

THE THIRD REGIMENT MAINE VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

"They did not know enough to run" Private Samuel B. Wing

TIME-LINE WITH HISTORICAL INFORMATION (47 pgs.)

compiled by Craig Young

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**"Beware Reader of the twin worms of errors and
omissions that gnaw at the flesh of history"**

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3rd Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment

“The Kennebec Regiment”

The Third Maine regiment of infantry was organized for active service May 28, 1861 and mustered into Union service at Augusta on June 4, 1861 with West Point graduate Oliver Howard of Leeds as its Colonel. It was raised in the towns between the Androscoggin and Kennebec river valleys as well as along the mid-coast. It went into camp at Augusta on the State grounds fronting the capitol building. While in Augusta, the 3rd Maine was under constant drill of Sergeant Burt, U.S.A., assisted by Mr. Frank Pierce, who was a graduate of the Vermont Military School.

The 3rd Maine served with the Third Corps from March 1862 until March 1864 and with the Second Corps from March 1864 until June 1864. The 3rd Maine was brigaded with the 4th Maine (July 1861- March 1864), 38th N.Y. (August 1861-March 1864), 40th N.Y. (August 1861-June 1864), 20th Ind. (December 1862-June 1864), 99th Pa. (December 1862-June 1864), 86th N.Y. (June 1863-June 1864), 124th N.Y. (June 1863-June 1864) and with 110th & 141st Pa. (March 1864-June 1864). The Third Maine's regimental strength at various dates was as follows: June 1861, 1016; December 1861, 761; November 1862, 462; June 1863, 210; and June 1864, 304.

In the spring of 1864, the regiment was transferred to Hancock's Second Corps and fought there until the battle of North Anna. After this battle, the regiment's term of service expired and it returned home to be mustered out on June 28, 1864. Just before the battle of Cold Harbor on the 3rd of June 1864, the 64 men of the 3rd Maine who reenlisted, and the 65 men who were replacement recruits, whose term of service had not expired, were transferred to the 17th Maine. These men served with the 17th Maine in the 1st Brig. (De Trobriand's), 3rd division, II Corps until it was mustered out on June 4, 1865.

Of the 1,586 men who enrolled, 134 were killed, 149 died of disease, and 33 expired in confederate prisons. Only about 175 men returned to Maine under the colors of the old Third Maine regiment. Oliver Howard and Frank Haskell, received the Medal of Honor for their contributions at the battle of Fair Oaks.

BATTLES

1ST BULL RUN (1861 July 21)

BAILEY'S CROSS ROAD (1861 August 27 & 28)

YORKTOWN (1862 April 5-May 4)

WILLIAMSBURG (1862 May 5)

FAIR OAKS (1862 May 31)

SEVEN PINES (1862 June 1)

WHITE OAK SWAMP (1862 June 25)

CHARLES CITY CROSS ROADS (1862 June 30)

MALVERN HILL (1862 July 1)

2nd BULL RUN (1862 August 30)

CHANTILLY (1862 September 1)

FREDERICKSBURG (1862 December 12-15)

CHANCELLORSVILLE (1863 May 1-5)

GETTYSBURG (1863 July 1-3)

WAPPING HEIGHTS (1863 July 23)

AUBURN MILLS (1863 October 12)

KELLY'S FORD (1863 November 7)

ORANGE GROVE (1863 November 27)

MINE RUN (1863 November 30)

WILDERNESS (1864 May 5-7)

SPOTSYLVANIA (1864 May 8-21)

FREDERICKSBURG PIKE (1864 May 19)

NORTH ANNA (1864 May 23-26)

TOTOPOTOMOY (1864 May 28-31)

COLD HARBOR (1864 June 1-5)

Oliver Otis Howard “The Christian Soldier”

Oliver Otis Howard, who graduated fourth in the West Point class of 1854, was deeply religious, a mild abolitionist and a strictly temperate person. On September 30, 1854, he reported to duty at Waterviet Arsenal near Troy New York as a Second Lieutenant. From December 1856 to August 1857, he served as an ordnance officer in Florida at Fort Brooke near Tampa. After, he was a math instructor at West Point for three years. Howard then attend the Bangor Theological Seminary with his brother Charles until the rebels fired upon Fort Sumter. Howard wrote to Governor Washburn offering his services. Howard through the influence of Blaine who was speaker of the Maine House of Representatives and the advice of his friend Colonel John Reynolds made his decision to become the Colonel of the Third Maine.

1861

March 4. Abraham Lincoln took office as President of the United States.

April 12. The first Confederate cannon fired on Fort Sumter.

April 14. The fall of Fort Sumter to the Confederates.

April 15. President Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 militia.

May 3. The President called for 40,034 more militia.

May 28. The 3rd Maine was organized for active service.

May 29. On the recommendation of Blaine and Washburn, the men of the Third Maine had elected Howard as their colonel. Many of the men had never met Howard and were concerned about his personal views. The men had wanted Isaac Tucker of Gardiner who became the Lieutenant-Colonel because he was a hale and hearty fellow who would enjoy a good time.

* “The regiment has assembled at there encampment, which is delightfully situated on the State grounds in front of the Capitol at Augusta. Some eighty canvass tents have been erected there for their accommodation, furnished with planks of wood, tables, mattresses, and whatever elas is needed to make them comfortable”. Lewiston Journal.

VOLUNTEERS

* These men from Maine averaged twenty years of age. They averaged five feet eight inches in height. Most of them were not married. Most claimed to be farmers. The majority of them never advanced beyond the rank of private.

* The State of Maine census of 1860 had 122,238 men between the age of 18 and 45. The state provided 70,107 men as Union soldiers or about 58.9% of the total available men. Maine provided one of the highest percentages of men of military age to serve in the Union Army of any state in the Union. Maine lost one out every five men it sent to the war. The anyalysis of deaths for Maine’s 49,635 three year enlistment troops is: Killed in combat 3,184 (6.4%); Died of disease 5,257 (10.6%) and all other deaths 957 (1.9%) which was a total of 9,398 (18.9%).

* Before 1862, the Union soldiers were volunteers. The system work like this: the Federal Government would call up a certain number of men from the states for services. The War Department would set the state's quota based on its population. The state government would then assign each town a quota based on its population.

* The Federal Government would offer a \$100 bounty to any enlistee. The bounty would be paid at the end of their term of service. The State of Maine and some of the Towns also would offer bounty to any men who would enlist. The opportunity to get as much as \$300 at the end of service was more money then many of these men could hope to earn in a life time.

