant Adjutant-General, Division Inspector, Colonel of the First Regiment, and Brigadier-General, commanding First Brigade. His resignation as Brigadier-General was accepted June 5, 1887, by Governor Robie in General Orders in which he speaks of "his eminent services in the interest of the Maine Volunteer Militia." In 1893 he was appointed by Governor Cleaves, as one of the commission for revising the military code.

General Brown was a charter member of the Maine Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and is one of the Council-in-Chief of the Order for the United States. He was one of the founders and the first President of the Portland Army and Navy Union. He was President of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Association, and delivered the address on the occasion of the completion and surrender of the monument to the city. He was President of the Maine Agricultural Society in 1878. For twenty-five years he was an Overseer of Bowdoin College and for six years President of the Board, and is now one of the Trustees. He is also a member of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and Resident Manager for the Branch at Togus, Maine. He was one of the Governing Committee of the Maine Historical Society, has contributed several papers to its collections, and has probably one of the most extensive libraries of books relating to Maine, in private hands. He is a corresponding member of the Historical Societies of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. He has long been prominently connected with the affairs of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and is a lay deputy from Maine to the General Convention of that Church in the United States, and the lay member from Maine of the Missionary Council.

## CHAPTER IV.

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GOING TO THE FRONT. — THE FIRST BATTALION EN  
ROUTE. — A CHANGE OF DESTINATION. — THE  
“SOLDIERS’ REST” AT WASHINGTON.  
— OUR FIRST NIGHT “UNDER  
CANVAS”.

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In the preceding chapters, mention has been made of the fact that the First Battalion of the Thirty-Second Maine, consisting of six companies, was sent into the field some time previous to the completion of the organization of the remaining four companies. To the consideration of the fortunes of this detachment of the regiment, our attention is to be for a time more especially directed. But a few words of explanation seem requisite here, before beginning to speak of the journey of the battalion toward the front. As has already been said, both the Thirty-First and the Thirty-Second Maine had been assigned in advance of their formation, to service with the Ninth Corps, when they should be ready to take the field.

The Secretary of War had, some time before the two regiments were ready to leave the State, designated Annapolis, Maryland, as the depot and rendez-

vous of the Ninth Corps, and had directed that all new regiments which were to join that command, should proceed to that city as soon as they had been recruited to the proper number, and had completed the details of their organization. Accordingly the Thirty-First Maine, or rather nine companies of that regiment under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Hight, left Augusta upon the 18th day of April, to proceed to that destination. Company K of the Thirty-First, not being in complete readiness to go forward, was left in camp at Augusta. And, two days later, upon April 20th, owing to the urgent demand for troops in the field, the first six companies, A, B, C, D, E and F, of the Thirty-Second, broke camp at Augusta and started for the front, under the command of Major Deering. The division of the regiment in this manner into two battalions, and the dispatching of one to the field while the other remained in camp at home, was an unusual proceeding, to be accounted for only upon the ground of the most pressing and urgent necessity which existed for every possible man to participate in the great campaign which was then about to open. And because of this necessity, we were hurried away from Maine before the details of organization had been perfected, and when we were scarcely more than a mass of crude material, as yet without form or substance as a regiment. Many of our number, unaccustomed to the exposures of camp-life in the winter season, had contracted disease, and were sick in hospital. All of these men we were obliged to leave behind us in Augusta, to rejoin us later if they should recover from their illness. So that while the battalion was but little more than half of the regiment, nominally, it was really even less in

number, since there were many vacancies in the ranks of the six companies, occasioned by the absence of men in hospital.

At the moment of leaving the State, we entertained no other idea than that we were to proceed directly to Annapolis, in accordance with what were generally understood to be orders from the highest military authorities. It was supposed and believed by all, officers and men alike, that on arriving, we should pass some considerable time in camp of instruction, acquiring knowledge in those matters of drill and discipline in regard to which we had so far had no opportunity of learning anything. We were fully conscious of our ignorance of much that pertained to the duties we had assumed, but trusted that we should be given sufficient opportunity to gain knowledge before we should be called upon to enter on active service. We looked forward eagerly and hopefully to a period of preparation, and would have welcomed an opportunity to drill steadily and perfect ourselves in all the minutiae of military forms. It was a matter of general public knowledge that the old regiments of the corps to which we had been assigned, had been ordered east from Tennessee, in which State they had, in the previous year, made an arduous campaign, and participated in the defense of Knoxville. These veteran regiments were understood to have arrived at Annapolis in the early part of the month of April, and to be lying there, awaiting the assembling of the new regiments which were under orders to join the corps. It was the belief on all sides, that after a due season of preparation and instruction, to render the new troops serviceable and improve their knowledge of drill, the corps would be put into the field. And it

had been hinted that it was to be employed when the time came for it to enter again upon active service, in a grand coast-wise expedition, somewhat similar in its character to that conducted by General Burnside with some of these same regiments in the early part of the war.

It is now well known that all these rumors and surmises were in a great measure justified by the facts which existed at that time. As early as the latter part of the January previous, General Burnside had submitted to the War Department a plan of operations which contemplated the employment of the Ninth Corps in an expedition against the coast of North Carolina. It was designed to effect the reduction of Wilmington, to be followed by the occupation of the State in general, with especial reference to obtaining possession of the system of railroads operated by the Confederates in the interior of the State.

The idea of such a campaign was received with considerable favor at the War Department, and from the tenor of his instructions, General Burnside was for some time led to suppose that he would be permitted to carry his plan into effect. But an important change in the leadership of the armies of the United States occurred in the course of the winter, as is well known. Congress, in recognition of the great military ability exhibited by General Grant in his western campaigns, had revived the grade of Lieutenant-General, and elevated him to that rank, thus conferring upon him the supreme command, under the President, of all the Federal forces. General Grant at once began the elaboration of a plan to secure the harmonious co-operation of all the armies of the Union in a combined movement against the strongholds of the



Confederacy. He himself came east in March, and while still continuing General Meade in the immediate command of the Army of the Potomac, established his own headquarters with that army. It was his settled purpose to prosecute such a campaign in Virginia as should test to the utmost the relative strength and endurance of the opposing forces. And in the pursuit of this policy, not long before the opening of the campaign in the Wilderness, General Burnside was definitely apprized that the Lieutenant-General had overruled his plan for a coast-wise expedition, and that the Ninth Corps would be required to co-operate with the Army of the Potomac upon the soil of Virginia, instead of making a demonstration against North Carolina. The exigencies of the service were such that every available man and gun were needed to swell the strength of the vast army which Grant meant should strike, at last, a crushing blow, and utterly defeat those veteran Confederate forces which under the skilful leadership of Lee, had so long wrested the fruits of victory from its hands. And the old Ninth Corps was by far too valuable an auxiliary to be permitted to be absent at such a juncture, however great the service it might have been able to render upon more distant fields. Had Burnside's plan of a coast-wise expedition been adopted and put in execution, the Ninth Corps would have been engaged in a practically independent campaign, while the Army of the Potomac was being hurled against the entrenchments at Spottsylvania and Cold Harbor. But Grant was concentrating forces and accumulating numbers, with the design of fighting the war to a close upon Virginian soil. His impending campaign was to be made so persistent, so vigorous and aggressive, that

there should need to be no other to bring the long conflict to a triumphant and glorious termination. And to accomplish this he felt that he must hurl against the enemy such vast masses of men that there would be no power to withstand the shock of their impact.

Upon this decision of the Lieutenant-General turned the future fate of the Thirty-Second Maine, since the employment of the Ninth Corps in Virginia meant for it a sudden plunge into the turbulent strife that raged across the "Old Dominion", instead of a quiet season of drill and instruction in the peaceful environs of Annapolis. But of this change of fate we had no knowledge, when on the morning of Wednesday, the 20th of April, we marched from the old camp to the railroad station in Augusta, and took the cars for Portland, as the first stage of our journey toward the seat of war. From Portland we proceeded by rail to Boston and thence to Fall River, where we took steamer and crossed Long Island Sound to New York. We did not go up to the city of New York, but our steamer passed immediately over to the New Jersey shore, to Amboy, where we disembarked, and at once took the cars upon the famous Camden and Amboy road. Hitherto, in Maine and Massachusetts, we had been conveyed in passenger cars, and our indignation was raised to a high pitch when we found the train now awaiting us was comprised of *cattle-cars*, and by no means clean ones at that. But there was nothing to be gained by being indignant, and we were obliged to swallow our wrath, and enter the cars provided for our transportation across New Jersey. In due season we arrived at Camden, opposite Philadelphia, to which city we were soon transhipped.

In the course of our journey to this point it had been noticed that the enthusiasm that had marked the passage of troops to the front in the earlier days of the war, and which had rendered their progress through the loyal States one continuous ovation, was not manifested in any special degree in our own case. The reason for this was obviously not because of there being any lack of patriotic feeling in the communities we had been passing through, nor because of any fault or short-coming upon our own part. It was for the reason that the spectacle of bodies of armed men had become so frequent along the route which we were following as to have lost all its novelty. Three years of constant experience had rendered the sound of the drum, and the sight of marching troops too familiar to excite the same degree of interest as when they were but rarely heard and seen. And while the sentiment of loyalty was no less cherished, there had grown to be far less outward expression of it, in the direction of enthusiasm lavished upon soldiers proceeding to the field. But upon our arrival at Philadelphia, we were met with such a reception as cheered and gladdened us in no small degree. There were no shouting crowds, no waving banners, and no boisterous expressions of welcome. But, hungry and tired as we were, the bountiful feast which we found awaiting us was worth far more than any of these empty demonstrations could have been. From first to last, not a single battalion passed through Philadelphia, either going to the front, or returning from service, but that it was met upon its arrival, no matter at what hour of the day or night it might be, and plenteously supplied with food and with fragrant steaming coffee, and so sent on its way strengthened and refreshed. In such

a way did the loyal citizens of the "City of Brotherly Love" minister to us upon our arrival, and the thoughtfulness and cordial good will with which all our wants were anticipated, and the generous hospitality with which we met, left an impression upon our minds that time has failed to render less distinct.

From Philadelphia we journeyed toward Baltimore, crossing the Susquehanna river at Havre de Grace, shortly after having entered the State of Maryland, in a manner which seemed decidedly novel to our Northern eyes. The river is broad and deep, and on reaching the hither bank, we found no bridge extending across the wide stream, which seemed to bar our further progress. But the train was soon divided into several sections, which were then run on board of a huge ferry-boat, upon whose deck were several short lines of track. When the whole train had been thus placed on board the boat, she swung off and quickly crossed to the opposite shore, where the train was soon again transferred to the rails upon the southern bank, and steamed away toward Baltimore. Since the war there has been built at this place one of the finest and most costly bridges in America, and the ferry-boat is no longer needed. But at that time it was considered impossible to bridge over such a stream so as to permit the passage of a railway train. Not long after leaving Havre de Grace we found ourselves drawing near Baltimore, in which city we arrived without particular incident, and there halted for a few hours. Here the men learned for the first time that their destination had been changed, orders having been received *en route* to proceed directly to Washington instead of going to Annapolis. In our ignorance, then, of how much this change meant to us, there was little if any

feeling of disappointment or regret manifested, and it may be questioned if many among us, who did not sufficiently appreciate our unprepared condition, were not pleased at the idea of getting into active service without delay.

While awaiting transportation from Baltimore to Washington, we remained in the street, our muskets being in stacks along the pavement under the vigilant eyes of an armed guard, while the men lounged in the shadow of the buildings. We were but just from home, it will be remembered, and as the citizens passed and repassed, we saw, or fancied that we saw, on many faces a silent expression of hatred toward us, and toward the cause for which we were in arms. We remembered that just three years before that very month, the frenzied mob had howled and raged about the path of the Sixth Massachusetts as it marched through these same streets. Nor did we forget that the blood of three of our comrades from the Old Bay State had been spilled by that mob upon these pavements before that terrible march was ended. And it is scarcely strange that we glanced more than once at our shining muskets, stacked in orderly fashion at the edge of the broad walk, and half wished, in our youthful inexperience, that we might be permitted to take arms and avenge those three young soldiers' cruel death. And it may be we hoped for some taunting word or some aggressive act from the citizens to serve us as an excuse for a collision. But, however little the people of Baltimore may have loved us, or the Union for whose sake we were present in their streets, they treated us with all outward civility and respect. The strong hand of military power had held the rebel element in Baltimore in check too long to permit any

outward exhibition of the old spirit then. Undoubtedly there was always a numerous and virulent disloyal element in the city throughout the war, but there was also a large and powerful party whose devotion to the Union was intense and unflinching. And after the first surprise, the loyal men of Baltimore, with the immense armies about the National Capital to lend them aid, were always able to suppress any attempt at an outbreak of the sympathizers with secession. However, our stay in the Monumental City was soon at an end, and was unmarked by any disturbance of the usual quiet and peacefulness of the place. As we were steaming out of the city, on our way toward Washington, many of those who rode on the tops of the cars caught a glimpse of a grim fortification over which the Stars and Stripes were waving in the sunlight. This we learned was the famous Fort McHenry, whose bombardment in the war of 1812, gave occasion for the composition of what has since become one of our most familiar national songs, "The Star Spangled Banner" of Francis Key.

The train passed rapidly onward, and we were soon in the city of Washington, our arrival being on the afternoon of Friday, the 22nd of April. Upon reaching the city, the battalion left the cars and marched to the "Soldiers' Rest", a Government establishment designed for the temporary accommodation of troops passing through the city. Shortly after reaching the "Rest", the men were served with a dinner, of which the recollection is, no doubt, still distinct and vivid in the minds of most of the survivors of the battalion. It was on that occasion that we were first introduced to that savory and delicious viand so well known to all old soldiers under the pleasing appella-

tion of "sow-belly", — otherwise raw salt pork. A thick slice of this appetizing article of food, flanked by a couple of flinty-hearted "hard-tacks", and a somewhat grimy and battered tin dipper filled with a dubious-looking fluid called coffee, by courtesy, composed the sumptuous meal spread upon the bare rough boards of the rude tables around which the men gathered, standing, to eat that first dinner in the National Capital. Hard living we thought it then, in our ignorance of many of the minor discomforts of army life, and many turned away in disgust from the unpalatable food, fresh from the comforts and conveniences of home, as we were. But in after days of hunger and privation, many a man among us may well have looked back with genuine regret and longing, to that despised dinner at the Soldiers' Rest. For, if the food there provided for us was not over-dainty in its quality, there was, at least, no such lack in its quantity, as we sometimes experienced subsequently.

The battalion remained through Friday night at the "Rest", and the next day, — being Saturday, April 23rd, — it proceeded down the Potomac to Alexandria, a distance of some seven or eight miles from Washington, the purpose of this movement being to enable us to procure the needed supplies for the approaching campaign. Upon entering Alexandria, much interest was felt by many of the men, and a good deal of curiosity evinced to see some of the localities the war had brought into prominence, more particularly the famous Marshall House. It was remembered that from the roof of that house the gallant Ellsworth had torn down a rebel flag in the early days of the war, and that in consequence of this daring act he was immediately shot by the proprietor of the house, who

in turn had been killed on the spot by Sergeant Brownell of Colonel Ellsworth's party. The fact that Ellsworth had lost his life because, instead of detaching a squad to effect the capture of the flag he had chanced to observe, as would have been done by most regimental commanders, he had with his usual intrepidity dashed into the house himself, with only a small party of his men, had given the event a peculiar and melancholy interest. And there was a strong desire on the part of many of our battalion to view the place where one of the earliest martyrs in the cause of the Union had laid down his young life so needlessly.

The night of the 23rd was spent by the battalion at the "Soldiers' Rest" in Alexandria, a place similar in its general character to that at Washington, already spoken of, and by no means more inviting than that in any particular. One striking feature of its arrangements was the absence of bunks or other sleeping accommodations, and many comrades will no doubt still remember the extreme unwillingness with which they finally reconciled themselves to a bivouac upon the decidedly dingy floor, the danger of soiling new and clean uniforms almost outweighing the desire for sleep. However, we slept at last, and in a few hours, the morning of Sunday, April 24th, dawned brightly, and the men were soon astir again.

After partaking of breakfast at the "Rest", the battalion fell in and marched some three miles out from the city of Alexandria, in a southwesterly direction, and went into camp. The afternoon of this first Sabbath on the soil of Virginia was occupied in erecting tents and otherwise establishing ourselves in camp, and we were too busy to give much thought to the far different way in which we had been accustomed



to spend the hours of Sunday at home. This was our first experience "under canvas", as we had occupied wooden barracks while in camp in Maine, and had but just received our shelter-tents, at Alexandria. But we worked with a will, and by the latter part of the afternoon, began to congratulate ourselves upon being quite comfortably settled in our orderly rows of low white tents. During Sunday night, however, a violent storm of wind and drenching rain suddenly broke over us, and as our camping ground had been unwisely selected in a valley or depression of the surface, we were soon completely drowned out. The precaution had not been taken to ditch around the tents, and as the rain fell in torrents, the water was soon coursing in rivulets among and into the little shelters, and the ground on which we were sleeping rapidly became a shallow lake. We were obliged to vacate hastily, but fortunately the storm was not of long continuance, and the morning of Monday, the 25th, was bright and sunny. We made the best of our somewhat forlorn condition, and after eating breakfast found our spirits rising considerably, in spite of our damp and muddy surroundings. Early in the day we broke camp, moving a mile or more from our first location, and going into camp again, this time upon a slight elevation, much to the increase of our comfort. We did not remain here long to enjoy our new location, however, as upon the following day we moved toward Arlington Heights, where we finally joined our corps during the night of Tuesday, April 26th.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN AMOS F. NOYES.

Amos F. Noyes was born in Norway, Maine, December 14, 1812, and was the son of Ward Noyes, who came from Andover, Mass., to Norway in 1800. He appears to have inherited a tendency toward military matters, his father having been Captain of the Norway militia in 1808, and the subject of this sketch having held the same rank in 1836, when only twenty-four years of age. Three years later, in 1839, he was appointed as Captain and served in the "Aroostook War" of that year. Until the opening of the Civil War he was occupied as a carpenter and farmer in his native town. At the outbreak of the Rebellion, however, he cast aside the pursuits of peace, and almost on his forty-ninth birthday, — December 12, 1861,—he entered the military service as First Lieutenant of Co. G, Fourteenth Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers. He was discharged June 14, 1862, after serving six months and two days, on account of disability. At Ship Island, he had fallen through a hatchway on board a transport, fracturing three ribs, and seriously disabling him. In the following October, however, having recovered, he again entered the service, being commissioned by the Governor as Captain of Co. H, Twenty-Third Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, on October 14, 1862. He continued with his regiment until discharged by reason of expiration of term of enlistment, serving nine months and one day.

On March 10, 1864, he was commissioned as Captain of Co. B, Thirty-Second Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, and served until December 12, 1864, when he was mustered out by reason of the consolidation of the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Regiments. While serving with his command, Captain Noyes participated in the battles of the Wilderness,



CAPTAIN AMOS F. NOYES.



Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, North Anna River and in front of Petersburg. During the second engagement at Spottsylvania, on May 18, 1864, he received a severe shell wound in right shoulder, fracturing the bone, and affecting the spine and head. From this wound and its results he has always since suffered materially. His life, since his return from the army has been spent in his native town, in whose welfare he has always taken an active interest. He has been a member of the Board of Selectmen six years, having served three years before the war, and three years since. For five years of his service he was Chairman of the Board. He has also been Commander of Harry Rust Post, No. 54, G. A. R., and his extreme age has not abated his patriotic interest in his country's welfare and that of his comrades. His declining years are passing in the quiet retirement of his home in Norway village, where he is tenderly and lovingly cared for by a daughter.

The picture accompanying this sketch is from a photograph taken when he was in his 80th year, and will bring to the minds of his comrades of the Thirty-Second, the familiar and beloved features of the "Father of the Regiment", as they have so often looked upon them at reunions in recent years.

## CHAPTER V.

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### JOINING THE BRIGADE. — A GLIMPSE OF OUR NEW COMRADES. — THE MARCH TO FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE AND BRISTOE STATION. — A WEEK IN CAMP OF INSTRUCTION.

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As has been said, we joined the corps to which we had been assigned, on the 26th of April, and found ourselves placed in the Second Brigade of the Second Division of the Ninth Corps. Before going on with the relation of the occurrences immediately following this date, it seems desirable that some extended mention should be made of the companions among whom we now found ourselves. The Second Division of the Ninth Corps consisted at that time, of two brigades, the first of which comprised the Forty-Fifth and Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania, the Thirty-Sixth and Fifty-Eighth Massachusetts, the Seventh Rhode Island, and the Second New York Mounted Rifles (serving as infantry). The Second Brigade was composed of the Sixth, the Ninth and the Eleventh New Hampshire, the Second Maryland, the Seventeenth Vermont, the Thirty-First Maine, and our own battalion of the Thirty-Second.

The division was under the command of Brigadier General Robert B. Potter, who had been identified with the Ninth Corps from its organization, and had

won well-merited commendation for his military skill and gallantry. General Potter entered the service in October, 1861, as Major of the Fifty-First New York, and had been promoted by successive steps to the rank he then held, always filling each position with honor, and gaining the esteem and approval of his superior officers by his ability, his bravery, and his unwavering faithfulness in the discharge of duty. He had been promoted to Brigadier-General early in 1863, his commission dating from March 13th of that year, but the exigencies of the service soon placed him at the head of a division, in which position of responsibility he had already manifested much ability and established a high reputation, at the time our battalion became a part of his command. He was subsequently commissioned as Brevet Major-General in August, 1864, and served as such till the close of the war, being appointed as full Major-General September 29, 1865.

The Second Brigade of his division, when our battalion joined it, was commanded by Colonel Simon G. Griffin, who was no unworthy subordinate to such a leader as General Potter, and who had himself been long and favorably known among the gallant soldiers of the old Ninth Corps. Entering the service of the United States at the outbreak of hostilities, as a Captain in the Second New Hampshire, he had been promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth New Hampshire in October, 1861, and subsequently, in April, 1862, to Colonel of the last named regiment. In July, 1863, he was placed in command of a brigade for a time, while the corps was serving in Mississippi, and again later in the same year, he held the same position while in East Tennessee. In all his service he had proved himself able and gallant, and had

earned the confidence of his superiors. During the campaign of 1864 he received the commission of Brigadier-General, a rank which his services had long merited, and the duties of which he had performed with marked capacity before his promotion. In April, 1865, he was brevetted Major-General for brave and faithful conduct in the action of April 2nd, 1865.

The several regiments of the brigade of which we had become a part, were largely veteran organizations which had shared the services and the honors of the old corps from the early days of the war. Four of the seven regiments which composed the brigade as it existed in April, 1864, had already seen long and hard service, and participated in much that had made the name of the Ninth Corps famous in the annals of the war. Of these veteran regiments, the Sixth New Hampshire, which was Colonel Griffin's own old regiment, and subsequently under command of Lieut.-Colonel Pearson, had been with the corps since 1861 and had borne its full share of all the service which the corps had rendered in that period. It had formed a part of the famous Burnside expedition to North Carolina, and had landed at Hatteras Inlet; had garrisoned Roanoke, and participated in the gallant dash upon Elizabeth City, and the spirited affair at Camden. Then, having returned to Virginia, it had rendered conspicuously gallant service in August, 1862, at the second battle of Bull Run, and in September had shared the dangers of the field in the engagement at South Mountain. Later in the same month, it had borne a distinguished part in the battle of Antietam, and had twice, vainly, but with the utmost bravery, attempted the passage of the Stone Bridge, to carry which Burnside strove so long upon that day of fierce



encounter beside the sluggish stream. In the subsequent service of the corps in the malarious marshes of Mississippi, and amid the rugged mountains of Tennessee, the regiment had gallantly borne its part, and discharged its full duty at all times.

The Ninth New Hampshire had joined the Corps in August, 1862, and entering at once upon active service, had taken part in the engagement at South Mountain in September, and gained much credit for its behavior under fire. The same month it was again in action at Antietam, and in December it participated in the battle of Fredericksburg, rendering good service in both, and winning much credit for its gallantry. Subsequently it went west with the Corps, and took part in the campaign in Mississippi, after which it did garrison and other duty in Kentucky and Tennessee, everywhere maintaining its reputation for efficiency and good discipline, and adding to its honorable record. The first commander of the regiment was Colonel Fellows, who was succeeded by Colonel Titus, and subsequently by Major Chandler, the latter being in command at the time of our becoming members of the brigade.

The Eleventh New Hampshire, under the command of the widely-known Colonel Walter Harriman, had joined the corps in October, 1862, and fought its first battle, and received its "baptism of fire" at Fredericksburg in December of that year. Although a new and untried regiment, it had stood at its post in that fierce battle with all the steadiness of a veteran organization, and the men in its ranks had fought with the persistence and endurance of seasoned campaigners. Its behavior in this first engagement was of such a character as to win the admiration and praise of all who

were witnesses of its conspicuous courage and determination. The regiment went west with the corps, and participated in the campaigns of Mississippi and Tennessee during the year 1863. In this subsequent service it did no discredit to the fame it had achieved at Fredericksburg, but performed all the arduous and oftentimes perilous duties which devolved upon it, in such brave and soldierly fashion as to reflect new honor upon itself and the State from whose sturdy sons its ranks had been recruited.

The Second Maryland, commanded by Colonel Allard, had joined the corps as early as April, 1862, while Burnside's expedition was still occupying North Carolina, and it remained in that State until July of the same year. Then returning to Virginia, it had borne its part in the second Bull Run battle on the 29th of August, and obtained much credit for its gallant conduct on that field. At South Mountain, on the 14th of September, 1862, it was in reserve during the engagement, and did not actively participate therein. But at Antietam, three days later, it was not only closely engaged, but had the honor of being selected, together with the Sixth New Hampshire, to compose the charging column in the second attempt to carry the Stone Bridge, after Crooks' brigade had failed to force its passage. Though twice repulsed with heavy loss, and ultimately obliged to abandon the attempt to carry the bridge, the two regiments gained much honor for the gallantry displayed in their vigorous attack. In December, the Second Maryland was in the engagement at Fredericksburg, and subsequently the regiment was in Mississippi and Tennessee with the remainder of the corps. In all the history of these loyal sons of Mary-

land, there is nothing to detract in any particular from the high reputation for soldierly qualities which their earliest services had won for them.

The Seventeenth Vermont, like the Thirty-First Maine and our own little battalion, was a new regiment, having joined the brigade only in April, 1864, at about the same time that we became members of it. It was commanded by Colonel Randall, a good and brave soldier, and contained in its ranks many gallant sons of the old Green Mountain State, but had at that time no proud record of past achievements to emblazon upon its banners. During the campaign, however, it made for itself a splendid reputation for heroism and bravery, and rendered brilliant and effective service to the Union cause.

The Thirty-First Maine, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Hight, had left the State only two days in advance of ourselves, and joined the brigade about the same time, so that it was equally as unaccustomed to service as were we. Perhaps it would be improper to express, in this place, any opinion as to the extent of the service rendered by this command, further than to say that it bore an honorable part in all the events of the campaign, and made for itself a record of which its survivors have good reason to be justly proud. So intimately connected and closely interwoven are the stories of the participation of this regiment and our own in the operations of the year 1864, that any more detailed statement as to the part sustained by the Thirty-First Maine separately is scarcely necessary in a narrative of this nature.

Such, then, was the material of which the old Second Brigade was composed at the beginning of the campaign of 1864, and it may be added here that the

numerical strength of the brigade in April of that year was about twenty-seven hundred men (2,700), as the old regiments were somewhat reduced in number by the previous service they had seen. The three new organizations were naturally by far the larger part of the brigade in point of numbers, but they were undisciplined and lacked the knowledge of military tactics possessed by the veterans. It can be readily imagined that under all the circumstances there was no little curiosity, mingled, it may be, with some uncertainty and even doubt, as to whether the new regiments were worthy to be placed upon the same footing as the several old organizations. The veterans questioned somewhat indignantly whether these new troops, who had never been under fire, deserved to stand side by side with them, who had fought bravely in so many famous fields. That when the time of trial came, as come it did in so short a time, we who were new-comers proved ourselves not undeserving of the honor of membership, even in the hard-fighting Second Brigade, can be asserted without fear of contradiction, in the case of each of the new regiments. And we were cheerfully accorded by our veteran comrades the position to which we had shown our right, when the trial had been had. Like the true and generous soldiers that they were, our comrades in the old regiments, when our behavior under fire had shown them that we deserved their respect and confidence, unhesitatingly and fully accepted us as worthy of membership with them. And no comrade of the old brigade to-day will refuse us the acknowledgement that we did our duty at all times to the extent of our utmost ability, and proved no disgrace to the command in which it was our fortune to serve together.

Having thus sketched the personnel of the companions with which we found ourselves most closely connected, let us return to the narrative of events occurring immediately after our junction with the brigade. On the morning of Wednesday, April 27th, our battalion, together with the entire Ninth Corps, took up the line of march to the southward, moving from Arlington Heights to Fairfax Court House, a distance of some sixteen miles, during the day. We halted for the night at the Court House, and on Thursday, the 28th, resumed our march, continuing from Fairfax to Bristoe Station, about eighteen miles, thus covering in the two days time a total distance of some thirty-four miles. This was by no means any extraordinary distance for the length of time occupied, and not so great as was subsequently accomplished by the battalion within less than the same space of time, when it had become more accustomed to marching. But we were then fresh from civil life, and all unused to such continued exertion, and unaccustomed to the weight of muskets and equipments, and the experience of those two days was of such a novel character as to make a deep impression upon our minds. These were our first marches,—our first realization of what it meant to plod for hours along dusty roads, under a scorching sun, and we had not yet become inured to fatigue and been hardened and toughened by constant practice.

We started out cheerfully and even joyfully, in the morning of the first day, and found much to interest us in the unfamiliar scenes about us, for a while. But as hours passed, and the sun grew hotter and the dust-clouds more dense, we began to experience fatigue and discomfort. The straps of our

knapsacks seemed to be cutting deep into the flesh, and our tired shoulders ached grievously under the weight they bore, and the heavy muskets seemed almost ready to drop from the wearied hands that held them. Our feet were blistered and aching, and our exhausted limbs almost refused to support us, long before that first day's march was ended, so it is little wonder that we look back upon it as one of the prominent incidents of our early experience. And, perhaps, it is true that the march to Fairfax was rendered a little more severe than it need have been by reason of the desire of some of the veterans among our new comrades to ascertain of what sort of material the boys from Vermont and Maine were made. While it might be impossible to prove that such was the fact, it was the general belief that there was some preconcerted plan to give us a pretty sharp trial as to our ability to keep up. The story goes that one of the veteran regiments, having the right of the column at the beginning of that first day's march, was seized with a strong desire to try the endurance of the "raw recruits", as they jokingly termed us. So those stalwart, tough and well-seasoned fellows struck into a swinging gait, and kept it up for mile after mile, all through those long and weary hours. They hoped to tire us out, unused to marching as we were, by the terrific pace at which they went. And they fondly expected to see our boys straggle and drop out, and be left so far in the rear that we should be fit subjects for their derision and laughter when we should come dropping into camp in scattered squads that night. But we were plucky, if we were green, and cruelly as the march taxed our energies, and weary as we became before it ended, we yet hung closely on the heels of our leaders all that

long day. And they had but small reason to laugh at us, when after hours of painful plodding through the dust and heat, the brigade at last halted for the night in a grassy field, just as the sun was beginning to set. How tired we were, when we finally broke ranks, and began to prepare to pass the night in the field in which we lay, but we had the satisfaction of knowing that our battalion was nearly all there, comparatively few having straggled, in spite of the unusual fatigue and suffering which the day had occasioned.

How soundly we slept that night, and how brief seemed the interval of rest permitted us before we were roused to begin the duties of the new day. But our Maine blood was up, and we vowed to show those veteran campaigners that the "raw recruits" *could* march, if we died in proving it. So all that long, hot day, for, though only the last week in April, the weather was very warm, and seemed especially so to us, fresh from the cooler climate of Maine, we struggled on, even faster than we had done the day previous. It was rather an eager, breathless race than an ordinary march, but we felt as if the honor of the Pine Tree State depended upon our exertions. And if we suffered, we had the keen satisfaction of knowing that our persecutors of the day before were being punished quite as much as ourselves. So we kept up a killing pace throughout the second day, and went into Bristoe Station wearied and worn out, but with few vacancies, comparatively speaking, in our ranks, and feeling no little pride at having been able to do as well as we had. The hint that we thus gave was good-naturedly accepted by the veterans of the brigade, and a proper appreciation of our abilities in the direction of marching was always subsequently manifested by

them. Considerable space has been given to the narration of this incident, not because it is especially important, but from the fact that being our introduction to the severe duties of active military life, it made a deep impression upon us at the time. And in reviewing the events of those early days, it stands out so prominently that it seemed improper to pass it over without detailed relation. Yet, in itself, a march of sixteen miles on one day, and of eighteen the next, was not a matter worthy of many words, except for the fact that we were so utterly unaccustomed to marching and carrying the burden of arms and equipments.

Upon arrival at Bristoe Station we proceeded at once to erect our little shelter-tents, and otherwise prepared for a stay of a few days at this point. The ground on which we now found ourselves was extremely interesting to us from the fact that we were surrounded on all sides by localities whose names had become familiar in the course of the three years of war which had preceded our entry into service. The Plains of Manassas, the scene of the first Bull Run battle, lay in our rear, and we had crossed, in the course of our march, the famous stream which had given a name to that contest. Centerville, too, so well known by name to all Northern people, and so intimately connected with the history of the Army of the Potomac in 1861 and 1862, had been passed, with its long lines of trenches and breastworks, its powerful forts and redoubts, and its few untenanted and ruinous houses.

Bristoe Station itself was historic ground, for here on the 14th of October, 1863, the Second Corps had had a sharp encounter with a force of the enemy, during the manœuvring which followed the battle of Get-



tysburg. Lee and Meade were each pushing toward Centerville, each striving to be first to occupy the works around that village, and a grand race between the two armies was the result. The Second Corps was performing the duty of guarding the rear of Meade's army, and soon after noon of the 14th was crossing Broad Run, a wide and muddy stream which flows past Bristoe Station, when the Confederates under A. P. Hill made a sudden and spirited attack. The passage of the run was a matter of considerable difficulty, and the Federal column was in some degree of disorder in consequence, so that the rebels hoped their unexpected attack would result in a rout of the troops at the crossing. They were disappointed in their effort to throw the column into confusion, however, and after a severe fight the Confederates retreated, leaving the Second Corps masters of the situation. The loss of the enemy was quite large, five guns, two stands of colors, and between four and five hundred prisoners being taken by the Federals, while the Confederate killed and wounded was estimated at nearly two thousand men. To us, fresh from our peaceful homes, there was a great degree of fascination in being upon a spot where such a conflict had taken place only a few months previous, and we examined with much interest all the traces which remained to tell of the sharp fight which had been had. The Station was dismantled and destroyed, and only a pile of ruins marked the location of what had once been a hotel, while all the other buildings which had at one time clustered around these had disappeared entirely. A few scattered graves, with rude wooden headboards, here and there, showed where lay some of those who had fallen in the fight, but the last resting places of

many, both of Federals and Confederates, were unmarked and scarcely distinguishable.

We remained at Bristoe Station about a week, and were glad to be permitted to enjoy a few days of comparative rest, though the time was by no means spent in idleness. On April 29th, the day after our arrival, we broke camp and moved a mile and a half, and then went into camp again in our new position. On the following day, April 30th, the muster and pay-rolls for the several companies of the battalion were made up, involving a considerable amount of labor and anxiety for the company clerks, who were as yet unaccustomed to this duty. The first day of May we again moved camp a short distance, not more than the length of the battalion line, without any apparent reason for the change. On the 4th the battalion was called upon to furnish a detail for picket, and about one hundred (100) men, under command of Captain Sargent of Co. C., were furnished for that duty.

During our stay here the battalion was also busily engaged in drilling, company and other movements being practised daily, and some instruction given us, for the first time, in firing. That we were sadly in need of such knowledge may be judged from an incident which occurred here. One of the companies was practicing file-firing, and a stalwart young sailor in its ranks, who was more familiar with reef-points and halliards than with a musket, failed to observe that his piece had missed fire, and continued loading till three or four cartridges were superimposed upon each other. The next time his file was to fire, a better cap than the others ignited the whole charge, fortunately with no more serious results than a bursted musket, one or two men slightly burned with powder, and an





CAPTAIN HERBERT R. SARGENT.

astonished and badly-scared platoon. The barrel of his piece was ruptured and a seam opened from the nipple to the middle band, but luckily no fragments were thrown off, and except that one or two of his neighbors were somewhat burned about the face and neck, no one was injured. For a moment, however, the excitement was greater in that company than it would have been a few weeks later had the rebels suddenly poured a volley into its ranks. But much as we needed time to become more proficient in drill, it was, as has been said, only a very brief period that we were permitted to remain at Bristoe and apply ourselves to this.

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## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN HERBERT R. SARGENT.

Herbert Redding Sargent was born in Parkman, Piscataquis County, Maine, on June 20, 1836, being the eldest son of Increase Sumner and Judith Haskell (Loring) Sargent. His family have been identified with the principal wars in which the country has been engaged from the war of the Revolution; his great-grandfather, Dr. Thomas Sargent, having served in that struggle; his grandfather, Montgomery Sargent, in the war of 1812; his father in the Aroostook War; himself in the Civil War, and his son, Herbert K. Sargent, in the war with Spain. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was working at his trade as mason, in Portland, Maine, and was among the first to volunteer when the call to arms was made.

Fort Sumpter was fired upon on April 12, 1861, and ten days later, April 22, 1861, the subject of this sketch enlisted

in Co. E, First Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, for a term of three months. In this organization he served successively as private, first corporal, and fourth sergeant, until the expiration of the term of enlistment, on August 8, 1861. Immediately upon his discharge and return home, he at once re-enlisted, in common with many of his comrades, in the Tenth Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, for a period of two years. And on October 4, 1861, he was mustered into the United States service as second sergeant of Co. E, Tenth Maine. He was soon promoted, being commissioned Second Lieutenant of his company on January 16, 1862. On March 29, 1862, he was commissioned as First Lieutenant, and on August 9, 1862, was promoted to Captain. While serving as First Lieutenant, on July 3, 1862, he was in charge of a detachment of eighteen men, on the Luray Pike, near Front Royal, and was attacked by a body of rebel cavalry, numbering one hundred and fifty. He repulsed the enemy without loss to his command, although emptying three of the Confederates' saddles, and capturing one or two of their horses.

At one time in 1862, near Front Royal, he was detailed to construct a pontoon bridge across the Shenandoah river, having charge of one hundred and fifty men. Although entirely unacquainted with work of that nature, never having seen a pontoon laid previously, the duty was speedily and successfully accomplished, in spite of its being done in the darkness of night. While serving in the Tenth Maine, he participated with the regiment in the battles of Winchester, Falling Waters, Luray Pike and Cedar Mountain. In the last named engagement, on August 9, 1862, he was twice wounded, receiving a ball in the left shoulder, and one in the bridge of the nose. A part of the missile which inflicted this latter wound, lodged under the left eye, and remained embedded in the bones of the face, and was carried by him for nearly ten years, before it was finally removed by a surgical operation.

While on the march towards Cedar Mountain, on the day before the battle, (August 8, 1862,) he had received a sun-stroke, which rendered him insensible at the time, and from the effect of which he has never entirely recovered. But when the firing began on the next day, by a supreme effort, he left the ambulance in which he was lying, and went into the action with his company. He had previously, in the fall of 1861, been wounded in the right hand, while guarding the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, near Annapolis Junction. But the wounds received at Cedar Mountain were of much greater severity, and he was compelled, by reason of the disability they occasioned, to leave the regiment, and go into the hospital for some length of time. After his return, he remained with his company until it was mustered out and discharged, on May 8, 1863, by reason of expiration of term of service. Returning to Maine after his muster out, he remained at home but a short time before beginning to recruit a company for one of the new regiments which were to be organized. And, on March 17, 1864, he was commissioned as Captain of Co. C, Thirty-Second Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, and was mustered into the United States service as such, on March 23, 1864. After a brief time in camp at Augusta, he left Maine with the first battalion of the Thirty-Second, on April 20th, and entered at once upon the active service which was experienced by those who participated in the Overland Campaign under Grant.

From the beginning of May to the end of July, he was almost constantly under fire, being engaged in the battles of the Wilderness, Ny River and Spottsylvania, and at the siege of Petersburg, besides minor actions. At Spottsylvania, on May 18th, he received a severe contusion from a grape-shot in the region of the kidneys, by which he was for some time, seriously disabled. And by reason of which he was absent from the regiment, under treatment in hospitals at Alexandria, Va., and Annapolis, Md., for nearly a month. At the Mine

Explosion before Petersburg, on July 30, 1864, he was taken prisoner, together with many other officers and men of his regiment, being captured by Mahone's division of Confederates, in the "Crater" after a prolonged and bloody contest. While a prisoner in the hands of the enemy, he was confined successively at Petersburg, Danville, Richland County jail, the Insane Asylum yard at Columbia, S. C., and at Charlotte, N. C. At the last named place, he was paroled, about February 25, 1865, and passed through the lines on Cape Fear river, about ten miles above Wilmington, on March 1. Thence he went to Camp Parole, at Annapolis, Md., and remained there until May 3, when having been exchanged, he joined the regiment, then in camp near Alexandria, Va., remaining with the command until its muster out in July, 1865.

During the time he had been a prisoner, however, the Thirty-Second regiment had ceased to exist as a separate organization. It had seen such severe service, and become so depleted by its heavy losses, that the War Department had deemed it advisable to consolidate its fragments with the Thirty-First Maine. And on December 12, 1864, while Captain Sargent was still in rebel prison, this consolidation had been effected. He was transferred to Co. C, of the Thirty-First, as its Captain, and after his release, served as such until after the close of the war, being mustered out with that regiment near Alexandria, Va., July 17, 1865. Both prior to his capture, and subsequent to his return, he was at various times in command of his regiment, having commanded the Thirty-Second Maine from June 24, to July 30, 1864, and having relieved Capt. Kyes as commanding officer of the Thirty-First, on his return in May, 1865. After Col. Wentworth was wounded at the Mine Explosion on the 30th of July, the command had devolved upon Captain Sargent, who led it in its advance beyond the crater, prior to his being taken prisoner. He also served at various times as Brigade



and Division Officer of the Day, and as Provost Marshal of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, and was for some two months on the staff of Col. Steven M. Weld, commanding the Second Brigade.

After his final discharge from the military service, and return home, Captain Sargent entered the customs service, and was Inspector of Customs at Portland, Me., from 1865 to 1880. He was subsequently Deputy Sheriff and Messenger of the Court of Insolvency for Cumberland County for eight years, from 1882 to 1890, and for fourteen years a Constable for the City of Portland. He has also twice held commissions as United States Deputy Marshal, so that it may be said that much of his life has been devoted to the enforcement of law and order.

Since the war, he has been prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic, being a Past Commander of Bosworth Post, No. 2, Department of Maine, of which he is a charter member, having been mustered in, September 17, 1867. He has also served as Aide-de-Camp on the staffs of the Department Commander of Maine and of the National Commander-in-Chief, and as Delegate to National Encampments at Milwaukee and St. Paul. And for two terms he represented the Department of Maine in the National Council of Administration, so that he may claim to have served his comrades as faithfully in time of peace as he served his country in war.

## CHAPTER VI.

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IN THE WILDERNESS. — OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN. —  
THE MARCH TO THE RAPPAHANNOCK. — GUARDING  
THE REAR. — THE CONFLICT IN THE TANGLED  
THICKETS. — THE BURNING WOODS AT NIGHT

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The necessities of the service were such that all inexperienced as we were, we were not permitted to remain in the pleasant camp of which mention has been made in the last chapter, only a very few days before we were hurried forward to join in the terrible conflict which signalized the opening of the marvelous campaign of 1864. The battalion lay at Bristoe Station only from the night of Thursday, April 28th, until the morning of Thursday, May 5th, or but six days in all. And even while we were lying in camp, the great army had begun its movement, the advance of the Army of the Potomac from its winter camps on the northern side of the Rapidan having actually commenced as early as Tuesday, the 3rd of May. The Second Corps, under command of General Hancock, had moved out of its camp just before midnight on Tuesday, and marching through the night, had crossed the Rapidan at Ely's Ford soon after daybreak on the morning of May 4th. The Fifth Corps, under General Warren, had moved toward Germanna Ford at nearly

the same hour as the Second, and was followed, early in the morning of the 4th, by the Sixth Corps under General Sedgwick. Their march to the river was unimpeded, and both the Corps were safely across before sunset on Wednesday, while their immense trains of wagons followed during the night, the greater part of these last named crossing at Ely's Ford and Culpepper Mine Ford. It was late in the afternoon of the following day, May 5th, however, before the last of the enormous train of wagons had crossed at Culpepper Mine Ford.

Thus during the 4th of May, the entire Army of the Potomac, and a considerable portion of its trains, had effected a crossing without opposition on the part of the enemy, there being no fighting on that day except some slight and feeble skirmishing in front of the Second Corps. Having thus crossed the river successfully, the three corps took up positions as follows: the Second, in advance, on the old battle ground in the vicinity of Chancellorsville, the Fifth in the neighborhood of the Old Wilderness Tavern, and the Sixth immediately about the Old Wilderness Tavern and backward to Germanna Ford. Meanwhile the Ninth Corps still remained upon the north side of the Rapidan, the greater part of the corps being, on the 3rd of May, at or about the point where the North fork of the Rappahannock river is crossed by the Orange & Alexandria railroad at Rappahannock Station, and its lines extending along the course of that road, back northwardly to the vicinity of Bull Run.

On the afternoon of May 4th, the corps received orders to follow as rapidly as possible the advance of the Army of the Potomac, and to reinforce the troops

which were already across the Rapidan. In accordance with these orders, it was at once put in motion, and after marching until after midnight of the 4th, went into bivouac and rested for a few hours, to permit the trains belonging to the other corps to clear the road in its front. Its march was resumed early on the morning of Thursday, May 5th, and continued throughout that day, the advance crossing the river at Germanna Ford in the evening of the 5th. The fact that while the main body of the corps began its movement on the afternoon of Wednesday, our battalion did not break camp until the morning of Thursday, is to be explained by saying that to us, and to the Ninth New Hampshire regiment, had been assigned the duty of covering and guarding the rear of the whole army. Therefore we could not move until the troops in advance were well out upon the roads, and we lay quietly while the long columns of infantry, each led by a division of cavalry, pushed onward to the fords, and established themselves across the river. However, when we were once out of camp we atoned for our enforced delay by the utmost celerity of movement. Our battalion, together with our comrades of the Ninth New Hampshire, marched over a distance of twenty-five miles on the 5th of May, to the Rappahannock river, where we halted a few hours for the rest of which we were sadly in need. Only a week before we had felt ourselves completely exhausted and worn out by the marches of which mention was made in the last chapter, but we were now called upon to exert ourselves still more, and accomplish in a single day a far greater distance than we had covered in either of the two days occupied in our former movement. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising

that there was some little straggling, though to our credit be it said that comparatively few men fell out during this toilsome and trying march. During the entire day the column was almost continually annoyed by bushwhackers, who hung upon our flanks and rear, and who succeeded in capturing a number of our men. We were too strong a force for these small guerilla parties to make any show of fighting, but they hovered closely about us, and watched their opportunity to make prisoners of those whose fatigue rendered them incapable of keeping up with the column. The remainder of our brigade was far in the advance, having moved with the corps on the 4th of May, and while our comrades of the Ninth New Hampshire may, from their longer service, have been more accustomed to their position as the rear-guard of a great army, we in the Thirty-Second Maine, at least, were fully conscious of the novelty of our situation. And while we knew that there could be no large force of the Confederates between us and the river, since the troops in our front had encountered no opposition, we were aware that lurking parties of bushwhackers were in our immediate vicinity, and in our inexperience we doubtless magnified their numbers and importance. And added to the physical fatigue of the hurried march was the anxiety with which the knowledge of their proximity inspired us, so that the day was in all respects a trying one to us.

Meanwhile a stubborn and bloody contest had been begun between Grant and Lee in the Wilderness, on the southern side of the Rapidan river. The Army of the Potomac had successfully accomplished the passage of that stream, and three corps, aggregating nearly one hundred thousand men, with more than

two hundred pieces of artillery and some ten thousand cavalrymen, had been put in position upon the other side. Before them lay a dense and tangled forest, covering many square miles, and well named the Wilderness, into which they plunged boldly only to find the Confederates in strong force hidden in its depths. The Federal advance came into collision with the rebels early on the morning of Thursday, the 5th, and all through that long day, while we were straining every nerve in our toilsome march, a fierce struggle was going on, far in advance of us, amid the pines and wooded swamps. All day long, as we hurried onward, the sound of the firing in our front swelled hour by hour into louder cadences. At first we heard a deep and sullen reverberation, like distant thunder, but as we advanced it grew more and more distinct, and while yet at a distance of many miles we could plainly hear the heavily-rolling volleys of musketry steadily increasing in volume. To most of us in the battalion, war was an entirely unknown experience, and the firing which fell so plainly on our ears was a sound until then unknown. We knew what it must mean, and we said to one another as the column pressed forward, with that strange thunder growing ever louder, that the troops in our front had found the enemy and were fiercely engaged. We scarcely realized, perhaps, the carnage and death which were raging where that sound arose, but we knew that it was the thunder of battle, and it served as an incentive to renewed exertions on our part. Whenever our weary footsteps grew slow and lagging from fatigue, the echoes of that strife urged us forward, and severe as was the strain of such a march to newly enlisted men, we forgot our weariness and pain in the intensity

of our desire to come to the aid of our comrades at the front. The three corps which had crossed the river on the 4th of May,—the Second, Fifth and Sixth,—were the participants in the battle on the following day, General Burnside and the Ninth Corps not being ordered forward in season to take any part in the fighting of Thursday.

Speaking of this first day's battle, a brilliant writer has said, "The rattle of musketry would swell into a full, continuous roar as the simultaneous discharge of ten thousand guns mingled in one grand concert, and then after a few minutes, become more interrupted. \* \* \* \* \* Then would be heard the wild yells which always told of a rebel charge, and again the volleys would become more terrible, and the broken, crashing tones would swell into one continuous roll of sound, which would presently be interrupted by the vigorous manly cheers of the Northern soldiers, so different from the shrill yell of the rebels, and which indicated a repulse of their enemies. \* \* \* In the evening the contest was renewed, especially along the line of the Sixth Corps, and the dark woods were lighted with the flame from the mouth of tens of thousands of muskets. Charges and counter-charges followed each other in quick succession, and the rebel yell and northern cheer were heard alternately, but no decided advantage was gained by either party. At two o'clock at night the battle died away, but there was no rest for the weary soldiers after the fatiguing duties of the day. Each man sat with musket in hand during the wearisome hours of the night, prepared for an onset of the enemy. Skirmishing was kept up during the entire night, and at times the musketry would break out in full volleys which rolled

along the opposing lines until they seemed vast sheets of flame." \*

Early on the morning of Friday, May 6th, the advance of the Ninth Corps began moving into the line, and taking position between the Second and Fifth Corps. The Army of the Potomac lay in substantially the same position as during the day before, the Sixth Corps being on the right, with its rear on Wilderness Run, near the Old Wilderness Tavern, the Fifth Corps in the center, and the Second Corps on the left, the length of the line being nearly five miles. As the troops of the Ninth Corps came up, although much wearied by the long march which they had made, they were at once placed in line. The command had marched with great rapidity an average distance of more than thirty miles, and crossed two rivers, the Rappahannock and the Rapidan, since the afternoon of the fourth of May. General Grant, in his report of the campaign, says of this rapid movement that "considering that a large proportion, probably two-thirds, of General Burnside's command was composed of new troops, unaccustomed to marches and carrying the accoutrements of a soldier, this was a remarkable march."

Remarkable, indeed, it was, but great as was the speed with which the corps moved, it arrived none too soon upon the field of action. The battle had recommenced early on Friday morning by an attack of the Confederates, at a quarter before five o'clock, upon the position held by the Sixth Corps. Within the ensuing fifteen minutes the Second and Fifth Corps also became engaged, and soon after five o'clock the battle was raging furiously along the entire line. Fierce

\* Stevens — "Three Years in the Sixth Corps." p. 306.



volleys of musketry crashed and thundered through the thick forests, and cheers and yells were intermingled as charges were made, now by Federals, and now by rebels, the space between the two lines being fought over, in some instances, as many as five separate times. In among the thick-set pines, through the tangle of undergrowth, down in the dark ravines, and across the open glades, the tide of battle surged, till the ground was covered with dead and dying men. After the first sudden onset, the weight of the conflict fell most heavily upon Hancock and the brave men of the Second Corps. At first Hancock was successful in pushing back the divisions of the Confederate General Hill, whose corps was opposed to the Second, but the advance of the Federals was soon checked and brought to an end. In the early hours of the morning, the Second Corps had driven Hill back through the woods for more than a mile, shattering the divisions of Heth and Wilcox to disordered fragments, and capturing many prisoners, and several battle-flags. But by seven o'clock its brief advantage was over, and it found itself not only unable to force the enemy to retire further, but with its lines thrown into some degree of confusion, in consequence of the rough, broken and wooded ground over which it had so rapidly advanced. Hancock found it necessary to pause and reform his lines, and rearrange them in order of battle, some two hours being occupied in perfecting his formation. By this time, about nine o'clock, A. M., the leading division of the Ninth Corps, which was the First, under General Stevenson, had arrived at the scene of action. Upon coming up to the lines, it had been ordered at once to reinforce Hancock, and it shared with the Second Corps the subsequent fortunes

of the day in that portion of the field. General Walker in his "History of the Second Army Corps" says of the services rendered, "Stevenson's small division of the Ninth Corps had reported at the junction of the Brock and Plank Roads. Of this, Leasure's brigade had been sent down the Brock Road, in reserve against Longstreet's possible attack. Carruth's brigade had been sent forward to support Birney. \* \* \* Meanwhile, Hancock, determined to know what the enemy was doing in his immediate front, placed Leasure's small brigade, about one thousand strong, in line of battle at right angles to the entrenchments, their right resting about one hundred yards therefrom, and sent it forward to sweep his front. This order was executed by Colonel Leasure with intelligence and spirit, the brigade crossing the entire front of Mott and Birney, encountering only a small force of the enemy which it drove away, and then resumed its position in support of the main line near the Plank Road".\*

As the remainder of the Ninth Corps came up, it advanced through the opening between Warren and Hancock, but owing to its originally being so far to the rear, and the fact of not being ordered to break camp as early as the corps composing the Army of the Potomac, considerable time elapsed before the command, as a whole, reached the battle-ground. And it was not until the afternoon of Friday that any large force from this corps became closely engaged with the enemy. As soon as they had arrived, the Second division of the corps, with the Third division in support, moved out at once upon the Parkers' Store road, our Second brigade leading the advance of the column.

\* Walker — "History of the Second Army Corps", p. 424 and p. 431.

Neither our own battalion nor the Ninth New Hampshire were with the brigade at this time, but we subsequently learned of its movements from our comrades who were present. The demonstration upon the Parkers' Store road was an unimportant one, and the movement was soon suspended. All available forces were ordered to the left of the line to reinforce Hancock, and relieve the Second Corps from the severe pressure which it was sustaining. The direction of the column was at once changed, and after some time spent in struggling through the dense woods, the division encountered the enemy strongly entrenched. An attack was made upon his fortified position, and quite a lively engagement followed. But the Confederate works proved to be too strong to be carried, and after sustaining considerable loss, the attacking column was withdrawn. And the division proceeded to build a line of works and entrench itself in close proximity to the Confederate line.

The loss in those regiments of our brigade which participated in this affair was quite large, the Thirty-First Maine having one officer and three enlisted men killed, and some fifteen or twenty men wounded, while the others suffered, at least, equally. Our own battalion, in consequence of the duty which had fallen to our lot, of forming the rear-guard of the whole army, was far removed from the scene of this action at the time of its occurrence. We were so far in the rear that the most rapid march would not have enabled us to come up in time to take an active part in the engagement. But although prevented by circumstances from sharing the dangers of the action, we were none the less discharging a responsible duty in the service we were performing. Together with the

Ninth New Hampshire, we joined our brigade late in the day, and participated with them in the labor of erecting breastworks. In the immediate front of our position there was no serious fighting going on, when we came up to the brigade, but all about us the roar of battle still filled the air and fierce contests were taking place upon all sides. Far to our right, just before sun-set, there suddenly burst out the furious fire of musketry which marked Ewell's attack upon the Sixth Corps, in which the Confederates gained a temporary advantage, but were soon repulsed. Though the contest at this point was not of long continuance, it was very sharp while it lasted, and darkness came on before it was over. To those who listened, with abated breath, to the crashing volleys, the wild, shrill yells of the charging rebels, and the answering cheering of Sedgwick's brave men, as these mingled sounds were borne upon the evening breeze, it seemed hours before the conflict ceased. But at length the firing slackened, the Sixth Corps having recovered the ground from which it had been temporarily driven in the first fierce onset upon its flank, and recaptured from the enemy its line of breastworks. As the darkness grew deeper the sounds of battle gradually died away, and at length the wearied Federal soldiers, exhausted by two days of persistent fighting, sank to sleep upon their arms, behind their hastily constructed works. About ten o'clock their rest was broken by another fierce onslaught upon the position of the Sixth Corps, the rebels evidently being desperately bent upon turning the right flank of our army. A withering fire met their charge, however, and their ranks were rent and torn beneath the terrible volleys that fell upon them. Another fruit-

less effort, half an hour later, was met by an equally determined resistance, and after sustaining severe losses, the Confederates finally relinquished the attempt to dislodge Sedgwick, and fell back to their own lines. No other serious demonstration was made against our position during the night, but the enemy was evidently in very strong force in our immediate vicinity, and bent on driving us back across the river, if possible. So that we of the battalion, who were but just beginning our initiation into the experiences of a soldier's life, may well be pardoned if, in the midst of such scenes, our rest was somewhat broken and feverish, and our dreams disturbed by visions of charging columns sweeping down upon us with irresistible force. The night passed without such visions being realized, however, and we were early astir and engaged in strengthening our lines, lopping trees in front, constructing abattis, and otherwise adding to the security of our position.

It was a strange, wild scene in the midst of which we found ourselves that pleasant May morning. The region known as the Wilderness has been described by one of the historians of the war as "a broken, sterile tract of country in Spottsylvania County, commencing a little south of the Rapidan and extending ten or fifteen miles in a southerly direction, and about the same distance westward from Chancellorsville. It is intersected in every direction by gullies and ravines, with swamps interspersed, and covered with a thick growth of stunted pines, dwarf oaks and underbrush, so dense as to be in many places almost impenetrable, the roads traversing it being a labyrinth of mere straggling paths, impracticable for wagons, and converted into quagmires by a few hours' rain. The

whole tract is almost without inhabitants; here and there may be seen, at the intersection of the roads, a tavern or a store, with half a dozen rude dwellings grouped around it. It will readily be seen that neither cavalry nor artillery could be brought into play on this ground". To this may be added the graphic description of a member of the Sixth Corps, of the topography in that part of the line. He says, "The wood through which our line was now moving was a thick growth of oak and walnut, densely filled with a smaller growth of pines and other brushwood; and in many places so thickly was this undergrowth interwoven among the large trees that one could not see five yards in front of the line. Yet, as we pushed on, with as good a line as possible, the thick tangle in a measure disappeared, and the woods were more open. Still, in the most favorable places, the thicket was so close as to make it impossible to manage artillery or cavalry, and indeed, infantry found great difficulty in advancing; and at length we were again in the midst of the thick undergrowth".\*

Such was the ground over which this great battle had been raging for the two days past, and hundreds and thousands of dead and dying men were lying in the forest-glades and amid the thickets. Trees had been felled, and the trunks built into long lines of breastworks, while the matted earth, never before disturbed by human hands, had been cut into deep trenches and thrown up into solid embankments, behind whose shelter the men might lie in safety. For several rods in front of the works the trees had been slashed or lopped, and lay with their limbs tangled in inextricable confusion, forming an almost

\* Stevens — "Three Years in the Sixth Corps", p. 304.

impenetrable abattis. It was now Saturday, the 7th of May, and after the severe contest prolonged throughout two previous days, the antagonists were still defiantly facing each other upon the morning of the third day. Both armies had suffered severely, and neither manifested much disposition to renew the struggle, though neither was ready to acknowledge itself vanquished. There was no such general engagement on Saturday as upon the previous days, and the main portion of the Federal army remained quietly behind its entrenchments throughout the day. Yet there were frequent indecisive skirmishes along the line, and the sound of musketry was seldom wholly silent. Now on our right and then upon our left, a sudden volley would burst out, and after a few minutes the firing would die away, only to be renewed from another direction. So the day passed, and as the night came on, a new feature of the scene attracted our attention. Fires had caught in the underbrush in many places during the fighting of Thursday and Friday, and had smoldered, gradually gaining strength, until now large tracts of the dense forest were wrapped in flame. The blaze ran sparkling and crackling up the trunks of the pines, till they stood a pillar of fire from base to topmost spray; then they wavered and fell, throwing up showers of gleaming sparks, while over all hung the thick clouds of dark smoke, reddened beneath by the glare of the flames.

It was a sight long to be remembered, even had there been no saddening associations of human suffering with the memory of the burning forest. But we knew that in the midst of that fiery furnace there lay brave men, Federal and Confederate, who had been left, wounded and helpless, between the opposing

lines. And as we watched the progress of the flames, till vast areas of thick woods were one roaring, blazing sea of fire, we thought of the horrible death which had overtaken those poor fellows who had been struck down amid that tangled undergrowth. But we were powerless to aid them in their hour of need, and could only hope that our fate might not be like theirs, but that if we were to die, it might be, at least, that ours should be a soldier's death.\*

That last night in the Wilderness was a trying one in many respects. Save for the lurid light of the burning woods it was very dark, and in the shadows of the trees the gloom seemed doubly dense and impenetrable. And a vague anxiety pervaded the minds of all, and in some unexplained way a rumor was abroad that important movements were about to be undertaken. In the course of the day, it had become evident that Lee had abandoned his entrenchments in the neighborhood of Mine Run, and was falling back upon his second defensive line. General Grant had at once determined upon a flank movement to the left, —that is, around the Confederate right, hoping thus to interpose his army between Lee and the capital of the Confederacy. Accordingly the Fifth Corps led the advance of this movement toward Lee's flank and rear, leaving its works shortly after nightfall on the 7th, and the other corps following in the course of the night. To the Ninth Corps was assigned the duty of covering the rear of the army, so we still lay in our works while the others were getting out upon the roads. Warren with the Fifth and Hancock with the Second Corps, moved upon the Brock road, while

\* "The woods took fire in many places, and it is estimated that two hundred of our wounded perished in the flames and smoke."—Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign," p. 54.



Sedgwick with the Sixth Corps and Burnside with our own, marched by way of the old Chancellorsville road. Our Second division of the Ninth Corps was to follow immediately upon the rear of the Sixth Corps, but the narrow roads and forest-paths of the Wilderness were so choked and obstructed by the masses of troops which crowded them, that progress was exceedingly slow. And it was not until the morning of Sunday, the 8th of May, that the columns and trains of the Sixth Corps were sufficiently far ahead to leave the way open, and enable us to move out of the works in which we had been lying.

Such was the share which our battalion had in the first great battle of the campaign, and by virtue of which we may fairly claim to have participated in the battle of the Wilderness. While not at any time so much exposed as to sustain any casualties from the fire of the enemy, we were entrusted with an important duty at the beginning of the movement, in the discharge of which we suffered some loss. And when that duty was performed, by a rapid march we rejoined our comrades, and took up a position of danger, exposed to attack at any moment, and labored steadily in constructing and strengthening fortifications until the contest was over. So that though we cannot claim the credit of having made a dashing charge or of having performed any brilliant achievement during those bloody days, we can justly say that we did discharge our duty as soldiers during that time.

Among those lost by the battalion during the march of the 6th was Private Abraham Wyman of Co. C, who was captured by bushwhackers, and remained a prisoner until his death, which occurred at Andersonville prison, on the 21st of August, 1864.

In closing this chapter, it seems proper to add briefly the reports of leading officers as to the character of the ground over which this fierce contest was fought. General Hancock, as quoted by General Humphreys, says, "It was covered by a dense forest almost impenetrable by troops in line of battle. \* \* \* The undergrowth was so heavy that it was scarcely possible to see more than one hundred paces in any direction. The movements of the enemy could not be observed until the lines were almost in collision. Only the roar of the musketry disclosed the position of the combatants to those who were at any distance, and my knowledge of what was transpiring on the field, except in my immediate presence, was limited, and was necessarily derived from reports of subordinate commanders". Humphreys himself says, "So far as I know, no great battle ever took place before on such ground. But little of the combatants could be seen, and its progress was known to the senses chiefly by the rising and falling sounds of a vast musketry fire that continually swept along the lines of battle, many miles in length".\*

General Walker writes "And so, amid those dense woods, where foemen could not see each other, — where colonels could not see the whole of their regiments, — where, often, captains could not see the left of their companies, — these two armies, thus suddenly brought into collision, wrestled in desperate battle until night came to make the gloom complete".† And he quotes General Badeau as saying "One tangled mass of stunted evergreens, dwarf chestnut, oak and hazel, with an undergrowth of low-limbed, bristling shrubs, making the forest almost impenetrable".‡

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign". Foot note, p. 44 and p. 55.

† Walker — "History of the Second Army Corps", p. 415.

‡ Walker — "History of the Second Army Corps", p. 417.





CAPTAIN THOMAS P. BEALS.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN THOMAS PORTER BEALS.

Thomas Porter Beals was born on March 24, 1833, in Wiscasset, Maine, and was the son of William and Hannah (Porter) Beals. His father was proprietor of the Wiscasset House, one of the largest hotels in the place, and for several terms represented his town in the Legislature. Having completed his school education at the academy in Wiscasset, in 1848, the subject of this sketch came to Portland, at the age of fifteen. Here he entered the employ of Walter Corey & Company, in the furniture business, and with this firm he remained for thirteen years, until the outbreak of the Civil War. Filled with the same feeling of patriotism which inspired so many of the young men of that period, he enlisted May 7, 1861, as a private in Company G, Seventh Maine Infantry Volunteers, and was promoted to sergeant August 22, 1861. He served in this capacity at Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D. C., and Georgetown Heights and in Virginia until March 4, 1862, when he was honorably discharged for disability contracted in the line of duty. Returning to Portland upon being discharged, he was appointed a member of the Portland police force some six months later, and continued as such until the spring of 1864. On March 16, 1864, he again entered the military service as first sergeant of Company C, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry Volunteers, and was promoted and commissioned as First Lieutenant of Company H, April 21st, 1864. Leaving the State with the last detachment of the regiment, on May 11th, and joining the first battalion at the North Anna river May 26th, his subsequent service was identical with that of the regiment. He participated in the battles at North Anna river, Cold Harbor, Totopotomoy Creek, Petersburg, Poplar Grove Church, Hatcher's Run, and

the capture of Petersburg, April 2, 1865. In the last named action he led the charge on Fort Mahone, with the pioneers of the Second Brigade as a storming party, and was severely wounded after the capture of the fort. In September of 1864, he had been promoted to Captain of Company H, and at the consolidation of the regiments, in December, 1864, was transferred to the Thirty-First Maine, as Captain of Company H of that regiment. He participated in the Grand Review at Washington in May, 1865, and was subsequently on duty at Alexandria, Va., until July 27, when he was mustered out, and honorably discharged from the service. Returning to Maine, he was, in August, 1865, re-appointed on the police force of Portland, and later became Deputy Sheriff and Crier of the Courts of Cumberland County. In 1867 he resigned this position and began the manufacture of furniture, employing only a small number of workmen at first. Year by year, however, to meet the demands of his rapidly increasing business, facilities were enlarged until the corporation, which was formed in 1892 under the name of the Thomas P. Beals Company, stands among the leading furniture manufacturers.

Captain Beals was a member of Maine Lodge and Eastern Star Encampment of Odd Fellows, and also of the Loyal Legion, of Bosworth Post, G. A. R., the Maine Charitable Mechanics Association, and the Veteran Fireman's Association, and among his extensive acquaintance in business and social life, was warmly esteemed for his geniality and enterprise, as well as his integrity and public spirit. His death was tragic and untimely, he having been knocked down and killed by a runaway horse, on Middle Street, Portland, June 7, 1900, within one block of his office. His memory will survive among his comrades, as well as a large circle of relatives and friends. He left to mourn his loss a widow, Adelaide M. Beals, and one son, Frederick H., the latter having been associated with his father in business since 1890.

## CHAPTER VII.

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TO THE NY RIVER, AND THE BATTLE OF THE 10TH OF  
MAY. — MOVEMENTS PRECEDING THE BATTLE OF  
SPOTTSYLVANIA. — DEATH OF GENERAL SEDG-  
WICK. — GENERAL HANCOCK CROSSES THE  
Po. — UPTON'S CHARGE WITH TWELVE  
REGIMENTS OF THE SIXTH CORPS.

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During Sunday, May 8th, the roads leading from the Wilderness in the direction of Spottsylvania Court House, some thirteen miles to the southeastward, were crowded with marching troops and moving trains. The Federal army was seeking to penetrate between the Confederate forces and Richmond, but their advance was not long unobstructed. As has been said, Warren with the Fifth Corps led the way, marching along the Brock road. As early as eight o'clock on Sunday morning, he encountered a Confederate force at what was known as Alsop's Farm, a considerable extent of open ground some two or three miles north of the Court House. At this point there is a fork in the road, one of the branches leading to Laurel Hill, and the other directly to the Court House. Through the open space here there runs one of the small streams which unite to form the Mattaponi river, this branch being known as the Ny.

The enemy was in position here behind a line of strong works, against which Warren's men at once advanced, but were unable to drive out the Confederates. The enemy's guns were well posted on a succession of ridges, the country being sufficiently open here to admit of the manœuvring of artillery. And the storm of shells with which they received the Federal attack checked the advance, and occasioned some slight confusion. The Confederates attempted to profit by this, and charged upon Warren, hoping to compel him to retire, but the boys of the Fifth Corps held their ground in spite of every effort to dislodge them. The action continued through the day, and the Fifth Corps was reinforced by other troops, but they were not able to compel the Confederates to retire. Lee had anticipated Grant's movement, and as soon as our troops began the march from the Wilderness, he had dispatched Ewell and Longstreet to Spottsylvania. Moving upon an interior line, they had reached that place before us, and now disputed our further advance.

While this action was in progress, that portion of the army with which our battalion moved, was advancing upon another road, meeting with no serious obstacle to impede its march. The day passed in quietness, some trifling skirmishing occurring at times whenever the enemy chanced to approach the column too closely. But no force of the Confederates which could not be easily brushed aside, was encountered during the day, and the march was continued without interruption. In its course, we passed over the old battle-ground of Chancellorsville, where Hooker had made such a gallant fight just one year previous. Relics of that sanguinary struggle still lay



scattered about the field, such as fragments of exploded shell, mouldy and half-decayed leathern belts, cartridge boxes and knapsacks, rusty and battered canteens, and the similar debris of a great battle. But a year had already done much toward hiding many of the traces of the conflict, though the blackened and half-fallen ruins of the Chancellor House were still plainly visible and served to mark the spot around which the fight had raged most hotly. To us of the Thirty-Second battalion, the scene was full of interest, and though we had not the same personal recollections of the battle as had many of our comrades of the Second and Fifth Corps, we were sufficiently familiar with the newspaper accounts of it to render us eager to learn all we could of the location.

The march of the 8th of May was a fatiguing one, as the day was unusually close and sultry for the season, even in the southern climate of Virginia, and we, who were fresh from the cooler air and salty breezes of Maine, were especially distressed by the heat. But even the veterans who had trod the "sacred soil", and marched under the fierce sun of Virginia in former campaigns, were not exempt from the suffering occasioned by the terrible temperature of that day. Many men in our own corps and in the Sixth, were overcome by the intense heat, which affected them all the more readily since they were already more or less fatigued by their previous marching and fighting. Scores and hundreds were obliged to "fall out" upon the march, and the dusty wayside, for miles in the rear, was thickly dotted by groups and parties of these wearied and exhausted stragglers. To the most of these who had thus fallen behind the column, however, the term "straggler" can hardly be applied with

the usual meaning, for it was not by their own choice that they were thus in the rear. The majority had striven hard to keep their places in the ranks, but the pace was rapid, and the air almost stifling. The rays of a fierce and blazing sun poured down upon them, untempered by any clouds save those of dust, which hung thickly above the marching column. Then, too, the men were burdened by the weight of weapons and equipments, the musket, knapsack, haversack with such rations as it might contain, the canteen filled with water, and last, but by no means least, forty rounds in the cartridge-boxes, altogether making up a heavy load. So that it was but little to be wondered at if men gave out, utterly fatigued, and sank down to rest by the roadside.

But even the greater number of these, after pausing long enough to regain some little strength, struggled painfully to their feet again, and slowly toiled on after the distant column. The main body, after a long day of painful exertion, at last made a welcome halt, and went into bivouac to snatch a few hours of sorely-needed rest, and gain a degree of strength to meet the emergencies of the coming day. To those of us who had realized that this was Sunday, as we had struggled on through the heat and dust, it had seemed a strange contrast to the quiet and peaceful Sabbaths to which we had been accustomed in our Northern homes. But in the whirl of excitement in which we had been plunged since the preceding Thursday, many among us had already ceased to take careful note of the passage of time, and, amid scenes so unusual and absorbing, had forgotten what day it was.

By the morning of Monday, May 9th, the army was formed in order of battle, confronting the enemy

as he lay in his entrenchments upon the ridge before Spottsylvania Court House. General Warren, with the Fifth Corps, still occupied the same position which he had held during the day before, while General Sedgwick, who had come up with the Sixth Corps during the afternoon of Sunday, had taken position on the left of Warren. General Burnside, with our own corps, lay upon the left of the Sixth Corps, while General Hancock and the Second Corps was upon the extreme right, beyond the Fifth Corps. Such was the general arrangement of the Federal lines, and in about the same positions the army lay throughout the whole day. No general engagement took place on Monday, and there was but little severe fighting during the day, though there was sharp skirmishing along the whole extent of the lines, which continued without abatement throughout the whole day. Our time was mainly occupied in throwing up entrenchments and strengthening the line, breastworks of rails and logs being constructed along the whole front of the army, and earth being then thrown over these, so as to afford considerable protection from the fire of the enemy. This was especially desirable, so far as the Ninth Corps was concerned, from the fact that while the troops upon our right were more or less protected by the woods in which they lay, the Fifth Corps, particularly, being posted in a dense forest, we occupied a much more open country, and were, therefore, less sheltered.

The sharpshooters of the enemy were especially active and annoying throughout the day, and occasioned the Union army a considerable loss. Every clump of trees, every wooded ravine concealed a squad of these deadly riflemen, and their fire swept all ex-

posed positions along our front. Many gallant officers and men were shot down, but the most distinguished, and, perhaps, the most widely lamented among the victims of their unerring aim, was the beloved and revered commander of the Sixth Corps, Major General John Sedgwick. He was shot through the head by a rebel sharpshooter, while personally directing the posting of a battery of artillery at an important angle in his outer line of works, and his death was almost instantaneous. As the knowledge spread through the army that General Sedgwick had been killed, a feeling of deep grief pervaded all hearts, not only in his own corps, but in all the others, for no soldier was more generally known or universally honored and beloved than "Uncle John", as he had long been affectionately styled by the troops. The men of the Ninth Corps, in particular, could well share with their comrades in the Sixth, in their sense of personal loss, as for a short time in 1863 General Sedgwick had been in command of the former corps, though his long connection with the latter had rendered him much more fully identified with the history and achievements of that corps. But though his connection with the Ninth Corps was only brief and temporary, and but little of his distinguished military record can be claimed as a part of our own history as a corps, his reputation and abilities were too well known to permit the regret felt at his sudden death to be confined to any single portion of the army. Brave and modest, kind and manly, of distinguished military capacity and sound judgment, he was unquestionably one of the finest soldiers produced by our great war.

Late in the afternoon of Monday, the Second Corps, which it will be remembered, formed the ex-

treme right of General Grant's line, was ordered to make an advance. It accordingly crossed to the southern side of the Po river, and there found the enemy present in considerable force. It became smartly engaged, both infantry and artillery being brought into action, but although Hancock lost quite heavily in this affair, it terminated without particular advantage being obtained. The Confederates continued to hold their lines about Spottsylvania Court House, as before, but the Second Corps had made good their foot-hold upon the south bank of the Po. At about the same time as this affair of General Hancock's, the Third division of our own corps was sharply engaged at the Ny river, repulsing repeated attacks of the enemy with great spirit, and finally compelling him to retire, leaving some number of his wounded, and about fifty prisoners in the hands of our comrades of that division. While this was going on, we of the Second division were ordered to the support of the Third, and were brought up to the scene of action in the course of the afternoon. But by the time we arrived upon the ground, the affair was so nearly over that our participation therein was only very slight. The Third division had seized the bridge at the crossing of the Ny river, and succeeded in retaining possession of it, the Confederates retreating after our division came up, though we could claim but little of the honor of the repulse, our share amounting to nothing more serious than some skirmishing, from which we sustained no material loss.

