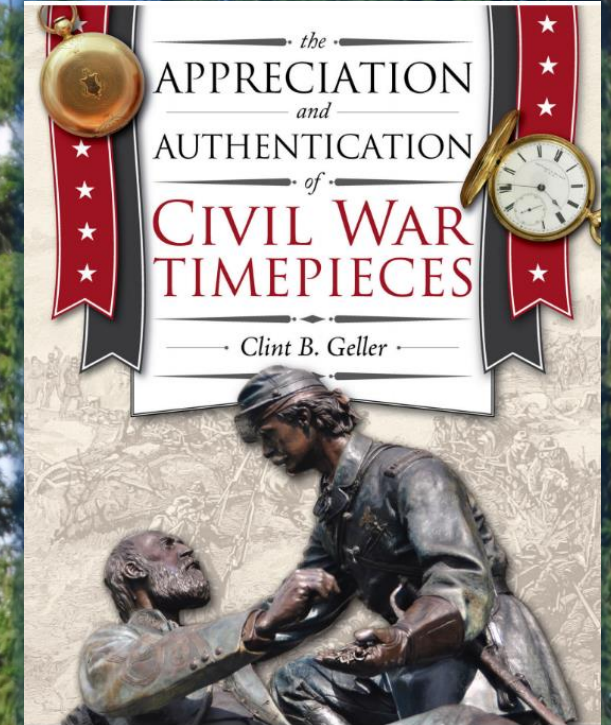


CLINT GELLER'S CIVIL WAR WATCH COLLECTION

PART I

Last Update: August 20, 2023



The Geller Collection of Civil War Provenance Timepieces

This slide presentation documents fourteen watches that were received and/or carried by participants in the American Civil War (ACW) either during the war or shortly (and usually immediately) after its conclusion. Many of these artifacts testify to the bonds of respect, admiration, and affection that existed between their owners and their peers, subordinates, or commanders. All of these watches reflect in some way the role played by timepieces in the ACW and the importance that the men who fought it placed in their watches.

Other than perhaps the American Revolution itself, the ACW was the most important, impactful, and traumatic event in American history. It was an inflection point representing the culmination of all prior American history, and one which set in motion the most important dynamics and struggles of all our ensuing history. Roughly one in every 50 Americans then alive perished in the conflict. The ever reverberating ramifications of this horrific event are still playing out as our nation struggles uncertainly towards the goal cherished by many but by no means all Americans of becoming a genuine multi-ethnic democracy. Now more than ever it is timely to recall the names and the deeds of the men who carried these artifacts so that their stories will live again for a new generation of admirers. It is my hope that the heroism and sacrifices of these bygone patriots can inspire us at a time when our nation's democratic institutions are once again under threat from insurrectionists, neofascists, and white supremacists.

One Confederate provenance watch also is included in the collection, because it is highly unusual in having been ordered by a department of the Confederate States Navy, the CSN Bureau of Ordnance & Hydrography, which makes it a rare and likely unique historical artifact.

PROVENANCES & WATCHES

Part I

Brvt. Maj. Gen. John Wallace Fuller – **Fuller's OH Brigade** – Waltham AT&Co Grade KW16, 18K HC

Brig. Gen. Wm. Jackson Palmer – **Col. 15th PA Cavalry** – Waltham AT&Co Grade KW16 with aftermarket SW/button setting, 18K E.T.&Co. HC

Brig. Gen. Jos. Tarr Copeland – **MI Cavalry Brigade** – Waltham AT&Co Grade Model 1857, J. R. Reed & Co. 18K HC

Col. (later Brig. Gen.) Geo. Washington Gallup – **14th KY Infantry** – Swiss Lepine Caliber Type V, 18K HC with extra picture on rear lid

Lt. Col. John Hodges Jr. – **59th MA Infantry** – Waltham AT&Co Grade Model 1859, silver AT&Co HC

Lt. Col. Elial Foote Carpenter – **112th NY Infantry** – Waltham Wm. Ellery grade Model 1857, silver HC

Part II

Major Josiah Bottsford Cobb – **12th IN Cavalry** – Waltham AT&Co Grade Model 1857 18K HC

Captain John Eddy – **95th IL Infantry** – Waltham AT&Co Grade KW20, split push piece, 18K HC

Captain William Wesley Mosier – 1st Union TN Cavalry – F. H. Clark, Memphis TN, English private label, Sterling HC

Captain Edwin Ruthven Peckens – **52nd PA Infantry** – English $\frac{3}{4}$ plate lever, Adams & Co., Liverpool, 18K HC

Lt. James A. Sage – **25th MI Infantry** – Waltham P. S. Bartlett Grade Model 1857, coin silver HC

2nd Asst. Engineer (Warrant Officer) Charles Jabez Coney, USN – **USS Watchusett & USS San Jacinto** – Waltham 11J Wm. Ellery Model 1857 Silver OF Case, & Model 1852 Naval ofcr' sword, coin silver OF

Pvt. Benjamin Weston Woodward – **AOP Subsistence Dept.** – EH&Co. Model 1862-N (Series III), 18K HC

CSN O&H (likely, CSN Cdr. John Mercer Brooke) – **Bureau of Ordnance & Hydrography** – Unsigned English lever fusee, Chester hallmarks for 1863-64, Sterling HC

BREVET MAJOR GENERAL JOHN WALLACE FULLER (FULLER'S OH BRIGADE)



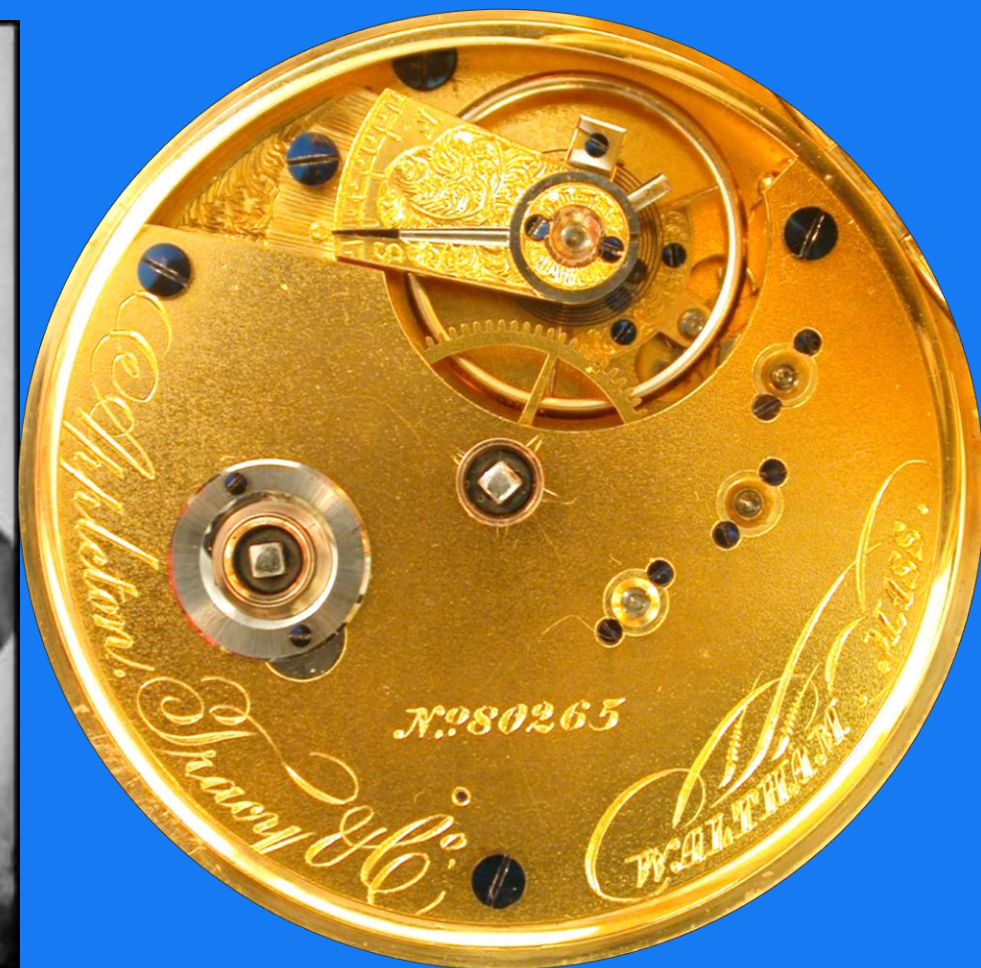
18K case, no maker's mark

BREVET MAJOR GENERAL JOHN WALLACE FULLER (FULLER'S OH BRIGADE)

Arriving in New York from England at the age of six years, John Wallace Fuller became one of over half a million immigrants from many countries whose devotion and sacrifices were instrumental in saving the Union. By the 1850's, Fuller had become a successful bookseller and publisher, first in Utica, NY, which city he served as Treasurer from 1852 to 1854, and then in Toledo, OH. But when the rebels fired upon Ft. Sumter, he heard his country's call.

In Toledo, Fuller organized the 27th Ohio Infantry regiment and became its colonel in August of 1861. The regiment saw hard fighting throughout 1862, beginning with the battles of New Madrid and Island Number 10 along the Mississippi River, in MO and TN. These battles were part of Union Major General Ulysses S. Grant's relentless drive into the heart of the Confederacy down the Mississippi River. Vicksburg MS fell to Grant on July 4, 1863, leading to the inevitable fall of Port Hudson 5 days later, effectively severing the Confederacy into two disconnected parts. In the early Fall of 1862, Fuller was given command of the brigade that would become associated with his name. In 1862, he led the Ohioans in their fierce struggle at Second Corinth, MS, one of their most severe tests, and at Parker's Crossroads, TN, surprising the South's irregular cavalry genius, Nathan Bedford Forrest, on the last day of that same year.

BREVET MAJOR GENERAL JOHN W. FULLER



General Fuller's Watch

A Gift from the Officers & Men of the 27th OH Veteran Volunteer Infantry

General Fuller's watch is an Appleton, Tracy & Company Grade 16 Size Keywind Model, SN 80,265, finished in January, 1864 with 15 jewels in screwed down settings, internal stopwork, and solid gold balance wheel. The wholesale price of this movement was \$40. The complete gold watch would have retailed for over \$100.

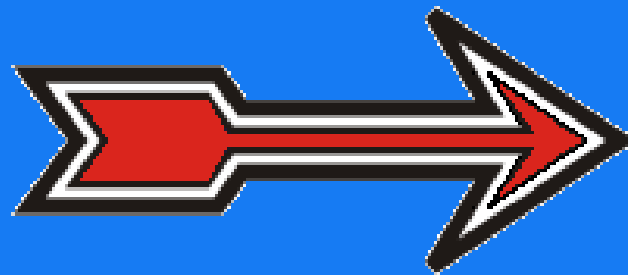
This watch was formerly in the collection of the late Dr. Bill Heilman of Newcastle IN. Bill was a family physician who was a respected member of the watch collecting community well known for his special interest in watches with noteworthy inscriptions.

Service Summary of General Fuller & his Namesake Brigade

Born Harston, Cambridgeshire, England, July 28, 1827
Immigrated to Oneida County, NY, 1833
Treasurer of Utica, NY, 1852-54; Officer in NY State Militia
Book Seller & Publisher, Toledo, OH, late 1850's
Commissioned Colonel, 27 th OH Infantry, August 1861
Battle of New Madrid, MO, March 14, 1862
Battle of Island # 10, MO & TN, February to April, 1862
Given Command of "Fuller's Ohio Brigade," in Army of the Mississippi, August or September, 1862
Battle of Iuka, MS, September 19, 1862
Second Battle of Corinth, MS, October 4, 1862
Surprised and Defeated N. B. Forrest at Parkers Crossroads, TN, December 31, 1862
Garrison Duty, 1863
Promoted to Brigadier General, January 5, 1864
Captured Decatur, AL, March, 1864
Hard Fighting against J. B. Hood at Ruff's Mill and Nickajack Creek, GA, July 1864
Division Command, Opened the Battle of Atlanta, GA, July 22, 1864; Repelling a Surprise Attack
Commanded 1 st Division, XVII Corps, Sherman's March to the Sea, GA, Nov. – Dec., 1864
Carolinas Campaign, 1865
Brevetted to Major General, March 13, 1865; Resigned August 15, 1865
Watch Presented by Officers & Enlisted Men of the 27 th OH, July 20, 1865
Appointed by Pres. Grant as Customs Collector, Port of Toledo, 1874; Reappointed in 1878
Died, Toledo, OH, March 12, 1891
Other Battles of Fuller & his Brigade: Siege of Corinth (MS), Resaca (GA), Dallas (GA), New Hope Church (GA), Allatoona (GA), Kennesaw Mtn. (GA), Jonesboro (GA), Lovejoy's Station (GA), Bentonville (NC)

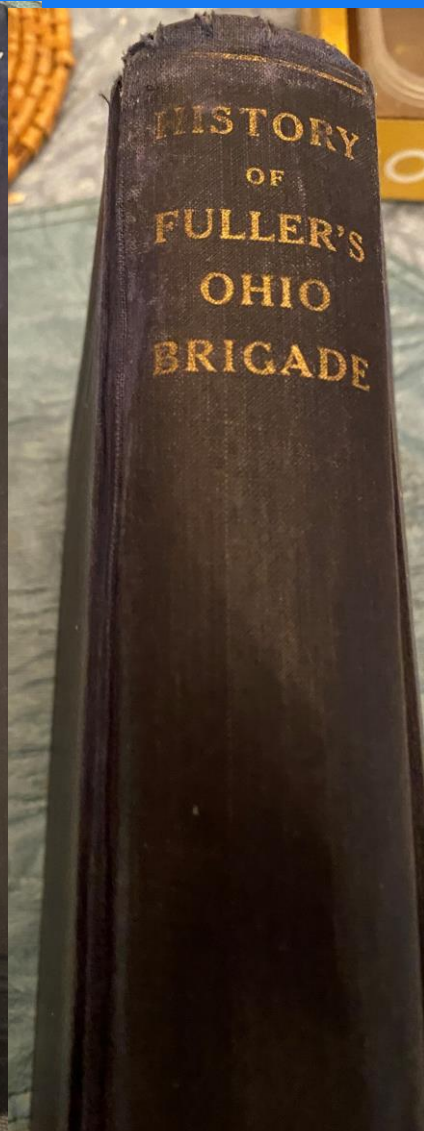
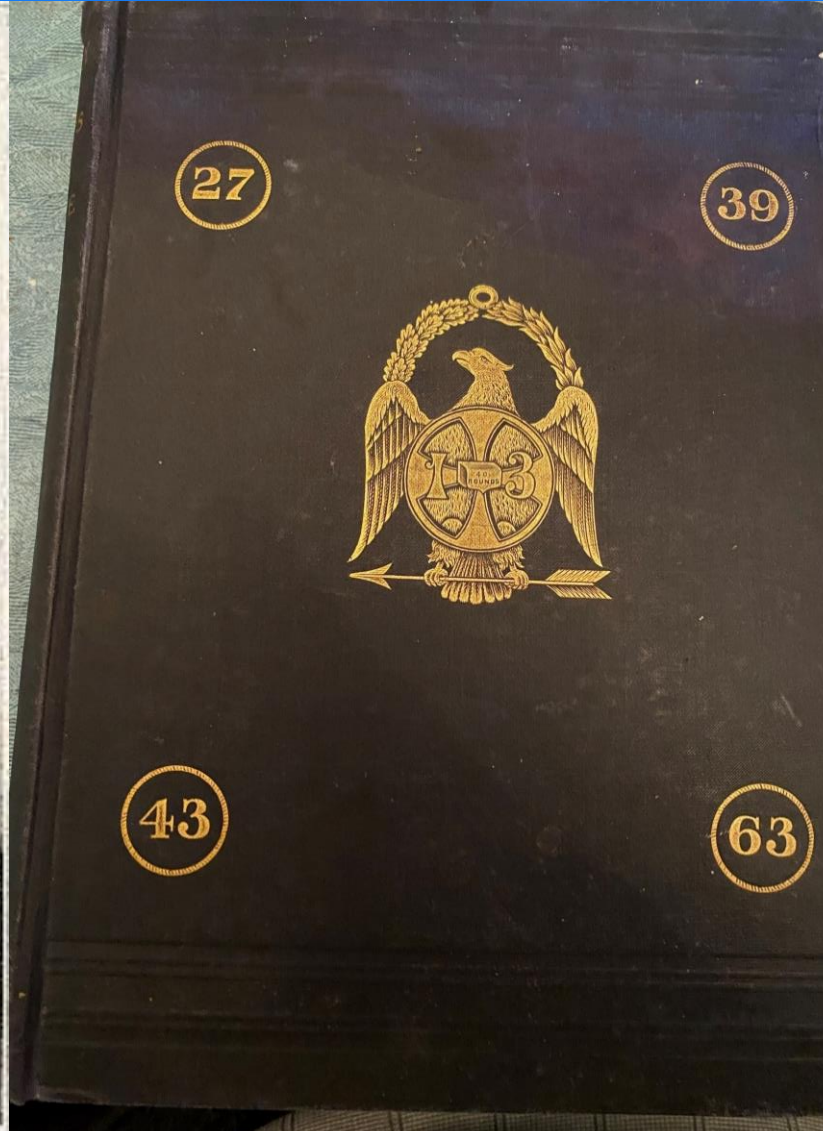
Promotions & Post-War Career

In January 1864 Colonel Fuller was promoted to Brigadier General, commanding the 4th Division, XVII Corps, Army of the Tennessee. He led that division, which included his namesake brigade, in the Atlanta Campaign and through the March to the Sea and the Carolinas Campaign. For distinguished service, he was breveted a Major General of US Volunteers on March 13, 1865, before resigning his commission on August 15. After the war, Fuller resumed his publishing career and was appointed in 1874 by President Grant as US Collector of Customs in the Port of Toledo on Lake Erie.



XVII Corps Badge

Military Service Highlights



Colonel Fuller & the 27th OH Staff

Original 1909 Edition of Fuller's OH Brigade history

1910 Brigade Reunion Ribbon

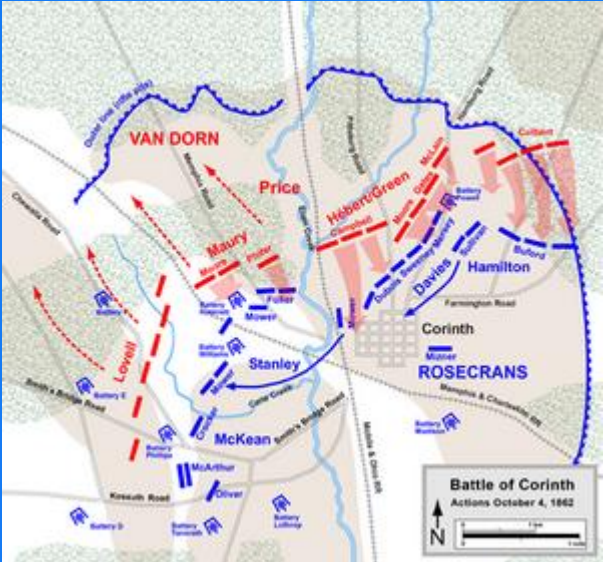
Fuller's Namesake Ohio Brigade

Fuller's Ohio Brigade consisted of the 27th, 39th, 43rd, and 63rd Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry Regiments. (A Veteran Regiment was one in which most of the enlisted men had either previously served in other regiments, or who had reenlisted in their current regiment when their original two-, or three-year obligations were completed.) Some highlights of the brigade's service are reviewed here.



Battle of Nickojack Creek, GA, July 4, 1864. The 27th and 39th OH storming the Confederate works

Second Battle of Corinth, MS, October 3-4, 1862



The background image shows a train station in Corinth, Mississippi. In the foreground, several sets of railroad tracks cross each other in a complex pattern. In the background, there is a brick building with a sign that says "CORINTH". The sky is overcast, and there are some trees and other buildings visible in the distance.

The Strategic Importance of Corinth MS

Two vital rail lines met at Corinth MS, a city dubbed “*the Crossroads of the Confederacy.*” These were the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. Corinth’s capture by Union forces under Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck on May 29, 1862 threatened Confederate control of Chattanooga and of western TN.

The Confederates were determined to get Corinth back. Two previously separate rebel armies combined under Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn and on October 3, 1862, drove the Union troops from their outer defenses around Corinth. But on the following day, Union resistance stiffened. The federals had placed an artillery battery under the command of 2nd Lt. Henry C. Robinett atop a small fortified hill, College Hill, on their inner defensive line. Fuller’s brigade was assigned to defend “Battery Robinett,” which became a focal point of the rebel assaults on October 4.

Confederate Brig. Gen. Dabney Maury’s division of three brigades came straight at the Union center with everything they had. The fighting in front of Battery Robinett was savage, and Maury’s command was ultimately thrown back with heavy losses after some initial success.

Second Battle of Corinth, MS, October 3-4, 1862



43D OHIO.

63D OHIO.

89TH OHIO.

THE DEFENSE OF BATTERY ROBINETT. FROM A WAR-TIME SKETCH.

The Defense of Battery Robinett, from a War-Time Sketch

The Desperate Fight for Battery Robinet

Pvt. J. A. McKinstry of the 42nd AL, who had been 16 years old during the battle, later wrote, "In front of us was the most obstructive abatis [an obstruction made of sharpened tree branches] that it was my misfortune to encounter ... , the forts belched destruction into our ranks; yet our men did not waver or halt ... when about half through the abatis, Robinett changed shells for grape and canister on us. Our yells grew fainter and our men fell faster, but at last we reached the unobstructed ground in front of the fort ..."

Cloyd Bryner from a nearby Union unit, the 47th IL, remembered, "Grape and canister tore terrible lanes through the Confederate ranks ... but the determined men of Arkansas, Texas and Mississippi never faltered. ... Upon the advancing lines the 47th was pouring a deadly enfilading fire with telling effect, the guns of Robinett were double charged and the redoubt was a circle of flame. Magnificently mounted and bearing the Confederate colors aloft, Colonel Rogers of Texas led the line of gray, led them to the very edge of the ditch which he was in the act of leaping when the Ohio Brigade arose and delivered a murderous fire, before which the Confederates recoiled ..."

Fuller's brigade's gun barrels got so hot and so choked with spent powder that many could no longer be used. The brigade historian, Chas. Smith, related that the adjacent Union batteries were obliged to cease firing because of the close proximity of the contending forces. The 43rd OH had lost nearly one fourth of its men. The 63rd OH, which had occupied an exposed position, had lost 48% of all those engaged. All of their officers except three had been killed or wounded while the regiment fought on. The right companies of the 27th OH were screened and protected by fallen trees, but the left of the regiment was fully exposed, and the rebels attacked them in great force. Companies B, G, and K had lost half of their number killed or wounded, including all of the commissioned officers of Company G.