The men not only got their bounty but also a private would earn \$13 a month while in the service. The Civil War also provided many men or boys with a chance to start a new life.

Why Fight?

“Some had come because of a reckless spirit of hurly-burly, don't-care kind, eager for excitement and thoughtless of consequences. Others because of the bounty promised and expected. Others were there in consequence of their bravery and daring. Others thought only of their country's welfare (and their patriotic duty).” Samuel B Wing

Victorian Concept of 'Consciousness of DUTY'

Pervasive in Victorian America was the sense of duty. I must sacrifice 'personal feelings and inclinations to my duty in the hour of danger'. I performed but a simple duty, one to my country whose protection has given me the riches of liberty. Victorians understood duty to be a binding moral obligation involving a relationship between self and another which in war would be your country. In war, one had a duty to defend the flag under whose protection one had lived.

Victorian Concept of 'Consciousness of HONOR'

Victorian honor was one's public reputation, one's image in the eye's of his peers. Honor was primarily a masculine concept. In the South, honor was your public reputation. In the North, honor was driven by conscience which is a private compact with God.

* Duty and honor were what separated men from boys. Boyhood was a time of preparation for the tests and responsibilities of manhood and the Civil War offered a very stern test indeed.

* In Victorian America: To shirk duty is a violation of conscience; to suffer dishonor is to be disgraced by public shame.

* The values Of Victorian America held each individual rather than society responsible for that individual's achievements or failures. What really counted was one's own virtue, will, convictions of duty and honor, religious faith - in a word, one's character.

THE HOME FRONT

* On the home front, families were suffering great hardships without their husbands or sons. The survival of the family was the responsibility of the women. The women had to raise the remaining children as well as to feed and cloth them. In their spare time, women joined Aid Societies. The ladies knit socks and gloves for their own men as well as for the war effort. The U.S. Sanitary Commission and the Christian Commission were created to help with the suffering of the men while encamped, on the battlefields or in the hospitals.

Homesickness

* Without a firm base of support in the homes and communities, the citizen soldier's moral would have crumbled and the war lost.

* Homesickness was the dominant theme in the letters of many soldiers.

* In the north, a letter reached a Union soldier as fast as it would today. While in the south, the mail service broke down as the war went on.

* Mail call was the highlight of the soldiers' day. If he received a letter, he would be in high spirits or if he did not receive a letter, his spirits would fall. Soldiers who had been killed in battle were often found holding letters from home in their hands.

* The wrong kind of letter was one in which the wife or family would be complaining of loneliness or hardships and expressing their fears of his death. These letters would reduce morale and cause desertion or stragglers and shirkers during battles.

* A letter of support would give the soldier the courage to do what must be done.

* Married soldiers confronted a dilemma caused by their ideals of manhood and honor. Their responsibilities to wife and family or their duty as able-bodied citizens to preserve the Union. Most would reconcile the dilemma of competing obligations by denying that it existed. In fighting for their country, they felt that they were also defending the security and liberty of their families.

* Soldiers appealed to their wife's' obligation of womanly duty and family honor. They would express their love and understand their wife's' concerns but the soldiers would write that they must be faithful to their duty until the end.

* Most soldiers wrote home about their feelings of hostility for those able body men who would not join the army. They were embittered by the draft and substitutes, by Copperheads, and they lamented the destructive impact on morale of newspaper editorials or letters from home branding the war a failure.

* The 3rd Maine was issued equipment initially by State including the **Red Blankets**

The 1861 initial State issue for the Third Maine Volunteer Infantry

1861 Maine Adjutant General's Report

* Company A was fully uniformed with gray **V**olunteer **M**aine **M**ilitia uniforms and armed with M1816 smooth-bore Springfield .69 caliber Muskets that had Belgian (cone-in-breech) conversion. Company D's NCOs and Officers were from the Bath City Grays and were already fully equipped as such.

June 1861. The Third Maine was initially issued the following equipment by the Sate of Maine:

91 Revolvers and Appendages	90 Revolver Holsters
854 Muskets and Appendages	960 Musket Bayonets and Appendages
30,000 Ball Cartridges for Muskets	40,000 Percussion Caps for Muskets
4,000 Percussion Caps for Revolvers	2,400 Ball Cartridges for Revolvers
3 Field Offericer's Tents (Wall Tents), Poles & Pins	
80 Company Officers', NCOs' and Privates' Tents, Poles & Pins	
12 Kitchen Square Tents, Poles & Pins	1 Garrison Flag
1 Regimential Flag	210 Axe Heads & Handles
260 Hatchet Heads & Handles	160 Camp Kettles
160 Mess Pans	160 Fry Pans
160 Stew Pots	960 Deep Tin Plates
160 Ladles	* Surgical Instruments, Medicines & Hospital Stores
925 Trowsers	600 Thin Trowsers (sleep wear)
1473 Flannel Shirts	1922 Flannel Drawers
916 Pairs Shoes	1864 Pairs Woolen Stockings
929 Woolen Overcoats	966 Red Woolen Blankets
624 Rubber Blankets	1700 Towels
766 Bed Sacks	
854 Sets of Waist Belt, Cap Box, Cartridge Box & Sling and Bayonet Scabbard	
912 Knapsacks & Staps	913 Haversacks
925 Canteens and Straps	8 Sergeant's Swords and Belts
1 Quartermaster's Sword and Belt	160 Skimmers
160 Pepper Boxes	160 Salt Boxes
960 Tin Dippers	320 Sheath Knives
160 Iron Forks	160 Cook's Spoons
960 Iron Spoons	960 Knives and Forks
220 Camp Stools	60 Wooden Pails
24 Iron Shovels	72 Horses

2 Ambulances	17 Wagon Horses
* Company Stoves	2 Sergeants' Chevrons
10 First Sergeants' Chevrons	40 Sergeants' Chevrons
80 Corporals' Chevrons	* Blanks
* Stationary	500 Acts of Extra Session
500 Guard Instruction Books	50 Subsistence Books
10 Army Regulation Books	* Infantry Tactics Books
10 Morning Report Books	10 Descriptive Books
10 Order Books	10 Clothing Books
10 Drums and 10 Fifes	* A Full Set of Regimental Books

June 4. The 3rd Maine Regiment was mustered into the U.S. service.

The Passage

June 5. The 3rd Maine left Augusta by train for Washington DC. On their passage through New York City, the regiment's National Flag was presented to them by Hon. Stewart L Woodford, U.S. District Attorney, on behalf of the sons of Maine. It was a ceremonial flag and never saw a battle.