The night passed without any especial disturbance, and while there was more or less firing between the picket lines, no assault was made by our adversaries, and most of the time we slept quietly enough.

With some of us in the Thirty-Second, who were not yet so accustomed to the sights and sounds of war as our veteran comrades, it may have been the case that our rest was more disturbed than it would have been under different circumstances. As the spiteful cracking of the picket-firing would now and then swell into a full volley, some of us would rouse ourselves apprehensively, expecting to be at once ordered into line to repel a rebel onslaught. But as no such order was given, and no column of assault came yelling through the darkness, we would sink again upon the ground, as the firing slackened, and seek to compose ourselves to sleep once more. So the night passed, and soon after daylight on the morning of Tuesday, May 10th, the men were once more astir, and preparing for what proved to be a day of severe exertion and fierce struggling on the part of most of the Union army.

The fighting on the 10th was of a very stubborn and sanguinary character in many parts of the line, but failed to be productive of decisive results upon either side. The position of the Federal lines upon the morning of Tuesday was substantially unchanged from that of the previous day. The formation approached the shape of a crescent, the wings being thrown forward somewhat in advance of the center. Hancock with the Second Corps was across the Po, upon the extreme right, and was holding a line running nearly parallel with the road from Shady Grove church to Spottsylvania Court House. The Fifth Corps formed the center, and the Sixth, now under the command of General Wright, upon whom the position had devolved at the death of General Sedgwick, lay facing the Court House, upon the left

center. Upon the extreme left lay General Burnside with our own corps, the entire line being some six miles in length.

In front of the Federal position, throughout the greater part of its extent, there was a dense forest growth, intermingled with matted and tangled underbrush. Amid this forest, and in its rear, was the Confederate line, strongly posted. As has been said, General Lee had early divined the purpose of General Grant's movement, and having the shorter lines of communication, had hurried from the field of the Wilderness to the defensive points about Spottsylvania Court House, and there concentrated his forces in the fortifications surrounding that place. Here his lines were well sheltered by strong works, and protected by the forests and marshy land of the region, and he was obstinately bent upon offering us battle at this point, and resolute to dispute every inch of ground. The left of Lee's lines rested upon Gladys Run, curving northwardly, and his center was posted upon higher ground and thrown somewhat forward, while his right curved to the northward also, from the vicinity of the Ny river. The works they occupied were not hastily thrown up, but had been constructed long before in anticipation of just such an emergency, and had therefore been elaborately strengthened and rendered almost impregnable. The dense woods covered and masked these entrenchments from the observation of the Federals, so that their location could be determined only by reconnoissance. Such were the positions of the opposing lines when the sun rose upon the 10th of May, which was fated to be a day of terrible bloodshed and destruction.

At an early hour the skirmishers began their work in different portions of the long line, and more and

more general became the firing along our front, until the sharp intermittent rattle of the skirmishing had grown by degrees into the heavy, sullen roll and roar of pitched battle. As the hours passed, the sound of the musketry constantly increased in depth and volume, as the battle spread along the length of the line, until it thundered in one continuous and unbroken peal, like the reverberations of a mountain storm. Joined with the crashing roll of the volleys of musketry, there was also a deeper, throbbing bass, to which our ears were as yet hardly accustomed. During the fighting in the Wilderness, it had been almost impossible to bring the artillery into action, as the horses could not struggle through the dense woods, and drag the pieces into position. But now, for the first time in this campaign, the guns were in full play, and the cannonading was terrific, the solid earth almost seeming to be shaken to its center under the incessant discharges. At first Lee seemed disposed to take the initiative, and made repeated assaults upon the Federal position, in the attempt to crush their lines and drive them from the ground which they were occupying. The principal weight of the encounter, in the earlier part of the day, fell upon Hancock and Warren, attack after attack being made upon the portion of the line held by the Second and Fifth Corps. Charge after charge, in rapid succession, was directed upon their lines, the Confederates in huge masses hurling themselves desperately against the Federal works, as if trusting to the weight of their heavy columns, and the impetus of their headlong onset, to carry them triumphantly through and over the Union forces. But gallant and desperate as were the rebels in their successive endeavors, the steady,



close and withering fire, with which the veterans of these two corps met the charging masses in their advance, never failed to foil their efforts. Under that terrible storm of musketry and artillery fire, that mingled hail of lead and iron, the Confederate heads of column would melt away, the advance be checked, the masses begin to waver and to hesitate, and then the gray-clad legions would fall back to the cover of their works even more rapidly than they came. Then the Federals would charge in their turn, following up their retreating adversaries, only to be themselves forced back, and compelled to seek the shelter of their rifle-pits, when the rebels turned fiercely upon them. Thus undecisively the battle raged along the right of the line, while the roar and din of the sanguinary and protracted struggle swelled still louder as the hours went by, and the musketry and artillery grew fiercer.

But meanwhile, though the fighting upon the left was not of such a desperate and bloody nature, we in the Ninth Corps were not permitted to pass the day in undisturbed quietude, by any means. The greater part of the forenoon was occupied in desultory and cautious skirmishing along our front, which kept us busy, at all events, even if unproductive of any material results. This was followed, in the afternoon, by an attack participated in by the whole corps, which drove in the enemy's skirmishers, and placed our lines immediately in contact with those of the enemy. Our Second division advanced under a heavy and destructive fire, to within a short distance of the Court House, but after holding this position for some time, General Potter received orders to relinquish it, and the division retired for nearly a mile.

It has been stated since the war, upon what appears to be excellent authority, that this withdrawal

of our division from what might have been an extremely important position, was made against the earnest remonstrances, not only of General Potter, but as well, of General Burnside himself. And it is said that it was by the authority and upon the express orders of General Grant, to whom General Burnside reported directly at that time, that the division was so withdrawn. It is asserted, upon the same authority, that this movement to the rear was subsequently seen to have been a mistake, but not until it was too late to rectify the error except at the cost of hard fighting and a great expenditure of life.\* However true this may be, it is scarcely the province of one who carried a musket in the ranks to criticize too harshly the arrangements and dispositions decided upon by those who sustained the weighty responsibilities of high command. The private soldier could know but little of the state of affairs on the field, except in his immediate front, if even so much, while his commanding generals were supposed, at least, to be informed of all that was transpiring throughout the whole extent of the lines. But it may be permitted to us to say that it was a profound mystery to the men in the ranks, at the time, why such a movement should have been made. We failed to comprehend why, after having struggled so near to the Court House that we could plainly discern the Stars and Bars flying above the principal building of the little hamlet, we should then be faced to the rear and withdrawn, without having accomplished, or even attempted to accomplish, anything whatever. And it may safely be asserted that we would far rather have advanced, even if it had been certain that we should

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p 379.

encounter the enemy in so doing, than to retreat, after the danger we had met in our movement to this point, without some success by way of recompense.

This retrograde movement completed our own active operations for the day, but there was much severe fighting in other parts of the line afterward. As late as six o'clock in the afternoon, our comrades of the Sixth Corps were called into action, and twelve picked regiments from that command, among which were included the Fifth and Sixth Maine, made one of the most brilliant and notable charges upon the records of military history. Their attack was completely successful, three lines of the enemy's entrenchments being carried in rapid succession, and several guns, together with a thousand or more prisoners, being captured. The resistance with which they met, however, was stubborn, and the column suffered great loss, and being unsupported, they were unable to maintain their temporary advantage. The shattered remnant of the twelve brave regiments that had dashed against the rebel works, retreated to the shelter of our lines, leaving the dead and wounded in the enemy's hands, and abandoning even the six guns which they had captured.

At about the same time the Fifth and Second Corps again became engaged, delivering another brave but unsuccessful assault against the enemy's position on Laurel Hill, and being repulsed with great loss. As night came on, the noise of battle gradually died away, and soon after the darkness had fallen, the wearied combatants on both sides were glad to snatch a respite from the terrible struggle which had endured for so many hours. The day had been one of terrible loss to both armies, the Federals having some ten

thousand men killed and wounded, while the Confederates had lost nearly as many. In the Ninth Corps the list of casualties was not so large as in some of the others, but many had fallen from its ranks. Our First division had sustained the loss of its commander, Brigadier-General Thomas G. Stevenson, of Massachusetts, together with many brave men of inferior rank, while the other divisions had suffered proportionately. So far as can be ascertained now, no casualties occurred on this day in our own battalion, though we participated with the Second division in its advance upon the Court House, and were otherwise exposed to the enemy's fire through the day.

During the following day, Wednesday, the 11th of May, the two armies lay in close contact with each other, but though there was constant skirmishing, neither side made any attempts to bring on a general engagement. Both of the antagonists were quite willing to permit a little lull in the contest, during which they might gather strength for its renewal. On the part of the Federals, the day was passed in sending the numerous wounded men to the rear of the army, long trains of ambulances and wagons loaded with the victims of the previous day's engagement being dispatched to Fredericksburg. During the progress of the skirmishing on the 11th, the Thirty-Second Maine battalion, temporarily under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Babbitt of the Ninth New Hampshire, had a sharp encounter with a force of the enemy's skirmishers, which, after a brisk exchange of volleys, we drove back for a mile or more, without material loss upon our part.

General Humphreys in his "Virginia Campaign", in speaking of the general operations of the day, says,

“On the 11th, the Ninth Corps was ordered to withdraw to the north side of the Ny, take up a position with its left on the main road to Fredericksburg, near the Harris house, its right connecting with Mott’s division, near the Brown house, but before this order could be carried out, General Burnside was ordered to recross the Ny and occupy his position near the Court House, which was done without any serious opposition”.\*

In the course of the afternoon of Wednesday, rain began to fall, the first since the beginning of the campaign. As night came on the storm grew heavier, and as the darkness fell, the drenched earth and dripping trees made our position anything but a comfortable one in which to pass the night. There was no moon, the heavens were obscured by heavy clouds, the rain fell in soaking showers, and the whole situation was a dismal and dreary one. Yet to many a brave fellow it was the last night of life, for the coming day was to bring us another great battle, in which many of those who vainly sought that night to forget their discomfort in sleep, should find that dreamless rest “that knows no waking”.

Perhaps it may be of interest to quote here from General Humphreys’ “Virginia Campaign” as to the movements of these days preceding the battle of the 12th of May. He writes, “In accordance with the project of General Grant, the army began to move at half past eight in the evening” (of the 7th of May). “General Warren by the Brock road toward Spottsylvania Court House, General Sedgwick by the pike and plank roads to Chancellorsville, and thence by way of Aldrich’s and Piney Branch church to the inter-

\* Humphreys — “Virginia Campaign”, p. 87.

section of the road from Piney Branch church to Spottsylvania Court House, and the road from Alsop's to Block House. \* \* \* \* Burnside followed Sedgwick, but early on the 8th he was directed to halt at Aldrich's, where the Piney Branch church road leaves the Fredericksburg plank road (about two miles from the church), in order to cover the trains".\* A little later he says, "Early in the morning of the 9th, General Burnside moved with the Ninth Corps from Aldrich's, on the Orange and Fredericksburg plank road, to Gates' house, on the road from Spottsylvania Court House to Fredericksburg, and then toward the Court House, crossing the Ny at Gates' house (a mile and a half from the Court House), with Willcox's division, and encountering a force of dismounted cavalry and a brigade of Longstreet's Corps, according to General Burnside's report. About mid-day, Stevenson's division arrived, a portion of which was also thrown across the river, while Potter's division following was held near Alsop's, about a mile back from the Ny".†

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", pp. 57-58.

† Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 72.





BREVET CAPTAIN CHARLES W. KEYES.



## Biographical Sketch.

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### BREVET CAPTAIN CHARLES W. KEYES.

Brevet Captain Charles W. Keyes, U. S. A., was born in Wilton, Franklin County, Maine, February 1, 1831. He was prevented by filial duties from joining the army during the first year of the war, but enlisted as a private in the Twenty-Eighth Maine Infantry, September 10, 1862, and served with that regiment in Florida and Louisiana until it was mustered out, September 1st of the following year. During this term of service he received, in a sharp battle with the enemy at Fort Butler, Louisiana, a severe wound in his left arm. Two months after the Twenty-Eighth Regiment was mustered out (November, 1863), he enlisted the second time in the Second Maine Cavalry as a private, and about three months later was discharged by reason of promotion in the Thirty-Second Maine Infantry, then organizing at Augusta. He received a commission as First Lieutenant of Company E of that regiment, April 2, 1864. This regiment was soon at the front, and participated actively in the hard fighting of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House. In the latter engagement (May 12, 1864), Lieutenant Keyes received a wound, which resulted some days later in the loss of his left foot.

Partially recovering from his wound, he enlisted again as Second Lieutenant in the Coast Guards, and served in a battery near Belfast, Maine, till after the war closed. While in command of his company there, in obedience to orders from the War Department, salutes were fired over the surrender of General Lee, and while executing this command he was struck near the left eye by a friction-primer which blew from a recoiling gun, and gradually lost the vision of that eye.

Captain Keyes was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Forty-Fourth U. S. Infantry, July 28, 1866, and was unassigned May 27, 1869. He was retired with the rank of First Lieutenant, December 31, 1870.

“For gallant and meritorious service at Fort Butler, Louisiana”, Captain Keyes received the brevet of First Lieutenant, March 2, 1867, and “for gallant and meritorious service in the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, Virginia”, he, received on the same date, the brevet of Captain.

During his active service in the regular army he was a member for some months of a general court-martial under General Ricketts; was on the staff of General W. H. Emory, commander of the Department of Washington, during the great review in honor of Burlingame and the Chinese embassy; served for a time as assistant superintendent of the War Department Buildings, Washington, D. C., and for about two years was engaged under General O. O. Howard in work among the Freedmen's Schools of Kentucky.

A few years after retirement, Captain Keyes purchased the *Farmington (Maine) Chronicle*, the leading paper of his native county, and conducted it for about twelve years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the State College for seven years, and for eight years was a trustee of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College, Kent's Hill.

Captain Keyes has been twice married, first, to Miss Juliette C. Lord, eldest daughter of Rev. Isaac Lord of the Maine M. E. Conference; second, to Miss Hattie E. Park, preceptress of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College. His home for the past twenty-five years has been at Farmington, Maine, a pretty village in a region resorted to for the beauty of the natural scenery.

## CHAPTER VIII.

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AT SPOTTSYLVANIA. — THE “BLOODY ANGLE”. — HAN-  
COCK’S ASSAULT AT DAYBREAK. — CAPTURE OF  
GENERALS JOHNSON AND STEUART. — THE  
THIRTY-SECOND AT CLOSE QUARTERS. —  
FOUR BRIGADES AGAINST ONE. — THE  
LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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It has just been said that the night of the 11th of May was a stormy and cheerless one, but the storm and darkness were not recognized by the indomitable spirit of the Lieutenant-General of the Federal army as obstacles to the carrying out of his stern purpose. He had spent the day in preparations for a renewal of the contest on the morrow, and had made such dispositions of his troops as seemed likely to secure the best results. The attacks of the previous day, directed against Lee’s left and left center mainly, had shown that portion of the enemy’s line to be strongly fortified, and it was scarcely probable that any renewal of the assault upon the same part of their line would be more successful than those of Tuesday had been. But on the Confederate right center, near what was known as the Landrum or Landron house, their lines formed a salient or projecting angle, and General Grant was led to believe that a vigorous blow upon this point

might prove effective. Could the Confederate line be pierced here, and this angle seized by our forces, it was believed that the result would be the turning of Lee's right flank, and his consequent dislodgement from the position.

Accordingly, arrangements for an attack at this point were at once begun, and Hancock was selected to lead the assault. The Second Corps was ordered to leave its entrenchments upon our extreme right, and move, in rear of the army, to the left, where it was to take position in a gap between the lines of the Sixth and Ninth Corps, which had not been previously occupied. This would bring Hancock directly fronting the portion of the Confederate line in which the angle was located, and against which his attack was to be delivered. The assault of the Second Corps was to be supported by the remainder of the army, Warren with the Fifth Corps, and Burnside with the Ninth making demonstrations upon the Confederate left and right at the same time, in order to prevent the enemy from withdrawing troops from those portions of the line to relieve and strengthen his threatened center. Shortly after midnight of the 11th, in the midst of the storm and darkness, Hancock moved to the rear out of his works, and passing to the left, behind Warren and Wright, silently and cautiously approached the point of attack, taking his position within twelve hundred yards of the enemy's front. Here he waited for the first sign of the coming of morning, whose earliest ray was to be the signal for his advance. A heavy mist rested over the forests around Spottsylvania, and the low-hanging clouds, and dense vapors that steamed upward from the marshes, still half-concealed the feeble light of the

dawning day, when at half-past four o'clock on the morning of Thursday, May 12th, Hancock had already set his troops in motion.

General Humphreys, in the work which we have previously quoted, says, "In the afternoon of the 11th, General Meade received the following despatch from General Grant, dated three P. M., 'Move three divisions of the Second Corps, by the rear of the Fifth and Sixth Corps, under cover of night, so as to join the Ninth Corps in a vigorous assault of the enemy at four o'clock A. M. to-morrow'". He goes on to say, "Hancock's troops moved, after it became dark, under the guidance of Captain Mendell of the United States Engineers, over a narrow, difficult road, and in a heavy rain. The head of the column arrived at the Brown house about half an hour after midnight, the night still dark and rainy, and as soon as practicable were formed for attack about twelve hundred yards from the enemy's entrenchments. \* \* \* \* \* Owing to the heavy fog, General Hancock postponed the hour of attack until there should be sufficient light to see dimly, and at 4.35 A. M. gave the order to advance".\*

The Brown house of which General Humphreys speaks was about half a mile to the north and west of the Landrum or Landron house. An open ground, about four hundred yards wide, led from Brown's fields nearly due south to the apex of the salient, of which mention has been made, this open ground connecting Brown's fields with the wide fields of the Landrum farm, in the southwest corner of which was the salient. Between the position from which the Second Corps advanced, and the rebel works, much of the ground was clothed with a thick growth of pines

\*Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", pp. 89 and 92.

and tangled underbrush, extremely difficult to penetrate. And within a short distance of the Confederate breastworks, the surface rose with considerable abruptness, so that the entrenchments themselves were situated upon an elevation of moderate height. Planned by skilful engineers, strongly built, and so situated as to command the descending slope in its front with its plunging fire, the rebel work was one capable of being long and stubbornly defended against all attacks. But the men who composed its garrison had no warning of Hancock's approach till he burst upon them like a thunderbolt from out of the darkness and the mists of morning. Under the strictest orders for the preservation of silence, the Second Corps advanced rapidly upon the salient, its movement being so well concealed by the dense curtain of fog, that the rebels who occupied that portion of the works were completely taken by surprise. Noiselessly the lines had been formed, without a loud word being spoken, or a command given in a tone above a whisper. And without a cheer or shout, they had moved forward, with fixed bayonets, keeping the same ominous silence, and bending all their energies to the task of covering the distance as rapidly, and in as good order as the obstacles in their way would permit. That these were neither few nor small may be inferred from the nature of the ground over which their course lay. In the uncertain light of early dawn, amid the drifting mists, and along the dusky forest-paths, they plunged and struggled through swamps and ditches, across morasses, and over tangled underbrush and slashing.

And yet the enemy had no suspicion of their approach, until just at the edge of the wood

Hancock's men struck a line of rifle-pits filled with rebel pickets, and encountered a scattering fire. With a yell, the charging lines sprang forward, and the pickets fled in confusion. The enemy's main line was alarmed, but it was too late for them to profit by this notice of the approach of the Union troops. Right at the heels of the flying pickets, gallantly and impetuously charging up the little hill, came the line of "boys in blue". Up to and over the works they pushed, unmindful of the enemy's fire, and the rebels, surprised, panic-stricken and overpowered, gave way before them. Many threw down their arms and surrendered, and many others fled in dismay and confusion to the second line of works, in their rear. Artillerymen abandoned their guns, which the victorious Second Corps gathered up in whole batteries, to the number of between thirty and forty pieces, together with limbers, caissons, horses and ammunition. Infantry regiments surrendered bodily, and one who participated in the charge estimates that the number of prisoners actually captured that morning could not have been less than twelve to fifteen thousand men. But only a comparatively small number of these, some three or four thousand altogether, were retained in our hands. Being, from the necessities of the case, sent to the rear without guard or escort, many who had surrendered, upon finding themselves thus left to their own devices, quietly passed around the flank of the Second Corps, under the shelter of the woods, and thus regained their own lines.

The same authority (General Humphreys) from whom we have previously quoted, states that Major-General Edward Johnson commanded a division of

the Second Ewell's Corps of the Confederate army of Northern Virginia, consisting, in January, 1864, of four brigades: the "Stonewall Brigade" of five regiments of Virginians, commanded by Brigadier-General J. A. Walker; Steuart's brigade of three Virginia and two North Carolina regiments, under command of Brigadier-General George H. Steuart; Jones' brigade of six Virginia regiments, Brigadier-General J. M. Jones, commanding; and Stafford's brigade of five Louisiana regiments, commanded by Brigadier-General L. A. Stafford. At the date of the battle, however, Colonels York and Terry, respectively, commanded the brigades formerly of Stafford and Jones. The greater part of Johnson's division, and a portion of Early's division were included in the prisoners taken, the commander of that first named, Major General Edward Johnson, being among the number. Another general officer of the rebel forces, General George H. Steuart, was also captured here.

Thus far the most brilliant success had crowned the exertions of the Second Corps, but there was still a strong second line of works a short distance in the rear of that which it had so gallantly carried. The enemy was in strong force here, and fully prepared for the attack, and capable of offering the most stubborn resistance. The battle had by this time become general, and was raging with intense fury. The Sixth Corps had been withdrawn from its first position and sent in to the support of Hancock upon his right, and the Ninth Corps had also become engaged in a severe and bloody struggle upon his left. Our Second division had been at once moved up in support of Hancock's advance in the early morning, our own Second brigade leading in this movement on



the part of the division. By this means, our brigade line connected with the left of the Second Corps, and we had the privilege of sharing with "the superb Hancock" and his gallant corps, the honor and peril of their dashing attack. Shall we ever forget that advance? On through the dense woods, under the dripping trees, now stumbling over the interlacing vines and undergrowth, now ankle deep in a marshy swamp, scarce seeing through the mist, with which the smoke of battle was beginning to mingle, what obstacles impeded our progress, the little brigade rushed forward in that headlong charge. A few short minutes of almost breathless struggling up the steep green slope before us, and then the fire of the enemy sweeping over and through our line like a blast of death. Men went down on the right and the left, but the colors never wavered, and the brigade pushed on undauntedly. Almost before we were aware, we had carried a portion of the enemy's work, and captured two of their guns. General Humphreys writes in relation to this attack, "At four o'clock in the morning of the 12th General Potter's division of Burnside's Corps advanced against the enemy's entrenchments, held by Lane's brigade, the left of Hill's Corps. These he carried about five o'clock, capturing some prisoners and two guns".\* The Confederate brigade which we encountered here consisted of five regiments of North Carolina troops, under the command of Brigadier-General J. H. Lane, forming a portion of the division commanded by Major-General C. M. Wilcox.

We were not permitted, however, to remain long in undisputed possession of the works which we had

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 102.

captured, as General Lane, falling back to some old entrenchments which enfiladed those of which he had been dispossessed, reformed his brigade, under their cover. And being reinforced by the brigades of Scales and Thomas, which had been sent up by General Wilcox as soon as he heard the firing, Lane speedily compelled us to abandon the entrenchments we had taken. General Dole's brigade of Ewell's Corps also came up to reinforce Lane at about the same time as the others, and the combined advance of the four brigades of Confederates was sufficient to compel our falling back for a short distance.

In the meantime, Hancock had pushed toward the second line of the rebels, and been met by the most determined and desperate opposition. His troops had become somewhat broken by their repeated attacks,—the fiery impetuosity of their charge, and the nature of the ground over which they moved, contributing in no small degree to disturb their original order of formation. Their ranks had become more or less disorganized in the rush for the first line of works, and the excitement of "scooping in" guns, colors and prisoners after it had been carried. They were, therefore, less able to overcome the resistance with which the Confederates, now heavily reinforced, met them. To quote again from General Humphreys, we find him writing, "In the capture of the entrenchments, the troops became disordered and mixed, and it was exceedingly difficult to restore order. It was particularly difficult in Barlow's division, where the men must have been twenty deep and had mingled in one common mass".\*

Before time would permit General Hancock to remedy this derangement of his forces, and once more

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 94.

array his lines in proper order, he was, in his turn, suddenly and vigorously assaulted by the enemy. The moment was an important and critical one, but our Second brigade, from its position upon the left of the Second Corps, was fortunately able to render most timely and efficient aid at this juncture. The enemy advanced against Hancock in heavy masses, to which our brigade was, in comparison, but little more than a handful. But their advance was most handsomely met, and for the moment, checked by the men of the Second brigade alone. While the disparity of numbers would of necessity prevent us from claiming to have been able to repulse such an attack, we can, at all events, assert that we held the enemy in check till crushed and broken by his superior weight. And to us belongs the honor of having delayed his advance sufficiently long to enable Hancock to make some progress in reforming his disordered lines. Had the weight of the Confederate attack fallen upon the Second Corps, in its condition of partial disorganization, the mere momentum of the assault might have completed the disruption of its formation. We do not say that it would certainly have done so, for no more gallant men than the soldiers of the Second Corps, ever wore the Federal uniform. And, inured as they were to withstand the shock of battle, they might, even in their disordered condition, have repulsed the fierce attack, unaided by us. But it is certain that if they had failed to do so;—if they had been broken by the weight of the rebel masses, a gap would have been opened in our lines through which the eager enemy would have poured his legions in a resistless flood.

But the blow fell first upon us in the Second brigade of Potter's division of the Ninth Corps, and

though we reeled beneath its crushing force, we did not give way. Though a hail of bullets swept our line, and men were falling faster and faster under the deadly shower, we held our position with stubborn persistency. The veteran regiments of our brigade bore themselves in this obstinate conflict as became men who had already won their laurels on many hard-fought fields. And side by side with them stood the new troops, as bravely and unflinchingly as if accustomed to scenes of carnage and death. Our own little battalion was now, for the first time, engaged at close quarters with a force of the enemy vastly its superior in numbers. But there was no wavering along its line, and no slackening of its steady fire, as the rebel advance drew nearer. The colors, which but a few short weeks before, had been entrusted to our keeping, and which were then fresh and bright, were now receiving their "baptism of fire", and being rapidly torn to shreds, as the bullets of the enemy whistled and shrieked over our line. And the brave boys who stood beneath our flags were being hurled to the ground, wounded, bleeding, dying, as our ranks were swept by the volleys of the enemy. It was sharp, hot work, and could not last for any great length of time when the forces opposed to each other were so disproportionate in number. Perhaps for fifteen minutes, — perhaps for not more than ten, the brigade held the enemy at bay, and then its shattered remnant gave way before his repeated onsets. But those minutes had been of priceless value to General Hancock, who had been enabled thereby to partially restore his formation, and place his lines in position to receive the attack, which now fell upon him.

In recognition of the essential service rendered by our brigade in this hour of need, our gallant commander, Colonel Griffin, was subsequently made a Brigadier-General, his commission as such being dated from the 12th of May. Woodbury says, "Colonel Griffin's position enabled him at this moment to be of effectual service, the enemy was handsomely met, and Hancock was saved. So prominent had been the gallantry of the brigade commander upon this and former occasions that General Burnside recommended him for instant promotion".\* That he had already merited this promotion long before is unquestionable, but his timely aid to the Second Corps on this occasion secured for him the star which he so well deserved. The brigade had suffered severely in this encounter, but there still remained much work for us to do before the day should close. And we were able to obtain but a very brief respite to enable us to regain our breath after the hot work of the morning, until we were again called upon to put forth every exertion to hold the enemy in check.

The fighting of the morning was but the introduction to a series of bloody contests which ceased only with the cessation of strife upon that ever-memorable day, long after night had fallen. General Hancock gave up the attempt to carry the second line of Confederate entrenchments, and fell back to that captured in the early morning, and here the battle raged for hours. The "angle" spoken of in the beginning of this chapter, became the center about which the contest was the most severe and obstinate. Our forces were in possession of the Confederate works upon our left as far as the salient, while the

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Corps", p. 384.

rebels still held the rest of their line beyond the angle. This made the angle an important factor in the decision of the question as to which antagonist should win the day. It was regarded by both as being the key-point of the whole position. Each believed that its possession would ensure victory, since it would enable the army which held it, to command the whole first line of works. Hence the Confederates made repeated and desperate attempts to dislodge us, while the Federals fought with equal desperation to maintain their position. Charge after charge was made against the Second and Ninth Corps, and each time the Confederates were repulsed after severe fighting. The Sixth and Fifth Corps, still further to the right of the Union line, were also fully engaged, and the battle was general along our whole front. But immediately about the "Bloody Angle" the storm of battle roared most loudly, and the leaden rain fell thickest. For several hours the Confederates hurled column after column upon this point, losing heavily at each attempt, and inflicting severe loss upon the Federals, in return. By eleven o'clock A. M., after more than six hours of incessant and terrible musketry firing, there was a perceptible lull so far as this was concerned, though the artillery still thundered with unabated volume.

But this slackening of the fire was occasioned more by the exhaustion of the combatants than from any disposition upon either side to discontinue the contest, and was not of very long duration. Early in the afternoon, General Grant began massing his forces upon the enemy's right, hoping to succeed in turning his flank. Two divisions were detached from the Fifth Corps, which was confronting the Confederate

left, and sent in to the aid of the troops in the vicinity of the angle. Thus reinforced, the Federals now began an endeavor to force the Confederates to retire. But the movement was met on the part of General Lee by a corresponding massing of his own forces upon the threatened portion of his line. And however heavily the Union troops attacked, the rebels resisted with equal persistency. The crash and roll of musketry swelled again to full volume as the fight went on, through the long hours of that afternoon. But severe as was the fighting, and bloody and terrible as was the slaughter upon each side, little did it avail either antagonist. Lee's most terrific blows against the salient could not effect the dislodgement of the brave Federals who held it as the prize of battle. And neither could the supreme efforts on the part of the Federals compel the rebels to retire, and leave the works in our possession. Rain had begun to fall in showers during the forenoon, and continued at intervals throughout the day, being at times very heavy, but it had no effect upon the ardor of the combatants. They fought on in the midst of the pouring showers as unconcernedly as if they were unconscious of any other emotion than the fierce excitement of battle. The contest continued till long after nightfall, and it was not until nearly or quite midnight that it finally ceased wholly, and Lee withdrew to his interior lines.

Both armies were well-nigh worn out and exhausted by the incessant exertions required of them during an engagement which had lasted for twenty hours and had caused each antagonist to lose ten thousand of his best men. Throughout the day, our own brigade had borne its part in the fierce contest, and had been engaged, after the brilliant affair of the

morning, in all the subsequent operations. We held one of the most exposed positions upon the line, participated in repeated charges, and lost heavily in officers and men. The ground in our immediate front was densely wooded, and the enemy who confronted us was well protected by rifle-pits and timber breastworks, which gave him a considerable advantage. This was the first great battle in which the Thirty-Second Maine had been so closely engaged, our service in the Wilderness having been mainly in the construction of fortifications, as has been shown in a previous chapter. But new as we were to such scenes of carnage, the battalion did its duty from the beginning to the close of the battle, and, we believe, brought no discredit upon the honor of the Pine Tree State by its behavior. Brigaded with old regiments, accustomed to the fire of battle, the battalion endeavored to emulate the example of its veteran associates, and prove itself as staunch as were they.

The casualties in the battalion were very large, and attest the severity of the fire to which it was exposed. In the forenoon we were at one time under a severe enfilading fire, and being entirely without breastworks or any other protection except the conformation of the ground, which afforded us only partial shelter, we lost heavily. The first roll-call after the battle disclosed a long and ghastly list of killed, wounded and missing, when the small number of men whom we took into action is considered. But six companies, numbering only about four hundred and fifty officers and men "present for duty" were engaged in the battle. And of these, ten were killed in action, or mortally wounded, and thirty more or less severely wounded, but escaped with life. The casualties in the several companies were as follows:



Company A, Privates George W. Remick, Charles W. Whittier and Charles E. Witham, killed in action; and Corporal William H. Staples, Privates Thomas Benson, John Edgecomb, John Fernald, Ammi Manson, Patrick McCarthy, George H. Smith and Charles H. Day, wounded.

Company C, Sergeant Joseph Files, and Private Adoniram Cookson, mortally wounded; and First Lieutenant Joseph B. Hammond, Second Lieutenant Charles F. Burr, Privates Clarence L. Abbott, John H. Dodge, Michael Doran, William S. Davis, Daniel W. Leavitt, Solomon C. Rider, Edward Rafter, John McGee and Philip Wedge, wounded.

Company D, Private Maynard G. Davis, killed; and Privates Geo. A. Hodgdon and Albert Small, mortally wounded; First Lieutenant Charles B. Rounds, Corporals Fred H. Nevins and Roger A. Foss, Privates Daniel G. Harlow, and John Joyce, wounded.

Company E, Corporal James H. Hammon, Privates William A. Allen, Romanzo A. Burgess and Charles T. Duley, wounded.

Company F, First Lieutenant Fred S. Gurney, Private Augustus Mason, killed; Private Jesse Dudley, mortally wounded; and Private Oliver Hinckley, wounded.

It will be seen that the loss of the battalion was one commissioned officer, one non-commissioned officer, and nine enlisted men, killed or died of wounds, and three commissioned officers, four non-commissioned officers, and twenty-two enlisted men, wounded. Many of these wounds were severe, rendering amputation necessary, or otherwise disabling their recipients for the performance of further service

in the field. So that, although some of those above named returned to duty subsequently, the battalion was actually weakened to the extent of the permanent loss of the greater number. Private Day of Company A lost his right leg, and Davis of Company C his arm, while Dodge of Company C had his right arm so crippled that he never fully recovered its use. Privates Leavitt and Wedge of C, and Corporal Nevins of D were transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. Corporal Staples and Privates Smith and Benson of A, Privates Rafter of C, Harlow and Joyce of D, and, no doubt, others in the remaining companies, after months of suffering in hospitals, were finally discharged on account of their wounds, maimed and disabled for life.

Perhaps among all the casualties of the day none entailed more painful suffering than in the case of poor young Cookson of Company C. A writer who has published a little volume of hospital-sketches, thus pathetically speaks of his lingering agony in the hospital at Fredericksburg: "Near \* \* \* was a most hopeless and pitiful case—a lad, Adoniram Cookson, wounded in the back by a shell. He was a mere boy, not over fifteen, so pinched and thin, and delicate in frame, that I could easily have carried him in my arms; and his face had grown prematurely old with suffering. The only position in which he could rest was upon his elbows and knees, and he turned helplessly from side to side, moaning and talking in wild delirium. I cannot forget his utterly hopeless look in his moments of sanity, the eyes and face so wan and worn with days and nights of agony. The poor boy slept at last his long and quiet sleep, and was buried in the newly-made cemetery, which increased with





CAPTAIN HORACE H. BURBANK.

fearful rapidity every day. We covered his lonely resting place with flowers".\*

In contrast with the protracted suffering of this poor boy, was the almost instantaneous death of Lieutenant Gurney of Company F, who was struck down upon the field during the fiercest fighting, and died without a struggle. Sergeant Files of Company C was shot through the abdomen, and lingered for a day or two before death came to his relief. Privates Small of Company D and Dudley of F also survived for some days after receiving their death-wounds, the latter living until the 3rd day of June.

Such, in brief, was the share of our battalion in the great battle of Spottsylvania, and while much more might well be written of the incidents of that day of terrible carnage, enough has already been said to show that we bore our part of the toil and losses of the day as befitted soldiers.

\* W. H. Reed — "Hospital Life in the Army of the Potomac", p. 25

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## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN HORACE H. BURBANK.

Horace Harmon Burbank was born in Limerick, York County, Maine, October 27, 1837, and was the eldest son of Abner and Eliza Adams (Harmon) Burbank. His early education was obtained in the village schools of his native town, and the academies at Limerick and Yarmouth. After the usual preparatory studies, he entered Bowdoin College, and graduated in the class of 1860. Among his classmates at Bowdoin were Hon. Thomas B. Reed, Hon. Joseph W. Symonds,

General John M. Brown, Hon. W. W. Thomas, Hon. Amos L. Allen, and other well-known Maine men. After his graduation, he began the study of law with L. S. Moore of Limerick. And while reading law, he taught school, until August, 1862. He then enlisted as a private in Company A, Twenty-Seventh Maine Infantry Volunteers, for nine months service.

Three months after enlistment, he was promoted to quartermaster-sergeant. When his term of service was about to expire, in June, 1863, Lee's invasion alarmed the North, and he was one of the three hundred members of the Twenty-Seventh who voted to remain in the service after their period of enlistment terminated. He served until after the battle of Gettysburg, being discharged on July 17, 1863. Upon his return home, he entered Harvard Law School, intending to complete his legal studies. But his desire to return to the army was too strong to be overcome. And in March, 1864, he re-entered the service, being commissioned as First Lieutenant of Company A, of the Thirty-Second regiment of Maine Infantry Volunteers. In the following May, he was promoted to the captaincy of Company K, of the same regiment. He went to the front with the first battalion, and participated in all of the battles from Spottsylvania to the Mine Explosion. In the last named, on July 30, 1864, he was taken prisoner, together with many other officers of his regiment. On the 5th of August he reached Columbia, S. C., and was confined in Richland County Jail, and was there held as a prisoner of war for four months. On December 5th, he with other prisoners, was transferred from the jail to Camp Asylum, an inclosure taken from the grounds of the State Insane Asylum at Columbia, for a prison-camp.

In February, 1865, he, with others, made their escape from prison, and succeeded in reaching Sherman's army. After having joined Sherman, Captain Burbank went through

to Fayetteville with the army, and from thence, by consent of General Sherman, went to Wilmington on a gunboat, and thence to Fortress Monroe and Washington. During his imprisonment, the Thirty-Second regiment had been consolidated with the Thirty-First Maine, and he had been transferred to the captaincy of Company B, of the latter regiment. But he never assumed the command of that company, and, on May 15, 1865, was discharged by special order from the War Department, on account of disability.

Since his return to peaceful life, he has always manifested a lively interest in everything pertaining to the Civil War. At the first opportunity after being mustered out of the service, he became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. And he has since been a constant and efficient worker for the welfare of the order. He is a Past Commander of his Post, and is now serving his nineteenth term as Post Quartermaster. He has also been Judge Advocate of the Department for two years, Junior Vice Department Commander one year, and in 1888, was elected Department Commander. He is also a member of the Maine Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. In the years 1876-7-8, he was Judge Advocate on the staff of Gov. Selden Connor, with the rank of Colonel. He is also prominent in the Masonic fraternity, being a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Maine. In his chosen profession of the law, he has also won honors, having been County Attorney for York County five years, Register of Probate eight years, City Solicitor of Saco five years, and Judge of the Municipal Court of the city of Saco, since December 5, 1890, having been recently appointed for his fourth term.

He is married, and has four children, two boys and two girls.

## CHAPTER IX.

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THE RESULTS OF THE BATTLE. — SEVERE LOSSES WITH  
ONLY INADEQUATE GAIN. — SUPPLIES AND RE-IN-  
FORCEMENTS RECEIVED. — IN THE TRENCHES. —

THE BATTLE OF THE 18TH OF MAY. —

ANOTHER ATTACK UPON STRONG FORTI-

IFICATIONS. — ATTEMPT TO DISLodge

THE ENEMY ABANDONED. —

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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Some attempt has been made in the preceding chapter to describe the action at Spottsylvania, as it was seen from the standpoint of our battalion's participation therein. But no words are equal to the full description of the actual experiences of that day of fearful bloodshed and slaughter. Nor is it necessary, for to those who participated in that battle, there is little need of anything beyond the mere mention of its name, to bring it before their memories in all its horrors. The utterance of the single word "Spottsylvania" is enough to bring most clearly and vividly before our mental vision all the scenes of those long hours of relentless and unremitting strife. At its sound, we can still plainly behold the piles of dead and wounded heaped about the "bloody angle", where the tide of battle surged highest and most fiercely. We can still hear the deep and thunderous



reverberations of that incessant musketry-firing which for so many hours rolled and pealed in one grand volume of sound, without an interval. We can still see the trees of the dense forest amid which the conflict was waged, all scarred, scathed and torn by the storm of flying missiles which swept through them. We remember the stout trunks, riven to fragments by the exploding shell, or literally hewn to pieces by the musket-balls, and cut down as if felled by the woodman's axe. But without lingering longer upon the recollections which the word brings to mind, let us pass on to the consideration of the events of the days succeeding the battle.

On the morning following, which was that of Friday, May 13th, the relative positions of the two armies were not materially changed from those occupied prior to the engagement. Hancock held the works he had captured in the early morning of the 12th, but the Confederates were firmly intrenched immediately in his front. The actual gain to the Federals from the hotly contested struggle had been by no means proportionate to the expenditure of life by which it had been purchased. The whole fruit of the obstinate fighting of the day had been the capture of two lines of detached rifle-pits, and a portion of the enemy's main line of works. This we had been able to hold against all his desperate attempts to recover its possession, though only at a fearful cost. But while he could not regain his lost ground, we had been equally unable to make any further advance, and his strong position was still occupied by the enemy, practically as secure as before.

Yet if we had not gained a decisive victory, the battle had been productive of good results, and was of

service to the Union cause, in its moral effects. Severe as had been the Federal loss, that of the enemy was equally as great. The gigantic efforts which Lee had made to recover his lost works, had entailed upon him a fearful sacrifice of his best troops. And the issue had shown that in spite of the heaviest blows which could be inflicted upon them, the Federals could not be forced to retreat, or to abandon their purpose to crush the rebellion at all hazards. The loyal North was encouraged and inspirited by the magnificent courage and endurance which the army had so grandly exhibited in the battle. And the army itself felt renewed confidence in its leaders, and an increased reliance upon its own ability to win in the end. There were, indeed, a few here and there in the North, mainly those who openly or secretly sympathized with the rebellion, who saw in the great battle only a useless butchery, and who denounced the Lieutenant-General of the Federal army as incompetent and heartless. But great as had been the expenditure of life since the army crossed the Rapidan, the troops did not share in the opinions of these faint-hearted or disloyal civilians.

Yet the sight which presented itself to the eyes of the army on the morning of Friday might well have seemed disheartening. Perhaps no better description can be found than is afforded by the following quotation from the history of one of our Maine regiments, which served in Hancock's command, in this campaign. The writer says, "The scene in our front was one of the most horrid and revolting that it was ever our fortune to behold, the dead and wounded of both armies literally covered the ground for miles. Words are inadequate to convey any idea of the horrid spec-

tacle. Some of the bodies were riddled with musket balls. Parties were engaged in burying the dead nearly all day; but very few wounded were found, for those who at first received but slight wounds, were unable to get off the field, and obliged to remain on the ground, and be shot again and again by the bullets of both friend and foe. A correspondent, writing from the spot, thus describes the scene of horror:

‘The angle of the works at which Hancock entered, and for the possession of which the savage fight of the day was made, is a perfect Golgotha. In this angle of death, the dead and wounded rebels lie this morning literally in piles; men in the agonies of death, groaning beneath the dead bodies of their comrades. On an area of a few acres, in the rear of their position, lie not less than a thousand rebel corpses; many literally torn to shreds by hundreds of balls, and several with bayonet thrusts through and through their bodies, pierced on the very margins of the parapet, which they were determined to retake or perish in the attempt. The one exclamation of every man, who looks on the spectacle is ‘God forbid that I should ever gaze upon such a sight again.’”\*

Other participants testify in equally vivid words to the intense severity of the contest. The Confederate General McGowan, who commanded a brigade of Wilcox’s division of A. P. Hill’s Corps, is quoted by General Humphreys as saying, “Our men lay on one side of the breastwork, the enemy on the other, and in many instances men were pulled over. \* \* \* The trenches on the right in the bloody angle had to be cleared of the dead more than once. An oak-tree,

\* Houghton — “Campaigns of the Seventeenth Maine”, p. 179.

twenty-two inches in diameter, in rear of the brigade, was cut down by musket balls, and fell about twelve o'clock Thursday night, injuring several men in the First South Carolina regiment". And Brigadier-General Grant, who commanded the Vermont (Second) brigade of the Second division, Sixth Corps, speaks of it in even more forceful words. "It was not only a desperate struggle", he says, "but it was literally a hand-to-hand fight. Nothing but the piled-up logs or breastworks separated the combatants. Our men would reach over the logs and fire into the faces of the enemy; would stab over with their bayonets;—many were shot and stabbed through the crevices and holes between the logs; men mounted the works, and with muskets rapidly handed them, kept up a continuous fire until they were shot down, when others would take their places and continue the deadly work. \* \* \* Several times during the day the rebels would show a white flag above the works, and when our fire slackened, jump over and surrender, and others were crowded down to fill their places. \* \* \* It was there that the somewhat celebrated tree was cut off by bullets,—there that the brush and logs were cut to pieces and whipped into basket-stuff; \* \* \* there that the rebel ditches and cross-sections were filled with dead men several deep. \* \* \* I was at the angle the next day. The sight was terrible and sickening, much worse than at Bloody Lane (Antietam). There a great many dead men were lying in the road, and across the rails of the torn-down fences, and out in the corn-field: but they were not piled up several deep, and their flesh was not so torn and mangled as at the 'angle'".\*

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", pp. 99-100.

During Friday there was some manœuvring and moving of troops, but both armies were glad to rest as much as possible after the exertions of the previous day. The men on both sides were nearly worn out by the herculean efforts they had made, and neither army was in condition for a general engagement. But the movement of troops brought them into collision at times, and there was some fighting, though not of long continuance in most cases. The only exception was a pretty severe engagement, which lasted for several hours, between the Ninth Corps and the Confederates under the command of General A. P. Hill. This affair, however, terminated without material advantage to either side. The only casualty suffered in the Thirty-Second Maine battalion during the day was one man, corporal Joseph H. Goff of Company C, wounded.

The movements of the 13th established the fact that Lee had somewhat contracted his line, the Confederate right having been withdrawn to a new position, but being quite as strongly intrenched along this inner line as had previously been the case. The ground which the Confederates abandoned in this withdrawal to their interior lines, was at once taken possession of by our forces, with but little opposition on the part of the enemy. The losses which General Lee had sustained in his desperate assaults of the 12th, have been assigned by some historians of the war as the occasion of his having thus shortened his lines. But whatever may have been his reason for the movement, it is certain that we derived no advantage from its execution. He merely retired about a mile toward Spottsylvania Court House, and still barred our every avenue of approach by frowning fortifications which appeared as invulnerable as ever.

The operations on Friday were carried on under the adverse circumstances of bad weather and poor roads. The rain which had begun on Wednesday still continued to fall at frequent intervals, and the ground had become so thoroughly soaked by this time that the narrow and miry roads were almost impassable. In spite of these difficulties, however, General Grant set about the execution of a new manœuvre, or more correctly, the repetition of one already practiced. During the night of Friday, the two corps upon the right of the Union lines,—the Fifth and Sixth Corps,—began moving to the left, with the intention of taking a position from which to deliver another assault upon the Confederate right. But though their march continued all through the night, their progress was so much impeded by the heaviness of the roads, that they were not able to reach the new position until after day-break on the morning of Saturday. This unavoidable delay occasioned the relinquishment of the design for an attack by the Fifth and Sixth Corps, as by daylight the enemy would have been able to perceive the intention of the movement in season to resist it. The original purpose had been that these two corps should confront the enemy's position under cover of the darkness of night, in order to effect such another surprise as Hancock had inflicted.

Since this could not now be accomplished, the idea of an assault was relinquished, and early on the morning of Saturday, the 14th, the army began intrenching itself, and the spade and the axe were substituted for the sabre and the musket. At this time, the army lay in a general position at right angles with the Fredericksburg and Spottsylvania Court House road, extending across that road, and

stretching from the Ny river to the Po. By the changes which had been made in the relative positions of the several corps during Friday night and Saturday morning, Hancock with the Second Corps was now upon the Union right again. Burnside and the Ninth Corps was on the left center, while Wright with the Sixth Corps and Warren with the Fifth Corps, constituted the right center and extreme left respectively. In this latter portion of the line there was some sharp fighting in the course of Saturday afternoon, but it was not attended with any especial results, and the engagement did not become general. In our own part of the line there was some indecisive skirmishing and artillery firing, but our battalion was not engaged, although exposed to the fire of the enemy as we lay in the trenches.

For the next three days, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, the 15th, 16th and 17th of May, neither the Union nor the Confederate armies, as a whole, were especially active so far as aggressive hostilities were concerned, though neither force was by any means idle during the time. The leaders of the opposing armies were each busied in improving the time afforded by the lull in the stern contest. Lee was occupied in adding new works and strengthening his already strong fortifications, constructing new lines of rifle-pits, and otherwise increasing his powers of defence. And upon the Federal side, Grant was replenishing his supplies of ammunition and commissary stores, filling up his ranks, so terribly depleted by the days of battle, with large reinforcements, and sending his wounded from the field-hospitals, toward Fredericksburg and Washington. Upon each of these three days there was more or less of sharp skirmishing

along the lines, and for several hours of every afternoon there was heavy artillery-firing, but no general action was brought on. The armies lay face to face, each quietly awaiting an aggressive movement on the part of its antagonist, but hazarding none on its own part.

General Grant was not, however, so much occupied in repairing the losses and supplying the needs occasioned by the terrible blows he had delivered against Lee's position, that he could not, at the same time, give his attention to the development of other plans. Nor did he neglect any opportunity which appeared to offer itself, to enable him to penetrate the lines of defence which rose in his front. He was continually manœuvring and extending his line toward his left, hoping by this means to overlap the Confederate line, and thus turn the enemy's right flank. But each successive extension merely developed a seemingly endless series of strong breastworks, behind which the wary foe stood quietly awaiting the threatened assault. Our own battalion was not engaged in this sort of work on Sunday, the 15th, but the following day, in the course of the execution of one of these manœuvres, the Ninth Corps was called upon to participate. The First and Second divisions of the corps made a strong demonstration against the enemy's lines, which failed to accomplish any important result. It succeeded, however, in establishing beyond question the fact that there was a large rebel force in our front, strongly entrenched, and ready to offer us battle, should a direct assault be made. This, however, was not intended at this time, our demonstration being merely to feel the enemy, and develop with more certainty his position and approx-



imate force. The battalion participated in this reconnaissance with the division to which we belonged, but sustained no loss. This was on Monday, May 16th, and we returned to our position in the trenches to await the next move in the game, feeling that our little excursion had been decidedly barren of results.

The next day, Tuesday, the 17th, we remained in our old position, as quietly as was possible under the circumstances. But though the interval between the 12th and 18th of May was one of *comparative* rest and quiet, since we were not engaged in any battle during that time, yet it was only by comparison that it could be deemed such. During that period, the battalion, with the brigade of which it was a part, was constantly in the first line of trenches, at the extreme front, and therefore, continually under the enemy's fire. Only a very short distance separated our works from those of the enemy in our immediate front, and we were constantly exposed to annoyance and danger from their close proximity. So near were we to the advanced trenches of the enemy that we were not permitted to light any fires in the neighborhood of our works, and our cooking had to be done several hundred yards in the rear of our trenches, and even then, only at fires screened by a curtain of forest trees. But the vigilance of the enemy's sharpshooters was so great that it was a serious matter for our men to go back to the fires, or to come up from them to the trenches. From the moment that a man exposed himself to view in the open ground till he was safely under cover again, he was a target for twenty rifles, and a rain of missiles fell around him. The bullets whizzed uncomfortably close to his ears, or spitefully

threw up the dust at his feet, if happily they missed inflicting a serious wound. The tall pines which stood a short distance outside our lines, in the space between us and the enemy, were favorite lurking-places for the sharpshooters. These marksmen, under the cover of night, would climb into the tops of the lofty trees, and safely screened from our observation by the thick foliage, overlook our works from their elevated perch when daylight came, and send their deadly missiles at every man who dared leave the shelter of the trench. The constant fusilade which they kept up was annoying in the extreme, even when no damage was inflicted by it.

Wednesday, May 18th, brought us some more active service than that of the three days preceding. An attempt was made to turn the Confederate right by a sudden and vigorous attack. The assault was made soon after daylight on Wednesday morning, and was participated in by a large portion of the Federal forces, the Second and Ninth Corps each furnishing two divisions, and the entire Sixth Corps forming the remainder of the attacking column. When the arrangements for the assault were completed, the First and Second divisions of the Ninth Corps formed the left of the line, the Sixth Corps was on the right, and the First and Second divisions of the Second Corps were in the center.

In this order the Union line moved to the attack, gaining at first some slight advantage, the enemy being easily forced back from his most advanced position. This was, however, nothing more formidable than a line of rifle-pits held only by a considerable force of skirmishers, who readily gave way and left the pits in our possession. They were closely followed

up until their second line of works was reached, but this proved to be much more difficult of approach. It consisted of strong breastworks protected by a thick and almost impenetrable abattis, and defended by a large and determined force of Confederates. But formidable as these works appeared, the Union troops made a gallant attempt to carry them, and a severe struggle ensued, in which we lost heavily, without obtaining any advantage. After the contest had continued for some time, it became apparent that the position was too strong to be carried by the force which we were employing against it. Further persistence in the endeavor to dislodge an enemy so securely posted, could only have one result, it was believed. To prolong the contest would be only to increase the expenditure of life in an effort which could not be otherwise than unavailing and fruitless. The attempt to turn Lee's flank was therefore relinquished, and the Federal line was withdrawn under a heavy fire, which added to the severe losses already sustained.

During the engagement, the troops which participated lost from eight hundred to a thousand men in the aggregate, without accomplishing anything which could be deemed an adequate return for this loss. Our First and Second divisions, at one time during the progress of this affair, succeeded in gaining a position from which they were able to render a part of the enemy's line untenable. But the fact that his position was such as to make it impracticable for us to hazard a charge, prevented us from profiting by this temporary advantage. And in consequence of the general ill-success of the attack, it is more than probable that had a charge been made, its results to us would have been disastrous in the extreme.

Of the part which our own battalion sustained in this action, it may be said that we were roused from our uneasy slumber in the trenches, and moved, with the rest of the brigade, a short distance to the left of our original position. Then we passed to the front of our line of works, and advanced beyond their shelter toward the enemy's lines. We had not far to go, for only a short space separated their works from ours. And it was not long before the sharp reports of the rifles began to ring through the woods, and the active work began in earnest. In the beginning of the action, our brigade was put in position immediately in rear of the first line of battle. The formation was so close, however, that we were well within range, and exposed to loss from the fire of the enemy. We lay down, in order to cover ourselves as much as possible, but even then had some men struck by the stray shots which fell among us. But as the line in our front sustained the heaviest of the fire, of course, our loss here was not serious. The action grew warm, and after some time had elapsed, the brave fellows in our first line found their ranks sadly thinned by the severe musketry-fire which they had borne so long. They were withdrawn, and our brigade ordered to advance to the position they had been occupying.

We were no sooner in this new position than we began to suffer more seriously than before. A furious fire of musketry and artillery was now concentrated upon us, and shell and rifle-balls fell thick and fast among us, scattering death and wounds on every side. But the brave old brigade held its ground manfully, and did its best to return in kind the favors it was receiving from its opponents. In the progress of the

action, we were at one time in great danger of being outflanked and driven from our position in confusion. There was one of those unfortunate gaps in the line with which soldiers are so familiar, the brigade being separated from that upon our right by a considerable space. The enemy sought to take advantage of this, and push a column into the gap, and thus strike us in flank and rear. This they had almost succeeded in accomplishing when their purpose was detected, and by good fortune, defeated. The Thirty-Second Maine chanced to be upon the exposed flank, and suffered considerable loss from a rattling volley or two poured into our ranks at very short range. We replied with all possible vigor, and the battalion hastily changed front under a storm of missiles. We were new to such work, and may have manifested some awkwardness in the delicate and dangerous manœuvre of changing front under fire, but we did not show any want of courage. The brigade was compelled to give ground a little, but was not thrown into disorder, and after falling back a short distance, held its new position with such tenacity as to prevent the enemy from accomplishing his purpose. And during the remainder of the action, we maintained our line without further change of position, and prevented the enemy from either turning our flanks, or effecting an entrance into the gap of which he had sought to take such advantage.

It was not far from noon of the 18th when the firing slackened, and the attempt to carry the Confederate position was soon after relinquished altogether. We had had five or six hours of hard fighting, but had not succeeded in our purpose of turning Lee's flank. And, after falling back for a short distance, and

finding that the Confederates showed no disposition to follow us up, we finally returned, in the course of the afternoon, to our former position in the trenches.

The casualties in our battalion in this affair were numerous, considering our small number. They included four enlisted men killed on the field, and three enlisted men mortally wounded; three commissioned officers, two non-commissioned officers, and nine enlisted men wounded; and one enlisted man missing; making an aggregate loss of twenty-two. This loss was distributed among the several companies as follows:

Company A, Privates John R. Locke and Hiram W. Spinney, killed; Corporal Cyrus E. Brown and Private Joseph B. Lewis, wounded.

Company B, Captain Amos F. Noyes and Private Almon Richardson, wounded.

Company C, Privates William McKay and Howard Robinson, killed; Captain Herbert R. Sargent, and Privates Prescott Chamberlain, William L. Gray, Charles H. Kincaid and Charles McGuire, wounded, the last named, mortally.

Company D, Sergeant Lloyd Q. Arnold, Privates George A. Cole, Charles S. Dyer, Charles E. Thompson, and Hiram S. Tibbetts, wounded, the latter, mortally.

Company E, Lieutenant Charles W. Keyes, severely, and Private Isaac P. Wing, mortally wounded.

Company F, Private Alexander Smith, missing; Private Osborne Trafton, wounded.

Among those named above, quite a number of the wounded never returned to duty, remaining for a longer or shorter time in hospital and being then discharged. Private Cole of Company D *probably*

died a prisoner, as he was left on the field, wounded. Captain Sargent of Company C was struck by a piece of grape shot which did not lacerate the skin, but inflicted a very severe contusion, and occasioned internal injuries. He continued on duty for some six days after the action, but was then compelled to go to the hospital, where he remained under treatment for a month. Private McKay of Company C was shot and instantly killed, while assisting in lifting McGuire in order to carry him to the rear. The latter, who was shot through the abdomen, lingered in suffering for a day or two before death came to his relief, while Tibbetts of Company D died the next day after the battle.

## CHAPTER X.

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THE MOVEMENT BY THE LEFT FLANK. — EWELL'S UNEXPECTED ATTACK UPON OUR RIGHT AND REAR. — ITS ADVANTAGE TO LEE. — TO THE NORTH ANNA. — A CONTEST OF SPEED BETWEEN FEDERALS AND CONFEDERATES.

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The result of the battle of the 18th of May seemed to have convinced General Grant that it was impossible to gain anything by assaults upon the Confederate front or flank. He therefore decided to again have resort to a movement which should turn Lee's flank, and thus force him out of the strong works at Spottsylvania. It has already been mentioned in previous chapters that during the time the Union army lay in the trenches, after the battle of the 12th of May, there had been a steady movement toward the left. Day after day the right had been contracted, and the left correspondingly extended. So that now the Federals had gradually moved around from a position north-westwardly of Spottsylvania Court House, to one which was almost exactly east of that point. From these lines the Lieutenant-General believed it to be possible to make a vigorous push toward Richmond by way of the North Anna river, and place himself between General Lee and the Con-



federate capital. Accordingly, on the 19th of May, having received sufficient reinforcements to make good the losses which he had sustained, Grant issued orders for the movement to begin.

It was in the afternoon of Thursday that intelligence of the proposed change of position began to circulate among the troops, though, of course, the men knew but little more than that a movement of some nature was in contemplation. Without knowing their destination, however, they were glad to go anywhere away from before the fortifications which had so long held them in check. They trusted implicitly in their leader's skill and sagacity to make the movement one which, at least, should not be an abandonment of the purpose which had so long inspired them. And, so long as they did not retreat upon Washington, it mattered but little to them in what direction they marched. The general movement was to begin at midnight of the 19th, but during the afternoon, some portion of the forces began marching toward the left, preparatory to participation in the general advance toward the North Anna. But a sudden and unexpected demonstration on the part of the Confederates changed the aspect of affairs, and for a time delayed the execution of Grant's plans. Perhaps suspecting from the movement of our troops in that quarter, that some new design had been set on foot, General Lee ordered General Ewell to demonstrate vigorously upon our extreme right.

Late in the afternoon of Thursday, Ewell crossed the Ny river, beyond our extreme flank, and swinging around in rear of our lines, seized the Fredericksburg road, and captured an ammunition-train. The Federal troops at the point where his attack was made,

consisted of a brigade of heavy artillery, among which were the First Maine and First Massachusetts regiments. These troops, under the command of General Tyler, had just come to the front from the fortifications around Washington. And although they had been in the service for a considerable time, they had never before been in battle, their duty having been to garrison the defenses of the Capital. They fought with great bravery, and poured a furious fire into the Confederate ranks, finally compelling Ewell's veterans to relinquish their hold upon the road, and to fall back into the woods. The artillerymen, however, suffered very severely, as they exposed themselves to the full weight of the enemy's heavy fire, through their lack of experience. An officer of one of the regiments which went to their assistance writes:

"The ground was literally covered with the dead and wounded of the heavy artillery regiments. Not having experience in fighting, they had neglected the precaution that veterans take, and instead of lying down, or taking advantage of the ground, they had chosen their position on the crest of a hill, where they stood erect, and furnished most admirable targets for the enemy, who fought as usual, in the woods and behind fences".\*

Troops from the Second and Fifth Corps hurried to the aid of the gallant artillerists, and by their united efforts, the Confederates, already repulsed by Tyler's command, were finally driven back across the Ny river. In the course of the night, Ewell withdrew his main body, and retired to the works from whence he had issued. But the woods were filled with stragglers from his command, and when our troops moved

\* Houghton — "Campaigns of the Seventeenth Maine", p. 184.

forward at daylight on Friday morning, May 20th, they captured six or seven hundred prisoners, without firing a shot. But this attack, while unsuccessful in its results, so far as the effect produced upon our right flank is concerned, was yet of much service to the Confederate leader. It occasioned the delay of the Federal forces in the execution of their movement toward the North Anna, and afforded Lee an opportunity to transfer his own troops to a new position, in the time thus gained. How well he profited by this transference of his army to a new base, we shall soon have occasion to consider.

It was not until about midnight of Friday, that Hancock, with the Second Corps, began the march toward Guinney's Station,\* about ten miles to the southeastward of Spottsylvania Court House. It was at this place, — Guinney's Station, — that the famous Stonewall Jackson died, after being mortally wounded at Chancellorsville. Before the Second Corps moved upon this point, a division of cavalry, under General Torbett, had been dispatched in its direction to cover the advance of the infantry. Warren, with the Fifth Corps, followed Hancock, breaking camp early on Saturday, May 21st, and moving as rapidly as possible. Burnside, with the Ninth Corps, left the lines in which we had been lying, during the afternoon of Saturday, and began moving to the left.

During the afternoon, General Ledlie's brigade of the First division of our corps, made a demonstration against the enemy, in order to cover the movement of the remainder of the troops. But it may be questioned

\*General Humphreys and General Walker spell this name Guinea. Woodbury has the name as above.

if this induced the belief on the part of the Confederates that our lines were still held in strong force, since subsequent developments proved that they were well aware that a movement was taking place. However, no attack was made by the enemy while the movement was being made, as their energies were just then exerted in a different direction. Wright, with the Sixth Corps, was the last Federal force to leave the intrenched position in the vicinity of Spottsylvania Court House, which he did without material hindrance on the part of the enemy, on the night of the 21st. A Confederate force under General Hill attacked the Sixth Corps while preparing to retire from its works, but was easily repulsed without serious loss upon the part of the Federals. And by midnight of Saturday, May 21st, the whole Union army was in motion, and marching rapidly southward. All through that night, and until after daylight on Sunday morning, the troops pressed forward, halting only once or twice, and then but for a short time, just long enough to let the men get their breath. It was in reality a race between the two armies, Federal and Confederate, with Richmond as the prize. As soon as Lee learned of Hancock's movement, he had at once set Longstreet's corps in motion southward, and when Warren followed Hancock, on our part, the Confederate general had dispatched Ewell in the track of Longstreet. And finally, as Wright drew out of the abandoned trenches, Hill received Lee's orders to move after Ewell, so that the whole force of each antagonist was now upon the march.

Leaving these general movements to be more particularly mentioned hereafter, let us now turn to the consideration of the part which our own little

battalion sustained during this march. The record of the movements of the Second division of our corps will fully present the story of the battalion at this time, as we participated in all its operations. Early on Saturday afternoon, the First Brigade of the division, under the command of Colonel Curtin, was dispatched in advance of the rest of the corps to seize and occupy the crossing of the Po river, at a point near what was known as Stannard's Mill. The brigade, in proceeding to execute this service, encountered the Confederate pickets at about a mile from Stannard's, and drove them across the river. General Potter at once hurried the rest of our division forward to the river, on arriving at which, the enemy was found to be in position on the opposite bank, in considerable force. General Potter at once commenced making dispositions in order to charge and carry the crossing, but before the division was fully in readiness to advance, the plan was relinquished. It was apparent that the enemy was disposed to contest the passage of the river with much stubbornness, judging from their numbers and position. And it was feared that an endeavor to cross would not only entail a heavy loss, but would be likely to bring on a more general engagement than was contemplated when the First brigade was ordered to occupy the position.

This was deemed undesirable under the circumstances, the most of the army being, as has been said, already on the march. Therefore, instead of attempting to force a passage at Stannard's Mill, the division, with the exception of Curtin's brigade, moved in the direction of Guinney's Bridge, near Guinney's Station. The First brigade was left to hold the northern bank of the Po, and keep the

enemy in check until the rest of the corps had passed. The remainder of the division, after a tedious and fatiguing march, which continued throughout the night, halted soon after sunrise on Sunday morning, May 22nd, in the immediate neighborhood of General Grant's headquarters, near Guinney's Station. For a few hours of the forenoon, we lay and rested here, and then marched some miles further on, to the vicinity of New Bethel. Here we halted again, and remained throughout the rest of Sunday, and the night following, in this position. Our duty here was to hold the crossing of the Ta river, and the roads just beyond the crossing, so as to prevent an attack by the enemy, while the army was in motion. During Sunday, the other two divisions of the Ninth Corps came up and were united with the Second division, so that by Sunday night we were once more together. At five o'clock on the morning of Monday, May 23rd, our march was resumed, toward the North Anna, and though the heat and dust were very oppressive, we moved with much rapidity all through the day.

At this date the Ninth Corps was not a part of the Army of the Potomac, but an independent command, General Burnside receiving his orders, not from General Meade, but from General Grant direct. He was now directed by General Grant to employ the corps as an auxiliary to the Second Corps, in case General Hancock should require assistance in forcing a passage across the river. If not needed for this purpose, our corps was to move in the direction of Ox Ford, and cross the river there, if it was found practicable to do so. During the afternoon of Monday, the Federals had reached the North Anna, the Second Corps striking it at Chesterfield Bridge, and the Fifth Corps

at Jericho Ford, these two points being some four miles apart. Rapidly as the Union troops had moved, however, they had been outstripped in the race. Lee, having the interior lines and consequently being obliged to traverse less space, had moved still more rapidly, and was already well posted upon the southern bank, and in readiness to oppose any attempt at crossing. Yet, to carry out Grant's plan of a flank movement, it was essential that he should cross the river, since his purpose was to advance on Richmond.

It was only reasonable to suppose that Lee, having chosen his ground, was prepared to offer a vigorous resistance to any effort to force a passage. Hancock found Confederate works of great strength at Chesterfield Bridge, upon a ground that was more than ordinarily favorable for defence. Long Creek, which flows into the North Anna, runs parallel with the river for some distance, thus forming a tongue of land between the two streams, north of the river. On this piece of ground, Hancock advanced till he found himself confronted by a formidable work which guarded the approach to the bridge. It is described by one writer "as an extended redan, with a wet ditch in front, and rifle-trenches in the rear". On the opposite bank of the river there was another large work, the guns of which commanded the northern bank. The Confederate garrison of these fortifications consisted of McLaws' division of Longstreet's Corps, veterans who had fought on many bloody fields.

About an hour before sunset, Hancock attacked and carried the work on the northern bank, driving the Confederates out and across the river. The Federal loss was about one hundred and fifty men in this brilliant affair, which opened the way for Hancock to

cross. As it was nearly dark, however, he did not attempt the passage of the river that night, but remained in position upon the northern bank. During the night, unsuccessful attempts were made by the Confederates to burn the bridge, but the flames were extinguished before much damage was done. The Fifth Corps had effected a crossing at Jericho Ford several hours prior to this affair of Hancock's, the leading brigade wading through water waist deep, before the pontoons were laid. They were permitted to cross without encountering any opposition, as the attention of the Confederates was mainly occupied elsewhere. But they had scarcely reached the southern bank, and began to get into position when they were savagely attacked by the enemy. For a while they bore the assaults of two rebel divisions. — Wilson's and Heth's of Hill's Corps, — but after a sharp contest, were finally able to repulse them. The Fifth Corps lost, in this affair, some three hundred or four hundred men, but the enemy's loss was much more severe. Warren captured about a thousand prisoners, and beat off his assailants, so that he secured possession of his position.

Meanwhile, we in the Ninth Corps had been coming up to the front while these stirring events were transpiring, and reached the river near Ox Ford. At this point there was a salient in the enemy's line of entrenchments, and the works were of the strongest character. Any attempt to cross here in the face of the extremely heavy fire to which an attacking force must, of necessity, be exposed, would have been of very doubtful success. And whatever its result, the endeavor must have entailed a frightful loss upon the assailants. For these reasons, General Grant and



General Burnside did not deem it expedient to attempt to force a passage at this point, but instead of making an endeavor which, at the outset, was so hopeless of success, the corps was divided, and mostly sent to strengthen other parts of the Federal line. General Willcox, with the Third division, remained in rear of Ox Ford, to observe the movements of the enemy at that point. General Potter, with our Second division went to aid Hancock and the Second Corps, at Chesterfield Bridge. General Crittenden and the First division proceeded to the assistance of the Fifth Corps at Jericho Ford. We in the Second division did not reach Hancock in season to bear any part in the attack upon the redan on the northern bank, of which mention has just been made. But on the following day, Tuesday, May 24th, in conjunction with the Second Corps, our division crossed the river, and engaged the enemy. The Confederate artillery commanded the crossing, and as our battalion, with our comrades of the Second brigade, moved over the long bridge, we were subjected to a brisk cannonading. From the enemy's batteries above and below the bridge, we received a sharp shelling, but fortunately, their cannoniers miscalculated the elevation, and the missiles flew harmlessly over our heads. The battalion suffered no loss, though the effect of the shells which shrieked above us, was unquestionably to hasten considerably the pace at which we traversed that bridge. It did not take us very long to reach the southern bank, under the impetus imparted by that artillery firing, for we fancied that if we delayed too long, they might get the range a little more exactly.

After the crossing was effected, the right of the division remained resting upon a bluff near the river-

bank, while the left was well advanced, and connected with the right of General Birney's division of the Second Corps. The enemy giving way before the advance of the Federal lines, we proceeded to make secure the foot-hold we had gained, by intrenching as strongly as possible. Between the afternoon of the 24th, and noon of the next day, we had thrown up three separate lines of works, at varying distances from the river. As the Federals became in larger force upon the southern bank, Lee gradually suffered himself to be pushed backward, abandoning some of his more advanced works. When Warren crossed, Lee had drawn back his left wing, and when Hancock passed the river, the Confederate right wing was correspondingly retired. Their center, however, still rested on the river, near Ox Ford, forming the salient of which mention has been made. From this fact of the retirement of the Confederate right, arose our extensive labors in intrenchment-building.

Our line advanced cautiously, feeling the enemy, and when he appeared disposed to make a stand, we halted and built a line of breastworks, to hold the ground over which we had come. When he again withdrew, we followed, repeating the same tactics as before. In this way, with brief intervals of rest, we passed the night of Tuesday, the 24th, at one time during which there came up a severe rain-storm, with very heavy and almost incessant thunder, and vivid lightning. In the depths of the woods, with an enemy in strong force close in our front, the rain falling in sheets, the thunder rolling and crashing, and the rapid alternations of blinding light and intense darkness confusing the vision, that night-storm was one to be long remembered. It was too violent to continue

long, however, and its fury was soon spent. It sensibly cooled and purified the heated and sultry air, and rendered it much more comfortable, though we, in common with everything about us, were dripping wet when it ceased.

Before going on to speak of the events which followed during the days immediately succeeding the the crossing, it seems proper to mention here the losses which the battalion sustained during the march to the North Anna. These were by capture exclusively, as the battalion was not engaged in any action between the 18th and 24th, yet we lost no less than thirteen men, all of whom were taken prisoners. They were Privates Charles Ayers of Company A, Josiah Tufts of Company C, Leonard G. Dingley and Henry M. Lord of Company D, and Sergeant John H. Taylor, Corporals Lewis S. Tuttle and William Merritt, and Privates William Adams, George W. Clough, Elbridge Hilton, John Mathews, Oscar H. Thompson, and David L. Tuttle of Company F. Of these Sergeant Taylor, Corporal Merritt, and Privates Dingley, Adams, Clough and Hilton were subsequently released and returned to the regiment. Corporal Tuttle died in prison at Andersonville, Nov. 30, 1864, and Privates Mathews and Tuttle died at the same prison, one on Oct. 14, and the other Dec. 20, 1864. Private Lord probably died in rebel hands, as the last record of him in the Adjutant General's Report for 1865, is "Missing since May 19".

Of the circumstances under which some of these men fell into the hands of the enemy, the following is believed to be a correct statement; comrade Thompson having furnished the details as to the capture of himself. Ayers and Tufts substantially as follows: He

writes that on the 21st of May he became completely exhausted, and so sick that he was placed in an ambulance. This soon became so crowded that the men were obliged to take turns in walking, while others rode. The last time comrade Thompson attempted to walk was about four o'clock in the afternoon. He was so much exhausted that he was able to go only a short distance when he fell down. The Captain of his company (I. P. Fall) soon came along, and seeing Thompson's condition, called the Surgeon. (Dr. Kimball, Ass't Surgeon, Thompson thinks it was). That officer said he did not know what to do with him, as the ambulance was full. So he gave Thompson a pass to remain where he was, together with Charles Ayers of Company A, and Josiah Tufts of Company C, telling them to lie in the woods that night, and try and overtake the regiment the next day.

The three remained, and slept in the woods that night, and being somewhat refreshed by their night's rest, felt better the next morning, and started on to catch up with the regiment. After walking a few miles they observed a house a short distance off to the right, and having had no breakfast, concluded to go over and see if they could obtain some at the house. They thought if they could get something to eat, they would then feel better able to exert themselves to overtake the regiment. Accordingly they left the road, and went to the house, which they found occupied by two ladies, one an elderly lady and the other quite young, with two or three small children. They were very pleasantly received, and given quite a good breakfast. Just after they sat down to the table, the younger lady went out of the house, but her doing so excited no suspicion, and they went on with their

breakfast without taking particular notice of her movements. But they had good reason to remember it afterwards, for just as they got through eating, they heard the sound of horses' feet approaching the house. And before they could get outside, and reach their arms, which they had incautiously left leaning against the house, nine rebels had obtained possession of their muskets, and were bending them around the trees in front of the house, so as to render them unserviceable. The three poor fellows could, of course, offer no resistance and had no alternative but to surrender.

After the squad of rebels had disposed of the weapons, they turned their attention to the prisoners, and proceeded to rob them of whatever articles of value they could find about them. From Ayers they took his watch, and a ring off his finger, while Tufts' boots were taken from his feet. Thompson had a watch without a chain in a pocket under his belt, and this escaped their notice, but they took his "housewife", containing needles, pins, buttons, thread, etc. After searching the prisoners, their captors held quite a consultation as to how they should be disposed of, and one of the rebels was desirous of shooting them where they were. But the majority finally decided to take them along and turn them over to the authorities. After travelling some five or six miles from the place of capture, the squad overtook a company of rebel cavalry taking about fifty Union prisoners to Richmond. Our three Thirty-Second boys were turned over to these cavalrymen, and saw no more of the "Johnnies" who had captured them. The Lieutenant in command of the cavalry asked the boys if they had got away with anything of value, and

offered if they had, to buy it of them, saying they could not pass Libby Prison with anything. Comrade Thompson, thinking it well to make the best of a bad bargain, sold him the watch which had escaped the notice of the first squad, receiving thirty dollars in Confederate money for it.