Civil War Cemetery at Corinth, MS



Counterattack Wins the Day at Corinth

In the deadly struggle, the Confederates temporarily seized the parapet. Lt. Robinett and 13 of his 26 men in his battery were casualties. In desperation, Captain George Williams fired two shells from nearby Battery Williams into the masses of Confederates swarming into Battery Robinett, stalling their attack just long enough for Fuller's depleted brigade to stem their advance. A Confederate lieutenant recalled, "from three to seven deep; for a hundred feet the bodies lay so close it was almost impossible to walk between them."

Having run low on ammunition, or otherwise unable to shoot, Fuller's regiments were forced to withdraw a short distance. But then, with the support of a fresh regiment, the 11th MO, all fixed bayonets and charged back up the hill, driving the rebels from the position and capturing the flag of the 9th TX Infantry.

The gallant stand of Fuller's brigade at Battery Robinett was a key factor in the Union victory at Second Corinth. The commanding Union General, William Rosecrans, rode up to their position, dismounted and looked at the ghastly pile of dead, gray mixed with blue, in front of the recaptured redan. As widely reported, he stood before the men and said, "I know that I stand in the presence of brave men and I take my hat off to you. I know this from what I have heard and from what I have seen at a distance, and also from these piles of dead I see along your front, and I thank you in our country's name for your great valor."

Union General William T. Sherman wrote that after the Second Battle of Corinth, "In Memphis I could see its effects upon the citizens, and they openly admitted that their cause had sustained a death-blow."

Parker's Crossroads, TN, December 31, 1862



PARKER'S CROSSROADS

★ ★ ★
"Charge 'em both ways"

FORREST'S FIRST WEST TENNESSEE RAID

Late in 1862, the Union army under Gen. Ulysses S. Grant threatened Vicksburg, Missisippi. Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg ordered Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest to sever Grant's West Tennessee supply line, which extended from Columbus, Kentucky, via the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Forrest led his cavalry brigade on a raid to destroy tracks and bridges in West

Tennessee, December 15, 1862-January 3, 1863. He and his men crossed the Tennessee River at Clifton, defeated Union Col. Robert G. Ingersoll's cavalry at Lexington, captured Trenton and



Gen. Nathan B. Forrest
Central Library of Congress



Col. John C. Fuller
Central Library of Congress



Col. Cyrus C. Dunham
Central Library of Congress

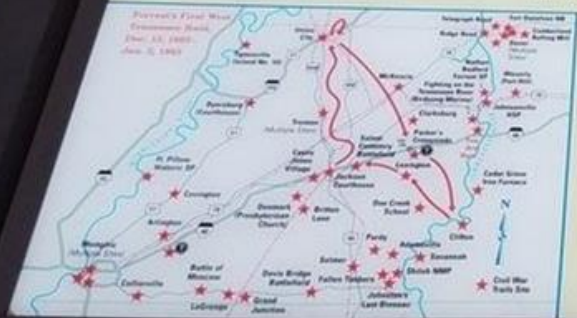
Union City, and ranged briefly into Kentucky.

On Christmas Day, Forrest led his brigade back into Tennessee. To stop him, Union Gen. Jeremiah C. Sullivan, headquartered in Jackson, sent brigades under Cols. Cyrus L. Dunham and John W. Fuller in pursuit. Forrest and his men marched down back roads toward the Tennessee River to elude the Federals, who caught up with them at Parker's Crossroads on December 31.

Forrest narrowly avoided defeat.

At first his men fought Dunham's force to a standstill, but then Fuller's command appeared in the Confederate rear. Forrest ordered a breakout in each direction. "Charge 'em both ways." The counterattacks succeeded, and Forrest and his men crossed the river again at Clifton on January 2, 1863. His successful raid contributed to Grant's decision to move his supply base to Memphis.

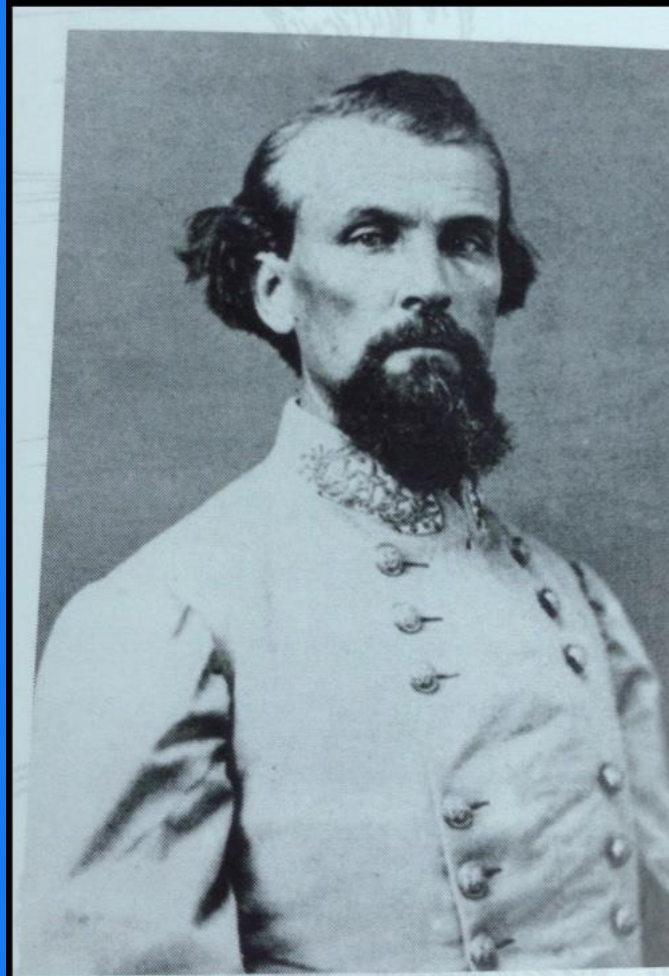
Tennessee Civil War Trails invites you to explore the Parker's Crossroads battlefield at Exit 108, as well as other sites related to Forrest's raid.



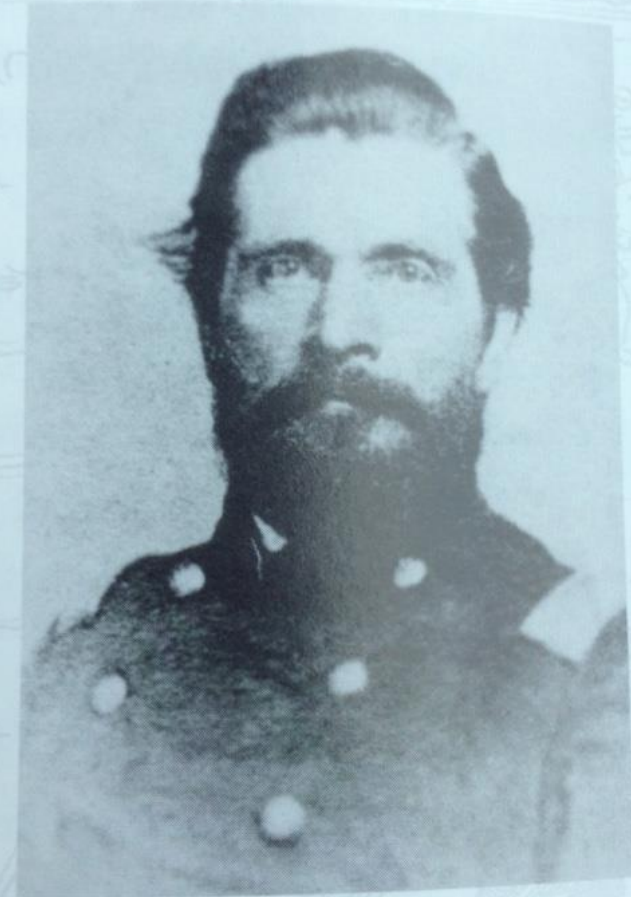
A Formidable Adversary: N. B. Forrest

An extraordinary and unorthodox Confederate, Nathan Bedford Forrest, rose through the ranks from private to Lieutenant General. A wealthy slave trader and slave catcher before the war, Forrest became known as the “Wizard of the Saddle” for his tactical abilities, though in higher command he often failed to accomplish strategic objectives. Nevertheless, Union General William T. Sherman called him, “that devil Forrest,” and he was, in Ulysses S. Grant’s estimation, “the most remarkable man our civil war produced on either side.” Forrest remains today as controversial as he was remarkable. But perhaps the only thing about Forrest about which there is virtually no dispute is that he was a brilliant tactician and a daring and often successful cavalry commander. For this reason, combined with his seemingly meteoric rise through the Confederate ranks, propelled initially by his own wealth, admirers continue to see him as a romantic figure.

Forrest was seldom surprised or bested in tactical operations, which is what makes the events at Parker’s Crossroads in Henderson County, TN on December 31, 1862 extraordinary. But even in adversity, Forrest’s resourcefulness was abundantly evident.



General Nathan B. Forrest, C.S.A.



Colonel Cyrus L. Dunham, U.S.A.

Fuller Surprises Forrest

As then Brig. Gen. Forrest's expedition into West Tennessee neared its conclusion in late 1862, the Union brigades of colonels Cyrus L. Dunham and John W. Fuller endeavored to stop Forrest from withdrawing to safety across the Tennessee River. Dunham encountered Forrest first, and Forrest got the upper hand in the engagement, getting around Dunham's flanks and rear. Dunham had just rejected Forrest's unconditional surrender demand and was preparing to receive another attack on his position when Fuller's brigade arrived. Fuller's men surprised Forrest's horse holders, attacking him from the rear. Some of Forrest's horse holders fled right past him during the Ohioans' assault. Faced with enemies in both front and rear, Forrest's calm solution was to, "Charge 'em both ways." The Confederates briefly reversed front, stalled Fuller's advance, then rushed past Dunham's demoralized force and withdrew south to Lexington, TN.

Pvt. John E. Davis of the 27th OH Infantry wrote in his diary, "*Ordered to march. Started at 5 O'clock, marched steady, passed through Clarksburgh, Squad Sesesh Cavalry, Dunham Brigade fighting ahead. Got up between 1 and 2 O'clock, formed and advanced just in time, boys eager. Rebs could not stand us, after a short fight Skedadled. We captured 9 pieces of armor, three of our own that they took before we got up, about 500 Prisoners, one wounded in our Camp.*" [Davis's numbers were likely not precisely correct.]

While Forrest's now famous "attack in both directions" averted a greater disaster, and allowed him to make it back across the Tennessee River, the fact remains that in allowing himself to be surprised by Fuller, he lost at least 300 men, 350 horses, and six of his own cannon plus at least one he had captured. Thus while failing to capture the Saddle Wizard or prevent his unit's escape, John Fuller could still rightly have claimed to have been one of only an extremely few Federal commanders to have either surprised Forrest, or to have gotten the better of him in an engagement.

Among the prisoners who surrendered that day were a Lt. Col., Forrest's Adjutant General, a Major Strange, and the captain commanding Forrest's bodyguard, as well as a Colonel named Black, who afterward escaped in citizen's clothes.

Battle of Atlanta, GA, July 22, 1864



The Significance of the Battle of Atlanta and Fuller's Role

Historical importance: The great issue before Northern voters in the presidential election of November, 1864 was whether to stay the course and win the war on Northern terms with Abraham Lincoln, or to elect General George B. McClellan, who proposed to end the war immediately by allowing the seceded states to reenter the Union on terms preserving the institution of slavery. In mid-August of 1864, Northern morale was strained. The Army of the Potomac had suffered perhaps as many as 85,000 casualties in less than two months out of an initial strength of 120,000 men. The disastrous assaults at Cold Harbor (from May 31 to June 12) and the debacle of the Battle of the Crater (on July 30) were fresh memories, and Grant was being excoriated in the Northern anti-war press as a "butcher." While the Confederate fortifications around Richmond and the key rail junction at Petersburg continued to seem impregnable, far from the front Northern enlistment had fallen off, and the deeply unpopular Federal Conscription Act continued to roil unrest and resentment. Thus, the Battle of Atlanta on July 22, 1864, and the subsequent Union capture of that major Southern city, after a siege, on September 2, boosted Northern prospects at a crucial moment, renewing confidence that the end of the Confederacy – and of slavery – was in sight. Lincoln won reelection in a landslide, capturing 55.1% of the popular vote, and 212 of 233 Electoral College votes.

Fuller's Part: July 22, 1864 saw General Fuller in command of the 4th Division, XVII Corps in the Union Army of the Tennessee. His division was positioned on the left of the Union lines around Atlanta, protecting the Union supply trains. The division consisted of two brigades, Fuller's Ohio Brigade and another, which was several miles away. Two of Confederate commanding general John Bell Hood's divisions attacked the Union left. Major General William H. T. Walker's division came against Fuller.

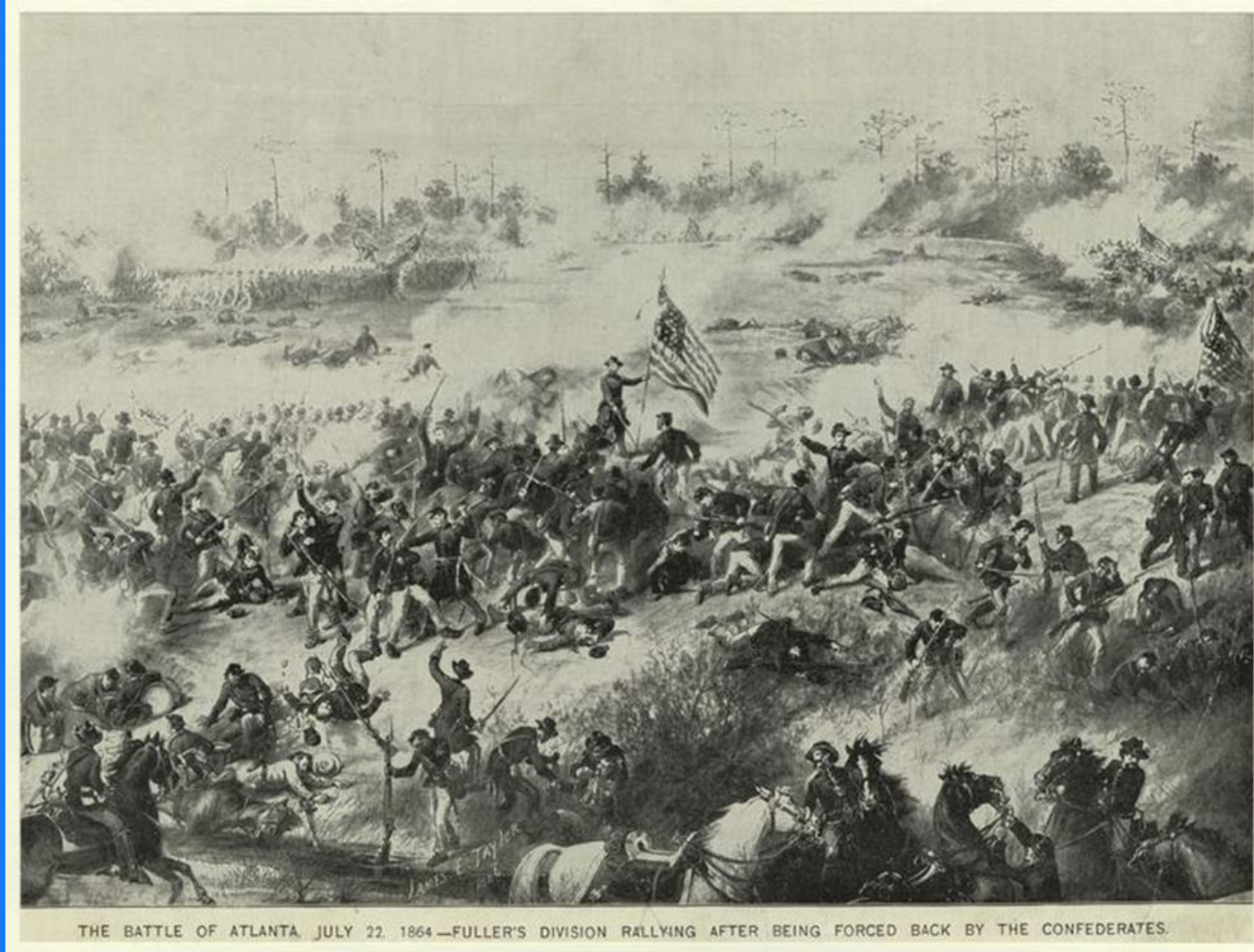
13th Amendment

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Passed by Congress January 31, 1865, Ratified December 6, 1866.

Battle of Atlanta: Fuller Rallies his Brigade



An 1886 illustration by James E. Taylor of General Fuller with the colors of the 27th OH in his hand, preparing to lead a decisive countercharge

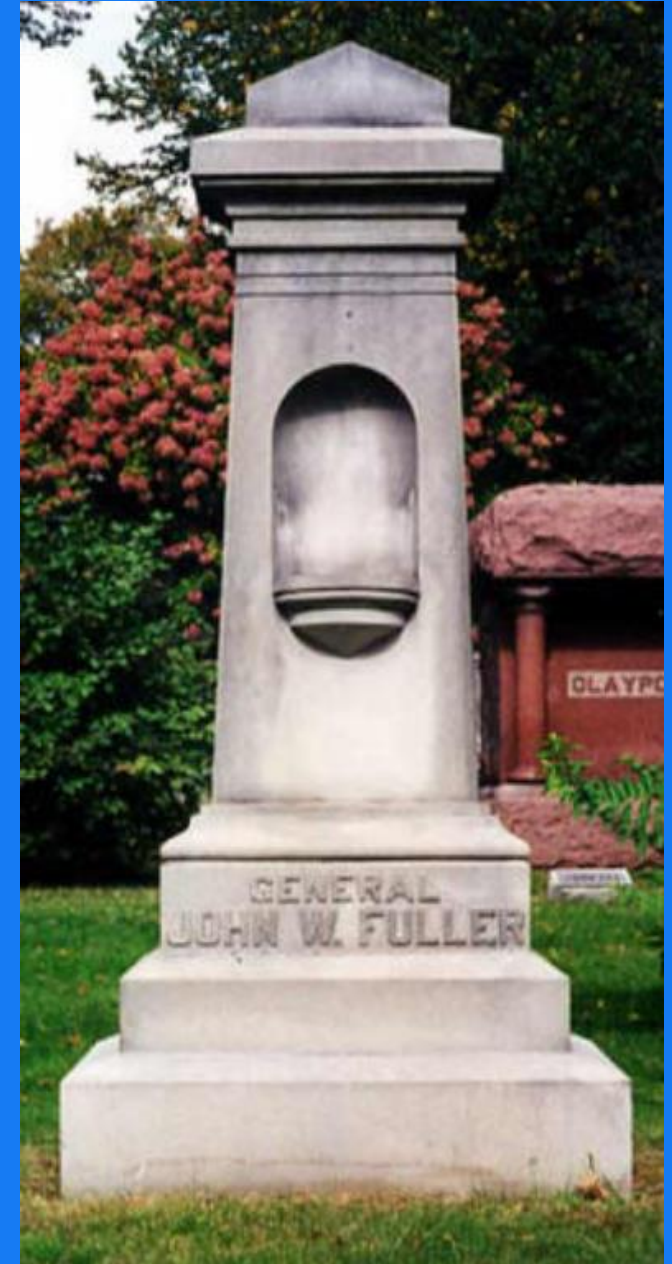
Fuller Rallies his Troops and Leads a Countercharge

Fuller's brigade met and repelled a surprise attack on his front, only to be flanked and nearly taken from the rear by a second Confederate column that had found a gap between them and the Union Second Division. Fuller successfully wheeled two of his regiments in the face of heavy enemy fire – an extremely difficult maneuver – then personally took up the flag of the 27th Ohio from the regiment's color sergeant and led a countercharge that killed the Confederate commander, General Walker, and broke the back of the enemy assault. Division commanders personally leading charges were unusual and noteworthy occurrences. Fuller's bold action on that day is memorialized in a well-known 1886 illustration, drawn by James E. Taylor, showing the general raising the 27th's colors aloft and rallying his brigade.

As Major Charles H. Smith, who rose within Fuller's Brigade from the enlisted ranks, attests in the brigade's published history, "... the splendid record of the Ohio Brigade and the honorable place it occupies in the history of our country is due in large measure to the fact that it was the good fortune of the organization to have for its commander a most thorough and accomplished officer – a commander in whose skill, judgment, and bravery every man in the Brigade had the utmost confidence."

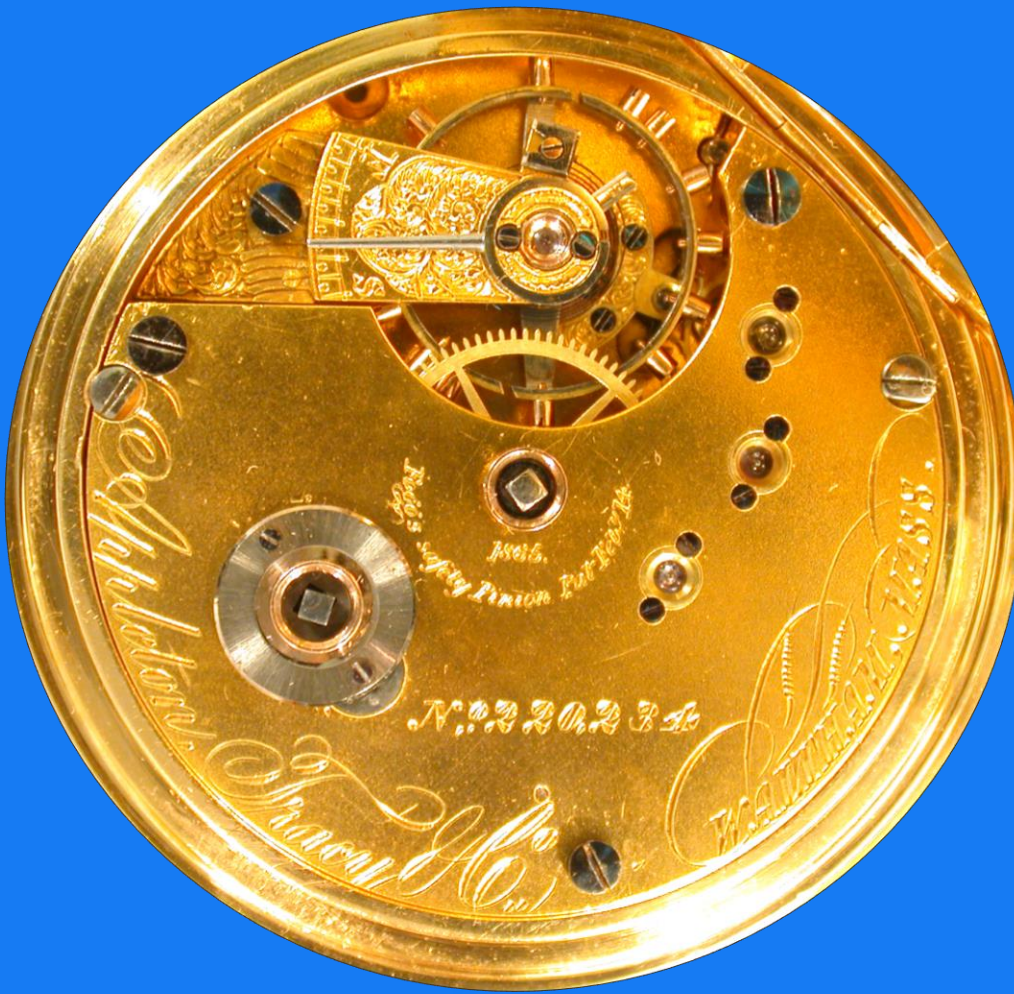


Woodlawn Cemetery, Toledo OH



Brigadier General William Jackson Palmer

(Earlier, Col. 15th PA Volunteer Cavalry; Medal of Honor Recipient)



A Pacifist Goes to War

William Jackson Palmer was born September 17, 1836 to devout Quaker parents John and Matilda Palmer at Kinsale Farm, Kent Co. Delaware. In 1841, the family moved to the Germantown section of Philadelphia, a community founded by Quakers and Mennonites in 1683. There William attended the Friends School, and at age 12 entered the Central High School of Philadelphia. Raised in a strong pacifist tradition, his decision to go to war in 1861 was an especially difficult one. Young William's moral conflict was between nonviolence and abolitionism.