June 7. In the evening, the 3rd Maine arrived at Washington DC without any fanfare. They were provided with only a bowling alley and some nearby saloons as quarters for the regiment and these had only hard wooden floors for the men to sleep on.

Washington DC (June 8 - July 16)

June 8. Colonel Howard arranged a breakfast for the regiment at the Willard Hotel. Then, The 3rd Maine marched in the rain to Meridian Hill which was just outside of the Capitol. The 2nd Maine was already encamped there so the 3rd Maine camped next to them. The 2nd Maine took the men under their care, dried their clothes, and gave them a warm supper.

* Colonel Howard spent the time drilling, disciplining and preparing the men for war.

The traditional ways of motivating soldiers to fight are training, discipline, and leadership.

* **Training** was minimal and haphazard at best. It was mostly drill for the soldiers and self-taught drill and tactics by the officers. Infantry training consisted mainly of the manual of arms and close-order drill, with bayonet exercise and target practice.

* **Discipline** was enforced by coercion which is the threat of force to compel a soldier to do his duty against his will. The officers felt that drill will keep the men cool and collected while in battle and discipline will keep them at their post. The class difference were that officers were mostly upper while NCOs were mostly middle class and the privates were the yeoman farms and labors of the lower class.

* **Leadership** was by the example that the officer gave to the men. A good officer was concerned for the welfare of his men and was willing to do anything that he asked his men to do.

The officer's personal example of courage in combat and his willingness to share the burdens of the soldiers while on the march made him a leader.

* Recruits were eager to test their manhood in battle but this also created tension. Many recruits were at first excited about the adventure of military life but soon came to feel that it reduced them to a 'slave'.

* Officers felt that drill and discipline will make good soldiers of any man but the men who were individualistic and democratic did not take kindly to the authority, discipline, and obedience demanded by the army.

* It was not the brawling and boastful men that would stand firm in battle but the quiet and timid who were educated men.

* **Bond of Comradeship.** 'Here is Bill; I will go or stay where he does.' And the officers who are absorbed by the sense of responsibility for his men, for cause, or for the fight that the instinct to seek safety is overcome by the instinct of honor.

* Many soldiers do run away, or cower into frozen immobility. But if willpower or discipline to overcome the impulse to flight, when they go into action the flood of adrenaline makes them oblivious to danger and fear.

* 'Fighting Drunk', mostly officers but some enlisted men would drink liquor before a battle. The men may have been issued a whisky ration before battle but usually it was before they were to perform heavy fatigue duty in adverse conditions such as building a bridge while standing waist deep in cold water.

* There could be heavy drinking done while in camp but it usually ceased with marching orders. Many soldiers were temperate and took pledges not to drink 'hard liquors' and felt that a great evil to their morals would grow from the use of it.

July 6. 3rd Maine received their federal blue uniforms and then crossed the Potomac to encamp in front of Fort Ellsworth. The 3rd Maine was the advance regiment.

* During this time, the 3rd Maine exchanged their 1822 Springfield .69 caliber smoothbore muskets for the "new" government issued Austrian made Lorenz .54 caliber rifled-musket with the unusual quadrangular bayonet. Although accurate, the Lorenzes tended to foul after extended firing in battle. The Bath City Grays (Co. A) was initially equipped with 1816 Springfield .69 caliber smoothbore-muskets.

* The large caliber and low muzzle velocity of the bullets caused wounds of the worst kind. Bones would shatter under the impact of a Minnie ball and if wounded in the

extremities, it would have to amputated. Stomach wounds were almost always fatal because of infection and peritonitis. Ether and chloroform were inventoried and used by both sides but were seldom in adequate supply. Whiskey was used as an anesthetic more often than not for surgery.

* The bayonet was a great terror for the infantryman because of its use in earlier wars. The bayonet was a sharpened triangular blade, eighteen inches or more in length, with deep grooves to allow the blood to drain from its victim. The bayonet, which was highly polished, was fixed to the muzzle of the rifle and when crossing a battlefield, it would glow in the sunlight giving a frightening sight to the enemy. In the Civil War, only four out of every thousand wounds would come from the bayonet and saber combined. The soldiers would use them mostly for candlesticks and fire spits.

* The sick men of the regiment were left in a hospital at Georgetown. Miss Dorothea Dix of Worcester Massachusetts visited the Georgetown Hospital. She spoke comforting words, gave good advice about cooking, and ensured that needed medical supplies would be sent for the comfort of the the men.

* Twice as many soldiers died from disease as from being shot. Many major military offensives were delayed or canceled because of it. Measles and mumps could cripple regiments for months. Smallpox and erysipelas were deadly, but typhoid, dysentery and pneumonia were the principle killers. Disease had a major impact on farmers who were from rural areas. They were not exposed to these disease before joining the army and many died from them. The soldiers from the cities seemed to be more resistant to disease. When Maine boys died in the hospitals, or on the battlefield, they were usually interred in the cemeteries that appeared soon after the terrible battles.

July 7. Camp life involved the men reading news from home, singing songs, telling stories, talking religion, discussing the boxing or fighting skills of somebody, sharing news from home, or bragging about their part in upcoming battles.

July 10. 3rd Maine moved to Clermont House in Alexandria. The men soon ransacked the house so completely that it was made into a Brigade Hospital. At this place, they were brigaded with the 4th Maine, 5th Maine and 2nd Vermont altogether 3,000 men.

July 14. **The Army of Northeastern Virginia was
under the command of Brigadier General Irvin McDowell.
Third Division commander was General Heintzleman.
Colonel Howard became commander of the Third Brigade.
The 3rd Maine was under the command of Major Staples.**

The Advance on Manassas (July 16-21)

*During the march for Bull Run, they left in camp all their tents, rations, knapsacks, sick men and the field music. The evening sky was highlighted by a spectacular comet which splashed its tail across the Ursa Major Constellation. It covered fifty degree of arc in the evening sky. The men saw it as an omen signifying a great Union victory.

July 17. The 3rd Maine arrived at Centreville.

July 19. The evening brigade dress parade was reviewed by Colonel Howard. After the review, the Chaplain lead the regiment in prayer to help prepared them for battle.

July 20. On the evening before the battle, O. O. Howard commander of the 3rd Brigade addressed his men. He being a devoutly religious man gave a fine sermon, impressing upon them that they should be prepared to die, as no one could tell who would be saved.

* "The soldier had to think of the uncertainty of life as few other men did. It behoved him to be ready at any moment to give an account up yonder." Samuel B Wing

July 21. The Battle of Bull Run

During the battle, the 3rd Maine had 8 men killed, 29 wounded and 12 prisoners.