The prisoners arrived at Libby Prison on the fourth day after their capture, or on May 26th, but Tufts was so sick that he was left at a farmhouse before they reached Richmond. He was subsequently carried to Andersonville, and died there on the 8th of August. The other two boys remained at Libby Prison one week, from May 26th to June 2nd or 3rd, when they were taken out, with other prisoners, and loaded into cattle cars and started for an unknown destination, which proved to be Andersonville, where they arrived about a week later. Ayers and Thompson were placed upon their arrival, in the Eighty-First squad, Second detachment. On the second day after reaching Andersonville, they found sergeant Taylor and others of Company F, Thirty-Second Maine, who were captured on May 19th, and had then been at Andersonville about a week. After enduring the horrors of the prison for about five months, Ayers and Thompson were sent to Savannah, and put into a stockade, where they staid only one night. The next morning, sick and weak, they were carried on stretchers to the prison hospital, which had formerly been a slave pen. This hospital was merely a yard with small tents, having two "bunks" to a tent, and two men to a bunk. In one corner of the yard was a small square brick building, used as a dead house.

On arriving at the hospital, our two comrades were put into the dead house, not because they were

quite dead, though, as comrade Thompson says, they were "next door to it", but because the tents were all filled and they could not be accommodated any where else. They lay in the dead house two days and two nights, waiting for some of the men in the tents to die, and thus make room for them. The third morning they were taken out, together with Elbridge Hilton of Company F, whom they had found at the dead house. Hilton and Thompson were placed in one tent together, and poor Ayers carried to another, where he died that same night, (October, - '64), while Hilton died about three weeks later, in November, '64. About two weeks after Hilton's decease all in the hospital were paroled and sent North, and Thompson was released with the rest. After staying in the hospital at Baltimore two weeks, he came home on a furlough, and subsequently rejoined the regiment at Alexandria, and was finally discharged in July, 1865.

## CHAPTER XI.

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EVENTS ACROSS THE RIVER. — THE NINTH CORPS BE-  
COMES A PART OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. —  
GENERAL BURNSIDE WAIVES HIS SENIORITY  
OF RANK. — THE THIRTY-SECOND MAINE  
JOINED BY ITS SECOND BATTALION. —  
THE ACTION OF MAY 26TH. —  
RE-CROSSING THE RIVER  
AT MIDNIGHT.

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By the morning of Wednesday, May 25th, the entire Union army had reached the southern bank of the North Anna river, and was occupying good positions behind strong, though hastily constructed breastworks. There was but little activity manifested on the part of either the Federals or Confederates during the 25th, but a series of reconnoissances made by our forces developed the fact that Lee was very strongly posted within some two miles of our front. As stated in the last chapter, the Confederate leader had drawn back, first his left wing and then his right, as Warren and Hancock had successively crossed the river, while his center still held its position. These movements had given his line somewhat the form of a triangle, the apex of which approached the river, between Chesterfield Bridge and Jericho Ford, while the sides of the triangle extended southwardly therefrom.



The Confederate left rested upon Little river, and its right was protected by the Hanover marshes. By such a formation the movement of troops from point to point, as necessity should arise, was rendered extremely easy of accomplishment.

Moving upon short interior lines, large masses of men could be readily and speedily brought to the defense of any part of the line, against which we might direct an attack. The position which the Confederates occupied was not only one of much natural strength, but had as well been made greatly stronger by artificial means. The skill of Lee's best engineers had been exerted in the planning and erection of formidable works. An elaborate system of entrenchments, to which even then others were being rapidly added, rendered the position as well or better adapted to purposes of defence than those previously occupied. The most careful examination of these works which Grant's ablest officers were enabled to make, brought to view no weak point throughout their whole extent. Repeated reconnoissances failed to detect an assailable point against which our forces could be thrown with even a slight hope of thus penetrating the barrier drawn across their path. It was only too clearly evident that an attempt to carry by assault, works of such a character, would have the same disastrous result as had attended our previous attack upon the fortifications about Spottsylvania. Our commander was, for the time being, apparently out-generalled by the sagacious leader of the Confederates, who had thus interposed himself between us and Richmond. But General Grant was by no means at the end of his resources, and thus hindered in the carrying out of one of his plans, he merely substituted for it another

which looked to the accomplishment of the same end. One who has written voluminously in regard to the war, has said of Grant. "He was not aiming to take Richmond, but to defeat the Confederate army".\* With this object in view, after remaining across the North Anna long enough to become convinced that Lee could not be defeated by a movement against his works, he had recourse to other tactics for its accomplishment. While the examinations and reconnoissances were taking place, on the 25th of May, the greater part of the Union army was passing a very quiet and uneventful day, as compared with the previous weeks of hard marching and harder fighting.

To us in the Thirty-Second Maine, however, while we were not called upon to take part in the reconnoissances, but lay quietly in the trenches, the day was a memorable one, because of two events which occurred, in both of which we were directly concerned. The first of these was one which concerned us as a part of the Ninth Corps, and our interest in the event was shared by all our comrades of the corps, as it was upon this day we passed, for the first time, under the command of General Meade, and became a part of the Army of the Potomac.

It has already been said, in another portion of this history, that the Ninth Corps was an entirely independent command, and though acting with the Army of the Potomac since the opening of the campaign in the Wilderness, was not at any time subject to the orders of the General commanding that army, but only to those of the Lieutenant-General. In reality, up to this time, it had been, in all respects, so entirely distinct from the Army of the Potomac as to

\* C. C. Coffin ("Carleton"), in *National Tribune*, of March 1, 1888.

constitute a separate army, though operating in the same campaign and upon the same ground. But it had become plainly apparent to the officers high in command that there were many great practical difficulties constantly arising from the existence of such a peculiar condition of affairs. Much trouble was encountered in the endeavor to successfully manœuvre and fight two separate armies upon the same field of operations. The anomalous situation of the Ninth Corps was not only a hindrance to the execution of the plans of General Meade, for the employment of the army in carrying out the orders of the Lieutenant-General, but it wrought injury to the corps itself, and interfered with its usefulness as a body.

The Second, Fifth and Sixth Corps were accustomed to be handled and led by their own Generals, and to act as a united force, and a commendable *esprit du corps* was thereby kept up in each. With the Ninth, it had too frequently happened that the corps-commander had been completely divested of his forces in order to strengthen others, and his troops, in detached bodies, were sent to act under the orders of other Generals, while their own leader was left without an adequate command. The Ninth Corps was sometimes called upon to reinforce different corps of the Army of the Potomac at the same time, as occasion required that additional forces should be sent simultaneously to several points along an extended line. Then one division would be hurried in one direction, and another in an opposite one, to report to different corps-commanders, while a brigade or two might be sent to aid still a third commander who might be hard-pressed. A recent instance of this had occurred on the 23rd, when General Warren had been

reinforced by the First division, and General Hancock by the Second division, as mentioned in the last chapter.

Naturally, if we were engaged at such times, we failed to receive as much credit for our service as we should have obtained had we gone into action as a corps, united under our own proper commander, instead of being thus divided, and placed under the command of strangers. Herein was an injustice to General Burnside, and, as well, to the men of the Ninth Corps, and, on the other hand, there was another difficulty, so far as General Meade was concerned, in regard to the employment of the corps even as an auxiliary to the corps of his army. The authority for the detachment of divisions or other portions of the corps in the manner just mentioned, could only emanate from General Grant himself, and not from General Meade. In a pressing emergency, when reinforcements were immediately necessary, it might easily occur that much valuable time would be irrecoverably lost in the necessity for the transmission of orders from the general headquarters, which were often at a considerable distance from those of General Burnside. Full knowledge of the imperative necessity for such a reinforcement by a portion of the Ninth Corps might be possessed by General Meade, but unless the Lieutenant-General was also aware of the state of the case, and issued his orders for the movement, General Meade had no authority to do so.

Clearly it was requisite, for the well-being and efficiency of the whole Union force, that there should be an end of this indirect and awkward method of control. It would seem, at first glance, to have been easy to terminate all trouble by the incorporation of

the Ninth Corps with the Army of the Potomac. But here there arose at once a difficulty apparently insurmountable, from a military point of view. General Burnside was commissioned as Major-General before General Meade reached that grade, and, by such seniority of commission was his superior in rank, and as such, entitled to assume command of the whole army should the consolidation be made. If the Ninth Corps became united with the Army of the Potomac, its commander, as the senior Major-General, was entitled to displace General Meade, as it would have been a gross violation of military etiquette, and contrary to well-established law and usage for a junior to continue to exercise the chief command, and give orders to his superior. But nothing was farther from General Burnside's own wishes than to be again placed in command of the Army of the Potomac, or to be instrumental in causing the removal of General Meade from that position. Once before, when called to command that army, Burnside had accepted only with great and unfeigned reluctance, modestly believing himself unequal to the vast responsibilities involved. And the events of the period during which he had held the chief command were not likely to have lessened his unwillingness to assume such a position. At this time, too, in the very midst of an active campaign, which Meade had so far carried on to the acceptance of the Lieutenant-General, it was even less probable than before that Burnside should desire to supersede Meade. How then was the difficulty to be overcome, and the efficiency of the army secured? A course suggested itself to General Burnside which perhaps no other among the chief officers of our army, brave and generous as they were, would have con-

sented to adopt. It involved the surrender of position, and the waiving of well-earned rank, upon his own part, and military men will understand what this means, better than civilians.

On all questions involving matters of rank and seniority, officers in general are among the most tenacious and punctilious of mortals. But Burnside, with a disregard of the rights and prerogatives of his position so rare as to be wholly unparalleled, offered to waive the question of seniority, and all considerations of respective rank, in order to enhance the effectiveness of the army. And at his own suggestion, an order was issued by General Grant, upon the 25th of May, incorporating the Ninth Corps with the Army of the Potomac, and thus placing him under the orders of Meade. General Burnside thus voluntarily placed himself under the command of one who was his junior in rank, and consequently, in the strictly military sense of the word, his inferior, from a sincere desire to serve the cause with the utmost possible degree of usefulness, and from a generous wish to relieve General Meade from all embarrassment.

That he has never received the full credit due him for such an act, has undoubtedly been only because it has never been prominently brought to public attention, many soldiers, even, being unaware that he was superior to General Meade in rank. For this reason, therefore, considerable space has been given here to a statement of the facts, when our transfer, as a corps, to the Army of the Potomac might have been passed over with but a brief mention. And it is hoped no comrade will deem it an unpardonable departure from the purposes of this history, to have

thus written in detail of so generous and honorable an act of our old commander, as was this waiver of his prerogative.

Returning now to the more immediate history of our own regiment, the second event which took place on the 25th, was one which directly concerned ourselves. It was upon that date that we ceased to be merely a battalion, and became a regiment, being joined by the four companies composing the second battalion, which we had left behind us in Maine, when we started for "the front" in April. These four companies, G, H, I and K, had left Augusta, Maine, on Wednesday, the 11th of May, just one day before we of the first battalion had participated in the first obstinate and bloody struggle at Spottsylvania. While we were lying in the trenches after that battle, they had been journeying towards Washington, where they arrived on the 13th.

It may be interesting, especially to those who were members of the companies composing the second battalion, to quote in this connection, from the diary of Adjutant Hayes, as to the journey from Maine to the front. He writes, "Left Augusta, Me., at 8.30 A. M., May 11th, and arrived at Kittery at 3 P. M. My horse was put on there. Arrived at Boston at 6; disembarked, marched across the city, re-entered the cars, and at 7.30 started for New York via Fall River; embarked on Str. 'Metropolis' at midnight, and arrived in New York at 10 A. M., May 12th. Passed from the 'Metropolis' to a ferry-boat, and was ferried to Jersey City. Started from there at 1 o'clock; arrived at Philadelphia at 7.30 P. M., May 12th. Partook of refreshments at the Volunteer Saloon, and left for Baltimore at midnight; arrived at Havre de

Grace at 6 A. M., May 13th, at which place crossed the Susquehanna. Arrived in Baltimore at 12.45; marched across the city, and had dinner at Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, and then entered the train for Washington. Arrived at about midnight, and marched to Soldiers' Rest. On May 14th, were ordered to report to General Abercrombie at Belle Plain. Embarked at 10 o'clock P. M. on U. S. transport 'Wawaset'; left the wharf at 4 A. M., May 15th; arrived at Belle Plain about 8 A. M. of the 15th; disembarked and camped on a hill near the Potomac. Within a mile are 8,000 rebel prisoners. All troops and baggage for the front or from it pass near us. To-day (Sunday) we have heard from the first battalion. They were in the fight. Lieut. Gurney is killed. My Sergt. Major is reported by some killed, and by others, wounded. Lieut. Rounds, Acting Adjutant, is also wounded, and many others".

The next few days, (May 16th to 19th, it appears by the diary, the battalion was mainly occupied in drilling, and on May 20th, having been joined by Lieutenant Bearce and some fifty men who had been left behind at Augusta, was ordered to proceed the next day, to join the first battalion. The expected movement was not made, however, until Sunday, May 22nd, when the battalion marched at five o'clock A. M., guarding a large train of supplies and ammunition, which was some two and a half miles in length. Halting at Fredericksburg for the night, the march was resumed about five A. M., on the 23rd, and in company with the Sixth New York, the battalion reached Bowling Green at about eleven o'clock P. M., having covered some twenty-five miles. On Tuesday, the 24th, the battalion left Bowling Green at six



A. M., and passed through Milford, and towards the North Anna river, halting for the night after a march of some eighteen miles. Within the three days since leaving Belle Plain, the command had marched, according to Adjutant Hayes' figures, nearly sixty miles, under circumstances of much hardship, when it is considered that the men were new to the service, and unaccustomed to marching. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at, that many had found themselves compelled to fall out, through sheer inability to keep up with the column.

Corporal Ephraim Clark of Company I, says in his diary, under date of May 24th, "A hard day's march : much falling out on the way ; much eagerness expressed to reach the front". And Adjutant Hayes writes, under the same date, "We started from Bowling Green with three hundred and eight men, and when we stacked arms, there were ninety-five muskets. The rest finally straggled in". On Wednesday, the 25th, the remaining distance was soon covered, a short march of about six miles bringing the battalion up to the lines about half a mile south of the North Anna, where they found and joined the first battalion at the extreme front.

Together with these companies of the second battalion, came also the remainder of the regimental field and staff officers, and a considerable number of members of various companies in the first battalion, these latter having been among those left behind sick when we left the State. Not all of those whom we had left in hospital, however, now rejoined us, for some who lay sick in Augusta when we were ordered away, had already ended their brief soldier-life; and death had found them in the wards of the hospital as

speedily and surely as it had many others upon the battle-field. Indeed, even before the first battalion left Maine, some of its members had died, almost before they had assumed the uniform of a soldier. Private Caleb McIntyre, Jr., of Company B had died in the hospital March 21st, only eleven days after the company was mustered into the United States service. Privates Charles E. Holden and George Butler of Company E had died, one on April 16th, and the other on April 17th, and Musician Stillman Hersey, of Company G had died April 19th. Privates Hildreth K. Eustis and Albert M. H. Lake, both of Company E, died at Augusta on the 5th of May.

Immediately upon the arrival of the second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown assumed command of the entire regiment, Colonel Wentworth being sick at the time of their reaching us. The addition of these four companies to our numbers gave us quite a respectable front, and we began to feel that we were, at last, a regimental organization. We were pleased to be once more united with our comrades, and gave them a cordial welcome. It may have been the case that we of the first battalion were inclined to give ourselves some harmless airs, however, by virtue of the service we had seen since we parted from them in Augusta. The time of separation had not been long, as reckoned by ordinary methods of computing the duration of time. Only about five weeks had elapsed since we had broken camp at Augusta, and started for the South, leaving them behind. But in those five short weeks, our experiences had been such that the time seemed far longer than it was. We had been living amid a succession of the most strange and startling scenes, and passing through an epoch so

crowded with new and startling events, that the years of an ordinary life-time seemed hardly worthy to be compared with those few weeks. For almost three weeks out of the five, we had been constantly under the fire of the enemy; not engaged in one battle alone, or encountering an antagonist at frequent intervals, with periods of quiet rest intervening, but practically continuously in battle for the entire period.

We were worn and haggard with the intense strain of such severe duty, coming as it did, so suddenly and unexpectedly upon us, all unprepared as we were by previous experience of active service. It must be borne in mind that we were largely unfamiliar with military life, and knew nothing, even of much less persistent and relentless warfare. We had had no experience in previous campaigns, as had the veterans of our brigade, but we were, the most of us, scarcely more than boys, ignorant of the details of drill and discipline, and allowed no time in which to acquire the knowledge. We had grown thin and pale from our privations and exertions, fighting all day and marching all night, without sufficient food or sleep. We had learned through sore experience what hunger meant, when the three days' rations had been made to last us four, five or six, and finally gave out altogether, while the trains were still far in the rear, and the empty haversacks must, of necessity, remain unfilled till the slow wagons could come up again. The bright new uniforms we had worn so proudly when we left Maine, were now torn and ragged, where we had pressed through tangled undergrowth in the forests, and clambered over close-set abattis in front of rebel works. The blue bore many a stain, too, caught when we had cast ourselves down in muddy roadways,

or between the furrows of plowed fields, to gain a moment's rest when the bugles sounded the halt. The colors we had unfurled that April morning, unmarred in all their blazonry of stripes and stars, were now pierced and torn by rebel missiles, till they hung in tatters from the staff. And, saddest of all, many once familiar faces were no longer to be seen amid our ranks. The casualties of the campaign had already told greatly upon our numbers, and some seventy of the men were, in this brief time, recorded upon the lists of killed, wounded and missing. Many who had gone forth with us when we bade our comrades of the second battalion good-bye, were now lying dead in the forest-glades of Spottsylvania, or suffering keen agony from cruel wounds, in the crowded hospitals of Fredericksburg, or, worst of all, were prisoners in the hands of the enemy.

Surely, though it was but a brief while we had been parted from the second battalion, yet in the time we had passed through a stern and bitter experience, indeed. And it was hardly to be wondered at if we felt ourselves to be almost veterans in comparison with the four companies that had just joined us. But if they had not shared with us the hardships and the dangers of the battle and the march, up to this time, their time was soon to come. They were soon to stand side by side with us amid such scenes of carnage, that they can justly claim to have contributed their full proportion toward maintaining the credit and the honor of the regiment. Though they did not share, with us, in the struggles around Spottsylvania, they bore their full part in the subsequent service which we rendered. Almost before they were fairly among us, on the very day following their arrival in

the trenches, they began to realize what active service meant, under such a leader as Grant.

On that day, Thursday, May 26th, the enemy in our front became more active and annoying, and in the afternoon, a sharp little collision occurred, in which our Second division of the Ninth Corps bore a prominent part. After a brisk engagement, General Potter drove back the whole force of the enemy opposite his division front. And, while this action did not produce any result of general importance, it enabled us to advance the line of the division some distance, and secure and hold more favorable ground for our occupancy. In this affair the Sixth New Hampshire, of our brigade, sustained a severe loss in the death of its gallant commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson, who was killed during the progress of the action. The Thirty-Second Maine lost one enlisted man killed, two enlisted men mortally wounded, and two less severely wounded, an aggregate of five. Nearly all these casualties occurred in the companies which had just joined us. As distributed among the several companies, the losses were as follows:

Company D, Private Sewall G. Darling, died of wounds.

Company H, Private George A. Elder, wounded.

Company I, Privates Abijah Lapham, killed in action, James Boyce, died of wounds, and Ira E. Hopkins, wounded.

But while the events narrated in this chapter were taking place, new plans involving the further movements of the whole army, were being matured in the mind of the great soldier who held its chief command. As has been said, the advance to and

across the North Anna had not proved to be such a measure of success as to justify the hope of defeating General Lee in an engagement on this ground. As had been the case at other important epochs in this great campaign, the attack, if attack there was to be, must be made by the Federals. The Confederates were securely in position behind strong fortifications, and did not show any disposition either to advance and deliver battle at any distance beyond the protection of their works, or to fall back and abandon them. Within their defences, they had the material advantage of being able to mass their forces to repel an assault, or rapidly reinforce any point menaced by an attack, merely by moving troops across the space enclosed within their triangular lines. On the other hand, the Federals were in such a position that in case of an emergency arising which should make it desirable to reinforce any part of our lines, it could only be done at great disadvantage. General Grant would have been compelled to cross his troops over two bridges, beside marching them a distance at least twice as great as that covered by his opponent, in order to reach the same point. Under these circumstances, therefore, he failed to perceive any hope of success in an attempt to assault the enemy's position. But he determined to again employ his favorite manœuvre of turning the flank of that position, and thus forcing the enemy to abandon it. After consideration of the situation, he decided to continue his former tactics, and move again by the left flank. His new base of supplies was, therefore, to be established at White House Landing, on the York river, while the army was to approach Richmond across the Pamunkey river and Totopotomoy creek, by way of Cold Harbor and Bethesda Church.

The recent heavy rains had already caused the North Anna river, in our rear, to become considerably swollen, and it appeared to be desirable that we should re-cross without delay, if we were not to advance farther in the movement which had placed us upon the southern bank. Accordingly, during the night of May 26th, the greater part of the Federal army began to re-cross. Warren and Wright, with the Fifth and Sixth Corps, having first made some demonstrations in their front, to occupy the attention of the enemy. In the course of Thursday night, the Sixth Corps quietly fell back to the northern bank of the river, and was followed as rapidly as possible by the Fifth and Ninth. General Hancock covered the rear with the Second Corps, and did not re-cross until Friday morning, the 27th, before daybreak. So far as we in the Thirty-Second Maine are concerned, the events of that "midnight flitting" are not likely ever to be forgotten by any one of us who participated in it. It was, perhaps, about eleven o'clock of a profoundly dark, cloudy and dismal night that we received the order to withdraw from the trenches in which we had been lying, and as noiselessly as possible, we formed and marched back to the river. The bridge upon which we were to cross, we found covered with earth and branches thickly strewn upon the planks, in order to deaden as much as possible the sound of the tramp of feet and the rumble of wheels. Inflammable materials were in readiness near at hand, and as soon as the rear had crossed, the torch was at once applied, and the bridge destroyed by fire. This was to hinder the enemy from crossing in pursuit, should he by any chance discover our movement, and seek to follow up and harass our retreating columns.

So hastily, indeed, was the torch applied, that the bridge was wrapped in flames and rendered impassable before all of our own men had crossed, and numbers thus fell into the hands of the enemy. The loss of these men was occasioned by the fact that when the retrograde movement began, a strong picket line had been confronting the enemy. And in order to lull suspicion, these pickets were not withdrawn until the last moment, their continued presence contributing much to impress the Confederates with the idea that the army still lay in its intrenchments, as at nightfall. When, at last, this devoted little band who had thus stood between us and discovery, pursuit, and perhaps, disaster, were finally relieved, and with hurried steps sought the bridge, many of them found themselves too late. The picket-line was long, and before the officers were able to convey the order to retire, along its whole extent, and the men could struggle through the darkness back to the bridge, the fires had been already lighted. And when they emerged from the forest, upon the river bank, the flames were already curling around brace and stringer, and blazing above plank and piling, and their retreat was cut off. The lurid light of the burning timbers fell upon the turbid and swollen waters with a sullen glare, as if to show them how hopeless was any effort to escape. There was death in the swirling and angry river at their feet, and behind them was a less merciful and slower death in the hells of Andersonville and Salisbury prisons.

Among the number of the unfortunates who thus fell into the hands of the enemy were two members of the Thirty-Second Maine, George W. Wilson and James K. P. Whitten, both being privates in Company C. They were upon picket that night and never



rejoined the company, but for a long time their comrades were only able to conjecture what their fate had been. That one brief word "missing", which was so full of sad meaning in those days, was entered upon the rolls against their names, and for months nothing definite was learned concerning them. Later, however, intelligence reached us that both had been captured, and both had died in rebel prison. The fearful sufferings of Andersonville had proved too much for their strength to endure, and Whitten had succumbed to the tortures of that loathsome pen on the 19th day of August, and Wilson had soon followed, dying on the 26th of the same month.

In closing this chapter, an extract from the diary of Adjutant Hayes as to the incidents of the night of the 26th, may be of interest. He writes, under date of May 27th:

"At midnight last night we were ordered to fall back about fifty feet from the pits, to make room for a regiment that was to relieve us. We did so, but scarcely had we taken position when the rebs poured it in upon us. Back we went into the pits, and waited for them, but to no purpose. At 1.30 A. M., we commenced to fall back from the pits after being relieved, and now the whole division is on the move. After re-crossing the bridge at the North Anna, we burnt it. Halted about 3 A. M. Have been waiting several hours for a move, but the whole brigade is here yet. \* \* \* \* \* 6 P. M. We have been halted for about an hour. There is a fair prospect of our marching through the night. Col. Wentworth has not had command since we left Fredericksburg. We lost one man killed yesterday and had three wounded. The Lieut.-Colonel of the Sixth New Hampshire was killed yesterday near us".

## CHAPTER XII.

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THE MARCH TO THE PAMUNKEY. — HEAT AND DUST  
AND WEARINESS. — SUNDAY A DAY OF REST. — LEE  
NOT TAKEN BY SURPRISE. — OUR REINFORCE-  
MENTS FROM BERMUDA HUNDREDS. — TOT-  
OPOTOMOY CREEK AND BETHESDA  
CHURCH. — LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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As was said in the last chapter, when General Grant withdrew across the North Anna river, his purpose was to approach Richmond by the way of Cold Harbor and Bethesda Church. His first objective point, upon which his columns were to be directed, was the Pamunkey river, which is formed by the union of the North Anna and South Anna rivers. His line of march, after having safely re-crossed the North Anna, was at first well to the eastward, so as to swing clear of the Confederate position, and then to the southward, toward the Pamunkey. The army moved in the following order: two divisions of cavalry, under the command of Sheridan, led the advance, and immediately following the cavalry was the Sixth Corps. Behind the Sixth came the Fifth Corps, and in the rear of the Fifth marched the Ninth Corps, or so much of it as was not temporarily detached, when the movement began. In the rear of all came the Second Corps, to which had been assigned

the duty of covering the movement, and protecting the rear of the entire army.

On through the night and the hours of early morning the vast bodies of troops were rapidly hurried, until about nine o'clock A.M., on Friday, May 27th, Sheridan and his cavalry obtained possession of Hanover Ferry and of Hanover Town. The latter was a small hamlet on the south side of the Pamunkey river, nearly equi-distant from Richmond, and from White House on the York river, being fifteen miles northeast from the former, and sixteen miles westerly of the latter. This locality once in the hands of Sheridan, the Union forces were immediately concentrated as rapidly as possible upon this point. And during all of Friday and Saturday, May 27th and 28th, the army was being hurried forward with as little delay as might be, and gathering its forces in greater numbers every hour, about Hanover Town. It was only by the greatest celerity of movement that General Grant could hope to win any advantage over his sagacious and skillful opponent, and the troops were pushed to the utmost limit of physical endurance. Little respite was there for our weary feet through the long hours of those memorable days of almost constant marching. Severe as was the task imposed upon all the troops in the vast army, perhaps none had a harder march than our own Second division of the Ninth Corps. The necessity for especial exertion upon our part arose from our peculiar situation when the movement began.

It will be remembered that on the 23rd the First and Second divisions of our corps had been detached, and sent, one to the assistance of General Warren at Jericho Ford, and the other to aid General Hancock at

Chesterfield Bridge. We had remained under the temporary command of Hancock until the army recrossed the river, and were therefore far in the rear of the Fifth Corps, with which was our First division, and, as well, of our own Third division, which immediately followed Warren's Corps. But the entire corps was to be once more united, and our division was therefore obliged to push on as fast as possible, in order to come up with the First and Third divisions upon the march. So, when we left our abandoned entrenchments on Thursday night, and with the glare of the burning bridge reddening the midnight sky at our backs, plunged into the dark and gloomy forest, we entered upon what proved to be one of the most tedious and fatiguing marches we ever knew.

Hour after hour we were hurried along through the darkness, over roads so heavy with the recent rains, that it was with difficulty we made our way through the mud. The tread of thousands of feet, and the pressure of the heavy wheels of artillery had combined to reduce the roadways to perfect quagmires, through which we floundered as best we might. Now and then some unlucky fellow made a mis-step in the darkness, and suddenly plunged waist-deep into some treacherous slough lurking unseen in his pathway. But we struggled on, and when the sun rose on Friday morning, we had already put many miles between us and the banks of the North Anna river. But the new day brought us no cessation from the toilsome labor of the march, except for a very brief period. A short halt was made, just as the first level sunbeams began to light up the face of nature that bright, pleasant May morning, and the men availed themselves of the pause very gladly. Some

threw themselves upon the ground, to sleep or rest, while others began to kindle little fires, and prepare a hasty breakfast, of which coffee formed the larger part. But almost before the scanty breakfast was eaten, or we began to realize that we were becoming rested, the column was re-formed, and began again to push forward.

In the course of the day, the Second division came up with the other divisions of the corps, the concentration being effected in the vicinity of Mount Carmel Church. But this junction was of little service to us so far as mitigating the toil of our rapid march was concerned. It was scarcely effected when the entire corps was set in motion again, and proceeded toward Hanover Town, which was still far in advance of us. The day was late in May, and was unusually sultry for the season, even in Virginia, where the climate at that time of year is much warmer than in the North. The heat told severely upon the troops, and combined with the speed at which we moved, to render the march extremely fatiguing. Scarcely a moment's rest was permitted all through that long day, but the men were hurried forward, almost without a halt. And even when a brief pause was made, at long intervals, so short was the time in which we were permitted to rest, that it failed to refresh us. It was a welcome relief, when, at last, the sun sank slowly in the west, and the cooler air of evening began to touch our throbbing temples with its gentle breath. Yet, though the evening grew into night, we made no preparations for going into bivouac, as the darkness fell, but, footsore and weary as we were, marched as steadily on as we had done through the day.

Throughout the whole night of the 27th, we were in motion, making no halt whatever, of any considerable length, but marching constantly with the exception of an occasional pause in order to close up the column. At no time during the night were we at rest for more than ten or fifteen minutes, and even these brief halts were by no means of frequent occurrence. The instant the column halted, at each of these infrequent pauses, our poor fellows would throw themselves upon the ground wherever they happened to be, and try to snatch a few moments of sleep and rest. But they were hardly able to close their eyes before they were again roused, as the stern command to "fall in" was repeated down the length of the line, and the column again moved forward. So the night dragged away, and the morning of Saturday, May 28th, dawned upon us still wearily plodding on our way, nor were we yet nearing our journey's end. All through the dewy freshness of the early morning hours we continued our march, and as the day advanced, and the sun mounted higher in the heavens, our discomfort increased. It proved to be another extremely close and sultry day, and our poor boys suffered intensely from the heat. The roads, too, which had been muddy quagmires of limitless depth, at the beginning of our march, had by this time, become dried under the fervid beams of the sun, and were now more than ankle-deep with dust. This added greatly to our distress, as the myriad feet of men and horses stirred it as they passed, until it filled the air about us, and hung in dense and suffocating clouds above the column.

Wearied and worn down physically by their previous hard service, footsore and exhausted from the

length and rapidity of this march,—choked with dust, and suffering torture from thirst,—faint for want of food and dizzy from lack of sleep, — it was small wonder that men were prostrated by weakness, and overcome by the fierce heat that beat upon their devoted heads so pitilessly. Some staggered blindly out from the column, and sank down upon the roadside, to die there upon the dust-whitened grass, from the deadly sunstroke, no less fatal in its effect than the bullet. Others tottered on, fainting in the scorching heat, and exhausted by the protracted march, till nature could endure the strain no longer, and they fell in complete exhaustion, but with life yet remaining. Still others, perhaps of stronger frame, kept their places in the toiling ranks, but only at the cost of fearful suffering, as with blistered feet and aching limbs, and parching throat, and dizzy brain, they grimly plodded on. All day long on Saturday, our weary march continued, and it was not until about ten o'clock Saturday night that our Second division, which was the advance division of the corps, reached and crossed the Pamunkey, the goal for which we had so arduously striven. The rear of our corps came up and crossed some hours later, on the morning of Sunday, May 29th, but our own share in this memorable march was completed before midnight of the 28th.

It had been about eleven o'clock on Thursday night, the 26th of May, when our division began its movement, and it was not far from the same hour on Saturday night, when it finally halted, on the southern side of the Pamunkey. So that for nearly forty-eight hours we were continually upon the march, with no rest or cessation, for the few brief halts which

were made were scarcely worthy of mention. It is not surprising that men were literally worn out by a march of such length, following upon such severe service as the army had seen in the preceding weeks. It is far more wonderful that any should have passed through such an experience, taxing every power of body and mind for so long, without being utterly broken down and unfitted for further service. However, having at last attained the goal, to reach which we had been thus straining every nerve and fibre to its utmost tension for these two long days and nights, we were permitted a brief but welcome interval of rest. On Sunday, the 29th of May, the Ninth Corps made no other movement, except to take position between the Second and Fifth Corps, and there entrench itself. The Sabbath passed in comparative quiet, and was to us in a peculiar sense, most truly a "day of rest". Many of our men who had fallen out during the march, came up and rejoined us in the course of the day. From early morning until after nightfall they were flocking into our lines, in groups and squads, and singly, seeking to learn the location of their brigades and regiments.

But rapid as had been our movement: so rapid as to cause these hundreds of men to drop out of the ranks from sheer exhaustion:—yet the wary leader of the Confederates had not been taken by surprise. He had already moved by shorter routes, upon interior lines, to a new position, and was even then strongly entrenched and prepared to give us battle when we should attempt to pass the Chickahominy river, across which lay our direct road to Richmond. But no sound of strife disturbed the Sabbath stillness of that beautiful last Sunday of May, and no attempt was



made upon either side to bring on an engagement. For our own part, we were glad to have an interval of peace and quiet, after the toil and turmoil of the previous week.

On Monday, May 30th, the position of the two armies was substantially as follows: General Wright with the Sixth Corps held the Union right, his line extending in the direction of Hanover Court House; the Second Corps formed the right center, resting on the Shady Grove road; the Fifth Corps, on the Mechanicsville road, constituting the left center, while the Ninth Corps was upon the extreme left, and slightly to the rear of the Fifth. Some slight changes in position had been made during the previous night, as we had originally been between the Second and Fifth Corps, but the latter had moved to our right subsequently. The left of the Confederate army was at Hanover Court House, covering the railroad; its center was at Atlee's Station, and its right at Mechanicsville and Shady Grove.

During the 30th the Federals advanced in strong force, and encountered considerable opposition from the enemy. Wright with the Sixth Corps succeeded in reaching Hanover Court House without anything more serious than heavy skirmishing, but Hancock and Warren were not equally fortunate. The Second Corps was checked at Totopotomoy creek, and threw up a line of works, under a heavy fire from the enemy. The Fifth Corps came into collision with the Confederates under Ewell, not far from Shady Grove Church, and its advance was stopped. At one time Warren's flank was in considerable danger, his left being furiously assailed, but the attack was ultimately repelled. Upon learning of this assault upon the

Fifth Corps, General Meade immediately ordered an attack to be made along our whole line. But, unfortunately, General Hancock was the only one of the corps-commanders who received this order in season to make the necessary dispositions, and engage the enemy before darkness came. He sent General Barlow's division forward, which drove in the Confederate skirmish-line and captured their rifle-pits, which were held during the night.

The Ninth Corps was not so seriously engaged during the day as were the others, though we advanced to and across Totopotomoy creek, skirmishing continually with the enemy at all points, and meeting particularly sharp resistance in front of the Second division, but sustaining no heavy loss. By nightfall of the 30th, we had succeeded in developing the position of the enemy with considerable accuracy, and it was certain that he was present in full force between us and the Chickahominy. General Grant did not fail to realize, from the experience of the day, what difficulties he would encounter if he should attempt to force the passage of the river by a direct attack upon Lee's front. Large reinforcements were, however, already upon their way to him, and would soon be available, as the greater part of General Butler's forces at Bermuda Hundreds had been ordered to join the Army of the Potomac. General Grant had become dissatisfied with the manner in which General Butler had conducted the operations under his charge. And as the troops at Bermuda Hundreds were not available for operations against Richmond from that point, all except a small defensive force had been ordered to unite with us. The Eighteenth Corps, and a large part of the Tenth

Corps accordingly embarked on transports at City Point, and were conveyed down the James river and up the York to White House, at which point they arrived on Monday.

The arrival of these troops, however, would not materially change the situation of affairs, as the Confederates were also receiving considerable reinforcements. At about this date General Breckenridge joined General Lee, coming from the western part of Virginia with a command said to number five thousand infantry and two brigades of cavalry. And General Beauregard had also sent a large part of his command from the field of his operations against Butler, to strengthen Lee's forces. General Grant had already hit upon another plan which would enable him to carry out his purpose of crossing the Chickahominy, however, without making a direct attack. This was no other than a resort to his former tactics of a flank movement around Lee's right. The little village of Cold Harbor became a point of much strategic importance in the execution of this plan, since it was a point which commanded all the roads leading to Richmond in one direction, and to White House in the other. Accordingly on Tuesday, May 31st, a division of cavalry under General Torbert was dispatched to dash upon and capture the place, which it succeeded in doing, in the face of strong opposition. During the day, there were some changes of position, and movements with a view to determine more definitely the position of the enemy, but no fighting of material importance by the main army, though there was more or less firing along the whole line, throughout the day. In the Ninth Corps there was a movement to the front for a considerable distance, in

the course of which several detached lines of rifle-pits were carried, under a brisk fire, and with some slight loss. By the close of the day, the corps was finally established in a position in close proximity to the enemy's main line.

The Union army on the 31st of May extended for some six miles, stretching across Totopotomoy creek, the right of the line facing to the west, while the left looked toward the southwest. The Sixth Corps formed the extreme right, the Second and Ninth Corps were upon the right and left center, and the Fifth Corps on the extreme left. The Tenth and Eighteenth Corps were still in motion from White House. The Confederates in our front lay in the following order: A. P. Hill's (Third) Corps on their right, Longstreet's (First) Corps in the center, and Ewell's (Second) Corps upon the left, with their cavalry upon the flanks, and thrown out in the direction of Bottom's Bridge on their right and Hanover Court House on the left. During the night of the 31st the Sixth Corps was ordered to march to the assistance of the cavalry at Cold Harbor, and immediately set out for that point. The morning of Wednesday, June 1st, found us in the same positions as during the previous day, except for this movement of the Sixth Corps. There was no very serious demonstration in the main lines of the army during Wednesday, though in some portions there was somewhat obstinate fighting for a while, but no general engagement was brought on. The day was spent in establishing and strengthening our line, and changing the position of troops so as to secure such combinations as seemed to promise most successful and decisive results in the battle we all felt to be impending. The usual continual skirmishing

took place while the movements were being made, but we had grown accustomed to that, and gave it little heed.

But if the day was a comparatively quiet one for us, it was decidedly the reverse for our comrades of the Sixth Corps and others at Cold Harbor. Early Wednesday forenoon the cavalry there had been attacked by Confederates under General Hoke, and had repulsed them. About noon Hoke had again attacked and had pressed Torbert severely. As has been said, the Sixth Corps had been marching all night, hurrying to relieve the cavalry, and effect a permanent lodgment at Cold Harbor. General W. F. Smith, with the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, was also marching toward the same point. By a mistake in the transmission of his orders, Smith had gone out of his way some fifteen miles, to New Castle, instead of marching at once from White House to Cold Harbor. He retraced his steps as rapidly as possible, but it was not until late in the afternoon that he arrived upon the ground. The Sixth Corps had only arrived just previously, and the troops of both commands needed rest after their long marches. But preparations for an immediate attack were at once begun, and soon after five o'clock, P. M., they were in position, and advanced upon the Confederates, Smith upon the right and the Sixth Corps on the left. In the teeth of a murderous fire, they succeeded in carrying the first line of trenches, but at the cost of the loss of some two thousand men. In spite of vigorous efforts to capture the second line of works, it remained in the hands of the Confederates, but the action had secured to the Union army the possession of the contested point, and Cold Harbor was in Grant's hands.

The Federal line was now some eight miles in length, extending from Bethesda Church to Cold Harbor, the order of its formation from right to left being as follows: Second, Ninth, Fifth, Tenth, Eighteenth and Sixth Corps. The simple enumeration of these several corps gives but a faint idea of the numbers thus concentrated in this grand army, but the soldier-reader will readily call to mind the vast masses of men so skilfully disposed by Grant and Meade during this great campaign. It was decided during Wednesday night that an attempt should be made on the next day to force the Confederates across the Chickahominy, and to establish a fording-place for the passage of our own men. To aid in carrying out the purpose, the Second Corps moved from its station on the right to the extreme left of the army, beginning its march about midnight of Wednesday and not coming up into its new position until nearly noon of Thursday. As just stated, it was the intention of the chief commanders that a general attack should be made on Thursday, June 2nd, but a violent thunder-storm set in during the afternoon, which was so severe as to put an end to all further movements for the day. The attack was therefore deferred until Friday morning, orders being given for a simultaneous advance along the whole line to be made at half-past four o'clock of the 3rd of June. The withdrawal of the Second Corps from the right rendered it necessary for the Ninth Corps to make some changes in its position during Wednesday night and Thursday. Our movements were effected only in the face of considerable opposition from the enemy, and in attempting to take the positions assigned us, we, as well as the Fifth Corps, which joined our left, were assailed with much vigor and suffered some loss.

By nightfall on the 2nd of June, however, we were securely posted on the extreme right of the Federal line, our left resting near Bethesda Church, the main line lying partly parallel with the Mechanicsville road, and then running across, the right being partially refused, to a point in the close vicinity of Totopotomoy creek. Next upon our left lay Warren with the Fifth Corps, Smith with the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps formed the center, and Wright with the Sixth, and Hancock with the Second were upon the left. The Union line extended from Totopotomoy creek across the road from Cold Harbor to the Chickahominy river, and Sheridan, with a large cavalry force was guarding the left flank, while Wilson, with another body of cavalry, protected the right flank.

While Generals Grant and Meade had been thus busy throughout Thursday, in completing their arrangements, and preparing for a vigorous attack, General Lee had by no means been resting in idleness. He had, on the contrary, been no less busy and active than his opponents, and keeping himself accurately informed of the movements in his front, had used every exertion to render them of no avail to us. His forces occupied three lines of works, each very strong, the front line being held by his skirmishers in large numbers, and the other two by heavy lines of battle. All day he had been concentrating his troops, and strengthening his fortifications. Of great natural strength originally, he had added much to the defensive ability of his position during Thursday, by means of extensive slashings, and long lines of rifle-pits. Lee was, indeed, well prepared for the impending attack, and whether he was sincerely sanguine of suc-

cess or not, he was far too good a soldier to omit or neglect any possible precaution which might enable him to win, should fortune favor him.

The night of the 2nd of June was passed by the opposing armies in the positions above described, each awaiting the dawning of the next day with equal anxiety and impatience. for the troops of both fully realized that another fierce and bloody struggle was near at hand. The noise of battle was no new and unwonted sound in this region, for the very ground upon which the armies lay was the same over which, a little less than two years before, the tide of strife had swept with terrible fury. in the action known as the battle of Gaines' Farm or Gaines' Mill, fought on the 27th of June, 1862. Singularly enough, however, the positions of the combatants were now nearly reversed, Lee occupying almost the identical line held two years before by McClellan, except that his troops were now faced about.

For several days past, we had been traversing historic ground, for the old Army of the Potomac was once more upon the soil of the peninsula, where in 1862, it had struggled and suffered in that famous campaign under McClellan. The veteran regiments in the army, which had participated in the events of that campaign, could but have been inspirited and encouraged to renewed exertions by the proud associations connected with the ground upon which they now stood again. And even for us, who were younger and less experienced soldiers, who had donned the uniform since those events had transpired, there was an inspiration and incentive in the very names of the localities amid which we found ourselves. We remembered the heroism our comrades had shown



amid the deadly miasma of the Chickahominy swamps, and the courage and endurance they had displayed in the daily encounters from Seven Pines to Malvern Hill, and the memorable retreat they had made, at the very moment when victory seemed to be almost within their grasp. Now they and we were again arrayed against their old antagonist upon the same ground, the possession of which had been so stubbornly contested then. It was only natural that in the pause before the approaching conflict, these reflections should give us higher courage, and increase our determination to do our utmost to secure a final and decisive victory.

Before going on to speak of the events of the next day, it seems desirable to mention here the casualties which had occurred in our regiment up to the night of June 2nd. Although the Thirty-Second had sustained its share of the hardships of the movements since leaving the North Anna, and had been exposed to the almost constant skirmish-firing which was so marked a feature of the last few days, it had escaped with a comparatively small loss. It is possible that there may be some errors or omissions in the list which follows, as it has been found very difficult to ascertain dates with any degree of accuracy. But in the case of the casualties mentioned below, as well as in subsequent lists, the diary of Adjutant Hayes has been taken as the best authority, where discrepancies have been found in the statements made by others.

Between May 27th and June 2nd, so far as can be ascertained, the aggregate of losses was one commissioned officer wounded; one non-commissioned officer and one private killed; nine privates wounded, and three privates missing, making a total of fifteen.

These casualties were distributed among the several companies as follows:

Privates Abisha Allen, Company K, missing, May 28th, and Daniel Cookson, Company C, missing, May 29th.

Lieutenant Silas M. Perkins, Company K, wounded in foot; Privates Alveno V. Farris, Company B, in arm, and Henry Abbott, Company B, in head, May 31st.

Corporal Henry B. Rose, Company D; Private William H. Flagg, Company G, killed; Privates Chester Norwood, Company A, wounded in thigh; Herbert Smith, Company B, in thigh; Henry O. Eaton, Company B, in breast; Oberon O. Stetson, Company B, in left arm; Samuel N. Stetson, Company B, in arm; Lewis W. Dunbar, Company I, in neck, June 1st.

Privates Jacob Thurston, Company B, wounded in foot, and Worthington E. Dumont, Company K, missing, June 2nd.

Of the above, A. V. Farris died July 24th, and Herbert Smith on June 22nd; Jacob Thurston was sent to Maine, and died at Augusta on July 9th, while Henry O. Eaton died June 3rd, and S. N. Stetson on June 21st. Allen died in prison on July 10th, and Dumont also died in prison, at a date which has not been ascertained. With reference to the capture of the latter, comrade J. A. Hobbs writes, "Dumont was in my squad, and being much exhausted, went back in the forenoon of June 2nd, a few rods to the rear, and lay down to rest. Soon after we had to fall back, and suppose he was overlooked, and captured".

In the case of Lieutenant Perkins, his wound was the result of the accidental discharge of the musket of one of his men. He was sent North, and died in

Maine, on June 22nd, from the effects of the wound. Nothing is known with certainty as to Cookson's fate, but it is believed that he died in some one of the southern prisons.

W. H. Flagg was instantly killed by a sharp-shooter, the ball entering his forehead. L. W. Dunbar subsequently returned to duty, and was finally mustered out in July, 1865.

As an appropriate conclusion to this chapter, the following quotations from Adjutant Hayes' diary, relative to the few days immediately preceding the battle of Cold Harbor, are here inserted. Under date of May 30th, he writes: "At 5.30 A. M., we started again. Cannonading and musketry firing is going on in our front, and we are working that way. It is now 8.30 A. M., and we have halted again. The firing continues in our front, and an ammunition wagon has just passed. We are in sight of the rebs. and can see the skirmishing going on about one-third of a mile off. Our Division is waiting here for something. We are decidedly in the dark with reference to the move to be made. \* \* \* \* We halted about 2 P. M., and got some dinner; at 5 were ordered to move. Our regiment is now on the ground occupied by the rebs this afternoon. The cannonading is terrific on our left, and again we are ordered to be ready to move. Suppose we are held in readiness in case they attempt anything in front".

The entry for May 31st, reads: "We were held in readiness through the night, sleeping on our arms. Lieutenant Perkins was accidentally shot through the foot this morning. Moved at 9 A. M., and have built three lines of breastworks. Cannonading is going on, on our right and left, and skirmishing in front, but

we have had none wounded. We are ordered to fall in. \* \* \* \* \* We have just made another advance. I never heard such firing before. Here we are in the extreme front. Two of Co. B, were wounded a few minutes ago. We are driving the rebs, but they fight well”.

For Wednesday, June 1st, the entry is, “Firing still continues. Co. B has had two men wounded this morning. 11 A. M. Two more men from Co. B were hit, making four this morning. The fighting at this part of the line is confined chiefly to skirmishing and picket firing, but we have a battery in our rear, which throws a shell occasionally. A Co. A man was just shot in the leg, and one from Company G, killed instantly by a sharpshooter, the ball entering his forehead. Another man just wounded in Co. I, the ball striking his throat. Another man in Co. B, just wounded in the arm. \* \* \* \* \* About midnight the Johnnies concluded to try us on. The men knew if we were attacked they could not retreat, so they stood up like men, and gave the rebs a reception which drove them into their entrenchments again”.

And on the next day, June 2nd, the diary continues: “The day opened by the rebs wounding a man in Co. B. At 4 A. M., an Aide came with an order for us to move to the rear as quickly and quietly as possible. We did so, and are now about half a mile from our old position, getting breakfast. We left our pickets behind to blind the Johnnies. Noon. Have started again. Our Brigadier says our advance was only eight miles from Richmond last night. \* \* \* \* \* We marched three or four miles, and halted. Nearly the whole corps was with us. Soon the rain commenced pouring, and to add to the

beauties of the scene, all at once the rebs opened on us, and for the first time, I saw an army drawn up for battle. The artillery on both sides commenced, and the musketry also. They would mass their forces, and throw themselves upon our lines, but to no purpose. They were repulsed at every point. Don't know yet what our loss is. Our regiment did not suffer any, we being on the extreme right, and the fighting mostly at the center. All this time the rain is coming down, and the old rifle pits we occupy are full of water".

## CHAPTER XIII.

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AT COLD HARBOR. — THE BATTLE OF THE 3RD OF JUNE.  
— THE CHARGE OF THE SECOND CORPS. — CURTIN'S  
ATTACK. — THE THIRTY-SECOND AT THE SUNKEN  
ROAD. — LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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It has been said in the previous chapter that on the night of the 2nd of June, General Grant was fully aware that the Confederates were well entrenched in our front, their works being extremely formidable in character, while the approaches to them were rendered difficult by numerous thickets, swamps and marshy tracts, as well as impeded by wide extents of abattis. Nevertheless, he had determined, if it were possible, to carry these works by assault, and thus force the passage of the Chickahominy, and compel Lee to fall back upon the interior works immediately around Richmond. The early morning of Friday, June 3rd, had been selected as the hour for striking the blow which, it was hoped, might shatter the strong impediment in our path, and open the way for a triumphant advance. At dawn the Union army prepared to obey the orders it had received, and the troops were soon in motion, advancing rapidly but silently, through a thick drizzling mist and rain, toward the Confederate position.

It was not long past the hour set, — half past four, A. M., — when the Federal skirmishers began the advance, and the lines of battle followed close upon them. The ground to be traversed was low and swampy, a marshy intervale between two slightly higher sandy plains, upon which more elevated ground the respective armies had lain. The space between the lines was not a very wide one, and the skirmishers soon came in contact with those of the enemy, and the rifle-shots began to sound through the still air of morning. The Confederate skirmishers were in strong force, and the firing grew more and more heavy, and the familiar sound of musketry grew louder and louder. Then the Federal artillery opened along the whole front, as soon as the skirmishers were fairly engaged, and the thunder of the heavy guns mingled grandly with the swelling volleys. The noise of battle grew deafening, but through it rose the wild cheers of the advancing lines, as the Federals dashed forward toward the Confederate works. The assault was a vigorous and gallant one, and nearly the whole of the Union forces was thrown against the enemy's line at the same moment.

The headlong precipitation of such masses upon his fortifications may well have produced such a shock as was unparalleled in the warfare of the world. But ponderous and terrible as was the blow, the works upon which it fell were too strong, and the force which defended them too numerous to be shattered and dispersed, even by such a herculean shock. The assaulting lines recoiled from the entrenchments which they had failed to carry, though they had striven grandly. One of the historians of the war has said of this attack, "The onset was

terrific and on a scale of magnitude surpassing anything yet witnessed in the war. The resistance was equally grand, and on a scale of proportionate magnitude. Never, perhaps, in the history of previous warfare was such a shock of battle experienced".\* Another has written, perhaps more graphically than truthfully, "It took hardly more than ten minutes of the figment men call time, to decide the battle. There was along the whole line a rush—the spectacle of impregnable works—a bloody loss—then a sullen falling back, and the action was *decided*".†

This language is too sweeping, for it ignores the achievements of the gallant men who won those partial successes, which redeem the battle from the stigma of being an unqualified reverse to the Federal arms. And there were many such partial successes at various points, though the practical impregnability of the Confederate fortifications remained unaffected, and their line, as a whole, was unshaken by the assault. Some of these deserve to be briefly mentioned here, as a relief to the general narrative of the failures and disasters of the day. Two divisions of the Second Corps made a spirited and magnificent charge upon an important work occupying an elevation called Watt's Hill, opposite the left of the Federal line. Under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry they ascended the acclivity, and drove the enemy from his position, in spite of his concentrating infantry and batteries upon this point. Pressing into the works as the Confederates fell back, the men of the Second Corps captured a battery before it could limber up and gallop to the rear, and his own guns

\* Tomes and Smith—"Battles of America by Sea and Land", p. 700.

† Swinton—"Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac", p. 486.



were actually turned upon the retreating enemy. Having in this charge advanced far beyond their line, these two divisions were without support, and were subjected to a severe enfilading fire which occasioned them much loss. Upon the approach of a second line of Confederates, they were compelled to withdraw from the work they had taken, but brought off with them a battle-flag, three guns and several hundred prisoners, as trophies of their bravery. And though compelled to relinquish the captured works, they would not permit themselves to be driven back to the line from which they had originally advanced. But taking advantage of the partial cover afforded by a ridge about fifty yards from the enemy's breastworks, they halted and entrenched themselves there, holding the ground so stubbornly that they could not be dislodged during the whole day.

An equally gallant assault was made by the Sixth Corps, which resulted in the carrying of the first line of Confederate entrenchments, and the advance of the men to within about two hundred and fifty yards of the main works. But at this juncture, their right flank became much exposed to a heavy enfilading fire, and the corps was compelled to fall back. A part of General Smith's command, which advanced upon the right of the Sixth Corps, became somewhat broken up and disorganized in attempting to pass through the abattis, and was obliged to retire. Although Smith made several attempts, he failed to carry any considerable portion of the rifle-pits in front of the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, but it was only after a great loss of life that they were finally repulsed. These corps were able by great exertions to maintain a position some distance in advance of their original

lines, but their utmost efforts would not avail to enable them to push the enemy back from his strong position.

The Fifth Corps met with no decided advantage in its assault. General Warren's line being unfortunately much extended, which rendered it so thin that no concentration was possible upon any point along his front. His artillery was served with excellent effect, and did much good work, but the infantry attack carried but little, if any considerable portion of the Confederate rifle-pits, though they charged with much spirit and energy. But from the thinness of their line, no great weight fell upon any single point, and the enemy was easily able to repulse such an assault. Thus while all the troops upon the Federal left and center, from Hancock to Warren, had exhibited splendid heroism, and all had lost heavily, yet no decisive advantage had been obtained from the immense sacrifice of human life which had accompanied their brilliant but fruitless efforts to break through the Confederate line.

In the meanwhile, the Ninth Corps had by no means been idle, when our comrades in other portions of the field were so lavishly pouring out their blood, and so bravely yielding up their lives. As has been said, our corps was upon the extreme right of the army, and was formed with its right refused, or partly drawn back. It could not, therefore, be brought into position to deliver its attack quite so early in the day as did the corps upon our left. But our dispositions were made as rapidly as possible, General Wilson's cavalry being pushed out as far as possible to cover the flank, while the Second and Third divisions were formed for the assault. The First division, under

General Crittenden, was held in reserve, but within supporting distance. While the corps was getting into position, the battle was raging upon our left, and the thundering of the artillery and the crashing of the musketry grew louder and louder as the moments passed. The storm of conflict increased, and came swelling in mightier volume down along the entire front of the great army stretching for miles among the swamps, and along the marshy borders of the sluggish Chickahominy. But our opportunity to join in the strife was at hand, and our own Second division had the honor of striking the first blow of the day, on the part of our corps.

Colonel Curtin, with the First brigade of our division, made a daring, dashing charge, which drove in the enemy's skirmishers, and carried a number of detached rifle-pits. The enemy, which consisted of troops from the commands of Longstreet and Ewell, were forced to fall back into their inner works, and the First brigade was able to establish itself at a very short distance from the Confederate entrenchments. Our own brigade was in support of the First, and came up at once, taking its position upon the right flank of the corps, and consequently forming, for the time, the extreme right of the whole Federal army, except the cavalry. The artillery of our division now came galloping to the front, and hurriedly unlimbered, and opened fire. The batteries rendered efficient service, their fire blowing up some of the Confederate caissons, and silencing their guns. The Third division had also assaulted at about the same time as the Second, and had met with excellent success, having captured a line of rifle-pits, and driven the enemy back to the shelter of his interior works. General

Hartranft's brigade of this division had led its advance, and distinguished itself equally with our First brigade. The artillery of the division was brought up, and the music of its deep tones was soon added to the booming of our own guns. Our division and the Third were fairly in position in the face of the enemy, and but a short distance from the strong second line of works, and here we paused to gather breath for another assault. We held the ground gained by our first attack, but the enemy swarmed thickly in our front, and was not to be dislodged without an effort.

In the pause that followed that first fierce attack, the men who lay so close upon the frowning entrenchments of the foe, may have gradually felt the conviction settle upon their minds that those works were too strong to be carried by a direct assault. But however hopeless of success, we should not have refused to make the attempt, had we been ordered to move once more against them. Yet it has been deliberately charged that we *did* refuse, and a story has gained some credence that there was a general mutinous and insubordinate refusal to obey the order for another attack, which involved the whole army. It has been asserted that the rank and file of the grand old Army of the Potomac had become so cowed and demoralized by the losses sustained in the assault of the morning, that in the immediate face of the enemy, the men wilfully refused obedience. This charge is made by Swinton in his published history, in the following words:

“The action was decided in an incredibly brief time in the morning's assault. But rapidly as the result was reached, it was decisive: for the conscions-

ness of every man pronounced further assault hopeless. The troops went forward as far as the example of their officers could carry them, nor was it possible to urge them beyond; for there they knew lay only death, without even the chance of victory. The completeness with which this judgment had been reached by the whole army was strikingly illustrated by an incident that occurred during the forenoon. Some hours after the failure of the first assault, General Meade sent instructions to each corps-commander to renew the attack without reference to the troops on his right or left. The order was issued through these officers to their subordinate commanders, and from them descended through the wonted channels; but no man stirred, and immobile lines pronounced a verdict, silent, yet emphatic, against further slaughter".\*

Never was a baser libel or a more unfounded and gratuitous slander uttered than the insinuation contained in these sentences. Never was there a more unmerited attack upon the soldierly honor and good discipline of one of the most patient, courageous and uniformly subordinate and obedient armies the world has ever seen. From personal knowledge, of course, the writer is not able to say anything as to the state of feeling in other corps, nor does he claim that his sources of information, at the time of the battle, were such as to enable him to speak for that, even, in which he served. From the nature of the case, a soldier in the ranks knows little or nothing of what is going on except that which takes place immediately about himself. But so far as the Ninth Corps is concerned, the charge made by Swinton has been indignantly repelled by one whose opportunities for obtaining

\* Swinton — "Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac", p. 487.

reliable information were extensive and thoroughly utilized. Woodbury writes, "That the commanding general should issue a distinct order, and that the soldiers of his army should utterly refuse to take the first step toward its obedience, is not to be believed for a moment".\*

And as far as we ourselves are concerned:—we who served in Potter's division, — in Griffin's brigade, — know that, as for those organizations, there is not the remotest shadow of truth in the accusation. The men of that brigade, — of that division, — had served uncomplainingly through too many reverses to become disheartened and cowardly, even after such a bloody struggle as was that morning's onset at Cold Harbor. The mere mention of the gallant regiments which composed the Second brigade is enough to stamp the whole narration as one of the basest of calumnies, so far as they, at least, are concerned. Comrades from New Hampshire, from Maryland, from Vermont and from Maine, when did our old brigade ever receive the order to advance against the enemy, and coward-like, falter and refuse to obey? When did Griffin ever give the command "Forward" and see his men hesitate, or wilfully fail to do his bidding? So far as it has been possible to ascertain the real truth of the history of that day, the facts in regard to the Ninth Corps, at least, are as follows:

By noon, the corps was in position within an extremely short distance of the enemy's works, and ready to move upon his interior line. The troops had advanced very closely to the line of the Confederates, in many cases not more than fifty yards intervening

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", foot note, p. 399.

between the Union and Confederate fronts. Orders were given by General Burnside to Generals Potter and Willcox to attack with their respective divisions at one o'clock in the afternoon, and soon after the appointed hour, the skirmishers of these divisions began their advance. But just as they moved out, to feel the way in front of the columns of attack, the order for the movement was countermanded by the corps-commander. This change of purpose was because General Burnside had received orders from General Meade to relinquish all offensive operations. This order was in the following terms:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, }  
June 3, 1864, 1.30 P. M. }

*Orders:*

For the present, all further offensive operations will be suspended. Corps-commanders will at once entrench the positions they now hold, including their advanced positions: and will cause reconnoissances to be made with a view to move against the enemy's works, by regular approaches, from the advanced positions now held.

Should the enemy assume the offensive, and succeed in breaking through any point of our line, the corps-commander nearest to the assaulted point will throw his whole force upon the enemy's column making the attack.

By command of

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE.

(Signed) S. WILLIAMS,

*Assistant Adjutant General.*

There can be no doubt in the minds of reasonable men that this order was inspired, not by any stubborn and mutinous refusal on the part of the troops to go forward, but by the lack of decisive advantage obtained in the earlier part of the day. The attack

of the morning had shown the Federal commanders the real strength of the works in their front, and a prudent and commendable regard for the lives of his brave soldiers led General Meade to entertain the thought of carrying the enemy's position "by regular approaches" instead of an assault. The failure of the heavy and determined onslaught made by Hancock and Wright on the left, and Smith in the center, had induced Meade to decide against the expediency of further attempts of a similar nature. Therefore the projected movement of the Ninth Corps was countermanded, although it is possible that if carried out, it might have proved more successful than the morning's work had been. Information of the intended advance had been sent by General Burnside to General Wilson, who commanded the cavalry division which was covering our right, and the suggestion made to him that he should sweep around the enemy's flank, and attack him in the rear, at the same time that the Ninth Corps engaged him in front. This simultaneous attack might have been attended with very material success, had General Meade permitted the attempt to be made. And it is equally within the limits of possibility that another disaster would have been added to the failures of the day.

However, General Meade's orders left no alternative, and the skirmish-line was at once drawn in, and the assault abandoned, and we turned our attention to strengthening the position in which we lay. But had our superior officers permitted, the divisions of Potter and of Willcox would have advanced to the attack as steadily, if not as hopefully, on the afternoon of Friday, as they had sprung forward in the first attack that morning. The two divisions which



bore the brunt of the battle had fought bravely, and their loss had been severe. More than a thousand men were killed or wounded in the corps, nearly all the casualties being in the Second and Third divisions. But our exertions for the day were not yet at an end. The abandonment of offensive demonstrations upon the part of the Federals seemed to embolden the enemy. He became, in his turn, aggressive, and demonstrated against our lines at various points during the afternoon and evening. Firing broke out from time to time with considerable vigor in different parts of our front, as the enemy felt our position. In one of these demonstrations, our Second brigade became involved in an affair which occasioned it considerable loss. The Confederates in our front made an assault, which was quickly met and vigorously repulsed, but which was maintained by them with much obstinacy for a time.

When this attack was made, the Thirty-Second Maine was in a particularly exposed position, having no other cover than an open rail-fence in our front, with a slightly sunken roadway in its rear. The enemy had the advantage of the shelter of a piece of woods extending to within a short distance of the road. This hid and protected his advance until he was close upon us, but after a sharp contest, he was compelled to leave us in possession of the field at this point. The regiment suffered considerable loss in officers and men, but official documents award us the praise of having fought gallantly and driven the enemy further than at any point on the line. The casualties for the day in the Thirty-Second were four killed and twenty-seven wounded, making an aggregate loss of thirty-one. Of these, one non-commis-

sioned officer, and three enlisted men were killed on the field; one commissioned officer and one non-commissioned officer mortally wounded; and one commissioned officer, five non-commissioned officers, and twenty enlisted men wounded. They were divided among the several companies as follows:

Company B, Private Leroy A. Gowell, killed; Corporal Charles E. Chase, wounded, in foot; Private Joseph Holland, in hand.

Company C, Corporal Freeman J. Knights, mortally wounded; Privates George M. Hammon, killed; Algernon H. Brown, wounded in leg; Henry C. Houston, in right thigh.

Company D, Captain William R. Ham, mortally wounded, in breast; Corporal William H. Nevins, wounded; Privates Benjamin B. Larrabee, killed; Francis D. Salsbury, wounded; Timothy Kennedy, in hand; Michael McCarthy, in hand; Oliver N. Leavitt.

Company E, Captain Ebenezer S. Kyes, wounded, in thigh; Sergeants Marcus C. Keyes, in foot, Osman B. Richardson, in arm; Private Peter Y. Bean, in hand.

Company G, Corporal Fred E. Heath, killed; Privates Anthony O'Neil, wounded in breast; Jere Noonan, in hand; John Dixon, in hand.

Company H, Privates Wilson J. Greene, wounded in leg; John J. Hurley, in leg; Charles S. Hill, in head; Edwin B. Peverly, in head; Libbens H. Leavitt, in hand; Charles H. Latham, in head.

Company I, Sergeant Joel H. Little, wounded in hand.

Company K, Privates Alvah C. Witham, wounded in face and neck; Francis Sawyer, in face.

Captain Ham died early in the morning of the following day, at the field hospital. Corporal Knights died in hospital at Washington, D. C., on June 13th. Sergeant Richardson suffered an amputation, and died at North Jay, Me., on August 24th. Private Hurley died June 19th, and it is believed there were other deaths, of which no record has been found, resulting from wounds received in this engagement.

It has not been possible to ascertain definitely how many of those less severely wounded subsequently returned to duty. But in some few instances the date of return has been found of record. Captain Kyes rejoined the regiment October 28th, 1864, while still on crutches; sergeant Keyes returned in December, and private Sawyer in August, while others undoubtedly rejoined after a more or less protracted absence.

While the above list is believed to show the casualties sustained in our regiment during the entire day, the story of the fierce fighting on that bloody Friday is by no means at an end. Though we in the Ninth Corps were not again seriously menaced, there were severe contests and sharp fighting in other portions of the line. Of one vigorous attack made by the Confederates upon our extreme left, the next chapter will speak more in detail. But before considering that incident, it has been deemed expedient to insert here the following copy of the Monthly Return for May, 1864, which shows at a glance, the condition of our regiment at the end of May, just prior to its entering the battle of which some description has been attempted above. It will be borne in mind, however, that it does not include the losses sustained during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of June.

Officers present for duty,	18	Officers absent, detached duty,	2
“ “ “ extra duty,	1	“ “ sick,	10
“ “ sick,	2	Enlisted men “ detached duty,	18
Enlisted men present for duty,	468	“ “ “ with leave,	11
“ “ “ extra “	60	“ “ “ without leave,	36
“ “ “ sick,	12	“ “ “ sick,	169
Died in action or of wounds,	13		
“ of disease,	7	Total Commissioned,	33
Missing in action,	14	“ Enlisted,	777
Wounded in action,	43		—
		Aggregate,	810
		Date — June 1st, 1864.	

As an appropriate conclusion to this chapter, it has seemed well to quote here some paragraphs from a letter written by sergeant John Hilling of Company G. to one of the newspapers in Bath, Me. He dates his letter from the “Battle Field of Green Oaks, Va.” by which name the action was also known at the time, and after speaking of the engagement of June 2nd. goes on to say:

“Next day, June 3rd. the battle became furious; the rattle of musketry and roar of artillery was almost deafening. \* \* \* \* About noon our regiment was led up to hold a road, and protect it from a flank movement. We marched in good order across a field where the rebs had full sweep from breastworks in a field adjoining, and also had the woods in their rear filled with sharpshooters. They had six guns also, in position. Nothing daunted, our boys marched up to the fence of the road, in the midst of a galling flank fire, without flinching, and soon commenced to send their compliments to the rebs with such good will that it rather astonished the natives. Other regiments were with us, all doing fearful work. The battle lasted until dark, and we then went to work to build breastworks, for a Virginia fence is not much protection from bullets. Early next morning, June 4th,





LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JAMES L. HUNT.

our skirmishers were in possession of the enemy's works, they having *skedaddled* during the night. We went to have a look at the enemy's ground, and found it was a strong position, but most terribly the shell and shot of Uncle Sam had told upon it. In one spot on which we stood, we counted nineteen horses, and thirty-five unburied men, but it was not so bad all over the field".

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## Biographical Sketch.

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### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JAMES L. HUNT.

James L. Hunt was born in Georgetown, Maine, February 1st, 1826, but when he was three years of age, the family removed to Bath, where he subsequently attended the public schools during his boyhood. A lover of books, and a great reader, his education was farther advanced than that of the average school boy of those days, when his attendance ceased.

After arriving at maturity, he was a school teacher for several years, but for some time prior to the breaking out of the rebellion, he was engaged in commerce on the Kennebec river. In 1847, he married Winnifred Hunt, by whom he had nine children, six of whom are now living. Mrs. Hunt died in 1868.

He belonged to a family of earnest and brave men, and when it was realized that the nation was engaged in a struggle for its existence, instead of "a picnic", as many earlier believed the war would be, there was no question in the mind

of James L. Hunt as to *his* duty. In the summer of 1862 he assisted in raising a company for the Twenty-First Maine Infantry Volunteers, and was mustered into the United States service October 14, 1862, as First Lieutenant of Company C, receiving, a few days later, his commission as Captain. He participated in the siege of Port Hudson, saw much hard service, and won the admiration of officers and men for his great bravery and fine soldierly qualities.

Soon after the expiration of his term of service in the Twenty-First, Captain Hunt was among the first to respond to President Lincoln's call for 300,000 men for three years, or during the war, and recruited a company at Bath, which became Company G, of the Thirty-Second Maine, and was commissioned its Captain, April 16, 1864.

The hard service in the Army of the Potomac in the campaign of 1864, is too well known to those who will read this sketch to dwell upon here. And, through it all, on the march by day and by night, or in action, Captain Hunt was the same vigorous, cool and intrepid leader; always at his post of duty, and while thoughtful of his men, requiring every man of his command to do his full duty. Did space permit, many incidents in his army career, known to those of his command, might be cited, showing the sterling qualities of, and the "sand" in the man.

In the battle in front of Petersburg, July 30th, 1864, he was badly wounded in the shoulder, being shot by a Confederate officer who had demanded his surrender, and whom he cut down. Captain Hunt was soon after promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, his commission as such being dated October 8, 1864. On the consolidation of the regiment with the Thirty-First, in December, 1864, Colonel Hunt was mustered out of the service, and returning home, was commissioned to command one of the coast defences. In 1866, he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the regular army,



and ordered to Arizona to fight the Apache Indians. After serving there most acceptably for some years, he resigned from the army, and engaged as a contractor and builder at the several military posts in Arizona. He was spoken of, at this time, as “the best man in the territory”, an expression of great significance in that region in those days. He died of apoplexy, at Phoenix, Arizona, March 28, 1887.

No braver man ever wore a uniform.

R. P. E.

## CHAPTER XIV.

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IN THE TRENCHES AT COLD HARBOR. — THE SECOND  
DIVISION'S CONTEST FOR DISPUTED TERRITORY. —  
ANNOYANCE FROM THE ENEMY'S SHARPSHOOTERS.  
— AN UNWHOLESOME POSITION IN THE  
SWAMPS OF THE CHICKAHOMINY. — AN-  
OTHER MOVEMENT TO THE LEFT. —  
LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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At nightfall upon Friday, June 3rd, the noise of conflict had almost entirely ceased along the whole front of the opposing armies. Save for the occasional sound of a sharpshooter's rifle, there was little or nothing to disturb the stillness of the evening. The battle had been virtually over since early in the afternoon, though from time to time partial engagements here and there had served to fill the air with the dull thunder of artillery and the roll and rattle of nearer or more distant musketry. The grand assault by which General Grant had hoped to accomplish so much, had wholly failed to dislodge the enemy, and force him to fall back across the river. The losses of the day had been very large on the part of the Federals, being not less than seven thousand in killed, wounded and prisoners, at the lowest estimates, while some authorities make them even larger. The Con-

federates, who had fought mainly from behind their protecting works, had suffered but little in comparison with the Union forces, which had been wholly without protection while assailing the enemy's position.

It is little to be wondered at, if under such circumstances, there was sadness and gloom in the hearts of the survivors in the Union lines that night as the sun sank down, and darkness slowly settled over the field. Many brave comrades had gone down in death that day, but the sacrifice of so many lives had been unavailing, and Lee and his army still lay across our path, and seemed able successfully to dispute our further advance. The evening hours crept on, and even the sharpshooters ceased their dropping and irregular firing, till at length there was perfect quiet along the lines. Stillness and calm succeeded to the rush and roar of battle, and the swampy marshes and sandy plains over which the storm of strife had swept with such awful force were as peaceful underneath the silent stars as if they had never known the sound of war.

At length, near the hour of eight o'clock, P. M., the calm hush of evening was suddenly and violently broken, and clamor and confusion filled the listening ear. Peal on peal reverberating in heavier thunder, came the crashing and bellowing of the Confederate guns, opening in quick succession against our left. And mingling with the discharges of the artillery and the bursting of the shells, but rising above them, came the wild, hoarse notes of the "rebel yell".

"As all the fiends, from heaven that fell,  
Had pealed the banner-cry of hell".

The Confederates in the front of the Second and Sixth Corps had suddenly sallied out of their works, and

under cover of a rapid fire from their batteries, were making a vigorous onset against Hancock's right and Warren's left. Their charge was most determined and courageous, but the Federal artillery opened upon the advancing columns, and with well-aimed missiles tore great gaps through the leading files. And a withering fire of musketry, in incessant volleys, blazed out from the Union earthworks, till even the desperate, reckless bravery of the enemy could sustain no more. The attack was repulsed, with great loss to the assailants, and leaving many of their number behind, dead, or prisoners in Federal hands, the Confederates sullenly retired to their own lines. This daring, but fruitless and ill-advised effort on the part of the Confederates, to break our lines, closed the fighting on that bloody and memorable Friday. The almost exhausted antagonists passed the remainder of the night in quiet, both seeking rest after the terrible exertions of the day.

The issue of this fierce struggle had most conclusively established the fact that it was not possible for General Grant to cross the river at this point without a stupendous sacrifice of life. And even after the expenditure of thousands of lives, it was by no means certain his purpose could be accomplished, in any event. Lee's forces were most advantageously posted, and admirably prepared to offer the most determined resistance to our efforts. But the Federal commander-in-chief was little disposed to relinquish a purpose once formed, or to abandon a design once conceived, without having made every effort to carry it into effect. And he was not yet ready to retire from the lines he now occupied, until he had maturely considered the situation. In the absence of any offen-

sive or aggressive movement on the part of General Grant, the Confederate commander seemed to be content to remain within his works for the most part, keenly watching the Federals, but not attempting to assume the offensive himself.

The next few days after the battle were therefore passed by both armies in very nearly the same positions as those held by them upon the day of its occurrence. Both were busily engaged in entrenching and strengthening their respective lines, in caring for their wounded, and in burying their dead. New earthworks were constructed by the Federals along the line of the Chickahominy in the direction of White House. But as fast as these were thrown up, they were everywhere confronted by parallel lines built by the enemy. The wounded were gathered up and conveyed from the field hospitals to points farther removed from the front. Long trains of ambulances and army wagons were filled with these sufferers, and dispatched to White House, where the disabled victims of the contest were placed upon steamers and transported to Washington, Alexandria, and points in that vicinity. For many of those wounded on the 3rd of June, a pleasant and salubrious location was found at Fairfax Seminary Hospital, a short distance from Alexandria, Va. Others were sent to the several well-known hospitals in and around Washington. Later on, a temporary hospital was established at White House itself for a short time, where it is said over twenty thousand sick and wounded men were cared for, in the brief period before it was broken up by the transfer of the base of supplies to City Point.

But, to return to the operations immediately following the battle of the 3rd of June, the places

vacated by the thousands of wounded sent to the rear, were filled as speedily as possible by the bringing to the front new troops, and convalescents able to resume active service. These days of comparative quiet were not wholly without incident, by any means, for almost constant skirmishing was kept up for some ten days following the assault. And during this interval there were a number of sharp and sanguinary engagements of minor importance, involving some portion of the respective armies, but not in any case rising to the dignity of a general action.