By 1861, it had become clear that the question of the future of slavery, as well as that of the great American experiment in self-government, would be decided with bullets rather than ballots. On September 6, 1861, Palmer wrote to a friend, "That comforts and pleasure of life ... are absolutely insignificant in comparison with the success of our free institutions in this hour of their trial – when every nation of the world is watching the result and the great men of some are already triumphantly announcing their failure."

William's parents strove to dissuade him from his course, but they ultimately relented. Resigned to his choice, William's mother advised him, "If thee must fight, fight well!" Her devoted son evidently took her advice to heart. He would rise through the ranks of the army to become, at age 28, one of its youngest generals, and to ultimately receive the nation's highest honor for valor. In a post-war letter to a lifelong friend, Palmer shared the reasons for his choice : "... I think that Peace is holy and should be encouraged constantly – and that an unjust War is only legalized murder. But the inner light made it very plain to me in the summer of '61 that I should enter the army."

BRIGADIER GENERAL WM. JACKSON PALMER



Eliashib Tracy & Co. interior case marking →

General Palmer's Watch

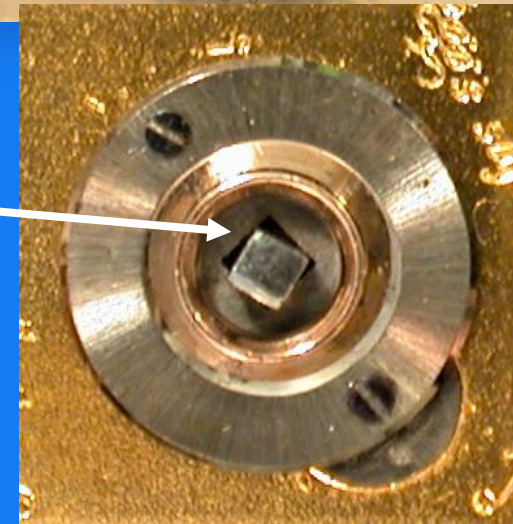
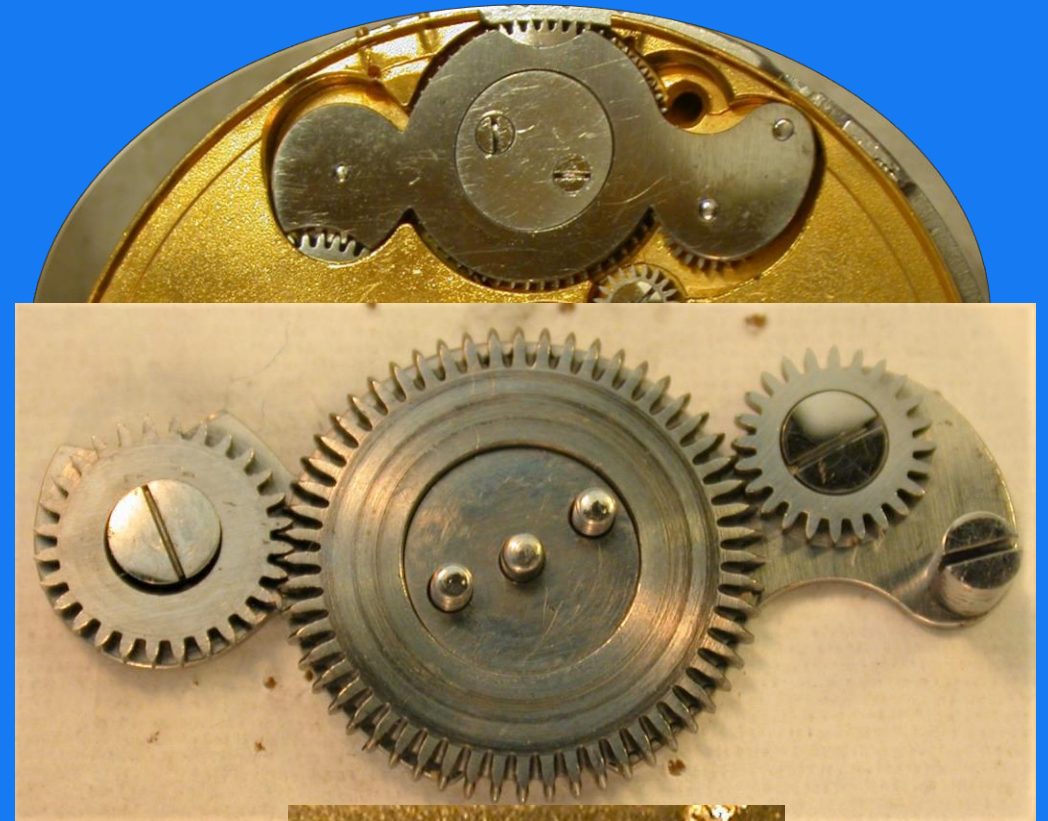
The movement of the watch presented to General Palmer in 1868 by the officers of the original regiment he commanded as a colonel is a 16 Size, 15 jewel, "Appleton, Tracy & Company" Grade Model KW16, SN 220,234, made by the American Watch Company of Waltham, MA between April and November of 1866. The movement has a temperature compensated bimetallic balance, and is engraved "Fogg's Safety Pinion, Pat. Feb. 14, 1865," referring to the patented safety center pinion of the watch that protects the delicate escapement from damage when a mainspring breaks. Based on the 1864 Robbins & Appleton sales catalog, the wholesale price of such an uncased movement in 1866 was probably around \$45, about four months pay for a Union private. This particular movement also is fitted with a sophisticated stem winding and pin setting mechanism shown on the next slide, though the original key winding and setting arrangements still work. This high quality conversion likely was done by a skilled watchmaker after the movement left the factory.

The 18 karat gold hunting case, which originally was engine turned, is incused "E. T. & Co.," which is the well-known case maker's mark of Eliashib Tracy & Company [the same Tracy who was a partner in Appleton, Tracy & Co., the American Watch Co.'s immediate predecessor]. Bullion gold was \$28/oz. in 1868, so this case would have contained about \$40 worth of gold, making for a total retail price of the watch somewhere in excess of \$100, not counting the cost of the excellent custom engraving. The cuvette is inscribed, "Presented to Gen.l Wm. J. Palmer by the Officers of his Regiment, 15th Penna Cavalry, October 5, 1868."

Stem Winding and Pin Setting Mechanism with Recoiling Click Spring

Perhaps in compensation for removing the stopwork for lack of space, the stem winding and setting mechanism of the Palmer watch incorporates a recoiling click, a refinement that protects the mainspring by preventing it from remaining fully wound. Recoiling clicks typically do not show up on American watches until the 1890's, though Haseler patented the idea in England in 1877.

On General Palmer's watch, recoil action is introduced into the click mechanism by making the square hole in the click wheel larger than the square winding arbor captured within it. It is apparent from the quality of work evidenced in the winding and setting mechanism, that this was a deliberate feature.



**15th PA Cavalry Monument
Dyer Field
Chickamauga Natl. Battlefield**



The 15th PA Cavalry

In 1862, William Palmer, who was then a captain, returned to Pennsylvania to recruit a special battalion to serve as headquarters guards, couriers and far-ranging scouts directly for the commanding general, Don Carlos Buell, of what would soon become the Union Army of the Cumberland. It became evident to Palmer that he could easily recruit an entire regiment for such elite service. PA Governor Andrew Curtin approved, and the 15th PA Cavalry was created. The unit was named the “Anderson Cavalry” in honor of Major General Robert Anderson, the former major who had commanded the Union garrison at Ft. Sumter. The regiment was drawn from 30 PA counties. 3,000 men submitted letters of recommendation from leading citizens, and the 1,100 successful applicants chosen by Palmer had to sign a pledge to refrain from alcohol for the duration of their service. They wore distinctive dragoon-style, double-piped jackets trimmed in orange instead of the usual cavalry yellow. Palmer was commissioned as the regiment’s colonel.

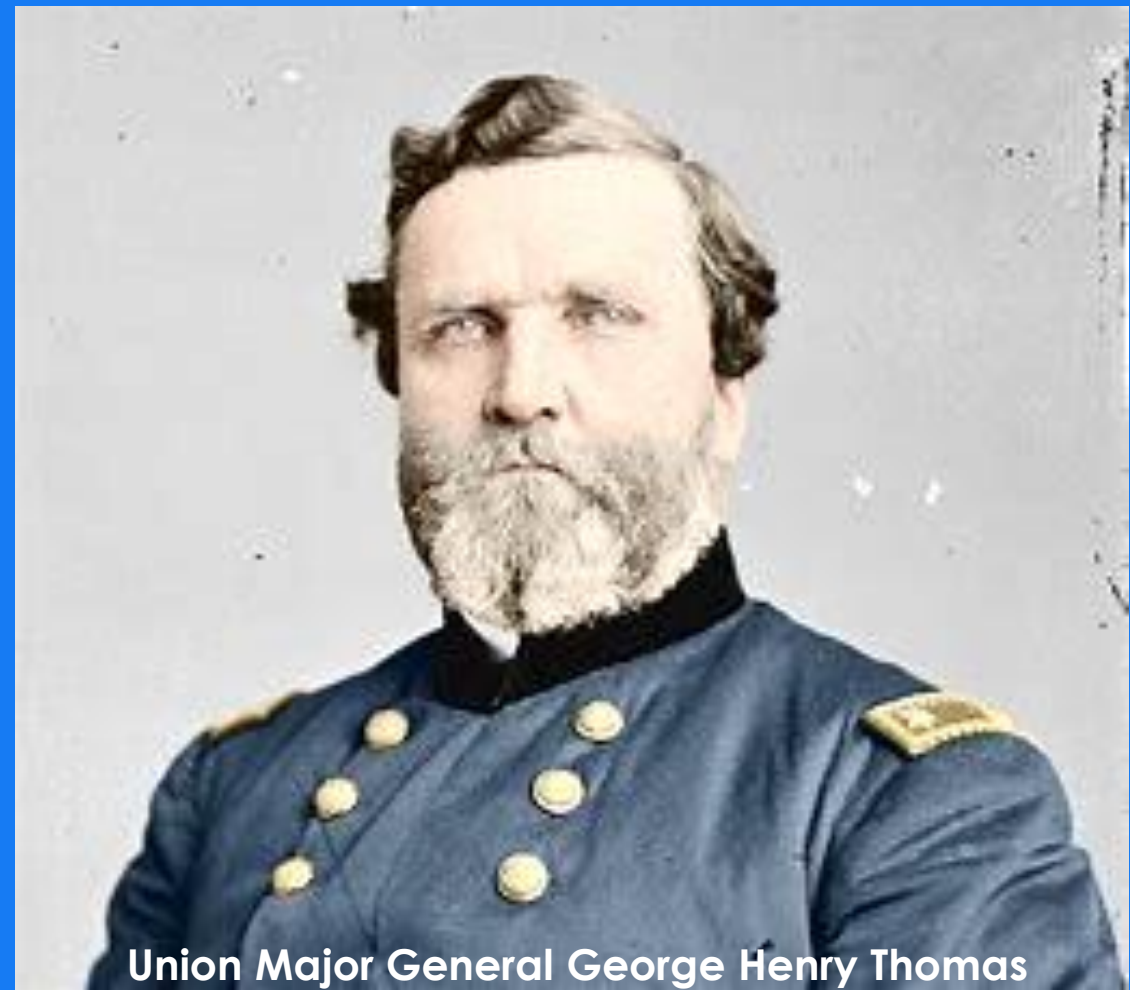
The 15th PA Cavalry became known as “Palmer’s Owls” for their night time raids, which became a specialty. The regiment lost 3 officers and 125 enlisted men to enemy action and disease over the course of the war. Six men of the regiment, including Palmer, would receive the Medal of Honor. The regiment saw service at Antietam¹, Stones River², Chickamauga³, and Mossy Creek, but this list barely scratches the surface of their contributions to the Union victory in the war.

1: Antietam enabled Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation.

2: Stones River had the highest % of casualties of all forces engaged of any major battle of the Civil War.

3: Chickamauga was second only to Gettysburg for highest total casualties of any battle of the Civil War.

Two days after the Battle of Antietam, Palmer was captured while scouting at the personal direction of General George McClellan, seeking information on preparations by Lee's army to recross the Potomac River back into Virginia. He was on the Confederate side of the river, garbed in civilian clothes and his identity was concealed. Palmer was imprisoned in the infamous Castle Thunder in Richmond. After being set free in a prisoner exchange for a prominent Richmond citizen, he recuperated for two weeks, and then rejoined his regiment in February 1863. During his absence, the regiment had become mutinous because of a failure to have officers appointed and other enlistment inducements it felt had not been honored. 212 troopers faced court-martial and the possibility of going before a firing squad for refusing to fight in the Battle of Stones River. Palmer reorganized the regiment, personally appointed officers in whose abilities he had great trust, and had the charges against the confined soldiers dropped on the condition that they behaved going forward. The severely demoralized group of men rallied and distinguished themselves in the 1863 Tullahoma Campaign, in the Battle of Chickamauga, in the capture of Brig. Gen. Robert B. Vance's raiding cavalry and re-capture of 28 wagons of a foraging train in January 1864, and in the Franklin-Nashville Campaign.

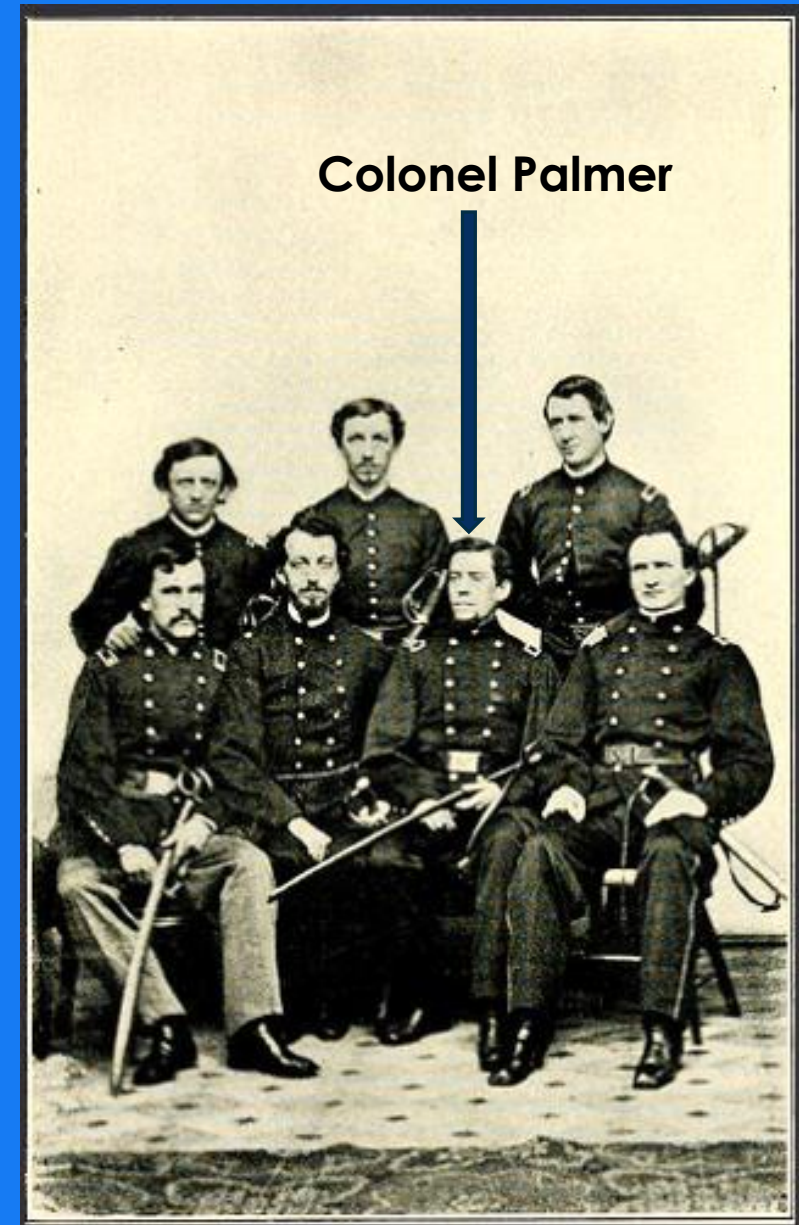


Union Major General George Henry Thomas

At Chickamauga, Palmer's regiment was detailed as headquarters guards for the Army of the Cumberland with many troopers doled out to the various corps as couriers and scouts. When Longstreet unexpectedly attacked the Union right near Rosecrans's headquarters, Palmer gathered all the men of his regiment available and prepared to counterattack with a saber charge. The Union right flank dissolved, however, and after attempting to rally the panicked infantry, his regiment crossed the battlefield in good order under Confederate artillery fire to protect the Union artillery. During the army's retreat to Chattanooga, the 15th Pennsylvania provided escort for the army's supply train. Not easily impressed, Major General George Henry Thomas (the "Rock of Chickamauga") recommended that Palmer receive a brigadier's star for his success at turning a highly demoralized group of men into an effective group of soldiers. Lincoln nominated him for the rank of brevet brigadier on March 9, 1865. Congress approved the nomination and Palmer received his star on March 10, 1865.

Operations in January, 1864

On the 13th of January, 1864, Colonel Palmer learned that Confederate Brigadier General Robert Vance, with a force of three hundred cavalry and dismounted Indians and two pieces of artillery, had advanced from North Carolina and entered the town of Sevierville, twelve miles in Colonel Palmer's rear. There Vance had captured twenty wagons loaded with wheat, and had taken twenty Union prisoners. With a brigade of rebel cavalry threatening an attack in his front, Colonel Palmer coolly decided nevertheless to pursue Vance, taking a party of 125 men, and leaving his pickets out to deceive the enemy facing him. He soon discovered that Vance had divided his force. One party had gone towards North Carolina, and the other, headed by Vance himself, with the captured train, had taken a back mountain road towards Newport, TN. After a difficult chase of thirty miles over rugged terrain, Palmer overtook Vance's party eight miles from Newport, and led a saber charge. His bold assault captured General Vance, 3 officers, 50 enlisted men and 150 horses. The 15th PA Cavalry also recaptured the lost wagon train and freed the Union prisoners, all returning safely to Sevierville.



Officers of the 15th PA Cavalry
("Anderson Cavalry")

Operations in Late 1864

In late November, 1864, the regiment was ordered back to Sevierville, TN, near the feet of the Smoky Mountains, to pursue a body of Confederate troops and allied Cherokee Indians from North Carolina. The enemy was camped at the base of Cove Mountain at the end of a narrow, easily defensible defile. Sending a squadron under his lieutenant colonel, Charles Lamborn, to demonstrate in the enemy's front, Colonel Palmer led the main body around their rear. His men led their horses on foot through a pitch black, moonless night by a circuitous route over a high mountain spur and down through thick woods to reach the rear of the unsuspecting rebel force. Palmer's and Lamborn's coordinated attacks struck at daybreak, completely routing the enemy force.

Historian and writer Terrell Garren remarked that over a two-year period, "He [Palmer] did this [i.e., lead audacious charges] over and over, riding into battle pistols blazing, swords slashing; it is amazing he survived."