*During the march for Bull Run, they left in camp at Centreville all their tents, rations, knapsacks, sick men and the field music.

* McDowell had planned a flanking maneuver. He decided to divide his army and sent Hunter's 2nd division with Heintzelman's 3rd divisions on a wide sweep to their right. The deployment started at 2:30am.

2:30am. The 3rd Brigade was formed behind the 2nd Brigade Colonel Wilcox's command. The sun had been up for more than an hour before before the 3rd Brigade began its march along the narrow road to Sudley Springs' Ford. Taylor's 1st Division delayed the march by not getting out of its camps on time thus failing to clear the road for them.

* The **early Sunday morning** march proved difficult. The men had to clear the narrow road of undergrowth before the troops could move upon them. The local guide took Hunter and his lead 2nd division on a "short cut" that added three miles to the route.

11:30am. The 1st & 2nd Brigade of Heintzelman's division arrive on the field near Matthew's house. The Union Brigades of Burnside, Sherman and Keys had already force the Confederates Brigades of Evans, Bee, Jackson, and Bartow to begin their retreat from Matthew's Hill up to Henry House Hill.

* Heintzelman's 3rd Brigade which was Howard's was ordered to remain in reserve at a point south of Sudley Ford on the near side of Bull Run.

At noon, Howard's Brigade was ordered to advance immediately. The brigade advanced at the double quick and deployed a skirmish line 150 yards on both sides of the road.

* At Sudley Church, the Brigade saw its beautiful green lawn covered with dead and wounded soldiers.

They moved towards the Carter house and the stone bridge where they found more dead and wounded soldiers on the banks of the Young's Branch at the foot of Robinson's house Hill. The wounded soldiers were bathing their wounds in the stream until the water ran red with their blood and in a grove of trees were the demoralized soldiers of the 69th N.Y. and Ellsworth Zouaves who warned them that the battle was lost.

* At about **2:pm**. The batteries of Ricketts and Griffin were ordered to move from their location at Dogan Heights across the valley to the top of Henry Hill. The regiments assigned to support the batteries never took their position thus the batteries were exposed to rebel sharpshooters. The Confederate forces had taken cover in the woods and could not be seen by the Union troops. A Confederate regiment (Jackson's 33rd Vir.), who had blue uniforms, soon attacked the Union batteries and in their first volley, they had annihilated the Union artillerymen. The Union artillerymen had not fired upon them because of the blue uniforms and their mistake caused the batteries to be lost to the Confederates.

*3:pm. The 3rd Brigade was ordered to move from the stone bridge two miles to the far right of the battlefield and to await orders to join battle there. William Crockett of the 4th Maine Regiment described the event, "The brigade had hardly passed the shelter of trees, before a cannon shot came whistling through the air, and struck the ground three feet in front of me. Another passed through the ranks as many feet behind forward from the rear came a horseman. In a frantic manner he ordered our brigade to double quick down the hill (Matthew's Hill?), to the shelter of the hill (Buck Hill?), to the front and left of us. It was done and our brigade came to a halt in the valley where runs the stream (Young's Branch), which was said to be red with blood on that day."

* The brigade had marched from Young's Branch near the stone bridge to the Dogan House on the far right at the 'Double Quick'. The tide of battle had begun to turn in the favor of the South. As Howard's Brigade advanced, the Union army was retreating. The heat of the Day (98 degrees) devastated the regiments of Heintzelman's 3rd Brigade. The men were overburdened with packs and blankets and soon began to fall out. Twenty-five percent or even more of Howard's 3,000 men never reached the battlefield. Those men who reached the battlefield were exhausted. The Brigade came to a halt in a valley of Young's Branch which gave them shelter from shot and shell.

* Captain Frye of McDowell's staff gave Howard his orders. The Brigade was ordered to deploy and to flank the rebels on Henry House Hill and in so doing, they would support Ricketts' Battery. Howard sent the 4th Maine and 2nd Vermont up Chinn Ridge with the 3rd and 5th Maine in reserve.

* **4:pm**. The 4th Maine and 2nd Vermont came under fire from the 2nd South Carolina under the command of Col. Kershaw and the 8th South Carolina under the command of Col. Cash with Col. Kemper's Alexandria artillery. The rebels were in the woods along the western edge of the Sudley Road.

* Howard soon ordered his reserve up Chinn Ridge. The 5th Maine was on the right and the 3rd Maine on the left and as they advanced the 5th Maine was hit with cannon balls which routed away many of the men. When the reserve joined the 4th Maine and 2nd Vt, the Brigade was deployed as skirmishers with the 2nd Vt. on its left then 3rd Me, 5th Me and on the right the 4th Me.

* The 4th Maine changed its front to face the Chinn House. At the same time, Kirby Smith's Brigade with Beckham's Culpepper Artillery join the confederate attack on Chinn Ridge. Howard's Brigade stood for about 20 minutes before the Confederate advance.

* Sergeant Crockett of the 4th Maine Regiment remembered that " Splinters began to fly from the tree behind us, we were doing our best with poor guns, and worse powder. Powder that was old enough to be your great grandfather's. Powder that would heat our guns so hot that we could only hold them by the straps. Powder that would clog so, it was impossible to get a bullet home".

* Col. Berry of the 4th Maine Regiment noted that "Many of the men were wild with excitement, discharging their muskets in the air, and in a frantic endeavor to reload, forgetting to cap their pieces". When the men did remember, the sudden discharge would cause the gun's barrel to burst. It was a scene of total confusion and death.

* **4:30pm.** Four more Confederate regiments reinforced the 2nd S.C. & 8th S.C. on Howard's left flank while Elzey's Brigade (1st Maryland, 3rd Tenn, 10th Vir, & 13th Vir) came down the slopes of Bald Hill to form at Chinn branch in Howard's front. Elzey concealed his men in the woods and fired into Howard's Brigade who were exposed on the fields of Chinn ridge. Then, Early's Brigade of four regiments (13th Miss, 4th S.C., 7th Vir, and 24th Vir.) and Beckham's Culpepper Artillery with Stuart's cavalry suddenly appeared on Howard's right flank near the Chinn House. Jubal Early's men reinforced the rebel line and counter-charged with soon to be famous rebel yell. Under the Rebel's flanking attack, The 2nd Vt and then the rest of Howard's men begun to retire by regiment with the 3rd & 5th Maine following the 2nd Vt while the 4th Maine acted as a rear guard to the bottom of the hill at Young's Branch. Howard's Brigade soldiers had averaged according to their cartridge box count about twenty rounds fired for 20 minutes of battle. Most of the men discharged their weapons into the woods along Chinn Branch at the foot of Bald Hill at an enemy they never saw but for the smoke from their muskets.