During Saturday, June 4th, the Union forces were busily employed in the construction of breastworks, and were permitted to labor without much annoyance from the enemy throughout the day. But late that night, as they were about sinking to sleep, wearied with the toil of the day, a sudden attack was made, about nine o'clock, P. M., upon that portion of the line held by Hancock, Wright and Smith, on the left and center. The enemy assaulted with considerable vigor, but were speedily repulsed, and did not seek to renew the attack during the night. Sunday, the 5th, there was some severe fighting in portions of the line, as might be expected from the close proximity of the enemy, the opposing works being separated from each other only by a distance varying from fifty to two hundred yards. There were also partial engagements during Monday, the 6th, the Confederates being the attacking party in most, if not all instances, and their assaults being in every case vigorously and successfully repelled.

In the most of these demonstrations, as we were reversing the tactics of the past weeks, and fighting from behind breastworks, instead of attacking them

as heretofore, the greater share of the loss fell upon the Confederates. This was a new but by no means unpleasant experience to men who had so long borne the part of assailants, and so often charged against strong works. At midnight of the 6th, a heavy charge was made by the Confederates against the position held by the Ninth Corps, which was gallantly met and repulsed by us. But before speaking of this in detail, some allusion should be made to events which had preceded it during the day. During Monday, the line of the army had been shortened, the Fifth Corps having been moved to the rear, and our corps moving to the left and taking the position vacated by the Fifth. These manœuvres were preliminary to a change of base, Grant and Meade being even then preparing for the movement to the James river. But the undertaking was a hazardous one, and should the enemy penetrate the design, there was imminent danger that the army would be cut in two, and broken by a sudden attack.

So it was only gradually, through several days, that the troops were brought into proper position, the lines moving by degrees to the left. While the enemy did not perceive the object of these manœuvres, of course the movements of the troops could not be made without attracting his attention. And, ever on the alert to meet any threatening combination on the part of the Federal commanders, he made all possible efforts to annoy and harass our men, and prevent the consummation of Grant's plans. In the course of this manœuvring, our Second division came in for a considerable share of sharp fighting, the especial occasion being the occupation of a commanding crest near our lines. In the vicinity of what was known as the

Tucker estate there was a hill, the possession of which was deemed of importance. General Potter, with our division, had taken position upon the ridge, and posted his skirmishers thereon, with the view of fortifying it subsequently. The enemy permitted this movement to be made, but were not disposed to allow the ground to remain in our hands without a contest.

In the afternoon of Monday, June 6th, the Confederates suddenly advanced in considerable force upon our skirmishers. These were soon driven in, and compelled to abandon the disputed territory, leaving a few of their number prisoners in the hands of the enemy. A Confederate battery or two now came into position upon the crest, and a harmless artillery-fire opened upon our lines. Dispositions were apparently made to hold the ridge firmly should we attempt to recapture it. This, however, we did not undertake to do immediately, as it was already near nightfall. Nothing disturbed the quiet of the hours of darkness, until nearly or quite midnight, when a sudden attack was made by the Confederates not only upon the position held by our division, but along the whole line of our corps. The assault was made by heavy columns, which under cover of the darkness, pressed close to our entrenchments, and attacked with much determination. But the corps maintained its position with equal gallantry, and a severe fire of musketry and artillery soon convinced the enemy that he could not hope to profit by any want of vigilance upon our part, however unexpected and vigorous his attack. The firing was heavy and rapid while it lasted, but the attack was soon repelled, and the charging column driven back to the works from whence they had advanced. During the continuance



of this affair, or at its termination, the Confederate guns mentioned as having been placed upon the hill in front of the Second division in the afternoon, were withdrawn. When this was ascertained, our skirmishers were again advanced, and possession taken of the ridge. In the course of the night, a working-party was sent up, and a line of rifle-pits dug before the sun rose on Tuesday morning.

During the 7th, however, this much-coveted territory again changed hands, the enemy advancing in heavy force, and compelling our men to abandon the ground temporarily. Their occupancy of the position was, however, of short duration, as General Potter had no idea of yielding that portion of the line, without further struggle. In the course of Tuesday night, he sent forward troops enough to force the enemy out of his position, and ensure our permanent possession of the crest. The hill was soon cleared of the Confederates, and was thereafter strongly fortified and remained in our hands. From this time forward, for several days, there was no further fighting of any consequence, so far as our corps was concerned. Wednesday, June 8th, Thursday, the 9th, Friday, the 10th, Saturday, the 11th, and Sunday, the 12th, were all uneventful in the main, the only incident of importance to the corps being the retirement of General Crittenden from the command of the First division. He was relieved at his own request, and was succeeded in the command by Brigadier-General Ledlie.

But while there was nothing during these five days which rose to the dignity of a regular engagement, or even a brisk skirmish, there was considerable picket and artillery firing constantly kept up. And

each day added to the list of casualties, for the merciless and unerring rifles of the enemy's sharpshooters were continually claiming new victims. We had thought the fire to which we were subjected while lying in the trenches after the battle of Spottsylvania, sufficiently harassing, but it was scarcely to be compared in degree of annoyance to that to which we were now exposed. One who has written an interesting narrative of the service of the gallant Sixth Corps thus speaks of the experience of these days, — "Never before had our army been in a position where there was such constant danger as at Cold Harbor. Men in the front line dared not leave the cover of the breastworks except in the darkness of night, and even then the movement of a company to the rear might bring on a storm of shells. High breastworks were thrown up at all angles with the main line, and deep trenches were dug in which the men might pass to and from the front without being observed. Even with all these extraordinary precautions, no man was safe in venturing to go to the rear by daylight. If a soldier collected the canteens of his companions and started to the rear for water, he was obliged to crawl along the trenches with the utmost secrecy, and even then he was liable to be shot. Not a day passed, even when there was no battle, in which scores of men were not killed, or brought to the hospitals with severe wounds.

"The whole plain occupied by our army was dug over. Far to the rear the men had entrenched themselves. General officers had their tents erected in deep excavations surrounded by embankments of earth, and special duty men had each prepared for themselves burrows in the ground, many of which

were creditable specimens of engineering. One was reminded, in riding over the plain, of the colonies of prairie-dogs, with their burrows and mounds".\*

In some parts of the lines of the army, however, it would seem that there gradually grew up a kind of understanding, between the men of the opposing forces, that picket firing should be suspended in the absence of imperative orders for its continuance. And this informal suspension of hostilities led to an intercourse, of which the men took advantage to exchange coffee for tobacco. Before the Federals began the movement to the James river, this intercourse was prohibited, as it was feared that the unrestrained mingling of the men might result in the revealing of important secrets. But however friendly the pickets might have become, there was little or no cessation in the work of the sharpshooters during all the time that we continued in the lines at Cold Harbor. Men who had passed unharmed through the rain of missiles in such great battles as the Wilderness and Spottsylvania, were now stricken down in the trenches by the bullet of a concealed marksman.

But it became apparent that the army was soon to leave the sandy and arid plains upon which it had been lying so long. Indeed, it could not have well remained for any considerable time in its present lines without terrible loss of life. It was amid the deadly marshes of the Chickahominy, and exposed to the malarious exhalations from those swamps which had been so fatal to the soldiers of McClellan two years before. The season of the year was a sickly one, as it was now June, and the heat was excessive, and debilitating in the extreme. The water was impure, and

\* Stevens — "Three Years in the Sixth Corps", p. 354.

filled with germs of disease, and many who escaped the bullet were falling victims to fever and dysentery. Where the country about us was not a wet and swampy bog, it was a barren, sandy plain, scarcely fertile enough to sustain vegetation, and with but few trees to afford shelter and shade. For all these reasons it was imperative that the army should soon move from these fatal surroundings, or it would speedily become so weakened by its enormous losses as to be practically inoperative. Gradually the knowledge became general that another grand flanking movement by the left was in contemplation. While still demonstrating so as to impress the enemy with the belief that he desired to force a passage near Cold Harbor, Grant was really moving toward his own left, with a view to a sudden advance to the James river. By the tactics he had employed, gradually refusing his right, and extending his left, he had massed a large part of his forces within a short distance of the lower crossings of the Chickahominy, without exciting Lee's suspicions.

No doubt Grant was in some degree disappointed with the slender success he had so far achieved, compared with the terrible cost of the campaign up to this point. But if the results had not been decisive, there had yet been some real advantage derived from the fearful fighting of the previous weeks. If the Federals had suffered enormous losses during those days of constant battle, the Confederates had also lost heavily during the campaign. Large numbers of new troops, and of convalescents able to return to duty were brought up, as has been said, to supply the place of those thus rendered useless, on the part of the Federals. But it was a much more difficult matter

for Lee to reinforce his depleted ranks so as to make good his losses. And again, the moral effect of the campaign, so far, had been decidedly in favor of the Union arms. The Confederates had been greatly aided by the peculiar character of the country over which the armies had been moving, and by the entire familiarity of their leaders with the ground. But these advantages had not enabled them to win a decisive victory in forty-three days of constant fighting. The advance of the Union forces had been slow and painful, and not always in a direct line, but yet they had advanced steadily. And all the skill, and all the resources of the able Confederate leader had never been sufficient to convert that advance into a retreat.

It is worthy of especial notice that General Lee changed his method of operations very materially after the battle of the Wilderness. In that first encounter with the army under command of General Grant, the Confederates attacked with confidence, hoping, perhaps, to drive the Federals back across the river. But it is to be noted as a significant circumstance that they did not again attack in full force, throughout the campaign. Their subsequent policy was, in general, one of defensive battles, from behind strong works, and in no instance, did they assume the offensive, or offer us battle in the open field. They awaited our attacks in positions of their own selection, fortified until they seemed impregnable, and yet they were successively forced to abandon these chosen positions, and retire still closer to the city which they were guarding from our approach. Time after time the Federal leader had successfully executed those flank marches in the face of the enemy which military

critics deem so delicate and hazardous a manœuvre. And even at such times they had offered but the most feeble and ineffective opposition, because they feared to assume the aggressive. They had come to rely upon the strength and solidity of their defensive works, rather than upon the courage and endurance of their battalions, and to deem themselves able to contend with Federal soldiers far better from behind entrenchments than in the field. So that General Grant was not without some elements of encouragement, for to have thus checked the fiery courage of the Army of Northern Virginia, was, in itself, a result of no small magnitude.

And now he was about to undertake another of those favorite turning movements, and as he hoped, compel the surrender of Richmond, by capturing its lines of communication with the South. "Without a greater sacrifice of life than I was willing to make" he writes in his report of the campaign, "all could not be accomplished that I had designed north of Richmond: I therefore determined to continue to hold substantially the ground we then occupied \* \* \* \* \* until the cavalry could be sent to Charlottesville and Gordonsville \* \* \* \* \* and when the cavalry got well off, to move the army to the south side of the James river, by the enemy's right flank, where I felt I could cut off all his sources of supply except the canal".

In order to gain time for the execution of this manœuvre, and to prevent the enemy from suspecting Grant's purpose, it had been necessary for the army to continue in its lines at Cold Harbor during all the weary and comfortless days which followed the battle of the 3rd, maintaining its position, erecting new earthworks, and repulsing assaults, as if it had deter-

mined to remain till victory crowned its endeavors. While the Thirty-Second Maine participated in all the events of this period, with its brigade, the list of casualties between the 4th and the 12th of June is not large. During that time, nine enlisted men were wounded, of whom four died from effects of wounds. They were Privates Andrew J. Kennedy, Company E; Nathaniel S. Kennedy, Company E, in foot; Stephen Henderson, Company F, in left arm, shoulder and side, June 5th; Corporal Josiah Estes, Company G, in breast; Privates A. K. P. Marston, Company D, in left fore arm; Nathaniel Marden, Company I, in hand; George D. Ross, Company I, in hand, June 6th; Private F. O. J. Smith, Company H, in hand, June 8th; Private Lewis F. Mixer, Company D, in hand, June 9th. Of these, Nathaniel S. Kennedy died on June 6th, Marden on June 11th, and Henderson July 4th, while Estes died in hospital, but at a date not ascertained.

Adjutant Hayes' diary contains an interesting entry under date of June 10th, when he writes, "Tri-monthly report, made this morning, shows two hundred and thirty-two, absent, sick; we have lost about one hundred and twenty-five, killed and wounded, and have about three hundred and fifty muskets in the regiment".

When it is taken into consideration that *two months* had not yet elapsed since the first battalion of the regiment left Maine, these figures are deeply significant as to the severity of the experience the command had been called upon to endure, in that brief time.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### BREVET-MAJOR EBENEZER S. KYES.

Ebenezer Sylvester Kyes was born in North Jay, Franklin County, Maine, on January 22, 1842. He was the son of Elisha and Katharine (Fuller) Kyes. After attending the public schools, and preparing for college under private tutorship, he entered Bowdoin College in 1861, and attended one year. In the fall of 1862, after becoming a sophomore, he entered the military service of the United States. And on October 13th, 1862, he was mustered in as orderly sergeant of Company K, Twenty-Eighth Maine Infantry Volunteers, for nine months.

This regiment served in the Gulf States, and was not discharged until September of 1863. But perhaps the severest personal experience of the subject of this sketch during this period was a typhoid fever, from which he suffered while in Louisiana.

Upon his discharge and return home, he began the study of law with Judge Enos T. Luce in Auburn, Maine, but the call, in the following winter, for men to serve "three years, or during the war," took him again into the army. And on April 2, 1864, he was mustered in as Captain of Company E, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry Volunteers. Going to the front with the first battalion, on April 20th, he shared its fortunes, participating in all its battles and marches, until severely wounded in the engagement at Cold Harbor, on the 3rd of June, 1864. After remaining at the Harewood Hospital, Washington, D. C., and the Officers' Hospital, Annapolis, Md., until late in the fall of 1864, he returned to the regiment, while still on crutches. He served much of the winter following the consolidation with the Thirty-First, as Judge-





BREVET MAJOR EBENEZER S. KYES.



Advocate, and entering into active service in the spring, as Captain of Company E, of the Thirty-First, he received a brevet as Major for "gallant and meritorious conduct in the assault before Petersburg, Va.," to date from April 2, 1865. He was in command of his regiment for a time during April and May, 1865, and finally mustered out and discharged with the regiment in July, 1865.

Upon returning home, he resumed his legal studies, and was later admitted to the Androscoggin County bar. He at first established a law office at Mechanic Falls, but a little less than a year afterward returned to his native town and county. During his subsequent residence there, of some fourteen years, he was the recipient of various civic honors, among which was the State senatorship in 1874-5, and 1875-6.

In September of 1881, he removed to Washington, D. C., with the intention of making his home there, having accepted a position as Special Examiner in the Pension Bureau. But as work "in the field," which this appointment required, appeared likely to prove too arduous for his failing strength, he decided to remain in the Pension Office at Washington. And for several years he was employed in the adjudication of claims for widows and minors, "Western Division." He died at his home in Washington, on July 25, 1888, from malarial fever, complicated with disabilities incurred in service.

He had married on March 12, 1867, Caroline M. Coolidge, of Jay, who survives him, as does one son, now Dr. Preston Kyes, of the Medical Department of Chicago University. His remains rest with those of an infant daughter and four young sons, in his native town of North Jay. And, after a life of honorable service, in military and civic positions, his memory is still held in esteem by all who knew him, and by none more highly than among his old comrades of the Thirty-Second.

## CHAPTER XV.

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TO THE JAMES RIVER. — GENERAL GRANT'S REASONS  
FOR THE MOVEMENT UPON PETERSBURG. — SHERIDAN'S  
TREVILIAN STATION RAID. — A MEMORABLE  
MARCH. — THE PONTOON BRIDGE AT WIL-  
COX'S LANDING. — LIST OF CASUALTIES.

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The previous chapter brought this narrative up to Sunday, the 12th of June, which was the last day we spent at Cold Harbor. Before speaking of our experience upon the march to the James, it seems desirable to mention briefly the reasons which General Grant himself has assigned for his movement upon Petersburg. The report which was quoted from in the last chapter presents these reasons in the following language:

“I was still in a condition to either move by the enemy's left flank, and invest Richmond from the north side, or continue my move by his right flank to the south side of the James. While the former might have been better as a covering for Washington, yet a full survey of all the ground satisfied me that it would be impracticable to hold a line north and east of Richmond that would protect the Fredericksburg Railroad — a long, vulnerable line, which would exhaust much of our strength to guard, and that would have to be protected to supply the army, and

would leave open to the enemy all his lines of communication on the south side of the James. My idea, from the start, had been to beat Lee's army north of Richmond, if possible. Then, after destroying his lines of communication north of the James river, to transfer the army to the south side, and besiege Lee in Richmond, or follow him south, if he should retreat".

Thus it will be seen this movement was not an after-thought, nor did Grant resort to it as an alternative, after having failed to accomplish the desired result by other means. But as he declares in the paragraph quoted above, it had been a part of his plan "from the start",—that is, since leaving the Rapidan. It is true, he had not actually beaten Lee's army in a pitched battle, as he had hoped to do, before making this movement. But as has been said, he had obtained some substantial encouragement that in the end Lee would be compelled to succumb, and that the defeat which he desired to inflict upon the Confederates was only postponed, not permanently averted. At the risk of some repetition, it seems proper to embody here what the report goes on to say in relation to this point. After the language already quoted, General Grant immediately writes as follows:

"After the battle of the Wilderness, it was evident that the enemy deemed it of the first importance to run no risks with the army he then had. He acted purely on the defensive, behind breastworks, or feebly on the offensive, immediately in front of them, and where, in case of repulse, he could easily retire behind them." \* \* \* \* \*

"The battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor, bloody and terrible as

they were on our side, were even more damaging to the enemy, and so crippled him as to make him wary ever after of taking the offensive. His losses in men were probably not so great, owing to the fact that we were, save in the Wilderness, almost invariably the attacking party: and when he did attack it was in the open field".\*

These quotations indicate that Grant was aware that the tenacity, as well as the determination, with which he had pressed the campaign, and the steady approach which his army, by dint of continuous desperate fighting, had been able to make toward Richmond, had greatly reduced the *morale* of the Confederate forces. He felt that the final result was certain, and that the only matter of doubt was the length of time it would require to accomplish that result. In his view, a movement which would place his army south of the rebel capital, and enable him to seize upon its lines of communication with the interior of the Confederacy, would tend to greatly lessen that time. And since he must abandon his hope of winning a decisive battle, and beating his wary adversary by the mere impact of numbers hurled in direct assault against the strong works which so securely sheltered the enemy, there could be no better time than the present to set on foot such a movement.

The preliminaries were dispatched as rapidly as was consistent with the safe execution of the manœuvre. The railroad by which communication had been had with White House was dismantled during Friday and Saturday, and the rails and other material loaded upon barges to be trans-shipped to City Point. The cavalry was sent to demonstrate

\* Grant's Report, dated July 22, 1865.

against the enemy's lines of communication, and if possible, to break up the railroad connection between Richmond and the Shenandoah Valley. This movement of the cavalry was also of benefit to Grant's purposed manœuvre in that it would enable him to encounter less hindrance from the enemy. It would, while in progress, occupy the attention of the Confederate cavalry, at least, and thus prevent them from obstructing, or even of becoming aware of his advance toward the James. Accordingly, as early as Tuesday, June 7th, General Sheridan, with two divisions of cavalry under Generals Gregg and Torbert, was sent out to destroy as effectively as possible, the railroads forming the lines of communication with western Virginia. As soon as the enemy penetrated the purpose of his movement, the Confederate cavalry attempted to prevent the expedition from accomplishing its design. And being thus concentrated in front of Sheridan's column, the path was, as had been foreseen, left open for Grant, so far as these forces were concerned.

After a rapid march, the Federal column was approaching the Virginia Central railroad, and had arrived within some three miles of Trevilian Station, on the 11th of June, when it encountered the enemy in strong force. After an obstinate contest, the Confederates were driven from the field in utter confusion, leaving a number of prisoners. That night Sheridan bivouacked at Trevilian Station, within seven miles of Gordonsville, and on the 12th he destroyed the railroad from Trevilian Station to Louisa Court House. During the 12th he also advanced upon the enemy at Gordonsville, but found the position too strong to warrant his assaulting it. Upon Monday,

the 13th. he learned that heavy reinforcements were being sent to assist in the defense of Gordonsville, and not feeling himself strong enough to encounter so numerous a force, he withdrew across the North Anna river. The expedition now returned to the vicinity of the main army, arriving at White House on the 19th of June, just as the enemy's cavalry began an attack, which the timely appearance of the Federals rendered fruitless. The Union loss in this cavalry expedition was nearly six hundred, of which number four hundred and ninety were wounded. For lack of ambulances, Sheridan was compelled to leave some of his wounded in the hands of the enemy, but as an offset to this, he brought back almost four hundred prisoners.

Meanwhile, during Sheridan's absence upon this expedition, the main army had been gradually massed near the lower crossings of the Chickahominy, except the troops of General Smith. On the evening of Sunday, June 12th, everything was in readiness, and the movement was at last begun, after dark that night, the troops exercising great caution and secrecy in their withdrawal from their positions. The enemy held the north bank of the river, as far down as Bottom's Bridge. Below this there are two others, Long Bridge being some six miles from Bottom's Bridge, and Jones' Bridge being five or six miles from Long Bridge, or some ten or twelve miles below Bottom's Bridge. The cavalry division of General Wilson, which had not gone with Sheridan, led the advance, and was followed by General Warren and the Fifth Corps.

They crossed the Chickahominy at Long Bridge, and Warren moved out upon the road through White



Oak Swamp, in order to cover the crossing of the other troops. Halting and taking position upon this road, he made such dispositions of his troops as to induce Lee to suppose that an attack upon Richmond was threatened from that direction. His feint evidently had the desired effect, and misled the Confederates as to the real intentions of Grant and Meade. Meanwhile the Second Corps, which had followed the Fifth across Long Bridge, marched directly by way of St. Mary's Church and Charles City Cross Roads, toward Wilcox Landing on the James river. Wright with the Sixth Corps marched upon a longer, exterior line, and crossed the Chickahominy lower down, at Jones' Bridge, and moved toward Charles City Court House. The men of the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, under General Smith, instead of moving with the rest of the army, had marched back to White House, at which point they took transports and proceeded by water to Bermuda Hundreds, the position from which they had recently come to join Grant at Cold Harbor. The immense trains of the army were directed upon Cole's Ferry, at which point they succeeded in crossing the Chickahominy without obstruction.

As for our own corps, the narrative of its march perhaps deserves that it should be given more in detail than in the case of the others. During the night of the 12th, it withdrew with great care, and in the utmost silence, from its position. The enemy failed to receive the slightest intimation that such a movement was in progress, even the picket line being retired without exciting the suspicion of the Confederates. So successfully was the withdrawal effected, that it is said that the enemy kept up a fire of artillery

upon one of our earthworks for an hour, at least, after it had been vacated, supposing it to be still held by us. The corps moved during Sunday night to Tunstall's Station, at which point it arrived about daylight on Monday morning. Through some misconception of orders, the trains had been permitted to get upon the roads over which we were to move, and our advance was greatly impeded by their presence. At Tunstall's Station, our column was halted for a time, and the men rested by the road-side, while an effort was made to clear the trains from our path. Before long, the corps was again in motion, and we struggled onward, between and around the long lines of white-topped wagons which crowded the roads. All through the long hours of Monday, June 13th, we were almost constantly in motion, marching by way of Baltimore Cross Roads and Olive Church, and arriving near Sloane's Crossing on the Chickahominy about nightfall.

Here we went into bivouac for a few hours, but early Tuesday morning we were again upon the march. During the 14th we marched by way of Varden's, Clopton's and Tyler's Mills, and finally reached the James river during the night of Tuesday, going into position on the right of the Sixth Corps, near Charles City Court House. The official report of the Adjutant-General of Maine claims for the Thirty-Second that during this movement the regiment marched thirty-five miles in twenty-seven hours with but one hour's rest in the time. While this march is not especially remarkable as to the distance accomplished, it is yet somewhat sharply in contrast with the march from Arlington Heights to Bristoe Station, spoken of in a previous chapter. Then we had cov-

ered thirty-four miles in a march of two days' duration, and thought we had endured extreme fatigue. But at that time we were new to the service, and had but slight and crude ideas as to what men were able to accomplish under the pressure of necessity. It is true only a few weeks had since elapsed, but the experience of those few weeks had gone far toward making us veterans, as to the amount of active service which had been crowded into them. And we could look back upon that march to Bristoe, and after what we had since endured, could wonder that we had thought it in any degree remarkable.

But this more recent march to the James seems, even now, worthy of especial mention because of the unremitting persistency with which it was kept up. Hour after hour, without halt or rest, the men pressed forward, keeping constantly in motion, with the exception of one single hour, for more than a whole day. The march was a most toilsome one, for the air was hot and sultry, and the dust was thick and suffocating. The lack of any opportunity to relieve the strained and aching muscles, even by a brief halt, made the discomfort seem even greater than usual. And since there was no pause in which a dish of coffee might be made, the men missed that usual solace of their weariness, and lacked the support and stimulus which it always afforded. It is easy to speak of such a march, after its accomplishment, and but few words are needed to record the fact of its having been made. But how much is comprehended in that brief statement, to the understanding of those who are able to "read between the lines". What a record of the most exhausting exertions, — of patient endurance of the severest physical weariness, — of hunger

and thirst, and fervid heat, and choking dust, and every accumulated ill, — is to be discerned in the few short words which chronicle a march of more than twenty-four consecutive hours. How can it be a matter of surprise that now, nearly forty years afterward, the survivors of the war are found to be broken down in health, worn with suffering, and prematurely old and feeble, after having so often borne such an intense strain and tension upon every muscle and nerve and fibre of their system, for such protracted periods?

But to return to the history, from which this has been a digression. After the army had arrived, as above narrated, upon the northern bank of the James, some delay in crossing was occasioned by the absence of sufficient pontoon material to provide at once for the needs of so vast masses of troops. As a consequence of this delay, we were able to rest during Wednesday, the 15th, and thus recover somewhat from the fatigue of the wearisome march we had made. Throughout Wednesday, our corps lay quietly in the position we had taken on the right of the Sixth Corps, and which we had fortified to some extent. Meanwhile other troops were crossing the river upon an immensely long pontoon bridge, which stretched across the broad stream.\* Even this bridge was insufficient to enable the troops to cross as rapidly as was deemed desirable, and large bodies of men were carried over by ferrying in transport steamers, while the bridge was crowded to its full capacity. At last it came the turn of the Ninth Corps to move down and

\* General Humphreys says, "The site of the bridge was between Windmill Point and Fort Powhatan, where the river was 2,100 feet wide. \* \* \* The number of pontoons was one hundred and one". Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 203.

cross the pontoon bridge, which we did on the evening of the 15th, and immediately moved forward toward Petersburg, whither a portion of our comrades had already preceded us.

General Smith's command, which had arrived at Bermuda Hundreds on the night of the 14th, had been immediately ordered to move on Petersburg. Before daylight on the 15th, his advance arrived before that city, and late in the afternoon of the same day, he assaulted the Confederate works with considerable success. The Second Corps had crossed the James at Wilcox's Landing on Tuesday, the 14th, and at nine o'clock P. M. on the 15th, Hancock, with two divisions, had joined Smith. The Sixth Corps had been divided at the James river, one division only,—the Second,—being put *en route* for Petersburg, while the First and Third divisions were taken on board steamers and conveyed to City Point. These divisions were intended to assist in a movement against the enemy's communications between Petersburg and Richmond, made by General Butler, but which failed to accomplish the expected results. The Fifth Corps followed the Ninth, crossing the James at Powhatan Point on the 15th and 16th of June, and marching at once upon Petersburg.

By noon of the 16th of June, the movement had been successfully accomplished, and the army was already in position before Petersburg. That General Lee was unprepared for this manœuvre, and uncertain as to the Federal commander's real purpose, was rendered apparent by a cavalry reconnoissance which was made on the 15th. This movement on the north side of the James river and in the direction of Malvern Hill, demonstrated that the Confederates were still

holding the country southeast of Richmond with a large force. Evidently, so late as this they had not penetrated Grant's real purpose, and were still maintaining this strong force in this region in order to repel a possible effort on his part to advance on Richmond itself. The Federal commander-in-chief was much gratified by the result of his manœuvre, and about this time summed up what had been so far accomplished, in the following dispatch:

“Our forces drew out from within fifty yards of the enemy's entrenchments at Cold Harbor, made a flank movement of about fifty-five miles' march, crossing the Chickahominy and James rivers, the latter 2,000 feet wide and eighty-four feet deep at the point of crossing, without the loss of a wagon or piece of artillery”.

There had been no opposition on the part of the Confederates which was worthy of notice, and the loss in men was extremely small. On the march, the troops had suffered little or no annoyance from the enemy. Warren, it is true, had a brisk little affair near White Oak Bridge, on the borders of the Swamp, as he made his demonstration toward Richmond. But the cavalry under Wilson, and Crawford's division of infantry, had easily driven off the enemy, with a Federal loss of not more than two hundred men. A few pickets and skirmishers had fallen into the enemy's hands at the beginning of the march from Cold Harbor. And the severity of the march, pursued with such rapidity beneath a burning sun, and along scorched and dusty roads, had exhausted the strength of some. And from this cause, there were losses by so-called “straggling”, as in many cases men who were worn out and wearied beyond the power of endurance.

were unable to keep up with the swiftly-moving columns, and compelled to fall out. Of these unfortunate ones, the greater number were captured by the enemy. But including all the losses from these several sources, the aggregate during the whole movement will not exceed four or five hundred men.

The proportion of this loss which fell to the share of the Thirty-Second Maine was quite large, when the fact is taken into consideration that the regiment participated in no engagement during the time. Privates Zachariah Durgin, Company A; Mellen N. Jones, Company D; Charles W. Ayers and Samuel C. Chase, Company F; Abram E. Davis and Francis Valley, Company K, were reported as missing, June 12th. Privates Eliab R. Frost, Company I, was wounded, in foot; and Charles H. Mitchell, Company I, in foot, on June 14th, and Privates Greenfield Coburn, Benjamin W. Judkins, and Henry R. Merrill, all of Company E, were missing on June 14th, having fallen out on the march. Privates Gilbert L. Berry, George Guard and William McDaniel, all of Company I, and George E. Chamberlain of Company K were missing June 15th, thus making the aggregate loss fifteen enlisted men.

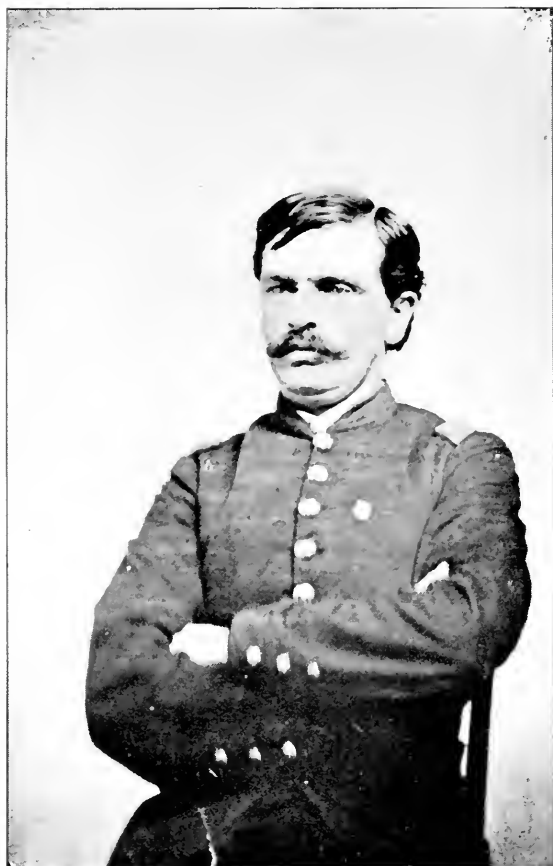
So far as the subsequent fate of these men can be ascertained, Durgin died in prison at Andersonville, on August 22nd, and Valley August 19th. Davis also died in prison, but at a date which it has not been possible to ascertain, while in the cases of Chase and Coburn, no record evidence of death has been found, though there is reason to believe that both died while in prison. Jones was left sick with fever, when the march began, and was never afterward heard from. Berry undoubtedly died at Andersonville on August

30th, though the prison records give the name as Barney. Frost died from his wound, at Washington, D. C., on July 25th, and Mitchell was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. Judkins died in prison on June 30th, and Chamberlain on November 3rd. In reference to the latter, comrade J. A. Hobbs writes, "like others, he fell out, no doubt exhausted, and was missed after our arrival near the James river". Of Davis and Valley, comrade Hobbs says, "both were sick when we left Gaines' Farm, on June 12th, and as no conveyance could be furnished, they, like many others, fell out and were captured by the enemy following in our rear". Merrill remained as a prisoner for a considerable time, but was eventually exchanged, and finally discharged June 1, 1865, while Ayers and Chase were also exchanged, and returned to be mustered out with the regiment.

As the crossing of the James and the advance to Petersburg may be regarded as the termination of the first part of the Overland Campaign, it seems proper to make here a brief recapitulation of the losses of our regiment up to this time. It was not quite two months since the first battalion had left Maine, and in that short time the casualties, exclusive of those occasioned by sickness, amounted to no less than one hundred and twenty-two. As quoted in the preceding chapter, Adjutant Hayes said, "*about* one hundred and twenty-five", a few days before this time, but it is believed the number mentioned above is correct. There had been killed or died of wounds, thirty-one; and slightly or severely wounded, sixty-one, many of these latter being permanently disabled; and there had been captured by the enemy and held as prisoners, thirty of our number, of whom twenty are believed







CAPTAIN WILLIAM B. BARKER.

to have died in prison. A large proportion of this heavy loss, it will be borne in mind, had fallen upon the first battalion, as it was only since the 26th of May that the second battalion had been under fire, or exposed to the casualties of active service.

We had, indeed, had a terrible initiation into the realities of military life, and our brief experience had been purchased at a costly price. There was now to be a change in the methods of operation, and weary days and months of siege were to take the place of our former hurried marches. But before we settled down to the protracted investment of Petersburg, which forms the closing epoch of the history of the civil war, there were some incidents connected with the early days of our presence in front of that city, which deserve especial mention here. And of one of those incidents, with which the Thirty-Second Maine was closely identified, we shall speak in detail in the next chapter.

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## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN WILLIAM B. BARKER.

William Boardman Barker was born in Limerick, York County, Maine, on April 17, 1838, and was the son of Simeon and Almira (Boardman) Barker.

He received the education which the common schools and academy in his native town provided, and subsequently taught several terms of school. He then read law in the office of his brother-in-law, Hon. Luther S. Moore, of Limerick.

He first entered the military service Sept. 30, 1862, enlisting in Co. A, Twenty-Seventh Maine Volunteer Infan-

try, and becoming a corporal. After nearly ten months of service, he was mustered out July 17, 1863, having been one of those who volunteered to remain after their time was out, because of Lee's march into Pennsylvania, and the impending battle of Gettysburg.

He then returned to the study of law until the Thirty-Second Maine was recruited, when he again enlisted, and was mustered into the Union army as Sergeant-Major of that regiment, on April 5, 1864. Participating with the regiment in all its severe service, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant of Co. C, June 21, 1864, and to First Lieutenant of Co. H, Sept. 16, 1864; was Acting Quartermaster; and on Oct. 8, 1864, was commissioned Captain of Co. D.

At the consolidation of the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Maine, Dec. 12, 1864, Captain Barker was assigned to the command of Co. I, Thirty-First Maine, where he remained until the regiment was mustered out.

He had been admitted to York County bar on Jan. 13, 1864, and after the close of the war entered upon the practice of the law in New York City for a time. But while on a visit to Portland, Me., he was suddenly taken sick, and after a few days' illness, died of congestion of the lungs, Nov. 24, 1866. He was buried in the village cemetery at Limerick. His obituarist at the time of his death, writes of him as "a young man of fine natural ability and prepossessing personal appearance, which would doubtless have secured to him a successful and honorable career had his life been spared." His comrades of the Thirty-Second Maine will recall him as a genial, generous and noble-hearted man, and a brave soldier.

Captain Burbank was his close friend from boyhood, they having been associated in the same school and academy, having read law in the same office, and later having served together in the Twenty-Seventh and the Thirty-Second regiments.

## CHAPTER XVI.

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PETERSBURG. — ITS SITUATION AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE. — GENERAL BUTLER'S DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST IT. — MOVEMENTS OF GENERALS GILLMORE AND KAUTZ. — GENERAL SMITH'S ASSAULT. — ARRIVAL OF THE NINTH CORPS. — CAPTURE OF THE RIFLE-PITS BY THE SECOND BRIGADE. — THE RA-VINE AT THE SHAND HOUSE. — THE CHARGE AT DAY-BREAK.

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The city of Petersburg, before which the Army of the Potomac found itself upon the 16th of June, was a place of much strategic importance, and its possession by the Federals would have a powerful effect in determining the final result of the great struggle for the occupation of Richmond. It is said to have been, before the war, an exceedingly handsome and flourishing town, and to have ranked as the third in the State, in regard to population and commercial advantages. It had a number of mills and factories, an iron furnace, and other manufacturing establishments, and three newspapers were published in the place. From these statements, it is easy to form the conclusion that it was a much more thriving town than many of the hamlets, dignified in Southern fashion, by the pretentious name of city. It is situated on the southern

bank of the Appomattox river, about twenty-two miles southwardly from Richmond, and ten miles southwestward of City Point, on the James river. At the beginning of the war, it had a population of between eighteen and twenty thousand. No less than five lines of railroad centered in the place, which had no doubt derived much of its prosperity from this fact. The several lines were: the Petersburg and Richmond road, running between Petersburg and the rebel capital; the Weldon road, running southward into the Carolinas; the South Side road, which ran westwardly to Lynchburg; the Norfolk road, which ran southeastwardly to Suffolk and thence to Norfolk; and a short line which ran northeast to City Point. These roads, with their connecting lines, enabled the Confederates to transport troops and supplies to and from Richmond with the utmost facility, and were of great value as the means of communication with the interior States.

Obviously, then, the capture of Petersburg would enable the Federals to cut these lines of communication with the country lying southward, and thus inflict great damage upon their opponents. Moreover, the capture of Richmond would be practically ensured by the possession of Petersburg, as that city would thereby be isolated from the rest of the rebellious section, and prevented from receiving reinforcements to its army of defence. As has been shown, General Grant had early foreseen the advantages to be derived from gaining possession of the place, and his original plan of campaign had contemplated its reduction and occupation. To the army of the James, under command of General Butler, this task had been assigned at the outset, but their efforts had proved entirely

fruitless. The first demonstrations, made early in May, against the Petersburg and Richmond railroad, were unsuccessful, and, by the 20th of that month, General Butler "was forced back or drew back", to use the words of Grant himself, "into his entrenchments between the forks of the James and Appomattox rivers, the enemy entrenching himself in his front, thus covering his railroads, the city, and all that was valuable to him".\*

Later, while the Army of the Potomac was at Cold Harbor, and occupying the attention of the Confederate forces about Richmond, Butler was again ordered to attack Petersburg. It is said, upon good authority, that the works around that city, were then garrisoned only by local militia and a detachment of Wise's Legion. General Gillmore with 3,500 infantry was directed to move against the city from the eastward, while General Kautz, with 1,400 cavalry, was to make a circuit, and attack from the south or southwestward. Gillmore arrived in front of the place, but deemed the works too formidable to be attempted by the force under his command, and therefore withdrew his troops without an attack. Kautz actually penetrated the fortifications upon his side of the place, and skirmished with the enemy in the streets of the city. But without the co-operation of the infantry, he could not hold his prize, and was compelled to retire. These operations were during the 9th and 10th of June, and just prior to the beginning of the movement to the James river.

Once more, during the progress of that movement, a part of the Army of the James was sent against Petersburg. As briefly mentioned in the last chapter,

\* Grant's Report, dated July 22, 1865.

General Smith's command had been sent forward from Bermuda Hundreds during the night of the 14th of June. General Lee was still under the impression that the Federal movement was directed against Richmond, and at Warren's feint toward the city, had retired within its fortifications and stood in readiness to meet the assault he feared. Meanwhile, for the moment, the defences of Petersburg were left almost without a garrison, and it seemed as if a sudden blow would ensure its capture. Of the result of General Smith's attack we will take the opinion of General Grant himself.

"General Smith got off as directed", the Lieutenant-General says in his report, "and confronted the enemy's pickets near Petersburg before daylight next morning, but for some reason that I have never been able to satisfactorily understand, did not get ready to assault his main lines until near sundown. Then, with a part of his command only, he made the assault, and carried the line northeast of Petersburg from the Appomattox river for a distance of over two and a half miles, capturing fifteen pieces of artillery and three hundred prisoners. This was about seven P. M. Between the line thus captured and Petersburg there were no other works, and there is no evidence that the enemy had reinforced Petersburg with a single brigade from any source. The night was clear, the moon shining brightly, and favorable to further operations. General Hancock, with two divisions of the Second Corps, reached General Smith just after dark, and offered the services of these troops as he [Smith] might wish, waiving rank to the named commander, who he naturally supposed knew best the position of affairs, and what to do with the troops.



But instead of taking these troops and pushing at once into Petersburg, he requested General Hancock to relieve a part of his line in the captured works, which was done before midnight".\*

Notwithstanding General Grant's censure of General Smith's failure to enter and take possession of Petersburg, it has been urged that the latter commander was not without reasonable ground for his course of action. It is claimed, in his behalf, that his troops were exhausted by a long march, and broken by the shock of battle, and their commander was unaware what reserve force the Confederates might be able to hurl upon his wearied men, should he hazard a further advance. And, until a late hour, he was equally in ignorance as to the proximity of any adequate supporting force of Federals, upon whom he might rely for assistance should he press forward. It was not until nine o'clock Wednesday night that General Birney's division of the Second Corps established connection with General Smith, as stated by an officer of that division, who goes on to say, "Had Hancock arrived earlier, so as to have followed up the successes achieved by General Smith, we should have undoubtedly occupied Petersburg, with a demoralized foe flying before us".† However that might have been, it is unquestionably true that Smith's attack had been very successful, so far as it went.

The defences of the city were of a formidable character, consisting of a series of skillfully-constructed earthworks, embracing square redoubts, rifle-trenches and redans, with an outer line of abattis, stakes and *chevaux-de-frise*. These works extended

\* Grant's Report, dated July 22, 1865.

† Houghton — "Campaigns of the Seventeenth Maine", p. 200.

around the city in a vast semi-circle, both extremities of which rested upon the river. From a point about two miles and a half below Petersburg, on the Appomattox, these strong fortifications stretched in one unbroken succession to at least an equal distance above the city. Immense redoubts occurred at frequent intervals, closely united with each other by well-built breastworks and lines of rifle-pits. Not less than eleven of these huge redoubts fell into the hands of Smith's forces as the fruits of their first assault, together with the guns and prisoners mentioned in Grant's report, above quoted. With this partial success, however, the Federals remained content throughout Wednesday night, which passed without any important incident.

Early on the morning of Thursday, June 16th, Egan's brigade, of Birney's division of the Second Corps, made a gallant charge upon a portion of the Confederate line, sustaining severe loss. A general attempt was made soon after to advance the Federal pickets, but was met by sharp skirmishing and artillery firing, and the movement was suspended for the time being. The demonstration proved that the enemy was being rapidly reinforced, and in such large numbers that it was not deemed advisable to make a general advance, until General Burnside should arrive upon the ground with our corps. We were at this time making a severe forced march, in order to come up to the scene of action as speedily as possible. Since crossing the pontoon bridge over the James river, on the previous evening, the corps had been constantly in motion. General Willcox, with the Third division, led the main column, and arrived at the lines before Petersburg at about ten o'clock A. M.

on Thursday. General Potter, with our own division, brought up the rear, so that it was an hour or two later when we came up. But by one o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th, the entire corps had arrived upon the ground, and proceeded to take position for an assault. A line of battle was formed, with Smith's (Eighteenth) Corps on the right, Hancock's (Second) Corps in the center, and the Ninth Corps upon the left. General Barlow's division of the Second Corps formed the left of Hancock's line, and General Potter's division of the Ninth was upon the right of Burnside's, so that our brigade joined Barlow upon his left.

It had been intended by General Meade that an attack should be made upon the enemy's position at four o'clock P. M., but for some reason, there was considerable delay in getting the troops into position. And it was not until some two hours later than the time assigned, that the dispositions were finally perfected, and everything in readiness for the assault. At six o'clock, P. M., the attack was commenced, the sharp rattle of musketry breaking out suddenly all along our front, as the troops advanced. The sun went down, and the dusk of evening grew deeper, but the conflict continued to assume still larger proportions. The roar of battle grew louder and louder till its volume became terrific, its intensity steadily increasing for more than an hour from the opening of the assault. Thenceforward it gradually diminished by slow degrees until about nine o'clock, when it ceased almost entirely. The fighting had continued about three hours from the time of the beginning of the attack, and there were occasional outbursts of firing subsequently through the greater part of the night.

The results of this attack were not of especial importance to the Federals, and but little advantage was gained in any part of the line. Nearly the whole of the three corps present had been simultaneously engaged, but the contest upon the extreme right had not been of so stubborn and sanguinary a character as in the center and upon the left. The Eighteenth Corps had obtained no material advantage in its part of the line, and the losses it had sustained were comparatively very small. General Birney's division, upon the right of the Second Corps, had carried the crest in its immediate front without any very serious difficulty, and held the ground it had gained, in spite of the enemy's efforts to retake it. General Barlow's division of the Second Corps, and our own division of the Ninth, had found much more opposition to their advance, the enemy being concentrated in greater force in this portion of the line. The ground between the Confederate position and our own, was fairly open, though of a somewhat broken and rugged character. It was sufficiently level in some portions of its extent to admit of its cultivation, and in such places had been planted to grain, the green blades of which were broken down and trodden under foot as our men advanced through the fields.

After some indecisive fighting in this part of the line, General Miles' brigade of the Second Corps, and our own brigade of Potter's division, were ordered to charge. In the face of a rapid and destructive artillery fire, Miles and Griffin led their men forward in the most gallant manner, and gained a foothold in the rifle-pits of the enemy, outside their main works. Together with our brave comrades of the Second Corps, we held our possession of these pits, though

greatly annoyed by the fire of the enemy from the second line of works. To relieve us from this, an assault upon the main works was planned, and the men were preparing for an advance, when the Confederates increased the severity of their fire, particularly that directed against Griffin's brigade. And at the same time, by a sudden movement, they succeeded in capturing some three hundred men from a skirmish line in the front of Barlow's division. These demonstrations proved them to be present in strong force in our immediate front, and owing to this fact, as well as to the lateness of the hour, it was deemed wiser to defer the contemplated assault until the next morning. So the men sheltered themselves as well as possible, and prepared to pass the night, or so much as remained of it, in such repose as might be obtained so close to the lines of an alert and watchful enemy.

But for us in the Second division of the Ninth Corps, there was but little rest or repose to be had, for as has just been said, another attempt at carrying the Confederate position by assault was to be made early on the morning of Friday, the 17th, and General Potter's division of the Ninth Corps had been selected as the assaulting column, while General Ledlie was to support us with the First division. To our own Second brigade was assigned the perilous duty of leading the attack, and once more the gallant little command prepared itself to fill the post of honor and of danger in the advance upon the strong works before it, bristling with artillery, and manned by Lee's veterans. Our commander, General Griffin, was charged with the duty of planning and carrying out the details of the attack, and as the result will show, he arranged and executed the movement with equal ability and daring.

About half a mile in our front was a large house belonging to a Mr. Shand, and near this house, and between us and the enemy's line, there was a ravine fifteen or twenty feet deep, with a small stream running through it. Under cover of the darkness of the night, we were led to this ravine, and placed in position for an attack at the first gleam of morning. The enemy was present in force at the head of the ravine, and his artillery commanded the approaches through the narrow defile. His lines were so near our own that the necessary orders were given us only in whispers, and the strictest silence was enjoined upon our men. The tin plates and dippers, and even the canteens, were placed inside the haversacks to prevent them from conveying any warning of our presence to the vigilant ears so close in our front, by an accidental rattling. General Griffin gave explicit and stringent orders that no man among us should fire a shot during our advance, but that the brigade should depend wholly upon the bayonet to accomplish its task of clearing the Confederate works.

When the arrangements had been completed, the order of formation was as follows: our brigade, as the column of attack, was in two lines, and the First brigade, which was to constitute our supporting force, was also in two lines. In our first line were the Seventeenth Vermont, the Eleventh New Hampshire, and the Thirty-Second Maine, in the order named, from right to left, while the Sixth and Ninth New Hampshire, the Thirty-First Maine and the Second Maryland constituted our second line. Colonel Curtin had formed his brigade with the Forty-Fifth and Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania and Thirty-Sixth Massachusetts in the first line, and the Seventh Rhode

Island, the Second New York Mounted Rifles,—dis-mounted, —and Fifty-Eighth Massachusetts in the second. A vivid and picturesque writer has said, speaking of these regiments at this time:—

“They make their way into the ravine. They are only fifty-seven paces from the Confederate breast-works. Their bayonets are fixed. They are to rush up the steep bank, across the narrow terrace, leap the breastworks and gather in the living line of men in gray. Cannon will flame in their faces. There may be a storm of leaden rain. It requires nerve and hardihood to move at midnight silently down into the ravine—the rising moon throwing its light along the moving column—to take their places, speaking no word above a whisper, to lie upon the ground till the first gleam of daylight appears on the eastern sky”.\*

Impatiently, but in the profoundest silence, the men of the Second brigade awaited the order to advance, and just as the first faint streaks of dawn appeared in the east, the word “Forward!” was whispered along the lines of the crouching, motionless regiments. The effect of the brief command was electrical, and as if inspired with one common impulse, our men sprang swiftly and noiselessly to their feet, and with the utmost rapidity dashed upon the enemy. The Confederates, surprised and bewildered at such an unexpected assault, gave way before the sudden onset. Their works were carried at the point of the bayonet before they were able to realize that an attack was to be made upon them. In the same instant that they became aware of the column charging down upon them out of the darkness, they were

\* C. C. Coffin—“Carleton”—in *National Tribune*, of March 15, 1888.

struck and swept away by the momentum of its swift advance. The writer just quoted goes on to say of the charge itself:

“The men in the ravine rise and dress their ranks, elbow touching elbow. They grasp their muskets with nervous energy. There is no clicking of locks, but each soldier brings his musket to the ‘charge’. With watches in one hand and swords in the other the commanders of regiments wait. Their swords wave. It is the signal. The moon is high in the heavens. The soldiers catch the gleam of the flashing blades, and move up the bank and on toward the line of yellow earth. Cannon flash. Men go down, but the lines roll on, up to the bank of earth, over it. ‘Surrender!’ Six hundred and fifty throw down their muskets. The six cannon are seized, fifteen hundred muskets are captured, and four stands of colors. It is the work of three minutes”.

Perhaps these words contain some unintentional exaggeration as to the number of trophies of victory obtained by the two brigades. A careful and reliable historian of the achievements of the Ninth Corps thus modifies some of the above statements:

“They swept his lines for a mile, gathering up arms, flags, cannon and prisoners all along their victorious pathway. A stand of colors, four pieces of artillery with their caissons and horses, fifteen hundred stands of small arms, a quantity of ammunition, and six hundred prisoners were the fruits of this splendid charge”.\*

Whichever of these narratives may be more nearly correct, it is, at least, certain that the assault was eminently successful, and that a wide breach was

\* Woodbury — “Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps”, p. 411.



made in the lines of the enemy. And that he was forced out of his strong works by the bayonet alone. Many of his best troops surrendered without firing a single shot in their own defence. This dashing and victorious charge added a new and well-merited distinction to the already honorable and glorious record of our gallant Second brigade, and its brave commander. But while the commands of Griffin and of Curtin had so well discharged the important and perilous duty assigned to them, the full fruit of their bravery and devotion was not to be reaped by the Federal army. Most unfortunately, the gallant movement of the two brigades was not followed up with sufficient energy and celerity. The advantage which they had gained was not utilized as it should have been. General Potter's division had most nobly and successfully performed their part. General Griffin and the Second brigade had charged with energy and effect, and Colonel Curtin and the First brigade had assisted with the utmost promptness and vigor. But General Ledlie's division failed to reach the scene of action in season to render efficient support. Moving in the darkness, over fallen timber and manifold obstructions, the First division had only been able to advance very slowly. And they did not arrive in season to press in before the Confederates recovered from the shock of our unexpected charge.

When Ledlie's men finally made a junction with us, the golden moment of favorable opportunity was past, and the enemy had rallied from his temporary demoralization. It was then too late to do more than to secure our possession of the position we had won, which General Potter at once proceeded to do. Our pickets and skirmishers were pushed up close to the

new line upon which the Confederates had fallen back, and all possible dispositions were made to maintain the ground we had gained. While this was being done, sharp skirmishing was going on between the respective picket-lines, and the artillery of both sides was maintaining a steady fire. In the afternoon of the 17th, our division was relieved by the First and Third divisions of our corps, under command of Generals Ledlie and Willcox. As soon as this was effected, General Ledlie was ordered to make an advance.

Accordingly, the First division, covered by a rapid fire of artillery from our main lines, made a gallant and handsome charge, and after a short but bloody struggle, dislodged the enemy from a portion of his breastworks. Notwithstanding several attempts on the part of the Confederates to retake them, the captured works were firmly held by our troops during the afternoon. But at a late hour of the night of the 17th, however, another desperate assault was made, which proved more successful. Under cover of an extremely vigorous shelling from the Confederate batteries, two heavy columns of the enemy attacked simultaneously, the one directly in front, and the other upon the flank of the position. Aided by the darkness of the night, they succeeded in entering the captured works, and driving out the troops which occupied them. Only that part of the line of entrenchments which had been taken by General Ledlie's troops was lost, however, in this night struggle. The conquests made by our Second division, and Colonel Christ's brigade of the Third division, were still held in spite of the enemy's attempt to retake them. The men of General Willcox's and General Ledlie's

divisions had fought with great spirit and bravery, and had obtained some temporary advantages, at the cost of a terrible expenditure of blood. Yet nearly all the substantial and permanent success of the day rested with us of the Second division. And the most important triumph achieved during this day of assaults, lay in the victory we of the gallant Griffin's brigade had won in the early morning, with the assistance of our comrades of Curtin's command. We may well be proud of the record which the old brigade made on the 17th of June, and proud, too, to say that we bore our part therein.

Throughout the day, the principal weight of the contest fell almost wholly upon the Ninth Corps, the other portions of the army having been engaged only in skirmishing, without attempting to make any assault. The position of the enemy in the front of the Second Corps was deemed too strong to be attacked with any hope of success. And, except for the assistance rendered by General Barlow's division of that corps during our charge in the morning, Hancock's troops bore but little, comparatively, of the burden of the day. The Eighteenth Corps was relieved in part, during the day, and while two of its divisions remained on the extreme right, the rest of the corps returned to its old entrenchments at Bermuda Hundreds. General Crawford's division of the Fifth Corps had rendered efficient service in support of the movement made by General Ledlie, but the remainder of the corps had been comparatively inactive. The severe fighting had been done by the men of the Ninth Corps, which, as is said by one of its historians, "almost unassisted, had carried and now held the

most advanced position of our lines in front of Petersburg".\*

The loss had been very heavy, particularly in the First division of the corps, while the Third division, as well as our own, had also suffered severely, though perhaps not so greatly as the troops under General Ledlie's command. In the case of our own brigade, we did not suffer so much loss in the charge as might have been expected, though we were by no means without casualties. But the enemy were so completely taken by surprise, that they had no time to inflict very serious damage before they were thrown into disorder, broken and hurled back upon their inner line of defences.

Although, as has been said, the Thirty-Second Maine was upon the left of the first line in the attack, our loss was but one man killed, and seven wounded. Private Reuben Vining, Company I, was killed; Corporal Robert T. Smith, Company C, wounded in shoulder; Privates Charles F. True, Company C, in neck; Albans D. Roberts, Company F, in thigh; Lorin S. Tuttle, Company F, in shoulder; John Dixon, Company G, in ankle; John Loon, Company G, in arm; John Ervin, Company I, in shoulder. Roberts died from wound, at Armory Square Hospital, Washington, D. C., November 14th, and Tuttle was discharged on account of wound, May 19, 1865.

Although some repetition cannot be avoided, it seems desirable, before closing this chapter, to quote here, somewhat at length, from General Griffin's own statement as to the charge of the morning of the 17th of June. As the words of our loved and honored old commander, it is believed the statement will be read

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 411.

with much interest by the survivors of the Thirty-Second Maine. General Humphreys states that in a paper contributed to the Massachusetts Historical Society, General Griffin says that General Potter entrusted him with the charge of the assault, assigning Curtin's brigade to his support. He quotes General Griffin as saying:

"I then spent the entire night in moving my troops through the felled timber, getting them in proper position, and preparing for the attack. I placed my brigade on the left of the Second Corps, in a ravine immediately in front of the Shand house, which the enemy held, and within one hundred yards of their lines, with Curtin on my left and a little further to the rear on account of the conformation of the ground. We were so near the enemy that all our movements had to be made with the utmost care and caution; canteens were placed in knapsacks to prevent rattling, and all commands were given in whispers. I formed my brigade in two lines. \* \* \* \* Colonel Curtin formed his in the same way. \* \* \* \* My orders were not to fire a shot, but to depend wholly on the bayonet in carrying the lines.

"Just as the dawn began to light up the east, I gave the command 'Forward'. It was passed along the lines in whispers, the men sprang to their feet, and both brigades moved forward at once in well-formed lines, sweeping directly over the enemy's works, taking them completely by surprise, and carrying all before us. One gunner saw us approaching, and fired his piece. That was all we heard from them, and almost the only shot fired on either side. The rebels were asleep with their arms in their hands, and many of them sprang up and ran away as

we came over. Others surrendered without resistance.

“We swept their line for a mile from where my right rested, gathering in prisoners and abandoned arms and equipments all the way. Four pieces of artillery, with caissons and horses, a stand of colors, six hundred prisoners, fifteen hundred stand of arms, and some ammunition fell into our hands”.\*

Such is the language in which the modest and gallant soldier who led us to victory recorded his own and our achievement in that memorable charge. It may be also of interest to add here the entry made in Adjutant Hayes' diary relative to this exploit. Under date of June 17th he writes:

“Yesterday afternoon we were ordered into the breastworks. About four P. M. we advanced to another line. Barlow's division of the Second Corps made a charge, and for the first time, were repulsed. Last night we made another advance into our old place, the front line. \* \* \* \* At three o'clock this morning, we made a charge; drove the rascals; took two field pieces, two hundred prisoners, one colonel, one battle flag and a large amount of small arms. Our loss is slight yet. We are now lying under a hill; about two hundred yards in front is another rebel work, and they are firing shot and shell over us, but cannot hurt us”.

\* Humphreys — “Virginia Campaign”, foot note, p. 217.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### BREVET MAJOR-GENERAL SIMON G. GRIFFIN.

Simon Goodell Griffin was born in Nelson, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, on August 9, 1824. He was descended from a sturdy New England ancestry, among whom many had been prominent in the communities in which they lived. His grandfather, Samuel Griffin, and his mother's father, Nehemiah Wright, were both soldiers of the Revolution, and had fought at Bunker Hill.

Born and reared in a small country town, his advantages for obtaining an education were somewhat limited, and he was not a graduate of any college or academic school. But in spite of difficulties, he pursued his studies almost unaided, and fitted himself for the legal profession. At the breaking out of the war, he had been admitted to the bar, and had entered upon the practice of the law in Concord.

At the first call of President Lincoln for troops, he left his practice, and enlisted as a private in a company then forming in Concord, known as the Goodwin Rifles. At its organization, he was elected captain of this company, which was assigned to the Second New Hampshire regiment, and went to the front in season to participate in the first battle of Bull Run, in July, 1861.

In the autumn of 1861, Captain Griffin was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth New Hampshire Volunteers, and not long after, upon the resignation of its Colonel, he succeeded to the command of the regiment. Having been selected as a part of the forces constituting the Burnside Expedition to North Carolina, the Sixth New Hampshire took part in the campaign conducted in that State.

An appreciative and well-merited tribute to the memory of General Griffin, by General Thos. Sherwin, from which we

are permitted to quote, contains the following allusion to this period of his military life.

“A part of General Griffin’s military service,” writes General Sherwin, “which he recalled with especial satisfaction was the work, while his regiment lay at Roanoke Island, of bringing it to a condition of thorough discipline, drill and efficiency. Composed as it was of young men of the best New England type, it was, like most volunteer regiments at that date, unskilled in the care and use of arms, and untrained for the work which lay before it. Colonel Griffin entered earnestly upon the task of bringing his command into a condition of thorough efficiency. Schools for commissioned and non-commissioned officers were established, squad, company and battalion drills were held, and incentive offered to the men to keep their arms, uniforms, and equipments in good order. . . . Merited promotions were made, and a few weeks later, at the battle of Camden, the regiment, by its splendid conduct, gained the reputation which it never afterward forfeited, for steadiness and discipline under fire, soldierly bearing and efficiency, second to none in the Corps.”

During the year 1862, Colonel Griffin and the Sixth New Hampshire took part in the battles of Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, the regiment being one of those composing General Reno’s division of the Ninth Corps. At the Second Bull Run, the Sixth lost heavily, one hundred and eighty men having been killed or wounded, out of the four hundred and fifty taken into action. Three color bearers in succession had been shot, and the regiment was almost surrounded by the enemy, and being forced to withdraw the command, Colonel Griffin himself brought the colors off.

The Ninth Corps went west in 1863, and Colonel Griffin was placed in command of the First brigade, Second division of the Ninth Corps, and served in that capacity through the



Vicksburg campaign. After the surrender of Vicksburg, he was appointed to superintend the re-enlistment of New Hampshire men in the departments of Virginia and North Carolina.

In the spring of 1864, he was assigned to the command of the Second brigade of his division, in which his own old regiment was included, together with two others from New Hampshire, — the Ninth and Eleventh, — the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Maine, Seventeenth Vermont, and Second Maryland, numbering in all only about twenty-seven hundred men. With this brigade he participated in the Wilderness campaign, and all the operations of the Army of the Potomac until Lee surrendered at Appomattox. At various times, other regiments were added to the original brigade, and its aggregate number of casualties, from the Wilderness to Appomattox, were some three thousand, or several hundred more than its total strength at the beginning of the campaign.

At the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, May 12, 1864, Griffin's brigade met an attack directed against the flank of the Second Corps, at a critical moment, and assisted Hancock to hold his position. And in recognition of his gallant conduct and distinguished service in this action, Griffin was commissioned as Brigadier-General of Volunteers, with rank from May 12th, 1864.

From this time until the close of hostilities, General Griffin was constantly called upon to render service of the most arduous character, and most gallantly did he and the men of the Second brigade respond.

In the preliminary movements about Petersburg, before the beginning of the siege, one of the most brilliant and prominent affairs was the charge of Griffin's brigade at the Shand house, at dawn on the 17th of June. Formed in two lines, with Curtin's brigade in support, Griffin stole in silence up the ravine, in the darkness of night, and just at day-break,

hurled himself upon the unsuspecting Confederates. Taken by surprise, they were completely overwhelmed, and he swept along their line for a mile, capturing guns, colors and prisoners, almost without resistance.

At the Mine Explosion, July 30th, it was Griffin's brigade which pushed for two hundred yards beyond the yawning crater, and fell back only when, broken and entangled amid the net-work of traverses and covered ways, it encountered a severe fire from infantry and artillery on front and flank.

And, in the final battle before Petersburg, on April 2, 1865, General Griffin's brigade sustained an important part in the assault on the enemy's lines. Without firing a shot, the men of the Second brigade advanced, tore away the abattis, and drove the Confederates from their works with the bayonet, turning upon them the captured cannon. In this action, General Potter, the division commander, was wounded, and General Griffin assumed the command, which he continued to hold to the close of the war. For distinguished services on this day, he was commissioned Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, and was the only volunteer officer from New Hampshire who bore the rank of full Brigadier and Brevet Major-General, during the war.

During his service, General Griffin took part in twenty-two battles, and in numerous minor engagements. He had two horses killed, and five wounded under him. And from first to last, whenever his men were ordered to go under fire, he went with them. Yet he never received a wound, and was never absent from his command on account of illness.

At the close of the war, he was mustered out, and returned to the pursuits of civil life. He was tendered a commission as Major in the regular army, but declined to accept it.

He had been married in January, 1863, to Miss Margaret R. Lamson, of Keene, N. H., and at his discharge from ser-

vice, Keene became his home. He was engaged for a time in manufacturing, and later was interested in the development of lands in Texas.

The welfare of the city in which he lived, was always a subject of warm interest to him, and he served as a member of the Board of Education, was a Trustee of the City Hospital, and President of the Humane Society, and for a quarter of a century was Warden of his church. He also represented the city in the Legislature, serving two terms as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

His character was always marked by firmness and courage of conviction, and uncompromising integrity of thought and act, but not less conspicuous traits were his unvarying gentleness, genuine kindness and unfailing courtesy. He was of scholarly tastes and broad learning, and possessed marked literary ability.

His death occurred at his home in Keene, on January 14, 1902, a widow and two sons surviving him. But he will long be held in remembrance as a gallant and distinguished soldier, and a patriotic and upright citizen, and by none will his memory be held in higher esteem than by the survivors of his old brigade.

## CHAPTER XVII.

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MOVEMENTS OF THE SECOND AND FIFTH CORPS. — THE  
NORFOLK RAILROAD. — ARRIVAL OF THE COLORED  
TROOPS. — THE BEGINNING OF THE SIEGE. —  
THE WELDON RAILROAD. — LIST OF  
CASUALTIES. — THE MONTHLY  
RETURN FOR JUNE.

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On the morning of Saturday, the 18th of June, the Federal forces which lay before Petersburg were in the following order, from right to left: the two divisions of the Eighteenth Corps, which had not yet returned to their old position at Bermuda Hundreds, formed the extreme right of the line. These two divisions were under the command of General Martindale, and General Hinks, respectively. Next them, upon the right center, lay the Sixth Corps, while the Second Corps occupied the center, General Wright and General Birney being the respective commanders. The Ninth Corps, temporarily commanded by General Parke, formed the left center, and the Fifth Corps, under General Warren, was upon the extreme left.

It had been the intention of the Federal leaders that a general assault should be made at four o'clock on Saturday morning. But while the preliminary arrangements for the advance were being executed,

the discovery was made by the skirmishers who were sent out, that the enemy had changed his position. The line of works immediately in the Federal front had been abandoned, and the Confederates had fallen back upon an interior line of defences. This movement rendered new dispositions necessary upon the part of the Federal troops, before they could advance to the assault. Delay was therefore required until the new combinations had been effected. Meanwhile the defensive line occupied by the enemy was carefully reconnoitred, to determine its location, and detect if possible, some weaker point upon which an effective blow might be delivered. Brisk skirmishing and a constant artillery fire was kept up while this was being done. Thus the hours of the forenoon wore slowly away without any decisive action, but with a continuous rattle of small arms, and roar of cannon all along our front.

About noon, the three corps upon the left and center of the Union line, — the Fifth, Ninth and Second, — were ordered to make a general advance at once. A large proportion of the severe fighting which ensued fell to the share of the Ninth Corps, although the Fifth and Second were by no means backward, as will be seen by the following brief sketch of their respective part in the action. The Fifth Corps made a vigorous and determined movement directed against the Norfolk railroad, but was unsuccessful in the accomplishment of its main object. The ground in front of this part of the line was generally of an open character, but obstructed here and there both by abattis, and as well by natural undergrowth. This placed the assaulting columns at a considerable disadvantage, the enemy being well protected by strong

works, and able to concentrate a severe fire upon the men of Griffin's and Crawford's divisions, as they advanced. And in spite of the vigor of the assault, the Confederates maintained their position.

In the Second Corps, Gibbon's division moved promptly against the works in its front, near the railroad to City Point. Three brigades formed the assaulting column, which, as soon as it emerged from the cover of its entrenchments, was assailed by a severe enfilading fire from the left. The ranks were swept by the incessant volleys, and men fell at every step. Still the column pressed desperately forward through the storm of fire, for a time. But before the entrenchments of the enemy were reached, the men were compelled to retire, and the shattered brigades fell back, leaving many of their number upon the field. And, notwithstanding the gallant effort to dislodge them, the Confederates still held their ground, having repulsed the attack with comparatively slight loss to themselves.

Meanwhile, during the time these events were transpiring upon the right and left of us, we in the Ninth Corps were by no means idle. The division commanded by General Willcox, together with Colonel Curtin's—First—brigade of our own division, was selected to form the assaulting column, Ledlie's division being held in reserve. The troops, with Hartranft's brigade in the advance, moved forward into the space between the Second and Fifth Corps. The objective point toward which their efforts were directed was the Norfolk railroad, which, at this place, passed through a deep ravine, or artificial cutting. Before reaching the railroad, the column must penetrate a piece of woods, in which the enemy

were posted in force. Although resisting stubbornly, the Confederates were slowly pushed back to the railroad. Here there was some sharp fighting, and musketry firing became extremely heavy and destructive, but the enemy was finally dislodged from a portion of the ravine.

The task was one of great difficulty, however, as the cut was from fifteen to twenty feet in depth, with steep sides, in which the men were obliged to make steps and holes in order to climb up on the bank. The division entrenched itself in this position, tearing up the rails, sleepers and ties of the railroad track to afford themselves material for fortifying their front, and held the ground they had so gallantly won. Later in the afternoon, General Willcox made a further advance, and gained still more ground in his immediate front. The enemy was pressed back, and the Third division established itself well across the railroad, but only at the expense of severe losses. For a time the Confederates slowly retired as Willcox's men advanced across the rough and broken ground. Finally, however, a heavy artillery fire upon the flank of the division checked its further progress, and, as night came on, the assault in this part of the line ceased, without having penetrated the main line of the enemy. Our men, however, entrenched themselves within a hundred and twenty-five yards of the enemy's salient, and succeeded in maintaining this position. The ground thus gained by the Third division was afterwards strongly fortified, and securely held, and formed the salient of the Federal lines during the entire subsequent siege.

Although the principal weight of these fierce encounters had fallen upon the Third division and the

First brigade of our own division. it was by no means wholly confined to them. Our own brigade, although only acting as a support to the column of assault, suffered some loss through the day, and as will appear from the following list, several casualties fell to the share of the Thirty-Second Maine. The losses reported were as follows:

Privates Daniel Bennett and John W. Brown, both of Company F, killed; Corporal Joseph W. Bartlett, Company A, wounded in knee; Corporal Freeman H. M. Shackley, Company B, in leg; Privates James F. Tarbox, Company D, in finger; Charles Morse, Company D, in leg; Corporal Samuel W. Hackett, Company H, in hand; Privates Daniel Constantine, Company H, in arm and side; Nathaniel Brook, Company H, in head; and William Berry, Company H, in leg, making an aggregate of ten enlisted men killed, or disabled more or less seriously. Of these, Corporal Shackley suffered amputation, was sent home to Maine, and died at Norway, April 12, 1865; Morse also suffered amputation, and died at Annapolis, Md., June 25, 1864; Constantine was discharged November 5th, on account of wounds; and Berry was discharged on January 3, 1865, for the same cause.

So that we may fairly claim to share in the commendation which General Burnside, in his official report, bestowed upon the Second and Third divisions. The words employed in the report are that "no better fighting has been done during the war than was done by the divisions of Generals Potter and Willcox during this attack".

Yet, determined as the assault had been, and severe as were the losses experienced by the Federal army, little or nothing of real value had been won.



In every part of the long line, the enemy substantially held their own, and nowhere had their main line of fortifications been penetrated. Strongly entrenched upon an interior line, a mile nearer the city of Petersburg than were the works they had abandoned on the night of the 17th, they had been able to successfully resist all attempts to dislodge them. Our furious attacks had accomplished little more than the terrible depletion of our own storming columns. In the series of operations covering the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th of June, it has been estimated that the Federal losses, in killed, wounded and missing, would not fall far short of ten thousand men. Four days of severe fighting, and repeated assaults upon practically impregnable fortifications, while not successful in its purpose of driving the enemy from his position, had cost us dearly, and it began to be apparent that Petersburg could only be reduced by the process of a regular siege.

No movements of importance were made by the Union army during Sunday and Monday, June 19th and 20th, but entrenching was industriously carried on. In the Ninth Corps, especially, during these two days, and those immediately following, much hard labor of this character was performed. The line in the neighborhood of General Willcox's exploit at the Norfolk railroad was strongly entrenched, and strengthened by traverses, abattis and covered ways, and the salient, which had been held as an entrenched skirmish line, at first, was by degrees so strengthened as to make it a part of the main line. On the 19th, the Fourth—or colored—division of the Ninth Corps, which had been in the rear, and separated from the remainder of the corps, since the 6th of May, came up to the trenches, and took its place in the line.

General Ferrero and his men had hitherto had but little participation in the series of bloody contests in which their white comrades had been engaged since crossing the Rapidan. Most of the time since they were detached, they had been employed in guarding the immense trains of the army, and had seen little or no real fighting. They were, henceforward, destined to bear their full proportion of exposure to the dangers and sufferings incident to a soldier's life, however, and it will be seen hereafter how well they acquitted themselves. One marked feature of their presence in the trenches was the especial hatred and spitefulness manifested by the enemy, not only towards the negroes themselves, but as well to the white soldiers of the corps to which they belonged. In the progress of the siege, somewhat friendly and amicable arrangements came to be made between the outposts of the two armies in portions of the line, but this was never the case in the Ninth Corps. For instance, while upon our left, in front of the Fifth Corps, there was an almost entire cessation of picket firing, by mutual agreement between the men, it was constantly kept up in front of the Ninth. Skirmishing was continually going on between the opposing picket-lines, and the firing became almost incessant. General Potter's report states that while our division occupied the front lines, his losses averaged "some fourteen or fifteen officers and men killed and wounded per diem".

The men soon learned to take all possible precautions to shield themselves from the merciless fire that assailed them on the slightest exposure. Bomb-proofs of logs and earth, winding covered ways, and many similar expedients were resorted to, in order to secure

shelter. But in spite of all, the watchful sharpshooters often found a target for their fatal missiles, as an incautious movement exposed some poor fellow to their aim. Meanwhile, from every spot where a battery could be planted, artillery and mortars kept up an almost constant thunder, from both sides. In the midst of all this, the investment went on steadily, and the various operations pertaining to a siege were carried forward. The axe and the spade were substituted for the musket, and the men who had been fighting so persistently, now went to digging as vigorously. Earthworks of various sizes were rapidly built, and armed with field-pieces, siege-guns and mortars. On the line of the Ninth Corps there were erected two batteries of two guns each, one of four, one of six, two of eight each, and one in the center mounting fourteen guns, making an aggregate of forty-four pieces of artillery. Beside these there were three mortar batteries at different points along the line of our front. Of course, the completion of these various works occupied many weeks, though for convenience sake, mention has been made of them here.

To return to the narrative of our daily experiences at the beginning of the siege, on Tuesday, June 21st, active movements were again begun, looking to the seizure of the Weldon railroad, and the interruption of the enemy's communications to the southward. During Monday night the Second Corps moved from the center of the line to the left, and the Ninth Corps was extended to fill the gap thus made. During Tuesday, which was an intensely hot day, the Second Corps marched rapidly toward the railroad, and in the afternoon came in contact with the enemy. Severe skirmishing followed, but nothing of importance was

accomplished. On Wednesday, the 22nd, the movement was resumed, portions of the Fifth and Sixth Corps co-operating with the Second, but in the action which ensued, an unfortunate gap in the lines was taken advantage of by the Confederates. The brigade of General Mahone led the advance of an entire rebel division upon the exposed left flank of General Barlow's division of the Second Corps. They carried everything before them in the impetuosity of their charge, and broke in succession through the lines of Barlow, Mott and Gibbons, capturing in some cases almost entire regiments. The number of killed and wounded in this affair was not much over five hundred, but at least two thousand prisoners were taken by the enemy, including some fifty or sixty officers. Four guns also fell into the hands of the Confederates, together with several colors, and on the whole, the affair proved to be a disastrous one. Later in the day, the Second and Sixth Corps were again sent forward, and towards evening, succeeded in regaining some portion of the ground they had passed over earlier. While these events were transpiring, the day passed with us in the Ninth Corps without especial incident. But after dark, the enemy opened upon our position a very sharp and heavy fire of musketry and artillery, which was answered on our part by an equally vigorous firing. This continued until late in the night, but gradually died away into sullen and irregular firing between the opposing pickets.

During Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the 23rd, 24th, and 25th of June, nothing of particular importance took place along the line of the Ninth Corps, though in some other parts of the army, there were

some sharp encounters, the Sixth Corps having an engagement on the 23rd with Confederates under General Anderson. And on the next day a brigade of the enemy attacked General Stannard's division of the Tenth Corps, but was easily repulsed. But with us, there was nothing more serious than the usual incessant skirmishing and picket-firing, with occasional outbursts of artillery-shelling. The three days were busily employed by us in strengthening our position, and adding to the defensive capabilities of our works. At about ten o'clock Saturday night, June 25th, however, there was a sudden outbreak of heavy artillery firing, directed against the left of our corps line, and the right of the Fifth Corps. After continuing for nearly or quite an hour, the firing was followed by the advance of a strong skirmish-line of the enemy to within a short distance of our breastworks. The skirmishers were, however, easily driven back without serious loss on either side, and no further attempt was made upon our position during the night, or the days immediately following.

From Sunday, June 26th, to Wednesday, June 29th, the time passed in comparative quiet, though there were frequent outbreaks of firing along the picket lines, and more or less heavy cannonading. The men labored hard, and with but little cessation, in the erection of new works and the strengthening of those already constructed. The massive entrenchments along the Union front received such constant improvements as to rapidly become almost perfectly impregnable. New and very heavy siege-guns were mounted in various parts of the line, and the bombardment of the city of Petersburg begun, with considerable effect, a thirty pound Parrott shell being

thrown from the front of the Eighteenth Corps, every five minutes, during the morning of the 27th. This brought on a severe artillery contest about noon of that day, the enemy opening with their heavy guns, upon General Smith's position, to which he replied by shelling the city from all the batteries in his front.

On the 28th, General Smith continued to bombard the city at intervals, bursting a shell over it every fifteen minutes during the night. During the 29th, our First division participated in a somewhat lively affair, a severe artillery and musketry fire being directed against their front for a time, but with no very serious results. General Ledlie had been engaged in erecting an earth-work for a battery of siege-guns at the front of his position, and against this the enemy suddenly opened a fierce fire, which they kept up with much vigor for some time, but which failed to accomplish anything of consequence. Thursday, the 30th of June, was not a particularly eventful day in any portion of the Federal lines, though the Eighteenth Corps made an unsuccessful demonstration against the works in its front. During the night, however, the fire of General Smith's heavy guns caused a considerable conflagration in Petersburg, and the glare of the flames upon the sky was plainly visible from our lines.

Up to this time the weather had been intensely hot for many days and nights, and the excessive heat had been very trying to the wounded, and had occasioned much suffering. The soil was of a light and sandy nature, and in the long-continued heat, and drought, had become so devoid of moisture as to be easily reduced to powder by the passage of wagons and animals. The dust lay deep in the roads, and

hung in clouds in the air, wherever columns of men, or trains of wagons were in motion. And even to those in health, the discomfort of the heat and the annoyance of the stifling dust had become almost intolerable. But about the end of June, the weather became somewhat cooler, and though there was as yet no rain, the decrease in temperature was gladly welcomed by the men, who were almost worn out by the continued hard labor in the terrible heat. Thus we have sketched the early days of the siege, and before going on to speak of the events of subsequent occurrence during its continuance, it seems desirable to mention the losses sustained in our regiment up to this time. The casualties occurring in the regiment during the twelve days from June 18th to June 30th were quite numerous, and were distributed among the several companies as shown in the following list:

Field and staff:—Lieutenant-Colonel John Marshall Brown, wounded June 19th in left arm and side, severely; resigned on account of wounds, on September 12, 1864.

Company A, Sergeant Frank E. Lowry, wounded in foot; Private John Bickford, in thigh, June 21st; Private Charles E. Stevens, in head, June 22nd.

Company B, Private Wesley McAllister, killed June 20th.

Company C, Privates Henry A. Hussey, killed June 20th; Edward H. Shaw, wounded in shoulder; and John McGee, in shoulder, June 24th.

Company D, Private Augustus Smith, wounded in head; and Luther M. Smith, wounded, June 29th.

Company E, Privates Amos H. Reed, wounded in head and shoulder, June 19th; Isaac Foote, in arm, June 25th.

Company G. Privates Charles E. Nelson, wounded in head, June 21st; Anthony O'Neil, in left arm; and Almon L. Brookings, in shoulder, June 25th.

Company H. Privates Abner C. Gill, in head, mortally, June 21st; Michael Hynes, June 21st; Ezra Cousins, in arm and side, June 25th.

Company I. Privates Frank Grant, killed June 20th; William Swift, wounded in breast, mortally, June 21st; Edward J. Hare, in waist, June 24th; Allen T. Crowell, in shoulder, June 24th; J. J. Wiseman, in shoulder, June 28th.

Company K. Privates Edward Jones, wounded in left arm, June 19th; James B. Richardson, in foot; and William Goodrich, in foot, June 21st; Sergeant Hiram Hodgdon, in arm; and Private Horatio N. Brown, in right thigh, June 25th.

The aggregate loss was one commissioned officer, wounded; three enlisted men killed; and twenty-four enlisted men wounded, making a total of twenty-eight. So far as it has been possible to ascertain, the proportion of fatalities among the wounded was very large. Reed died from wounds on June 27th, Gill died on June 22nd, and Goodrich on September 1st. Swift was reported as mortally wounded, but the date of his death is unknown. Hare died June 29th, Shaw on July 11th, and McGee July 16th. Brookings died while on board the steamer "Baltic", on the way North, but the records do not show the date of death. Cousins died June 28th, and Brown on June 30th, and it is possible there may have been others of those wounded who died in consequence of their injuries, but whose deaths are unreported.

The Monthly Report for June shows the following to have been the condition of the regiment at the close of the month, viz: —



Officers present for duty,	11	Officers absent, detached duty,	2
“ “ “ extra duty,	2	“ “ with leave,	2
“ “ sick,	4	“ “ sick,	10
Enlisted men present for duty,	286	Enlisted men “ detached duty,	26
“ “ “ extra “	22	“ “ “ with leave,	5
“ “ “ sick,	58	“ “ “ sick,	309
Died in action or of wounds,	20		
“ of disease,	6	Total Commissioned,	32
Wounded in action,	59	“ Enlisted,	765
		Aggregate,	797

Date — Not shown: Rec'd Adj't. Gen'l Office, July 20, 1864.

None of the field officers of the regiment were present with it at the end of June. Colonel Wentworth was sick, and had been sent to Maine, on June 25th: Lieutenant-Colonel Brown had been wounded, as previously stated, on June 19th, and Major Deering was sick at the Division Hospital. Of the line officers, Captain Bryant was sick in the hospital at City Point. Captain Fall had been absent in hospital till June 24th. Captain Noyes had been in command of the regiment from June 19th to June 27th. Captain Ham had been killed at Cold Harbor, June 3rd, and Captain Kyes was in hospital at Annapolis, on account of his wound received on that day. Captain Chadwell had been absent, sick, since May 26th, and Captains Hussey and Burbank were present, sick. Captain Sargent had been in hospital from May 25th to June 24th, on account of injury received in the battle on May 18th, and since his return had been in command of the regiment. Lieutenants Hammond and Rounds were absent on account of wounds, as was also Lieutenant Keyes: Lieutenants Colby and Perkins were dead, the former from disease, and the latter from wounds. Lieutenant Gurney had been killed in action May 12th. Lieutenant Chase had been absent, sick, since May 7th. Lieutenant Bearce was at City

Point. Lieutenant Currier was sick in Division Hospital, Lieutenant Mitchell was in hospital at Annapolis, and Lieutenant Whitten was present, sick. so that out of the entire number of commissioned officers, barely one-third were present for duty. And of the enlisted men, it will be seen that even if those "present, sick" are included, less than one-half of the whole number on the rolls were with the colors.

As a further illustration of the severe losses which had been sustained, a brief quotation from another letter written by sergeant Hilling of Company G to one of the Bath papers is here inserted. Under date of June 20th, he says:

"When we left Augusta, we had eighty-five men in our company; we now number thirty-eight from Bath". After mentioning by name eleven men as killed, wounded, or sick in hospital, he goes on to say. "The rest are sick, or left out of the ranks on the march, and have not yet rejoined the regiment".

In much the same spirit Adjutant Hayes wrote in his diary on June 20th. "Two months ago to-day the first battalion left Augusta, and what changes since! On May 6th we had thirty-nine commissioned officers for duty, and about eight hundred and fifty men. This morning I report eleven officers for duty, and two hundred and seventy-five men, armed".

As a conclusion to this chapter, the following extracts from a letter written by sergeant John L. Ham, of Company D, will be of interest, as showing the losses sustained in that company. The letter is dated "Before Petersburg, Va., July 5th, 1864", and after some preliminary sentences, goes on to say:

"We have had seventeen men wounded, and nine killed. The Captain was killed June 3rd, at the

battle of Cold Harbor, or Green Oaks. Corporal Henry B. Rose, of Livermore, was killed June 1st, while on picket. Private George A. Cole, of Lisbon, was killed May 12th, at the battle of Spottsylvania. Maynard G. Davis, of Lewiston, was killed May 12th. George A. Hodgdon, of Lewiston, was wounded at the same place, and died June 12th, I think. Benjamin B. Larrabee, of Lewiston, was killed at the battle of Cold Harbor, June 3rd. Sewall G. Darling, of Lewiston, was wounded May 12th, and died May 26th. Albert Small, of Lewiston or Lisbon, — am not certain which, — was wounded May 12th, and died May 14th. Hiram S. Tibbitts was wounded May 18th, and died the same day, I think. Lieutenant C. B. Rounds, wounded in the arm, May 12th; sergeant Arnold, wounded in the leg, May 18th; corporal William H. Nevens, in the shoulder, June 3rd; corporal Frederick H. Nevens, wounded in the knee, May 12th; corporal Roger A. Foss, wounded in the head, May 12th, and we hear that he is at home in Maine. John M. Abbott, wounded in the arm, I think, May 12th, and at home in Jay, Me. Charles S. Dyer, of Chesterfield, wounded May 18th, in the head and mouth. Daniel Y. Harlow, wounded May 12th, now at home in Turner, Me. John Joyce, wounded May 12th, in the hand. Timothy Kennedy, wounded June 3rd, in the finger, while helping to carry the captain off from the battle field. William Lewis, reported wounded; Michael McCarthy, wounded in the finger, June 3rd; Albion K. P. Marston, wounded June 6th, near Cold Harbor, Va., while on picket, in the left arm. Elias A. Morse, wounded June 17th, near Petersburg; Charles Morse,<sup>¶</sup> wounded June 9th, near Cold Harbor, — both of Livermore:—

Augustus Smith, wounded June 21st. in the head. —from Lisbon. —and Charles E. Thompson, wounded May 18th.

“We have about twenty-five men sick in the different hospitals in the United States. Alvah” (referring to Alvah N. Ham, “went to the hospital sick with the diarrhœa June 29th. I have not heard from him since, and it is impossible for me to go and see him. I expect that he is at City Point. Alvah is not tough enough for this work: any one has got to be made of iron. We have three men that have been missing for some time. They are corporal Walter S. Hodges, Leonard G. Dingley, and Henry M. Lord, all of Lewiston. Warren C. Knowles of New Portland, we have heard, was in hospital in Rhode Island.

“I will now give you our Roll of Honor, or the number of men that we have for duty to-day:—First sergeant John M. Jackson, who has command of the company: fourth sergeant John L. Ham, acting first sergeant: fifth sergeant Charles E. Cole: corporal William H. Mace, privates Lora H. Collins, Charles F. Cummings, Charles H. Goodwin, cook, Hebron Norton, Joseph C. Norris, Luther N. Smith, Francis E. Salsbury, Hiram R. Thompson, Andrew J. Bryant, and Solomon Anderson”.





MILTON H. STEVENS.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### MILTON H. STEVENS.

Milton H. Stevens was born at Springvale, York County, Maine, on June 12, 1845. He enlisted in Co. F, Thirty-Second Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, at Kittery, Me., on February 29, 1864, being then a few months more than eighteen years of age. He left Maine for the front, with the first six companies, on April 20, 1864. And from that time up to nearly the end of July, he participated with them in all the severe service which they encountered. During the time, he was never obliged to report at sick-call, and passed through the several battles in which the command was engaged, without receiving any wound. At the battle of Cold Harbor, on June 3rd, he narrowly escaped injury, however, as one bullet passed through the top of his cap, and another cut a lock of hair from over his left ear, while a third passed through his blouse, under the left arm. None of these missiles inflicted any wound, although they came unpleasantly close. During the latter part of July, 1864, he was detailed for duty at brigade headquarters, in the commissary department.

At the consolidation of the two regiments, on December 12, 1864, he was transferred to Co. F., Thirty-First Maine, and continued in the service until the war ended. Although detailed at brigade headquarters, he was constantly near and with the regiment, and was in the ranks at Burkeville Junction, when Lee surrendered, on April 9, 1865. Soon after the surrender, the brigade came back to Alexandria, Va., and went into camp there. At this time comrade Stevens was filling the position of Issuing Clerk of the Brigade Commissary of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps. Late in May, 1865, he also assumed the duties of Sales Clerk

and Receiving Clerk, in addition to those of his former position. This was owing to the fact that the time of the men performing those duties had expired, and they had been mustered out. In June, 1865, comrade Stevens came home on a furlough of nineteen days, returning to duty about July 1st. And this period of nineteen days was the only interval during his service when he was not in close touch with the regiment. He had suffered from a very severe attack of jaundice and stomach trouble, in July and August, 1864, after his being detailed into the commissary department, but had refused to go to the hospital. Soon after his return from furlough, he was mustered out, on July 15, 1865, near Alexandria, Va., by reason of general orders from the War Department, and returned to Maine with the regiment, and was with it until it finally disbanded at Bangor, Me.

Comrade Stevens has resided in Waltham, Mass., since 1870, and for the past seventeen years has been overseer of a department in the factory of the American Watch Co. He is married, and has four children, the eldest being 24, and the youngest 10. In spite of the fact that the disease incurred in 1864 has been his constant attendant ever since, with varying degrees of severity, comrade Stevens has led a strenuous and active life. He has been closely identified with the affairs of his adopted city for many years, having served two years as Alderman, three years as member of the Board of Education, three years as Park Commissioner, and four years as member of the Board of Health. He has long been connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, having been a member of the order since 1867. He has been six times Commander of his Post, has held various offices in the Department of Massachusetts, and served as aide-de-camp on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief in 1900 and 1901.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

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IN FRONT OF PETERSBURG IN JULY. — CONFEDERATE  
ATTACK UPON THE FIRST DIVISION. — MORTAR BAT-  
TERIES AND SIEGE-GUNS IN OPERATION. — THE  
SECOND CORPS NORTH OF THE JAMES. — ITS  
RETURN TO THE TRENCHES. — LIST OF  
CASUALTIES.

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On Friday, the 1st day of July, there was no event of importance in the lines of the Union army before Petersburg, during the long hours of daylight. The usual monotonous employments of the siege proceeded in comparative quietness, which was broken only by occasional picket-firing, and the ordinary amount of cannonading. Allusion has already been made to the especial hatred which the Confederates appeared to entertain toward the Ninth Corps because of the presence of a division of negro troops in its line. This animosity by no means lessened in intensity as time passed, and however little firing there might be in other portions of the front, along the line of our corps the skirmishing between the pickets was almost incessant, at all times.

On the night of July 1st, however, at about ten o'clock, a much heavier musketry fire than usual suddenly broke out from the enemy in our front, and rapidly grew in volume. Presently the wild yells of

a charging column rose upon the night air, and a Confederate force dashed upon the lines of our First division. Mention has been made of the attack on the 29th of June, made against an earth-work which General Ledlie was engaged in erecting. This same work was the objective point against which this night-assault was directed. Being intended for the reception of heavy siege-guns, the enemy had viewed its construction with much misgiving, and had used every means in their power to annoy the working-parties engaged upon it. Their sharpshooters had kept up an almost constant fire upon the men employed in erecting it, and many of the First division had been killed or wounded while laboring for its completion. Several times previously, the enemy had opened a severe artillery fire upon the unfinished work, and subjected it to a vigorous shelling. In spite of all their efforts, however, the work had gone on, and although the guns had not yet been put in position, it was nearly completed.

The enemy, therefore, determined to make one last attempt to wrest it from the Federal hands by a sudden desperate assault. Flanking batteries, however, commanded the position, and after a severe but brief contest the attempt was relinquished, and the Confederates were driven back to their works, having sustained a considerable loss. They were somewhat unwilling to abandon the struggle, and though no further charge was attempted, a considerably heavy fire was kept up nearly all through the night. The next day, Saturday, July 2nd, was comparatively quiet, all along the lines, and about the only incident of note was a sharp artillery fire opened by the enemy about three o'clock in the afternoon upon the line of

the Eighteenth Corps. To this the batteries in General Smith's front vigorously responded, and a brisk artillery duel was kept up for about two hours, but without any result of importance. Sunday, July 3rd, was another day unmarked by the occurrence of any event of general consequence, though there was the usual amount of musketry and artillery firing.

The next day, Monday, July 4th, being the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, appropriate notice was taken by the Union troops, the military bands playing National melodies, at various points in the line. One especial feature of the observance of the day was the firing of a National salute of thirty-four shots from a thirty-pound Parrott gun from General Smith's front. This was followed by a general opening of the artillery along the line, and for a while, a brisk fire of shells was kept up, with the spires of the city as targets.

Tuesday and Wednesday, the 5th and 6th of July, were uneventful days, and except for the skirmishing which was a regular accompaniment of every day, there was little to mark them as being spent in the face of the enemy. Upon the next day, however, July 7th, a battery of heavy guns in front of the Fifth Corps opened fire on a working party of the enemy who were erecting new fortifications. The artillery of the Confederates replied, and a general cannonading was brought on. The sharpshooters on both sides joined in, and for a while there was a pretty lively artillery and musketry fire, which gradually died away without any especial effect.

On Friday morning, the 8th, before daybreak, the enemy began a fusillade, without apparent cause, which did not, however, continue very long. The

day passed in comparative quiet until about four o'clock in the afternoon, when the Confederates suddenly fired a heavy volley against the left of the Eighteenth Corps, and with their customary yell, advanced rapidly upon the Federal works. The musketry grew furious, and for a little time, a general engagement seemed imminent, but in a short while, the enemy were repulsed, without even having succeeded in reaching the Union entrenchments. Meanwhile, the artillery all along the front of the Eighteenth, the Ninth and the Fifth Corps, or the entire right wing of the army, opened with shot and shell upon the Confederate column of assault, and as well the works around the city, and the city itself. The affair was not of very long duration, as the cannonading was all over by the time it became dark, and the actual loss was not very large on either side. The enemy suffered most, however, as they were the attacking party, and unsheltered in their advance, while our forces were protected by their entrenchments.

For the next ten days, there was no especially noticeable activity manifested by either of the combatants, and the time passed without affording any incidents requiring mention here. The men of the Federal army, already worn down and exhausted by the severe marching and fighting of the earlier part of the campaign, and fatigued by the more recent labor of digging trenches and erecting fortifications, were not unwilling to remain under cover as much as possible. The weather continued to be extremely hot and dry, and the sultriness of the atmosphere made all ordinary exertion almost intolerable. Still work went on in the trenches, however, in spite of the

scorching sun, and new entrenchments were thrown up, and powerful batteries placed in position at various points along the line. There were occasional reconnoissances, and the ordinary amount of skirmishing, while the artillery and mortar batteries were kept more or less constantly in activity. Thus the time went on, somewhat monotonously, it is true, but the interval of comparative rest was by no means unwelcome.

On Monday, July 18th, a huge thirteen-inch mortar, which had just been placed in position in front of General Smith's position, opened fire on the works of the enemy, and during all of the next day, there was nearly continuous artillery firing along the front of the Eighteenth and Ninth Corps. But the troops on both sides were so well protected by their earth-works, that even the heaviest artillery could inflict but little damage. Sheltered by their bomb-proofs and traverses, the men were in comparative safety even in the midst of the severest shelling. But the city itself suffered considerably from the Federal bombardment, which proved destructive to its buildings. Much more memorable than the bombardment of the 19th, however, was the welcome and long-expected rain, which began to fall on that day in copious quantity. Allusion has several times been made to the long continued and extreme heat and dryness which had been so marked a feature of the season up to this time. One authority says the drought had continued for not less than forty-seven days,\* and it is certain that no rain of any consequence had fallen since the army left the neighborhood of Spottsylvania Court House, except on the 2nd

\* Humphreys:—“Virginia Campaign”, p. 243.

of June. On Tuesday, the 19th, however, it began to rain early in the morning, and throughout the day and into the night, the cheering, invigorating drops continued to fall upon the parched earth. The effect upon the troops was beneficial, and the men were glad to be rid of the discomfort of the burning sun, which had scorched them so pitilessly for so many days. The annoyance of the dust, too, was materially alleviated for the time, as the rain was sufficient to thoroughly penetrate the heaps, which under the tread of so many feet, had become ankle-deep in the camps, and on the road-ways.

On Wednesday, the 20th, the discharge of the thirteen-inch mortar in front of the Eighteenth Corps was replied to by the enemy with a concentrated artillery fire. This was responded to, on our part, by a general cannonade, in which thirty-pound Parrott guns and eight-inch mortars mingled their deep notes with the lighter pieces of the field batteries. This heavy firing lasted from about ten o'clock A. M. till after two P. M., or for some four hours, but nothing of importance was accomplished by the expenditure of all this ammunition. Thursday and Friday were not marked by any especially noteworthy events, and on Saturday, the 23rd, the only important incident was a particularly heavy artillery fire in the front of the Eighteenth Corps, which broke out toward evening. General Smith had been relieved from the command of this corps a day or two before, and General Ord, formerly of the Eighth Corps, was now its commander. The artillery practice of Saturday evening was without especial result, but the firing was kept up until quite a late hour, and the heavy detonations of the mortars disturbed the stillness of the summer night.

On the following day, Sunday, the 24th, there was little of Sabbath stillness or peacefulness, but even more than the usual amount of activity was manifested along the line. Especially was this the case in front of the Ninth Corps, where sharp picket firing and shelling were kept up throughout the day. In the afternoon, a shell thrown from one of our guns exploded one of the enemy's caissons, and disabled a considerable number of men. Shortly afterward a shell from a Confederate battery burst in the headquarters of the Fifty-Seventh Massachusetts, of the First brigade of our First division, severely wounding a number of its officers. Though the firing continued all day, the casualties among the Federal troops were small, not more than twenty or thirty in all.

On Monday, the 25th, there was renewed cannonading, and in the course of the day, another explosion was occasioned in the enemy's works by the fire of our artillery. Tuesday, the 26th, was another noisy day, the picket firing along the front of the Ninth Corps being even more heavy and continuous than usual. In the afternoon, the artillery opened fire, and from about dark until after midnight, a very heavy cannonading prevailed all along the line of the right, and right center. And for the greater part of the time, while this continued, there was also a rapid fire of musketry maintained by the skirmishers. No general engagement ensued, however, nor was there any very serious loss occasioned upon either side.

Some changes in the formation of the troops were contemplated by the Lieutenant-General, and in accordance with his plans, the Second Corps left its position on the extreme left of our line, in the afternoon of the 26th, and marched in the direction of

City Point. A rapid movement brought the corps to the banks of the James river at two o'clock in the morning of the 27th, and soon afterward it crossed on pontoons, which had been covered with grass and hay, to prevent noise. During the day—27th—the Second Corps, together with other troops, had more or less brisk skirmishing with a Confederate force under General Kershaw, but the entire loss in the day's operation was but little more than a hundred men. On Thursday and Friday, the 28th and 29th, the troops north of the James continued to demonstrate toward the enemy's position, and Sheridan's cavalry had a somewhat serious collision with a Confederate force on the 28th, in which the Federal loss amounted to about two hundred and fifty.

Meanwhile, in the lines before Petersburg, during these two or three days, there had been no diminution or slackening of the fire of artillery and musketry. Indeed, the firing had increased rather than diminished in intensity, especially on the right, and along the line of the Ninth Corps. On the evening of the 28th, the firing was especially severe, and a considerable conflagration was occasioned in Petersburg by the bursting shells. Considerable loss had been caused to both sides, mainly by the explosion of shells, in the direction of which the gunners had now become extremely accurate. The mortar-shells were those most dreaded by the men. The light field-pieces, and even the siege-guns, were not regarded as very dangerous, since their missiles were thrown point-blank, or at only a moderate angle of elevation, and, lying close behind the breastworks, the men felt comparatively safe from their effect. But the huge mortars, throwing their ponderous shells high up into



the air almost perpendicularly, until a certain altitude was attained, when they turned and descended into our lines, far beyond the breastworks, were far more terrifying, and produced much more disastrous results. The enormous missiles whizzed and screeched through the air, and when they reached the ground in their descent, their explosion threw up clouds of dust and showers of sand, tearing great holes in the earth, and scattering fragments in every direction. At such times, the shelter of the bomb-proofs was speedily sought by every man who could possibly reach them. But it frequently happened that the bursting of these huge shells killed or injured a number of men, whom the requirements of duty compelled to expose themselves outside the places of safety. And, as has just been said, the firing during the last few days of July, had increased in severity, especially along the lines of the Ninth Corps.

An important undertaking, from the result of which it was hoped the Union forces would reap much benefit, was approaching completion, and in order to render its success more certain, it was desirable that the enemy should not suspect what was going on. To prevent the Confederates from obtaining any knowledge of the matter, therefore, an incessant skirmishing and shelling was maintained along our front, even when the rest of the line was enjoying comparative quiet and peace. This undertaking, it will be understood, was the famous mine, which the Ninth Corps constructed, and the explosion of which, on the memorable 30th of July, will be remembered while life lasts by every man who was present on that disastrous day. Of the construction of the mine, more will be said in detail in the following pages, but

before going on to speak of that, let us complete the narrative of the days immediately preceding the explosion.

The movement of the Second Corps to the northern bank of the James, as previously mentioned, had been made in pursuance of a plan of General Grant's, by which he designed to add to the chances of success, when the time should come to spring the mine, and commence the assault which was to follow the explosion. In order to induce General Lee to remove as large a number of the Confederate troops as possible from the defences of Petersburg, the Union leader made a feint of moving upon Richmond, or at least, of transferring active operations to the vicinity of that city. A division of the Tenth Corps had for a considerable time held the extreme right of the Federal position, at Deep Bottom, which was so situated as to afford a convenient base for an advance upon Richmond, by three parallel roads. This point was, therefore, selected as that from which the proposed feint in that direction should be made. A brigade of the Nineteenth Corps, — comprising among the regiments of which it was made up, our Thirtieth Maine, — crossed the James at Strawberry Plains, as early as the 23rd of July, and the Second Corps, as we have seen, crossed five days later, and skirmished sharply with the Confederates.

The movements in this direction finally excited the suspicions of the enemy, precisely as General Grant had desired. Impressed with the idea that an attack upon Richmond was contemplated, General Lee hurriedly transferred a large proportion of the Confederate forces from the lines of Petersburg to the north side of the James. Thus the defensive

works in our front were depleted of a large portion of their garrison, temporarily, as General Grant had hoped would be the case. Having accomplished his purpose so far, the troops which had been demonstrating toward Richmond, were now gradually drawn off from their position north of the James. As early as the night of the 28th, General Mott's division of the Second Corps recrossed the river, with great secrecy, and made a hurried and fatiguing forced march back to the lines in the front of Petersburg, where they arrived at daylight of the 29th. And, after nightfall on the 29th, the other divisions of the Second Corps, together with all the cavalry, also recrossed, and marched all night, reaching the lines before Petersburg before the morning of the 30th. Everything was now in readiness for the contemplated assault upon the enemy's position, which it was designed to make at the instant of the explosion of the mine. This was expected to take place early on the morning of the 30th, the time fixed for igniting the fuses being half-past three o'clock A. M.

But before going on to speak in detail of the mine, and the events following its being fired, let us first glance at the casualties sustained in our own regiment during the period between the 1st of July and the 29th. Allusion has already been made in preceding pages to the almost incessant skirmishing kept up between our pickets and the enemy, and the frequent outbreaks of artillery fire from the Confederate lines. As a result of our exposure to this continuous shelling and sharpshooting, more or less casualties occurred from day to day, and a considerable number of our men were killed or wounded during the month. And the diary of Adjutant Hayes

contains numerous entries in July like the following: "We had one man wounded last night, and one this morning", and again the next day, he writes: "A few minutes ago, one man was shot through the body, and still later, another through the head, both killed instantly".

The list of losses from day to day, from July 1st to the 29th, is as follows:—Private Orrin Hatch, Company E, wounded, July 1st; Private Simeon Morgan, Company B, wounded in breast, slightly, July 2nd; Privates Walter C. Bradeen, Company F, and Charles Edmonds, Company H, killed, July 3rd; Sergeant Samuel Lord, Company I, wounded in hand, and Private Orestes Ranger, Company E, wounded in face, July 7th; Sergeant Gilbert L. Fiske, Company B, killed, July 10th; Private Joseph Richardson, Company B, wounded in breast, July 14th; and Private Cecil G. Chesley, Company E, wounded in knee, and Corporal George W. Stevens, Company K, wounded in leg, July 15th; Private Alfred M. Lang, Company A, right hand torn off by shell, July 16th; Private John Maley, Company C, wounded in head and foot, July 18th; Private Samuel Jabot, Company I, wounded in left hip, July 19th; Lieutenant Stephen G. Dorman, Company K, contusion of hip and leg, by shell; Sergeant Fernando R. Gould, Company E, wounded in thigh; Private John G. Towle, Company E, in back, arm and leg; Corporal William H. Mace, Company D, leg torn off above knee; Privates Michael Gillen, Company F, wounded in leg; Elijah Libby, Company K, wounded; and Joseph A. Hobbs, Company K, wounded in left side, all on July 22nd. Privates Sylvester Manson, Company F, wounded in leg; and Abner R. Phelps, Company C, wounded

in face, July 24th; Private Benjamin F. Curtis, Company F, wounded in neck, July 25th; and Corporal Hosea Q. Buzzell, Company A, killed July 26th.

The aggregate loss was twenty-four, two non-commissioned officers and two privates being killed, and one commissioned officer, four non-commissioned officers, and fifteen privates wounded. Of the wounded, several of those most severely injured died within a few days. Private Ranger's death occurred July 20th; Corporal Mace and Private Gillen died on the 23rd, and Sergeant Gould the 24th, and Private Chesley on the 29th of July. Lieutenant Dorman was discharged by special order on August 24th. Private Manson sustained an amputation, and was finally discharged in May, 1865, as was also Private Towle. Private Lang was discharged in December, 1864, and Richardson in October, and it would appear that all, or nearly all the others, returned to duty after a longer or shorter absence.

In closing this chapter, it may be of interest to quote briefly from the diary of Adjutant Hayes as to incidents occurring during this month. It will be remembered that the regiment was alternately on duty in the trenches on the picket line for forty-eight hours, and then when relieved, retired to a piece of woods several acres in extent, some half-a-mile or more to the rear, to rest there for an equal length of time. On July 1st, Adjutant Hayes wrote:

“Still in the woods; shall probably go into the trenches again to-night. \* \* \* Heavy firing on our right, and a few shells and balls thrown into these woods constituted the programme for yesterday”. And on the next day he said, “Now in the trenches again in a new place, about half-a-mile in front of our

old place. I am now sitting on the track of the Norfolk and Petersburg railroad, and behind me is a breastwork of sand-bags, railroad iron and sleepers". The entry for July 4th reads, "Were relieved last night, and are passing the day in the woods". On the 10th he writes, "The regiment went into trenches again last night. One of the sergeants of Company B was just brought in, dead—shot through the head. He makes one hundred killed and wounded since I came out, May 25th".

Under date of the 14th he says, "Left woods at ten o'clock last night, and are now in the trenches where we have lost so many men. Every one who shows himself is shot at.

"The siege proper commenced to-day, and our Generals are called Corps Commanders no longer, but Generals of the Trenches".

About this time, as has been previously mentioned, the troops were very busily engaged in the erection of additional fortifications, and frequent allusions are made by Adjutant Hayes to a fort which was being built by our regiment. On July 16th he writes, "Our regiment still at work on fort. We have been at it two nights and a day, and begun on the second day. \* \* \* \* As a relief of ours was returning from the fort a few minutes ago, a shell came amongst them, tearing off the right hand of a Kittery boy, and striking two others upon the head, but not injuring them much. It then exploded, doing no other harm". Again, on the 19th, he says, "Our regiment has been at work day and night on the fort, which is nearly completed".

On the 20th and 21st, the diary shows that there were battalion drills, possibly to relieve the fatigue





LIEUTENANT STEPHEN G. DORMAN.



induced by the labor on the fortification. On the 22nd and 23rd, the regiment was again in the trenches, and as will be seen by reference to the preceding list of casualties, had seven men more or less seriously wounded on the former date, but lost none on the 23rd. On the 24th the regiment was once more in the woods at the rear, and in this place of comparative safety, two men were wounded. On the 29th, the entry in the diary records that Lieutenant Burr of Company C, who had only rejoined on the 22nd, was again compelled to go back to the hospital, on account of his old wound, and that Surgeon Trafton was sick, and had applied for leave of absence.

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## Biographical Sketches.

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### LIEUTENANT STEPHEN G. DORMAN.

Stephen Greenleaf Dorman was born in Sanford, Maine, March 31, 1835. He was the son of Deacon Stephen and Mary (Buzzell) Dorman, and until arriving at maturity, his life was passed in his native town, and in Kennebunkport.

He entered the military service in 1864, having been mustered as First Lieutenant of Co. K, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry Volunteers, on May 6, of that year. He left the State with the second battalion, on May 11th, and joined the regiment at the North Anna river. Participating with the command in its service up to the investment of Petersburg, he was wounded in the trenches in front of that city, July 22, 1864.

A shell from the enemy's lines burst among a group of our men, injuring a number severely, one man having his leg torn off above the knee. Lieutenant Dorman was knocked down, and injured in the thigh and hip, and was discharged by special order, August 24, 1864.

After his return to civil life, he carried on an extensive business in fruit and flour brokerage, first in Portland, and later in Boston, and established a large trade with the west.

In later years he devoted his attention chiefly to selling canned goods and acting as a commission merchant. He had varied interests in California, and spent his winters in that climate. He died suddenly, from heart failure, while sitting in his office in Boston, on October 26, 1898. He was a man of strict and unwavering integrity, careful in his business enterprise, and respected and esteemed by his associates. He was of scholarly attainments, and possessed literary abilities above the average. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and past master of Saco lodge. He left a widow, who was Miss Abbie Gooch of Kennebunkport, Me., and also one child, a daughter.

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### LIEUTENANT FRED S. GURNEY.

Only a brief and in many respects unsatisfactory sketch can be given of this gallant young officer, from the scanty data which has been obtained.

It has not been possible to ascertain the place or date of his birth, or the names of his parents. But the Adjutant-General's Report for 1861, shows that he first entered the military service of the United States, in the early days of the Rebellion, having been mustered into service June 24, 1861, as First Lieutenant of Company C, Fifth Maine Infantry Volunteers. His age at enlistment is stated to be twenty-one years, and his residence, Saco.

His service in the Fifth was of short duration, however, as like many other officers of the regiment, he resigned soon after the first battle of Bull Run, and was discharged August 14, 1861.

One year later, in August, 1862, he again entered the military service, at this time enlisting under the call of the President for nine months' men, in Co. A, Twenty-Seventh Maine

Infantry Volunteers. He is remembered as a young man of gentlemanly and quiet dignity of manners, brave without boastfulness, sturdy and manly. He had many friends, few or no enemies. During his service in the Twenty-Seventh, he was appointed sergeant, and held that rank till mustered out, in 1863. Although the regiment was in no battle, the duties it was required to perform in the lines of defence in front of Washington, as far out as Chantilly, were not less difficult and trying to discipline and soldierly qualities than active campaigning. And sergeant Fred Gurney was never found wanting in the performance of any duty.

After his muster out, and return home, when the Thirty-Second Maine was being organized, he again enlisted, and was commissioned as First Lieutenant of Co. F, on April 5, 1864.

The campaign had but barely opened, after the entry of this regiment upon active service, when Lieutenant Gurney was called upon to give his life for his country. At the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, on May 12, 1864, he was lying on the ground with his company, under a heavy fire. Amid the rain of rebel bullets, one struck him in the forehead, and penetrated his brain. One of his comrades heard the peculiar "thud" of the missile as it came in contact with the skull, and, looking round behind him, as he also lay, saw the blood and brain oozing from the wound, heard him call once for water, and then, life had fled. The body lay upon the field until the next day, and was then sought out, and given burial where he died. And perhaps it is not too much to say that no braver man or truer patriot sleeps beneath the soil of Virginia.

He was the first commissioned officer of the Thirty-Second Maine to be killed in battle, and brief as was his connection with the regiment, his memory has never ceased to be honored among its surviving members. His name has been perpetuated by its adoption by the Post of the Grand Army of the Republic located in Saco, and while it is believed that no immediate relatives now survive, he is still held in remembrance by his comrades.

## CHAPTER XIX.

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BURNSIDE'S MINE. — THE INCEPTION OF THE PLAN. —  
LOCATION OF THE MINE. — THE OBSTACLES EN-  
COUNTERED. — ITS COMPLETION, AND THE  
PLAN OF ASSAULT. — GENERAL MEADE'S  
DISAPPROVAL. — THE ORDERS OF  
BATTLE. — THE NIGHT BE-  
FORE THE EXPLOSION.

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Probably there is no incident connected with the service of the Thirty-Second Maine, so vividly impressed upon the minds of its survivors, as the bloody and disastrous struggle of the 30th of July, 1864. The affair stands out so prominently in the recollection of all who participated in that fearful contest, that it seems proper to give it so much space in a history of the regiment, as to do full justice to the matter in all its details, and present the story of the mine in all its particulars. The first conception of the mine was formed very soon after the Union army arrived in front of Petersburg. As has been related, several determined attempts had been made to carry the Confederate defences by assault. But each had failed, and the successive storming columns had been repulsed with severe losses. And the feeling gained ground among the soldiers, as well as among officers high in command, that the frowning fortifications

before us were not to be captured by a direct assault. At this juncture, an officer of General Potter's division formed the idea of breaching the enemy's line, by the explosion of a mine beneath one of the forts. This officer was Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Pleasants, of the Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania regiment, in the First brigade of our division.

The regiment consisted largely of experienced miners from Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, and Lieutenant-Colonel Pleasants was himself an able and skilful mining engineer, before he became a soldier. Familiar with mining operations before the war, he soon came to believe it entirely practicable to run a mine under the space intervening between the lines of the Ninth Corps, and the position of the enemy. Opposite the salient which it will be remembered the Third division captured on the 18th of June, the enemy had subsequently constructed a strong redoubt. This work was a few hundred yards below the crest of "Cemetery Hill", as it was called. In the rear of the redoubt, and running back to the hill at about a right angle with the Confederate line, there was a considerable ridge. The position appeared to be one which would be valuable to us, if we could gain possession of it. If carried by an assault, it was believed that from this point we should be able to compel the enemy to abandon a large part, if not all, of his line. The distance which it would be necessary to mine, in order to explode the magazine directly beneath the redoubt, was but little more than five hundred feet.

Having considered the matter, and decided upon its feasibility, Lieutenant-Colonel Pleasants carried his plan to General Potter, and submitted it to his

judgment. Upon the 24th of June, General Potter, in his turn, presented the scheme to the consideration of General Burnside, who after some deliberation, approved it, and gave directions that the work should be undertaken. Information was given General Meade as to the proposed operation, but the scheme did not meet with very hearty approval from him, or from the gentlemen of his staff. Major Duane, Chief of Engineers, expressed a decidedly unfavorable opinion of the contemplated undertaking, and was somewhat doubtful as to its practicability. Yet, notwithstanding this lack of belief in its success, General Meade did not refuse his official sanction of the plan. And, though apparently with some reluctance, he authorized the continuance of the work.

The construction of the mine was entrusted to the men of the Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania, under the superintendence of Lieutenant-Colonel Pleasants. And at noon on the 25th of June, the work of excavation was commenced. Ground was broken in the side of a ravine in the rear of an earth-work at our front, and opposite the redoubt of the enemy. The most careful precautions were observed to prevent any suspicion of what was going on from arising in the mind of the enemy. As the work progressed, the earth which was excavated was brought out of the gallery in cracker boxes, and disposed of with great care. The quantity of earth thus handled, was, of course, very large, the whole amount of material excavated being estimated at eighteen thousand cubic feet. Had this been permitted to accumulate in heaps at the mouth of the gallery, the watchful eyes of the enemy in so close proximity would have detected that something unusual was going on. To

avoid this, the earth was distributed on the works in such quantities as to appear to have been naturally thrown up in digging the trenches. The main gallery of the mine was about four feet wide at the bottom, and about four and a half feet in height. As the sides rose, they were sloped toward each other somewhat, so that the space between them was narrower at the top of the gallery than at the bottom.

Many difficulties beset the undertaking, and, at times, it seemed as if these would prove insurmountable. But Colonel Pleasants, and his hardy miners labored on, undaunted by the obstacles which they encountered. Perhaps the lack of interest evinced by the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac, and other leading officers, was the most disheartening of all the experiences of the gallant projector of the scheme. It appears that he received no encouragement in his work from any general officers except Generals Burnside and Potter. But on the other hand, there was a considerable spirit of derision manifested, and a disinclination to afford the assistance which he might reasonably have expected to receive. For instance, a theodolite could not be obtained until General Burnside sent to Washington for one, although there was a good instrument at General Meade's headquarters.\*

The mechanical difficulties encountered in the progress of the work, were by no means trifling or easily overcome. The ground through which the gallery was run proved to be, in some places, very wet and difficult to work. A quicksand was found to exist in one portion of the extent, and the timbers of the gallery gave way, and nearly closed the tunnel.

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 423.

Again, a stratum of marl was encountered, which proved very difficult to excavate, and caused the men engaged in the work, much trouble. The ground gradually rose toward the Confederate redoubt, and in order not to go too deeply under it, it became requisite to slope the gallery upward also. The bottom of the tunnel was an inclined plane rising thirteen and a half feet in a hundred. To prevent accidents, and keep the top of the gallery from falling, braces and props of timber were employed. These were cut and prepared before being carried into the mine, and were placed in position as needed there, by hand alone, to avoid the possibility of the noise of tools being heard by the enemy.

The mine was, at all times, exceedingly damp, and the air in such a confined space was, of course, close and oppressive. In order to improve the ventilation of the gallery as much as possible, a shaft was sunk to the side of the tunnel, at the bottom of which a fireplace was built, with an opening into the mine. Here a fire was kept constantly burning, and by this means a current of air was created, which in some measure relieved the oppressiveness of the atmosphere. But in the intense sultriness of the weather during the time the mine was being constructed, it was by no means an easy task to labor in the close, dark, hot tunnel, even for a short time. The smoke rising from the fire at the bottom of the shaft, which has just been mentioned, could not be hidden from the enemy's observation, of course. But in order to divert attention from it, other fires were maintained in various parts of the line. And thus no particular suspicion was excited, as would have been the case had the enemy observed a single column of



smoke constantly arising from one point, day after day, during the time the mine was being run.

In the teeth of all the difficulties and hindrances which have been named, Colonel Pleasants and the men of the Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania continued to work with the utmost energy. And so persevering were their efforts, that by the 23rd of July, they had constructed a main gallery or tunnel five hundred and ten and eight-tenths feet in length, with two wing or lateral galleries at the end underneath the Confederate work. One of these wings was thirty-seven and the other thirty-eight feet long. As contemplated by General Burnside's plan, these lateral galleries were for the reception of the magazines, of which there were to be four in each gallery. The magazines were to be placed, two upon each side of the chamber, and to contain somewhere about half-a-ton of gun-powder in each.

The original design was that these magazines should be connected with each other by troughs of powder, and that two wires, and a number of fuses should extend through the main gallery to the entrance of the mine. The fuses were to be fired in the ordinary manner, when the mine was completed, and the wires were intended to transmit an electric spark, so as to insure, by one means or the other, an explosion of the magazines. But at this point there occurred a most unfortunate omission, which threatened to result in the complete failure of the whole affair. No wires at all were furnished, as had been expected, and the fuses supplied were far from being satisfactory. Instead of being of sufficient length to extend through the five hundred feet of space in the main gallery, as was desired, the fuses were in parts

and pieces, some of them not more than ten feet long. The only material that could be obtained to splice these short pieces together, was strips cut from old blankets, although requisition had been seasonably made upon the proper officers for all needful supplies.

Despite these drawbacks, the work went on, and on the 27th of July, the magazines were charged with about four tons of powder, and carefully "tamped", or packed with sand-bags and wood. The final arrangements were made on this and the following day, the work being completed at six o'clock on the afternoon of the 28th. The magazines, with their immense charge of eight thousand pounds of powder, were exactly underneath the enemy's redoubt, and only about twenty feet of earth intervened between the roof of the chambers, and the surface of the ground. The men laboring below were able to hear the enemy above their heads, as they performed their daily drill, and went about their customary work. The suspicion of the Confederates had been excited before the completion of the undertaking, though they were in doubt as to the position of the Federal mine. They believed it to be somewhere in the vicinity of its actual location, however, and had already begun to countermine, though their work had not progressed very far when ours reached completion.

The plan of assault which was formed by the Federal commanders was, in general terms, to explode the mine, and at once to open a cannonade from every available gun along our front. The explosion, and the immediate outbreak of such a heavy fire of artillery, were relied upon to produce consternation and confusion among the enemy. And, before they were able to rally from the bewilderment and dismay, into

which it was expected they would be thrown, a strong storming party was to rush forward from our advanced lines. It was supposed the blowing up of the mine would make a gap in the Confederate works, through which our assaulting column would be able to penetrate. Once in the enemy's lines, our troops were to endeavor to carry the crest of Cemetery Hill, which was a strongly fortified position, and which commanded the city of Petersburg itself. With this in our possession, it was believed we should hold the key of the enemy's position, and thus compel them to evacuate their works, and even abandon the city.

The details necessary to carrying into effect the plan thus generally stated, were to be under the especial direction of General Burnside, since his corps had dug the mine, and was to make the assault. On mature deliberation, and for reasons which seem to be weighty and conclusive, the gallant commander of the Ninth Corps selected his Fourth, or the colored division, to lead the attack. General Ferrero, its commander, was instructed that he would have the honor of forming the assaulting column with his negroes, when the mine was fired. After examining the ground, and deciding upon his methods, he communicated to the men under his command the intelligence that they had been selected to make the attack. He also began to drill the division with a special view to rendering them familiar with the movements they were to execute. And for three weeks before the mine was exploded, the men of the colored division were exercised in such manœuvres as they were expected to employ in the assault.

Upon the 26th of July, General Meade requested General Burnside to furnish him with a detailed

statement of his plans, and the request was at once complied with. At the risk of some repetition of what has already been stated, it seems desirable to present here some extracts from this statement. "My plan would be", General Burnside writes, "to explode the mine just before daylight in the morning, or at about five o'clock in the afternoon. Mass the two brigades of the colored division in rear of my first line, in columns of divisions.—'double column closed in mass',—'the head of each brigade resting on the front line',—and as soon as the explosion has taken place, move them forward with instructions for the division to take half-distance. As soon as the leading regiments of the two brigades pass through the gap in the enemy's line, the leading regiment of the right brigade should come into line perpendicular to the enemy's by the 'right companies on the right into line, wheel', the 'left companies on the right into line', and proceed at once down the line of the enemy's works as rapidly as possible; and the leading regiment of the left brigade to execute the reverse movement to the left, moving up the enemy's line. The remainder of the columns to move directly towards the crest in front as rapidly as possible, diverging in such a way as to enable them to deploy into columns of regiments, the right column making as nearly as possible for Cemetery Hill. These columns to be followed by the other divisions of this corps as soon as they can be thrown in. This would involve the necessity of relieving these divisions by other troops before the movement, and of holding columns of other troops in readiness to take our place on the crest in case we gain it and sweep down it. It would, in my opinion, be advisable, if we succeed in

gaining the crest, to throw the colored division right into the town".\*

General Burnside's choice of the Fourth division to act as the storming party, was influenced in some degree by the consideration that he had been a firm believer in the capacity of negroes to become good soldiers, and he now desired to prove that his belief was well-founded. Beside this, there were other reasons why he preferred the colored troops should be employed in this undertaking. The white soldiers had passed through a campaign of unexampled severity, and were literally worn out, and exhausted by the continuous marching and fighting which had been their lot since the opening conflict in the Wilderness. In the graphic language of one of the participants, the experience of the soldiers had been "monotonously uniform, like our rations, — hard tack, light marching orders and coffee for breakfast, skirmishing and coffee for dinner, and a pitched battle for supper. And the same diet was continued day by day for thirty-five days, except that long and wearisome marches were, part of the time, substituted for the fighting".†

The Ninth Corps had shared to the utmost in all this unremitting toil, and borne its honorable proportion of the perils and losses. Its Fourth division alone, had been measurably exempt from the danger and labor which had so long environed the remainder of the army, and the colored soldiers were, therefore, the freshest troops, not only in the Ninth Corps, but in the whole force under General Meade's command.

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", pp. 426-27.

† Lieutenant-Colonel Lyman E. Knapp of the Seventeenth Vermont.

And not only were the white troops completely worn out physically, by the severity of their service, but they were as well, somewhat affected in *morale* and efficiency by the tremendous losses they had sustained. Commissioned officers of all ranks, had been killed or wounded by hundreds since the beginning of the campaign, and less experienced, if not less skilful, men had succeeded to the command of divisions, brigades, regiments and companies. The white soldiers had learned to exercise caution to such an extent, that, as General Ferrero testified before the Committee on Conduct of the War, "it had become second nature with them to dodge a bullet". On the other hand, the troops of the colored division had been but little exposed up to this time, though they had been engaged in one or two sharp skirmishes, in which they had shown a commendable steadiness under fire. Therefore, General Burnside desired to employ these fresh and comparatively strong brigades, upon this arduous duty rather than his exhausted white troops, with their ranks depleted by previous service.

General Meade, however, did not agree with General Burnside in his views, and was not willing to approve the latter's plan, so far as it related to the employment of the colored troops. Nor was he favorably inclined towards the movement to the right and left, contemplated by General Burnside's design. On Thursday, July 28th, at an interview between Generals Meade and Burnside, at the headquarters of the former, the two officers discussed the proposed attack in all its details. The historian of the Ninth Corps has described this interview in such terms that, although of considerable length, it seems desirable to

quote here what he has said in relation to the position taken by the two generals.

“General Meade”, is Mr. Woodbury’s language, “urged that the colored troops were not so reliable for such an assault as was contemplated, as the white troops of the Ninth Corps. The operation was to be a *coup de main*, the assaulting column was to be as a forlorn hope, such as are put in breaches, and the assault ought to be made with the best troops. General Burnside argued, — in accordance with what has already been stated. — that his white troops were not in proper condition to head an attack of the kind. They had been exposed for forty days to a ceaseless fire, and had acquired the habit of sheltering themselves from the enemy’s missiles. Moreover, they were worn down by excessive labor, watchings and cares. Their officers had not expected to make an assault, — knowing that the colored division had been selected for that purpose, — and had not examined the ground. The colored troops, on the contrary, were fresh and strong, their ranks full, their *morale* unexceptionable, and their spirits elated by the thought of the approaching conflict. They had been drilled with especial reference to this very movement, and their officers were conversant with all its details, the ground to be traversed, and the work to be done.

“General Meade could not be turned from his purpose of changing the order of assault, but finally agreed to submit the matter to General Grant. That officer concurred with General Meade, having had no opportunity of hearing the other side of the case presented by General Burnside. The colored troops were ruled out, — very much to the disappointment of themselves, their own commander, and General

Burnside. The decision was made known to General Burnside not far from noon on the 29th. General Meade at the same time called at General Burnside's headquarters, where he met the three commanders of the white divisions of the Ninth Corps. On the day previous he had told General Burnside \* \* \* \* that he did not approve the order of the formation of the attacking column, 'because', as General Burnside testifies, 'he was satisfied that we would not be able, in the face of the enemy to make the movements which were contemplated, to the right and left; and that he was of the opinion that the troops should move directly to the crest without attempting these side movements'.

"On the occasion of the interview with the division commanders, on the 29th, General Meade declared that 'there were two things to be done, namely, that we should go up promptly and take the crest'. General Meade seemed to have but one plan of action. That was to 'rush for the crest'. These words he repeated in more than one order on the day of battle. 'Don't lose time in making formations', he said, 'but rush for the crest'. There seems to have been a little discrepancy in General Meade's recollection of the discussion which took place respecting General Burnside's formation of the assaulting column. As to General Burnside's 'tactical formation', he testified before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, 'and what he was to do with his troops, I made no objection. The only objection I intended to make to his plan was to the use of the colored troops in advance'. But before the Court of Inquiry, which after the battle, investigated the whole affair, General Meade testified as follows: 'I saw Potter, Ledlie and



Willcox, and I referred in the presence of those gentlemen to the tactical manœuvres to be made between the crater and the crest,—that the only thing to be done was to rush for the crest, and take it immediately after the explosion had taken place: and that they might rest assured that any attempt to take time to form their troops would result in a repulse'. No other conclusion can be reached than that General Meade did object to General Burnside's 'tactical formation', and that the entire plan of attack, which had been carefully prepared, was disapproved in all its details. In this situation General Burnside and his division commanders found themselves on the afternoon of the 29th of July".\*

Naturally, the disapproval of the plan created much uncertainty, and gave rise to new difficulties in the execution of the design. General Meade's decision against General Burnside's proposed employment of the negro troops, was made known at so late a moment as to leave little time to perfect new arrangements. It was now the afternoon of Friday, and the mine was to be fired at daybreak on Saturday morning. Since the division originally selected to make the assault was not to be permitted to do so, another must at once be designated to perform that duty. Among the three, there was little ground for preferring any one above the other two. All had seen nearly an equal amount of severe service since the campaign begun. And no one of the divisions had fallen behind the others in maintaining its reputation for bravery and discipline. The Second and Third divisions lay somewhat nearer the point of assault than did the First, and could, therefore, be put into position in less time than it would require to bring up

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", pp. 430-32.

that division. But, on the other hand, the men of the First division had not been quite so much exposed as those of the other two, and had not been required to work quite so hard. Really there was not any particular reason why one should be designated, to the exclusion of the others. Therefore it was proposed to decide by lot which should have the advance, and, the proposal being accepted, the choice fell upon the First division. General Ledlie was thereupon directed by General Burnside to examine the ground, and make preparations for the assault. Later, General Ledlie reported that he had complied with this order, and was ready to take position, as soon as night came on, and the troops which were to relieve him had arrived. While these arrangements were being made, General Meade issued a battle order, from which the following extracts, relating more especially to the Ninth Corps, are here presented.

“1. As soon as it is dark, Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps, will withdraw his two brigades under General White,\* occupying the entrenchments between the Plank and Norfolk roads, and bring them to his front. Care will be taken not to interfere with the troops of the Eighteenth Corps moving into their position in rear of the Ninth Corps. General Burnside will form his troops for assaulting the enemy's works at daylight of the 30th, prepare his parapets and abattis for the passage of the columns, and have the pioneers equipped for work in opening passages for artillery, destroying enemy's abattis, etc., and the entrenching tools distributed for effecting lodgements, etc.”

\* Temporarily commanding Fourth division, in the absence of General Ferrero, who was away for a few days on leave, but who returned on the 29th.

“8. At half past three in the morning of the 30th. Major-General Burnside will spring his mine. and his assaulting columns will immediately move rapidly upon the breach. seize the crest in the rear. and effect a lodgement there. He will be followed by Major-General Ord, who will support him on the right, directing his movement to the crest indicated. and by Major-General Warren. who will support him on the left”.

Other paragraphs of the order related to the movements to be made by the commanders of the other corps in support of the assault, and to the duties imposed upon officers of the engineers, pontoniers, and artillery in co-operating with the attacking forces.

General Burnside also issued an order, of which the material portions were as follows:

“1. The mine will be exploded to-morrow morning, at half-past three, by Colonel Pleasants.

“2. General Ledlie will. immediately upon the explosion of the mine, move his division forward as directed by verbal orders. and if possible, crown the crest at the point known as Cemetery Hill, occupying, if possible, the cemetery.

“3. General Willcox will move his division forward as soon as possible after General Ledlie has passed through the first line of the enemy's works. bearing off to the left so as to effectually protect the left flank of General Ledlie's column. and make a lodgement, if possible, on the Jerusalem plank road to the left of General Ledlie's division.

“4. General Potter will move his division forward to the right of General Ledlie's division as soon as it is apparent that he will not interfere with the

movements of General Willcox's division, and will, as near as possible, protect the right flank of General Ledlie from any attack on that quarter, and establish a line on the crest of a ravine, which seems to run from the Cemetery Hill nearly at right angles to the enemy's main line directly in our front.

"5. General Ferrero will move his division immediately after General Willcox's until he reaches our present advanced line, where he will remain until the ground in his front is entirely cleared by the other three divisions, when he will move forward over the same ground that General Ledlie moved over, will pass through our line, and if possible, move down and occupy the village to the right".

The few remaining hours of Friday passed rapidly, and were full of busy preparation for the coming struggle. Through all the Union lines, a fierce, suppressed excitement prevailed, and there was little opportunity for rest or sleep that summer night for any of the thousands of Federal soldiers behind our entrenchments. As the darkness came, the troops began their preliminary movements, and through the hours of the night, heavy columns were constantly in motion, converging upon the point opposite the Confederate redoubt, so soon to be blown heavenward in a whirlwind of fire. The Eighteenth Corps came up slowly to the relief of our men in the trenches, and at about ten o'clock P. M., General Meade grew impatient at the tardiness of General Ord's movements. He therefore ordered the formation of the assaulting column to be completed without reference to the presence of the relieving forces, even if the trenches were temporarily left unoccupied.

General Warren's men were astir upon our left, concentrating upon the right of their position in





OBERUN O. STETSON.

heavy masses, in readiness to support the coming assault. General Ord was coming up to a position in the rear of the Ninth Corps, from which he could lend his aid to the attacking forces. And the Second Corps, under "Hancock the Superb", was marching rapidly from the northern side of the James, to occupy the trenches from which the Eighteenth Corps had moved out. Far down upon the extreme left of the Union lines, Sheridan and his horsemen were gaining a position from which they might operate against the enemy's right flank. Such was the condition of affairs in the lines of the Federal army during the night of the 29th. In those of the enemy there was no unusual activity, but all unconscious of the morning of carnage and flame so soon to break, Lee's veterans slept upon their arms.

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## Biographical Sketches.

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### OBERUN O. STETSON.

Oberun O. Stetson was born in Hartford, Oxford County, Maine, on July 20, 1845, and resided there until he was about ten years old, when his parents moved into Canton, in the same county. He was brought up on a farm, and attended the town schools, and also two or three terms of high school at Canton village.

In October, 1861, Orren R. Stetson, father of the subject of this sketch, enlisted in the famous First Maine Cavalry, and served as wagoner of Company G for three full years. His father's only brother, Ephraim T. Stetson, enlisted at the same time, and was appointed commissary sergeant, and his father's brother-in-law, William K. Ripley, was also a

sergeant, both of these serving in the same company with his father. The patriotic impulses of the Stetsons would seem to have been inherited, as the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Hezekiah Stetson, who died in Sumner, Me., March 3, 1833, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war.

After the enlistment of his father in 1861, young Stetson, with the help of his younger brother, carried on the farm until the winter of 1864. He then himself became a soldier, enlisting in the Thirty-Second Maine, February 25, and being assigned to Company B. He remained at Camp Keyes, Augusta, Me., until late in April, when six companies were ordered to the front. He shared the fortunes of his company on the trip to Washington, the march to Alexandria, to Bristoe Station, and to the Wilderness. Up to this time he had been very anxious to meet the rebels, having an idea that his company could "clean out" any regiment the Southern Confederacy could produce. But after the first battle, he made up his mind that there was not so much fun in soldiering as he had anticipated. He participated in the actions at Spottsylvania Court House and North Anna, and arrived near Cold Harbor, May 31st. That night he was detailed for picket, where he remained until about eleven o'clock in the forenoon of June 1st., when he was wounded in the left arm. He remained for a day or two at the field hospital, when an ambulance train was made up for White House Landing, on the York river. His wounds by this time had grown very sore, and the ride of eighteen miles, for the most part over corduroy roads, was anything but pleasant.

From White House Landing he was sent by steamer to Washington, and assigned to Mount Pleasant Hospital, where he remained about two months. As its name indicated, this was a very pleasant place to be in, and he would gladly have staid longer under the care of the skilful surgeons and kind nurses, but soldiers have no choice in such matters. He was transferred from there to Grant U. S. General Hospital, at



Willetts Point, Long Island, New York, from which he received a furlough some five or six weeks later, and returned to his home in Canton.

Here he remained until about the first of January, 1865, when he reported back to the hospital at Willett's Point. About the first of March, 1865, he was transferred to Cony U. S. General Hospital, on Western Avenue in Augusta, Me., from which he was discharged June 3, 1865, on account of wounds, and the close of the war.

After his discharge, he attended school in Canton, until September 23, 1867, when he again enlisted, entering the regular army, and was assigned to the Forty-Fourth United States Infantry, a regiment made up of invalid soldiers. He served in companies H and G, and was detailed on general court martial duty, connected with the War Department at Washington, D. C., until his discharge, on March 23, 1869.

After this final discharge, he came to Augusta, Me., where he has resided most of the time since, and where in 1873, he married Miss Sarah H. Haskell, of China, Me. He was for several years connected with the publishing house of the late E. C. Allen, and has also occupied various other positions in and about the city where he still resides, and any comrades of the old Thirty-Second Maine who may come that way, will ever find his latch-string out, at No. 8 State Street Place, near the State House.

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### CORPORAL WALTER S. HODGES.

Walter Scott Hodges was born in Hallowell, Kennebec County, Maine, on June 3, 1845, and was the son of Daniel and Abigail (Porter) Hodges, and a grandson of Ezra Hodges, who was a soldier of the Revolution.

At the age of seventeen, the subject of this sketch entered the military service of the United States, enlisting in Company A, of the Twenty-Third Maine Infantry. He was

mustered in, at Portland, Me., September 29, 1862, and served with the regiment until the expiration of its period of enlistment, being mustered out July 15, 1863.

Upon the organization of the Thirty-Second Maine, he again enlisted, and was mustered into the United States service for the second time, on March 23, 1864, as a corporal in Company D, of that regiment. Leaving Maine with the first six companies, in April, he participated in the service rendered by the battalion up to the action of May 18th, at Spottsylvania.

After this battle, he was reported as missing, and for a time, his real fate was unknown by his comrades. He had been captured by the enemy, and was held as a prisoner of war for nearly a year. He was confined at Belle Isle, Salisbury and Andersonville, and suffered the horrors and privations of those prisons for many months. At the consolidation of the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second regiments, in December, 1864, he was accounted for on the transfer rolls as mustered out as a supernumerary non-commissioned officer. But this record was incorrect, as he was in fact, still a prisoner. He was finally released and exchanged, and reached his home in Lewiston in the spring of 1865. He was a physical wreck from the effects of starvation and ill-treatment while in Southern prisons. And though he lingered for a time, his strength was too far gone to enable him to rally, and he died on September 29, 1865, at the age of 20 years, 3 months, 26 days.

He was buried from Park St. Church, Lewiston, his remains being given a military funeral. A somewhat singular fact in connection with his military history is, that he was never actually mustered out or discharged from the United States service, after his return from prison. A mustering officer from Augusta came to Lewiston in September, 1865, to formally release him from the service, but reached his home the day after his death.

## CHAPTER XX.

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BURNSIDE'S MINE (CONTINUED). — IN THE CRATER. —  
BULLETS, SHELL AND SHRAPNEL ON FRONT AND  
FLANK. — MAHONE'S CHARGE. — CAPTURE OF  
MANY PRISONERS. — RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
THE DISASTER. — THE COMMITTEE ON  
CONDUCT OF THE WAR. — LIST OF  
CASUALTIES.

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At half-past two o'clock on the morning of that fatal Saturday, July 30th, the attacking division began its formation, and moved forward to the point from which it was to pass out of our fortified lines. And as soon as the division had reached its position, or at about half-past three o'clock, the fuses were ignited, but another half or three-quarters of an hour passed, and no explosion followed. Day was now dawning, and the enemy was already beginning to manifest renewed activity. It was evident that the fire had failed to reach the magazines, and two brave men, Lieutenant Jacob Douty, and sergeant (afterward Lieutenant) Henry Rees, both of the Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania, volunteered to go into the mine, re-arrange the fuses, and relight them. This they did, finding that dampness had penetrated where the short lengths of fuse, previously mentioned, had been spliced together, and the fire had therefore gone

out. This defect having been remedied, the train was again fired, this time successfully.

The historian of the Ninth Corps graphically says, "At precisely sixteen minutes before five o'clock, the mine exploded. Then ensued a scene which beggars description. The ground heaved and trembled. A terrific sound, like the noise of great thunders, burst forth upon the morning air. Huge masses of earth, mingled with cannon, caissons, camp equipage, and human bodies, were thrown up. It seemed like a mountain reversed, enveloped in clouds of smoke, sand and dust, upheaved by the explosion of four tons of powder. A moment more, and all that was left of a six gun battery, and its garrison of two hundred men and more, was a great crater, two hundred feet long, fifty wide and twenty-five deep, with the debris of the material of what had been one of the strongest of the enemy's works".\*

This crater was about one hundred yards distant from our advanced line of entrenchments, and all the ground between it and our works, across which we must move, proved to be exposed to a flank fire from the right and left. General Ledlie's division at once went forward as soon as the explosion occurred, its Second brigade, under Colonel Marshall, being in the advance, closely followed by its First brigade under General W. F. Bartlett. Unfortunately the division commander did not advance with his men, but remained in the rear of the main line. On reaching the edge of the crater, the leading brigade found many of the enemy lying in the ruins, half-buried and unable to extricate themselves.

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 437.

“The soldiers stopped to take prisoners, to dig out guns and other material. \* \* \* \* The ranks were broken, the regimental organizations could not be preserved, the troops were becoming confused, the officers stopped to form anew the disordered lines”.\*

Meanwhile the rebels were beginning to recover from the first shock of the explosion, which had temporarily occasioned great consternation and confusion. The rebel battery in the fort or redan, at Elliott's salient, and parts of the Eighteenth and Twenty-Third South Carolina Infantry,† had been overwhelmed by the bursting of the mine, and the entrenchments for two or three hundred yards on each side had been temporarily abandoned. But a part of Elliott's brigade was rallied in a ravine in rear of the crater, and a musketry fire opened upon Ledlie's division, which gradually became so effective as to repulse all attempts on the part of the Union troops to advance beyond the crater.

Our artillery, consisting of some eighty heavy guns and mortars, and nearly the same number of field guns, was delivering its fire as effectively as possible, to keep down that of the enemy's salients and batteries. But a Confederate battery of four guns, concealed in the woods on our right, swept the ground with its fire, and could not be silenced. Another battery of two guns, hidden in a ravine on

\* Woodbury — “Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps”, p. 438.

† Such is the statement of General Humphreys, — see page 256, “Virginia Campaign”. — But George S. Bernard, of the Twelfth Virginia Infantry, of Mahone's division, says, in a pamphlet entitled “The Battle of the Crater”, published at Petersburg, Va., in 1890, “The loss of life caused by the explosion of the mine was two hundred and fifty-six officers and men of the Eighteenth and *Twenty-Second* South Carolina regiments, and two officers and twenty men of Pegram's Petersburg battery”.

our left, also annoyed us, and later on, others were put into position on the crest fronting the crater, so that there was brought to bear upon the Federal troops, not only an enfilading cross-fire from both flanks, but as well a front fire from Cemetery Hill, which our artillery could not wholly silence, and from which our men in the crater sought to cover themselves by entrenching.

As the plan of attack had contemplated the formation of our Second division to the right of the First, and of Willcox's — Third — division in the corresponding place on its left, our own brigade had been massed between the railroad and the advanced line, and soon after General Ledlie commenced his advance. General Griffin led us forward and struck the enemy's line just to the right of the crater. After a sharp contest, we captured about two hundred yards of rifle-pits, driving the Confederate troops (of Elliott's brigade), back upon the line of Ransom's brigade, who were formed in a covered way running along a ravine. The First brigade of our division followed us closely, and very materially aided General Griffin in his advance, so that our little brigade struggled two hundred yards or more, nearer to the coveted crest, before we were finally checked. The Second brigade of Willcox's division occupied about a hundred yards of the enemy's rifle-pits on the left of the crater, but most of the troops became entangled with Ledlie's men, and added to the confused and disorganized condition that began to prevail in and about the crater. It was now about half-past six o'clock, and in obedience to orders from General Meade, the Eighteenth Corps, which had been massed in rear of the Ninth, attempted to move forward and

make a lodgement on the crest. General Turner's division moved out of the advanced lines, and after much effort, his First brigade gained a position upon the right of our own division, but met with little or no success.

Meantime, on the part of the Confederates, every effort possible had been put forth to hold Cemetery Hill at all hazards against our attack. Their forces were concentrated immediately about the crater. All of General Bushrod Johnson's division, containing the several brigades of Wise, Elliott, Ransom and Gracie, and also Colquitt's brigade of Hoke's division, were in our front and on our flanks. And General Mahone was bringing up from the rebel right the two brigades of Weisiger and Wright, and had sent back for Sanders' brigade also. The fire of the enemy was very severe, and from front and flank, heavy volleys of musketry poured their deadly missiles into the quivering, crowded masses in and around the crater. And from the field guns on the crest, shrapnel and canister were hurled against the shattered remnants of the brave regiments which had striven to win Cemetery Hill. The more distant batteries were throwing shell among the disorganized and almost inextricably confused crowd of troops which filled the crater, while the flanking batteries swept the open space between the crater and our advanced entrenchments with a torrent of fire, which rendered it apparently as certain death to retreat as it seemed to remain.

The further sacrifice of human life seemed wholly unwarranted by any good result to be expected, but in obedience to peremptory orders from General Meade, General Burnside now directed the Fourth—

or colored—division to attack, and endeavor to carry the crest. With the utmost gallantry, the First brigade, under Colonel J. K. Sigfried, led the advance, moving out in rear of Colonel Humphreys' brigade of the Third division, passing down into the crater, and although becoming somewhat broken and disorganized, in its exertions to make its way through the crowds therein, extricating itself sufficiently to move beyond the crater to the right, and attack the entrenchments of the enemy, capturing some two hundred prisoners and a rebel color. Colonel H. G. Thomas, commanding the Second (colored) brigade, followed Colonel Sigfried, and in attempting to charge with his brigade, had advanced but a short distance beyond the enemy's entrenchment just taken possession of by Sigfried, when he encountered Weisiger's brigade of Confederates, and part of Elliott's brigade. He was charged and driven back in confusion, the whole division falling back in disorder, and carrying with them both of General Turner's brigades, and also many men of our Second division, and others lying around and in rear of the crater. Some of our division were driven into the mass already crowded together in the crater, and as General Humphreys states, "This attack left the enemy in possession of nearly all their entrenchments on our right of the mine".\*

At half-past nine or quarter to ten o'clock, A. M., General Meade directed that all offensive operations should cease, and the troops of the Second, Fifth and Eighteenth Corps should return to their former positions. General Burnside was also ordered to withdraw the Ninth Corps to its own entrenchments, but

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 260.



as it was impossible, on account of the enfilading fire across the ground between the crater and our rifle-pits, to retreat except with great loss, it was not at once undertaken.

At half-past ten, General Mahone charged the position held by the Third division, on the left of the crater, and also attacked the troops massed in the crater itself, but was repulsed by the musketry-fire from our men, and forced to retire to the cover of a line of trenches not far away. But between one and two o'clock, P. M., being reinforced by Sanders' brigade in the meantime, Mahone and Johnson again attacked for the third time, and our men, wearied and worn out by their sufferings and exertions since the early morning, were unable to resist successfully. A large part of the troops endeavored to retreat to our entrenched lines, but little more than three hundred feet away, but even in traversing that short distance, many fell under the merciless infantry and artillery fire of the enemy. And, of the considerable number who remained in the crater, although for a time, they gallantly maintained an unequal contest against a superior force, fighting with great bravery, and losing many killed and wounded, by far the greater number were compelled to surrender themselves as prisoners to the enemy. By the middle of the afternoon, the affair was over, and our men had either fallen in action, or been captured by the enemy, or had returned to the lines from which they had advanced in the morning. The enemy had recovered possession of all the ground we had taken in our first advance, and except for the ugly gap where the demolished redan had stood, their lines were intact, and as strong as before the explosion of the mine.

Our losses were severe, various authorities stating the aggregate of killed, wounded and captured in the Ninth Corps at from 3,475 to 3,828, and so careful a statistician as General Humphreys believes it to have been 3,500. The loss in the other corps was trifling, probably 500 in the Eighteenth, and not more than 50 in the Second and Fifth Corps.

Such, in brief, is the narrative of the events of that terrible disaster which befell our corps upon the memorable 30th of July. It is hardly within the proper limits of a work of such a character as this history, to enter upon any extended discussion of the causes which led to such disaster, or to attempt to decide the question upon whom the blame should rest. But it is matter of history that General Meade, immediately after the battle, — on the 3rd of August, — preferred charges against General Burnside and desired to have him tried by court-martial. And that General Grant refused to order a court to convene, to consider charges so frivolous, and General Meade thereupon ordered a court of inquiry, composed of Generals Hancock, Ayres and Miles, to investigate the matter, against the constitution of which court General Burnside made a formal protest to the Secretary of War.

The court was, however, authorized by Mr. Stanton, and proceeded with its investigations, being in session at intervals, from August 6th to September 9th. Its decision was that General Burnside, General Ledlie, General Ferrero, General Willcox and Colonel Bliss “were answerable for the want of success”, for reasons which are set out in the case of each of those officers in the report of the findings and opinion of the court, but which it is unnecessary to repeat here.

The historian of the Ninth Corps has presented the whole matter in detail, and apparently sums up the case with great fairness, when he says, "From a careful examination of the testimony and a consideration of its *ex parte* character, from the partial constitution of the court, and the circumstances connected with the subject of its inquiry, the fairest conclusion to be reached is, that its 'opinion' is of little authority".\*

A more recent writer has said, in speaking of the same matter, "Meade showed much ill-will toward Burnside, and tried to persuade General Grant to order a court-martial, but did not succeed in this malicious attempt. He himself then ordered a court of inquiry. Against the constitution and composition of this tribunal Burnside with good reason remonstrated, for it was but a packed jury. Meade's testimony before it was a mass of glaring inconsistency, while the finding of the court did not follow at all from the main body of testimony given, and cannot be accepted as true in most of its details".†

The question of the responsibility for the disastrous and most unfortunate termination of the assault on Cemetery Hill, was also investigated by the Committee on the Conduct of the War. Between December 17th, 1864, and January 16th, 1865, that committee examined not only the principal witnesses who had previously been before the court of inquiry, but in addition to these, Lieutenant-Colonels Charles G. Loring and J. L. Van Buren, who were respectively Assistant Inspector-General and Aide-de-Camp on General Burnside's staff, and Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Pleasants, who had originally planned and

\*Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 459.

† Jackman — "History of the Sixth N. H. Regt." note, p. 323.

carried into effect the project of the mine. The evidence given by Colonel Pleasants on the occasion of his examination by the Committee, is at once curious and interesting, as showing the difficulties and discouragements under which his work was carried forward, and the lack of favor with which his scheme was regarded at army headquarters. He testified that the corps commander (General Burnside), and the division commander (General Potter), "seemed to be the only high officers who believed in it"; that he "found it impossible to get any assistance from anybody", and "had to do all the work" himself.

He went on to say "I had to remove all the earth in old cracker boxes. I got pieces of hickory, and nailed on the boxes in which we received our crackers, and then iron-cladded them with hoops of iron taken from old pork and beef barrels". And in answer to the question "Why he was not able to get better instruments with which to construct so important a work", he replied "I do not know. Whenever I made application I could not get anything, although General Burnside was very favorable to it. \* \* \* \* I wanted an accurate instrument with which to make the necessary triangulations. \* \* \* \* I could not get the instrument I wanted, although there was one at army headquarters, and General Burnside had to send to Washington and get an old-fashioned theodolite, which was given to me". In answer to an inquiry as to whether he knew of any reason why he could not have had the better instrument which was at army headquarters, he stated that he did not, and added "I know this: that General Burnside told me that General Meade, and Major Duane, Chief Engineer of the Army of the Potomac, said the thing

could not be done; that it was all clap-trap and nonsense; that such a length of mine had never been excavated in military operations, and could not be; that I would either get the men smothered for want of air, or crushed by the falling of the earth; or the enemy would find it out, and it would amount to nothing. I could get no boards and lumber supplied to me for my operations. I had to get a pass, and send two companies of my own regiment, with wagons, outside of our lines, to rebel saw-mills and get lumber in that way, after having previously got what lumber I could, by tearing down an old bridge. I had no mining picks furnished me, but had to take common army picks and have them straightened for my mining picks".\*

Lieutenant-Colonel Loring, Assistant Inspector-General, testified in substance, that the plan of attack was changed from that first decided upon, General Burnside's original plan being to have the colored division lead the assault, and to have the attack made with a certain formation of the troops engaged, both of which points were countermanded (by General Meade,) on the day previous to the assault. He went on to say that the reason for General Burnside's selection of the colored division was in some measure due to an opinion he had himself expressed, in his capacity as Inspector of the Corps, as to the condition of the white troops. And he then adds "Some time previous to the intended assault I officially informed General Burnside that, in my opinion, the white troops of his Corps were not in fit condition to make the assault; that many of them had been for six weeks in close proximity to the enemy's lines, within

\* Report of Committee on Conduct of the War — Vol. I, pp. 112-113.

one hundred and thirty yards; that all of them had been very near the enemy's fire; and that when troops are exposed as they were, day and night for six weeks, to an incessant fire, it is impossible that they should have the same spirit as fresh troops.