A 15th PA Cavalryman



William Palmer Exhibit at the Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum showing pictures of William's parents John & Mathilda, Wm.'s captain's coat, and his Medal of Honor at lower right

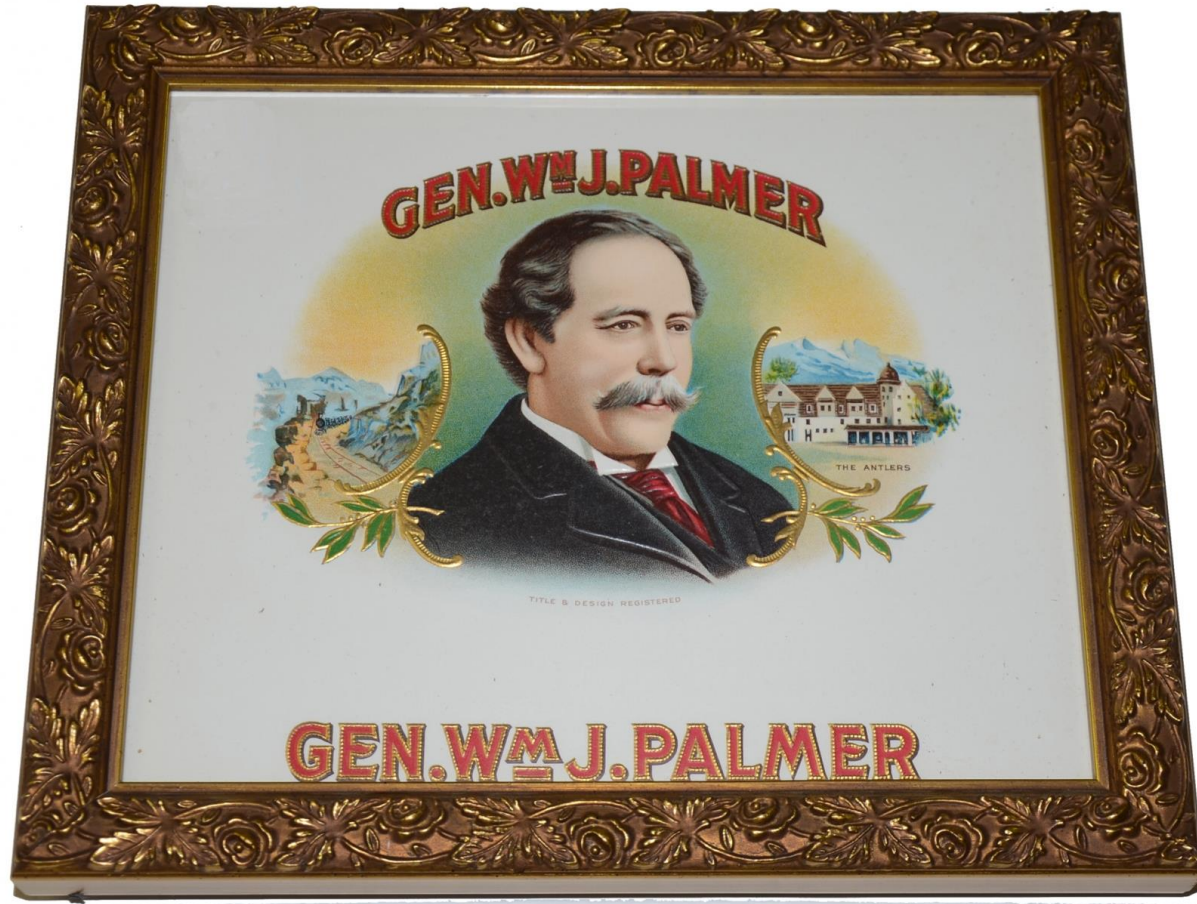
Operations in 1865, and Medal of Honor Action at Red Hill, AL

Following the defeat of Confederate General John Bell Hood's Army of Tennessee by Union General George Henry Thomas at the Battle of Nashville in December of 1864, Colonel Palmer began a long pursuit of Hood's retreating forces. With his own regiment and detachments from other regiments totaling 600 men, he proceeded to Decatur, TN and onto the south bank of the Tennessee River, chasing Hood's troops and giving them no respite to reorganize. In an extensive raid in which his command continually danced around superior enemy cavalry forces, they captured 200 prisoners, including 2 colonels and 11 line officers, and destroyed 750 stands of arms and 2 pieces of artillery. On December 31st, they captured Hood's entire pontoon bridge on which Hood had crossed the Tennessee River. The bridge consisted of 78 boats, which they destroyed, with 200 wagons loaded with tools, ropes, engineering instruments, and supplies. On the night of January 1st, 1865, they captured and destroyed 110 wagons of Hood's supply train. They then surprised and completely routed the rebel Colonel Alfred A. Russell's 4th Alabama Cavalry, near Moulton, NC, capturing and destroying his supply train. In the same period, they repeatedly defeated and routed Brigadier General Philip Roddy's mounted infantry brigade, causing their disbandment.

At Red Hill, Alabama on January 14, 1865, Palmer, "with less than 200 men, attacked and defeated a superior force of the enemy, capturing their fieldpiece and about 100 prisoners without losing a man." So read the citation with which Palmer was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1894 for his actions on that day. (He was actually nominated twice, for separate actions.) The Confederate Army of Tennessee never took the field again.

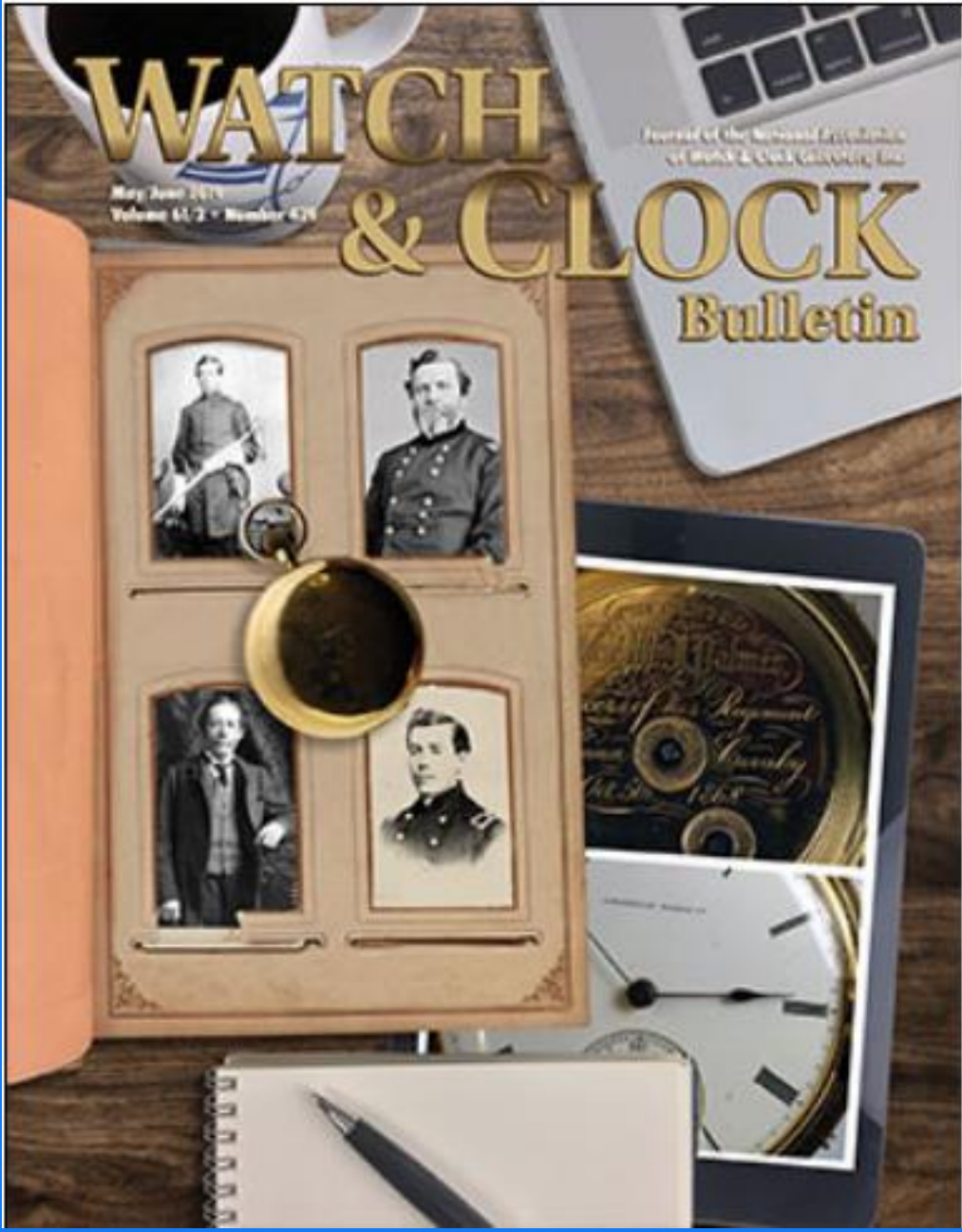
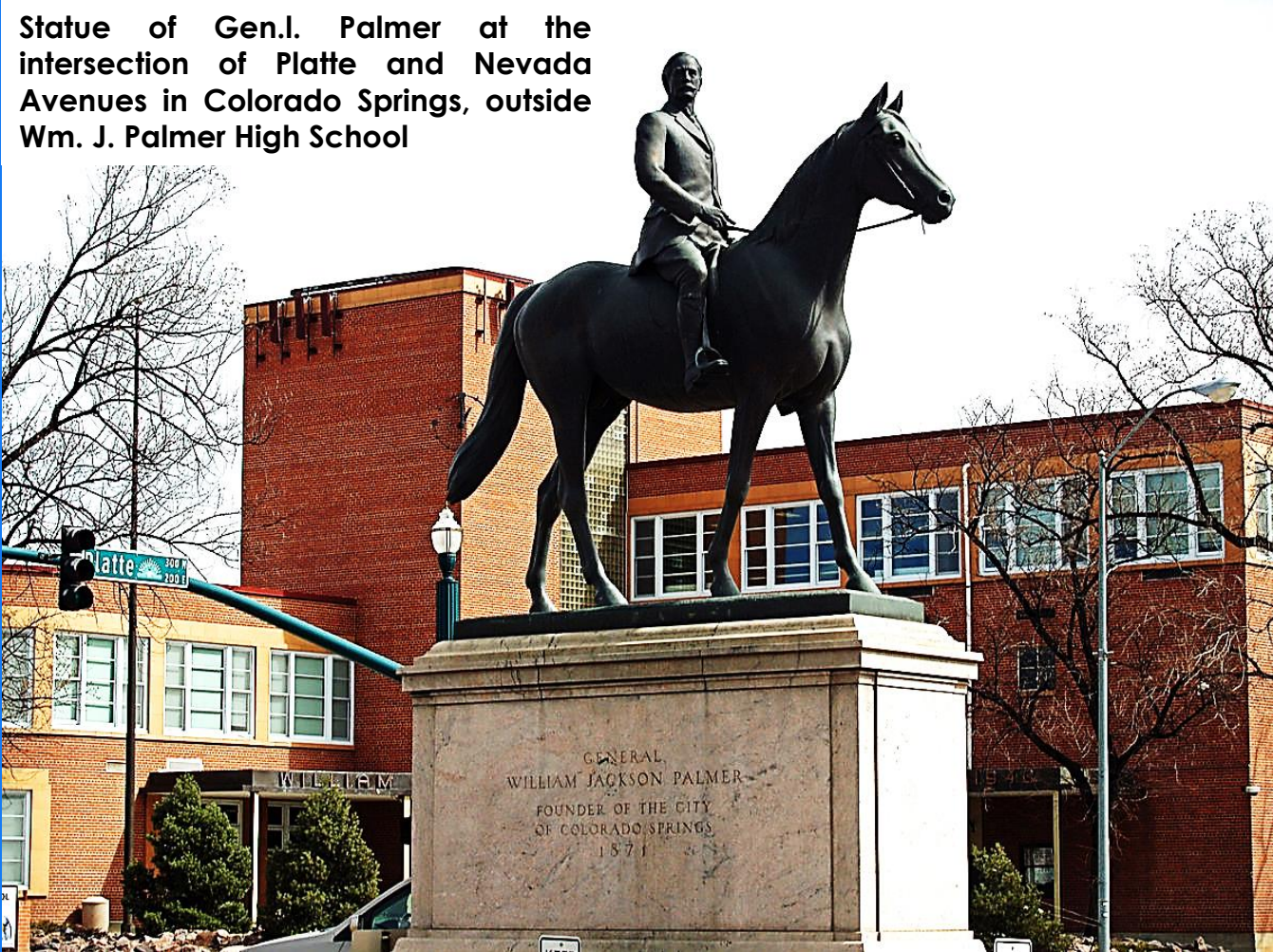
Palmer's medal is on permanent display at the Pioneer Museum in Colorado Springs (Slide #34).

PALMER CIGAR BOXTOP, CIRCA 1885, & 15TH PA CAVALRY REUNION MEDAL, 1907



General Palmer enjoyed great popularity for several decades after the Civil War for his heroism and his pioneering railroading, city building, and philanthropic activities. Palmer mapped five viable rail routes to the Pacific coast through the mostly uncharted West, three of which became realities in his lifetime. He founded the Denver & Rio Grand Railway, and the cities of Colorado Springs (2nd largest in CO), Salida, Alamosa, and Durango. Having helped to end slavery, he became a major benefactor to an historically important black college, Hampton University in Virginia, founded in 1868 to educate the recently emancipated freedmen. A Cigar maker used his popular likeness on their boxtops in the 1880's. General Palmer's legacy is explored more extensively in the May/June 2019 *Watch & Clock Bulletin* (right).

Statue of Gen.l. Palmer at the intersection of Platte and Nevada Avenues in Colorado Springs, outside Wm. J. Palmer High School



May-June 2019 issue of the *Watch & Clock Bulletin* featuring my article about General Fuller and his watch



15th PA Cav. Reunion, The Eyrie, Colorado Springs, 1907

In 1907, Gen. Palmer paid for nearly all the surviving members of the 15th PA Cavalry, 280 men in all, to join him for a grand reunion at his estate, The Eyrie, in Colorado Springs. Most arrived on a chartered train from Philadelphia and lodged free of charge at his nearby hotel, the Antlers. The general is shown at center, flanked by his two daughters, with his dog in the foreground. By then, Palmer was confined to a wheelchair due to a fall from his horse. He died in 1909.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH TARR COPELAND MICHIGAN CAVALRY BRIGADE (WOLVERINES)



Copeland's Early Life and Career

Joseph Tarr Copeland was born in Newcastle, Maine on May 6, 1813, the eldest of eleven siblings. His long career included stints as an attorney, a Michigan state senator, a Michigan State Supreme Court Justice, and a businessman (having operated a sawmill in Michigan for a time), as well as having served as a colonel in the Maine militia before the Civil War. His law career touched that of the famous lawmaker and statesman, Daniel Webster. Copeland's career even briefly may have touched that of President Andrew Jackson, who it is rumored, had dispatched Copeland on a "secret mission" to the Michigan Territory.

Copeland was the original commanding officer of the famed Michigan Cavalry Brigade (the "Wolverines"). He trained and equipped them and led them in their first fight before being relieved of command two days before the Battle of Gettysburg on account of his supposedly advanced age. Copeland saw to it that two of his regiments were among the first in the Union Army to be equipped with repeating rifles. Under their new commander, George Custer, the brigade that Copeland trained and equipped would go on to great fame.

GENERAL COPELAND'S WATCH



Copeland's Waltham Model 1857 Watch

The movement of General Copeland's watch is an 18 Size full plate Waltham Model 1857, serial number 107,296 completed in February, 1864. It is a 15 jewel "Appleton, Tracy & Company" Grade movement with a temperature-compensated bimetallic balance, which was the highest grade of Model 1857 movement made.

The Model 1857 was Waltham's most abundant workhorse model. By the end of the Civil War, over 100,000 had been produced, accounting for about two thirds of the AWCo's total production. The William Ellery and P. S. Bartlett Grades were most popular among enlisted men. Silver hunting cases were the most popular choice in the ranks. AT&Co Grade movements, whether full or $\frac{3}{4}$ plate, in gold hunting cases were the usual choice for presentations to commissioned Union officers when an American watch was selected (which was most of the time for presentation purposes).

The single-sunk Roman numeral dial signed "American Watch Company" is standard for AT&Co Grade movements of the period, and the elegant blued spade hands of this example have polished tips and bosses.

GENERAL COPELAND'S WATCH



Copeland Watch Inscription

The watch shown here was presented to Brigadier General Joseph Tarr Copeland by the officers of Camp Copeland, a recruit collection and training base named in the general's honor at Braddock Field, near Pittsburgh, PA. The 18 karat gold case is inscribed on the inside of the front cover, "Presented to J. T. Copeland, Brigadier General of Volunteers, by the officers of Camp Copeland, 1864." The admiration felt for Copeland by his officers probably owed to Copeland's prior formative role in the creation, equipping and training of the Michigan Cavalry Brigade and that brigade's superlative performance on the East Cavalry Field at Gettysburg on July 3, 1864 and thereafter.

The Overland Campaign, the Wolverine's Severest Test

During the Overland Campaign of May – June 1864, the Union Army of the Potomac under newly promoted Lt. General U. S. Grant battled R. E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern VA from the banks of the Rapidan River, approximately where the AoNV had stood at the start of the war, all the way to the trenches surrounding Petersburg and Richmond, the Confederate capital. In that campaign, the offensive capability of Lee's once lethal army was dissipated and the war settled into a siege and a war of attrition from which only a possible weakening of Northern resolve and the election in 1864 of an appeasement candidate, Major General George B. McClellan, could have saved either the Confederacy or slavery. The Michigan Cavalry brigade served with great distinction throughout that arduous and lethal campaign. At the Battle of Yellow Tavern on May 11, 1864, A Wolverine trooper shot their arch nemesis Confederate cavalry general JEB Stuart off of his horse, mortally wounding him.

Joseph Tarr Copeland, Life & Career Summary

Born May 6, 1813 in Newcastle, ME, the eldest of 11 children
Attended Harvard Law School
Studied law with Daniel Webster, in Boston, MA
Unknown "Secret Mission" to Michigan for President Andrew Jackson (Ref 103)
Service in Maine Militia, beginning in 1834, rising to the rank of colonel in 1839
Justice of the Peace, 1835 - 1838
Postmaster, North New Portland, ME, 1837
Involved in the "Aroostook War," 1839 ^a
Moved to St. Clair, MI, 1844, where he operated a sawmill and practiced law
Served in various municipal offices around St. Clair, 1848-1851
MI State Senator from St. Clair, 1850-51
14 th MI State Supreme Court Justice, 1852-57
Commissioned Lt. Colonel, 1st MI Cavalry Battalion, August 22, 1861
Promoted Colonel, 5th MI Cavalry, August 14, 1862
Promoted Brigadier General, MI Cavalry Brigade, December, 1862
Battle of First Kernstown, Winchester, VA, March 23, 1862
Surveillance of AoNV near Gettysburg, PA, June – July, 1863
JTC reassigned June 29, 1863
The MI Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the 1 st , 5 th , 6 th , and 7 th MI Cavalry regiments, and the 2 nd US Artillery, sustained greater casualties than any other Federal cavalry unit engaged in the Battle of Gettysburg

- a. *The "Aroostook War" was a bloodless boundary dispute between New Brunswick and Maine that was resolved by a compromise negotiated by Daniel Webster.*

Copeland Forms and Trains the MI Cavalry Brigade, a Unique Fighting Unit

When the Civil War broke out, Copeland volunteered for service at the age of 47, and on account of his prior experience as an officer in the Maine Militia, was commissioned as a Lieutenant Colonel in command of the 1st Michigan Cavalry Battalion on August 22, 1861. When the 5th Michigan Cavalry regiment was formed in August, 1862, Copeland was made its colonel and commanding officer. In December, 1862, the 5th MI Cavalry was consolidated with the 6th and 7th MI Cavalry regiments into the "Michigan Cavalry Brigade," and Colonel Copeland was promoted to brigadier general to command the unit that would come to be known as the "Wolverines." Soon after, the 1st MI Cavalry, now a full regiment, and the 2nd US artillery were added to the brigade.

Though the Wolverines ultimately would achieve fame under a different commander, Copeland can claim much of the credit for their effectiveness and fighting spirit. He had led the 1st MI Cavalry in its first engagement at the Battle of First Kernstown on March 23, 1862. In that battle, vaunted Confederate general Stonewall Jackson's only tactical defeat, Copeland's unit's aggressive advance netted perhaps as many as three hundred Confederate prisoners.

With the support of Michigan Governor Austin Blair, Copeland also shares the credit for having had the foresight to arrange for two regiments of the Wolverines, the 5th and 6th MI Cavalry, to become among the first Federal units to be equipped with repeating shoulder arms. This was accomplished despite stiff resistance from the hidebound Army ordnance department, which, adhering to an outdated military doctrine, staunchly resisted the issuance of repeating weapons. The 7-shot Spencer repeating rifle, a critical force multiplier, undoubtedly was a factor in the MI Cavalry Brigade's outstanding subsequent performance, including at Gettysburg. Though formally cavalry units, the 5th and 6th MI were trained and equipped to fight dismounted in the manner of mounted infantry, further enhancing the effectiveness of this unique, hybrid brigade.

Flag of the MI 6th Cavalry, part of the MI Cavalry Brigade, the “Wolverines”



The Wolverines' Finest Hour

The Michigan Cavalry Brigade saw perhaps its finest hour on July 3, 1863 at a place now known as the East Cavalry Field, outside the town of Gettysburg, PA. On June 29, 1863, a courier reached General Copeland, who was in the field near Emmitsburg, MD dogging the flank of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia as the rebels progressed their invasion into Pennsylvania. Part of a larger shake-up in the Army of the Potomac's general staff, the message relieved General Copeland, then 50 years old, of command of the Wolverines, supposedly on account of his age. On that day Copeland was replaced by a newly promoted captain, impetuous 23-year-old brevet Brigadier General George Armstrong Custer. The Battle of Gettysburg commenced two days later on July 1. It would be Custer, not Copeland, who would lead the unit whom Copeland had done so much to train and equip to its greatest glory on the third and final day of that historic engagement, three miles east of where Pickett's famous charge was simultaneously unfolding.

On July 3, Robert E. Lee's aggressive thirty year old cavalry commander, Major General James Ewell Brown ("Jeb") Stuart, with 6,000 men and 14 guns, was probing the Federal right flank. His goals were to secure Confederate Corps commander Lt. General Ewell's flank, to cut off the Union army's escape in anticipation of Pickett's frontal assault succeeding, and, if the opportunity presented itself, to strike the Union army in the rear. Standing in Stuart's way were one brigade of Union Brigadier General David Gregg's cavalry division under Colonel John McIntosh, and the Michigan Wolverines under Custer, together totaling 2,500 men and 10 guns.

The Wolverines' Finest Hour



“Come on, you Wolverines!” Charge of the 1st MI Cavalry, East Cavalry Field, Gettysburg

Major General
George Armstrong Custer
after he received his second star



Charge of the 7th MI Cavalry

The Confederate and Union cavalry units met about three miles to the east of where Confederate Colonel Porter Alexander's cannonade was beginning to fall on the Union center and artillery positions. Alexander's barrage was to neutralize the federal artillery and weaken the federal center in advance of Pickett's Charge, Lee's costly gamble to snatch an improbable victory from imminent defeat. On the East Cavalry Field, dismounted fighting had continued around the Rummel farm for about two hours, as the men of the 5th Michigan Cavalry with their deadly repeating rifles held off their rebel assailants. Then Stuart spotted a seam between the two distinct federal lines of McIntosh's brigade and Custer's Wolverines. He ordered the 1st Virginia Cavalry of Fitz Lee's brigade to make a mounted charge at the gap. McIntosh tried to deploy his reserve, the Purnell Legion, but discovered that the commanding Union general, David Gregg, had moved the Maryland men off to guard the flank. He then realized that he had nothing to plug the gap, and that the Confederate charge would hit the seam between his brigade and Custer's, splitting them apart and opening the way to the road intersection – and the federal ammunition reserve beyond!

Custer had only one of his other Wolverine regiments up, the 7th MI, when around 1 PM Custer and Gregg both saw rebel cavalry under Fitzhugh Lee pouring through the Union skirmish line at the Rummel farm. Turning to the senior Union officer on the field, Custer asked, "Do you want me to charge?" David Gregg responded affirmatively. Turning to his Michiganders, Custer issued his now famous cry, "Come on, you Wolverines!" and led the 7th MI forward.