* In the pines of Young's Branch, Howard's Brigade formed and put fire into the Confederates on Chinn Ridge until their artillery fired into them. Howard's Brigade then retreated to the fields beyond the Dogan's house.

* While Howard's Brigade along with other Union regiments were retreating through the fields in the rear of the Dogan's House and west of the Warrenton Turpike, a number of

officers attempted to stem the tide but it was useless . The Confederates set their artillery upon Chinn Ridge to fire at the Union forces near Dogan's House as the Confederate infantry advanced upon them. The Union lines broke and they were in full retreat as it was every man for himself. The men followed the railroad tracks back to Alexandria, arriving there Monday morning.

* During the battle, The Union regiments were fed one by one into the battle and had their strength melted away. The Confederate Army on the Henry Hill line was under the command of General Jackson.

* **“The Great Skedaddle”**. The Union Army was made up of mostly volunteers who were new to military drill and discipline. The confusion of battle and break down of communication caused individual brigade commanders to rely upon their own judgment and impulse rather than acting as an organized military command. As a result, many commanders felt that their duty had been done with a single charge and once driven back became demoralized.

* The men were **physically exhausted** from the long night march, the heat of day, the excitement of battle and famished with hunger and thirst. It had been 14 hours since many of the men had eaten and many of the men had been in battle for 12 hours. The retreat was not from defeat but due to the unexpected attack on the Union flank and rear by fresh Confederate brigades.

* The **inexperienced** brigade commanders could not organize a defense for the Union flank. Thus, the resulting retreat was considered a 'prudent avoidance of possible slaughter or capture by overwhelming numbers' by those Union commanders. The Union Army retreated all the way back to Alexandria before forming.

* The physiological response to **emotional trauma** is a jolt of adrenaline. It will increase the body's capacity for 'flight or fight'. The more extreme the stress the greater the amount of adrenaline and norepinephrine secreted by the adrenal glands. The first response is to flee the danger. Many soldiers do run away, or cower into frozen immobility. But if discipline or willpower can help them to overcome the impulse to flight, the flood of adrenaline will turn many soldiers into killing machines oblivious to danger and fear. The hyped-up behavior is described by soldiers as combat frenzy, fighting madness, or battle rage.

* The rush of **adrenaline** will overcome current illness, debility and even wounds fail to slow some men in the grips of combat frenzy. Your reservoirs of adrenaline are not unlimited and even a brief lull can cause a profound reaction of exhaustion and/or illness as the body tries to restore its chemical balance. Such a physical reaction usually occurred after the fighting was over. But it could also happen in during a lull in the battle, especially if the momentum turned from an advance to a retreat.

* During a lull or after a battle, fears often return with redoubled intensity. This helps explain how a retreat could turn into a rout.

* The panic of the Union Army caused it to retreat all the way back to Alexandria before the officers could form it to defend the Capitol. The glamour and romance of a soldier's life disappeared after Bull Run. The deadly business of war was now at hand.

* The retreat caused the loss of most of the men's personal effects and regimental equipment. The men had left behind their tents, blankets, clothing, and even weapons. The Confederates recovered much of these things and used it to their own benefit. **(3rd Maine lost most of their red blankets)**

* The 3rd Maine had difficulty in obtaining goods from the commissary and quartermaster departments. So, many of the men wrote home of their plight and soon their families began to send goods for their relief.

July 23. 3rd Maine returned to Clermont to encamp as part of the Capitol's defense.

July 27. Gen. George B. McClellan became commander of The Army of the Potomac.

Union Food Allowance

* From August 3, 1861 until June 20, 1864, the daily allowance for each Union soldier was: twelve ounces of pork or bacon, or one pound and four ounces of salt or fresh beef. One pound and six ounces of soft bread or flour, or one pound and four ounces of corn bread.

* From August 3, 1861 until June 20, 1864, allowances for every one hundred Union soldiers were: fifteen pounds of beans or peas, and ten pounds of rice or hominy. Ten pounds of green coffee, or one pound and eight ounces of tea. Fifteen pounds of sugar. Four quarts of vinegar. Three pounds and twelve ounces of salt. Four ounces of pepper. Thirty pounds of potatoes. And when practicable one quart of molasses.

* The mainstay of diet for the Union soldier was Yankee beans, bread, dried beef and coffee. The soldiers would receive from home or the Sanitary Commission fresh vegetables, pies and sauerkraut. Sutlers would sell them cakes, pies, butter, cheese and apples. Native peddlers would sell them pies, bread, butter, milk, fresh fruit & vegetables, watermelons and oysters. Soldiers would also forage area confederate farms for their needs.

August 10. The 3rd Maine marched to Fort Ellsworth. It formed with Sedgwick's Brigade which included the 3rd Maine, 4th Maine, 38th New York and 40th New York regiments.

* The 3rd Maine did picket duty, drilled and worked on the fortifications.

Bailey's Cross Roads

August 27 & 28. Companies of the 3rd Maine, under the command of Major Staples, skirmished with the enemy at Bailey's Cross Roads. The 3rd Maine reported no loss of life at the skirmish.

September 27. The brigade was ordered forward by marching along the old Fairfax road to the Fowle's estate. During this time, Colonel Howard was promoted to Brigadier-General.

Colonel Staples became commander of the 3rd Maine.

December 1861. "Mrs. Sampson, the matron of the hospital, is ever at work for the comfort of the sick. She is a 'sun-beam' to the sick wards". A letter from the 3rd Maine.

* "A few days since we, with the 39th New York Regiment, accompanied by pieces of artillery, and two companies of cavalry, made a reconnoissance to Occoquan Creek, some nine miles from here. We left camp at 1:pm and returned at 9:pm after having accomplished the objective of our march. We were held in readiness with cannon planted, three hours, to receive the attack of the rebels; none were found by the scouts sent out". A letter from the 3rd Maine.

December 28. "I have omitted mentioning one fact and that is our Post Office and Postmaster. We have received our letters and papers regularly from Washington through the agency of J. A. Philbrook of Waterville, who enlisted in one of the companies from Waterville and was chosen Postmaster of the regiment soon after we encamped on Meridian Hill". A letter from 3rd Maine.

1862

February 19. Gen. David B. Birney became Brigade Commander.

March 8. Gen. Charles S. Hamilton became Division Commander.

* The Army, under the command of George McClellan, had been reorganized into five corps. Sedgwick's Brigade was posted into Heintzelman's Division.