“In addition to that, before sitting down before the enemy's lines, they had been very much worn by the long and arduous campaign, in which, as I considered, the Ninth Corps had performed more arduous services than the other corps. But even if they had been fresh when they had arrived before Petersburg, the experience of those six weeks, — during which they had been under fire day and night without cessation, so that it was impossible to get to the rear even to attend to the calls of nature, without being exposed to being killed on the spot; during which period their losses had averaged over thirty per day, amounting in the whole to one man in eight, — was enough at least to weaken the zeal of the men. For this reason, principally, General Burnside selected to lead the assault the colored division, which up to that time had never been under any serious fire. \* \* \* \* \* That division was, therefore, selected upon the principle that fresh troops are much better to make an assault than old but worn-out troops”.\*

Lieutenant-Colonel Van Buren testified that he reported to General Potter about half-past two o'clock on the morning of the assault, and went with him to the front line where the reserves were massed. Subsequently, at about 7 o'clock A. M., he went over to the crater, and he described the condition of affairs which he found there, as follows. “As you go out of the crater of the mine you come into a labyrinth of

\* Report of Committee on Conduct of the War — Vol. I, p. 91.

bomb-proofs and magazines with passages between. The enemy's rear line was about twenty-five yards in rear of their front line, and between them were these bomb-proofs, making a very bad place for troops to pass over. In that way for about three hundred yards our First division was crowded in some confusion; beyond this came the high rear line, and on the other side of that was the enemy's covered way, and in that the most of General Potter's division. \* \* \* \* All this time the fire of the enemy was very heavy. There were two guns in what was known as the fort on the left of the New Market road, and two guns just across a ravine to the right. They were throwing canister and shrapnel in these in a very lively way. There was some mortar firing also".\*

The Joint Committee, in their formal report, use the following language as expressing their decision with reference to the responsibility for the failure of the assault: "Your committee cannot, from all the testimony, avoid the conclusion that the first and great cause of disaster was the change made on the afternoon preceding the attack, in the arrangement of General Burnside to place the division of colored troops in the advance". And again, "In conclusion then, the committee must say that, in their opinion, the cause of the disastrous result of the assault of the 30th of July last is mainly attributable to the fact that the plans and suggestions of the general who had devoted his attention for so long a time to the subject, who had carried out to a successful completion the project of mining the enemy's works, and who had carefully selected and drilled his troops for the purpose of securing whatever advantages might be

\* Report of Committee on Conduct of the War — Vol. I, p. 96.

obtainable from the explosion of the mine, should have been so entirely disregarded by a general who had evinced no faith in the successful prosecution of that work. had aided it by no countenance or open approval, and had assumed the entire direction and control only when it was completed, and the time had come for reaping any advantages that might be derived from it".\*

In commenting upon this report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War, the historian of the gallant Eleventh New Hampshire uses the following language: "This was a most righteous decision. No committee, composed of intelligent, unprejudiced men, with all the facts presented, could have come to any other conclusion. The mine and its explosion were a subject of ridicule at Meade's Headquarters, while the galleries were being excavated. There was no sympathy with it there, and not only Burnside, but the whole Ninth Corps was cognizant of the fact".†

And certainly no member of the old Ninth Corps can believe that the result would have been the same had General Burnside been permitted to carry out his original plans, unembarrassed by General Meade's interference. Though it must be admitted in all honesty, that some of Burnside's subordinates were remiss in their attention to their duty. The censures contained in the findings of General Meade's court of inquiry were undoubtedly deserved, so far as they related to the conduct of Generals Ledlie and Ferrero.

Neither of these officers advanced with their divisions, but remained in a bomb-proof, several rods in

\* Report of Committee on Conduct of the War — Vol. I, pp. 8-11-12.

† Cogswell — "History of the Eleventh N. H. Volunteers", p. 420.



rear of the breast-works, while the men of the First and Fourth divisions were struggling in and about the crater.

But turning from this contemplation of the general result, let us consider the details so far as our own regiment was thereby affected. Led by our brave and soldierly commander, the Second brigade, as previously stated, had advanced to the right of the crater, capturing some two hundred yards of rifle-pits, and forcing Elliott's (Confederate) brigade back till it reached a second line formed in a covered way, perhaps two hundred yards or more beyond the crater. Its position was held for a time, but being unsupported by other troops in sufficient force, and the enemy massing heavily in its front, it had retired to the crater and the intricate system of rifle-pits and covered ways in its immediate vicinity. After the unsuccessful advance and subsequent confused and broken retreat of the Fourth division, many of our brigade became commingled with the mass of disorganized troops which crowded the crater. Here they remained exposed to the several charges made by Mahone and Johnson, as mentioned above, till the middle of the afternoon. And when the triumphant enemy finally regained possession of the crater and adjacent lines, many men of the Second brigade were compelled to surrender themselves as prisoners to the exultant Confederates. Throughout these varying fortunes of the day, the Thirty-Second had its full share of service and of suffering. Greatly reduced by its previous arduous service, the regiment had carried into the action only about 150 officers and men.

So far as can be ascertained from accessible records, it sustained the following severe loss:

Field and Staff: Colonel Mark F. Wentworth, wounded in side.

Company A. Private Charles N. Billings, killed; and Private Thomas Hubbard, wounded in head; Lieutenant William B. Pierce, and Privates Howard J. Marden, Albert S. Hurst, Alexander Stackpole, Charles H. Cole, George Matthews and John Fernald, taken prisoners.

Company B. Corporal Charles R. Atwood, killed; Corporal Caleb B. Ackley, wounded and taken prisoner; Private Joseph H. Reed, wounded; Lieutenant Henry M. Bearce, Corporal Rufus W. Herrick, Privates Charles W. Danley, Albert A. Cross, Consider Cole, George W. Damon, Simeon Morgan, and George M. Russell, taken prisoners.

Company C, Corporal Sylvester B. Cobb, wounded in arm; Privates Peter Wedge, in arm; John Work, in arm, and taken prisoner; James P. Grant, wounded; Captain Herbert R. Sargent, and Private Eugene B. Clark, taken prisoners.

Company D, Sergeant Charles B. Cole, killed; Lieutenant James J. Chase, wounded in head; Private Luther M. Smith, wounded.

Company E, Private Henry W. Richards, killed; Sergeant Charles Gibbs, Corporal Leroy T. Carlton, Privates Nathan M. Townsend, Wyett Huff, and Charles F. Duley, wounded; Private Charles A. Green, wounded and taken prisoner; Privates John F. Skinner and Charles W. Mendall, taken prisoners.

Company F, Lieutenant John G. Whitten, killed; Captain Isaac P. Fall, Sergeant Orrin J. Quimby, Privates Winthrop A. Wallace, Brackett Lewis, Alfred Clark, Benjamin F. Curtis, and Alba Merrill, taken prisoners.

Company G, Private Asa Coombs, killed; Captain James L. Hunt, wounded, in shoulder; Sergeant Ray P. Eaton, in left arm; Corporal Eben F. Allen, in shoulder; Private Columbus B. Frost, mortally, in bowels; Private Ingalls B. Andrews; Private Edwin Haskell, right hand; Privates Amasa Cox and Nathaniel G. Frost, wounded and taken prisoners; Sergeants William G. Ford, and Lemuel B. Spinney, Corporals Henry A. Bragg, and Charles W. Johnson, Privates William A. Frost, John H. Andrews, Hiram K. Washburn, Charles O. Preble, and Mark A. Herrick, taken prisoners.

Company H, Sergeant John D. Anderson, wounded in arm; Private William H. Smith, wounded; Lieutenant Henry G. Mitchell, Privates John F. Knight, Michael Sullivan, Jeremiah Thornton, Thomas D. Ridlon, Almon Strout and George F. Richards, taken prisoners.

Company I, Privates James M. Peaslee and Charles H. Page, killed; Lieutenant Wilmot M. Whitehouse, wounded, in shoulder; Corporal Thomas Arnold, and Privates John J. Gundlack and Allen F. Crowell, wounded; Lieutenant George L. Hall, Sergeant Alexander McAllister, Corporal John W. Palmer, Privates Charles W. Tibbetts, James H. Colby, George B. Goud, Henry B. Sproul and John M. Joy, taken prisoners.

Company K, Sergeant Charles S. Hubbard and Private James Flannagan, killed; Lieutenant James W. Goodrich, wounded, in arm; Corporal Charles E. Randall, wounded; Captain Horace H. Burbank, wounded in head and taken prisoner; Sergeant George W. Damon, Corporal George A. Taylor, Privates George W. Emmons, William E. Carter, Samuel C.

Ross, Moses Donnell, Frank Wormell, Ogilvie Richards and Edward Farrell, taken prisoners.

These statistics show the aggregate loss to have been one hundred and two, of whom one commissioned officer and nine enlisted men were killed, six officers and twenty-seven enlisted men wounded, and seven officers and fifty-eight men captured, six of the prisoners being also included in the list of the wounded. It is proper to say here that some doubt exists, as to whether all the casualties sustained by the regiment on that day of carnage, appear in the above list. The fact that the command was left almost entirely without commissioned officers, and that much confusion existed for a time, after the shattered remnant had extricated itself from the slaughter-pit in the crater, may well account for any failure to report complete losses, if such omissions exist. Adjutant Hayes gives somewhat larger figures in his diary, writing under date of July 30th, "I have made my evening report; five officers wounded, eight missing, and eight men killed, thirty-one wounded, and seventy-six missing. A sorry day's work for us, and nothing gained".

Again, on Sunday, July 31st, he writes. "Everything looks lonesome, so many have gone: one hundred and twenty-eight killed, wounded and missing out of less than one hundred and fifty who went into the fight. Out of sixteen officers who were engaged, three escaped unharmed. We have now in the regiment eighty-five men, including cooks, present sick, and extra duty men".

The Monthly Return for July, on file in the Adjutant-General's office at Augusta, is dated *July* 14th, 1864, but this date is evidently an error, as it

was not received until August 30th, and was probably made *August 14th*.

It presents the following statements:

Officers present for duty,	3	Officers absent, detached duty, none	
“ “ “ extra duty,	2	“ “ sick,	14
“ “ “ sick,	6	“ “ with leave,	2
Enlisted men present for duty,	93	Enlisted men “ detached duty,	3
“ “ “ extra “	70	“ “ “ with leave,	1
“ “ “ sick,	21	“ “ “ sick,	415
Died in action or of wounds,	20	Total Commissioned,	27
“ of disease,	10	“ Enlisted,	660
Missing in action,	66		—
Wounded in action,	37	Aggregate,	687

A tabulated statement from the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion was published in November, 1892, which gave the regimental losses for July, 1864, substantially as follows:

Killed, 13 enlisted men; wounded, 5 commissioned officers, 40 enlisted men; captured or missing, 8 commissioned officers, 54 enlisted men; making an aggregate of 120 casualties during the month, which would not vary materially from the totals of the lists given in the preceding pages.

Whatever may be absolutely correct as to the number of men actually lost by the regiment in this battle, it cannot be denied that the detailed list given above, is amply sufficient to warrant the assertion that its casualties were extremely large in proportion to the number who went into the action, and to establish its claim to have rendered faithful and honorable service.

The historian of the Ninth Corps says of the Second brigade, that General Griffin “found that the point at which he entered was difficult of penetration. The line was defended by *chevaux-de-frise* of

pointed stakes, traverses and other appliances, and he was obliged to fight his way along hand to hand. He succeeded, however, in securing about two hundred yards of rifle-pits. He advanced even beyond these towards the crest for two hundred yards further, but was there checked".\*

Major W. H. Powell, who was Judge-advocate of General Ledlie's division, speaking of the advance of the regiments of the Second brigade, says, "Those on the right passed over the trenches, but owing to the peculiar character of the enemy's works, which were not single, but complex and involuted, and filled with pits, traverses and bomb-proofs, forming a labyrinth as difficult of passage as the crater itself, the brigade was broken up, and meeting the severe fire of canister, also fell back into the crater, which was then full to suffocation".†

Among the letters of sergeant Hilling to a newspaper in Bath, Me., to which reference has been previously made, that written immediately after the battle contains so much of interest to the comrades of our regiment that, while of considerable length, it has seemed well to quote it here without omission. It reads as follows:

"In Front of Petersburg, }  
Aug. 1st, 1864. }

I will endeavor to-day to give you a more full account of our engagement with the enemy on the morning of the 30th of July. In a former letter, I informed you that something was going on that would one day make the rebels tremble; it was the undermining of a rebel fort. The work was well done, but the result has not been as we could have wished.

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 439.

† "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War", Vol. IV. p. 553.

On the night of the 29th ult., we were ordered to have our equipments on, and rifles in hand to move at a moment's notice, taking no cumbrous articles to impede the progress of our limbs. It was an anxious night to us.—Few guns were fired along the picket lines; all was comparatively still. Occasionally might be heard the “clinking hammers closing rivets up, giving dreadful notes of preparation.” Toward morning, the muffled sound of columns of our troops marching to the front, was heard. Just as the day broke, our regiment was ordered to advance. Steadily and silently we marched toward our front line of breastworks that we had so long defended, and over which we were to go; before reaching which, we halted on the railroad, in anxious suspense. About 4 o'clock, with one deafening roar that caused the earth to shake, the fort was blown to a confused mass of ruins. Then came the order, “forward.” Our columns poured over the breastworks, and with cheer upon cheer, amidst a shower of shot and grape, we rushed into the ruins. It was some time before we could see many feet in advance, the smoke of powder being almost blinding as well as nearly suffocating.

Our batteries and those of the enemy were now in full play, and with rifle firing the din was deafening. Shot and shell flew thick and fast. It was truly terrific. Two or three forts were firing upon us, while our forts were firing on them and the town of Petersburg, part of which was set on fire.

Our regiment was marched by the left flank, which brought Co. G on the right of Co. B, which company was the left one, consequently in front. Col. Wentworth was about the first over the fort; Capt. Hunt called on our boys to follow, and with cheers for Bath, away they went, breaking through Co. B, which was for some cause thrown into disorder, but only for a moment. We were soon with Col. Wentworth,

through the fort, over the backs or bodies of some other regiments, who were in the fort and lying down. We passed on, over massive blocks of earth, dead bodies of rebels and the debris which the explosion caused, and into the farthest line of the rebel works, where we planted our flag or what remained of it. Before we went into this action, this flag had thirty-five bullet holes in it; but this time, before it was fairly planted, the staff was shot in two, and the flag, what was remaining of it, was literally cut to pieces.

Col. Wentworth was shot twice, but though he fell, he still cheered on his men. His wounds are not considered dangerous.

I cannot pass without mentioning some of the officers of the regiment, though when all did well, it might be invidious to particularize. Still I must mention a few. Capt. Sargent was everywhere encouraging his men; so were Captains Burbank and Fall. Some of the companies were commanded by Lieutenants; among whom was Lieut. Whitehouse, who was wounded by a shell—not dangerously. Capt. Hunt, of Co. G, also seemed to be everywhere; directing the firing of some, encouraging others, assisting the wounded. A rebel ordered him to surrender and leveled his rifle at his head, but with a well-directed blow of the Captain's sword, the rebel was laid in the dust. The Captain was wounded in the shoulder by the reb's ball, which ball passed through his shoulder and killed a private standing behind him. The Captain's wound is not dangerous. Our Adjutant, C. L. Hayes of Kittery, was in the thickest of the fight. He is no fair-weather soldier. He has had several narrow escapes, but has come out unharmed.

Such furious battles cannot be fought without many casualties. In our company, G, Sergt. Ray P. Eaton has lost his left arm above the elbow from the same ball that wounded our Colonel. Asa Coombs was shot through the body and



has since died. Corp. Eben F. Allen was shot through the shoulder, but we hope is not dangerously wounded. Columbus B. Frost, of Perry, shot in the leg and breast, we fear mortally wounded. Ingham B. Andrews wounded through the arm. These, so far as we can ascertain at present, are all from our company who were wounded, We have lost many who are prisoners, among whom are Sergets. W. G. Ford and L. B. Spinney, Corp. Henry A. Bragg, Private Charles Preble, all of Bath. Many are missing, who in all probability, are prisoners. We have now left in the regiment 46 men for duty. There are some sick, and those, with the cooks, detailed men and musicians, would bring our regiment up to about 100, sick and well. Those that now remain of Co. G are as follows:—

Capt. J. L. Hunt, wounded; Sergt. John Hilling; Corps. D. W. Spinney, John Dixon, Edwin Haskell; privates Charles E. Nelson, Thomas Dolan, Michael Murphy, Joseph McIntire, W. O. Needham, William Trott, William Newton, A. F. Winslow, S. L. T. Mariner; Musicians, Michael Fogg, W. Emery; cooks, Hugh McKay, I. P. Oliver.

In one hour from the time the fort blew up, the rebel works were in our possession. I was ordered with a detail to carry off poor Coombs and to assist in carrying off the Colonel, if required. It was a dangerous operation. The shot flew round us thick and fast, but not a man of the detail was hurt. We got safely to the fort, placed our men in safety, and were about to return, when we heard that our men were repulsed and driven back over our front line of breastworks, and also that the 31st and 32nd Maine were all cut to pieces or prisoners.

What a sad termination to so promising a beginning! As we look around and miss the familiar faces, we feel sad and lonely; but we have the satisfaction of knowing that our companies did their duty well and nobly. Would that all had

done as well as did the 32nd Maine and the boys of Co. G, so many of whom hailed from the city of Bath !

I have been to the Division Hospital to see our wounded. We found they were all doing well, and in the best of spirits. Chaplain Crawford, of the 31st Maine, seemed to be everywhere present, assisting in feeding the wounded, consoling and cheering them in every way in his power. I know not where our Chaplain is, or if we have any.

I should think, in killed, wounded and prisoners, our loss must have been nearly 4,000 ; that of the enemy equally as much, as they admit they had two regiments of South Carolina troops in the fort just before the explosion ; and by the number of dead bodies we passed over, few, if any, could have escaped. Some of our men dug out four of them who were head down, literally buried alive, but were taken out and are now with the other prisoners.

There is something going along our lines, but what it is we cannot tell. One thing is certain, Grant is not going to lie idle long : before many days, it would not be surprising to hear some startling news.

Yours, J. H."

A brief extract from the diary of one of the officers captured in the crater must conclude this chapter. Captain Sargent of Co. C. writes, under date of the 30th,

"We charged into the crater, and through in front of it, and there Colonel Wentworth was wounded. Then we took possession of the rear line of the rebs' breastworks and remained in them until about ten o'clock, when Mahone's division of rebs made a charge, and took prisoners, killed or wounded the most of us".

And on August 1st, he adds,

"There were of our regiment taken prisoners on the 30th, seven officers and sixty-one enlisted men".





SERGEANT RAY P. EATON.

If these figures are correct as to the number of enlisted men captured, there were at least, three whose names do not appear in the foregoing list, and whose identity it has not been found possible to establish.

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## Biographical Sketch.

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### SERGEANT RAY P. EATON.

Ray Palmer Eaton was born in Bath, Maine, September 1, 1846, and was the son of Thomas and Emily Bartlett (Nash) Eaton.

During his boyhood, he attended the public schools of his native city, and later, the Columbian University Law School.

In the early years of the Civil War, he was much interested in the soldiers, attending their drills, and hoping for the time when he, too, might become a soldier. He joined a company of the Home Guard, and also became a member of a light battery organization, drilling every day, and acquiring some degree of proficiency in military matters.

He finally enlisted and was mustered into the United States service, at the age of seventeen, as a sergeant of Company G, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry, being first duty sergeant, and at times, in command of his company.

He was in continuous active service as sergeant and acting sergeant-major, until July 30, 1864, when at the battle of the Crater, in front of Petersburg, in the charge immediately following the explosion of the mine, he lost his left arm, receiving the shot of a Confederate sharpshooter at close range. The same missile which inflicted this injury, had already wounded Colonel Wentworth. Sergeant Eaton was

discharged from Campbell Hospital, Washington, D. C., December 5, 1864, on account of wounds. On applying for his discharge from hospital, he was tendered a commission as First Lieutenant of the 101st Company, U. S. Invalid Corps, performing guard duty at hospitals in and around Washington, which he declined.

In 1865, he received an appointment in the U. S. Treasury Department at Washington, and as appears by the following quotation from a letter of the Chief Clerk of the Department, "was promoted through the several grades of clerkship, from the lowest to the highest, solely on the ground of merit." He resigned in November, 1873, to enter upon the practice of law, and was admitted to practice in United States Courts the same year.

In 1875, he was appointed to an important desk in the Post Office Department, and in November, 1877, was promoted to Superintendent of the Mail Service, in charge of the "Star" and steamboat service of the country. During his term of service he visited all sections of the country, travelling many thousand miles each year, and on several occasions, was designated by the Postmaster-General as his special representative in matters concerning important railway mail transportation.

Retiring from the postal service in 1881, he was soon after appointed Deputy Collector of Customs for the district of Bath, from which he voluntarily resigned in President Cleveland's first term, to engage in commercial pursuits. In November, 1888, he was tendered and accepted the appointment of Commissary of Subsistence of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers at Togus, Maine, but the surroundings were not congenial, and he resigned the following year, to return to his former business position, although urged by the Board of Managers to remain at the Home.

He was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic in the early days of its organization, holding many

offices, among which were Commander, John F. Reynolds Post, No. 6; Commander, Phil Kearney Post, No. 10, Department of the Potomac, (the latter Post being composed entirely of permanently disabled soldiers,) and Senior Vice Department Commander, Department of the Potomac. He has also been Vice President of the Society of the Army of the Potomac. In 1869, he married Ella Warren Cutter of Calais, Maine, and has two daughters. He is now Register of Deeds for Cumberland County, Maine, having been elected to that office September 8, 1902.

## CHAPTER XXI.

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AFTER THE BATTLE OF THE CRATER. — THE THIRTY-  
SECOND ONLY A SKELETON. — THE PROGRESS OF THE  
SIEGE. — THE WELDON RAILROAD AND REAM'S  
STATION. — THE MONTHLY RETURN FOR  
AUGUST. — AN INCIDENT OF THE  
PICKET LINE.

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Immediately following the disaster of the Mine explosion, the opposing armies resumed to a great extent the old condition of affairs, and for a few weeks there were no movements of marked importance. The regiments alternately did picket duty in the front line of pits, or rested in the woods at the rear, as they had done before the attempt to break through the Confederate defences. The historian of the Sixth New Hampshire says, "For a while the rebels were more spiteful toward our part of the line than ever before, because the colored troops had been put in against them in the recent action. They galled us with an incessant fire, which we duly returned, doing them probably as much damage as they did us".\*

So vindictive were they, that on Sunday, July 31st, the day following the slaughter in and about the crater, they refused to allow our wounded to be brought off. And all day long, the poor fellows lay

\* Jackman: — "History of the Sixth New Hampshire Regiment", p. 330.



where they had fallen, exposed to the full heat of the summer sun, and, faint with wounds and parched with thirst, they prayed for death to end their suffering. One after another, through those long hours of torture, gasped and died, till but few were left alive among the hundreds who lay upon that fatal field. On Monday, August 1st, the enemy received our flag of truce, and allowed us to bury our dead, and to bring into our lines the few who were still living. The sight presented to the eyes of the detachments that performed that sad duty, was such as might never be forgotten. One of the Thirty-Second writes, "I had charge of our detachment, and such a sight I hope never to see again. Men were swollen out of all human shape, and whites could not be told from blacks, except by their hair. So much were they swollen that their clothes were burst, and their waist-bands would not reach half-way around their bodies, and the stench was awful".\*

Our regiment was at this time the merest skeleton of an organization. On the 31st of July, Adjutant Hayes, as quoted in the preceding chapter, writes in his diary, "We have now in the regiment eighty-five men, including cooks, present sick, and extra duty men", and of this number the non-effectives must have been fully one-half, as the diary states, under date of Tuesday, August 2nd, "The regiment went on picket to-night. We now have out forty-five muskets, and the regiment is commanded by an orderly sergeant". This was sergeant A. L. Whitten of Company F. Three days later, on Friday, August 5th, the Adjutant again writes of the regiment. "It is increasing. We now send in upwards of *sixty* guns".

\* Diary of J. A. Hobbs of Company K.

During the afternoon of Friday there was some sharp skirmishing on our right, and for an hour or more the musketry and artillery firing was quite heavy. But neither our little remnant of a regiment, nor indeed, any of the others in our brigade were called upon to participate.

On Sunday, August 7th, Captain Hammond of Company D, who had been in command of the Thirty-Second since the 30th of July, was obliged to go to the hospital. This left Adjutant Hayes the senior officer present with the regiment. A few of the men who had been absent, on account of sickness or slight wounds, were now rejoining the regiment from time to time. But it was still scarcely larger in numbers than a single company should have been. Yet it was performing arduous duty, having a tour of picket service in the trenches or pits at the front, as has been said, for a period of about forty-eight hours, ordinarily, and then being permitted to rest at the "retreat" in the woods at the rear, for the same length of time.

Even at the "retreat", however, it was by no means wholly beyond danger from the fire of the enemy. The woods in which our brigade lay, when not on the front lines, consisted, as previously stated, of a piece of pine growth, covering several acres, and being nearly free from underbrush. From the enemy's batteries in his main line, and from his mortars, shells could easily be thrown into these woods, and at all hours of the day and night stray missiles found victims among our men. Many of the Confederate rifle-shots at long range also penetrated among these pines, and more than one brave fellow was killed or wounded while asleep in the little

bough-huts, which had been constructed to keep off the scorching sun. The weather at this time was very hot and dry, and the mean temperature for days together could hardly have been less than from eighty to ninety degrees, so that the men suffered much from the intense heat.

On Tuesday, August 9th, there was very heavy thunder, but no rain fell. This was the day of the memorable explosion at City Point, when an ordinance barge blew up, and immense quantities of ammunition were destroyed. On Wednesday and Thursday, the 10th and 11th of August, the regiment was on picket in the trenches, and as usual the picket firing was sharp and almost incessant, but we had no losses in the Thirty-Second. We were relieved on the night of the 11th, and came back to the woods, where the regiment was paid off on the next day, Friday, August 12th. On Saturday, the 13th, the regiment was engaged in fatigue duty, cutting poles to build breast-works. Heavy firing was heard during the day, and it was rumored that our forces were endeavoring to gain possession of the Richmond and Petersburg railroad. General Burnside was granted leave of absence on the 13th, the command of the corps devolving upon General Parke.

The next day (Sunday, August 14th,) the heavy firing on our right still continued, and rumors were current that our forces had seized and held a portion of the railroad. Early Sunday morning, about three o'clock, A. M., orders were received to be ready to march at a moment's notice. But though we awaited the command to move all through the day, it was past midnight before it finally reached us. And at about three o'clock Monday morning, August 15th, we marched to the left, — southward, — toward the lines

held by the Fifth Corps. We moved only a few miles, but the men were much pleased with the change, as in our new position there was no firing at all along the front line, and Federals and Confederates exposed themselves freely, with no fear of being shot. On Tuesday, August 16th, Adjutant Hayes records in his diary that "not a shot or shell has been fired at us, — this being the third day since May 25th that such has been the case". And Wednesday, August 17th, was another of those rare days of quietness, during which there was no firing. On Tuesday Captain Hammond returned from the hospital where he had been since the 7th, and Lieutenant Whitehouse of Company I left the regiment, to go to hospital. At this time we had about one hundred men for duty, in the command. On the 17th, news of the death of Surgeon Trafton reached us, he having died on the 11th.

The weather was now changed considerably, rain falling in more or less heavy showers on several successive days, and the night of Wednesday, the 17th, was dark and rainy. Everything was quiet at the usual hour of retiring, but at a little past midnight the enemy commenced an artillery fire, and for about two hours shelled us heavily. The historian of the Eleventh New Hampshire says of this affair, "About midnight the rebels began a fearful shelling of our lines, which was quickly responded to. The earth trembled with the thunder of guns in 'Fort Hell' and 'Fort Damnation': the enemy attempted a charge, shouting, 'We'll clean you d——d Yankees out!' . After shelling us a couple of hours, and finding that the old Ninth Corps was really in their front, their firing ceased, and quiet reigned once more".\*

\* Cogswell — "History of the Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers", p. 426.

Within a few hours after this episode, about four o'clock of the 18th (Thursday), the Fifth Corps, which we of the Ninth Corps had relieved, for the purpose of enabling it to move against and seize the Weldon railroad, began its march. General Warren was instructed to make a lodgement upon the line of the road near the Gurley house, or as near as possible to the enemy's lines, and to destroy as much of the road as practicable, but not to assault fortifications. General Humphreys says, "General Warren moved as directed, taking possession of the Weldon railroad at the Globe tavern, (some three miles west of our left), finding only Dearing's cavalry brigade to oppose him. Griffin's division was formed along the road looking west, and began its destruction. The day was oppressively hot and close, as were those that followed, and a heavy rain fell throughout the day".\* During the afternoon an attack was made on Warren by the Confederate General Heth, in which the enemy gained some temporary advantage, but was finally driven back.

In order to reinforce the Fifth Corps, a division (General Mott's) from the Second Corps, and troops from the Eighteenth Corps, were ordered to relieve the Ninth Corps, so as to permit our three (white) divisions to be sent to the left, on Friday, the 19th. General Parke, who was now in command of the Ninth Corps, as General Burnside's successor, promptly despatched General Willcox with the Third division, that being on our left, and consequently nearest to Warren's right, near the Globe tavern. General White, who had succeeded General Ledlie as commander of the First division, followed the Third divi-

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 274.

sion, and when he came up, was posted still further to the right. Our Second division did not move until later in the day, but was finally put in motion, and marched through mud and water sometimes waist-deep, and in a pouring rain-storm. The march was not a long one, only some five or six miles, but owing to the terrible condition of the roads, was a most wearisome and fatiguing one. During the day, Adjutant Hayes was quite severely hurt by his horse falling while crossing a deep stream.

Meanwhile, the Fifth Corps and Willcox's and White's divisions of the Ninth had been furiously attacked by A. P. Hill with five brigades under Heth and Mahone. And some severe fighting had ensued, during which our comrades of the First and Third divisions had captured some two hundred prisoners, and a color, and rendered material assistance to Warren. Our brigade of the Second division arrived on the field about dark, and went into position on ground which had just been taken from the enemy. The Thirty-Second went on picket in a piece of thick woods to the right of the Federal line.

On the following day, Saturday, August 20th, General Warren drew his line back about a mile to more open ground, where artillery could be used to better advantage, as he was satisfied that the enemy would not suffer him to remain in possession of the railroad without making further efforts to break his hold upon it. A part of our regiment remained on the picket line through the day, and the remainder was employed in building breast-works. There was no fighting in our front during the day.

But on Sunday, August 21st, A. P. Hill, reinforced by a part of Hoke's division of Ewell's corps,

assaulted our lines under the cover of an artillery fire from thirty guns. We were, by this time, well intrenched along our entire front, and General Warren had considerable artillery in position. And Hill's attack, which was made about ten o'clock in the forenoon, was everywhere repulsed. General Willcox writes of this assault, "Hill's long, serried lines were smashed by our guns before they got within reach of our musketry".\* Later in the day, Mahone attacked our left flank, but was broken by our artillery fire, and driven back with heavy loss. This desperate attempt to regain possession of the Weldon railroad was the enemy's last effort, and no further attack was made upon General Warren's position. Our lines were now extended across the railroad, and the Federal hold upon the ground in its vicinity was never afterward relinquished. But by reason of the closeness of our advanced line to the enemy, our duty was extremely arduous, as we were busily engaged for several days in the erection of strong entrenchments, in order to hold what we had gained. During a part of this time the weather was very stormy, rain falling frequently in heavy showers, and the nights especially being uncomfortably cool. The ground was so softened by the frequent rains that the roads and fields became almost impassible, and artillery and wagons could scarcely be extricated from the quagmires which impeded their movements.

On Monday and Tuesday, August 22nd and 23rd, our regiment was employed in building a new line of works, in front of and to the left of our former position. Wednesday, August 24th, was a pleasant and quiet day in our immediate vicinity, although subse-

\* "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War", Vol. IV — p. 571.

quent events proved that the enemy was quite active in other parts of the lines. Although, as previously stated, we had made good our hold upon the Weldon railroad in the neighborhood of the Globe tavern, the enemy was not prevented thereby from using it as a line of supply, up to a point within a day's hauling by wagon to Petersburg. It had, therefore, been determined to destroy the road as far as Rowanty Creek, thirteen miles beyond Warren's left. This would render it necessary for the Confederates to haul their supplies by wagon, over a circuitous route at least thirty miles in length. As early as Monday, the 22nd, General Hancock, with two divisions of the Second Corps, and Gregg's cavalry, had set about this work, and by Wednesday night, had accomplished it as far as Malone's cross-road, about three miles south of Ream's Station, and had still about five miles of the road to destroy. But the enemy had too much at stake to permit this destruction to go on without a vigorous effort to prevent it. And A. P. Hill, with seven brigades of his own corps, and one brigade of Longstreet's corps, together with a cavalry force under Hampton, moved south on the 24th against Hancock.

On the morning of Thursday, August 25th, Hill was within striking distance on Hancock's left, and at about 2 o'clock P. M. made his preliminary attacks, followed, at about quarter past 5 P. M. by an assault which broke Hancock's line. The fighting continued till after dark, when Hancock withdrew, having suffered considerable loss. The division of General Willcox was the only portion of the Ninth Corps which took any part in this affair. The division was ordered, about 2.45 P. M., to move down the Jerusalem



plank-road, to its intersection with the Ream's Station cross-road, and report from there to Hancock. This involved a march of some twelve miles, whereas by moving straight down the railroad, the distance would not have been more than four or five miles. But there was some apprehension that the enemy might get round Hancock's left to his rear, and it was deemed advisable that Willcox should move by the plank-road in order to prevent this. He arrived near the scene of action some time before dark, but as Hancock did not think it wise to renew the fight, the division was merely drawn up as a rear-guard and the troops of the Second Corps fell back past it after dark. The enemy did not attempt to follow our troops, but retired to the intrenchments about Petersburg.

Our regiment moved slightly to the left on the 25th, but only for a distance of about a quarter of a mile. And in this position we lay throughout the day, listening to the thundering of the guns at Ream's Station, which did not cease till after night-fall. We knew hard fighting was going on, but for not a moment did we dream that the gallant Hancock and the brave men of the Second Corps were being beaten. Friday, August 26th, and Saturday, August 27th, were quiet and uneventful days. The only incident of importance was that on Saturday, Captain J. N. Jones of the Sixth New Hampshire was placed in command of our regiment, being detailed by General Griffin, on account of the Thirty-Second having become so depleted of its officers by the hard service it had undergone.

Lieutenant Childs of Company G became Acting Adjutant while Adjutant Hayes was absent on

account of the injury received by being thrown from his horse.

On the 27th the Fourth (colored) division of our corps which had been left in the old lines until that time, joined the command, and was at once employed in strengthening the works, slashing timber, and otherwise aiding in perfecting our defences. Sunday and Monday, August 28th and 29th, were pleasant days, and passed quietly. Adjutant Hayes returned to the regiment on Tuesday, the 30th, and Captain Hammond, who had been compelled to go to the hospital again, returned on Wednesday, August 31st, and took command of the regiment, relieving Captain Jones of the Sixth New Hampshire.

The Monthly Return for August contains the following statistics as to the condition of the regiment at this time:

Officers present for duty,	4	Officers absent, detached duty,	1
"    "    " extra duty,	1	"    " sick,	14
"    "    " sick,	1	"    " with leave,	6
Enlisted men present for duty,	114	Enlisted men " detached duty,	6
"    "    " extra "	62	"    "    " with leave,	1
"    "    " sick,	34	"    "    " without leave,	8
		"    "    " sick,	424
Died in action, etc.,	1	Total Commissioned,	27
" of disease,	11	" Enlisted,	649
Missing in action, none reported.			—
		Aggregate,	676

Date:—Sept. 2, 1864.

It will be seen that at the date of the above return, there were but six officers and two hundred and ten enlisted men present, and of this number, only four officers and one hundred and fourteen men were effective. The contrast between this mere handful and the two battalions, aggregating together nearly a thousand men, which had entered service so short a time previous, was painful in the extreme.

Yet the many vacancies in the ranks were silent but eloquent testimony to the faithful and unremitting performance of duty under all the severe conditions of the arduous campaign. The lists of killed, wounded and captured which have been given, serve to show the losses sustained in action, and by the fire of the enemy. But of those who were stricken down by sickness, and forced to enter the crowded wards of the hospitals, no such detailed lists can be given. The medical records of the regiment have not been found accessible, and the dates on which individuals were compelled to leave their comrades at the front, and seek treatment for disability occasioned by disease, can not be ascertained, in the majority of cases. Nevertheless, we well know that the long marches, the sleepless nights, the privations, hardships and exposures of the campaign, sapped the strength, and reduced the vitality of hundreds. And in every hospital, from Virginia to Maine, there were men of our regiment, who had broken down under the intense strain to which they had been subjected. No data has been obtained which would show how many of them left the regiment during the month of August. And, so far as can be ascertained, we had only one man wounded during the month,—Private William G. Farnham, Company B, wounded in jaw, on August 14th.

Before closing this chapter, it seems proper to embody here the history of an incident furnished by comrade Milton H. Stevens, which will no doubt be recalled by many, not only of Company F, but of other companies as well.

The story, which should properly have been placed among the events occurring in July, was not

furnished by comrade Stevens until the chapters covering that month had been written. But as it is too good to be lost, it is inserted here, although somewhat earlier in point of date than the events narrated in this chapter. And in order not to destroy the effect, as it is a personal narrative, it will be given, as nearly as possible, in comrade Stevens' own words. He calls it "An Incident or Accident, and Its Unfortunate Results."

"When the Thirty-Second Maine", he writes, "was doing picket duty, forty-eight hours on, and forty-eight hours off, in front of Petersburg, in July, 1864, at that point where our line of works crossed the Norfolk and Petersburg railroad, we had a flight of steps cut out of the hard clay soil, so as to reach our trench on the high bank that ran along parallel with the railroad cut. One hot July afternoon, when the sun seemed to burn down through our caps, and almost bake our few scattered brains, not a breath of air was moving, and the only noise was the occasional crack of the rifles, and the singing of the minies from the Johnnies in front of us. For want of something to do to pass away the time, I took off my cap, and placed it on my ramrod, and cautiously pushed it up into view. Instantly three bullets tore through it, and sent it spinning across the trench.

"About that time a very brilliant idea struck me, and I took out my white handkerchief, —and I think it was the *only* one owned by Company F boys. —and placed it on the ramrod, and slowly pushed it above the works. Very soon after they saw the white cloth, the firing ceased all along the line, and we began peeping over the works. As we grew bolder, and stood up straight, we saw that the Johnnies were

doing the same thing. We hailed them, 'Hello, Johnnie!' and they said 'Hello, Yanks!' and, after a short parley, a delegation from each side, Johnnies and Yanks, met midway between the lines. We shook hands, and swapped coffee, hard tack and salt from us, for tobacco and corn meal from them. An apple tree stood quite near our works, between the lines, which was loaded with half-grown, bitter, sour apples, and during the time the truce was on, one of our boys, — I think it was Winthrop A. Wallace, — climbed this tree, and filled his haversack with the fruit, and we had apple-sauce for supper.

“And now comes the unfortunate part of the incident. Our boys swapped papers with the Johnnies, giving them the *New York Herald*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Washington Chronicle* and getting in return the Petersburg, Richmond and Charleston papers. As luck would have it, there were important details of Grant's movements or intended movements, in the Northern papers, and of course, we gave the whole business away. The news soon got back to headquarters that a flag of truce had been or was out, and we had to skedaddle for our works, and commence firing again harder than ever. The officer in command of our regiment was Major Arthur Deering, and he was promptly relieved of his sword and command and placed under arrest, and it was rumored among the boys that he was liable to be court-martialled and perhaps dismissed from the service. And yet all this happened without his knowledge or consent. The Major was relieved from arrest the next day on the ground of ignorance of orders. But I just simply shook in my boots for fear of the punishment which I so richly deserved for my folly”.

## Biographical Sketch.

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### CAPTAIN WILLIAM R. HAM.

William Ross Ham was born at Robinson's Corner, in that part of the town of Lisbon, which is now Webster, Maine, on the 22nd of September, 1829. He was the son of Ebenezer and Judith (Barker) Ham, and was one of a family of seven children. One brother was Captain John S. P. Ham, of the Thirteenth Regiment of Maine Infantry Volunteers. The parents of the subject of this sketch removed to Lewiston, after his birth, and ever after resided on the old Barker homestead. And here the boys who were destined to become soldiers in after years, grew to manhood. William R. Ham, during his boyhood, received his education in the public schools of Lewiston, and at Lewiston Falls Academy, Auburn.

After arriving at maturity, he was, during his early life, a successful teacher, and later, he became engaged in the grocery business. He was married on January 1, 1855, to Augusta D. Pillsbury. Two daughters and a son were born of this marriage, all of whom died in childhood, the death of the little girls occurring not long before his entry into the military service.

When the Thirty-Second Maine was being organized, he engaged in recruiting men for that regiment, with great success. And on March 23, 1864, he was mustered into the United States service as Captain of Company D. Leaving the State with the first six companies, on the 20th of April following, he participated in the several engagements in which the battalion bore a part, up to the battle of Cold Harbor, on June 3d. In the afternoon of that day, he received a mortal wound, and was carried to the field hospital, a mile or more in the rear, where he quietly breathed his last, early the following morning. From the nature of his wound, he was aware that he could not live, but was per-



CAPTAIN WILLIAM R. HAM.





fectly calm and resigned, and met his death with Christian fortitude. To those who were with him in his last moments, he said "I am not afraid to die, and I hope to find a better world than the one I am leaving; and I shall join the dear ones who have gone before me."

Unlike thousands who died upon the battlefield, his remains received careful burial, beneath the spreading branches of a large oak tree near Bethesda Church. His name was carved on the tree by loving hands, and a marker placed at the head of the grave. And, a year later, a brother went to the spot, and brought to the old home in Maine, the body of the dead soldier. And he was finally laid to rest where he wished to be,—beside his children.

Captain Ham took high rank, from the first, as an officer, and even in the brief time he was in the field, earned a reputation for kindness, energy, bravery and efficiency, worthy of a veteran in the service. He excused himself from no duty, and avoided no danger, and was beloved and esteemed, not only by those of his own company, but by the officers and men of the entire regiment.

From a letter written after his death, to his widow, by Lieutenant C. B. Rounds, the following extracts are made, to show the regard in which he was held by his brother officers:

"Captain Ham was a brave and faithful officer, and was respected by all who knew him. He shrank from no hardships, and in the hour of danger he was foremost, always cheering his men, and by his own acts, setting them an heroic example. He died at the post of duty, giving his life a willing sacrifice to his country. All who knew him here, sympathize with you in this deep affliction.

While you have lost a faithful and affectionate husband, we have lost a true and devoted friend, one whose noble qualities we shall not soon forget, and whose memory we shall not fail to cherish."

## CHAPTER XXII.

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CHANGES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NINTH CORPS. —  
NEW REGIMENTS ADDED TO THE SECOND BRI-  
GADE. — THE DISASTER OF THE THIR-  
TIETH OF SEPTEMBER. — BATTLE OF  
POPLAR SPRING CHURCH OR  
PEGRAM FARM. — LIST  
OF CASUALTIES.

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The beginning of September was marked by a change in the organization of the Ninth Corps. The historian of the Corps says, "The arduous duties which had fallen upon the First division had reduced the numbers of this gallant body of men to such an extent as to make a reorganization of the Corps desirable. Scarcely a moiety of the officers and men remained in those regiments which had left Annapolis with full ranks. They had borne an honorable part in every action since the opening of the campaign, and had left on every battle field the evidences of their heroic self-sacrifice. It now became necessary to merge the troops of the First division with those of the Second and Third".\* Captain Jackman also writes, "The First had become so reduced in numbers by the casualties of war, and the expiration of enlistments, that on Friday, the 2nd of September,

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps" — p. 466.

it was broken up, and its skeleton regiments were distributed to the Second and Third. In this reorganization the former Third (Willcox's) became the First; the former Second (Potter's) retained its number; the former Fourth (Ferrero's) became the Third".\* By this change, two regiments formerly of the old First division, became associated with us in the Second brigade of Potter's division. These were the Fifty-Sixth Massachusetts Infantry, and the Second New York Mounted Rifles, serving as infantry. Both of these regiments had joined the corps in the preceding April, at about the same time as ourselves, and had been much reduced in numerical strength by the hard service they had seen in the intervening time.

Most of the month of September was passed by us, in common with our comrades of the other corps, in comparative quiet, and our men had considerable opportunity for rest, after the incessant strain to which they had been subjected since the opening of the campaign. It is true, there was fatigue duty of various kinds to be performed, but as this was done largely by detail, frequent opportunities were afforded us for more or less complete relief from hard labor. Nothing was required from us involving more severe duty than the strengthening of the entrenched works in the position recently gained. In this work the Thirty-Second had its share.

On Thursday, September 1st, Adjutant Hayes writes in his diary, "a large part of the regiment has been building corduroy roads to-day", and details of from 25 to 75 men were engaged in the same labor on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the 2nd, 3rd,

\* Jackman — "History of the Sixth New Hampshire Regiment", footnote — p. 334.

4th and 5th. Again on Tuesday, September 6th. Adjutant Hayes' diary states. "Still large details for fatigue each day. building forts and breastworks faced to the rear. in anticipation of an attack from Early in that direction". On Wednesday, the 7th, the regiment moved about two miles to the right, and took position behind breastworks facing to the rear, and fatigue parties were sent out to cut trees in front of the works. in order to obstruct the passage of cavalry. The same day, September 7th, Captain Hammond was again obliged to go to the hospital. and Adjutant Hayes assumed the command of the regiment. which continued during the 8th, 9th and 10th. in the position taken on the 7th.

Sunday, September 11th, was National Thanksgiving, and but very little duty was done for the day, except regimental inspection. Monday, September 12th, was pleasant but very cold for the season. The regiment was inspected during the afternoon by Captain Cogswell. Brigade Inspector. Captain Hussey returned from hospital on Tuesday, the 13th, and took command of the regiment. On the next day, September 14th, the Second division was reviewed by General Potter, commanding the division. Thursday, the 15th, the whole regiment was employed in building wagon roads. During the 16th and 17th the regiment had company drills, and on Sunday, September 18th, religious services were held by the chaplain of the Fifty-Eighth Massachusetts regiment. The sermon was the first to which the regiment had listened since leaving home, its Sabbaths having been passed under such circumstances during the active campaigning that divine service could not be held. On Monday, the 19th, the regiment had a battalion drill.

under command of Captain Hussey, in the afternoon, having had company drills in the forenoon. Captain Hunt of Company G, who had been absent since the 30th of July, on account of his wounds, rejoined the regiment and assumed command. Tuesday, September 20th, the regiment again drilled by companies in the forenoon, and as a battalion in the afternoon. The news of Sheridan's splendid victory in the Valley on the 19th, reached us on the 20th, and was received with great enthusiasm.

On Wednesday, the 21st, our regiment was on fatigue duty, being employed in building a fort. Captain Hammond of Company D, being physically unable to sustain further active service, had tendered his resignation a short time previously, and it was accepted on the 21st, and he was finally discharged a day or two later. In him the regiment lost the services of a faithful and efficient officer. On September 22nd, the customary company drills were had in the forenoon, and some changes were made in the camp, tents moved, etc., during the afternoon. Company and battalion drill occupied the next day, Friday, September 23rd, and the monotony of drilling was varied on Saturday, the 24th, by a detail of forty men to work in building a fort. Several commissions were received at regimental headquarters on the 24th, Assistant-Surgeon John H. Kimball being promoted to Surgeon, and First Lieutenant Thos. P. Beals to Captain of Company H, and Second Lieutenant Wm. B. Barker to First Lieutenant of the same company, all to date from September 16th. Captain Beals had just rejoined the regiment on the 23rd.

On Sunday, the 25th of September, we had sixty men at work building a fort and twenty more engaged

in policing for brigade guard-mounting. In the afternoon the regiment moved some three or four miles to the right, and went into camp near the military railroad running to City Point. We remained in the same position on Monday and Tuesday, the 26th and 27th, and while lying here, were visited by the paymaster. On Tuesday notice was received of the acceptance of the resignation of Lieutenant Stephen G. Dorman of Company K, to date from August 24th. On Wednesday, September 28th, the regiment marched back to its old camp, where it remained through the day, waiting further orders, which did not come until midnight. Then we were ordered to be ready to move at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 29th, with four days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition for each man. We were ready at the time named, but the expected orders did not come, and all through the day (Thursday) we remained in readiness to move, but did not begin our march until the next day.

Movements were in progress on the 29th, on the north side of the James river, by troops from the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, looking towards an advance upon Richmond, and some sharp fighting was experienced, especially by Stannard's division of the Eighteenth Corps, which carried Fort Harrison by assault. General Humphreys states that it was contemplated in General Grant's plans, if the enemy drew off so large a part of the forces from the defences of Petersburg to reinforce the north line of the James, as to justify a movement by General Meade against the South Side Railroad or Petersburg, such a movement was to be made. But as the Confederate force about Petersburg was not sufficiently reduced to justify it on the 29th, General Grant did not deem it

advisable for the troops under General Meade to move on that day, nor until the forenoon of the 30th.

“The object then in view”, General Humphreys goes on to say, “was to secure the junction of two roads coming from the southwest, the Squirrel Level, and the Poplar Spring Church roads. This junction was at the Peebles farm, where a redoubt terminated the Confederate entrenchments, covering the roads”.\* To accomplish this object, if possible, General Warren with two divisions of the Fifth Corps moved out against the junction of the roads, while General Parke, with our First and Second divisions, followed. About noon General Warren came in contact with the enemy, whose position was a strong one on the ridge of a range of hills. The troops attacked the enemy’s line gallantly, carrying the redoubt and the infantry parapets, capturing one gun and a number of prisoners, and forcing the enemy to retire to a second entrenched position about half a mile in the rear of his former line.†

General Parke advanced our Second division to support the left of the Fifth Corps, and as soon as General Willcox came up, the First division took position on our left. General Parke then moved the two divisions of the Ninth Corps forward in a north-west direction toward the Boydton road. Our Second division passed through a belt of woods, and came out upon a large clearing, on which stood what was known as the Pegram house. The division advanced beyond the house, into a piece of woods on the other side of the clearing. Passing through these woods, we were near the enemy’s main line of entrenchments, General

\*Humphreys — “Virginia Campaign”, p. 290-291.

† Woodbury — “Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps”, p. 467.

Humphreys states within eight hundred yards. Two Confederate divisions, (those of Heth and Wilcox, of Hill's corps,) were in our front, and General Potter immediately advanced to attack them, our Second brigade leading the division. Our advance, however, was met by a counter-charge on the part of the enemy, in largely superior numbers. Their line overlapped ours, and our right was outflanked. An unfortunate gap existed between our right, and the left of General Griffin's division of the Fifth Corps, and into this interval the Confederates poured with irresistible force, throwing the entire Second division into confusion by the sudden and vigorous attack, in front and flank. General Potter was temporarily obliged to fall back, as was the right brigade of General Willcox's division. But the remainder of the First division, aided by the prompt assistance of Griffin's division of the Fifth Corps, enabled the Second division to rally and re-form, and a new line was established, which checked the further advance of the enemy.

Nightfall prevented a renewal of the contest, and we entrenched and held the line of works captured from the enemy on the Peebles farm, the Ninth Corps connecting on the right with the Fifth Corps, and our left drawn back to cover the Squirrel Level road. By the operations of the day the Federal lines had been extended some three miles beyond the Weldon railroad. But mainly because of the gap which had been left between the Fifth and Ninth Corps, our loss in the latter had been disproportionately heavy. Woodbury states the casualties in the Ninth Corps to have been sixty-seven killed, four hundred and eighteen wounded, and fifteen hundred and nine missing, a total of nineteen hundred and ninety-four, much the



larger portion of which loss, he says, fell upon our Second division.\* General Humphreys, however, writing more recently and having access to the corrected official records, states the *whole number* of casualties in the operation to have been six hundred and sixty-one killed and wounded, and thirteen hundred and forty-eight missing, making a total of two thousand and nine.† This estimate would reduce our loss in the Ninth Corps somewhat, as the Fifth must have lost a considerable number in the attack of the morning and subsequently. Although, General Humphreys says General Parke lost four hundred and eighty-five killed and wounded.

The historian of the Sixth New Hampshire describes the ground over which this action was fought so graphically, that at the risk of some repetition of what has already been said, the following extract is made from his account of the battle. After saying that the enemy's advance works were carried by assault by the Fifth Corps, and that the Confederates then fell back to their main entrenched position about half a mile to the rear and left of the captured works, he goes on to say, "The two divisions of the Ninth Corps having come up on the left of the Fifth, a movement was made by them upon this position, the Second being in advance, with its Second brigade (Griffin's) in the lead. Our Sixth regiment was at the center of the brigade line, with the Ninth and Eleventh New Hampshire and Seventeenth Vermont on its right, the Second Maryland, the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Maine, and other portions of our corps, on its left, and with the Second New York

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 468.

† Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 292.

Mounted Rifles deployed as skirmishers. We moved forward over an open field, by the Pegram farm-house, through corn fields, across some low ground and into a piece of pine woods, exchanging shots all the while with the retiring enemy, and wheeling partially to the right as we advanced, to keep our connection with the Fifth Corps, or rather, with an intervening swamp, which immediately protected our right flank. Along the further side of the pine woods was a fence, and beyond the fence another farm, with a large white house and extensive out-buildings, yards, and corn fields, the ground falling off considerably from the woods down to the house".\*

He continues his narrative by stating that his regiment seized the position immediately around the large white house, but did not perceive a strong line of the enemy which was advancing upon the same position, under cover of a bushy ravine. This force was, however, upon them in a few minutes, and as the Sixth was a little in advance of the other troops in the line, and its flanks therefore entirely unprotected, it was compelled to retreat hastily, and with some loss in prisoners. "While the right of our line held its ground for the time being", he adds, "that strong rebel force, a part of which had struck the Sixth, advanced also upon our corps farther to the left, enveloped its flank and swept everything before it. Finally our whole line was compelled to give way and to retire to the Pegram farm, where the rebel advance was checked, and the ground was held in permanent Union grasp".†

\* Jackman — "History of the Sixth New Hampshire Regiment", pp. 335-336.

† Ibid. p. 337.

The night of the 30th of September was a sad and dismal one, a heavy rain-storm having set in late in the afternoon, which continued till the following day. Drenched and miserable in body, and mentally filled with regret and anger, we sullenly counted the hours of that dreary night, in the breastworks on the Pegram farm. The next day, Saturday, October 1st, was still wet and stormy, and no especial movement was made in front of the Ninth Corps, although demonstrations were made by the enemy against the position held by the Fifth Corps. Two attacks were made upon General Ayres' division of that corps during the day, but both were easily repulsed. A cavalry fight was also had, in the pouring rain, between the Confederate horsemen under Hampton, and the Federal troopers of General Gregg's division, away down upon our left flank, but the action was indecisive, Hampton gaining some slight advantage at first, but finally being compelled to retire.

General Mott's division of the Second Corps came up, and took position on the left of the Ninth Corps in the afternoon of the 1st of October. The next day, Sunday, October 2nd, General Parke advanced our two divisions, with artillery and musketry firing, nearly half way to the enemy's works, and then established a line of entrenchments on the ground thus occupied. The movement was effected under a severe fire from the enemy, mainly of artillery, but their shells did but slight damage. The line of works constructed on the 2nd was connected with the Weldon railroad works, and made a part of the permanent lines of investment.

But let us now consider more especially the part which our own regiment was called upon to bear in

the battle of the 30th. As has been said in previous pages, its numbers had been much reduced prior to this time. But some accessions had been had during September, by sick and slightly wounded men returning to duty, and the regiment carried into the action of Friday about one hundred muskets. Of this little handful of men, we lost one man, killed, thirteen wounded, and thirty-four taken prisoners, six of the wounded being also captured, making an aggregate of forty-two men, or nearly one-half of the entire number present for duty. The unfortunate overlapping of our line and enveloping of our flank by the enemy, resulted in our being thrown into considerable confusion, which rendered it easy for the enemy to capture so large a number of our men, while the brigade was still broken into fragments by the force of the unexpected and vigorous assault.

The casualties were distributed among the several companies as follows:

Company A. Sergeant Andrew J. Harriman, wounded in leg, and taken prisoner; Corporal Charles E. Stevens, and Privates Charles H. Potter, Charles W. Robinson, Alonzo Carpenter, Charles Bowden, Walter Eaton and Ammi Mason, captured.

Company B. Sergeant Winfield S. Howe, wounded and taken prisoner; Privates Henry N. Judkins and David Sewall, Jr., captured.

Company C. Corporal Marshall Martin, captured; Private Charles B. Webber, wounded and taken prisoner.

Company D. Corporal Hiram A. Conant, wounded in neck; Private James F. Tarbox, wounded in foot; Sergeant John L. Ham, Corporal Roger A. Foss, Privates Hiram K. Thompson and Joseph C. Norris, captured.

Company E, Private Thomas C. Welch, wounded in head, severely.

Company F, Sergeant Nathan Chadbourn, Corporal Gardner L. Patterson, Privates Caleb Wentworth, George Blodgett, William L. Trafton, Asa B. Smith and Henry Remick, captured.

Company G, Private Joseph McIntire, killed; Corporal Edwin Haskell, wounded in hand; Private William H. Emery, wounded in ankle; Privates Michael Murphy, Stephen S. F. Marriner, Joseph L. Small, Joseph H. Herrick and John Dixon, captured.

Company H, Corporal Charles O. Cushman, captured; Private Nathan Brock, wounded and captured.

Company I, Privates John E. Lapham, wounded in thigh, and taken prisoner; Nathan O. Mann, wounded.

Company K, Corporal Freeman Caban, wounded and captured; Privates John W. Sanborn, wounded in knee; George Ricker, captured.

Of those who fell into the hands of the enemy, a considerable number died in prison, or very shortly after being released. Comrades Webber and Ricker died in October, 1864, the latter having been paroled, and dying at Annapolis, Md., October 30th. Comrades Remick and Herrick died in November, the first named on November 2nd, and the latter November 21st, while Norris died some time during the same month; Marriner died November 1st, and Sewall December 12th, 1864. Patterson, Smith and Bowden died during January, 1865, the last named having deceased on January 14th. The date of death in the cases of Comrades Eaton and Robinson it has not been possible to ascertain. Most of the other pris-

oners were paroled or exchanged during the fall and winter, but the exact dates are not known, except in a few instances. Sergeant Howe was paroled on October 10th, 1864; Sergeant Harriman, and Privates Carpenter and Potter, February 23rd, 1865; and Corporal Martin on March 23rd, 1865.

The Monthly Return for September appears to have been much delayed, as it bears date of *October* 21st, 1864. It presents the following data:

Officers present for duty,	5	Officers absent, detached duty,	1
"    "    " extra duty,	2	"    " sick,	8
"    "    sick,	none	"    " with leave,	8
Enlisted men present for duty,	144	Enlisted men " detached duty,	1
"    "    " extra "	55	"    "    " with leave,	1
"    "    " sick,	44	"    "    " without leave,	7
		"    "    " sick,	385
Died in action, etc.,	1		
" of disease, enlisted men,	10	Total Commissioned,	24
"    " officer,	1	" Enlisted,	637
Resigned or discharged,			<hr/>
for disability (officers),	2	Aggregate,	661

The "officers present for duty", as shown by this return, were Surgeon John H. Kimball and Adjutant C. L. Hayes of the field and staff, and Captains T. P. Beals, Company H, and M. L. M. Hussey, Company I, and Lieutenant Thomas Child, Company G, of the line officers. Assistant Surgeon Henry S. B. Smith was on special duty with the artillery of the brigade, and Captain J. L. Hunt, Company G, was serving on a court martial at Division Headquarters. Lieutenant Charles B. Rounds, Company D, was on detached duty, guarding rebel prisoners at Elmira, N. Y., while Major Arthur Deering, Chaplain William A. Patten, Quartermaster John Hall, Captains S. E. Bryant, Company A, and A. F. Noyes, Company B, and Lieutenants S. A. James, Company A, James A. Stanley,

Company E, and James B. Currier, Company G, were absent, sick. In addition to the above, Colonel M. F. Wentworth, Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Brown, Captain E. S. Keyes, Company E, and Lieutenants J. J. Chase, Company D, Wilmot Whitehouse, Company I, James M. Goodrich, Company K, Charles F. Burr, Company C, and Charles W. Keyes, Company E, were reported absent, wounded.

And when there are added to this list the seven commissioned officers captured by the enemy two months previously, it will at once be seen that the regiment was almost wholly destitute of officers at the close of September. And although the return, as given above, shows one hundred and forty-four enlisted men "present for duty", apparently this number could not have been with the colors at the end of that month. It seems more probable that this was the number shown by the morning report about the 21st of October, when the monthly return for September was made up, as appears from its date. As proof of this, attention is called to the number mentioned in the following extract from Adjutant Hayes' diary, under date of October 2nd. Reference has been made to General Parke's advance with the two divisions of the Ninth Corps on that day. The remnant of the Thirty-Second Maine shared in that advance, and the diary reads:

"9.30 A. M.—The army is in motion. We are advancing in three lines of battle. 4.15 P. M.—Here we are, lying in line of battle, and have been so for five hours. The fighting has been sharp in front. We have been under severe shelling, but have had none hit yet. One shell killed and wounded seven or eight men just in front of us. Another killed one of

Captain Twitchell's horses and wounded another. We *have left forty muskets*, the last of our regiment; 'the last of the Mohicans'. Night. — We have bivouacked: have not been actively engaged to-day. After we were comfortably settled for the night, the Adjutant-General came along, and we had to go on picket".

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## Biographical Sketch.

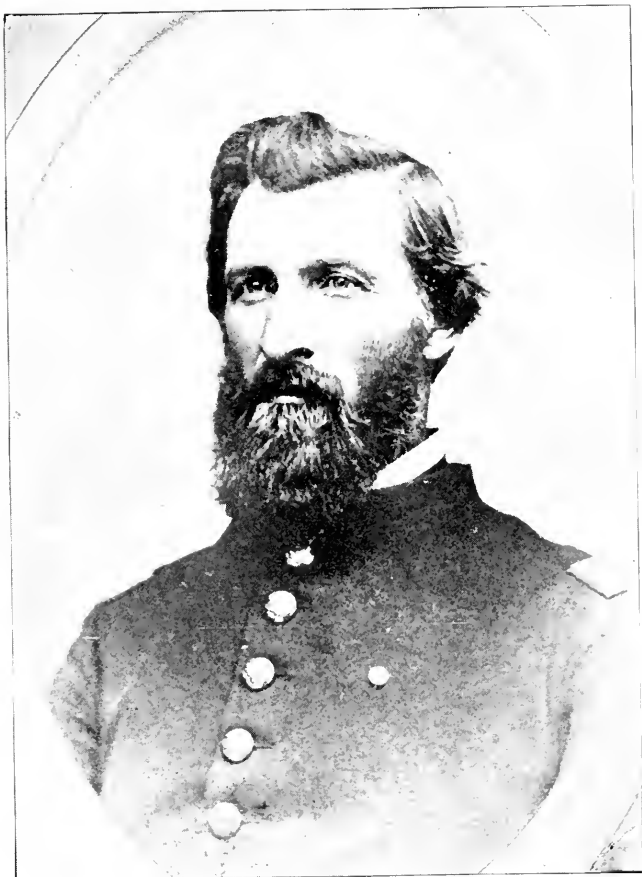
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### CAPTAIN JOSEPH B. HAMMOND.

Joseph Baker Hammond was born in New Gloucester, Maine, on April 8, 1825, and was the second son of George and Martha (Baker) Hammond. His father was a native of New Gloucester, and his mother was born in Durham, Maine. He was descended from one of the patriotic heroes of the Revolution, his great-grandfather, Benjamin Hammond, having been commissioned as Captain in the Continental army, and having died from sickness at Ticonderoga, while yet in the prime of life. This ancestor is said to have been a famous Indian scout, and a mighty hunter. Upon the maternal side, also, there was a distinguished ancestry, his mother's great-grandfather having been the first Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts.

The subject of this sketch had grown to manhood, and was engaged in the lumbering business at Bethel, Me., when President Lincoln made his first call for seventy-five thousand volunteers at the beginning of the Civil War. Leaving his business, he at once enlisted in Co. I, Fifth Maine Infantry Vols., and was mustered into the service of the United States June 23, 1861. He first saw active service in the first battle





CAPTAIN JOSEPH B. HAMMOND.



of Bull Run, a month later, on July 21, 1861, and in September following, he was honorably discharged, on account of disability, having in the meantime been promoted to sergeant.

In the spring of 1864, he again entered the service, and was commissioned First Lieutenant of Co. C, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry Vols., on March 23, 1864. Going to the front with the first battalion, he was wounded May 12th at Spottsylvania, Va., and six days later, in the action of May 18th, received a second wound. And after some ten days in hospital, was sent home to Maine to recuperate, returning to the regiment July 20th. While at home he had been promoted to Captain of Co. D, and was mustered in that rank on July 23, 1864. Almost immediately after rejoining, he went into the charge at the explosion of the mine on July 30th, and was the only one out of fifteen line officers who came out of that engagement without being either killed, wounded or captured. And his escape from injury or capture was due to his having been ordered to the rear with Lieutenant J. J. Chase, who had been severely wounded in the head, and was at the time, supposed to be mortally wounded.

After the explosion, Captain Hammond was in command of the remnant of the regiment until compelled to go to the hospital on Aug. 7th, from which he returned August 16th, but was again obliged to go back to the hospital in a few days, and finding himself unable to return to duty in consequence of his disabilities, he resigned on September 22, 1864.

Since the war he has lived in the home in which he was born, actively engaged, until recently, not only in the management of a large and thrifty farm, but also in the social affairs of the town.

He is a faithful member of Cumberland Lodge F. and A. M., and of Geo. E. Whitman Post, G. A. R., and is also a member of the Loyal Legion, while the Universalist church in his native town finds in him one of its strongest supporters.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

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CAMP LIFE IN OCTOBER. — HATCHER'S RUN AND THE  
SOUTH SIDE RAILROAD. — RETURN TO THE OLD  
LINES. — THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN  
NOVEMBER. — CAPTURE OF GENERAL  
ROGER A. PRYOR. — THE MONTHLY  
RETURNS FOR OCTOBER  
AND NOVEMBER.

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As stated at the close of the last chapter, the Thirty-Second Maine, or what remained of it, was on picket duty during the night of Sunday, October 2nd. It was, however, relieved at noon the next day, and returned to the first line of breastworks, where it remained the rest of the day, without the occurrence of any especial event. On Tuesday, October 4th, General Ferrero's (colored) division, which had been left behind when the First and Second divisions moved out to participate in the battle of the 30th, again rejoined the corps. And with the sturdy aid of the colored troops the work of intrenching was carried on with increased vigor. But the white divisions were by no means exempted from their full share of this labor. Our regiment had a large detachment at work in building a fort during the night of the 4th, comprising almost every man available for duty. Lieutenant James B. Currier of Company G, rejoined

the regiment in the afternoon of Tuesday, having been absent on account of injuries received at Cold Harbor in June. By a curious coincidence, however, his discharge was received at regimental headquarters the next day, to date from June 24th, and Lieutenant Currier started for the North on Thursday, October 6th, two days after he had rejoined us. Other discharges received on the 5th of October were those of Lieutenant-Colonel John M. Brown, to date from September 12th, and of Captain Geo. H. Chadwell of Company H, to date from May 26th.

On the 6th the regiment was employed in building breastworks, until about 5 o'clock P. M., when sixty men were sent out on picket, under command of Lieutenant Child, this being nearly the entire strength of the regiment. Friday, the 7th, was a very quiet day on the picket line, where the regiment remained without incident until the morning of the 8th, when it was relieved, and returned to the breastworks.

Two brigades of the First division moved to the left and made a demonstration against the Squirrel Level road, on Saturday, the 8th. And in anticipation of support being needed, we were kept in readiness to move, from seven in the morning to about five in the afternoon. All tents were struck and knapsacks packed, and we were in momentary expectation of an order to march throughout the day. But General Willcox found the enemy in force at all points in front, and made no attack, but returned without bringing on an engagement. And late in the afternoon we received orders to repitch our tents, and remain in our old position. Sunday, October 9th, was a cold, cloudy day, and the ground was frozen in

the morning, for the first time for the season. We had an inspection in the forenoon, and later, Chaplain Crawford of the Thirty-First Maine held divine services. Captain Bryant of Company A, rejoined the regiment on the 9th. On Monday, October 10th, the regiment was again on fatigue duty engaged in building a fort. Captain Hunt of Company G, received his commission as Lieutenant-Colonel, to date from October 8th, on the 10th. The next day, Tuesday, the 11th, was warm and pleasant, and passed quietly with us, although there was heavy cannonading on our right. On Wednesday, the 12th, the regiment again went on picket, and Adjutant Hayes writes in his diary, "Had hard work to raise sixty men", thus attesting very emphatically the degree to which the regiment had been reduced in numbers.

On the next day, Friday the 14th, the entire Second division was drawn up to witness a military execution. Charles Merlin,\* of the Second Maryland who had deserted to the enemy, and had been recaptured by his own regiment while fighting against them, was shot by a file of men, at 10 o'clock A. M. Five thousand men were paraded, and formed on three sides of a square to witness the execution. The deserter seemed to be hardened and reckless, and to have no care for the awful fate awaiting him. He fell at the first volley, with three balls in his body, one in his neck, and one in the arm.

On Saturday, the 15th, the regiment was again at work building a fort, three officers and seventy-five men composing the force engaged in this duty. The

\* Or Mullin, as the name is spelled by Cogswell, in the "History of the Eleventh N. H. Vol.," p. 499.

following day was one of comparative rest, being the Sabbath. We had regimental inspection in the morning, and divine services in the afternoon, the Chaplain of the Fifty-Eighth Massachusetts officiating for us. On Monday, October 17th, our time was occupied in drilling, by companies in the forenoon, and as a battalion in the afternoon. And the next day was well taken up by a brigade guard mounting, and company drills in the forenoon, and battalion drill followed by dress parade, in the afternoon. On Wednesday, October 19th, our regiment was on brigade guard, from which we were relieved Thursday morning. We again indulged in the unusual luxury of a battalion drill and dress parade on Thursday afternoon.

It was just six months this day (October 20th) since the first battalion of our regiment left Augusta, and in that time what hardships and suffering had fallen to its lot. Wearisome marches, privation and exposure had sapped the strength of many of its number, and disease had made many inroads upon its ranks. But leaving all these out of the account, the regiment had actually suffered a loss of upwards of three hundred and thirty men killed, wounded and missing, in a service of but half a year. In other words, it had sustained an average loss of fifty-five men per month, for six successive months, by the casualties of battle *alone*, without considering at all the many poor fellows who had succumbed to disease within the same period.

Good news from Sheridan's troops in the "Valley" was received to-day, and the camps were nearly wild with rejoicing at the glorious victory. On Friday, October 21st, Chaplain Patten rejoined the regiment

after an extended absence. We had battalion drill and dress parade again in the afternoon. The regiment was on guard duty in the trenches on Saturday, the 22nd, but was relieved on the next day, and our chaplain held divine services, it being the Sabbath. On Monday, October 24th, we had the now frequent routine of company and battalion drills and dress parade. But indications now became apparent that our period of quiet was approaching an end, and rumors of another intended movement began to be heard. The Federal lines were now within three miles from the South Side railroad, which the enemy still held tenaciously, being well aware of its value. General Grant therefore determined to make one more effort to gain possession of this coveted prize. Plans were perfected for another movement to the left, it being hoped to succeed in turning the Confederate defences at Hatcher's Run. On the 24th, General Grant wrote to General Meade, "Make your preparations to march out at an early hour on the 27th, to gain possession of the South Side railroad and to hold it and fortify back to your present left".\* And on the 25th, General Meade issued an order in which after providing for the movements of the Second Corps, and of General Gregg's cavalry, he went on to say:

"4. Major General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, will move at such an hour on the morning of the 27th, as will enable him to attack the right of the enemy's infantry between Hatcher's Run and their new works at Hawkes' and Dabney's at the dawn of day. It is probable that the enemy's line of entrenchments is incomplete at that point; and the com-

\* Humphreys— "Virginia Campaign", p. 294.



manding general expects, by a secret and sudden movement, to surprise them and carry their half-formed works. General Parke will therefore move and attack vigorously at the time named, not later than half-past five, and if successful, will follow up the enemy closely, turning toward the right. Should he not break the enemy's line, General Parke will remain confronting them until the operations on the left draw off the enemy".\*

Thus designated as a portion of the attacking force, and assigned to the discharge of an important duty, the Ninth Corps began vigorous preparations for the impending movement. The days which intervened before that selected as the time for the attack, were busy and anxious ones. The troops were stripped for the conflict, all surplus baggage being ordered sent to City Point; all spare horses sent to the rear, and ammunition, forage and other wagons parked at the most secure points. Sixty rounds of ammunition per man, to be carried on the person, and forty more to be transported in wagons, were drawn, and four days' full rations were also issued. Every available man on detached, special, extra or daily duty that could be spared for the emergency, was armed and equipped, and sent into the ranks. Headquarters guards, and other detached men were ordered to their regiments. And by the night of Wednesday, October 26th, every armed man that could be released from other duties, was present with his command to participate in the intended operation. Two thousand men from the Ninth Corps were to remain behind to garrison the forts and hold the line of entrenchments, with about an equal number from the Fifth Corps.

\* Walker — "History of the Second Army Corps", p. 614.

At about 3.30 A. M., on Thursday, October 27th, the movements of the Ninth and Fifth Corps began, and General Hancock with the Second Corps, commenced his march at about the same hour. At daylight the Second brigade was outside the Union picket line, and marching down the Squirrel Level road. General Willcox led the corps with the First division, followed by General Ferrero with the Third—colored—division, while General Potter, with the Second division, brought up the rear. From the fact of our position, we were not, therefore, immediately in contact with the enemy. The morning was dark and rainy, and the advance was delayed by the difficulty of movement over the wooded ground, and the surprise which General Meade had hoped to effect, was prevented by the delay, and by the vigilance of the enemy. Colonel Cutcheon's brigade, —the Second,—of General Willcox's division had been sent forward in advance, to capture the enemy's outposts, and surprise the forces covering the Boydton plank road, but was unable to accomplish these purposes. The Ninth Corps was then deployed, General Willcox's division on the left, and General Ferrero's in the center, with our division in support, on the right.

The Confederate pickets were driven in, and the enemy's works were found to be strongly constructed entrenchments, with abattis and slashed timber in their front, and held by such force as not to justify an attempt to assault them. The Third division advanced through thick woods and heavy undergrowth, to within about one hundred yards of the Confederate works. But finding the fallen timber and abattis obstructions which he could not overcome, General Ferrero entrenched, and held the ground

which he had gained. The First division was equally unable to penetrate the enemy's line, and proceeded to entrench itself also. Meanwhile General Hancock with two divisions of the Second Corps, had pushed forward on the left, and had become engaged with the enemy at Burgess's Mill, at the crossing of Hatcher's Run by the Boydton road, and General Crawford's division of the Fifth Corps had been thrown across the run, and was moving up to connect with the right of the Second Corps. But General Hancock received orders from General Meade to halt at the Boydton road, and subsequently he was directed to hold his position until the next morning, and then to fall back by the route over which he had advanced. General Humphreys explains this by saying, "The South Side Railroad was still six miles distant from the leading corps. It was essential to the success of the operation that the objective points should have been reached during the first day. That had not been done. In view of the character of the country, our starting-points were too distant from our points of destination; we were ignorant of the topography of the country to be passed over. It was evident that we must extend our entrenchments more to the left before advancing to the South Side Railroad, so as to give us more and better roads to move the infantry columns on".\*

Late in the afternoon, General Hancock was suddenly and vigorously attacked by Mahone and Heth, but after some close and severe fighting, the Confederates were driven from the field in complete confusion. But this brilliant affair was merely an episode, and the projected movement by the left flank against

\* Humphrey — "Virginia Campaign", pp. 299-300.

the South Side Railroad, was abandoned as impracticable, when it was established that the Confederate entrenched lines were so much more complete, and stronger than had been supposed. As the supply of ammunition was nearly exhausted in the Second Corps, and neither reinforcements nor a fresh supply of ammunition could be got forward to reach General Hancock by daylight the next morning, it was deemed advisable that he should begin to withdraw on Thursday night. Rain began to fall about dark, and continued most of the night, but the troops of the Second Corps began the movement to the rear about 10 o'clock P. M., in extreme darkness and amid a heavy storm.