East Cavalry Field



Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton
CSA



Brig. Gen. George Custer
MI Cavalry Brigade



Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart
senior general
CSA forces



Brig. Gen. David Gregg
senior general
US forces

Custer's and Hampton's brigades collided here, July 3, 1863

JEB Stuart Orders a “Grand Charge”

Historian Stephen Sears relates, “The two regiments collided along one of farmer Rummel’s fence lines. An astonished Union skirmisher watched the 7th Michigan, ‘apparently without any attempt to change direction, dash itself upon a high staked and railed fence, squadron after squadron breaking on the struggling mass in front, like the waves of the sea upon a rocky shore, until all were mixed in one confused and tangled mass.’ Troopers of both sides, many unhorsed by the collision, struggled at point-blank range with carbines, revolvers and sabers. Custer’s horse was hit and he took another from one of his men [reportedly a bugler]. ...

Enough Yankees managed to break down the fence and spur through to send the Virginians into retreat. Now Stuart countered. Elements from all three of his brigades, hastily thrown into the spreading fight, were enough to drive back the Yankee pursuit. ...”

A brief pause ensued after the Yankee retreat. Then as General David Gregg wrote, “... there appeared emerging from the woods a large force advancing in fine style. It was evident that a grand charge was intended.” Stuart sent the bulk of Wade Hampton’s brigade, accelerating in formation from a walk to a gallop, sabers held forward, eliciting “murmurs of admiration” from the Union men. Union horse artillery batteries punished the rebel formation with shell and canister, but the Confederates moved quickly, closing up the gaps torn by the guns and maintaining their momentum. This occurred just as Custer’s last remaining unengaged regiment was arriving on the scene. Once again Custer cried, “Come on, you Wolverines!” as he and Col. Charles H. Town led the 1st Michigan Cavalry, General Copeland’s original unit (which was outnumbered five-to-one!) into the fray.



MI Cavalry Brigade Monument Dedication, East Cavalry Field, June 12, 1889

Custer Leads the 1st MI Cavalry Forward

The fight on the East Cavalry Field was possibly the only occasion in the entire Civil War in which large, tightly packed formations of horsemen charged right at one another and collided with sabers swinging and revolvers blazing. A trooper from one of Gregg's Pennsylvania regiments recalled, "As the two columns approached each other the pace of each increased, when suddenly a crash, like the falling of timber, betokened the crisis. So sudden and violent was the collision that many of the horses were turned end over end and crushed their riders beneath them."

The First Michigan Cavalry was the Wolverine regiment with the longest association with General Copeland, the regiment Copeland had led in their first battle at First Kernstown. After the battle on the East Cavalry Field, their new brigadier George Custer wrote of them, "I cannot find language to express my high appreciation of the gallantry and daring displayed by the officers and men of the First Michigan Cavalry. They advanced to the charge of a much superior force with as much order and precision as if going on parade,"

Stuart's assault was stymied both by the courageous charge of the outnumbered 1st MI men and by heroic flanking charges by two small groups of federal troopers, each numbering fewer than a hundred men, led by audacious minor officers on their own initiatives. The desperate fight on the East Cavalry Field lasted less than three hours. The Union suffered 251 casualties, 219 of them from the MI Brigade, the greatest number of casualties among all the Union cavalry brigades engaged at Gettysburg. Stuart's Confederates suffered 181 casualties, fewer than the Federals, but Confederate aims were thoroughly thwarted by an inferior Union force.

J. T. Copeland Life and Career Summary – Part 2

JTC assigned to command of a similar camp at Braddock Field, near Pittsburgh, PA, 7/18/63, renamed "Camp Copeland." – receives watch from fellow officers, Copeland was relieved and reassigned in April, 1864

Comandante of Alton Prison Camp, Alton IL – last military assignment

Resigned his commission, November 8, 1865

JTC returned to his residence, an extensive Gothic Revival structure known locally as "the Castle," on Orchard Lake, in W. Bloomfield near Pontiac. It becomes, in succession, a hotel, the Michigan Military Academy, and St. Mary's Catholic Women's College (to present).

Justice of the Peace, Orange Park, FL, 1878

JTC dies, May 6, 1893, on his 80th birthday

The MI Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the 1st, 5th, 6th, and 7th MI Cavalry regiments, and the 2nd US Artillery, sustained greater casualties than any other Federal cavalry unit engaged in the Battle of Gettysburg

Lieutenant William Brooke-Rawle of the 3rd PA Cavalry later wrote of the battle:

“We cavalrymen have always [believed] that we saved the day at the most critical moment of the battle of Gettysburg-the greatest battle and the turning point of the War of the Rebellion. Had Stuart succeeded in his well-laid plan, and, with his large force of cavalry, struck the Army of the Potomac in the rear of its line of battle, simultaneously with Pickett's magnificent and furious assault on its front, when our infantry had all it could do to hold on to the line of Cemetery Ridge, and but little more was needed to make the assault a success, the merest tyro in the art of war can readily tell what the result would be; fortunately for the Army of the Potomac, fortunately for our country, and the cause of human liberty, he failed. Thank God that he did fail, and that, with His divine assistance, the good fight fought here brought victory to our arms!”

General David M. Gregg later wrote of the battle, "General Stuart had in view the accomplishment of certain purposes, his plans were disarranged by being compelled to enter into a fierce encounter with a smaller force of Union troops. His was to do, ours to prevent. Could he have reached the rear of our army with his force of perhaps six thousand bold and tried troopers, disastrous consequences might have resulted.“

Thereafter, the Wolverines, whom Copeland first led, equipped and trained, would take part in all the remaining campaigns of the AoP, including the blood-soaked Overland Campaign (May – June, 1864), the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign (June, 1864 – March, 1865), and the climactic Appomattox Campaign (March – April, 1865). On May 11, 1864, a Wolverine shot and mortally wounded their arch nemesis, J.E.B. Stuart, with his revolver during the Battle of Yellow Tavern, 6 miles north of Richmond.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH T. COPELAND



Intersection of Copeland Ave & Street, Braddock PA



Michigan Military Academy – “The Castle”
(Orchard Lake MI, near Pontiac)

Copeland's Later Career

As for General Copeland, he took command of recruit collection and training bases, first at Annapolis, MD, and then at Braddock Field near Pittsburgh, where the camp was named in his honor. It was at Camp Copeland that the general received his watch. Two intersecting streets in current day Braddock PA, Copeland Street and Copeland Avenue, mark where part of the boundary of Camp Copeland had been. The general resigned his commission on November 8, 1865 and returned to civilian life.

Post-war, General Copeland returned to his elaborate Georgian Revival mansion, "The Castle," situated on Orchard Lake, near Pontiac, Michigan. This structure became, in turn, a hotel and resort, the now defunct Michigan Military Academy, and St. Mary's Women's College, which it remains to the current day. The Castle is shown on the preceding slide as it looked during the time it housed the Michigan Military Academy between 1877 and 1908. It was there when on June 19, 1879 US Army Commanding General William Tecumseh Sherman gave his famous "War is Hell" speech to the first graduating class,

"I've been where you are now and I know just how you feel. It's entirely natural that there should beat in the breast of every one of you a hope and desire that some day you can use the skill you have acquired here. Suppress it! You don't know the horrible aspects of war. I've been through two wars and I know. I've seen cities and homes in ashes. I've seen thousands of men lying on the ground, their dead faces looking up at the skies. I tell you, war is Hell!"

Retired General Copeland moved to Orange Park Florida in 1877, one year after the town's founding, to become its first Justice of the Peace. Many patriotic Union veterans like Copeland moved south after the war to help seed the south with loyal free labor ideals. He died in Orange Park on his eightieth birthday, May 6, 1893, and his remains today are interred in Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac Michigan.

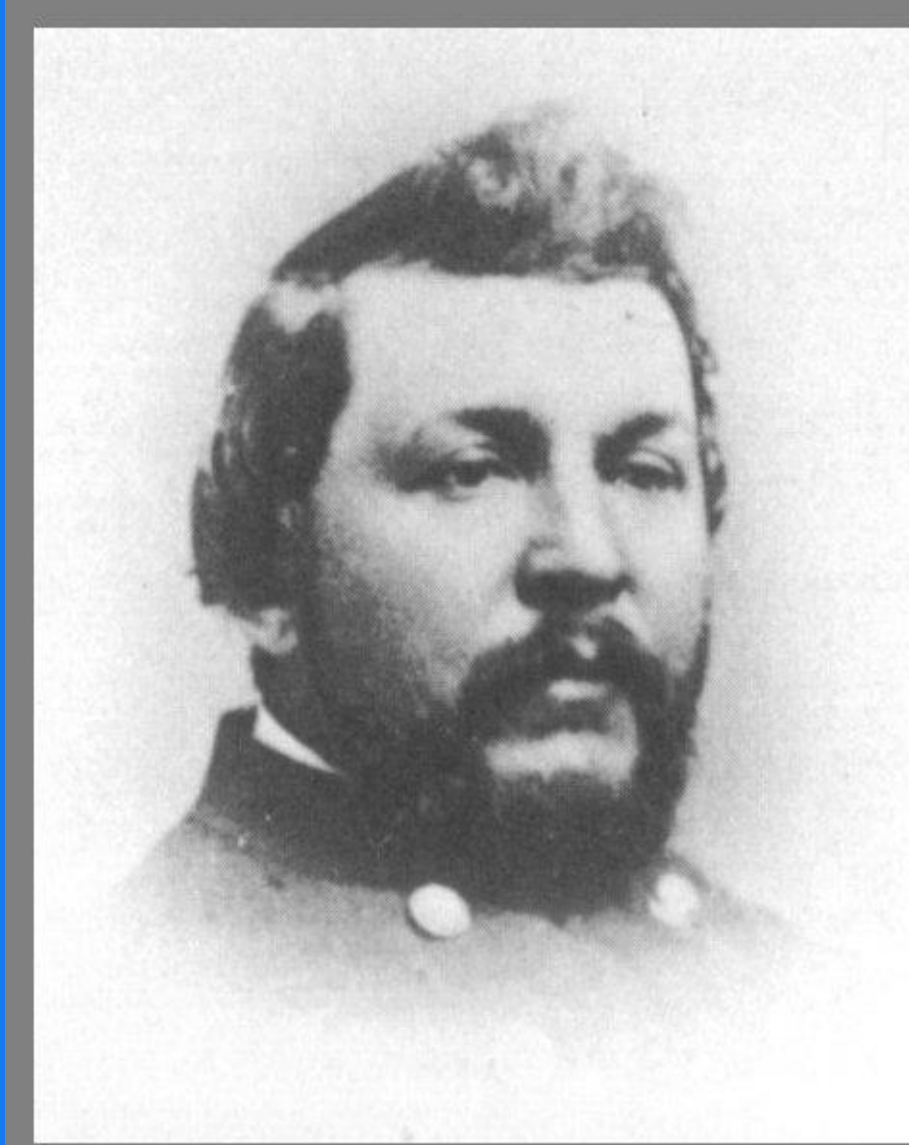
**Camp Copeland in 1864, photographed by drill instructor Sgt. Walter Collins
100th PA Infantry, Company M**



CAMP COPELAND.

WALTER COLLINS. One of the men who instructed the Recruits at Camp Copeland.

**COLONEL (BREVET BRIGADIER GENERAL) GEORGE W. GALLUP,
14TH KY INFANTRY**



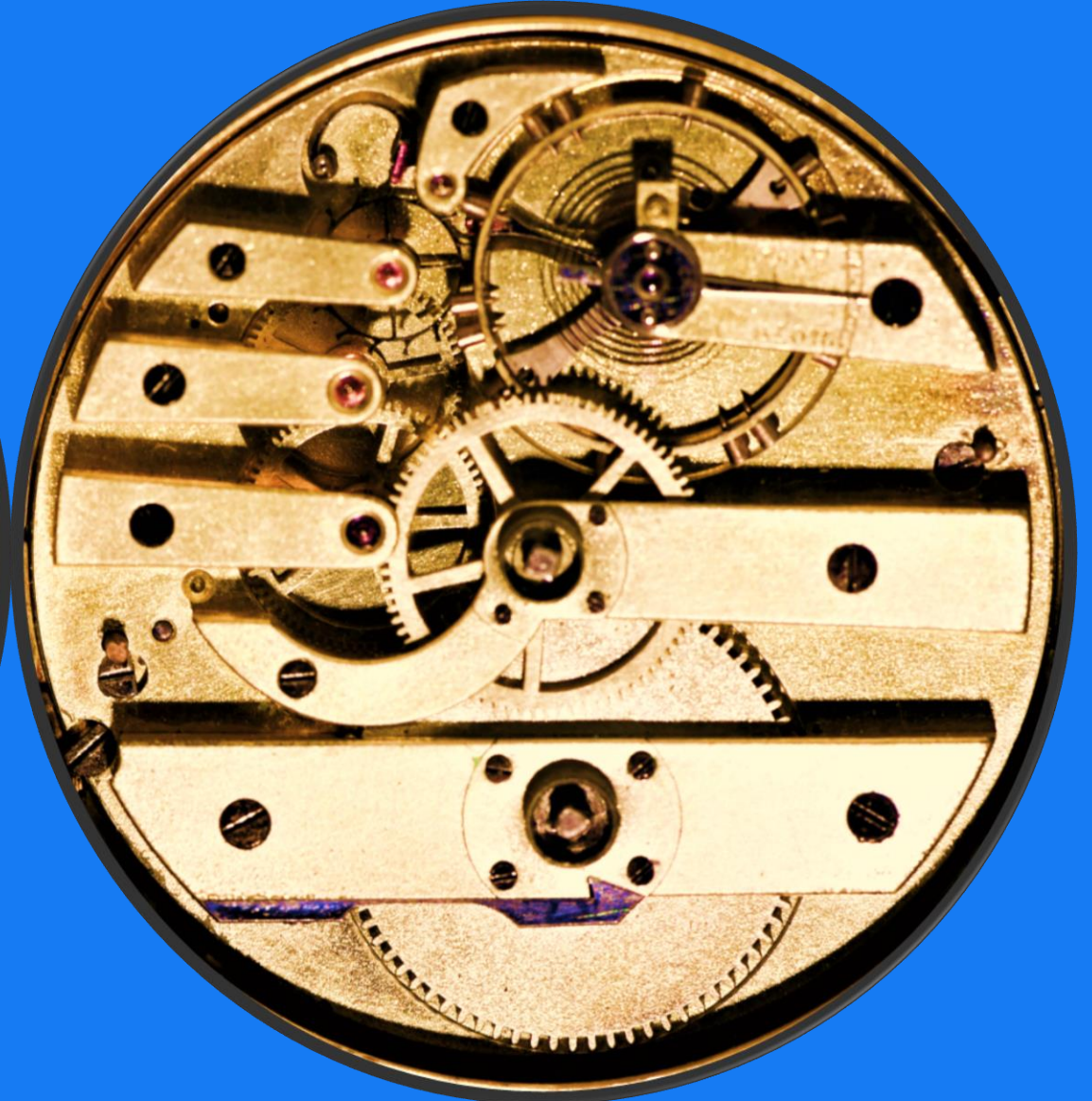
Colonel George Washington Gallup helped to organize, and later commanded the 14th KY Infantry, a distinguished fighting unit, throughout most of the Civil War. The 14th KY fought several battles against Confederate forces in their home state, before moving on in 1864 to hard service in General Sherman's Atlanta Campaign and subsequent March to the Sea. Gallup was liked and respected by his men, as attested by the watch they gave him, and Gallup felt great affection for the men he commanded, as he expressed in surviving letters. Posterity is fortunate in that Gallup left a war diary as well as a collection of personal letters to his wife Rebecca (Beck) in which he shared news and expressed his feelings. Colonel Gallup was breveted to brigadier general by President Andrew Johnson after the war ended.

Colonel Gallup's watch is one of four in the collection with a foreign movement, and the only one with a Swiss movement, though Swiss movements were actually the most numerous watch movements in use in both Civil War armies. However, American-made watches were favored for presentation purposes. (Nearly all Civil War presentation watches have Union provenances.) All but two watches in the collection have American-made cases, which is also typical, even for Civil War watches with foreign movements.



14th KY Infantry Officer's Hat

**COLONEL (BREVET BRIGADIER GENERAL) GEORGE W. GALLUP
14TH KY INFANTRY**



The watch shown here was presented to Colonel George Washington Gallup “by the soldiers of” the 14th KY Volunteer Infantry Regiment on May 1st, 1863. Colonel Gallup’s surviving letters make it likely that he may have carried the watch in the field for at least a year.

The Swiss movement of Colonel Gallup’s watch is approximately 18 Size, with gilded brass plates and fifteen jewels. It is a Lepine Caliber Type V movement with right-angle lever escapement and a going barrel. The Lepine Caliber was probably the most popular export Swiss watch design during the Civil War. It is a bar style movement, both wound and set from the rear, in which the balance wheel, the mainspring barrel, the lever, and each of the train wheels are carried in separate “bridges” (actually cocks). The Type V Lepine Caliber design is distinguished from other types by the parallel, rather than radial, orientation of the three short train wheel bridges visible at upper left on the preceding slide. This example is not signed by the maker, which is typical for Swiss export watches.

The unsigned, single-sunk Roman numeral enamel dial of Colonel Gallup’s watch also is typical for Swiss imports of the Civil War period. The minute and hour hands do not match, indicating that at least one of them, probably the hour hand, is a replacement. However, they have both likely been on the watch for quite some time, and any hand replacement may even have taken place during the colonel’s lifetime. Thus the watch’s current hands are now part of the history of the watch.

COLONEL (BREVET BRIGADIER GENERAL) GEORGE W. GALLUP
14TH KY INFANTRY



Gallup Watch Inscriptions

Colonel Gallup's watch bears two inscriptions. The first commemorates the gift of the watch, on May 1, 1863, to the colonel by soldiers of the 14th KY Infantry, which he commanded for most of the Civil War. The second inscription, which reflects Gallup's post-war brevet promotion to brigadier general by President Andrew Johnson in 1867, commemorates the general's gift of his watch to his son, Gideon Frederick Gallup, a Catlettsburg KY attorney, almost exactly ten years later on May 15, 1873.

**COLONEL (BRVT. BRIG. GEN.) GEORGE W. GALLUP
14TH KY INFANTRY**





The approximately 18 karat gold hunting style case (meaning it has a covered crystal) of Colonel Gallup's watch has a blank shield, and floral decorations on both lids. It is unusual in having two inner rear lids – the usual dust cover with key holes for accessing the movement, and an auxiliary lid with a built-in frame, now empty, for holding a picture.

While the movement of Colonel Gallup's watch is Swiss, the case is very likely American-made, with a quintessentially American pumpkin-style pendant. The marking "A. S." on the interior of the rear lid is either a retailer's or a case maker's mark. Below that mark are simulated hallmarks, including an 18 karat gold marking, which were common on watch cases sold in the US during the Civil War period.

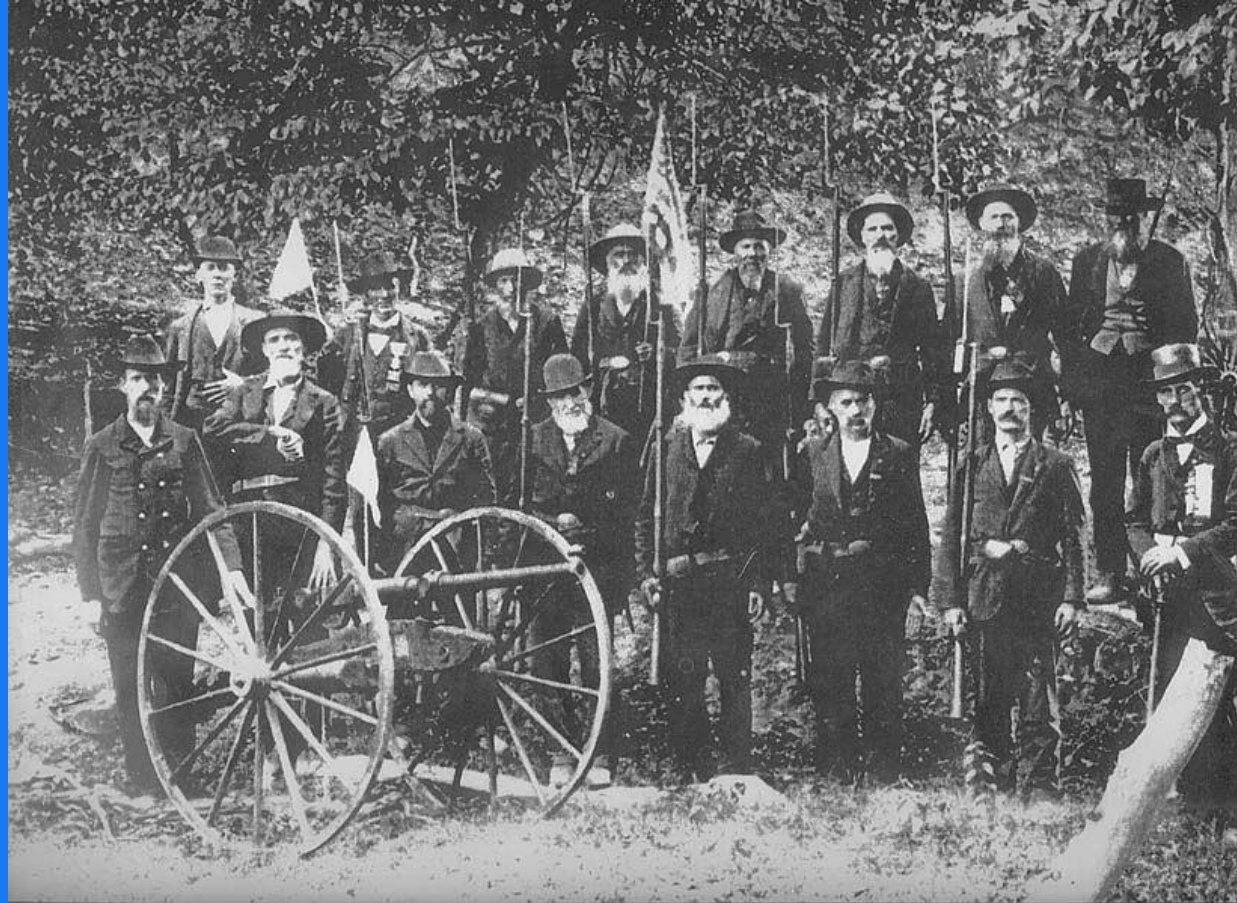
Colonel George W. Gallup & the 14th KY Infantry



Gallup Discusses his Watch in his Letters to his Wife

The watch presented to Colonel Gallup by his unit clearly was precious to him. More than one of Colonel Gallup's surviving letters refer to his watch, suggesting that the colonel had kept it with him for a very eventful year in Kentucky. But as he prepared to join General Sherman's Atlanta Campaign and subsequent March to the Sea for what he could easily have foreseen to be a period of extremely perilous, sustained fighting, he either sent the watch home with a servant, or given it to a noncombatant attendant accompanying him, for safekeeping. In one of two letters dated May 18, 1864, he writes to his wife, "Dear Beck, I do not know what to do with my watch. If Nichols [who was probably a servant] would carry it, it would be safest with him. ..."