* By early 1862, the 3rd Maine had exchanged their Austrian Lorenz .54 caliber rifle-muskets with the 4th Maine for .58 caliber Springfield rifled-muskets. The 4th Maine became entirely equipped with the Lorezes.

The Peninsula Campaign (March 17 - August 21)

March 13. III Army Corps was organized with Generals Hooker, Hamilton and Fitz John Porter as its three division commanders, and General S.P. Heintzelman in command of the corps.

March 17. 3rd Maine broke camp and marched to Alexandria then to Hampton.

April 3. The 3rd Maine along with the Army of the Potomac boarded transport ships and steamed to Fort Monroe.

Siege of Yorktown (April 5 - May 4)

April 5. They laid siege to Yorktown until May 4. The 3rd Maine spent their time working on entrenchments and laying out roads.

* Marching from Fort Monroe, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's army encountered Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder's small Confederate army at Yorktown behind the Warwick River. Magruder's theatrics convinced the Federals that his works were strongly held. McClellan suspended the march up the Peninsula toward Richmond, ordered the construction of siege fortifications, and brought his heavy siege guns to the front. In the meantime, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston brought reinforcements for Magruder. On 16 April, Union forces probed a weakness in the Confederate line at Lee's Mill or Dam No. 1, resulting in about 309 casualties. Failure to exploit the initial success of this attack, however, held up McClellan for two additional weeks, while he tried to convince his navy to maneuver the Confederates' big guns at Yorktown and Gloucester Point and ascend the York River to West Point thus outflanking the Warwick Line. McClellan planned for a massive bombardment to begin at dawn on May 4, but the Confederate army slipped away in the night toward Williamsburg.

Estimated Casualties for both Union and Confederate forces: 320 killed

April 30. Gen. Phil. Kearny became Division Commander.

Williamsburg (May 5)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan for the Union and Maj. Gen. James Longstreet for the confederates. The result(s) were inconclusive but The Confederate army continued its withdrawal during the night. Total forces engaged were 72,591 total (Union 40,768 and Confederate 31,823)

In the first pitched battle of the Peninsula Campaign, nearly 41,000 Federals and 32,000 Confederates were engaged. Following up the Confederate retreat from Yorktown, Hooker's division encountered the Confederate rearguard near Williamsburg. Hooker assaulted Fort Magruder, an earthen fortification alongside the Williamsburg Road, but was repulsed. Confederate counterattacks, directed by Maj. Gen. James

Longstreet, threatened to overwhelm the Union left flank, until Kearny's division arrived to stabilize the Federal position. Hancock's brigade then moved to threaten the Confederate left flank, occupying two abandoned redoubts. The Confederates counterattacked unsuccessfully.

Hancock's localized success was not exploited. The Confederate army continued its withdrawal during the night. **Estimated Casualties: 3,843 total**

(Union 2,283 killed and Confederate 1,560 killed)

May 5. During the battle of Williamsburg, the 3rd Maine was ordered to guard the left flank. At sunset, the 3rd Maine was ordered to march to the relief of the regiments already engaged in battle. Before the Maine men could enter the battle, the rebel had withdrawn because of the heavy rain. The 3rd and 4th Maine were ordered to assault Fort Magruder which they took possession of without much fighting because the Confederate had abandon the fort during the battle.

The 3rd Maine had 2 men wounded during the battle

* General Phil. Kearny gave the 3rd and 4th Maine much praise for their conduct during the battle.

May 15. 3rd Maine arrived at Cumberland Landing on the Pamunkey river.

May 17. 3rd Maine marched to within a few miles of Bottom's Bridge on the Chickahominy river.

May 29. 3rd Maine marched to within a half mile of Fair Oaks.

Fair Oaks & Seven Pines (May 31 - June 1)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan [Union and Gen. Joseph E. Johnston with Maj. Gen. G.W. Smith for the confederates. Total forces engaged were 84,000 for both the Union and confederates. The result(s) were inconclusive.

On May 31, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston attempted to overwhelm two Federal corps that appeared isolated south of the Chickahominy River. The Confederate assaults, though not well coordinated, succeeded in driving back the IV Corps and inflicting heavy casualties. Reinforcements arrived, and both sides fed more and more troops into the action. Supported by the III Corps and Sedgwick's division of Sumner's II Corps (that crossed the rain-swollen river on Grapevine Bridge), the Federal position was finally stabilized. Gen. Johnston was seriously wounded during the action, and command of the Confederate army devolved temporarily to Maj. Gen. G.W. Smith. On June 1, the Confederates renewed their assaults against the Federals who had brought up more reinforcements but made little headway. Both sides claimed victory. Confederate brigadier Robert H. Hatton was killed.

Estimated Casualties: 13,736 total

(Union 5,739 killed and Confederate 7,997 killed)

* The Third Corps was composed of three divisions commanded by Generals Kearny, Hooker, and Casey. The 3rd & 4th Maine and 38th & 40th New York were posted in David Birney's second brigade and part of General Phil. Kearny's third division.

The Third Corps was the right wing of the Army of the Potomac and was separated from the rest of the Army by the Chickahominy river.

May 31. General Birney was ordered to attack the enemy's left. During the afternoon, the 3rd Maine as well as the rest of the brigade moved up the railroad towards the bridge. After crossing it, they formed battle lines and rested over night.

June 1. During the morning, Birney's brigade formed its line of battle on the left of the railroad at the edge of the woods. The skirmishers came under heavy fire but held until the battle line charged the enemy. The Federals pushed the Rebs until their reserve was encountered and the Union advance was stopped.

At 3:pm. The second brigade (1300 men) was ordered to the Williamsburg road to dig rifle pits. This was near the Allen house which became the division's hospital.

At 4:30pm. 3rd Maine & 38th New York were ordered to form along the railroad in support of Casey's men who had been routed by the Confederates.

The 3rd Maine lost 1/3 of the regiment as either killed or wounded

* General Kearny praised the 3rd & 4th Maine for their part in holding the line.

* The brigade stayed on the advance line before Richmond until June 25.

* The effects of disease and weather reduced the Union ranks. The women of the US Sanitary Commission were the salvation of the Army of the Potomac. They prowled the Union camps and hospitals demanding that they were cleaned up and in good order for the welfare of the men.

They insisted on good food and proper shoes & clothing for the men. The very strong minded women also saw that the men's packages from home were distributed fairly amongst them and that the men wrote home.