The Fifth Corps, and our own, however, maintained their position in front of the Confederate works through the night of the 27th, and being withdrawn on the 28th, returned to their old lines. The historian of the Ninth Corps says, "Our troops \* \* \* retired, closely followed by the enemy, without material loss. When within a mile of its encampment, the Ninth Corps formed in line of battle, and the divisions retired in that order, one through the other. The First division formed in line while the Second and Third passed through. The corps was all in by six o'clock in the evening, having suffered a loss of eight killed, one hundred and twenty-seven wounded, and fourteen missing".\* Of this loss, our proportion in the Second division was only very slight. Adjutant Hayes writes in his diary, under date of the 27th, that at daylight, we were outside the picket line, and drawn up for battle, having broken camp at 3.30 A. M. And at a later hour, (10 A. M.) he

\* Woodbury — "Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps", p. 470.

says. "The battle has commenced, and they are bringing in the wounded, 'ebonies' and whites. Our division has not yet been engaged". At noon, he records that we had just advanced, and were then building breastworks on the ground from which the rebels were driven in the morning.

Under date of the 28th, he says. "But little firing through the night, but it commenced hot this morning. \* \* \* \* We have ninety-nine muskets in the stacks \* \* \* \* 8.30 P. M.—We are on our old ground. We fell back from our position this afternoon. Our brigade hardly lost a man in the whole affair". During the advance of the 27th, the Ninth and Eleventh New Hampshire regiments of our brigade, were thrown out as skirmishers, and, late in the afternoon, one of those rumors, which so often originated, no one knew how, began to be circulated among us. It was said that the Eleventh had been captured on the skirmish line, and that all or nearly all of its officers and men had been swept off together, and were prisoners in the hands of the enemy. Happily, this rumor, like many another "camp-story", proved to be wholly unfounded, as the regiment safely returned to us during the night, much to the gratification of the entire brigade.

The next few days after this unsuccessful movement against the South Side railroad, were quiet and uneventful ones. Indeed, no further operations on the left, in which the Ninth Corps participated, occurred for more than a month afterward. Saturday and Sunday, October 29th and 30th, most of our little regiment spent on guard and picket duty, those remaining in camp, occupying the time in fixing up their quarters so as to secure a larger degree of com-

fort. The weather was quite cool, and it was evident that winter was not far distant. On Monday, October 31st, the regiment was mustered for pay, and the boys began to look eagerly for the coming of the paymaster. Captain Noyes of Company B rejoined the regiment on the 31st. A new regiment from New York, the One Hundred Eighty-Sixth, joined the corps late in October, and was assigned to our—Second—brigade. Tuesday, November 1st, the regiment was engaged in drilling, and held a dress parade in the afternoon. The next day, Wednesday, November 2nd, was a dull and rainy day. On Thursday, the 3rd, we had about eighty men on guard, being nearly all the effectives of the regiment. It rained nearly all day, and the men had a wet, dreary and comfortless tour of duty. The rest of the week was marked by no special incident, except that on Saturday, November 5th, Captain Bryant of Company A, who had been in command, was relieved, and Captain Hunt of Company G, who had been commissioned, but not mustered, as Lieutenant-Colonel in October, was placed in command of the regiment. During Saturday night there was more than the usual amount of artillery, and considerable infantry firing, but it amounted to nothing of consequence.

On Sunday, the 6th, the regiment had its usual inspection in the morning, and the brigade was reviewed in the afternoon by General Griffin. Religious services were held in Fort Welch by chaplain Patten, and a dress parade closed the busy day. Monday, November 7th, was rainy and disagreeable, but the regiment had battalion drill in the afternoon, and a dress parade at night. The next day, Tuesday, November 8th, was National Election. Our regiment

was on guard duty during the day, but opportunity was afforded all who wished, to vote for president, and also for governor. The whole number of votes cast for president in our regiment was ninety-nine, of which sixty-eight were for Lincoln, and thirty-one for McClellan. Fifty-four votes were thrown for Samuel Cony for governor. As indicative in some degree, of the sentiments of the army, it is to be noted that Lincoln's majority in the Second brigade was about 380, and in the Ninth Corps, 2,000.\*

Adjutant Hayes left the regiment on the morning of the 8th, going North on a fifteen days' leave of absence, and Lieutenant Childs of Company G, who had been detailed on General Griffin's staff a few days before, reported for duty on the same date. Joseph A. Hobbs, of Company K, was detailed as acting quartermaster-sergeant on the 8th.

From this time forward, during the remainder of the month of November, the daily record of events transpiring in the lines contains but little of especial importance or interest to the Thirty-Second. The only change that took place among the officers of our regiment, so far as ascertained, was the resignation of Captain Bryant of Company A, which occurred on November 25th.

About the last of the month, a ripple of excitement was occasioned, not only in our brigade, but throughout the army, by the capture of General Roger A. Pryor, of the Confederate army, by Captain Hollis O. Dudley, of the Eleventh New Hampshire, in retaliation for the capture of Captain Henry S. Burrage of the Thirty-Sixth Massachusetts, a short

\* Cogswell— "History of the Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers", p. 431.

time previous. As some members of our own regiment were, to some extent, participants in the affair, it seems proper to give here a brief history of the capture. The following copy of the affidavit of Captain Dudley is taken from the history of his regiment, through the courtesy of the historian of the Eleventh.

“The Confederates having openly charged General Pryor with voluntarily surrendering himself, the following affidavit was given him by Captain Dudley to disprove it:

I, Hollis O. Dudley, of the city of Manchester, state of New Hampshire, do hereby make oath to the following facts:

In November, 1864, a Captain Burrige\* of the Thirty-Sixth Regiment, had been captured by two Confederate officers, while between the lines engaged in a sort of contraband trade, which was then going on between the picket lines of the opposing armies, by which newspapers were exchanged for tobacco, etc., and both sides became informed of each other's movements. General Sherman was then on his march to the sea, and orders were issued to stop this sort of thing. Burrige had gone out alone to meet the Confederate officers, and they had walked him into their lines, one on each side of him.

The capture of Burrige was considered by the Ninth Corps as a reflection upon them, and General Parke applied for and obtained permission to capture a Confederate officer under similar circumstances, as a measure of retaliation. This was at once communicated by General Parke to his officers, and we determined to seize the first opportunity to carry his order into effect.

On or about the 27th of November, 1864, I was in command of the brigade picket line, the picket consisting of

\* This spelling of the name is incorrect. It should be *Burrage*. Major Burrage is now, — 1903 — and has long been a resident of Portland, a clergyman of the Baptist church, and editor of “Zion's Advocate”.



the Eleventh New Hampshire, and two companies of the Thirty-Second Maine Regiment. My advance picket was on a knoll in an angle of the line, and commanded considerable distance. I had just been to dinner, when I was told that a Confederate officer wished to communicate with us for the purpose of exchanging papers.

I selected five men of the Eleventh New Hampshire, and numbered them from one to five, and ordered Captain Hussey of the Thirty-Second Maine to pick out five of the best marksmen and coolest men of his regiment. These were numbered from six to ten. These men were sent forward to the advance post with orders to keep me in view, and to fire in rotation, commencing with No. 1, (who was T. O. Fernald, of this city,) if I raised a hand or got into a quarrel, and to kill the rebel if they could. Pryor had been standing in front of the rebel picket for half an hour, trying to effect an exchange of newspapers for tobacco. Captain Hussey had told him that an officer would soon be sent out to see him. As I walked out, I took short steps, which brought Pryor more than half way to our lines. When we met, he made some remark, to which I answered, demanding his surrender. He replied, "No, by —" or some such language; but before his words were out of his mouth, his right hand was grasped in my left, and a six-inch Smith & Wesson six-shooter was pressed against his shirt-bosom, he wearing a low-cut vest. I at once faced toward my line, saying, "A word from you, or a particle of resistance, and I shall drop you and go to my line", keeping my revolver constantly at his breast. In that position we moved to my post immediately in front of where we stood. Resistance would have been an act of sheer folly, and the slightest offer would have been met by instant death.

As we stepped into the post, which was occupied by Captain Hussey and a sergeant Durgin and the ten men referred to, Pryor succeeded in getting his revolver, cocked

it, and made a pass to shoot me, when the revolver was knocked from his hand by Captain Hussey.

After searching him for further arms, and taking his name, I immediately took him to General S. G. Griffin, brigade commander, and resumed my position in command of the picket line. Within an hour of my return to the line, General R. B. Potter sent his provost marshal to me to present his compliments, and to congratulate me upon the greatest achievement ever accomplished by an officer in the Ninth Corps since its organization, saying if I ever had any request to make of him to command him. I returned my compliments to General Potter, saying that I had but done my duty, and that I had but one request to make, and that was that the revolver, belt, and holster that I took from Pryor should be my property. The request was within a few days granted, and I now have the revolver, belt, and holster in my possession.

After the close of the war it was deposited by me in the State House at Concord, New Hampshire, as a war relic; but fearing that it might be lost or injured, I resumed possession of it.

HOLLIS O. DUDLEY.

State of New Hampshire, April 26, 1889.

Hillsborough, ss.—Then personally appeared Hollis O. Dudley and made oath that the above affidavit by him signed is true.

Before me, JAMES F. BRIGGS,

*Justice of the Peace and Notary Public.* \*\*

In the foregoing affidavit, Captain Dudley alludes to the fact that two companies of our regiment were a part of the picket under his command. But he does not state, and possibly was not aware, that a member

\* Cogswell — "History of the Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers", pp. 436-437.

of one of those companies claims to have unintentionally set in motion the train of circumstances which led up to the capture of General Pryor. Comrade E. A. Morse, of Company D, writes that while on picket, he was relieving the monotony of his position by reading a newspaper, and when he finished reading, began idly waving the paper to and fro. Aware that the exchange of papers had been forbidden, he was surprised to see an officer from the enemy's lines opposite ride out, waving a paper in reply. He continued, however, to keep his paper in motion, and the Confederate officer finally dismounted and walked toward our lines. At this juncture, Captain Dudley came up and took the paper from Morse, and began to wave it vigorously. As the Confederate came out in front of his own breastworks, Captain Dudley followed his example, and the little episode progressed to its conclusion, as narrated in the affidavit. Comrade Morse writes that corporal Leroy T. Carlton and himself were among the men who were in readiness to fire if there was any resistance on the part of the Confederate, as mentioned by Captain Dudley.

On the 29th of November, the Ninth Corps moved some five miles to the right, relieving the Second Corps, and occupying the lines in front of Petersburg, on the right of the army, extending from the Appomattox river eastwardly to Battery Number Twenty-four. General Willcox with the First division was on the right, and our own division on the left, our Second brigade connecting with the right of the Fifth Corps. The line of the Second division ran westwardly to a point nearly opposite the "crater" where the mine was exploded, and where we had

fought so unavailingly, and lost so heavily, in the previous summer.

The famous Fort Sedgwick,—better known to us, and to all soldiers of the besieging army, as “Fort Hell”,—and Forts Davis and Hayes were the principal works occupied by our division, which continued practically in this position throughout the winter. Occasionally a brigade or a division was detached from the Ninth Corps, and sent to support movements made by other troops, and the Second division, or some portion of it, was from time to time assigned to this duty.

But before going on to speak in detail of the incidents of the winter, let us glance for a moment at the statistics contained in the Monthly Returns for October and November, as found on file in the Adjutant-General’s office at Augusta.

The Monthly Return for October gives the following details:

Officers present for duty,	9	Officers absent, detached duty,	2
“ “ “ extra duty,	1	“ “ sick,	2
“ “ “ sick,	1	“ “ with leave,	6
Enlisted men present for duty,	135	Enlisted men “ with leave,	1
“ “ “ extra “	50	“ “ “ without leave,	8
“ “ “ sick,	19	“ “ “ sick,	369
Died of disease,	10	Total Commissioned,	21
Missing in action,	34	“ Enlisted,	582
Discharged for disability			—
(officers),	4	Aggregate,	603

Date:—Nov. 1, 1864.

The officers “present for duty”, as shown above, were Adjutant Calvin L. Hayes, Chaplain William A. Patten, Captains S. E. Bryant, Company A: E. S. Kyes, Company E: J. L. Hunt, Company G: T. P. Beals, Company H: M. L. M. Hussey, Company I: and Lieutenants Thomas Child, Company G, and W. B.

Barker, Company H, the latter acting quartermaster. Assistant Surgeon H. S. B. Smith was on special duty with the Artillery Brigade of the Ninth Corps, and Lieutenant Wilnot Whitehouse was "present, sick". Major Arthur Deering had been "absent, sick", since July 20th, and Quartermaster John Hall since August 1st. Lieutenant C. F. Burr, Company C, was at Annapolis, Md., on Court Martial, to which duty he had been assigned by Special order No. 279, A. G. O., August 24th, and Lieutenant C. B. Rounds, Company D, was at Elmira, N. Y., guarding prisoners of war, having been assigned by Special order No. 164, July 20th.

The officers discharged for disability were Lieutenant-Colonel John M. Brown, by Special Order War Department, No. 317, September 23rd, to date September 12th; First Lieutenant S. A. James, Company A, by Special order No. 319, September 24th, to date September 10th; First Lieutenant C. W. Keyes, Company E, by Special order, No. 322, September 27th, to date on that day; and Second Lieutenant J. B. Currier, Company G, by Special order No. 317, September 23rd, to date June 24th.

The Monthly Return for November contains the following data, viz:

Officers present for duty,	12	Officers absent, detached duty,	1
"      "      " extra duty,	1	"      " sick,	2
Enlisted men present for duty,	170	"      " with leave,	4
"      "      " extra duty,	30	Enlisted men absent, sick,	341
"      "      sick,	18		
Died of disease,	8	Total commissioned,	20
Discharged, officer,	1	" enlisted,	559
		Aggregate,	579

The eight men shown above as having died of disease were sergeant Edward Shaw, Company C,

whose death occurred in Maine, on November 13th; privates George M. Russell, Company B, at Annapolis; Clement P. Dennison, Company C, at Fort Wood, N. Y., November 2nd; A. W. Stinchfield, Company D, at Washington; A. D. Roberts, on November 4th, in hospital not named; John Pinder, Company H, November 1st, at Beverly, N. J.; Nathaniel Leach, Company K, at Washington; and George Ricker, Company K, at Annapolis.

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## Biographical Sketches.

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### LIEUTENANT JAMES J. CHASE.

James Judson Chase was born at Chase's Mills, Turner, Maine, February 9, 1847, and was the son of Solon and Ann (Phillips) Chase. He attended the schools of his native town up to the time of his enlistment. Although only a boy in years at the beginning of the Civil War, he was filled with a spirit of military ardor, and desired extremely to become a soldier. After one or two unsuccessful attempts to enter the service, he enlisted August 8, 1863, at Lewiston, Me., as a substitute. He was not immediately assigned to duty with any regiment, but remained in Maine, with the drafted forces at Lewiston and at Camp Berry, Portland, until March 27, 1864. He was then commissioned as Second Lieutenant of Co. D, Thirty-Second Maine Infantry, and went to the front with his company in April. After participating in the service rendered by the battalion up to May 7th, he was stricken down by severe illness, and sent to hospital, at Washington.

Thence he was sent to Maine, and having become somewhat improved in health after being at home for a short time, rejoined the regiment in front of Petersburg on July 22nd, and took command of Co. D; the next day, however, he was



LIEUTENANT JAMES J. CHASE.





relieved by Captain Hammond. Eight days after his return to the regiment, on July 30th, 1864, Lieutenant Chase was severely, and as it was at first supposed, mortally wounded. The missile struck back of the left eye, ranging forward, and passing out at the inner angle of the eye, destroying it, and throwing it from its socket. While still suffering from this terrible wound he was, on October 6, 1864, promoted to First Lieutenant of Co. H, but was unable to assume the duty, and was discharged on December 22, on account of disability from the wound. Later he was commissioned as First Lieutenant of Co. E, Maine Coast Guards, and stationed at Rockland, Me., serving until July 11, 1865, when he was finally discharged. Some years after the close of the war, the vision of the remaining eye failed through sympathetic affection, and for more than twenty-five years he has been entirely blind, as a consequence of the wound.

In addition to his total deprivation of sight, he suffers much from the injuries occasioned by the missile, but maintains his courage and cheerfulness in spite of all. He is a regular attendant at the annual re-unions of the regiment, and is, perhaps, one of its best known members.

## LIEUTENANT GEORGE L. HALL.

George Loring Hall was born in Nobleboro, Me., on March 7, 1834, and was the son of Horace and Silence Hall. Shortly after the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion, he enlisted, on June 13, 1861, in the regimental band of the Fourth Regiment Maine Infantry Volunteers, and four days later, left Rockland, Me., and proceeded to Washington with the regiment. Arriving on June 20th at its destination, the Fourth Maine went into camp on Meridian Hill, and early in July crossed to the Virginia side of the Potomac, and on the 18th, was at Centerville, and on the 21st was engaged in the battle of Bull Run.

The subject of this sketch followed the fortunes of the regiment until discharged, on September 13, 1863, under an order from the War Department for the discharge of regimental bands.

During his service, he participated in the siege of Yorktown, the battle of Williamsburg, the Seven Days battles before Richmond, and the Second Bull Run, being detailed to serve in the ambulance corps during the battles.

When the Thirty-Second Maine was organized, he again entered the military service, and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant of Company I, of that regiment, on May 4, 1864. Going out with the second battalion, he joined the Ninth Corps at the North Anna river, on May 25, 1864. He participated in the battle of Cold Harbor, and the siege of Petersburg, and other minor engagements. On July 30, 1864, he was taken prisoner at the explosion of Burnside's Mine, in front of Petersburg, and was confined at Columbia, S. C., for several months. He was paroled, and passed through the Confederate lines near Wilmington, N. C., on March 5, 1865, and sent to Annapolis, Md. On March 12, 1865, he was mustered out and honorably discharged, by reason of the consolidation with the Thirty-First, which occurred while he



LIEUTENANT GEORGE L. HALL.



was still a prisoner, and by which he had been rendered supernumerary.

On May 10th, 1866, he was married to Sarah Elizabeth Russell, daughter of Cushing B. Russell, of Nobleboro, Maine. He has been prominent in town affairs, having served as Town Clerk, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, and was Representative to the Legislature in 1872-3. He also held the office of Postmaster, from 1863 to 1876, and was again appointed to the same position in 1897, and has continued to serve until the present time. He has held a commission as Justice of the Peace ever since the war, and has been actively engaged in business pursuits.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

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CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION OF NINTH CORPS. — THE  
COLORED TROOPS DETACHED. — NEW REGIMENTS  
FROM PENNSYLVANIA JOIN THE CORPS. — WAR-  
REN'S RECONNAISSANCE. — THE THIRTY-  
SECOND MAINE IN DECEMBER. — THE  
CONSOLIDATION WITH THE THIRTY-  
FIRST MAINE. — LIST OF OFFI-  
CERS AND MEN PRESENT AT  
DATE OF TRANSFER.

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The previous chapter brought the narrative down to the close of November, 1864, and in beginning to speak of the progress of events in the following month, the first matter of interest appears to be the changes which took place in the organization of the Ninth Corps early in December.

The Third (or colored) division was permanently detached, and separated from General Parke's command, at the beginning of the month. The two brigades of colored troops were moved down to Bermuda Hundreds, where, together with the colored regiments formerly belonging to the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, they were organized into a new corps, the Twenty-Fifth, on December 3, 1864.

Their place in the Ninth Corps was taken by six new regiments of Pennsylvania troops, designated as

the Two Hundredth, the Two Hundred and Fifth, Two Hundred and Seventh, Two Hundred and Eighth, Two Hundred and Ninth, and the Two Hundred and Eleventh Pennsylvania Infantry. These men were enlisted for one year's service, and the regiments had been organized and mustered in, about September, 1864. They constituted the new Third division, General John F. Hartranft being assigned to the command of the division. Colonel C. W. Diven commanded the First brigade, consisting of the Two Hundredth, the Two Hundred and Eighth, and the Two Hundred and Ninth. The Second brigade was composed of the Two Hundred and Fifth, the Two Hundred and Seventh, and the Two Hundred and Eleventh, under the command of Colonel J. A. Mathews.

A reconnaissance to the Weldon railroad was undertaken by General Warren on the 6th of December, with the Fifth Corps, and a division of the Second Corps. He proceeded as far as Hicksford, on the Meherrin river, forty miles from Petersburg, and was successful in destroying the railroad track for a considerable distance. The Confederate General A. P. Hill was dispatched against Warren, and on the 10th of December, a part of our Second division was sent down to Nottoway Court House to reinforce Warren, and aid his return.

The only regiments in the Second brigade which participated in this movement were the Sixth New Hampshire, the Second Maryland and the One Hundred and Seventy-Ninth and One Hundred and Eighty-Sixth New York, the remainder of the brigade remaining behind to hold the line. The march to the Nottoway river is said to have been a

very uncomfortable one, as the weather was very cold, and the air full of sleet and snow. General Warren's men had been suffering from the inclemency of the weather, and were wearied with the hardships and exposure to which they had been subjected, when General Potter reached them, during the afternoon of the 11th. The entire force returned to their old places in the lines, on December 12th, without having come into collision with Hill.

But in these early days of December, while these events were taking place, the period of existence of the Thirty-Second Maine as a separate regimental organization was rapidly approaching its termination. As has been shown, the regiment had suffered severely during its brief term of service. Its Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel had both been obliged to resign on account of severe and disabling wounds, while its Major had long been absent on account of disease contracted in the service. It was entirely without field-officers, and its line-officers were nearly all either dead, or absent on account of wounds or sickness, or prisoners in the hands of the enemy. Three Captains and four Lieutenants had been captured in one day, at the Mine Explosion, and the Morning Reports for December 1st show two companies without any commissioned officer present, six companies with only one commissioned officer each, and two companies each with two officers present. And of the thousand and more enlisted men, who had entered the service in its ranks, less than a year previous, there now remained but a small and feeble remnant, who could still be numbered as effectives, present for duty. From the Wilderness, early in May, to Hatcher's Run, in late October, for nearly six consecutive months, the



regiment had been almost continuously under fire, marching and fighting, or garrisoning the trenches. Its dead lay on every battle-field of that terrible campaign, and its wounded, in long procession, were to be found in every hospital, from City Point to far-off Maine. Disease, as well as the casualties of battle, had been busy in our ranks, and many who had escaped the bullet, had succumbed to the no less deadly attacks of the manifold disabilities that followed exposure, fatigue, irregular and insufficient food, and unwholesome water. And in the foul and noisome prisons, at Andersonville and Salisbury, comrades of ours were starving and dying with scurvy and diarrhœa, and all the myriad ills that beset the prisoners in the hands of the enemy. But little more than a hundred men,—hardly more than one full company,—now remained with the colors, out of all whose names were borne upon the regimental rolls.

The Morning Reports of all the companies, for December 1, 1864, have been examined, and they exhibit the condition of the regiment so clearly, that it seems proper to present them here.

Company A's Morning Report on that date shows one commissioned officer, two non-commissioned officers and seventeen privates, present for duty; two privates present, sick, and four privates, present on special duty, making an aggregate of twenty-six present. There were four non-commissioned officers and twelve privates, absent, sick, showing total present and absent, forty-two.

Company B reports one commissioned officer, five non-commissioned, and twenty-four privates, present for duty, aggregating thirty present; and five non-commissioned officers and thirty-seven privates, absent, sick. Total present and absent, seventy-two.

Company C has one commissioned officer, four non-commissioned, and sixteen privates, present for duty; one private present, sick, and two on special duty, being an aggregate of twenty-four present. There were absent, sick, four non-commissioned officers and forty privates, making total present and absent, sixty-eight.

Company D shows one commissioned and three non-commissioned officers and six privates, present for duty, while four privates are present on special duty, aggregating fourteen present. There are one commissioned, and seven non-commissioned officers and forty-one privates, absent, sick, and one commissioned officer absent on special duty, the total present and absent being sixty-four.

In Company E there were two commissioned officers, six non-commissioned, and nine privates, present for duty, and two non-commissioned officers and two privates, present, sick, one non-commissioned officer and four privates, present on special duty, being an aggregate of twenty-six present. There were three non-commissioned officers and thirty-three privates, absent, sick, making a total of sixty-two present and absent.

Company F reports three non-commissioned officers and eleven privates, present for duty: one non-commissioned officer and three privates, present on special duty, the aggregate present being eighteen. Shown as absent, sick, are one non-commissioned officer and eighteen privates, the total present and absent being thirty-seven.

Company G had one non-commissioned officer and seventeen privates, present for duty, and one commissioned officer and one private were on special duty,

the aggregate present being twenty. There were nine non-commissioned officers and twenty-nine privates, absent, sick, making total present and absent, fifty-eight.

Company H had present for duty, one commissioned and nine non-commissioned officers, and twelve privates; present, sick, six privates, and on special duty, four privates, making aggregate present thirty-two. There were absent, sick, three non-commissioned officers and twenty-one privates, and the total present and absent was fifty-five.

Company I reported two commissioned, three non-commissioned officers and thirteen privates, present for duty; one non-commissioned officer and four privates, present, sick, and two privates on special duty, making aggregate present, twenty-five. There were five non-commissioned officers and twenty-eight privates, absent, sick, and one private on special duty, the total present and absent being fifty-nine.

Company K, had three non-commissioned officers and seven privates, present for duty, and one private on special duty, making aggregate present, eleven. Reported as absent, sick, were one commissioned and four non-commissioned officers, and thirty-six privates, making total present and absent fifty-two.

These reports would give a total, in the ten companies, of nine commissioned officers and one hundred and seventy-one enlisted men, for duty, and one officer and twenty-seven men on special duty, while eighteen were present, sick. The discrepancy between these figures, and those in the Monthly Return for November, as given in the preceding chapter, is very slight, and is probably accounted for by some trifling error in making up the Return.

Such was the condition in which the regiment was now found to be, after having been in the service barely eight months, out of the three years' period for which it had been enlisted. It is not strange, in view of these facts, that the question arose, both at the War Department, and with the State authorities, as to the best method of increasing its effectiveness. The war was likely, so far as could then be determined, to continue for an indefinite period, and new enlistments were still being made, in all the Northern states. And it was hoped that the fragment of our regiment which remained, might be permitted to return to Maine for a time, before the beginning of active operations in the spring, and endeavor to recruit its skeleton companies to a point somewhat nearer the maximum in number.

But in the absence of field-officers, and, indeed, the almost total lack of commissioned officers of any grade, no especial influence could be brought to bear upon the authorities to accomplish this result. And the plan of being sent home to recruit, was not urged with sufficient vigor to secure its adoption. The fact that during the winter and spring, there were numerous enlistments in Maine, so that, as noted elsewhere, no less than thirty companies of infantry were organized, would seem to indicate that our depleted ranks might have been filled up, if we had been permitted to come home.

The War Department, however, believed it to be more expedient, for many reasons, to unite the shattered remnants of the Thirty-Second with the almost equally reduced companies of the Thirty-First Maine, and, from the consolidation of the two weak commands, to create one regiment of average strength.

Of the wisdom and expediency of this action on the part of the authorities at Washington, no criticism would be proper here. Nor would it serve any good purpose to enter upon any discussion of the actual results of the consolidation. But it may be permitted us to say that there were few, if any, of the members of our regiment who believed at the time, that it was either necessary or just to deprive us of our independent existence as an organization. And while it is not intended to excuse, or palliate in any degree so grave a military offence as desertion, it is nevertheless true that some who had served faithfully prior to the consolidation, were later marked as deserters, on the rolls of the regiment to which they had been transferred. And there is reason to believe that in most of these cases, the inducing causes for the desertion were to be found in an extreme dissatisfaction with the new conditions, and a lack of identification with, and soldierly pride in, the new organization.

The consolidation was determined upon by the War Department, and however much we might have been inclined to protest, nothing remained for us to do but to obey orders. And accordingly, on the 12th of December, 1864, fifteen officers and four hundred and seventy men, making an aggregate force of four hundred and eighty-five, were formally transferred, *on paper*, to the Thirty-First Maine, and from and after that date, the Thirty-Second regiment of Maine Infantry Volunteers no longer existed as an organization. But though so large a number were nominally transferred at this time, less than half that number were actually present in the lines, there being only one hundred and ninety men with the colors, on the day the consolidation was effected. The remainder

were absent, sick, wounded, or prisoners in the hands of the enemy. And many, whose names were borne on the rolls of the Thirty-First Maine for a longer or shorter time, never actually joined the regiment for duty, or were ever present with it for a day.

The supernumerary non-commissioned officers of the Thirty-Second were mustered out and discharged at the consolidation, and the officers and men retained in service were distributed among the several companies of the Thirty-First, and their subsequent military history, after the 12th of December, 1864, must be traced in the story of the service of that regiment from that date.

But it has been thought, that it would be of interest to give here a list of the officers and men who were actually present at the time of the consolidation, as shown by the transfer-rolls in the office of the Adjutant-General of Maine. They are as follows:

Company A.—Corporal Joseph W. Bartlett; Wagoner Almon Littlefield; Privates Elbridge Bean, James R. Brewer, George H. Benson, John N. Bickford, Charles M. Butler, Timothy Caswell, Henry E. Clark, Joseph E. Emery, Joseph M. Hurst, John A. Hill, William Kerr, John H. Lambert, Chester Norwood, James H. Pickernell, Walter C. Roberts, Fred G. Rummels, Justin Spinney, Hiram Tobey, Thomas H. Wilson, James West and James W. Tufts; twenty-three in all.

Company B.—Corporal Frank W. Barker; Wagoner Lorenzo D. Hobbs; Privates Caleb W. Battles, Caleb Battles, Hezekiah E. Brown, Ephraim F. Goddard, Stewart B. Horr, George A. Haskell, Benjamin G. Holt, Joseph Holland, Ronello S. Herrick, Stephen Irish, Frederick A. Kimball, Charles H. Lovis, William Lewis, Harris A. P. Lewis, Oliver Millett, James

L. Meserve, William C. Mallett, William H. Noble, Leonard D. Randall, Charles Seavey, Richard Smith, Frank Stanley, Benjamin F. Thurston, Augustine D. Varney, Oscar F. Whitman, William W. Wilkins and William H. Wiswell; twenty-nine in all.

Company C.—Musician Bartholomew Coughlin; Wagoner John H. Welch; Privates Clarence L. Abbott, George Blake, Oliver Brown, Charles M. Cobb, Prescott Chamberlain, Thomas Childs, Nathan Call, James P. Grant, Floris E. Gould, Albert King, Daniel W. Leavitt, Lendall A. Libby, Joseph N. March, Joshua M. Nash, Abner C. Phelps, John F. Palmer, Alphonso Pulcifer, Solomon C. Rider, Joseph B. Rogers, Benjamin F. Roberts, William H. Sargent and Elias H. Trumble; twenty-four in all.

Company D.—Sergeant Converse L. Pettengill; Corporals Lora H. Collins and Hebron Norton; Privates Charles H. Goodwin, Alvah N. Ham, Oliver N. Leavitt, Cleaveland B. Merrill, Elias A. Morse, Luther M. Smith and George Sylvester; ten in all.

Company E.—Captain Ebenezer S. Kyes; Sergeants William W. Cushman and Marcus C. Keyes; Corporal John G. Powers; Privates Solomon Anderson, Albert Bessey, Jeremiah C. Brackett, George A. Brown, Elihu Child, Leander S. Cleaveland, Alonzo D. Edgecomb, Moses Farmer, Jr., Israel C. Taylor, Gilbert B. Townsend, Nathan M. Townsend, Joseph W. Welch, Thomas C. Welch, Samuel S. Whitney, Sumner W. Whitney, Daniel Winslow and John Y. Wood; twenty-one in all.

Company F.—Corporals James H. Smith and John Hanscom; Musicians William C. Rowell and George E. Joy; Privates Thomas Doieg, Joseph Dudley, Charles Goodwin, George W. Hilton, Frederick

Jeffrey, Charles L. Knight, Willard S. Knox, Alba Merrill, Edwin W. Prescott, Henry G. Stone, Milton H. Stevens and David Thorn: sixteen in all.

Company G.—Wagoner John Avery; Musician Charles B. Harmon; Privates John H. Adams, John S. Cresey, George W. Gray, William H. Gardiner, James A. Haley, Nathan E. Hall, Charles H. Judkins, Hugh McKay, John H. Nockton, Josiah P. Oliver, Albert A. Palmer, Edwin P. Ryerson, George V. Rose, Charles F. Thurston, Aaron N. Trott, William Trott and William J. Wright: nineteen in all.

Company H.—Captain Thomas P. Beals; Corporal Charles E. Carle; Wagoner Charles H. Snow; Privates North L. Babb, William Berry, James F. Birchsted, Charles H. Chase, James M. Cook, George W. Cobb, Simon Dyer, George A. Elder, Joseph A. Graffam, Joseph D. Griffin, Charles Littlefield, Edwin C. Milliken, Benjamin F. Milliken, Joseph F. Mackin, Frank M. P. Perkins, William A. Rowell, Alonzo Stanton and Thomas Welch Jr.: twenty-one in all.

Company I.—Lieutenant Wilmot Whitehouse; Privates Gustavus Brown, Charles H. Blackstone, Cyrus E. Boynton, William A. D. Crollison, John Downs, Jr., Byron Fossett, Oliver M. Greeley, Daniel Garden, John J. Gundlack, Joseph E. Hilton, Joseph Hussey, Peter Murray, William McDaniel, Andrew E. Perkins, Henry D. Sidelinger and Thomas Tobin: seventeen in all.

Company K.—Wagoner John H. Clayton; Privates Jerome L. Black, James A. Bragdon, George Buzzell, Joseph A. Hobbs, Ralph T. Jordan, Elijah Libby, Charles W. Neal, Mark Porter and Benjamin Small: ten in all.

These names have been given as they appear upon the transfer-rolls, but it is possible some errors or



omissions may exist in the rolls, which seem to have been made somewhat hurriedly. Several men are not accounted for upon the transfer-rolls, and in a number of instances, the names of non-commissioned officers are included with those of the privates. But it was thought best to give the lists as copied from the rolls, rather than to attempt any corrections in these particulars. So far as it has been possible to do so, the final record of those not accounted for on the transfer-rolls, has been given in the roster which follows the concluding chapter of the history.

And here we take our final leave of the organization whose fortunes we have attempted to trace in the foregoing pages. In fact, after the date at which we have now arrived, the organization no longer had an existence. There was not, after this time, any Thirty-Second Maine Infantry, and the history of that regiment must be closed. When the transfer had been carried into effect, and the four hundred and eighty-five men and officers, still borne upon its rolls, had been either actually or nominally incorporated into another regiment, the Thirty-Second had terminated its brief career. And its historian has completed the task he has undertaken, so far as this imperfect endeavor to present its story can be said to be complete. From its organization, down to the close of its service, when it lost its identity as a regiment, and became merged with another, its course has been followed in this narrative. Much has been left unsaid, and there are, undoubtedly, omissions, errors, and inaccuracies existing in the history as here presented. These were unavoidable, both because of the necessarily imperfect condition of existing records, and as well, the peculiar circumstances under which

the regiment performed its service. While all possible effort has been made to secure complete and reliable information, and attain the utmost degree of accuracy, this endeavor has often failed of success. Many and grave difficulties have been encountered, some of which it has not been possible to overcome.

And yet, in spite of all these imperfections, it is only with much reluctance that we turn from the further consideration of the services and the suffering of the Thirty-Second, during its short but memorable and arduous period of independent existence. As measured by the passage of time, it was but a brief while that it maintained its individuality as an organization, and yet much bitter experience was crowded into those eight months of battle and of siege. But though we were to continue until this narrative should be enlarged to unwieldy proportions, we could not hope, even then, to tell the whole story of those months.

It only remains, then, to add to what has already been written, a brief statement of the subsequent service rendered, from the date of the consolidation until the close of the war, by the men who joined the Thirty-First Maine, and this it has been thought best to do in a separate chapter.

If what has been said shall serve, in any degree, to establish more clearly the right of the men who served in the Thirty-Second Maine, to claim recognition among the soldier-sons of the Pine Tree State, as having performed their whole duty, and borne an honorable part in the great contest between the North and the South, this history will have successfully accomplished the purpose for which it was designed, even though it is imperfect in many particulars.





ADJUTANT CALVIN L. HAYES.

## Biographical Sketches.

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### ADJUTANT CALVIN L. HAYES.

Calvin L. Hayes was born in Kittery, Me., on March 1, 1842, and was the son of Lewis and Sarah M. Hayes. He attended the public schools in his native town, and a private school in Portsmouth, N. H. After fitting for college at the Wolfboro, N. H. Academy, he entered Bowdoin in 1859, as a member of the class of '63.

At the outbreak of the Rebellion, he enlisted on April 30, 1861, under President Lincoln's first call for 75,000 men, the company to which he belonged being sent to garrison Fort McClary, in the harbor of Portsmouth, N. H.

On September 10, 1862, he re-enlisted in the Twenty-Seventh Maine Infantry, and was appointed Sergeant-Major of the regiment, serving as such until discharged, July 17, 1863, by reason of expiration of term of service. The regiment was about to return home when General Lee's army began its march North to meet defeat at Gettysburg. At the request of President Lincoln, a portion of the Twenty-Seventh Maine volunteered, in this emergency, to remain in defence of Washington. And for this service, the subject of this sketch, with others, received the highly prized medal of honor.

His third enlistment was on Feb. 19, 1864, when he was commissioned Adjutant of the Thirty-Second Maine, and with Surgeon Trafton and Quartermaster Hall, was mustered into the United States service, forming the nucleus of that regiment. He served with the Thirty-Second until its consolidation with the Thirty-First, and was, by reason of this consolidation, discharged Dec. 12, 1864.

During his connection with the regiment, he participated in all its active service after the joining of the second battalion at the North Anna. And after the explosion of the "mine,"

July 30, 1864, he was, for several weeks, in command of the regiment, being the only commissioned officer on duty.

After the war, he occupied an important position in the Navy Yard at Kittery for many years, and is still employed there as Chief Clerk in the Department of Construction. He has filled several town offices, and was for twenty-five years connected with the School Board. He is President of the board of trustees of the R. W. Traip Academy fund, and Treasurer of the Rice Public Library fund.

On March 14, 1864, he married Angelia M., daughter of Greenlief and Hannah T. Perry, then residing at Wolfboro, N. H. Her father was one of the "Argonauts," being a California "Forty-Niner."





QUARTERMASTER JOHN HALL.



## QUARTERMASTER JOHN HALL.

Quartermaster John Hall was born in North Berwick, Maine, on October 2, 1822, and was of pioneer ancestry, being a descendent from John Hall of New Hampshire, who was one of the early settlers on the borders of the Piscataqua river. The farm on which the subject of this sketch was born, was also the birthplace of his father, John Hall, Sr., the latter having been born soon after the close of the Revolution, on July 14, 1786.

Being thus descended from one of the old families, and being bred and educated in North Berwick, John Hall became closely identified with the leading interests of the town. He engaged successfully in the hereditary occupation of farming, and also became active in public affairs, having served as Collector and Treasurer of the town, prior to the outbreak of the Rebellion, and also as Selectman.

On May 28, 1846, he was married to Joanna Hurd Fernald, daughter of Oliver Fernald, and granddaughter of Hercules Fernald, a soldier of the Revolution. In August, 1862, he first entered the military service of the United States as Quartermaster-sergeant of the Twenty-Seventh Maine Infantry. In December, 1862, he was promoted to Lieutenant of Company E, of the Twenty-Seventh, and was detailed on the staff of General Grimshaw as commissary of the brigade. And he subsequently served on the staff of General Fessenden in the same capacity, remaining on staff duty till the expiration of his regiment's term of service. This was just prior to the battle of Gettysburg, and Lieutenant Hall, together with some three hundred others of the regiment, volunteered to remain after their enlistment expired. And in common with all who thus came to the aid of the Nation in this crisis, he subsequently received a medal of honor.

On July 17, 1863, he was honorably discharged from the service, but on February 24, 1864, was commissioned as Quartermaster of the Thirty-Second Maine, and continued to serve as such up to the time of the consolidation with the Thirty-First, being honorably discharged on December 12, 1864.

In 1868, he was elected Treasurer of York County, and filled that position acceptably for four years. He had been a member of the lower house of the legislature in 1858, before the war, and, in 1874 and 1875, was state senator, and served as chairman of the railroad committee. In 1880, he was appointed by Governor Davis as state valuation commissioner, and ten years later, in 1890, Governor Burleigh re-appointed him to the same office. He was always a staunch Republican, and was chairman of the county committee for ten years, and a member of the state committee six years.

He was also active in religious matters, and for more than fifty years was clerk of the First Free Will Baptist church in North Berwick, and for nearly the same length of time was a deacon of that church. He was also interested in fraternal organizations, being a member of L. D. Cowan Post, G. A. R., and of Eagle Lodge, I. O. O. F.

He died suddenly, from apoplexy induced by heart disease, on July 17, 1902, being nearly eighty years of age. His wife had died almost ten years previously, on March 8, 1893, but a family of seven children, — two sons and five daughters, — were left to mourn his loss.





JOSEPH L. SMALL, JR.

## JOSEPH L. SMALL, JR.

Joseph Larrabee Small, Jr., was born on December 4th, 1846, at Kennebunkport, Maine, and was the son of Joseph L., and Lorenda (Libby) Small. He enlisted at Biddeford, Me., on March 16, 1864, and was credited upon the quota of Kennebunkport. On April 16, 1864, he was mustered into the United States service, at Augusta, Me., as private in Company G, of the Thirty-Second Maine Infantry. Leaving Maine with the second battalion, on May 11th, he joined the remainder of the regiment at the North Anna, on May 25th.

And from that date, he shared in all the duties performed by the Thirty-Second, until the close of September, when he was taken prisoner at the battle near the "Pegram house", on September 30, 1864. After his capture, he was carried to Petersburg, and thence to Richmond, Va. After three days in Libby prison, he was sent to Salisbury, N. C.

Here he remained until February 22, 1865, when he was paroled, and on March 1st, he re-entered the Union lines at Wilmington, N. C., together with thirteen of the twenty-eight men of his regiment who had been captured with him five months previous, the other fourteen having succumbed to the privations of prison-life. He was finally discharged at Annapolis, Md., on June 5, 1865.

In November of 1865, he engaged in the grocery business at Biddeford, Me., in which he continued until 1875. Selling out his business in that year, he became a commercial traveler, which occupation he has since followed. He was married September 13, 1871, to Miss Lucretia Maloon Meeds, of Biddeford, by whom he has had five children, Fred H., Edward D., Harold J., Donald M., and Roydon L. Small.

## CHAPTER XXV.

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AFTER THE CONSOLIDATION.—THE THIRTY-FIRST MAINE.  
—THE WINTER IN FORT DAVIS.—BATTLE OF APRIL  
2ND, '65.—THE SURRENDER OF LEE.—THE  
GRAND REVIEW.—MUSTER OUT.

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Allusion has been briefly made, from time to time, in the preceding pages, to our sister-regiment, the Thirty-First Maine, with which the remnant of our own regiment became consolidated in December, 1864, as narrated at the close of the last chapter. But before going on to speak of the subsequent experiences of our comrades who thus found themselves transferred to that command, some further statements regarding the history of the regiment of which they now formed a part, may not be out of place. The Thirty-First Regiment of Maine Infantry was raised under authority of the same order of the War Department as our own, and reference to the General Order from State Headquarters, dated February, 8, 1864, quoted in Chapter III., will show how closely it was associated with us during the period of organization. The two regiments had been assigned to the Ninth Corps, in advance of their organization, and on the 18th of April, nine companies of the Thirty-First left Augusta for the front, to be followed, only two days later, by six companies of the Thirty-Second.

On joining the corps, the two regiments were placed in the same brigade, and from that time until the consolidation, had marched and fought together, enduring the same privations, and suffering the same hardships. Their experience was almost identical, and both were much reduced in numerical strength by the severe losses they had sustained in action, and from the ravages of disease. The Thirty-First was, however, to some extent the stronger command at the time of the consolidation, and had also a larger proportion of commissioned officers present for duty. Its advantage over our own regiment in point of numbers at this date, was largely due to the fact that it had received accessions during the fall, two additional companies having been organized in Maine, and sent out to swell its strength. Company L, Captain Alvan D. Brock, left the State October 11th, 1864, and joined the regiment a few days later. Company M, Captain J. Sumner Rogers, left Maine on the 10th of November, 1864, and reached the regiment about the middle of the month.

These additional companies were sufficiently large to add very materially to the regiment's aggregate "present for duty", as they numbered nearly two hundred men. Nominally, indeed, they exceeded that number, the two companies having an aggregate enrollment of six officers and two hundred and fourteen men. But from the fact that a proportion of the enlistments in these companies had been of that undesirable class known as "bounty-jumpers", desertions had been more numerous than usual. And even before the companies joined the regiment, their strength had been somewhat lessened from this cause.

The Thirty-First Maine, together with the Seven-

teenth Vermont and Fifty-Sixth Massachusetts, had been assigned as the garrison of Fort Davis, on the Jerusalem plank road, on the 29th of November, while our own regiment had been in camp near Fort Hayes, about a mile to the left, from about the same time. The men and officers who were present at the consolidation, joined the Thirty-First at Fort Davis, and were distributed among the several companies, with the exception of L and M. In nearly all instances, the men of one company of the Thirty-Second were assigned to the company of the same letter in the Thirty-First. Through the remainder of the month of December, and during the whole of January, 1865, the regiment lay in Fort Davis. And but little of sufficient interest to be recorded, occurred during those monotonous days of the winter in the trenches.

On the 11th of February, 1865, the Thirty-First moved to the left, and encamped near Parke Station, on the line of the military railroad, where it remained during the rest of February, and throughout the month of March. But little of an exciting nature occurred, in which the regiment was directly concerned, at any time during the period. But one or two matters of general interest, while not pertaining directly to the regiment or the brigade, may be briefly mentioned here.

About the last of January, 1865 [Sunday, the 29th], the Ninth Corps pickets reported a flag of truce to be shown on the enemy's works. This being reported to Colonel Samuel Harriman, who was then commanding the First brigade of the First division, was by him communicated to General Willcox, who was in command of the corps. And on inquiry, it was found that the purpose of the flag was to request



permission for Messrs. A. H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter and J. A. Campbell to pass through our lines, as commissioners to treat with our government on the subject of a cessation of hostilities. The request was granted, and General Grant sent an aide to accompany the commissioners to City Point. An interview was had with President Lincoln and Secretary Seward, which produced no result, the only terms upon which the North was willing to treat for peace being absolute submission on the part of the South. The conference being at an end, the commissioners quietly repassed our lines, and returned to Richmond.

On the 5th of February, 1865, the Third division,—the six new regiments from Pennsylvania, under General Hartranft, previously mentioned,—supported a movement of the Fifth and Second Corps, under Generals Warren and Humphreys, toward Hatcher's Run. They were engaged in this movement until the 10th, when they returned to their former position, the attempt to gain possession of the Boydton plank road having failed. But on the whole, the Ninth Corps was not called upon during the winter, to participate in such severe service as fell to the lot of some other portions of the investing army. Yet it was subjected to constant danger and annoyance from the fire of the Confederate sharpshooters, while skirmishing and artillery duels were of almost daily occurrence.

Thus the days dragged on, both sides looking forward to the coming of spring, with the feeling that a fierce and decisive struggle would then be entered upon, which would end only in the destruction of one of the opposing forces. A forerunner of this culminating effort came in the desperate and costly attack upon Fort Stedman, March 25, 1865, when

the enemy, by a sudden assault, not only broke our lines, but actually captured and held, for a brief time, the fort itself and two or three neighboring batteries. The Second division lay too far to the left to be seriously involved in this affair, the garrison of the fort being from the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, and other troops of the Third brigade of General Willcox's—First—division. General Hartman's—Third—division, which was in reserve, at about the distance of a mile to the rear, came up at once, and materially assisted in repulsing the Confederate attack, and recapturing the fort and adjacent batteries. But the affair was over too soon to admit of General Potter's division being able to participate in the fighting.

The assault was made by Major-General Gordon, with a Confederate force estimated by General Hartman at ten or twelve thousand men. Advancing from his lines before daybreak, by a sudden attack he carried Battery X., on the right of the fort, and Batteries XI. and XII., on its left, as well as the fort itself. His immediate purpose, was, no doubt, to break the Federal lines, and ultimately to obtain the possession of Meade's Station, and the military railroad, which would have been destroyed, together with the supplies accumulated at the station. Fortunately, he was checked by the severe enfilading fire from Fort Haskell and Battery IX., long enough to enable the Pennsylvanians of the Third division to come up, and take position for a counter-assault. This was entirely successful, the fort and batteries being recaptured, fifteen hundred or more prisoners taken, and Gordon forced to relinquish his daring attempt, and fall back to his own lines.

Nearly two thousand prisoners, and nine stands of colors, were taken by the Ninth Corps, which sustained a loss of four hundred and ninety-four killed and wounded, and about five hundred missing. The Second and Sixth Corps made reconnoissance to ascertain the condition of the enemy in their front, and attacked and captured the entrenched picket line of the Confederates, but found their main works held by a force which rendered an assault impracticable. From this time during the remaining days of March, much activity was manifested in the Union lines, and it was evident that a general movement was in contemplation. Indeed, as early as the 24th of March, General Grant had issued orders for a movement to the left, to take place on the 29th. The purpose in view was the destruction of the Danville and the South Side railroads, and the turning of the Confederate right, thus forcing General Lee to abandon his entrenchments.

Movements preliminary to this were going on for several days, General Ord, with three divisions from the Twenty-Fourth and Twenty-Fifth Corps (Army of the James), marching on the night of the 27th, to the left of the Army of the Potomac, and taking his position in the rear of the Second Corps on March 28th. General Warren with the Fifth, and General Humphreys with the Second Corps moved across Hatcher's Run on the 29th. General Sheridan with his cavalry being in the advance, and covering the movement of the infantry. The Sixth Corps, under General Wright, remained in its entrenchments, but was held in readiness to move out at any moment, while General Parke with the Ninth Corps, was prepared to hold his own portion of the lines, and to

occupy also the works held by the Sixth Corps, when that should be withdrawn. The Fifth Corps encountered the enemy in the neighborhood of the Quaker road, and after some sharp fighting, forced the Confederates to fall back to their entrenchments on the White Oak road. The Second Corps did not meet with very serious opposition, and advanced towards the enemy's position until nightfall rendered further progress hazardous.

Through the night of March 29th, the rain fell steadily, and continued through the following day, but the troops pressed close up to the Confederate entrenchments on the 30th, though not attempting to assault them. On the morning of the 31st, the continuous heavy rain had rendered the roads so nearly impassable for artillery and wagons, that it was not deemed advisable to attempt any general movement of the troops that day. But a reconnoissance made by General Warren toward the White Oak road brought on an engagement, in which the Fifth Corps sustained the loss of some fourteen hundred killed, wounded and missing, and the Second Corps, which came up to support Warren, lost nearly four hundred men. And on the 1st day of April, the famous battle of Five Forks was fought by Sheridan's cavalry and the Fifth Corps, the Confederate forces under General Pickett being routed and driven out of their entrenchments, with a loss of forty-five hundred prisoners, thirteen colors and six guns.

While these brilliant manœuvres and sharp encounters were progressing on the left flank, we in the Ninth Corps, were contributing our share toward the success of the campaign which was to prove the final end of the rebellion. Although General Lee

had not sufficient force left at his command, to enable him to cope successfully with the Federal armies now advancing against him, he was evidently tenacious of his purpose to hold his fortified positions at Petersburg and Richmond to the latest moment possible. And in order to force him out of the entrenchments at Petersburg, General Grant determined to attack him in front as well on his flank. General Parke, as well as General Wright and General Ord, had employed the two or three days during which the events just described were transpiring, in examining the enemy's works, and the ground in their front. It was believed that General Lee's line was so much extended to his right that some parts of it must be very thinly manned. And the commanders of the Sixth and Ninth Corps reported as the results of their examination that it was practicable to carry the entrenchments in their respective fronts by assault. It will be remembered that the enemy's line, from the Appomattox river to the front of Fort Sedgwick, was the old interior line which had resisted so many assaults at the beginning of the investment. The line held by our corps mainly immediately confronted this strong position.

General Parke received orders on the 30th of March to attack the works in his front at four o'clock the next morning, and the Second and Third divisions were massed in rear of Fort Sedgwick, in readiness for the movement. But as the operations at the left were not deemed to be sufficiently developed to make success certain, the assault was suspended by orders from General Meade, and the divisions returned to their former positions. Not for any length of time, however, were they permitted to remain quiet. At

about ten o'clock in the night of April 1st. the artillery fire opened, and skirmishers began to advance. Our own Second brigade penetrated a weak place in our front, carrying the picket line with a rush, and capturing some two hundred and fifty prisoners. But the enemy's main line was strongly manned, and on the alert, and our brigade was withdrawn.

Later in the night the troops were concentrated in front of Fort Sedgwick. General Hartranft's division being massed on the right of the fort, and our own on its left. General Griffin had the advance of General Potter's column, with our brigade in columns of regiments, and General Curtin, with the First brigade, was in immediate support. Storming parties,—pioneers with axes to cut away the abattis,—were placed in front of each division. At four o'clock in the morning of Sunday, April 2nd. the First division, under General Willcox, made a feint in front of Fort Stedman, carrying the picket line. While the enemy's attention was engaged by this feint, and a considerable force concentrated on General Willcox's troops, the main attack was made by our division and General Hartranft's at half-past four o'clock, A. M.

The troops advanced with eagerness and alacrity. They were passing over almost the same ground from which they had been repulsed in the earlier days of the siege, and the memory served to inspire them with a stronger determination to succeed in this assault. Under a heavy fire from guns, mortars and musketry, they advanced with steadiness and vigor. The abattis was cut and torn away, the parapets surmounted and the works carried for four hundred yards on each side of the Jerusalem plank road.

Several forts and redans, twelve guns, some colors, and eight hundred prisoners were among the fruits of victory. The Sixth New Hampshire, of our brigade, captured a battery of four guns and turned them on the Confederates. The fighting on the left, in which our division was engaged, was very stubborn and sanguinary, the enemy's line where we assaulted being heavily traversed, and his resistance so tenacious and resolute, that it was necessary to drive him from traverse to traverse by a series of struggles. At the distance of a quarter of a mile was an interior line of works, in which he made a stand, and receiving strong reinforcements, was finally able to check our advance. In an unsuccessful attempt to carry this interior line, General Potter received a very severe wound, and General Griffin assumed command of the division.

While we were thus battling in front of the doomed city, far away to our left other movements had been in progress. The Second, Sixth and Twenty-Fifth Corps had captured portions of the Confederate lines in their front, and at last, Petersburg was within our grasp. The assault of the Ninth Corps, however, had been directed against the enemy's main line, while the other corps had attacked other lines, the occupation of which did not absolutely ensure the possession of the city itself. General Parke was, therefore, ordered not to advance, unless sure of success, but rather to make sure of holding what he had gained. He proceeded to strengthen his position, so as to be able to hold it against any assaults the enemy might make. And this work was not undertaken any too soon. Just before eleven o'clock the Confederates made an effort to recapture the works

they had lost, but were repulsed. They continued, however, to attack from time to time during the afternoon, but without attaining any considerable success.

General Humphreys says, "Frequent attempts were made by General Gordon during the day to retake the works, but without success. The firing continued all day and into the night".\*

This was the last action in which the survivors of our regiment were engaged, as during the few days which intervened before the final surrender, the Ninth Corps was not again under the fire of the enemy. In this assault, however, the Thirty-First Maine sustained a considerable loss in killed and wounded. And the following original members of the Thirty-Second Maine were among the number who suffered death or injury in this battle:

Company A, Private John A. Hill, wounded; Private Fred G. Runnells, wounded in shoulder.

Company B, Private William P. Damon, wounded; Private William H. Wiswell, wounded.

Company D, Jonathan Damon, 2nd, killed in action.

Company E, Private Elihu Child, wounded; Corporal Nathan M. Townsend, wounded; Private Henry Works, killed in action.

Company G, Private William Trott, killed in action.

Company I, Private Joseph E. Hilton, killed in action.

The whole number of casualties reported in the regiment—Thirty-First—was thirty-three, divided as follows: nine killed in action, twenty-three wounded, and one missing. Nearly one-third of these, it will be

\* Humphreys — "Virginia Campaign", p. 366.



seen by the above list, were among the original members of our own regiment, four being killed in action, and six wounded.

The events of the few days immediately following the 2nd of April, 1865, belong to history, and are too well known to make it necessary to do more than to point out the degree of participation therein which fell to the lot of the Ninth Corps, and of our surviving comrades of the old regiment. At about four o'clock Monday morning, April 3rd, the skirmishers of the corps advanced, finding no pickets of the enemy in their front, and meeting with no resistance. Petersburg had been evacuated, and Lee was in full retreat. The troops were at once put in motion, and possession taken of the city. The Second brigade of the First division of the Ninth Corps was the first to pass the enemy's works, and its commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Ely, received the formal surrender of the city. The flag of the First Michigan Sharpshooters, of Ely's brigade, was raised over the courthouse at half-past four o'clock, A. M., and by five o'clock, General Meade had received intelligence from General Willcox that the Ninth Corps was in undisputed occupancy of Petersburg.

The First division was at once constituted the garrison of the city, General Willcox being placed in command. And our own and the Third division marched through the city, and out on the South Side railroad as far as Sutherland's Station, where they camped for the night. At daylight on Tuesday, April 4th, the two divisions marched again, following the Sixth Corps, till late in the afternoon. They were then ordered to move over to the Coxe road, and cover the rear of the Federal army as it advanced in pursuit

of Lee. And for several days, the corps was occupied in scouting and picketing the line of railroad, to prevent any demonstrations which the enemy might make in that direction. On Thursday, April 6th, the Thirty-First Maine regiment was at Nottoway Court House, but on Saturday, April 8th, it proceeded with a detachment of prisoners to Ford's Station, and was not therefore present at Appomattox the next day, when the surrender took place.

The regiment arrived at Ford's Station on the 11th day of April, and delivered up its charge, turning over the prisoners it had guarded, to the proper authorities, and then returned to Burksville Junction. The corps remained in the vicinity of Sutherland's till the 19th of April, when orders were received to proceed to Washington. The Thirty-First Maine moved to City Point the next day, April 20th, and embarked for Alexandria, Va., where it arrived on April 27th, and went into camp. The next month passed quietly until, on the 22nd of May, the Ninth Corps marched across Long Bridge, and entered Washington. On the next day, May 23rd, the Thirty-First Maine, together with the rest of the corps, participated in the now historical Grand Review, after which it returned to its camp. Here it remained until July 15th, when it was mustered out, and started for Maine. Arriving at Bangor, Me. July 19th, the men were given a short furlough, and on July 27th, were paid and finally discharged from the service of the United States.





CYRUS GOFF.

## Biographical Sketches.

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### CYRUS GOFF.

Cyrus Goff was born in Gray, Maine, on March 1, 1842, and was the son of Samuel and Deborah (Thayer) Goff. His boyhood was passed in his native town, and at the age of twenty, he first enlisted in Company C, of the Twenty-Fifth Maine Infantry, in September, 1862. While still in camp, and before the regiment was mustered into the United States service, he was taken sick with diphtheria. In consequence of this illness, he was sent home, and did not go out with the regiment, and was never borne upon the rolls of the company.

On March 26, 1864, he again enlisted in Company H, of the Thirty-Second Maine, and was mustered into the service of the United States on April 21st. Leaving the State with the second battalion, on May 11th, he joined the regiment at the North Anna river, on May 25th. From this time, he participated with the regiment in its arduous service until the 9th of July.

On that date he was sent to hospital on account of disability arising from sickness, and was unable to rejoin the regiment until December 12, 1864, the day on which the consolidation took place. Having been transferred to the Thirty-First Maine, he resumed duty in that regiment, and was subsequently promoted to corporal. He participated in all the service rendered by the Thirty-First after the consolidation until the close of the war. And was engaged in the battle of the 2nd of April, 1865, when the works in front of Petersburg were taken by assault. He was mustered out and finally discharged in July, 1865, with the regiment, and returned to his home in Gray. Here he remained until 1889, and has since resided in various other places, following the occupation of a mill man most of the time. He was married in 1867, to Sarah H. Rich of Gray, whose death occurred October 16, 1888. He has two children now living, a son and a daughter.

## HENRY C. HOUSTON.

Henry Clarence Houston was born in Portland, Maine, on July 26, 1847, and was the son of John and Ann Maria (Blake) Houston. Both his paternal great-grandfather, John Houston, and his maternal great-grandfather, John Starbird, were soldiers of the Revolution. And it is somewhat remarkable that in their first enlistment, both these ancestors served for a period of eight months in the same company. Both were afterwards again in the Continental Army, and his great-grandfather Starbird continued to serve until 1783.

The subject of this sketch, after attending Park St. Grammar school, entered the Portland High School in 1860, but did not graduate. When his class—that of 1864—finished its course, he had been for several months in the military service of the United States. From the outbreak of the Civil War, he had a strong desire to become a soldier, and while still a school-boy learned something of the rudiments of drill, in the ranks of the High School Cadets. But desiring to see active service, he enlisted twice, the first time in a cavalry organization, and again in a light battery, and was each time rejected on account of being under the military age. Finally, after these discouragements, he again enlisted, early in February, 1864, in company C of the Thirty-Second Maine Infantry, and though less than seventeen years of age, succeeded, on this third attempt in passing the surgeons, and was mustered into the United States service on March 23, 1864.

Going to the front with the first battalion on April 20th, he shared the fortunes of his company, participating with it in all the marches and battles up to the engagement at Cold Harbor.

Here he received a wound in the right thigh, in consequence of which he was sent to Fairfax Seminary Hospital,



HENRY C. HOUSTON.





near Alexandria, Va. Before he was able to lay aside his crutches, it was found that he possessed some clerical ability, and from that time, with the exception of a short period on furlough at his home, he was on hospital duty in various localities, until his discharge on account of disability from wound, on February 20, 1865, at Cony U. S. General Hospital, Augusta, Me.

Soon after the introduction of the order into Maine, he became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being mustered into Bosworth Post, No. 2, in March, 1868. He has filled various offices, among them Sergeant-Major and Adjutant of his Post, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department of Maine for two terms, Assistant Inspector, and Aide on the staff of the Department Commander, and of the Commander-in-chief.

He was married December 20, 1868, to Harriet Louise, daughter of Captain David Merriman, of Richmond, Maine, and has four children, two daughters and two sons. The death of his wife took place December 2, 1900.

His occupation has always been of a clerical nature, and he has served one term of five years as Register of Deeds for Cumberland County, and was for some two years in the U. S. Pension Agency at Augusta, Me., under General Connor. Later he was associated with the veteran claim agent, Z. K. Harmon, in the prosecution of pension claims, for a considerable number of years, and for some ten years past, has been connected with insurance business.



COMPLETE ROSTER  
OF THE  
OFFICERS AND MEN  
OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MAINE  
REGIMENT.

## FIELD AND STAFF.

NAME.	Age	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Colonel.</i> Wentworth, Mark F.	....	Kittery	May 6, 1864	Lieutenant-Colonel 27th Me., Oct. 17, '62, and Col. same Regt., Feb. 11, '63. Wounded July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Gunshot wound left side, and shell wound left hip. Resigned Oct. 18, '64, on account of disability from wounds. Bvt. Brig.-Gen., Mar. 13, '65.
<i>Lieut.-Colonels.</i> Brown, John M.	....	Portland	May 5, 1864	Adjutant 20th Me., Sept. 1, '62. Act. Asst. Adjt.-Gen. on staff of Gen. Ayres. Capt. and Asst. Adjt.-Gen. June 28, '63. Served on staff of Gen. Ames, 1st Brig., 11th Corps. Wounded June 19, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Gunshot wound left arm and side. Resigned Sept. 12, '64, on account of disability from wounds. Bvt. Col., Mar. 13, '65. Bvt. Brig.-Gen., Mar. 13, '65.
Hunt, James L.	....	Bath	Oct. 8, 1864	Captain Co. C, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Capt. Co. G, 32d Me., Apr. 16, '64. Wounded July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Gunshot wound of shoulder. Promoted Lieut.-Col. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Major.</i> Deering, Arthur	....	Richmond	Apr. 7, 1864	Captain Co. A., 24th Me., Oct. 27, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Adjutant.</i> Hayes, Calvin L.	....	Kittery	Feb. 19, 1864	Sergeant-Major 27th Me., Sept. 19, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

*Quartermaster.*  
Hall, John

..... Feb. 24, 1864

Quartermaster-Sergeant 27th Me., Sept. 19, '62. Lieut. Co. E, same Regt., Dec., '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

*Surgeons.*  
Trafton, Clark C.  
Kimball, John H...... Feb. 19, 1864  
..... Sept. 23, 1864.Died of disease Aug. 11, '64, at Washington, D. C.  
Assistant Surgeon 15th Me., Dec. 17, '61. Resigned May 11, '63. Asst. Surgeon 32d Me., Feb. 27, '64. Promoted Surgeon. Transferred to 31st Me. as Surgeon, at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.*Asst. Surgeons.*  
Kimball, John H.  
Smith, Henry S. B.

..... May 6, 1864

See above.  
Private Co. C, 32d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Acting Asst. Surgeon Apr. 19, '64. Detached as Med. Off. to Artillery Brig., 9th Army Corps. Transferred to 31st Me., as Asst. Surgeon at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.*Chaplain.*  
Patten, William A.

..... York

Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

*Sergeant-Majors.*  
Barker, William B.

..... Limerick

Corporal Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Promoted 2d Lieut., Co. C, June 21, '64. 1st Lieut. Co. H, Sept. 16, '64. Acting Quartermaster. Promoted Capt., Co. D, Oct. 8, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., as Capt. at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## Field, James L.

..... Sept. 23, 1864

Private Co. G, 25th Me., Sept. 28, '62. Corp. Co. C, 32d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Sergt.-Maj. Transferred to 31st Me. as Sergt.-Maj. at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

*Quartermaster-Sergeant*  
Guptill, Ferdinand W.

..... May 6, 1864

Sergeant Co. F, 32d Me., Apr. 5, '64. Promoted Quartermaster-Sergt. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

## FIELD AND STAFF. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Commissary-Sergeant.</i> Walker, James B.	.....	Turner	Mar. 6, 1864.	Private Co. K, 9th Me., Sept. 21, '61. Private Co. D, 32d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Com-Sergt. Mus- tered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Hospital Stewards.</i> Bond, Henry	.....	Kittery	" " "	Sergeant Co. A, 32d Me., Mar. 3, '64. Promoted Hos- pital-Steward. Died July 28, '64, of disease at Phila- delphia, Pa.
Litchfield, Joseph M.	.....	Lewiston	Sept. 1, 1864.	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Oct. 13, '62. Corp. Co. D, 32d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Hospital Steward. Mus- tered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

## COMPANY A.

NAME.	Rank.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Bryant, Seth E.	38	Kennebunkport	Mar. 3, 1864	Captain Co. I, 27th Me., Oct. 17, '62. Resigned Nov. 5, '64, on account of disability.
<i>1st Lieutenants.</i> Burbank, Horace H.	26	Limerick	" "	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Promoted Quartermaster-Sergeant, Dec., '62. Promoted Capt. Co. K, Apr. 27, '64. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Escaped from rebel prison at Columbia, S. C., Feb. 17, '65, and joined Sherman's Army. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., as Captain. Discharged May 15, '65.
James, Samuel A.	32	Kittery	Apr. 27, 1864	Private Co. A, 32d Me., Mar. 3, '64. Promoted 2d Lieut., Mar. 17, '64. Resigned Sept. 10, '64.
<i>2d Lieutenants.</i> James, Samuel A. Pierce, William B.	37	Biddeford	" "	See above. Sergeant Co. F, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. 1st Sergeant, Co. A, 32d Me., Mar. 3, '64. Promoted 2d Lieut. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Escaped from rebel prison at Columbia, S. C., Oct. 2, '64, and was drowned by the parting of a raft while attempting to cross the river near Columbia.
<i>1st Sergeants.</i> Pierce, William B. Harriman, Andrew J.	25	Biddeford	" "	See above. Private Co. E, 6th Me., July 15, '61. Corp. Co. A, 32d Me., Mar. 3, '64. Promoted 1st Sergeant. Wounded in leg and captured Sept. 30, '64, Pegram Farm, Va. Supposed to be mustered out as a supernumerary non-commissioned officer at consolidation on Dec. 12, '64, but was at that date still held as a prisoner, and was not released until Feb. 22, '65, when paroled. Was finally mustered out Feb. 13, '67, to date from Mar. 31, '65.

## COMPANY A. - Continued.

NAME.	Age	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Sergeants.</i>				
Watson, Daniel	23	Limerick	Mar. 3, 1864	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Bond, Henry		Kittery	" "	Promoted Hospital Steward. See above, non-commissioned staff.
Carr, William P.	25	Kittery	" "	Private Co. G, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Long, Henry	27	Kittery	" "	Deserted May 12, '64.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Staples, William H.	21	Eliot	" "	Private Co. G, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Apr. 10, '65.
Lowry, Frank E.	20	Kittery	" "	Promoted Sergt. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Brown, Cyrus E.	22	Linington	" "	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Apr. 10, '65.
Bartlett, Joseph W.	19	Sanford	" "	Private Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va., in knee. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Sergt. 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Grace, Hiram M.	20	Kittery	" "	Private Co. G, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Harriman, Andrew J.				See above.



Buzzell, Hosca Q.	22	Waterboro	Mar. 3, 1864	Private Co. G, 5th Me., '61. Killed July 26, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Shot through head.
Ricker, Benjamin J.	19	Waterboro	" " "	Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wounds July 11, '64.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Wilson, Alonzo P.	18	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 6, '65.
Staples, Ivory	24	Eliot	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Littlefield, Abmon	29	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 27, '65.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Atkins, Henry	21	South Berwick	" " "	Deserted Mar. 10, '64.
Bean, Elbridge	19	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Billings, Charles N.	21	Kittery	" " "	Killed July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va.
Brewer, James R.	26	Freeport	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted Mar. 2, '65.
Benson, Thomas	21	Biddeford	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Discharged Sept. 2, '64, on account of wound.
Bowden, Charles	19	Biddeford	" " "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Died in prison at Salisbury, N. C., Jan. 14, '65.
Benson, George H.	18	Kennebunk	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bickford, John N.	18	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Feb. 14, '65.
Butler, Charles M.	18	North Berwick	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Caswell, Timothy	44	North Berwick	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clark, Henry E.	26	Limerick	" " "	Acting Quartermaster-Sergeant. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Carpenter, Alonzo	18	Waterboro	" " "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled prisoner Feb. 2, '65. Discharged by order June 26, '65.

## COMPANY A. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Cole, Charles H.	18	Kittery	Mar. 3, 1864	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled prisoner. Discharged July 5, '65.
Durgin, Zachariah	27	Limerick	" " "	Missing June 12, '64. Captured and died in prison at Andersonville, S. C., Aug. 22, '64.
Day, Charles H.	30	Waterboro	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Right leg amputated. Discharged Aug. 26, '64, on account of wound.
Durgin, Benjamin F.	19	Waterboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Emery, Joseph E.	20	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Eaton, Frank C.	24	Wells	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Eaton, Walter	42	Wells	" " "	Private Co. E, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. No evidence of parole or exchange found, and is believed to have died in prison. Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Edgecomb, John	29	Biddeford	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled prisoner. Discharged Sept. 11, '65.
Fernald, John	33	Kittery	" " "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled prisoner. Discharged Sept. 11, '65.
Foster, Ansel	40	Island Pond, Vt.	" " "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled prisoner. Discharged Sept. 11, '65.
Gustin, Benjamin F.	44	Kennebunkport	" " "	Discharged for disability Aug. 26, '64.

44	Kittery	Mar. 3, 1864	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Kittery	" "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged prisoner. Promoted Corp. 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Kittery	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted Mar. 10, '65.
43	Kittery	" "	Deserted May 16, '64.
39	Waterboro	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Waterboro	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Wounded Apr. 2, '65, at Petersburg, Va.
44	Kittery	" "	Wounded July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., in head. Died of wounds Sept. 6, '64, at David's Island Hospital, N. Y.
38	South Berwick	" "	See above.
23	Kittery	" "	Private Co. B, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Kittery	" "	Wounded July 16, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Right hand torn off by shell. Discharged Dec. 12, '64, on account of wound.
43	Harrison	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
20	Kittery	" "	Killed in action May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.
18	Kittery	" "	Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va., in both arms. Died of wounds June 24, '64, at Carver Hospital, Washington, D. C.
36	North Berwick	" "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Oct. 6, '64.
		" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 15, '65.
		" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.

## COMPANY A. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Mathews, George	18	Kittery	Mar. 3, 1864	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled prisoner. Discharged by order June 30, '65.
Norwood, Chester	18	Portland	" " "	Wounded June 1, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Pickernell, James H.	19	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Potter, Charles H.	18	Harrison	" " "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Paroled prisoner Feb. 22, '65. Discharged by order June 12, '65. Killed in action May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.
Remick, George W.	36	Kittery	" " "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison at Salisbury, N. C.
Robinson, Charles W.	19	Limerick	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Roberts, Walter C.	31	Waterboro	" " "	Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps. Discharged at Indianapolis, Aug. 24, '65.
Richards, George W.	18	Portland	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Russell, Gideon P.	38	Canaan, Vt.	" " "	Transferred to Co. F, 32d Me., July 1, '64.
Randall, Samuel P.	23	South Berwick	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Wounded April 2, '65, in shoulder by grape-shot in attack on Petersburg, Va. Discharged June 6, '65.
Runnells, Frederick G.	18	Portland	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Spinney, Justin	18	Kittery	" " "	Killed in action May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.
Spinney, Hiram W.	19	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sullivan, John	18	Portland	" " "	

	18	Augusta	Mar. 3, 1864	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Mar. 7, '65.
Smith, George H.	21	Hiram	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted Jan. 1, '65.
Sanborn, George F.	43	Kittery	" "	Captured July 30, 1864, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled. Died Oct. 28, '64, at Annapolis, Md.
Stackpole, Alexander	20	South Berwick	" "	Private Co. D, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Promoted Corporal. Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 20, '65.
Stevens, Charles E.	24	Kittery	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tobey, Hiram	21	Hollis	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tarbox, James B.	19	Kittery	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wilson, Thomas H.	43	Biddeford	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Witham, Lewis H.	44	Waterboro	" "	Killed in action May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.
Whittier, Charles W.	39	Waterboro	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wakefield, Royal B.	18	Berwick	" "	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
West, James	22	Kittery	" "	Killed in action May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.
Witham, Charles E.	38	North Berwick	" "	Died July 11, '64, from disease.
Young, Silas H.				
Joined Company after organization.				
Tufts, James W.	18	North Berwick	Sept. 27, 1864	Transferred to Co. A, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 14, '65.

## COMPANY B.

NAME.	Age	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Noyes, Amos F.	51	Norway	Mar. 10, 1864	First Lieut. Co. G, 14th Maine, Dec. 12, '61. Capt. Co. H, 23d Me., Oct. 17, '62. Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Shell wound of right shoulder, affecting head and spine. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>1st Lieutenants.</i> Colby, Joseph E. Beauce, Henry M.	44 25	Rumford Hebron	" "	Died at City Point, Va., June 25, '64, from fever. Orderly Sergt. Co. D, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. 1st Lieut. Co. D, 23d Me., Feb. 11, '63. 2d Lieut. Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 11, '64. Promoted 1st Lieut.—not mustered. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Exchanged. Discharged Mar. 30, '65.
<i>2d Lieutenants.</i> Beauce, Henry M. Howe, Winfield S.	25	Hanover	" "	See above. Corp. and Sergt. Co. G, 3d Me., June 4, '61. Sergt. Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 10, '64. Promoted 2d Lieut.—not mustered. Wounded and captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Paroled Oct. 10, '64. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> Hodgdon, Andrew J.	25	Hartford	" "	Private Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Howe, Winfield S. Jewell, William F.	24	Woodstock	" "	See above. Corporal Co. D, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Fiske, Gilbert L.	22	Norway	" "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Killed on picket in front of Petersburg, Va., July 10, '64.