**14th KY Infantry
ReUnion
Ashland KY**



“Do not be uneasy about me. Our men are brave and trustworthy, knowing their cause is just, that they fight for an outraged country, for her noble and free institutions, [and] her time-honored and glorious old flag. They will brave danger and death and dear will be the victory. ... So content yourself, my dear wife, knowing that brave arms and noble hearts surround me.

If ever I fall upon the battlefield, let it be among my noble boys, men who I love next to you and my dear children.”

Letter to wife Rebecca, June 20, 1863

Other of Colonel Gallup's letters home glow with fond sentiments towards his men of the 14th KY Infantry and the cause for which they fought. To wit, that written on June 20, 1863:

“Do not be uneasy about me. Our men are brave and trustworthy, knowing their cause is just, that they fight for an outraged country, for her noble and free institutions, [and] her time-honored and glorious old flag. They will brave danger and death and dear will be the victory. ... So content yourself, my dear wife, knowing that brave arms and noble hearts surround me. If ever I fall upon the battlefield, let it be among my noble boys, men who I love next to you and my dear children.”

The colonel's affection for his men appears to have been requited. On September 8, 1864, he wrote Rebecca that, “I arrived today from Atlanta and joined my regiment and brigade ... The boys (so much like children to me) broke ranks to run and shake hands with me. I do not know how I could leave them for any length of time.”

George W. Gallup and the 14th KY Infantry

Born October 28, 1828, in Albany, NY
Attended NY Central Academy, McGrawville
To Ohio, taught school, and studied law at Burlington Academy, 1845-49
To Louisa, KY, in 1850, studied law under Laban T. Moore
Obtained law license, 1850, went into partnership with Moore, and married Moore's sister, Rebecca
14th KY Infantry organized at Louisa, September 1861, with L. T. Moore as Colonel and Gallup as Quartermaster
14th KY moved to Catlettsburg, KY, December 1861
Action at Middle Creek, along with 3 companies of the 14th KY
Promoted to Lt. Colonel, 1862
Served with Gen. George Morgan at Cumberland Gap against Gen. Carter L. Stevenson
Promoted to Colonel, January, 1863
Commander, Military District of Eastern KY, based in Louisa, August, 1863 – May, 1864.
14th and 39th KY surround and defeat Col. M. J. Ferguson's 16th VA Cavalry, Laurel Creek, Wayne Cy., WV, February 15, 1864
14th and 39th KY surround and defeat Col. Ezekiel F. Clay's 1st KY Cavalry, Puncheon Creek, Magoffin Cy., KY, April 14th, 1864
Joined Sherman's Command, May, 1864 Atlanta, GA (July 22, 1864)
14th KY Plays Key Role in Union Victory at Battle of Kolb's Farm, June 22, 1864
Brigade Command, 1st Brigade, 2nd Div., XXIII Army Corps
14th KY saw action in all the battles of the Atlanta Campaign – lost 157 killed and wounded
Returns to Louisa, KY and Resumes Law Practice, 1865
Brevetted to Brigadier General by President Andrew Johnson, 1867
"Prominently connected with the building of the C. & O. RR and the Big Sandy RR"
Postmaster Catlettsburg, KY; Died December 31, 1880

Gallup's Early Career & the Formation of the 14th KY Infantry

George Washington Gallup's life and career are summarized in the preceding table. A native of NY, he moved to Ohio around 1845, where he taught school and studied law. In 1850, he moved to Louisa in eastern Kentucky, at the confluence of the Tug and Levisa Forks of the Big Sandy River, to study law with Laban T. Moore (January 13, 1829 – November 9, 1892). Gallup received his law license in 1850 at the age of 23, and went into partnership with Moore, by then his father-in-law, in 1851. In 1860, Gallup purchased a hotel, known for a while thereafter as the Gallup Hotel, in Louisa, which served transiting steamboat and stagecoach passengers.

The state of Kentucky, a slave state bordering the free states of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, was bitterly divided as national disunion loomed in 1860. Moore and Gallup were both ardent Unionists opposed to secession, and the town of Louisa, with a population at that time of 258, became an outpost of staunch Unionist sentiment within the state. Not long after armed hostilities erupted, Moore, with Gallup's help, organized the 14th KY Infantry in September, 1861. The 14th KY was a mounted infantry unit that operated in and around eastern Kentucky to as late as early 1864. Moore became the original colonel of the regiment and Gallup was its first quartermaster officer.



CIVIL WAR ARMY BASE

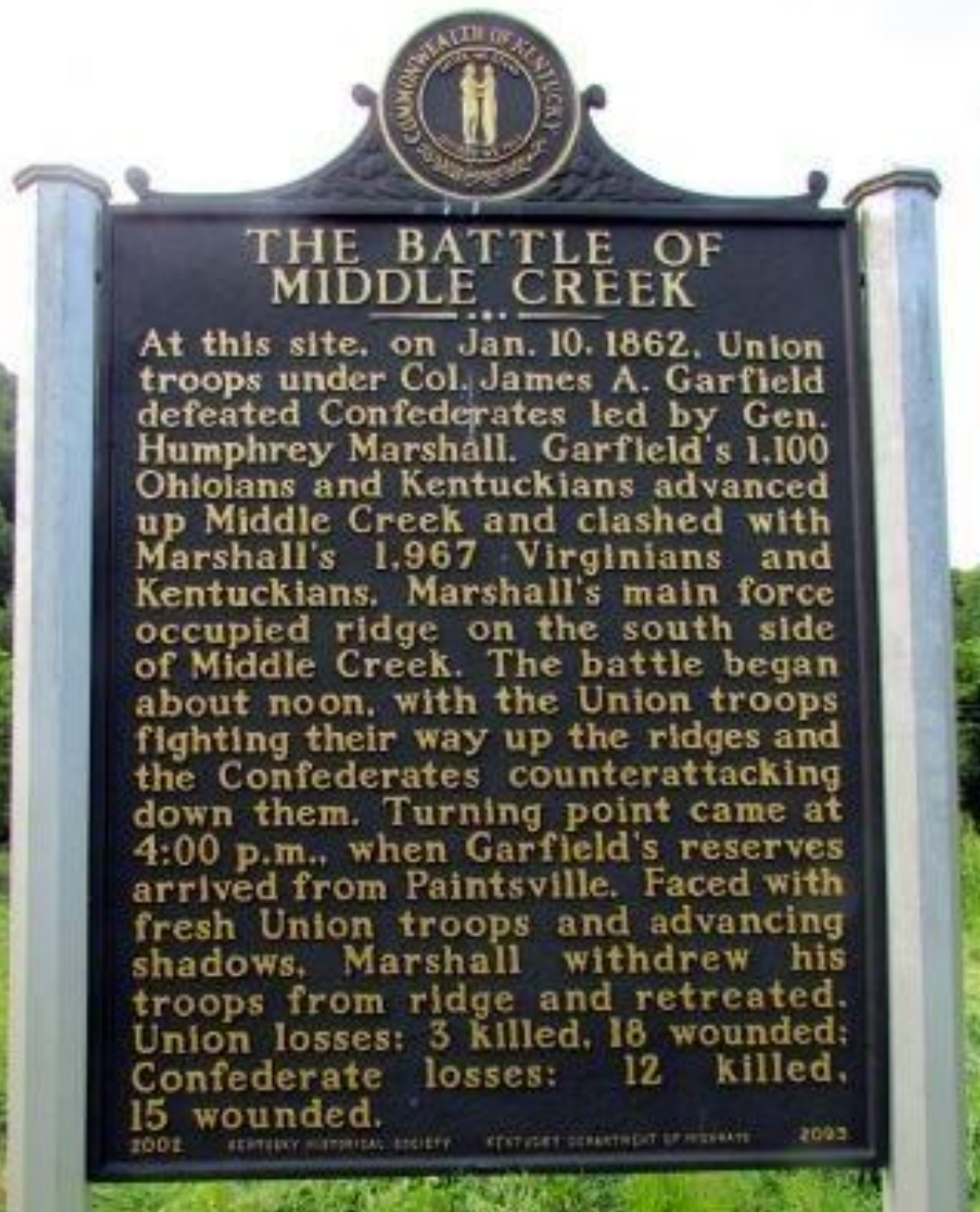
USA post located here to protect Ohio River traffic. Became supply base and communication center for Union forces in the Big Sandy region. In winter 1861-62, troops under Col. J. A. Garfield, later 20th President U. S., drove CSA from area by victory at Middle Creek. Area cleared of CSA again in 1864 by USA Kentucky forces under Col. George W. Gallup.

1864

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

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1864



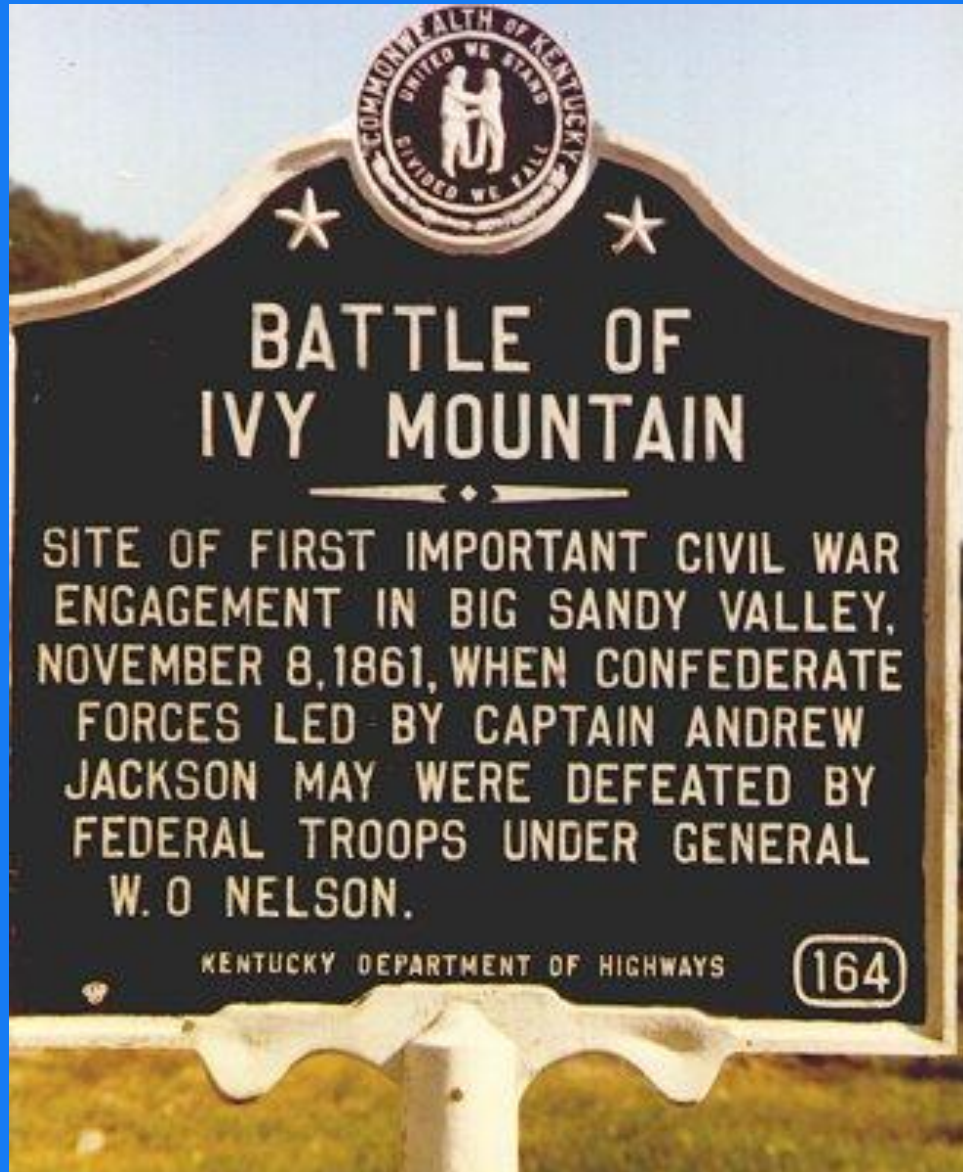
THE BATTLE OF MIDDLE CREEK

At this site, on Jan. 10, 1862, Union troops under Col. James A. Garfield defeated Confederates led by Gen. Humphrey Marshall. Garfield's 1,100 Ohliolans and Kentuckians advanced up Middle Creek and clashed with Marshall's 1,967 Virginians and Kentuckians. Marshall's main force occupied ridge on the south side of Middle Creek. The battle began about noon, with the Union troops fighting their way up the ridges and the Confederates counterattacking down them. Turning point came at 4:00 p.m., when Garfield's reserves arrived from Paintsville. Faced with fresh Union troops and advancing shadows, Marshall withdrew his troops from ridge and retreated. Union losses: 3 killed, 18 wounded; Confederate losses: 12 killed, 15 wounded.

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The 14th KY's first engagements occurred on November 8 and 9, 1861 at Ivy Mountain, and on January 10, 1862 at Middle Creek, both in eastern Kentucky. In both cases, rebel forces attempting to recruit volunteers in Kentucky were either hastened or dislodged back to Virginia.



Cumberland Gap



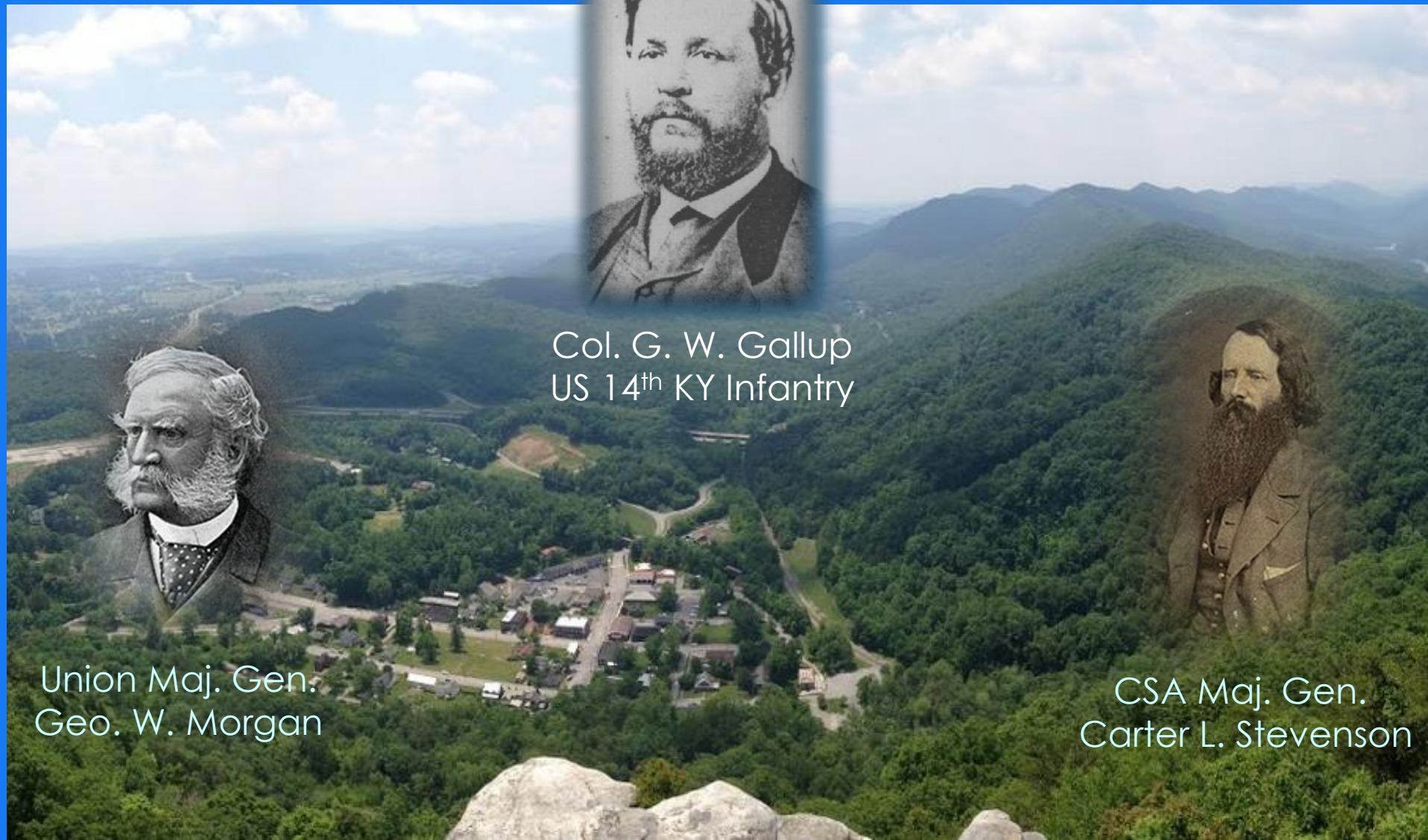
Col. G. W. Gallup
US 14th KY Infantry



Union Maj. Gen.
Geo. W. Morgan



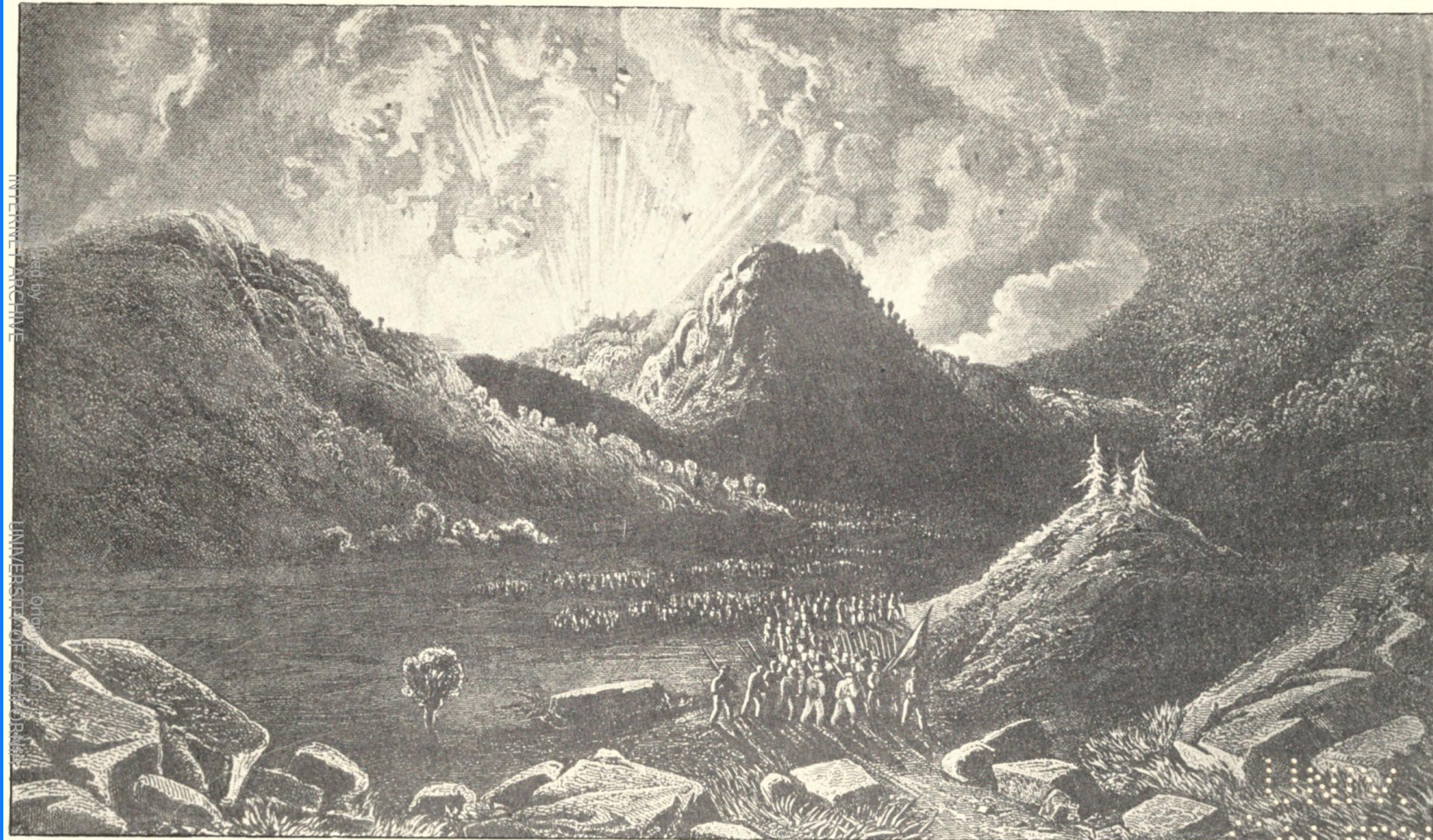
CSA Maj. Gen.
Carter L. Stevenson



Gallup, by then a Lt. Colonel, and the 14th KY next were assigned to Union Brigadier General George W. Morgan, when Morgan moved against the rebels holding the Cumberland Gap, near the junction of KY, VA and TN. Morgan, who described Gallup as, "a soldier of rare merit," defeated Carter L. Stevenson's Confederates and chased off the defenders on June 18, 1862. He held the gap with his four brigades of infantry, including the 14th KY Infantry regiment, augmented by artillery placed on the heights, until September, when Braxton Bragg's invading Confederate army cut off his supply line and forced him to withdraw. Morgan's troops were at one point nearly surrounded in Cumberland Gap by a superior rebel force.

George Morgan's 8,000 men then executed a skillful retreat in the face of Bragg's greatly superior enemy force, marching 200 miles in sixteen days, despite persistent interference from Confederate Colonel John Hunt Morgan's guerrillas.

Gallup played a special role in the withdrawal, successfully burning and destroying the Union's valuable stores at the Gap before retreating, deceiving Confederate scouts and setting fire to the Union supply stores right under the Confederates' noses without giving away the Union plan to retreat.