Seven Days before Richmond (June 25 - July 1)

White Oak Swamp

Other Names: Nelson's Farm, Frayser's Farm, Charles City Crossroads, Glendale, New Market Road, Riddell's Shop. The principal commanders: Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan [US]; Gen. Robert E. Lee [CS]. The result(s) of the battle were inconclusive as the Union withdrawal continued.

This is the fifth of the Seven Days' Battles. On June 30, Huger's, Longstreet's, and A.P. Hill's divisions converged on the retreating Union army in the vicinity of Glendale or Frayser's Farm. Longstreet's and Hill's attacks penetrated the Union defense near Willis Church, routing McCall's division. McCall was captured. Union counterattacks by Hooker's and Kearny's divisions sealed the break and saved their line of retreat along the Willis Church Road. Huger's advance was stopped on the Charles City Road. "Stonewall" Jackson's divisions were delayed by Franklin at White Oak Swamp. Confederate Maj. Gen. T.H. Holmes made a feeble attempt to turn the Union left flank at Turkey Bridge but was driven back by Federal gunboats in James River. Union generals Meade and Sumner and Confederate generals Anderson, Pender, and Featherston were wounded. This was Lee's best chance to cut off the Union army from the James River. That night, McClellan established a position on Malvern Hill.

The Estimated Casualties: 6,500 total killed

June 29. During the early morning, Birney's brigade and the 3rd Maine was withdrawn from the advance line of fortification before Richmond.

* During the evening, the 3rd Maine, under the command of Major Burt, crossed White Oak Swamp at Jordan's Ford and advanced about two miles before its skirmishers were engaged. The regiment recrossed the swamp and followed its banks about six miles before bivouacking on the highlands for the night.

3rd Maine lost 1 killed and 1 missing

Charles City Cross Road and Glendale (June 30)

June 30. The regiment rejoined the Brigade and marched to the Charles City Cross Roads. The Brigade was ordered to be a rear guard for the Army. During the battle, the brigade was involved in skirmishing with the enemy. At 11:am, the Brigade was ordered to withdraw to the James River and it remained there until 2:am.

June 31. The Brigade acted once again as a rear guard for the Army as it moved toward Malvern Hill.

Malvern Hill (July 1)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan for the Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee for the Confederates. The result(s) were a Union victory.

This was the sixth and last of the Seven Days' Battles. On July 1, 1862, Gen. Robert E. Lee launched a series of disjointed assaults on the nearly impregnable Union position on Malvern Hill. The Confederates suffered more than 5,300 casualties without gaining an inch of ground. Despite his victory, McClellan withdrew to entrench at Harrison's Landing on James River, where his army was protected by gunboats. This ended the Peninsula Campaign. When McClellan's army ceased to threaten Richmond, Lee sent Jackson to operate against Maj. Gen. John Pope's army along the Rapidan River, thus initiating the Northern Virginia Campaign.

**Estimated Casualties: 8,500 total killed
(Union 3,200 & Confederates 5,300)**

July 1. The 3rd Maine was posted as support for Randolph's 6th R.I. Battery.
During the battle, they were shelled for eight hours.

July 2. 3rd Maine marched to Dr. Mung's plantation near Berkley's Station and camped over night.

July 3. After being shelled, the regiment broke camp and marched three miles toward Harrison's Landing.

July 4 - August 15. The 3rd Maine remained at the battle front.

THE DRAFT

* **July 17.** The Militia Law Act was passed by Congress. The Act defined the militia as all able bodied men between the ages of 18 and 45.

* There were three ways to avoid the draft. One was to go to Canada. The second was to find a substitute. The price of a substitute was usually less than \$300. The third was to pay \$300 to get your draft notice commuted for that particular draft only.

* "Before you censure or stigmatize the drafted man, just put yourself in the same situation, and you can judge rightly how much he sacrificed and what it cost him to serve his country. The drafted men were just as brave as any far more honorable than the bounty jumpers. The stigma of cowardness thrown at them is unjust. They sacrificed more than many others and got less. Even after the war when Government undertook to equalize the bounties, the drafted men cause was not taken into its considerations." Samuel B Wing

August 16. The Army made a retrograde movement towards Yorktown.

August 19. 3rd Maine arrived in Yorktown

August 21. 3rd Maine embarked on transports for Alexandria and arrived the 22nd.

August 23 - 29. By rail, the 3rd Maine was transported to Centreville.

August 26. General John Pope commander of the Army of the Virginia

Second Bull Run (August 28-30)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. John Pope for the Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee and Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson for the Confederates. The Result(s) was a Confederate victory.

In order to draw Pope's army into battle, Jackson ordered an attack on a Federal column that was passing across his front on the Warrenton Turnpike on August 28. The fighting at Brawner Farm lasted several hours and resulted in a stalemate. Pope became convinced that he had trapped Jackson and concentrated the bulk of his army against him. On August 29, Pope launched a series of assaults against Jackson's

position along an unfinished railroad grade. The attacks were repulsed with heavy casualties on both sides. At noon, Longstreet arrived on the field from Thoroughfare Gap and took position on Jackson's right flank. On August 30, Pope renewed his attacks, seemingly unaware that Longstreet was on the field. When massed Confederate artillery devastated a Union assault by Fitz John Porter's command, Longstreet's wing of 28,000 men counterattacked in the largest, simultaneous mass assault of the war.

The Union left flank was crushed and the army driven back to Bull Run. Only an effective Union rearguard action prevented a replay of the First Manassas disaster. Pope's retreat to Centreville was precipitous, nonetheless. The next day, Lee ordered his army in pursuit. This was the decisive battle of the Northern Virginia Campaign.

**Estimated Casualties: 22,180 total
(US 13,830 killed and CS 8,350 killed)**

August 29. The 3rd Maine marched for Bull Run arriving on the battlefield at 9:am and participated in that days engagement.

August 30. The 3rd Maine supported Randolph's Battery until 3:pm when they retired to the rear. The regiment was reorganized and under General Kearny returned to battle and was forced to retire to Centerville along with the rest of the Army.

August 31. 3rd Maine marched for Fairfax.

Chantilly

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. Philip Kearny and Maj. Gen. Isaac Stevens for the Union and Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson for the confederates. The result was inconclusive but considered a Confederate strategic victory.

Making a wide flank march, Jackson hoped to cut off the Union retreat from Bull Run. On September 1, beyond Chantilly Plantation on the Little River Turnpike near Ox Hill, Jackson sent his divisions against two Union divisions under Kearny and Stevens. Confederate attacks were stopped by fierce fighting during a severe thunderstorm. Union generals Stevens and Kearny were both killed. Recognizing that his army was still in danger at Fairfax Courthouse, Maj. Gen. Pope ordered the retreat to continue to Washington. With Pope no longer a threat, Lee turned his army west and north to invade Maryland, initiating the Maryland Campaign and the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan assumed command of Union forces around Washington.