Fogg, Levi C.	23	Norway	Mar. 10, 1864	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Died Dec. 5, '64, from disease.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Ackley, Caleb B.	30	Milton Plantation	" "	Wounded and captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Jan. 4, '65.
Shackley, Freeman H. M.	19	Norway	" "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded on picket June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va., and leg amputated. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Died at Norway, Me., Apr. 12, '65.
Atwood, Charles R.	22	Norway	" "	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Lewis, Charles H.	19	Fryeburg	" "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Reduced to ranks. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Town, Osmond	28	Norway	" "	Died in hospital at City Point, Va., June 25, '64, from fever.
Chase, Charles H.	20	Woodstock	" "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Eastman, Daniel G.	27	Rumford	" "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Bearee Charles F.	18	Hebron	" "	Private Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Private Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 10, '64. Promoted Corp. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Bosworth, Otis	20	Hartford	Sept. 1, 1864	Private Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 10, '64. Promoted Corp. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Barker, Frank W.	18	Lovell	" "	Private Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 10, '64. Promoted Corp. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Cox, William F.	20	Norway	" "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Private Co. B, 32d Me., Mar. 10, '64. Promoted Corp. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Barrows, Samuel C.	25	Hebron	Mar. 10, 1864	Private Co. D, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hall, Nathaniel P.	19	Norway	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 12, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Hobbs, Lorenzo D.	43	Norway	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY B. — Continued.

NAME.	AGE.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Allen, Albert	20	Hartford	Mar. 10, 1864	Private Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out July 15, '65. Discharged Aug. 4, '65.
Andrews, Freeland Q.	19	Sumner	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Allen, Charles F.	19	Hartford	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out July 15, '65. No further record.
Abbott, Henry	18	Rumford	" " "	Wounded May 31, '64, in head at Totopotomoy Creek, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec., '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Battles, Caleb W.	18	Leeds	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brooks, Ansel F.	42	Minot	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brown, Hezekiah E.	23	Norway	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. and Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bradbury, Henry A. M.	33	Norway	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out July 15, '65. No further record.
Bosworth, Otis	40	Livermore	" " "	See above.
Battles, Caleb				Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bartlett, William W.	20	Hanover	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Barker, Frank W.				See above.
Cox, William F.				See above.



Cole, Consider	44	Paris	Mar. 10, 1864	Private Co. C, 10th Me., Oct., '61. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Died Apr. 7, '65, from disease at Alexandria, Va.
Cross, Albert A.	18	Greenwood	" "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Jan. 27, '64.
Damon, George W.	20	Paris	" "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled. Died at St. John's College Hospital, Annapolis, Md., Nov. 24, '64.
Danley, Charles W.	18	Waterford	" "	Musician Co. K, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison Jan. 24, '65, at Danville, Va.
Eaton, Henry O.	20	Rumford	" "	Wounded in breast June 1, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Died of disease Jan. 25, '65, at Hanover, Me.
Elliott, Walter T.	20	Hanover	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died of disease Jan. 25, '65, at Hanover, Me.
Ellis, Albert A.	18	Hartford	" "	Private Co. I, 16th Me., Aug. 20, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died Jan. 20, '65, of disease at Cony Hospital, Augusta, Me.
Farris, Alvino V.	18	China	" "	Wounded May 21st, '64, at Totopotomoy Creek, Va., in arm. Died July 24, '64, in hospital at Philadelphia, Pa.
Foye, George F.	18	Rumford	" "	Died Aug. 1, '64, at Stanton Hospital, Washington, D. C., from disease.
Flood, Edward J.	18	Norway	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Fuller, Nathaniel H.	25	Woodstock	" "	Died July 30, '64, at Cony Hospital, Augusta, Me., from disease.
Farnham, William G.	18	Rumford	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Farnham, Charles W.	30	Woodstock	" "	Died Oct. 18, '64, at Beverly Hospital, New Jersey.
Fogg, James E.	44	Hartford	" "	Private Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 27, '65.

## COMPANY B. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Foster, Ellbridge H.	26	Hartford	Mar. 10, 1864	Private Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '63. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability, Jan. 22, '65.
Goddard, Ephraim F.	44	Rumford	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gowell, Leroy A.	18	Sumner	" "	Killed in action June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va.
Heald, Selwyn	18	Lovell	" "	Died Sept. 5, '64, at Lovell, Me., from disease.
Horr, Stewart B.	18	Lovell	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Herrick, Albert S.	19	Greenwood	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 12, '65.
Herrick, Ronello S.	18	Poland	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Haskell, George A.	20	Harrison	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Holt, Benjamin G.	26	Norway	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Holland, Joseph	18	Canton	" "	Wounded June 3, '64, in hand at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Irish, Stephen	21	Lovell	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Judkins, Henry N.	24	Norway	" "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Discharged by order June 5, '65.
Kimball, Moses F.	38	Bethel	" "	Died in Hospital July 28, '64, at Willett's Point, N. Y.

Kimball, Abraham	44	Bridgton	Mar. 10, 1864	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 6, '65.
Kimball, Frederick A.	18	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Keene, John A.	42	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability May 31, '65.
Millett, Oliver	27	Haulin's Grant	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Morgan, Simeon	18	Greenwood	" " "	Wounded in breast July 2, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison Mar. 6, '65.
Moody, Levi	36	Rumford	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged May 20, '65.
Maxwell, George H.	40	Sweden	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
McIntire, Caleb Jr.	18	Fryeburg	" " "	Died in Hospital, Mar. 21st, '64, at Augusta, Me., from fever, eleven days after muster in.
Meserve, James L.	34	Lovell	" " "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 2, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
McAllister, Wesley	19	Lovell	" " "	Killed on picket June 20, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va.
Philbrick, Gilman F.	21	Roxbury	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Peabody, George W.	18	Bethel	" " "	Died in Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D. C., Nov. 25, '64, from disease.
Russell, George M.	18	Lovell	" " "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Paroled. Died Nov. 1, '64, at Annapolis, Md.
Richardson, Almon	18	Stoneman	" " "	Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wound at Stoneman, Me., Sept. 12, '64.
Richardson, Joseph	42	Roxbury	" " "	Wounded in breast July 14, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Discharged Oct. 6, '64.
Reed, Joseph H.	29	Poland	" " "	Private Co. G, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Discharged on account of wounds.
Staples, Camille P.	20	Hanover	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order July 1, '65.

## COMPANY B. -- Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Pirates.</i>				
Scavey, Charles	18	Poland	Mar. 10, 1864	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Smith, Herbert	19	Stowe	" " "	Wounded June 1, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Died of wounds June 22, '64.
Smith, Richard	43	Hanover	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Stanley, Frank	18	Canton	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Swasey, Benjamin	17	Canton	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Stetson, Samuel N.	17	Sumner	" " "	Wounded June 1, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Died of wounds June 21, '64.
Stetson, Oherm O.	20	Canton	" " "	Wounded June 1, '64, in left arm at Cold Harbor, Va. Discharged June 3, '65.
Sewall, David Jr.	18	Sumner	" " "	Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Died in prison Dec. 12, '64.
Thurston, Benjamin F.	18	Poland	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tucker, Henry W.	18	Hartford	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 2, '65.
Thurston, Jacob	32	Poland	" " "	Wounded June 2, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Died of wounds July 9, '64, at Cony Hospital, Augusta, Me.
Varney, Augustine D.	18	Hanover	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Whitten, Oscar F.	18	Woodstock	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wilkins, William W.	33	Oxford	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

Wiswell, William H.	21	Fryeburg	Mar. 10, 1864	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Washburn, Jefferson	27	Paris	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Wounded Apr. 2, '65, in attack on Petersburg, Va. Discharged Dec. 11, '65.
Whittle, Wilbur F.	29	Greenwood	" "	Died July 6, '64, at Washington, D. C., from disease.
York, John Jr.	33	Albany	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Joined Company after Organization.				
Bean, Peter Y.	44	Hanover	Apr. 2, 1864	Transferred from Co. E. Wounded June 3, '64, in hand at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Mar. 31, '65.
Damon, William T.	18	Paris	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred from Co. C. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Wounded Apr. 2, '65, in attack on Petersburg, Va.
Herriek, Rufus W.	24	Poland	" "	Transferred from Co. C. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lewis, William	21	Fryeburg	" "	Transferred from Co. D. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lewis, Harris A. P.	18	Fryeburg	" "	Transferred from Co. D. Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Mallett, William C.	18	Norway	" "	Transferred from Co. C. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Noble, William H.	22	Norway	" "	Transferred from Co. C. Private Co. G, 14th Me., Dec. 28, '61. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Randall, Leonard D.	30	Norway	Apr. 2, 1864	Transferred from Co. E. Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Shirley, David	39	Stoneham	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred from Co. D. Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.

## COMPANY C.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Sargent, Herbert B.	26	Portland	Mar. 23, 1864	Sergeant Co. E, 1st Me., May, '61. Sergt. Co. E, 10th Me., Oct., '61. Promoted Lieut. and Capt. Co. E, 10th Me. Wounded twice at Cedar Mountain, Va., Aug. 9, '62. Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Exchanged Apr. 26, '65. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., as Captain, Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 17, '65.
<i>1st Lieutenants.</i> Hammond, Joseph B.	39	New Gloucester	" " "	Sergeant Co. I, 5th Me., July, '61. Wounded May 12, '64, and again May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Promoted Capt. Co. D, 32d Me., June 21, '64. Resigned on account of disability, Sept. 22, '64.
Burr, Charles F.	21	Freeport	June 21, 1864	Private Co. F, 10th Me., Oct., '61. 2d Lieut. Co. C, 32d Me., Apr. 19, '64. Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Promoted 1st Lieut. Discharged Dec. 8, '64.
<i>2d Lieutenants.</i> Burr, Charles F. Barker, William B.	31	Portland	Mar. 23, 1864	See above. See above, in Field and Staff. Promoted from Sergt.-Major.
<i>1st Sergeants.</i> Beals, Thomas P.				Sergeant Co. G, 7th Me., '61. Promoted 1st Lieut. Co. H, Apr. 20, '64. Promoted Capt. Co. H, Sept. 16, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64, as Captain. Mustered out July 17, '65.



## COMPANY C. Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Martin, Marshall	25	Gorham	June 18, 1861	Private Co. A, 5th Me., June 24, '61. Private Co. C, 32d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Corp. Captured Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va. Exchanged Mar. 23, '65. Discharged June 19, '65.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Coughlin, Bartholomew	18	Portland	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Welch, John W.	33	Standish	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Injured Jan., '65, in front of Petersburg, Va. Discharged on account of injury June, '65, at Baltimore, Md.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Abbott, Clarence L.	18	Portland	" " "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64, in thigh. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brewer, Orman D.	18	Freeport	" " "	Died in Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D. C., July 26, '64, from disease.
Brown, Algernon H.	18	Freeport	" " "	Wounded in leg, June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Blake, George	18	Pownal	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brown, Oliver	29	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Chapman, John A.	22	Boston, Mass.	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick in hospital, at muster out.
Cobb, Sylvester B.				Promoted Corp. See above.



Cobb, Charles M.	18	Poland	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Colley, Orrin B.	23	Gray	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability July 9, '65.
Cole, Francis C.	18	Portland	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Curran, John	29	Portland	" " "	Deserted Apr. 5, '64.
Chamberlain, Prescott	18	Portland	" " "	Wounded in leg May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Childs, Thomas	19	Portland	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clark, Eugene B.	21	Calais	" " "	Captured July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Discharged June 9, '65.
Cookson, Daniel	18	Woolwich	" " "	Missing May 29, '64. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Captured and died in prison.
Cookson, Adoniram	19	Woolwich	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, in side and back by shell, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died May 18, '64, at Fredericksburg, Va., from wounds.
Call, Nathan	43	Woolwich	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 16, '65.
Doran, Michael	23	Portland	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Captured May 28, '64, on march to Pamunkey River. Exchanged. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dodge, John H.	19	Portland	" " "	Wounded in arm and shoulder May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Mar. 4, '65, on account of wound.
Davis, William S.	18	Gray	" " "	Wounded in arm May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va., and arm amputated. Discharged Nov. 29, '64, on account of wound.
Duggan, Edmund	42	Halifax, N. S.	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dennison, Clement P.	18	Freeport	" " "	Died in hospital at Fort Wood, East New York, Nov. 1, '64, from disease.

## COMPANY C. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Damon, William T.	18	Bridgton	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Emerson, Joshua				Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Files, William H. P.	31	Gorham	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability, Jan. 14, '65.
Gray, Sewall C.	20	Paris	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Gray, William L.	19	Paris	" " "	Private Co. F, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded at Spotsylvania, Va., May 18, '64. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Goldthwait, William	19	Bridgton	" " "	Prisoner May 22, '64. Exchanged. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Grant, James P. *	18	Casco	" " "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hussey, Henry A.	18	Portland	" " "	Killed on picket in front of Petersburg, Va., June 20, '64.
Houston, Henry C.	18	Portland	" " "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in thigh. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged on account of wound at Cony Hospital, Au- gusta, Me., Feb. 29, '65.
Hammou, George H.	18	Hollis	" " "	Killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64.
Herriek, Rufus W.	18	Westbrook	" " "	Transferred to Co. B, June 30, '64. See ante.
King, Albert	18	Westbrook	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Kincaid, Charles	18	Augusta	" " "	Wounded at Spotsylvania, Va., May 18, '64, in arm. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged June 16, '65.

Leavitt, Daniel W.	20	Raymond	Mar. 23, 1864	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Feb. 22, '65.
Maley, John	28	Portland	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 18, '64, in head and foot. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged March 23, '65.
Mooney, Nicholas	42	Brunswick	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Merrill, William A.	19	Falmouth	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
March, Joseph N.	18	Bridgton	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Martin, Marshall	37	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Promoted Corp. See ante.
McGuire, Charles			" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64, in abdomen. Died of wounds.
Mallett, William C.	18	Canton	" "	Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
McGee, John			" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 24, '64, in shoulder. Died of wounds at Fairfax Seminary Hospital, Alexandria, Va., July 18, '64.
McGuire, John	18	Portland	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
McKay, William	43	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64.
Noble, William H.			" "	Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Nash, Joshua M.	18	Gray	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Pelphs, Abner R.	35	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Private Co. K, 25th Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 24, '64, in face. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Palmer, John F.	38	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Private Co. H, 13th Me., Dec. 12, '61. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability January 9, '65.
Patterson, Joel B.	18	Freeport	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Puleifer, Alphonzo	18	Poland	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY C. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Rider, Solomon C.	34	Pownal	Mar. 23, 1864	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Robinson, Howard	18	Windham	" "	Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64.
Rogers, Joseph B.	27	Harrison	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Roberts, Benjamin F.	18	Durham	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. Died at Alexandria, Va., July 9, '65, from chronic diarrhoea.
Rafter, Edward	44	Portland	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64, in shoulder. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 16, '65.
Smith, Benjamin	20	Gray	" "	Died in hospital at New York, Aug. 9, '64, of disease.
Smith, Samuel	18	New Gloucester	" "	Died in Mount Pleasant Hospital at Washington, D. C., Sept. 22, '64, of disease.
Smith, Leonard B.	20	Standish	" "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Smith, Henry S. B.	27	Portland	" "	Promoted to Asst. Surgeon. See note, Field and Staff. Wounded on picket in front of Petersburg, Va., June 24, '64, in shoulder. Died of wounds at Washington, D. C., July 11, '64.
Taylor, Abel W.	18	Roxbury	" "	Died in Philadelphia, Pa., Apr. 25, '64, of disease.
True, Charles F.	18	North Yarmouth	" "	Wounded in action in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64, in neck. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 12, '65.
Titecomb, Frank	21	North Yarmouth	" "	Died in Maine, May 22, '64, of disease.

Tuftes, Josiah	18	Pownal	Mar. 23, 1864	Prisoner on march to North Anna River, May 22, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 8, '64, of diarrhea.
Trumble, Elias H.	18	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Whitten, James K. P.	18	Gray	" " "	Private Co. C, 25th Me., Sept. 29, '62. Prisoner at North Anna River, May 27, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 19, '64, of bronchitis.
Work, John	25	Portland	" " "	Wounded in arm and prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Exchanged. Discharged June 6, '65.
Wilson, George W.	18	Falmouth	" " "	Prisoner at North Anna River, May 27, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 26, '64, of diarrhea.
Wynan, Abraham	24	Milton Plantation	" " "	Prisoner on march to Wilderness, May 6, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 21, '64, of scurbutus.
Wedge, Philip	19	Canada	" " "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64, in arm. Transferred to V. R. C. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.
Wedge, Peter	18	Canada	" " "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in arm. Transferred to V. R. C. Discharged July 21, '65.

## Joined Company after organization.

Barker, William B. Gould, Floris E.	18	Freeport	May 6, 1864	Joined as 2d Lieut. See above. Transferred from Co. K. Wounded in right knee. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Libby, Lendall A.	18	Pownal	" " "	Transferred from Co. K. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sargent, William H.	23	Portland	Apr. 21, 1864	Transferred from Co. H. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted to Corp. and Sergt. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wheelock, George I. J.	18	Portland	" " "	Transferred from Co. H. Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Webber, Charles B.			May 6, 1864	Transferred from Co. K. Wounded and prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Died in prison, Oct., '64.

## COMPANY D.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captains.</i>				
Ham, William R.	35	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1864	Killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64.
Hammond, Joseph B.	39	New Gloucester	June 24, 1864	Promoted from 1st Lieut. Co. C.
Barker, William B.	26	Limerick	Oct. 8, 1864	Promoted from 1st Lieut. Co. H.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i>				
Rounds, Charles B.	28	Danville	Apr. 19, 1864	Acting Adj't. Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i>				
Chase, James J.	22	Turner	Apr. 5, 1864	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Promoted 1st Lieut. Co. H, Oct. 6, '64. Not mustered on commission. Discharged on account of wounds Dec. 22, '64.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i>				
Jackson, John M.	23	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1864	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Promoted 2d Lieut. Co. C. Not mustered on commission. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Sergeants.</i>				
Sproul, James H.	25	Lewiston	" " "	Detailed as Clerk, Division Commissary, Subsistence Dept. Mustered out Dec. 12, '64.
Arnold, Lloyd Q.	28	Lisbon	" " "	Corp. Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64. Discharged Nov. 17, '64.
Ham, John L.	20	Lewiston	" " "	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Cole, Charles E.	29	Livermore	" " "	Corporal Co. C, 8th Me., Sept. 7, '61. Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Pettengill, Converse L.	19	Lewiston	" " "	Promoted from Private. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me. Promoted to 1st Sergt. Mustered out July 15 '65.

<i>Corporals.</i>					
Mace, William H.	26	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1864	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Wounded on picket July 22, '64, front of Petersburg, Va. Died July 23, '64.	
Litchfield, Joseph M.				Promoted Hospital Steward. See ante in Field and Staff.	
Rose, Henry B.	24	Livermore	" "	Killed on picket at Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, '64.	
Conant, Hiram A.	18	Turner	" "	Wounded at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged from hospital June 2, '65.	
Hodges, Walter S.	19	Lewiston	" "	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Prisoner May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Erroneously reported as mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Paroled about Mar., '65. Died in Lewiston, Me., Sept. 29, '65, having never been mustered out or discharged from service.	
Nevens, Frederick N.	38	Auburn	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C. Date of discharge not shown.	
Foss, Roger A.	19	Lisbon	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 5, '65.	
Nevens, William H.	19	Lewiston	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Feb. 18, '65. Date of discharge not shown.	
Collins, Lora H.	19	Lewiston		Private Co. F, 19th Me., Aug. 19, '63. Private Co. D, 22d Me., Mar. 23, '64. Promoted Corp. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Sergt. Mustered out July 15, '65.	
Norton, Hebron	18	Livermore		Private Co. D, 32d Me., Mar. 33, '64. Promoted Corp. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.	
<i>Musicians.</i>					
Johnson, Frederick L.	18	Turner	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order Sept. 11, '65.	
Stinchfield, Angus W.	18	Danville	" "	Died of disease (consumption) at Alexandria, Va., Oct. 24, '65.	

## COMPANY D. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster in.	Final Record.
<i>Wagoner.</i> Hood, Albion	37	Turner	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged May 22, '65.
<i>Pirates.</i> Aris, Robert J.	31	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged for disability June, '65.
Atwood, Charles H.	48	Livermore	" " "	Died at David's Island Hospital, N. Y., Aug. 5, '64, of disease.
Abbott, John W.	48	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bisbee, Forest E.	48	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bryant, Andrew J.	35	Turner	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Beckler, John W.	48	Livermore	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged May 5, '65.
Lora H. Collins				Promoted to Corp. See above.
Cleveland, Leander S.	48	Camden	" " "	Transferred to Co. E.
Cummings, Charles F.	21	Portsmouth	" " "	Died at Portland, Me., Oct. 4, '64, of disease.
Chandler, Charles B.	22	Turner	" " "	Deserter while on furlough.
Cole, George A.	21	Lisbon	" " "	Killed in action May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Trans- ferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled.
Dingley, Leonard G.	21	Lewiston	" " "	Discharged July 31, '65.
Darling, Sewall G.	20	Lewiston	" " "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wounds May 26, '64.
Damon, Jonathan 2d	34	Buckfield	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Killed in action April 2, '65, at Petersburg, Va.



Dyer, John	23	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1861	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Feb., '65. Discharged July 26, '65.
Dyer, Charles S.	24	Lewiston	" "	Wounded May 18, '64, in hand, face and neck, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 9, '65.
Davis, Maynard G.	34	Poland	" "	Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64.
Fish, Cephas J.	30	Turner	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged from hospital July 11, '65.
Goodwin, Charles H.	22	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gould, Andrew J.	19	Lisbon	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Hann, Alvah N.	18	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hodgdon, George A.	18	Lewiston	" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wounds at New York, at a date not ascertained.
Harlow, Daniel G.	18	Turner	" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 27, '65.
Jones, Mellen N.	18	Turner	" "	Missing since June 12, '64. Left sick with fever, on march to James River, and not heard from subsequently.
Joyce, John	39	Lewiston	" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by reason of wounds, Apr. 5, '65.
Knowles, Warren C.	18	Lewiston	" "	Died of disease at Curver Hospital, Washington, D. C., Sept. 4, '64.
Kennedy, Timothy	35	Lewiston	" "	Wounded June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 1, '65.
Litchfield, Henry C.	18	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lewis, Harris A. P.				Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Lewis, William				Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Larabee, Benjamin B.	19	Lewiston	" "	Killed in action June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va.

## COMPANY D. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Lord, Henry M.	24	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1864	Prisoner May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. No further record. Probably died in prison.
Leavitt, Oliver N.	19	Turner	" " "	Wounded June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 22, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
McCarthy, Michael	22	Auburn	" " "	Wounded June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Deserted Aug. 31, '64.
Marston, Albion K. P.	22	Lewiston	" " "	Wounded June 6, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 8, '65.
Mitchell, Sylvanus D.	29	Lewiston	" " "	Died of disease at De Camp Hospital, N. Y., July 11, '64.
Mitchell, Algernon M.	25	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Feb. 11, '65. No further record.
Merrill, Cleaveland B.	22	Lewiston	" " "	Private Co. A, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Morse, Lorin W.	18	Livermore	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Morse, Elias A.	18	Livermore	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Morse Charles A.	38	Livermore	" " "	Wounded June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Leg amputated. Died at Annapolis, Md., June 25, '64, of wound.
Mixer, Lewis F.	18	Lewiston	" " "	Wounded June 9, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va., in hand. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Norton, Hebron				Promoted Corp. See ante.

Norris, Joseph C.	23	East Livermore	Mar. 23, 1862	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Died in prison Nov. 2, '64.
Pettengill, Converse N.				Promoted Sergt. See above.
Pease, Alvora S.	21	Turner	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability, June 16, '65.
Phillips, Isaac	30	Turner	" "	Private Co. D, 2d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Phillips, Ossian C.	27	Turner	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Pratt, Thomas M.	18	Livermore	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Pratt, Judson	18	Turner	" "	Discharged for disability, Aug. 26, '64.
Snell, Albert	18	Lisbon	" "	Wounded May 12, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wounds May 14, '64.
Smith, Luther M.	41	Lisbon	" "	Wounded June 29, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va.; again July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 16, '65.
Smith, Augustus	18	Lisbon	" "	Wounded in head June 29, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
Snell, Francis	19	Turner	" "	Discharged on account of wounds Jan. 16, '65.
Sylvester, George	18	Turner	" "	Died of disease at Hospital, Alexandria, Va., Aug. 29, '64.
Salsbury, Francis E.	23	Lisbon	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Shirley, David				Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 16, '65.
Simpson, William C.	18	Cumden	" "	Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Tart, Moses W.	19	Lewiston	" "	Died of disease at Augusta, Me., July 13, '64.
Tibbetts, Hiram B.	18	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Thompson, Hiram K.	43	Lewiston	" "	Wounded May 18, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va. Died of wounds May 19, '64.
			" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. No further record.

## COMPANY D. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Thompson, Charles E.	18	Lewiston	Mar. 23, 1864	Wounded May 18, '64, at Spotsylvania, Va., in left hip. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged from hospital Apr. 10, '65.
Wright, Frank	18	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Witham, Josiah H.	25	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Witham, Benjamin	30	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability, May 11, '65.
Walker, James B.				Promoted Commissary Sergt. See ante, Field and Staff.
Joined Company after organization.				
Hammond, Joseph B.				Joined as Capt. See above.
Barker, William B.				Joined as Capt. See above.
Tarbox, James F.	18	Lewiston	April 2, 1864	Transferred from Co. E. Wounded June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tarbox, Daniel Jr.		Lewiston	Sept. 22, 1864	Transferred to Co. D, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 16, '65.

## COMPANY E.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Kyes, Ebenezer S.	22	Jay	April 2, 1864	1st Sergt. Co. K, 28th Me., Oct. 13, '62. Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Bvt. Maj. Apr. 2, '65. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i> Keyes, Charles W.	33	Wilton	" " "	Sergeant Co. B, 28th Me., Oct. 10, '62. Private Co. F, 2d Me. Cav., Nov. 10, '63. Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64. Discharged on account of wounds Sept. 27, '64. Subsequently Lieut. Co. F, Coast Guards, Me. Inf., Jan. 20, '65, and Lieut. 44th U. S. Inf., July 28, '66. Bvt. Capt. U. S. A., Mar. 2, '67. Retired as 1st Lieut., U. S. A., Dec. 31, '70.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i> Stauley, James A.	34	Farmington	" " "	Transferred to Co. C, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 13, '65.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> Gibbs, Charles	23	Livermore	" " "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Gould, Fernando R.	25	Wilton	" " "	Wounded in thigh, in front of Petersburg, Va., July 22, '64. Died of wounds July 24, '64.
Cushman, William W.	22	Avon	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.
Keyes, Marcus C.	22	Wilton	" " "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in foot. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted to 1st Sergt. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY E. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster in.	Final Record.
<i>Sergeants.</i>				
Richardson, Osmon	21	Jay	Apr. 2, 1864	Private Co. K, 28th Me., Oct. 18, '62. Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64. Arm amputated. Died of wounds, at Jay, Me., Aug. 24, '64.
Bigelow, John W.	21	Livemore		Promoted from Corp. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Carleton, Laroy T.	18	Phillips		Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in head, hand and back. Promoted from Corp. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Bigelow, John W.	33	Buckfield	" "	Promoted Sergt. See above.
Waldron, Holman W.			" "	Sergt. Co. C, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Carlton, Laroy T.	23	Pern	" "	Promoted Sergt. See above.
Hannon, James H.			" "	Corporal Co. F, 9th Me., Sept. 2, '61. Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged April 22, '65.
			" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Powers, John G.	36	Wilton	" "	Not accounted for on Transfer Rolls.
Smith, Samuel B.	40	Farmington	" "	Deserted from Augusta, Me., Apr. 16, '64. Returned from desertion. Reduced to ranks. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brown, Samuel D.	41	Carthage	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Moody, Frank G.	19	Monmouth	" "	Promoted from Private. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Townsend, Gilbert B.	18	Jay	" "	Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

Whitney, Samuel S.	30	Carriage	Apr. 2, 1864	Promoted from Private, Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted to Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Gould, Orlando O.	18	Wilton	" "	Died of disease Aug. 4, '64.
Plaisted, George W.	18	Phillips	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
McCrillis, Charles F.	44	Wilton	" "	Discharged for disability Dec. 3, '64.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Allen, William A.	18	Carriage	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 1, '65.
Anderson, Solomon	19	Anburn	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 31, '65.
Bean, Peter Y.	41	Webster	" "	Transferred to Co. B, June 30, '64. See ante.
Bessey, Albert	"	"	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Billington, William R.	38	Strong	" "	Died of consumption at Strong, Me., Nov. 29, '64.
Blackwell, Leonard	43	Carriage	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brackett, Jeremiah C.	18	Perru	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brown, George O.	18	Jay	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Burgess, Romanzo M.	18	Hartford	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability May 20, '65.
Butler, George	19	Weld	" "	Died at Augusta, Me., Apr. 17, '64.
Chandler, William E.	33	Washington Pln.	" "	Transferred to Co. B, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 18, '65.
Chesley, Cecil G.	19	Wilton	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 15, '64, in knee. Died of wounds July 29, '64.
Chesley, Cyrus F.	19	Wilton	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY E. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Child, Elihu	18	Pern	Apr. 2, 1864	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Wounded Apr. 2, '65, at Petersburg, Va. In hospital at date of muster out. No further record.
Coburn, Greenfield	18	Carthage	" " "	Aug. 20, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Cox, William B.	28	Jay	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 3, '65.
Cushman, Jonathan	19	Avon	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Decoster, Cyrus	21	Buckfield	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 1, '65.
Duley, Charles F.	21	Lewiston	" " "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64, and again at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Edgecomb, Alonzo D.	21	Livermore	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Eustis, Elijah G.		Jackson Pln.	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.
Eustis, Hildreth K.	22	Jackson Pln.	" " "	Died at Augusta, Me., May 8, '64.
Farmer, Moses Jr.	41	Phillips	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 25, '65.
Footte, Isaac	43	Wilton	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.
Gould, John O.	42	Wilton	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.



Green, Charles A.	18	Hartford	April 2, 1864	Wounded and prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. No further record.
Hatch, Orrin	36	Carthage	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 1, '64. Not accounted for on Transfer Rolls.
Hardy, Martin V. B.	25	New Vineyard	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Holden, Charles E.	18	Carthage	" "	Died at Augusta, Me., Apr. 16, '64.
Huff, Wyeth	18	Wilton	" "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 1, '65.
Judkins, Benjamin W.	25	Carthage	" "	Prisoner on march to James River, June 14, '64. Died in prison June 30, '64.
Kennedy, Michael	18	Jay	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.
Kennedy, Andrew J.	31	Avon	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 8, '65.
Kennedy, Nathaniel S.	28	Avon	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, '64. Died at Alexandria, Va., from wound, June 6, '64.
Lake, Albert M. H.	18	Madrid	" "	Died at Augusta, Me., May 8, '64, of fever.
Maines, Henry L.	44	Industry	" "	Died in hospital at Portsmouth Grove, R. I., May 15, '64.
Mendall, Charles W.	18	Hartford	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Merrill, Henry R.	20	Livermore	" "	Died in prison at Danville, Va., Sept. 8, '64.
Morrison, Charles	18	Madrid	" "	Private Co. I, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Prisoner June 14, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 1, '65, at Conv Hospital, Augusta, Me.
Packard, Charles H.	18	Woodstock	" "	hospital at muster out. No further record.
Randall, Leonard D.	18	Wilton	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp., Mustered out July 15, '65.
Ranger, Orestes	18	Wilton	" "	Transferred to Co. B. See ante.
Reed, Amos H.	39	Jay	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 7, '64, in face—jaw broken. Died of wounds July 20, '64.
			" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 19, '64, in head and shoulder. Died of wounds June 27, '64.

## COMPANY E. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Richards, Henry W.	19	East Livermore	April 2, 1864	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Ridley, James B.	18	Auburn	" " "	Muster revoked by Maj. Gardiner, Acting Asst. Provost Marshal General.
Skinner, John F.	33	Carthage	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Oct. 1, '64.
Small, William H.	19	Jay	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 16, '65.
Smith, Benjamin	18	Pern	" " "	Died at Pern, Me., of fever.
Smith, Jasset Jr.	43	Wilton	" " "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out. No further record.
Stevens, David H.	22	Auburn	April 12, 1864	Private Co. C, 10th Me., Oct. 5, '61. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 14, '65.
Tarbox, James F.				Transferred to Co. D. See ante.
Taylor, Israel C.	18	Livermore	April 2, 1864	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tozer, Daniel	44	Vienna	" " "	Discharged in the field, near Pegram House, Va., Oct. 17, '64, for disability.
Towle, John F.	38	Wilton	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 23, '64, in arm, back and leg. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 31st, '65.
Townsend, Gilbert B.				Promoted Corp. See ante.
Townsend, Nathan M.	23	Jay	" " "	Private Co. K, 28th Me., Oct. 13, '62. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., Apr. 2, '65. Mustered out July 15, '65.

Townsend, James S.	43	Auburn	April 2, 1864	Private and Sergt., Co. A, Me., Coast Guards Arty., Oct. 28, '61. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.
Welch, Joseph W.	22	Wilton	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Welch, Thomas C.	19	Wilton	" "	Wounded Sept. 30, '64, at Pegram Farm, Va., in head. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Whitney Samuel S.	18	Jay	" "	Promoted Corp. See above.
Whitney, Sumner W.	18	New Vineyard	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 22, '65.
Wilcox, Jonas H. C.	18	Rumford	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 3, '65.
Wing, Isaac P.	19	Wilton	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, '64, in leg. Died of wounds, July 24, '64.
Winslow, Daniel	18	Livermore	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Winslow, Gilbert	21	Hartford	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 5, '65.
Wood, John Y.	21	New Sharon	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Killed in action in front of Petersburg, Va., Apr. 2, '65.
Works, Henry	21	New Sharon	" "	Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Killed in action in front of Petersburg, Va., Apr. 2, '65.
Joined Company after organization.				
Cleveland, Leander S.	18	Camden	Mar. 23, 1864	Transferred from Co. D. Transferred to Co. E, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY F.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Fall, Isaac P.	39	South Berwick	May 4, 1864	Captain Co. B, 27th Me., Oct. 17, '62. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., as Capt., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled Mar. 1, '65. Exchanged, Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i> Gurney, Fred S.	24	Saco	April 5, 1864	Lieut. Co. C, 5th Me., June 24, '61. Sergt. Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64.
Whitten, John G.	26	Alfred	July 15, 1864	Corporal Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Promoted from 2d Lieut. Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i> Whitten, John G. <i>1st Sergeant.</i> Darguin, Albion L.	23	Biddeford	April 5, 1864	Promoted 1st Lieut. See above. Sergeant Co. E, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted 2d Lieut. June 23, '65. Discharged by order June 27, '65.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Barker, William B. Guptill, Ferdinand W. Taylor, John H. Thompson, Adrial Jr.	22 23	Saco Sanford	" " " "	Promoted Sergeant-Major. See ante, Field and Staff. Promoted Quartermaster-Sergeant. See ante, Field and Staff. Prisoner May 19, '64, on march to North Anna River. Died in Andersonville prison. Private Co. E, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

Chadbourne, Nathan	25	Waterboro	Apr. 5, 1864	(Corporal Co. K, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Promoted from Corp. Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Tuttle, Lewis S.	29	Saco	" "	Prisoner on march to the North Anna river, May 19, '64. Died at Andersonville prison, November 30, '64, from diarrhea.
Quimby, Orrin J.	23	Lebanon	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Chadbourne, Nathan				Promoted Sergt. See above.
Patterson, Gardiner L.	20	Saco	" "	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison Jan. 7, '65.
Smith, James H.	18	Saco	" "	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Merrill, Charles H.	20	Saco	" "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Hauscom, John	43	Lebanon	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Merrill, William	29	Saco	" "	Prisoner on march to North Anna river, May 19, '64. Died in Andersonville prison.
Randall, Samuel P.	23	South Berwick	" "	Transferred from Co. A. Promoted from Private. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Rowell, William C.	44	Alfred	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Joy, George E.	18	South Berwick	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Whitten, Samuel	44	Alfred	" "	Discharged near Weldon R. R., Va., Sept. 26, '64, for disability.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Ayres, Charles W.	18	Biddeford	" "	Prisoner May 22, '64, on march to North Anna river. Died in hospital at Savannah, Ga., Oct., '64, after being confined at Andersonville 6 months.

## COMPANY F. — Continued.

NAME.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>			
Averill, James W.	Lyman	April 5, 1864	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Adams, William	Biddeford	" "	Prisoner on march to North Anna river May 19, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 27, '65.
Bracy, Benjamin F.	Alfred	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brown, John W.	Waterboro	" "	Killed in action in front of Petersburg, Va., June 18, '64.
Bennett, Edward	Sanford	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bradeen, Walter C.	Linington	" "	Killed in front of Petersburg, Va., July 3, '64.
Bagley, William H.	Saco	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 24, '65.
Bennett, Daniel	Wells	" "	Killed in action in front of Petersburg, Va., June 18, '64.
Blodgett, George	Sherbrook, C. E.	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clark, Alfred	Cornish	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clark, Wheatley P.	Cornish	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Carter, Orrin P.	Kittery	" "	Deserted May 12, '64.
Chase, Samuel C.	Richmond	" "	Missing June 12, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Not present at muster out. Probably died in prison.

Chaff, William H.	18	Waterboro	April 5, 1861	Prisoner. Paroled. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clark, George Jr.	25	Sanford	" "	Discharged Dec. 2, '64, by order of Gen. Dix.
Corson, David	28	Lebanon	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 3, '65.
Curtis, Benjamin F.	17	Kennebunkport	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clough, George W.	19	Biddeford	" "	Private Co. F, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Prisoner May 19, '64, on march to North Anna river. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
Doieg, Thomas	31	Alfred	" "	Private Co. I., 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dudley, Joseph	18	Waterboro	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dudley, Jesse	20	Waterboro	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Died of wounds June 3, '64.
Dudley, Benjamin	27	Waterboro	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 4, '65.
Davis, Nathaniel C.	18	Biddeford	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Farnham, George	43	Wells	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Goodwin, Charles	18	Kittery	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Grant, Isaiah	21	Kittery	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Grant, Rufus C.	21	York	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gilleau, Michael	21	Cornish	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 22, '64, in leg. Died of wounds July 23, '64.
Hinckley, Oliver	14	Brunswick	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64. Discharged Dec. 3, '64, by order of Gen. Dix.
Hilton, George W.	23	Wells	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY F. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Private.</i> Hayes, John F.	18	Lebanon	April 2, 1864	Prisoner May 19, '64, on march to North Anna river. Paroled. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hilton, Elbridge	27	Wells	"	Prisoner May 19, '64, on march to North Anna river. Paroled. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Henderson, Stephen S.	38	Kittery	"	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, '64, in left arm and side. Died of wounds July 4, '64.
Jeffrey, Frederick	18	Biddeford	"	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Knight, Charles L.	18	South Berwick	"	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Knox, Willard S.	19	Lebanon	"	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lewis, Brackett	18	Kittery	"	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lord, Charles O.	18	Sanford	"	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Jan. 30, '65, by order of Gen. Augur.
Mathews, John	33	Wells	"	Prisoner May 19, '64, on march to North Anna river. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Oct. 14, '64, of scorbuts.
Manson, Sylvester	23	Kittery	"	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 24, '64, in leg. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged on account of wound May 6, '65.
Merrill, Abby	18	Wakefield, N. H.	"	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.



Mason, Augustus	42	South Berwick	April 5, 1864	Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, '64.
Nemo, Edward	31	St. John, N. B.	" "	Deserted Apr. 20, '64.
Philbrook, John M.	18	Biddeford	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Prescott, Edwin W.	19	Saco	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Rand, John F.	18	Cornish	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 12, '65.
Roberts, Albus D.	21	Kittery	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64, in thigh. Died of wound in Armory Square Hospital, Washington, D. C., Nov. 14, '64.
Remick, Henry	20	Eliot	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Died in prison Nov. 28, '64.
Steel, John	19	Saco	" "	Deserted Apr. 20, '64.
Smith, Asa B.	18	Saco	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison Jan. 2, '65.
Smith, Alexander	20	Saco	" "	Missing at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64.
Stone, Henry G.	29	South Berwick	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Stevens, Milton H.	18	Eliot	" "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Trafton, Osborne	32	Alfred	" "	Wounded at Spottsylvania, Va., May 18, '64. Died of wounds May 29, '64.
Thorn, David	27	Limington	" "	Private Co. C, 27th Me., Oct. 14, '62. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tuttle, Lorin S.	22	Saco	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864, in shoulder. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability May 19, '65.
Tuttle, David L.	33	Saco	" "	Prisoner May 19, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Dec. 20, '64. of scorbatus.
Tarbox, William S.	19	Biddeford	" "	Died at Portsmouth Grove Hospital, R. I., Oct. 25, '64.
Thompson, Oscar H.	18	Cornish	" "	Prisoner on march to the North Anna river, May 22, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY F. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Trafton, William L.	18	Alfred	April 5, 1864	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 24, '65.
Whitney, Charles E.	28	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wallace, Winthrop A.	18	Kittery	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Nov. 6, '64.
Wentworth, Caleb	24	Lebanon	" " "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Young, Charles H.	18	Lebanon	" " "	Transferred to Co. F, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

joined Company after organization.

Randall, Samuel P.				Promoted Corp. See above.
Noyes, Thomas		Saco, or Biddeford		Was not an enlisted man, and was never borne on the rolls, but went to the front with Co. F, was taken prisoner, and died at Andersonville, Ga., Sept. 8, '64, of diarrhea.

## COMPANY G.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Hunt, James L.	38	Bath	Apr. 16, 1864	Captain Co. C, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Promoted Lieut.-Col., Oct. 8, '64. See ante, Field and Staff.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i> Child, Thomas	20	Bath	Apr. 27, 1864	Promoted Capt. Not mustered. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., as 1st Lieut., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i> Currier, James B.	41	Greenwood	Apr. 16, 1864	Discharged for disability June 24, '64.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> Ford, William G.	30	Bath	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Discharged May 24, '65.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Hall, John Eaton, Ray P.	32 18	Phippsburg Bath	" " " " " "	Deserted at Augusta, Me., Apr. 16, '64. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Left arm amputated. Discharged on account of wound, at Campbell Hospital, Washington, D. C., Dec. 5, '64.
Spinney, Lemuel B.	21	Bath	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Sept. 25, '64.
Hilling, John	42	Bath	" "	Promoted to 2d Lieut., Co. D, Oct. 12, '64. Not mustered. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Corporals.</i> Allen, Eben F.	35	Bath	" "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in arm and shoulder. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

## COMPANY G. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Bragg, Henry A.	26	Bath	April 16, 1864	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Discharged May 24, '65.
Spinney, Daniel W.	28	Bath	" "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
McKenney, Henry	24	Dresden	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Johnson, Charles W.	19	Newcastle	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Estes, Josiah	33	Newcastle	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 6, '64, in breast. Died in hospital at Washington, D. C.
Heath, Frederick E.	18	Bath	" "	Killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64.
Wilson, Samuel	30	Bath	" "	Deserted at Augusta, Me., Apr. 18, '64.
Dixon, John	24	Bath	" "	Promoted from Private. Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in hand; and at Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64, in ankle. Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Discharged Aug. 28, '65.
Haskell, Edwin	27	Bath	" "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in right hand, severely. Promoted from Private. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Fogg, Michael	44	Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Apr. 20, '65.
Hersey, Stillman	18	Bath	" "	Died at Augusta, Me., Apr. 19, '64, of disease.
Harmon, Charles B.	14	Westbrook	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Avery, John	34	Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Feb. 22, '65.

<i>Privates.</i> Andrews, John H.	18	Dresden	April 16, 1864	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Absent, sick, at muster out.
	18	Richmond	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Andrews, Ingalls B.	27	Stow	" "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Atkins, James	23	Newcastle	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Brookings, Almon L.	19	Bath	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 25, '64, in shoulder. Died of wound on board transport "Baltic."
Bennett, Thomas J.	18	Alna	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Buhner, Josiah T.	22	Perry	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Coombs, Asa	42	Bath	" "	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Creasey, John S.	18	Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Clements, Samuel	44	Bath	" "	Deserted June 16, '64. Was arrested, tried by court-martial, convicted and sentenced to be shot, and executed in presence of regiment.
Cox, Amasa	20	Hebron	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Campbell, Nerves O.	29	Perkins	" "	Prisoner. Fell out on march from Belle Plain to North Anna river, May, '64. Captured and died in prison.
Dolan, Thomas	38	Bath	" "	Discharged for disability, Dec., '64. Arms paralyzed by round shot at Cold Harbor, Va., June, '64.
Dixon, John Emery, William H.	21	West Bath	" "	Promoted Corp. See above. Wounded at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64, in ankle. Acting Color-Sergeant. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Apr. 18, '64.

## COMPANY G.—Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Estes, Josiah H.	28	Bath	April 16, 1864	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 26, '65.
Flagg, William H.	18	Richmond	" "	Killed at Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, '64.
Frost, Nathaniel G.	33	Norway	" "	Prisoner and wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Left leg amputated. Paroled about Nov., '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged on account of wound, at Augusta, Me., Feb. 8, '65.
Frost, Columbus B.	18	Perry	" "	Mortally wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in bowels. Died of wound July 31, '64.
Frost, William A.	24	Perry	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Discharged Aug. 14, '65.
Gray, George W.	18	Phippsburg	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Gardiner, William H.	19	Richmond	" "	Private Co. F, 24th Me., Oct. 13, '62. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Heath, Sylvanus	44	Bath	" "	Died at Bath, Me., Oct. 15, '64, of disease.
Haley, James A.	19	Richmond	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 27, '65.
Haskell, Edwin				Promoted Corp. See above.
Howard, William J.	37	Bath	" "	Deserted at Bowling Green, Va., May 24, '64.
Herrick, Joseph H.	19	Norway	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Died in prison at Salisbury, N. C., Nov. 21, '64.
Hall, Nathan E.	19	Alna	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

25	Newcastle	April 16, 1864	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
19	Poland	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled.
18	Lewiston	" "	Discharged for disability June 16, '65. Mustered Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
32	Newcastle	" "	Deserted at Bowling Green, Va., May 24, '64.
21	Newcastle	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
18	West Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C.
38	Bath	" "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in leg. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
44	Bath	" "	Discharged for disability May 15, '65.
19	Greenwood	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64, in arm. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
32	Newcastle	" "	Discharged for disability Jan. 14, '65.
21	Bath	" "	Died at Conv. U. S. Hospital, Augusta, Me., Aug. 30, '64, from chronic diarrhoea.
33	Bath	" "	Deserted at Augusta, Me., Apr. 19, '64.
28	Bath	" "	Killed in action at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64.
18	Dresden	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Bath	" "	Discharged for disability by order of Gen. Dix, Sept. 5, '64.
19	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
18	Avon	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled.
23	Bath	" "	Mustered out July 15, '65.
		" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Died in prison Dec. 1, '64.
		" "	Died in David's Island Hospital, N. Y., July 28, '64, from rheumatism.
		" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY G. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Nockton, John H.	44	Bath	April 16, 1864	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Noonan, Jeremiah	20	Bath	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in hand. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C.
Newton, William R.	44	Bath	" "	Died at Bath, Me., Nov. 19, '64, of chronic diarrhoea.
Needham, William O.	18	Norway	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Oliver, Josiah P.	24	Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
O'Neil, Anthony	24	Phippsburg	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in breast. Again, in front of Petersburg, Va., June 25, '64; left arm amputated. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Mar. 8, '65.
Palmer, Albert A.	18	Lewiston	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 19, '65.
Pettingill, William D.	35	Bath	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 12, '65.
Preble, Charles O.	19	Bath	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Aug. 15, '64.
Reed, George A.	18	Richmond	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. and Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Rice, Otis P.	29	Bath	" "	Discharged by Special Order No. 274, War Department, Aug. 28, '64.
Ryerson, Edwin P.	18	Alma	" "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.



Rose, George V.	24	Livermore	April 16, 1864	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order July 17, '65.
Swan, Fermo B.	38	Hallowell	" " "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C.
Small, Joseph L. Jr.	18	Kennebunkport	" " "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Discharged by order June 5, '65.
Thurston, Charles F.	18	Monmouth	" " "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 17, '65.
Trott, Aaron N.	25	Perry	" " "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 9, '65.
Trott, William	25	Perry	" " "	Killed in action Apr. 2, '65, at Petersburg, Va.
Varrell, Charles W.	18	Poland	" " "	Prisoner. Fell out on march from Belle Plain to North Anna river, May, '61. Captured, and died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., July 15, '64, of diarrhoea.
Winslow, Augustus F.	39	Bath	" " "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Wright, William J.	44	Bath	" " "	Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Webb, John	21	Berwick	" " "	Left sick in Maine. Not accounted for on Transfer Rolls. Died at Augusta, Me., April, '64, of smallpox.
Washburn, Hiram K.	23	Canton	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '61. Transferred to Co. G, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Jan. 15, '65.

## COMPANY H.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captains.</i> Chadwell, George H.	32	Portland	April 21, 1864	1st Lieut. Co. A, 1st Me., May 6, '61. Capt. Co. B, 12th Me., Oct. 15, '61. Died of disease (consumption) at Portland, Me., Aug. 29, '64.
Beals, Thomas P.	31	Portland	Sept. 16, 1864	Sergt. Co. G, 7th Me., Aug. 21, '61. Promoted 1st Lieut. Co. H, from 1st Sergt. Co. C, Apr. 21, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., as Capt., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 27, '65.
<i>1st Lieutenants.</i> Beals, Thomas P. Barker, William B.				Promoted Capt. See above. Promoted from 2d Lieut. Co. C. Promoted Capt. Co. D, Oct. 8, '64. See ante.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i> Mitchell, Henry G.	29	Portland	Apr. 26, 1864	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> Anderson, John D.	27	Gray	Apr. 24, 1864	1st Minn. Bat. Lt. Arty. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in right arm. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Harmon, Edward R.	28	Westbrook	" " "	Musician Co. E, 25th Me., Oct. 4, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Tyler, Jacob E.	24	Portland	" " "	Private Co. H, 5th Me., June 24, '61. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Harlow, Silas F. Davis, Charles K.	22 26	Hebron Westbrook	" " " " " "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Private Co. B, Me. Coast Guards, Arty., Oct. 29, '61. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

<i>Corporals.</i>				
Carle, Charles E.	38	Portland	April 21, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted to Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Kelley, Patrick	27	Buxton	" "	Deserted May 6, '64.
Welch, Sewall	24	Standish	" "	Private Co. A, 5th Me., June 21, '61. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Graffam, Joseph A.	23	Windham	" "	Private Co. G, 7th Me., Aug. 21, '61. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 23, '65.
Cushman, Charles O.	18	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Discharged May 29, '65.
Hackett, Samuel W.	36	Portland	" "	Wounded in hand June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Mackin, Joseph F.	26	Portland	" "	Private Co. E, 1st Me., May 3, '61. Corp. Co. E, 10th Me., Oct. 4, '61. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Skillin, Alvin	26	Scarboro	" "	Private Co. C, 12th Me., Nov. 15, '61. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Dow, William M.	36	Gray	" "	Promoted from Private. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Mar. 1, '65. Discharged July 29, '65.
Milliken, Benjamin F.	39	Bridgton	" "	Promoted from Private. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Thomas, Wilham H.	18	Brunswick	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted, arrested and sentenced by court-martial. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Robinson, Reuben	21	Windham	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 16, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Snow, Charles H.	24	Westbrook	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 27, '65.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Babb, North L.	18	Westbrook	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY H. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Berry, William	44	Lebanon	April 21, 1864	Private Co. C, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 3, '65.
Birehsted, James F.	18	North Berwick	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Brock, Nathaniel	19	Lebanon	" "	Wounded June 18, '64, in front of Petersburg, Va., in hand, and prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Discharged for disability June 11, '65.
Buck, James	43	Cape Elizabeth	May 10, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 16, '65.
Chase, Charles H.	21	Bridgton	Apr. 21, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.
Cook, James M.	21	Windham	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 21, '65.
Constantine, Daniel	35	Lewiston	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 18, '64, in arm and side. Discharged Nov. 5, '64.
Carlton, Samuel S.	18	Farmington	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 16, '65.
Cousins, Ezra W.	20	Wells	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 25, '64, in arm and side. Died of wounds June 28, '64.
Cobb, George W.	18	Windham	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dow, William M.				Promoted Corp. See above.
Daly, James	20	Portland	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 1, '65.

Desmond, Thomas	21	Cape Elizabeth	May 10, 1864	Deserted at Augusta, Me., May 13, '64.
Dyer, Simon	21	North Berwick	Apr. 21, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Edmunds, Charles	43	Buxton	" "	Killed in front of Petersburg, Va., July 3, '64.
Elder, George A.	18	Gorham	" "	Wounded at North Anna river, Va., May 26, '64, in hand. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Frank, Granville H.	23	Gray	" "	Died at Washington, D. C., July 6, '64, of disease (chronic diarrhea).
Evans, George W.	18	Lyman	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Griffin, Joseph D.	34	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Private Co. I, 25th Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gill, Abner C.	21	Chesterville	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 21, '64, in head, mortally. Died June 22, '64.
Griffin, Henry	18	Coburn	" "	Died in hospital at Philadelphia, Pa., July 22, '64.
Goff, Cyrus	22	Gray	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Green, Wilson J.	39	Wells	" "	Died of disease, Sept. 15, '64.
Green, Joseph H.	25	Wells	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Dec. 12, '64.
Hill, King S.	21	Kennebunkport	" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hill, Charles S.	21	Cape Elizabeth	" "	Wounded in head June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va. Not accounted for on Transfer Rolls.
Hynes, Michael	29	Portland	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 21, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Apr. 22, '65.
Hurley, John	20	Biddeford	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in leg. Died of wounds June 19, '64.
Holbrook, James O.	26	Portland	May 10, 1864	Deserted May 13, '64.
Hughes, William	24	Portland	Apr. 21, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted May 8, '65.
Knight, Joseph F.	18	Falmouth	" "	Missing July 30, '64, at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va. No further record.

## COMPANY H. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Kolloch, Isaac M.	18	Westbrook	April 24, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged by order May 19, '65.
Littlefield, Charles	30	Westbrook	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Leavitt, Libbens H.	25	Raymond	May 10, 1864	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in hand. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mus- tered out July 15, '65.
Latham, Charles H.	18	Raymond	" " "	Wounded June 3, '64, at Cold Harbor, Va., in head. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis- charged Jan. 7, '65.
Lewis, Aaron M.	18	Saco	Apr. 24, 1864	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out.
Marble, Frederick	36	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Milliken, Edwin C.	18	Bridgton	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, 1865.
Manson, George M.	18	Kittery	" " "	Died at Alexandria, Va., Aug. 26, '64, of diphtheria.
Milliken, Benjamin F.				Promoted Corp. See above.
O'Donnell, James	20	Cape Elizabeth	" " "	Deserted May 10, '64.
Peverly, Edwin B.	23	Milton Plantation	" " "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in head. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Sick in hospital at muster out.
Perkins, Frank M. B.	18	Lebanon	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Phillips, Charles E.	20	Turner	" " "	Died at McDougal Hospital, N. Y., July 27, '64, of typhoid fever.
Pinder, John	19	Kittery	" " "	Died at Beverly, N. J., Nov. 1, '64, of chronic diarrhoea.

Ridlon, Thomas D.	35	Bridgton	April 21, 1864	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Discharged June 16, '65.
Richards, George F.	18	Seabrook	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died of disease Mar. 13, '65.
Rowell, William W.	18	Alfred	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Smith, Frank O. J.	28	Standish	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 8, '64, in hand. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged from hospital, York, Pa., July 5, '65.
Strout, Abner	18	Poland	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Aug. 25, '64.
Smith, James	24	Buxton	" " "	Deserted May 10, '64.
Sargent, William H.	19	Cape Elizabeth	" " "	Transferred to Co. C. See ante.
Stanton, Monzo	18	Lewiston	" " "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sullivan, Michael	18		" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died of disease Mar. 20, '65.
Smith, William H.	22	Gorham	" " "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died of wounds Sept. 19, '64.
Smith, Ransom D.	23	Standish	" " "	Died at Augusta, Me., Apr. 29, '64, of typhoid fever.
Stevens, William	20	Kittery	" " "	Private Co. G, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Small, William P.	18	Andover	" " "	Died at Washington, D. C., July 18, '64, of chronic diarrhea.
Thomas, Benjamin C.	18	Brunswick	" " "	Private Co. D, 25th Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 31, '65.
Thornton, Jeremiah	21	Clinton	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order June 19, '65.
Thompson, John W.	20	Hartford	" " "	Musician Co. K, 5th Me., June 24, '61. Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.

## COMPANY II. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Tounges, Alceek	29	Saco	April 21, 1864	Reported deserted June 13, '64. May have been captured.
Wheelock, George L. J.	24	Portland	" "	Transferred to Co. C. See ante.
Wallace, Charles O.			" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis-
Ward, Albert P.	34	Portland	" "	charged at Portland, Me., Jan. 1, '65.
			" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Dis-
Welch, Thomas, Jr.	36	Standish	" "	charged by order June 15, '65.
			" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered
Wetherbee, William L.	35	Portland	" "	out July 15, '65.
			" "	Transferred to Co. H, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered
Ward, Samuel D.	27	Portland	" "	out July 15, '65.
			" "	Reported deserted June 13, '64. May have been cap-
				tured.
Joined Company after organization.				
Love, Frederick	22	Westbrook	May 29, 1864	Not accounted for. Deserted.



## COMPANY I.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Hussey, Marcus M. L.	31	Newcastle	May 5, 1864	Sergt. Co. K, 16th Me., Aug. 11, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i> Whitcomb, Wilfred	21	Newcastle	" " "	Private 114th U. S. Inf. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in shoulder. Acting Adjt. Nov., '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Jan. 12, '65.
<i>2d Lieutenant.</i> Hall, George L.	30	Nobleboro	" " "	Musician, 4th Me. (Band), June 15, '61. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled Mar., '65. Discharged Mar. 12, '65.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> McAllister, Alexander	19	Damariscotta	" " "	Corporal Co. I, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Discharged Aug. 22, '65.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Reed, Eugene	22	Damariscotta	" " "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Monroe, John H.	28	Liverpool, Eng.	" " "	Deserted May 10, '64.
Little, Joel H.	32	Bremen	" " "	Sergeant Co. I, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in hand. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
<i>Corporals.</i> Denton, John W.	27	Evans	" " "	Deserted May 10, '64.
Lord, Samuel	40	Norway	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 7, '64, in hand. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.

## COMPANY I. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Corporals.</i>				
Clark, Ephraim	27	Newcastle	May 5, 1861	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Boynton, Joshua T.	21	Somerville	" " "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Williams, Thomas	21	Portland	" " "	Deserted May 10, '64.
Arnold, Thomas	20	Danverscott	" " "	Private Co. I, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Mar. 3, '65. Deserted May 10, '64.
Atwood, Charles	19	Portland	" " "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Merrill, Warren	43	Nobleboro	" " "	Promoted from Private. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64, in shoulder. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Ervin, John	37	Bristol	" " "	Promoted from Private. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Leighton, Miles W.	22	Somerville	" " "	Promoted from Private. Subsequently Sergt., Co. D, Coast Guards, Inf., Jan. 6, '65 to Sept. 6, '65.
Swift, William	28	Liverpool, Eng.	" " "	Promoted from Private. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 21, '64, in breast. No further record.
<i>Musicians.</i>				
Perkins, Calvin S.	29	Edgecomb	" " "	Died at M. E. Church Hospital, Alexandria, Va., June 26, '64, of consumption.
Wall, George E.	18	Augusta	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i>				
Chapman, John F.	33	Danverscott	" " "	Died at Washington, D. C., July 10, '64, of disease.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Ayres, Theodore	25	Cooper	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 31st, '65.

Brown, Gustavus	18	Palermo	May 5, 1861	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted to Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Boyer, James H.	18	Augusta	" "	Wounded at North Anna River, Va., May 26, '64, in hand. Died of wound June 21, '64.
Blackstone, Charles H.	18	Waterville	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Blackstone, George C.	19	Waterville	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C. Jan. 1, '65. Discharged July 21, '65.
Brackett, Nathaniel	39	Parsonfield	" "	Died at Belle Plain, Va., May 17, '64, of sunstroke.
Berry, Gilbert L.	18	East Machias	" "	Prisoner on march to James River, June 15, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 30, '64, of scorbutus.
Blake, Thomas H.	21	Wiscasset	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Feb. 22, '65.
Booker, Hathaway J.	30	Somerville	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 13, '65.
Boynton, Cyrus E.	19	Jefferson	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Cunningham, Lowell	18	Jefferson	" "	Died at David's Island Hospital, N. Y., Aug. 26, '64, of disease.
Croftson, William A. D.	19	Whitefield	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Colby, James H.	18	Somerville	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Paroled. Exchanged. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Crowell, Allen T.	23	Winslow	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 24, '64, in shoulder; again wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Dunbar, Lewis W.	18	Nobleboro	" "	Wounded June 1, '64, in neck, at Cold Harbor, Va. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Downs, John Jr.	21	Cherryfield	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability, Feb. 14, '65.
Ervin, John			" "	Promoted to Corp. See above.
Evans, Elisha Jr.	36	Somerville	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

## COMPANY I. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Frost, Eliab R.	34	Norway	May 5, 1864	Wounded on march to James River, Va., June 14, '64, in foot. Died of wound at Washington, D. C., July 25, '64.
Fossett, Byron	48	Nobleboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp., and 1st Sergt., in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Greeley, Oliver M.	20	Somerville	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gilpatrick, Evauder	48	Washington	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gowd, George B.	48	Dresden	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Died in prison at Danville, Va., Dec. 8, '64.
Gordon, Daniel	33	Augusta	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Grant, Franklin	22	Bangor	" " "	Killed on picket in front of Petersburg, Va., June 20, '64.
Gundlack, John J.	48	Montreal	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Guard, George	48	Highegate, Vt.	" " "	Erroneously reported "Deserted on the march June 15, '64." Fell out on march, was captured, and subsequently paroled, and discharged by order, June 9, '65.
Hopkins, Ira E.	26	Newcastle	" " "	Wounded at North Anna River, Va., May 26, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Died at Conv Hospital, Augusta, Me., Mar. 18, '65, of inflammation of bowels.
Hall, David F.	25	Palermo	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Jan. 20, '65.

Hutchings, Edward R.	31	Newcastle	May 5, 1864	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out. No further record.
Hilton, Joseph E.	19	Bremen	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Killed in action Apr. 2, '65, at Petersburg, Va.
Hussey, Joseph	44	Nobleboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hare, Edward J.	19	Houlton	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 24, '64, in waist. Died at Washington, D. C., July 23, '64.
Jones, Benjamin F.	36	Newcastle	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 29, '65.
Joy, John M.	19	Clinton	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Jabott, Samuel	18	Higgate, Vt.	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 19, '64, in left hip. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64.
Labree, Charles M.	31	Wales	" " "	Deserted from hospital Mar. 1, '65.
Linscott, Willard	18	Nobleboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 24, '65.
Leighton, Miles W.	18	Pittston	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Leeman, Clarence	39	Norway	" " "	Promoted to Corp. See above.
Lovejoy, Lewis	18	Bethel	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C. Mar. 1, '65.
Lapham, John E.	18	Bethel	" " "	Private Co. H, 23d Me., Sept. 29, '62. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Mar. 1, '65.
Lapham, Abijah	18	Bethel	" " "	Wounded at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64, in thigh.
Marden, Nathaniel	44	Granby, Vt.	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged on account of wound, June 7, '65.
Mitchell, Charles H.	21	Letter "E" Pla.	" " "	Killed in action at North Anna River, Va., May 26, '64. Private Co. G, 12th Me., Nov. 15, '61. Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 6, '64, in hand. Died at Washington, D. C., June 11, '64.
			" " "	Wounded on march to James River, Va., June 14, '64, in foot. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C. Discharged July 27, '65.

## COMPANY I. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Murry, Peter	19	Bangor	May 5, 1864	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Mann, Nathan P.	18	Dedham	" " "	Wounded at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, wounded, at date of muster out. No further record.
McDaniel, William	18	Somerville	" " "	Reported deserted on march to James River, June 15, '64. No further record.
McDaniel, Francis	18	Somerville	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Powers, Lewis	23	Bethel	" " "	Died in Washington, D. C., July 13, '64.
Peetsee, James M.	24	Somerville	" " "	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Perkins, Andrew E.	21	Edgecomb	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. and Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Page, Charles H.	18	Edgecomb	" " "	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Palmer, John W.	18	Nobleboro	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Ross, George D.	19	New Brunswick	" " "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 6, '64, in hand. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Deserted from hospital Jan. 1, '65.
Smith, Charles	27	Sherbrooke	" " "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 12, '65.

Sidelinger, Henry D.	18	Nobleboro	May 5, 1864	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sprowl, Henry B.	18	Nobleboro	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Died at Annapolis, Md., Oct. 21, '64, of disease.
Swift, William Tobin, Thomas	33	Nobleboro	" "	Promoted to Corp. See above. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tibbatts, Charles W.	18	Norridgewock	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Tracey, Willard	26	Stenben	" "	Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged June 17, '65.
Vanastrand, James	42	Rockland	" "	Deserted May 12, '64.
Vining, Reuben	19	Windsor	" "	Killed in action in front of Petersburg, Va., June 17, '64.
Wiseman, James	19	Bangor	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 28, '64, in shoulder. Transferred to Co. I, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 19, '65.

## COMPANY K.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Captain.</i> Burbank, Horace H.			Apr. 27, 1864	Promoted Capt. from 1st Lieut. Co. A, Apr. 27, '64. See ante (Co. A), for record of service.
<i>1st Lieutenant.</i> Dorman, Stephen G.	28	Wells	May 6, 1864	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 22, '64, con- tusions from shell, thigh and hip. Discharged by Special Order, Aug. 24, '64.
<i>2d Lieutenants.</i> Perkins, Silas M.	23	Kennebunkport	" " "	Accidentally wounded in foot at Totopotomoy Creek, Va., May 31, '64. Died of wound June 22, '64, in Maine.
Goodrich, James W.	29	Saco	July 15, 1864	Promoted from 1st Sergt. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, in arm. Discharged for disability from wound, Dec. 10, '64.
<i>1st Sergeant.</i> Goodrich, James W.				Promoted to 2d Lieut. See above.
<i>Sergeants.</i> Damon, George W.	26	Kittery	May 6, 1864	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Exchanged. Discharged May 19, '65.
Hubbard, Charles S.	21	Kennebunk	" " "	Private Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, mor- tally. Died of wounds July 31, '64.
Wadleigh, Charles H.	20	South Berwick	" " "	Private Co. B, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Discharged by order June 8, '65.
Hodgdon, Itham	24	Saco	" " "	Private Co. A, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 25, '64, in arm. Mus- tered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.



<i>Corporals.</i> Grant, Alexander Taylor, George A.	42 20	Biddeford Wells	May 6, 1864 " " "	Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64. Private Co. E, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Exchanged. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
	20	Kittery	" " "	Wounded at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Discharged by order August 16, '65.
Parker, George T.	23	Lyman	" " "	Private Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Mustered out at consolidation Dec. 12, '64.
Gordon, George	22	Pittston	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 15, '64, in calf of leg. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Stevens, George W.	21	Portsm'th, N.H.	" " "	Deserted May 12, '64.
Clark, Charles B. <i>Musicians.</i>	15	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Not accounted for on Muster-out Rolls.
Scott, Frederick G.	15	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 6, '65.
Brown, Charles H.	43	Farmington	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
<i>Wagoner.</i> Clayton, John H.	25 18	Augusta Augusta	" " " " " "	Deserted May 11, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability July 17, '65.
<i>Privates.</i> Anderson, John Arris, Benjamin	43	Kittery	" " "	Died in hospital at City Point, Va., Aug. 17, '64, of disease.
Allen, William L.	32 18	Buxton Smithfield	" " " " " "	Deserted May 11, '64. Prisoner on march to Pamunkey River, Va., May 28, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., July 10, '64, of diarrhoea.
Allen, George E. Allen, Abisha	23	Lyman	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Buzzell, Edmund C.	44	Dayton	" " "	Private Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.

## COMPANY K. — Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Buzzell, William R.	42	Biddeford	May 6, 1864	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 14, '65.
Bragdon, James A.	24	Wells	" " "	Private Co. E, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Bennett, Horace A.	22	Wells	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C. Mar. 20, '65. Discharged Aug. 23, '65.
Bennett, Lorenzo	40	Wells	" " "	Died in hospital at City Point, Va., July 29, '64, of disease.
Black, Jerome L.	21	Limington	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Carter, William E.	19	Kittery	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Chaff, John H.	19	Kennebunkport	" " "	Died in hospital at City Point, Va., July 2, '64, of organic disorder of liver.
Crockett, Joseph W.	18	Augusta	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Chamberlain, George E.	18	Augusta	" " "	Prisoner on march to James River, Va., June 15, '64. Died in prison Nov. 3, '64.
Donnell, Moses	26	Wells	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Died at Camp Parole at Annapolis, Md., Oct. 22, '64.
Dermont, Worthing E.	44	Biddeford	" " "	Reported "Missing." Prisoner at Cold Harbor, Va., June 2, '64. Died in prison, date unknown.
Davis, Abram E.	18	Biddeford	" " "	Prisoner on march to James River, Va., June 12, '64. Died in prison, date unknown.

Dorcy, Charles	23	Augusta	May 6, 1864.	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. In arrest at Augusta, Me., at muster out.
Eldridge, Edward W.	45	Wells	" " "	Private Co. B, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Died in hospital at City Point, Va., Aug. 22, '64, from disease.
Emmons, Alonzo	18	Lyman	" " "	Died in Mower U. S. General Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., July 18, '64, from disease.
Emmons, George W.	44	Lyman	" " "	Private Co. I, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 27, '65.
Flanagan, James	23	Portland	" " "	Killed in action at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64.
Farrell, Edward	24	Portland	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Paroled. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Gerow, Joseph	18	Fairfield	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Goodrich, William	19	Biddeford	" " "	Wounded on picket in front of Petersburg, Va., June 21, '64, in foot. Died of wounds at Biddeford, Me., Sept. 1, '64.
Gould, Floris E.	18	Wells	" " "	Transferred to Co. C. See ante.
Hatch, Alonzo	18	Wells	" " "	Died in Campbell Hospital, Washington, D. C., July 8, '64, of disease.
Henry, Charles	25	Portland	" " "	Deserted at Augusta, Me., May 11, '64.
Blackett, Lucius H.	18	New Vineyard	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Hobbs, Joseph A.	26	Waterboro	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 22, '64, in left side. Acting Quartermaster-Sergeant, Nov., '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Transferred to V. R. C., Feb. 22, '65.
Hamilton, Noah	44	Waterboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability Apr. 18, '65.
Hamilton, Alonzo	19	Waterboro	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Jordan, Ralph T.	27	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 7, '65.

## COMPANY K. — Continued.

NAME.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster-in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Jones, Daniel	43	Lyman	May 6, 1864	Sent to Division Hospital, July 6, '64. Not accounted for on Transfer Rolls.
Jones, Edward	23	Portland	" " "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 19, '64, in left arm. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, wounded, at muster out.
Kimball, John	44	Lyman	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged on account of wounds.
Littlefield, Thaddens	44	North Berwick	" " "	Private Co. B, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged July 22, '65.
Locke, Jesse A.	18	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Libby, Lendall A.	44	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. C. See ante.
Leach, Nathaniel	44	Biddeford	" " "	Died at Beverly Hospital, N. J., Oct. 18, '64, of disease.
Libby, Josiah	44	Biddeford	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.
Libby, Elijah	23	Greenwood	" " "	Private Co. F, 10th Me., Oct. 4, '64. Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., July 22, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Lee, George H.	18	Portland	" " "	Discharged Sept. 12, '64, for disability.
Neal, Charles W.	18	Kittery	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp. and Sergt. in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Newell, Aaron	26	Dayton	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged Aug. 15, '65.
Perkins, Charles H.	21	Biddeford	" " "	Died at Judiciary Square Hospital, Washington, D. C., Aug. 14, '64.
Porter, Mark	41	China	" " "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.

Plummer, David R.	25	Wales	May 6, 1864	Died in hospital at Alexandria, Va., July 25, '64, of disease.
Richardson, James B.	18	Wales	" "	Wounded in front of Petersburg, Va., June 21, '64, in foot. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, wounded, at muster out.
Ross, Samuel C.	18	Portland	" "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Richards, Ogilvie	19	Bremen	" "	Private Co. I, 21st Me., Oct. 14, '62. Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Exchanged. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Ricker, George	19	Sanford	" "	Prisoner at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64. Paroled. Died at Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md., Oct. 30, '64.
Small, Benjamin	18	Gorham	" "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sawyer, Francis A.	18	Standish	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in face. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Sanborn, John W.	19	Lebanon	" "	Private Co. D, 27th Me., Sept. 30, '62. Wounded at Pegram Farm, Va., Sept. 30, '64, in knee. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Promoted Corp., in 31st Me. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Upson, Isaiah	18	Kennebunkport	" "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Mustered out July 15, '65.
Valley, Francis	42	Millbridge	" "	Prisoner on march to James River, Va., June 12, '64. Died in prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 19, '64, of diarrhea.
Wickliff, Charles S.	19	Portland	" "	Deserted at Augusta, Me., May 11, '64.
Wakefield, Alonzo H.	18	Lynan	" "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged by order May 22, '65.
Witham, Alvah C.	36	Sanford	" "	Wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64, in face and neck. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, wounded, at muster out.
Wells, Charles W.	18	Durham	" "	Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Absent, sick, at muster out.

## COMPANY K. Continued.

Name.	Age.	Residence When Enlisted.	Date of Muster in.	Final Record.
<i>Privates.</i>				
Whittaker, Charles	23	Biddeford	May 6, 1864	Died in hospital at City Point, Va., July 18, '64, of disease.
Wormell, Frank	18	Farmington	" " "	Prisoner at Cemetery Hill, Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64. Transferred to Co. K, 31st Me., Dec. 12, '64. Discharged for disability June 13, '65.
Webber, Charles B.				Transferred to Co. C. See ante.





GEORGE E. JOY.



## Biographical Sketch.

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### GEORGE E. JOY.

George E. Joy was born in Great Falls, New Hampshire, on April 18, 1845, and was the son of Charles and Abby (Grant) Joy. The early years of his life were not marked by any unusual incidents, his boyhood being passed in the manner customary with those born and reared in our peaceful New England communities.

But as he approached manhood, the war of the Rebellion was going on, and when the Thirty-Second Maine was being formed, he enlisted in the company recruited for that regiment by Captain Isaac P. Fall, of South Berwick. And on April 5, 1864, he being then less than nineteen years of age, he was mustered into the military service of the United States, as musician in Company F of the Thirty-Second. Leaving Maine with the first battalion of the regiment, on April 20th, he bore his part in the subsequent arduous service rendered by the Thirty-Second. And on December 12, 1864, he was transferred to Company F, of the Thirty-First Maine, being one of the sixteen members of his company present with the colors at the time of the consolidation. Continuing to serve with the Thirty-First until the close of the war, he was mustered out with the regiment on July 15, 1865, and returned to Maine.

He was married November 28, 1869, to Miss Maria J. Hildreth, and has had two children, one being a daughter, and the other a son. Since the war he has been engaged in the grocery business, at Salmon Falls, N. H., and also, for twelve years, in South Berwick, Me. He is a member of Sawyer Post, No. 17, G. A. R., of Dover, N. H., and is also President of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Veteran Association, of South Berwick. He has also been a member of the Board of Selectmen of his town.



## ERRATA, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

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In list of casualties, May 18th, page 158, add name of Corporal Walter S. Hodges, Co. D, missing: was captured, and prisoner till March '65.— See roster.

On p. 163, read General *Torbert* instead of *Torbett*.

In list of casualties between May 18th and 24th, p. 171, read Corporal William *Merrill*, Co. K, captured, instead of *Merritt*. On same page it is stated that Sergeant Taylor and Corporal Merrill were subsequently released and returned to regiment. But comrade Oscar Thompson states both died in Andersonville prison, and the other information is believed to be erroneous.

On p. 359, Private Amasa Cox, Co. G, is reported as wounded and taken prisoner July 30th. Comrade J. L. Small states Cox was killed in that action.

On p. 504, date of muster-in, read *April 5, 1864*, instead of April 2, 1864.

The biographical sketch and portrait of Comrade George E. Joy were received too late for insertion in proper place.