EVACUATION OF CUMBERLAND GAP, SEPTEMBER 17, 1862

Battles in which the 14th KY Infantry Fought

Ivy Mtn., KY (November 8 & 9, 1861)
Middle Creek, KY (January 10, 1862)
Laurel Creek, WV (February 12, 1864)
Salyersville, KY (April 13 & 14, 1864)
Half Mile/Puncheon Creek, WV (April 14, 1864)
New Hope Church, GA (May 25 & 26, 1864)
Fighting at Marietta, GA (June 9 – July 3, 1864)
Kolb's Farm, GA (June 22, 1864)
Kennesaw, GA (June 27, 1864)
Peachtree Creek, GA (July 20, 1864)
Atlanta, GA (July 22, 1864)
Jonesboro, GA (August 31 – September 1, 1864)
Johnsonville, TN (November 4 & 5, 1864)
201 Officers & Men Killed, or Died of Disease

Gallup's quick thinking and cool-headed leadership at Cumberland Gap enabled the 7th Division's successful retreat, and deprived the rebellion of a wealth of supplies that the Union was forced to abandon. He took command of the 14th KY as its colonel in January, 1863, and received the watch shown as a token of his men's esteem the following May. With Gallup at its helm, the most intense chapter of the 14th KY's combat history still lay ahead of it. The battles in which the regiment served are summarized in the table on the preceding slide.

In August of 1863, Colonel Gallup acceded to command of the Military District of Eastern KY, making his base in Louisa, from which he engaged with rebel threats to the region. In early 1864, Gallup and his regiment attacked and defeated two Confederate mounted units in succession: Colonel M. J. Ferguson's 16th VA Cavalry, at Laurel Creek, Wayne Cy., KY, on February 15; and Colonel Ezekiel F. Clay's 1st KY Mounted Rifles, at Puncheon Creek, Magoffin Cy., KY, on April 14.

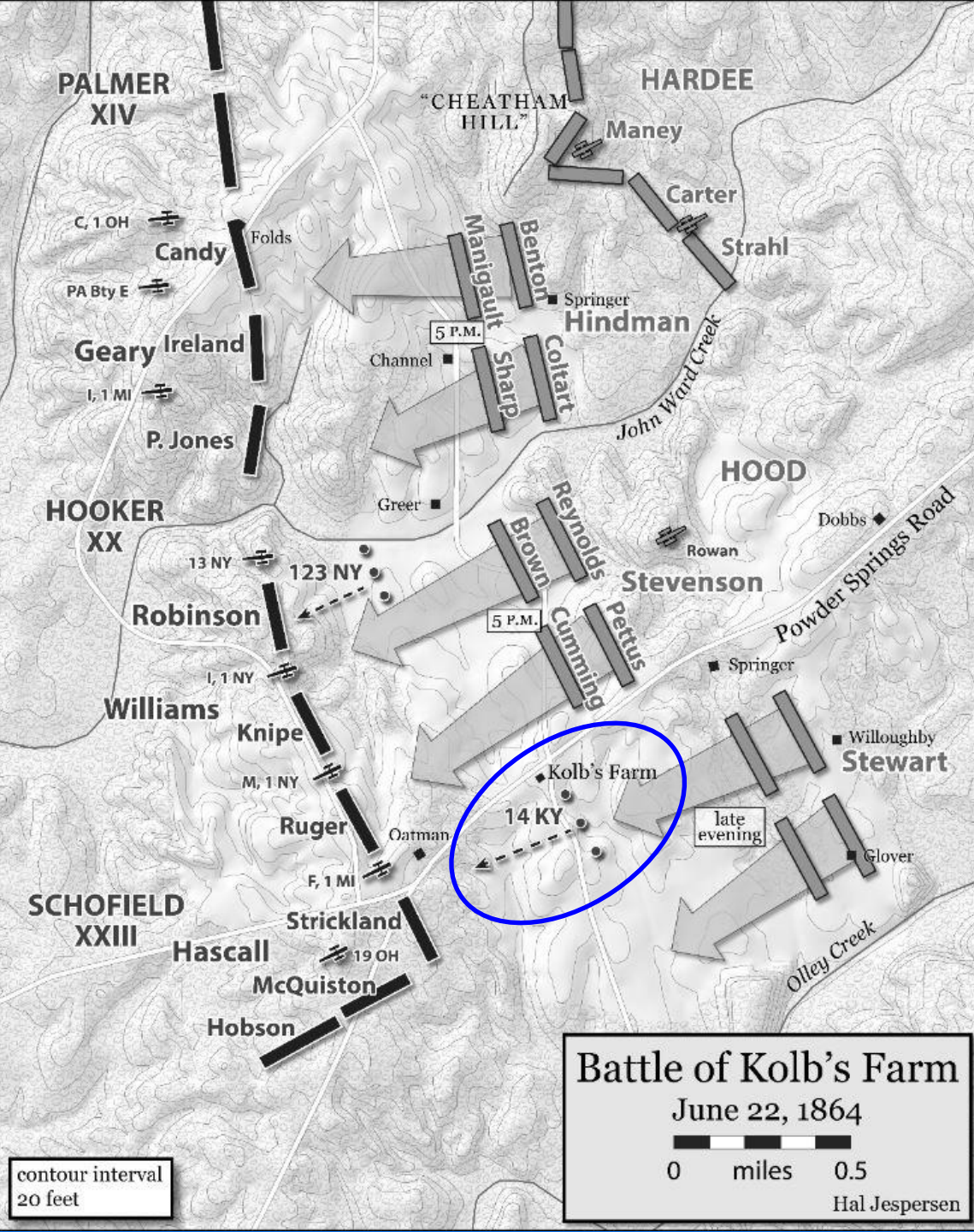
At the Battle of Puncheon Creek (a.k.a., Half Mountain), Col. Gallup led a combined force of 800 men consisting of the 14th and 39th KY Infantry. There the speed and tenacity of his pursuit surprised Clay's 600 Confederates in their camp along the Licking River, near Salyersville. In a four-hour engagement, during which Clay was wounded and captured, total Confederate losses were 60 killed and wounded, 60 captured, and 200 horses, 400 saddles, 300 small arms, and all their tents and equipment lost. Union casualties were only one killed and four wounded.

The following month, the 14th KY became part of William Tecumseh Sherman's command, as the general prepared his historic drive into Georgia, the Atlanta Campaign and the March to the Sea.

Battle of Kolb's Farm, June 22, 1864

The 14th KY saw action in essentially every major battle of the Atlanta Campaign (May 7 to September 2, 1864), suffering in that period 157 killed and wounded. Their most outstanding service was rendered during the action at Kolb's Farm, Cobb County, GA, near Marietta, on June 22, 1864. This battle was one of several positional struggles between Sherman's troops, and Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Tennessee, as Sherman pushed relentlessly towards Atlanta. Sherman's army was divided into four unequal parts. He moved Joe Hooker's XX Corps and elements of the XXIII Corps, to which the 14th KY was attached, into position south of the Powder Springs Road to threaten the right flank of the strong Confederate defensive line between Big and Little Kennesaw Mountains further north. Johnston's command was divided into three corps. Anticipating Sherman's flanking move, Johnston struck first with the corps commanded by Lt. General John Bell Hood.

Major General Carter L. Stevenson's division led Hood's assault, but immediately encountered fierce resistance from a strong Federal skirmish line consisting of the 14th KY and 123rd NY Infantry regiments. Hood eventually moved forward with his entire corps, pushing the Kentuckians and New Yorkers aside, but the Federal skirmishers had slowed Hood's offensive considerably and inflicted sufficient casualties on two of Stevenson's brigades to put them out of action for the remainder of the battle.



Colonel Gallup wrote the letter on the following page to his wife after the harrowing action at Kolb's Farm on June 22, 1864, during the Atlanta Campaign, when the 14th KY and one other regiment were called upon to stem the advance of two full Confederate brigades. Gallup's concern for his men and the losses they suffered in the battle are very much on his mind.

Letter of Col. Gallup to his Wife, June 22, 1864

“My Dear Wife,

Today has been a hard one for the 14th KY. At 12 o'clock I was ordered to advance my regiment to envelop the enemy's line of battle. I marched one mile to the front and captured the enemy's picket line, 45 in number, when General Clayborn [he meant Cleburne – but he actually faced Stevenson] attacked me with his brigades and after a stubborn fight we retreated ½ a mile, fighting as we went. Then I found cover under the crest of a ridge and held the enemy until our artillery came up. Killed 104 and wounded 250, took 45 prisoners, and I lost, out of 700 men, 77 killed and wounded, a large loss. The boys are brave. General[s] Hooker, Thomas [of Chickamauga fame], McPherson and Sherman complimented this regiment and say it is the best in the 23rd Corps.

I am worn and weary, have not eaten anything since yesterday morning and I cannot write much. Lieut. Osborn, son of Walter, was killed. Lieut. Burgess, arm shot off. Capt. Gardner wounded. Ensign [i.e., color bearer] Jordan Oty killed. ... Love to all. – Your Husband.”

The commendations from the commanding generals Gallup mentioned were lavish. Major General Harrison Haskell, Gallup's division commander, issued the following message,

"Headquarters Second Division, 23rd Army Corps, Army of the Ohio, June 23, 1864, Marietta Road, the General Commanding this division desires to draw attention to divisions, brigades and regiments, officers and men, to the conduct, undaunted courage and bravery of this Fourteenth Regiment, Kentucky Volunteers, now assembled, Colonel George W. Gallup, his officers and men, who are now present before you, who held back and checked the advance of the enemy's attack in Marietta Road in column of companies front and artillery in sections moving and deployed to left of road, ... This noble regiment alone and determined met the advance, which had much superior numbers, with such effect, repulsed the head of their column, deliberately firing at less than forty yards into their forward line, before the second deployed line came up the inclined ground to where the front line of attack fell and received from the Fourteenth Regiment a second firing which struck them with terrible effect, creating a panic or confusion. ... [The 14th KY's] resistance and valor held the enemy back until our fortifications and positions were secure ... , while alone and undaunted the Fourteenth Regiment Kentucky Volunteers retired and brought their casualties with them inside our fortifications. For this noble example set, and worthy to be emulated, for such worthy conduct in the face of and against infantry and artillery of superior numbers, for this great achievement, the General commanding this division returns his thanks with his proud admiration of Colonel G. W. Gallup, his officers and the Fourteenth Regiment of Soldiers."

Corps commander Major General Joe Hooker was known to have said that if he had a hundred regiments like the 14th KY and officers like Gallup to lead them, he "could take Richmond or Washington."

GEN. G. W. GALLU

BORN OCT. 12, 1828

DIED DEC. 31, 1890



LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN HODGES, JR.
(SALEM ZOUAVES - 8TH, 19TH, 50TH, AND 59TH MA INFANTRY)



Lt. Col. John Hodges Jr. Career Summary

John Hodges, Jr. of Salem Massachusetts (December 8, 1841 – July 30, 1864) was one of the Union's 75,000 First Defenders. These were the men who answered President Lincoln's initial call for troops to defend the Union after South Carolina shore batteries fired on the federal garrison at Fort Sumter on April 12-13, 1861. On April 17, 1861, Hodges enlisted as a private in the Salem Zouaves, a local unit also known as the Salem Light Infantry. The Salem Zouaves were later consolidated into the 8th MA Infantry Regiment as Company I.

In 1860 the entire US Army consisted of only about 16,000 men and officers, many of whom were stationed out west on garrison duty. (By contrast, the southern states already had 100,000 men under arms when the first shot was fired at Sumter.) Many of these US Army men, including about a third of the officers, either resigned or otherwise departed for their southern homes by the eve of war. After April, 1861, the small and recently decimated Union army ballooned to over 600,000 men by January, 1863. In all, 2,757,000 men would serve in the Union army and navy during the Civil War, including 116,000 southern white loyalists and 200,000 freedmen. (Total Confederate Army enlistment is far less certain, but credible estimates range from 750,000 to 1,228,000.) Because of the Union army's explosive growth, survivors who showed commitment and initiative often advanced rapidly. Young Hodges was such a man.

Thus it was that John Hodges, Jr. was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the 19th MA Infantry on August 27, 1861, then as a major in the 50th MA Infantry on November 8, 1862, and finally as the lieutenant colonel of the 59th MA Infantry on February 2, 1864. Lt. Colonel John Hodges, Jr. was killed in action on July 30, 1864 with his watch in his pocket.





John Hodges's Watch

John Hodges's watch has a Waltham Model 1859 movement signed "Appleton, Tracy & Company." It has 16 jewels ("four and a half pairs"), an internal stopwork to prevent over-winding, and a monometallic gold alloy balance wheel. The movement serial number, 31,928, indicates that it was finished in May of 1860 by the American Watch Company of Waltham, Massachusetts on the eve of the Civil War. The AWCo was formed in January, 1859 from a reorganization of Appleton, Tracy & Company, its business predecessor. However, the earlier company name was retained for many years as a grade designation on some of the American Watch Company's products, indicating its second highest quality of $\frac{3}{4}$ plate movements and its highest quality of full plate movements. This AT&Co Grade watch in its silver hunting case would have wholesaled for \$40 or more in 1860. That would have been nearly four months pay for a Union army private in 1861, not counting retail markups. A silver "William Ellery" Grade watch, which was the focus of advertisements to soldiers after 1861, would have wholesaled in 1861 or 1862 for around \$20.

This Model 1859 movement is an example of Waltham's 18 Size $\frac{3}{4}$ plate "thin model" that was promoted specifically to soldiers. Both "full plate" and "three quarter plate" movements carry the mainspring barrel and all the train wheel pinions on a single plate. But a $\frac{3}{4}$ plate movement, like this one, has a cut-out in the top plate to allow the balance wheel to turn in a plane in or below that of the top plate, making for a thinner watch. Beginning in early 1862, Waltham introduced a newer $\frac{3}{4}$ plate design in the 20 and 16 Sizes. Thereafter, the 18 Size Model 1859 design was relegated to the lower, "William Ellery" and "P. S. Bartlett" Grade products exclusively.

HODGES WATCH DIAL

The dial of this AT&Co Grade Model 1859 Waltham watch is painted and fired enamel, like all Waltham watch dials of the Civil War period. It is single sunk, meaning that the seconds bit is a separate disk set below the plane of the main dial. Less expensive "William Ellery" Grade movements, which carried no warranty, had dials that were unsigned and were single piece with integral seconds bits. All Waltham $\frac{3}{4}$ plate movements were set from the rear, so there is no setting square on the center post, and the bezel of the case is not hinged.

Slender spade hands were the most commonly seen on Waltham watches of the Civil War period, but the Breguet, or "moon" style of hands, such as that on John Hodges's watch, also are seen.



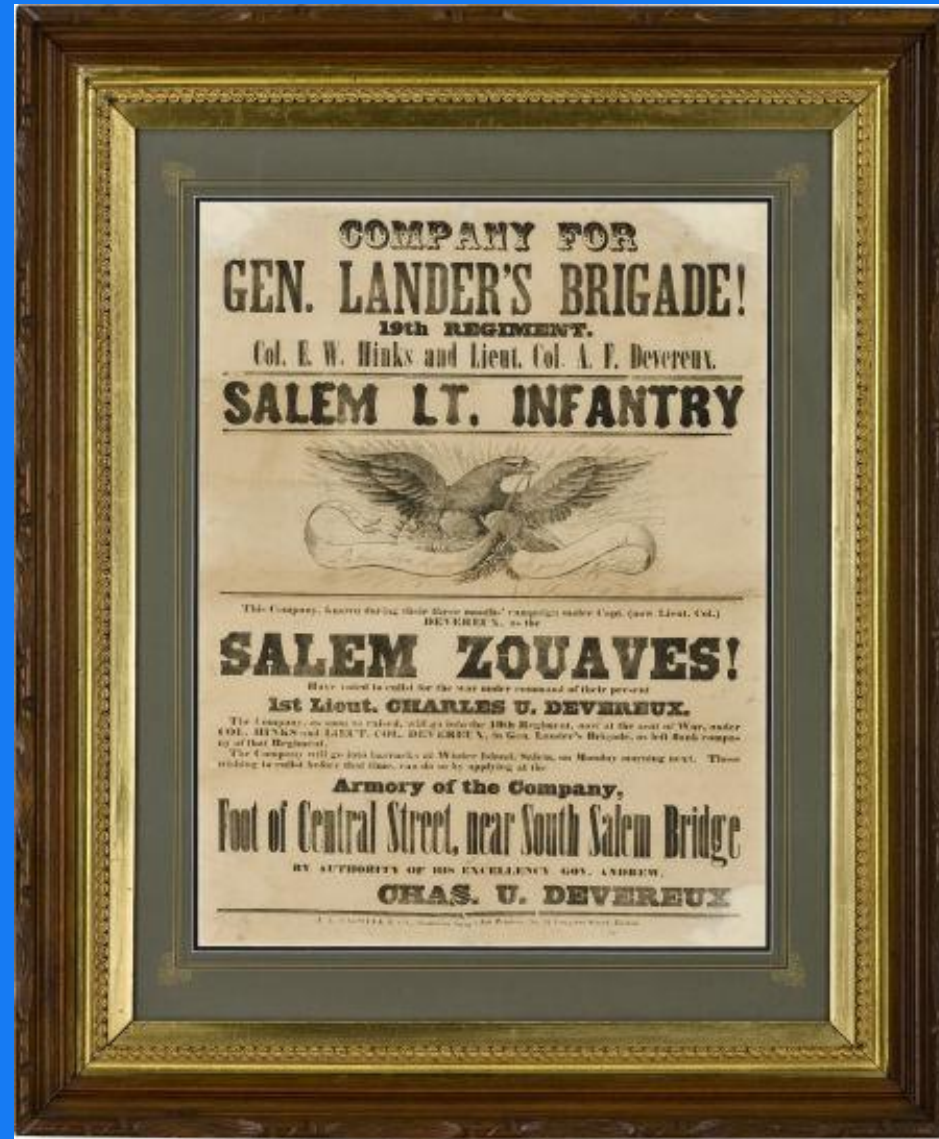
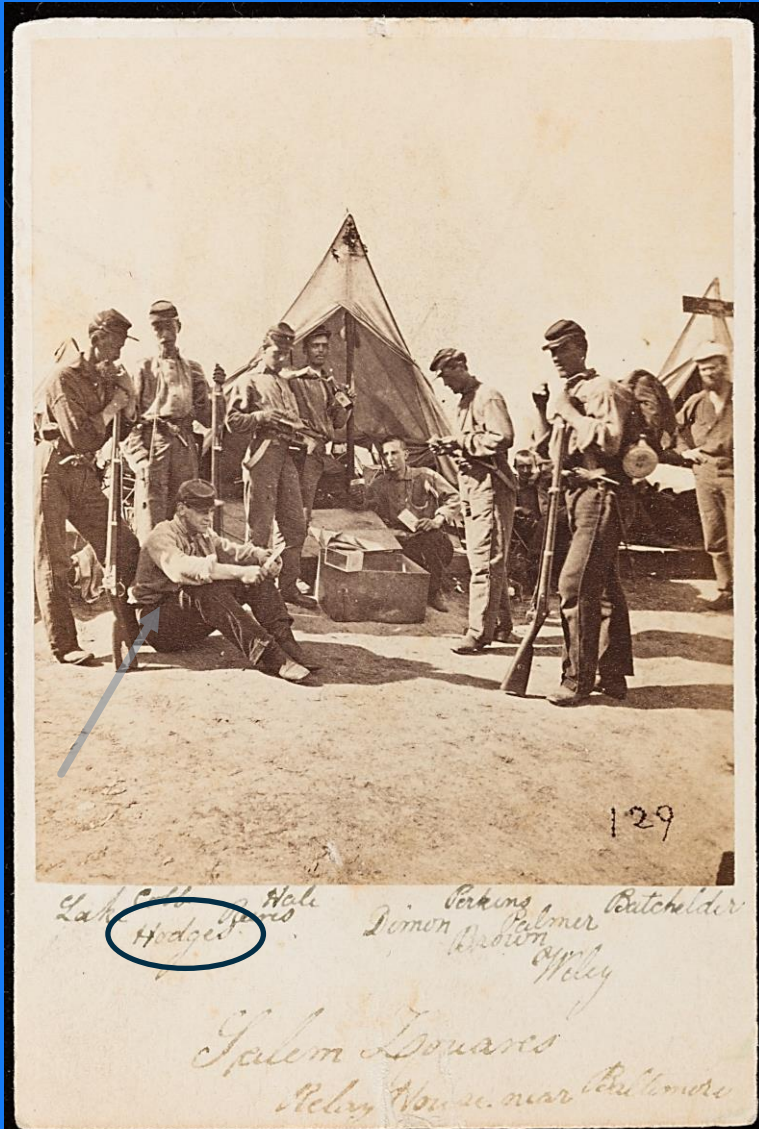
CASE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL HODGES'S WATCH



The original trim, engine turned, silver hunting case with blank shield of Lt. Colonel Hodges's watch was made in the American Watch Co's own case department, as attested by the marking on the interior of the rear case lid. Though the company name had changed from AT&Co. to AWCo. right around the time that the Model 1859 was introduced, Model 1859 cases marked "AT&Co." nevertheless were produced.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN HODGES, JR., CAREER DETAILS (SALEM ZOUAVES, 8TH, 19TH, 50TH, AND 59TH MA INFANTRY)



EARLY AND MIDDLE CAREER NOTES

Private Hodges's first military experience, the Salem Zouaves, was in a ninety day enlistment unit that saw no actual fighting. However, they participated in the rescue of the USS Constitution ("Old Ironsides") from its dock at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, where it was being threatened with capture by secessionists. Hodges's was commissioned as 1st lieutenant in the 19th MA Infantry on August 22, 1862. That unit was assigned to garrison duty around the capitol during Hodges's time. At the end of that period, Hodges was incapacitated by fever and severe dysentery and was discharged on account of illness.

With the resilience of youth, Hodges quickly recovered and accepted a commission as a major in the 50th MA Infantry, a nine-month unit, on November 7, 1862. That unit saw service and heavy fighting during the Siege of Port Hudson in Louisiana. Another officer of the unit recalled, "Then followed several weeks of siege. In the assault on the 14th of June, only the Major took the field with the regiment. ... when we stacked arms and lay down behind the stacks, to await further orders. ... the Major accepted a portion of my blankets, and we lay down and entered into a short conversation, during which I took occasion to say, that I thought it would make but little difference to him when we returned home to MA, as I thought he would immediately enter the service again. He replied that such was his intention, and also that he intended to stay in the service, if he should live, while the war lasted. I said, 'I am afraid you will lose your life in the service.' Said he, 'Captain, I expect it. I have no doubt I shall lose my life in the service.' " After the surrender of Port Hudson, Hodges returned to Massachusetts but indeed was soon back in uniform, this time as the Lt. Colonel of the 59th MA as of February 2, 1864. As he foretold, John Hodges lost his life in the service, on July 30, 1864.

Head Quarters, Recruiting for Essex County.

Salem, Nov. 24, 1863.

Sir:

*Some of the Blanks for my Office
will be ready till after Thanksgiving.*

Respectfully,

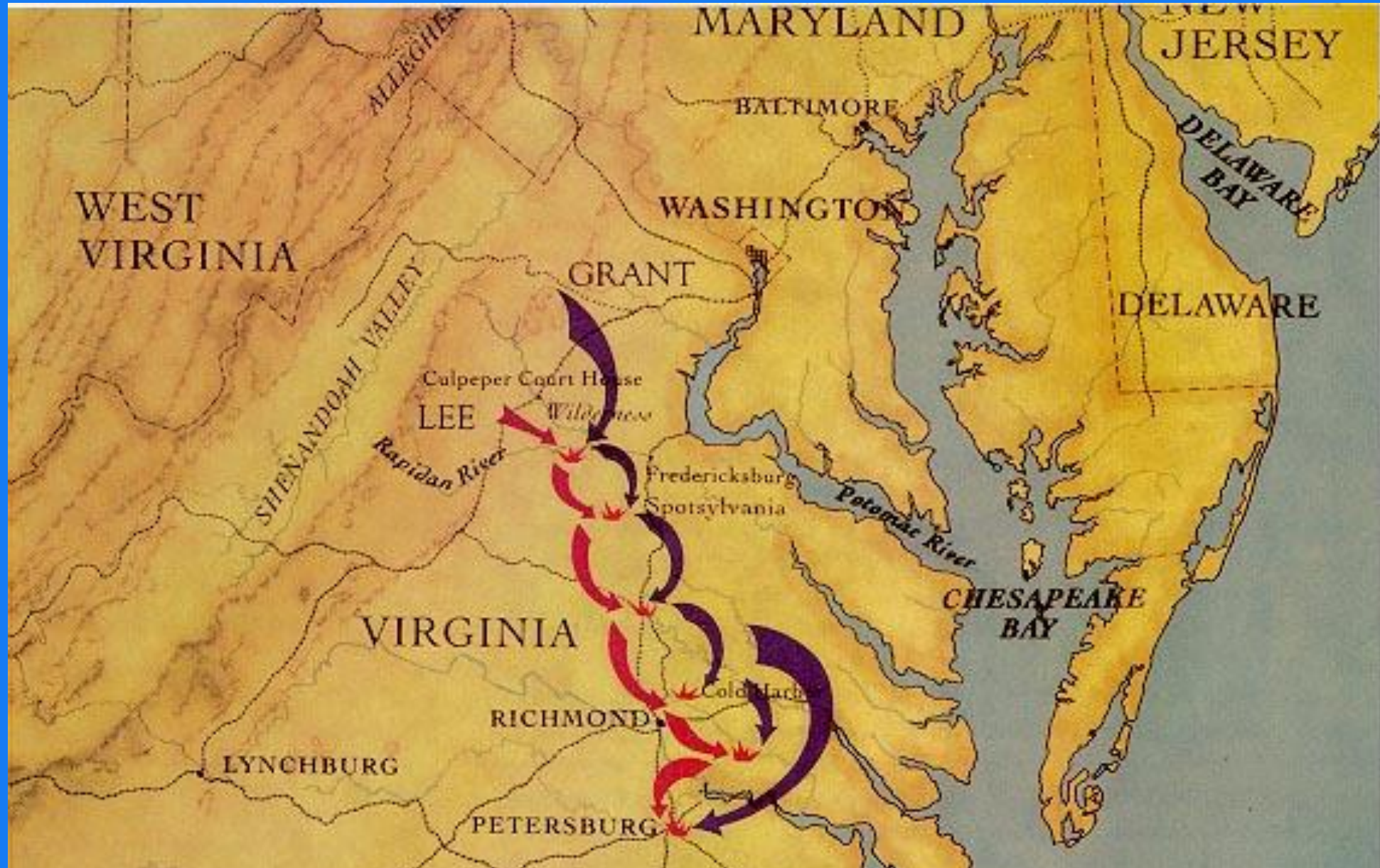
John Hodges, jr.,

Lieut. Col. 59 Mass. Vols.

Superintendent.

**As Lt. Colonel of the 59th, Hodges
evidently played an early role in
recruitment**

Overland Campaign: May 4 – June 24, 1864; & Siege of Petersburg, June 9, 1864 – March 25, 1865



Hodges Commands the 59th MA: Overland Campaign

The 59th MA, 950 men strong, headed south with the AoP and newly promoted Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant on the Overland Campaign of May-June, 1864. The Overland Campaign was the bloodiest and most sustained period of fighting of the entire Civil War. The AoP and Robert E. Lee's AoNV were in almost constant contact, fighting 7 major engagements and countless skirmishes. In one seven week period, the AoP alone lost between 75,000 and 85,000 men, killed, wounded, captured, sickened or died of disease, out of an initial strength of 120,000. (Confederate losses were somewhat less in absolute terms but were greater in proportion to their total strength, and essentially irreplaceable.) The 59th MA saw hard fighting at the Wilderness, and under Hodges's command, at Spotsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor, four of the most sanguinary and terrifying battles of the war. By the time the 59th MA reached Petersburg VA in June of 1864, they were down to 250 men. Lt. Col. Hodges had been in command of the regiment for nearly the entire campaign, as his colonel had been elevated to brigade command.

On June 17, 1864, Hodges's brother, Captain Thorndike Deland Hodges, relates that the men of the 59th hesitated when ordered to assault a rebel battery, having just seen another Federal unit bloodily repulsed from the same line. Thorndike wrote, "... a force of veterans was ordered to charge a battery, and the 59th was to support them. Three several times they saw them march up with firm step and three several times they saw them waver and fall back under a tremendous fire from the Rebel Works, ... At this juncture Colonel Hodges received the order to advance with his regiment. For a moment they hesitated, and but for a moment, it was a critical moment. Colonel Hodges saw it, and dashing toward the color sergeant, caught the colors from his hand, and without uttering a word, advanced towards the battery. The effect was magical. A sergeant rushed forward and, waving his cap over his head, shouted, 'Look at your Colonel with the colors. Come on, boys! Come on!' A charge, and the battery was carried."

Hodges and the 59th MA at the Battle of the Crater, July 30, 1864

On July 30, 1864, the Union IX Corps' First Division, First Brigade, including the 59th MA with John Hodges in command, led the Federal assault on Confederate defensive lines in front of Petersburg during the Battle of the Crater. Pennsylvania coal miners had dug a tunnel underneath a fort at an exposed point known as Elliot's Salient and detonated a huge explosion, blowing a gaping hole in the Confederate defensive line. But the hole was a deep, steep-sided crater, and the Federal assault was poorly organized and improperly equipped. What might have been a war-shortening breakthrough became a tragic debacle. Lt. Col. John Hodges, Jr. was among the 3,798 Union casualties that day. While leaning against the side of the crater nursing a fresh wound he was killed by shrapnel from a Confederate shell. The rebels retook the crater and buried many Union dead, including John Hodges, in a mass grave underneath their rebuilt works.



Battle of the Crater, July 30, 1864



The once steep-sided crater, seen in 1865, created by 4 tons of gun powder exploding beneath the Confederate fortifications at Elliot's Salient during the Siege of Petersburg

Death of Lt. Colonel John Hodges, Jr., July 30, 1864

However, before the Federals retreated, a few of John Hodges's effects were recovered by the men who were with him when he fell. Volume 2 of the Harvard Memorial Biographies includes five pages covering the career and death of Lt. Colonel John Hodges Jr., who left his studies at Harvard to join the First Defenders. The Harvard memorial to John was contributed by his oldest brother, Thorndike Deland Hodges, who had been a captain in the First North Carolina Colored Volunteers (a.k.a., the 35th US Colored Troops, a Federal unit of freedmen with white officers). In his HMB contribution, Thorndike quotes from a letter he received at the time of John's death, informing him that, "...a piece of shell struck him on the back of his head, killing him instantly. ... I spoke to a soldier to assist me, and he laid him down carefully, examined his pockets, **found his watch**, some papers, and a pencil, which I herewith enclose."

devotion in their young Lieutenant-Colonel,— his yielding his horse to a worn-out soldier on the march, and carrying the man's rifle, or his pulling off his own stockings to cover the blistered feet of a private. On one occasion a force of veterans was ordered to charge a battery, and the Fifty-ninth was to support them. Three several times they saw them march up with firm step, and three several times they saw them waver and fall back under a tremendous fire from the Rebel works,— a sight which might well have caused an older regiment to falter. At this juncture Colonel Hodges received the order to advance with his regiment. For a moment they hesitated, and but for a moment, and it was a critical moment. Colonel Hodges saw it, and dashing toward the color-sergeant, caught the colors from his hand, and without uttering a word, advanced towards the battery. The effect was magical. A sergeant rushed forward and, waving his cap over his head, shouted, "Look at your Colonel with the colors. Come on, boys! come on!" A charge, and the battery was carried.

On the way to Petersburg he lost men by scores, and officer after officer, until one captain, nine lieutenants, and two hundred and fifty men only were left. An eyewitness thus describes the eventful day at Petersburg, July 30, 1864:—

"I was at the battle of the 30th, and then for the first time met Lieutenant-Colonel Hodges, in the crater, about two hours after the explosion of the fort. His regiment, as well as mine, had advanced beyond the fort that was blown up. I advanced with my regiment, and was wounded, and returned inside of the crater of the fort. On my way to the rear, after being relieved, I saw your brother sitting and leaning back against the embankment, and also near him Lieutenant-Colonel Wright (Twenty-seventh Michigan), both of them being wounded, Colonel Hodges through the thigh, Colonel Wright through the shoulder. I stood in front of them, and talked with them about their wounds, the war, and the prospects. After a moment, they made room for me, and invited me to sit between them, we all wishing to be on the ground awhile to see

the colored troops make a charge, as we had expressed a doubt as to their bravery, and wished to see them personally. After I sat down, your brother leaned lightly on my shoulder, and appeared weak. Colonel Wright spoke, and asked if we had not better go on to the rear. Your brother said, 'We can't get there until the colored troops pass by.' They were then going through the exploded fort to make the charge. As the colored troops passed, the Johnnies ranged their batteries so as to throw their shells into the crater of the fort, and some twenty exploded there within half as many minutes. On the explosion of a shell some ten or twelve feet from us, while sitting in the position I have described, a piece of shell struck him on the back of the head, killing him instantly. He did not fall, as he was supported by me on one side and the bank on the other. I spoke to a soldier to assist me, and he laid him down carefully, examined his pockets, found his watch, some papers, and a pencil, which I herewith enclose. The man took a blanket, after laying him in an easy position, with one hand by his side, the other across his breast, and covered him up, where I left him, and where I doubt not he was buried, as the enemy afterward took the fort, and buried all the dead in the fort in reconstructing."

This surmise was afterwards ascertained to be correct, through a flag of truce. Thus died at the early age of twenty-two, after serving his country from the very outbreak of the war, in almost all parts of the field, and faithfully sharing the fortunes of four different regiments, the brave, generous, and ardent **John Hodges**.

Thorndike Deland Hodges, Brother of John,
who received John's watch and wrote the HMB passage



Thorndike Hodges
**Captain, 1st NC Colored Volunteers
(35th USCT)**

Harvard Memorial Biographies pp 306-7, Vol 2

"...a piece of shell struck him on the back of his head, killing him instantly. ... I spoke to a soldier to assist me, and he laid him down carefully, examined his pockets, **found his watch**, some papers, and a pencil, **which I herewith enclose.**"



JOHN'S WATCH GOES TO CAPTAIN THORNDIKE DELAND HODGES, 35TH USCT

Thus is recorded the fact that Lt. Colonel John Hodges. Jr. — barely 22 years old — had the watch pictured here in his pocket when he made the ultimate sacrifice for Constitution and country. But his watch's war service may not have ended with his own death.

Captain Thorndike Deland Hodges of the 35th US Colored Troops, who received his brother John's watch, likely carried it during the Battle of Honey Hill, in Jasper Cy. SC, on November 30, 1864. The 35th USCT, a black unit with white officers also known as the First North Carolina Colored Volunteers, was one of the first Union units to be composed nearly entirely of freed or self-emancipated slaves. At Honey Hill, which like the Crater, was a Union defeat, the 35th USCT fought alongside the more famous 54th Massachusetts Infantry immortalized in the Hollywood film, *Glory*. At Honey Hill, these two black regiments advanced over difficult ground, taking heavy losses. Prior to John Hodges's death, the 35th USCT had fought at the Battle of Olustee (Baker Cy. FL, February 20, 1864):

"There have been men who have proposed to me to return to slavery the black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee to their masters to conciliate the South. I should be damned in time & eternity for doing so."

- Abraham Lincoln, April 19, 1864 (Collected Works 7: 506-507)

Thorndike Hodges



A sergeant from one of the USCT units who fought at Honey Hill

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELIAL FOOTE CARPENTER (49TH AND 112TH NY INFANTRY, MORTALLY WOUNDED IN ACTION)

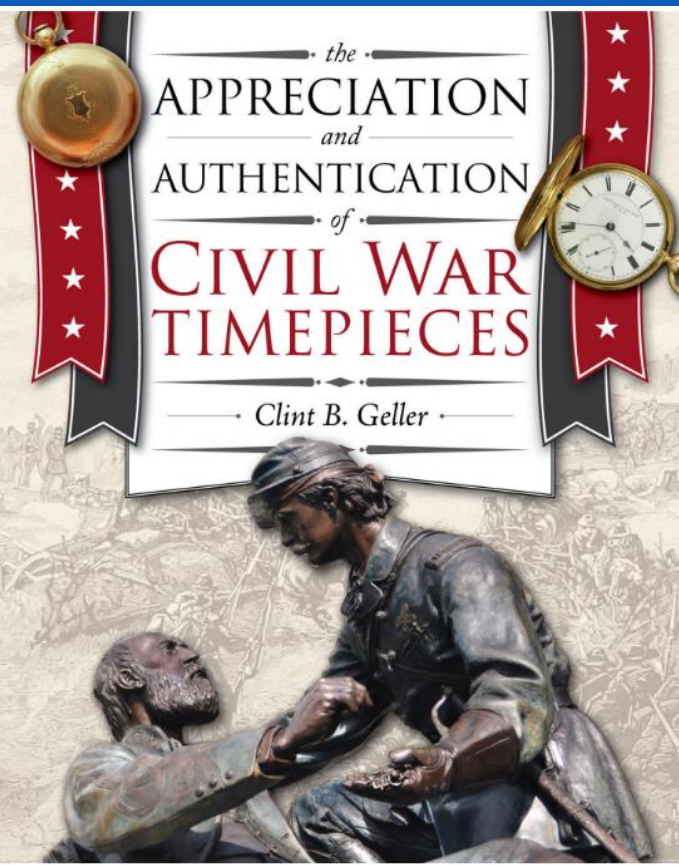


"Lieut. E.F. Carpenter
Jamestown N.Y."

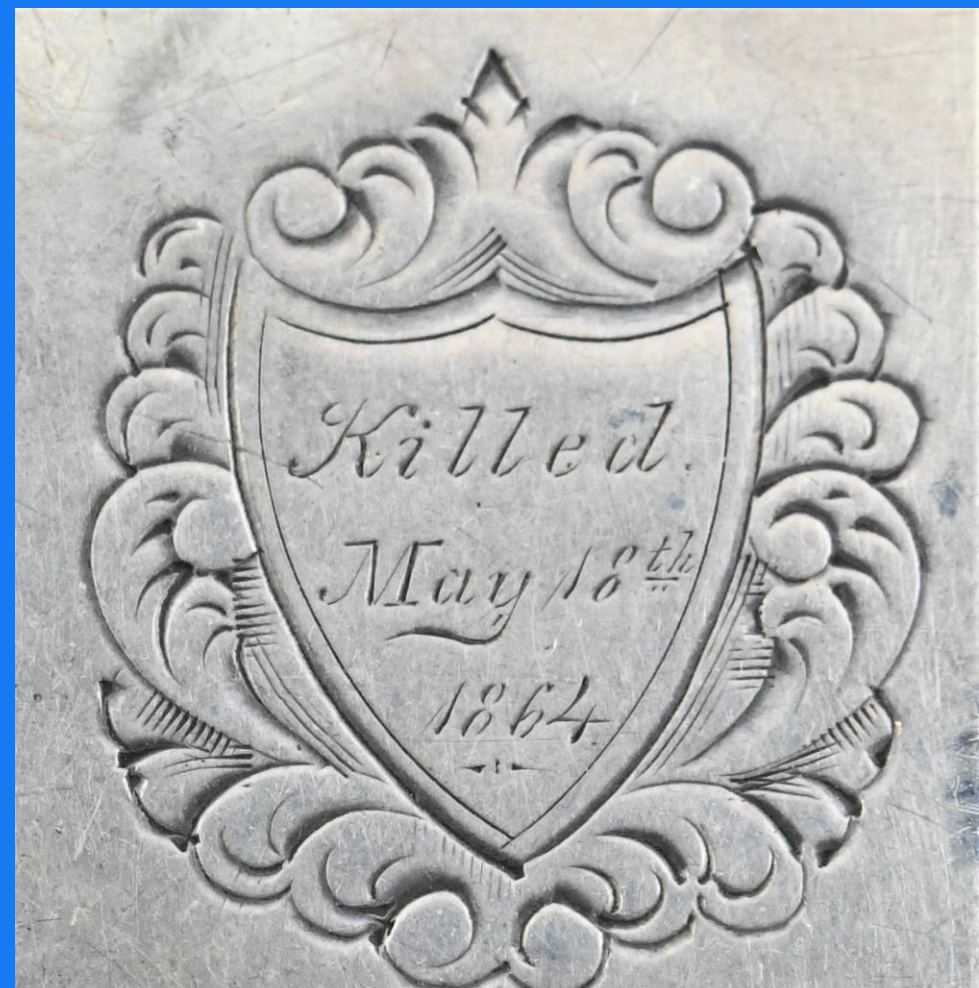
"Killed May 18th 1864"



LT. COL. ELIAL F. CARPENTER, MORTALLY WOUNDED IN ACTION, MAY 14, 1864



Lt. Elial Foote Carpenter served in the 49th NY Infantry from near the beginning of the war, through the Peninsula Campaign and the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg during his time with the regiment. Shortly after the Battle of Gettysburg, He was promoted to major and transferred to the 112th NY Infantry, then was subsequently promoted to Lt. Colonel and to command of that regiment. On May 14, 1864, the 112th was in action near Drury's Bluff (also spelled Drewry's Bluff) on the James River in Virginia, when Lt. Colonel Carpenter had gone in search of a lieutenant he had dispatched on a reconnaissance. In the fog, Carpenter blundered into the same rebel force that had taken his lieutenant prisoner. The rebels demanded his surrender too, but Carpenter spurned their demand and wheeled his horse and escaped to warn his unit of the impending ambush. Carpenter lived to give his warning, saving his unit from probable disaster, but he caught a bullet in his side during the escape that ended his life four days later.



Lt. Carpenter's watch is out of the late Ron Tunison Collection of Civil War artifacts. Ron Tunison sculpted the magnificent "Friend to Friend" Masonic Memorial in the Gettysburg National Cemetery Annex, dedicated in 1993, that is pictured on the front cover of my book:

The Appreciation and Authentication of Civil War Timepieces (NAWCC, 2019).

In a letter to his parents dated May 20, 1864, Pvt. Wm. Wilson of the 112th NY wrote, "...We were in the Fight [on] the 16th. Our Lt. Colonel was wounded and Died the 18th. Company A had one man killed and three wounded. Co. B had a few wounded. Our Regiment has not lost but a few. But the rest of the Brigade has lost a good many..."

Pvt. Wilson himself was mortally wounded on October 27th, seven days after he penned his letter, and he died on November 6, 1864.

LT. COLONEL CARPENTER'S WATCH
(WALTHAM MODEL 1857, 7 JEWEL WM. ELLERY GRADE, SN 42,995,
COMPLETED JUNE, 1862, SILVER AWCO CASE)



DETAILS OF LT. COL. CARPENTER'S WATCH

The watch is a William Ellery grade 18 Size full plate Model 1857 movement in a silver hunting case, which was the most popular Waltham model, grade and case choice among Union enlisted men and junior commissioned officers. Ellery grade dials were unsigned in this period. Civil War period Ellery grade movements are engraved "Boston," rather than Waltham, suggesting that the AWCo wished to keep these movements, which were not warranted, at somewhat of an arms length. AWCo Treasurer Royal E. Robbins's exuberant 1863 stockholders' report indicates that the AWCo was selling these movements, even at increased prices, as fast as they could be made. Movement SN 42,925, with 7 jewels and uncompensated steel balance wheel was finished in June, 1862.

The coin silver (90% pure) watch case was produced in Waltham's own case department. It is engraved "Lieut. E. F. [Lieutenant Elial Foote] Carpenter, Jamestown, [Chautauqua Cy.] NY", on the exterior of the rear lid, and "Killed May 18, 1864" in a shield on the front. According to Pvt. Wilson's diary, Carpenter was mortally wounded two days before on May 16, and he died two days later on the 18th. The watch comes with an original silver chain and spinner fob.

The William Ellery Grade: This watch grade was introduced one month after Lincoln's initial call for 75,000 troops to defend the Union (and the capitol) after Ft. Sumter was fired upon on April 12-14, 1861. It became Waltham's least expensive product until 1866, and it was heavily advertised for purchase by enlisted men in the rapidly expanding US Army. The model was named either after the late Senator William Ellery (1727 to 1820) of Rhode Island, who was one of the last signers of the Declaration of Independence from New England to pass away, and/or his grandson, the popular Unitarian preacher William Ellery Channing. Likely not just coincidentally, both men were known to be abolitionists. It must be remembered as well that the Declaration of Independence was a controversial document in 1861, because of its unprecedented claim that all men are created equal. This document and its bold claim were much on the public's mind in 1861. Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas had famously debated the meaning of that consequential phrase in a series of public debates in Illinois in 1858, and Confederate VP Alexander Stephens had explicitly repudiated it in his infamous "Cornerstone Speech" of March 21, 1862 in Georgia, three weeks before the rebel bombardment of Sumter.

49th NY Infantry Monument at Gettysburg



The 49th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment, with which Lt. Carpenter served in 1863, was commanded at the Battle of Gettysburg by Colonel Daniel D. Bidwell, an attorney from Buffalo. It brought 414 men to the field, suffering 2 wounded.

Neill's Brigade of the Sixth Corps was one of the last to reach the battlefield on July 2nd and was held in reserve on the Baltimore Pike at Rock Creek. On July 3rd the brigade deployed to the north of the Pike on the east side of Rock Creek to push back Confederate skirmishers near Culp's Hill, who were threatening the army's main supply and communications route. The regiment advanced to the location of this monument, taking light casualties.