**Estimated Casualties: 2,100 total killed
(US 1,300 killed and CS 800 killed)**

September 1. 3rd Maine marched towards Fairfax and took part in the battle of Chantilly. III Corps lost its 1st Division commander General Kearny.

3rd Maine had 4 killed, 38 wounded and 8 missing

**September 1. Gen. David B. Birney became Division Commander
Gen. J.H. Hobart Ward became Brigade Commander**

September 2. 3rd Maine marched to Alexandria and encamped near Fort Lyon.

September 8. They moved to Fort Worth and then to Fort Barnard and encamped.

September 15. Broke camp and marched for Poolesville, then for White's Ford which is below Harper's Ferry on the Potomac river.

*The 3rd Maine was ordered to guard the several fords between Monocacy and Conrad's Ferry. Colonel Staples was in command of the companies at Conrad's Ferry.

**General George P. Stoneman became Division Commander.
General David B. Birney became Brigade Commander**

October 9. Lewiston Journal October 24th: "A portion of the 3rd Maine Regiment has been detailed for signal purposes and scouting, and is now at Elk Mountain, Md., near General McClellan's headquarters"... "Our main army is off, over the Potomac, in the direction of Martinsburg; can hear firing in that direction now".

October 11. 3rd & 4th Maine marched to the mouth of the Monocacy river with orders to intercept Stuart's cavalry before it could cross to Virginia. After the battle in which the enemy escaped, the regiments returned to Poolesville. The regiment marched for White's Ford, Leesburg, and Warrenton.

November 7. The regiment arrived at Waterloo Bridge where it encamped.

General George P. Stoneman became Third Corps Commander

**November 16. General Ambrose Burnside became
commander of the Army of the Potomac**

**General David B. Birney became Division Commander
General J.H. Hobart Ward became Brigade Commander**

* General Burnside created three "Grand Divisions" the right, center and left which were comprised of two army corps each. The Right Grand Division which included the Second and Ninth Corps under the command of General Sumner; the Center Grand Division which included the Third and Fifth Corps under the command of General Hooker; and the Left Grand Division which included the First and Sixth Corps under the command of General Franklin. The "Grand Divisions" were abandoned when General Burnside was replaced as commander of the Army of the Potomac.

November 16-22. The 3rd Maine marched to Falmouth.

Lieut-Col. Lakeman became the colonel of the 3rd Maine.

Fredericksburg (December 12-15)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside for the Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee for the Confederates. Total forces engaged were 172,504 with Union at 100,007 men and the Confederates at 72,497 men. The result(s) were a Confederate victory.

On November 14, Burnside, now in command of the Army of the Potomac, sent a corps to occupy the vicinity of Falmouth near Fredericksburg. The rest of the army soon followed. Lee reacted by entrenching his army on the heights behind the town.

On December 11, Union engineers laid five pontoon bridges across the Rappahannock under fire. On the 12th, the Federal army crossed over, and on December 13, Burnside mounted a series of futile frontal assaults on Prospect Hill and Marye's Heights that resulted in staggering casualties. Meade's division, on the Union left flank, briefly penetrated Jackson's line but was driven back by a counterattack. Union generals C. Feger Jackson and George Bayard, and Confederate generals Thomas R.R. Cobb and Maxey Gregg were killed. On December 15, Burnside called off the offensive and recrossed the river, ending the campaign.

**Estimated Casualties: 17,929 total
(Union 13,353 killed and Confederate 4,576 killed)**

December 11. 3rd Maine moved forward with the Army to Fredericksburg.

December 12. Late in the afternoon, Third Division was ordered to support General Franklin. Upon arriving, they were ordered to bivouac until the rest of the troops had crossed the Rappahannoer river.

December 13. At daybreak, they were ordered to form. At 10:am under the division command of General Birney, they pushed forward to the left of General Whipple's command. The 3rd Maine came under artillery fire. The 3rd Maine, 99th Pennsylvania, and 55th New York were ordered to the rear (175 yards) in support of Hall's Second Maine Battery and remained there for six hours under shot and shell. During this time, the battery was charged by the enemy but was repulsed.

December 14. In the morning, the 3rd Maine withdrew from the battle front and was placed in the second line.

December 15. After mid-night, they were ordered to the battle front and had to lie on wet ground for nearly fifty hours.

During the battle, 3rd Maine had 3 killed, 25 wounded and 4 missing

* After the battle, they crossed the Rappahannock river to encamp on the north bank until Jan.20.

1863

Emancipation Proclamation

On **Jan. 1, 1863**, U.S. President Abraham LINCOLN declared free all slaves residing in territory in rebellion against the federal government. This Emancipation Proclamation actually freed few people. It did not apply to slaves in border states fighting on the Union side; nor did it affect slaves in southern areas already under Union control. Naturally, the states in rebellion did not act on Lincoln's order. But the proclamation did show Americans--and the world--that the CIVIL WAR was now being fought to end slavery.

* The Emancipation Proclamation was issued by Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863 and it changed the purpose of the war from preserving the Union to Black freedom.

* Union soldiers' support for Emancipation grew as Copperheads gain at the home front and they felt it better to be an Abolitionist than a Secessionist.

* It became a way to bring about the restoration of the Union and the termination of the war.

* As Black regiments were formed and went to battle, Many white Union soldiers knew that their lives would be saved by black soldiers coming into the ranks.

* It brought some new white soldiers into the war as they would fight for freedom but not for the Union. These were mostly men who because of their religious beliefs had kept out of the war.

- * Abolishing slavery will dignify labor. Constitutional liberties were for all men.
- * Antislavery sentiment in both France and England became so strong that those countries could no longer support the Confederacy.
- * The historic “peace” churches which on principle adhered to pacifism. Catholics and Jews provided notable support for the war; but protestants contributed the religious or theological justifications of the war that had wider social and political impact.
- * The **Great Awakening** was an evangelical movement which occurred in the 1740’s and lasted 100 years until the 1840’s. During the Civil War, many soldiers confessed their faith in Christ; many were baptized for the first time; and prayer groups were formed in almost every regiment. It made the armies of the Civil War the most religious in American history. Many soldiers carried pocket Bibles or new Testaments with them into battle.

The three reasons that motivated the North during the Civil War are:

1) **The special place of America in world history**

the churches emphasized that the Union had to be preserved because of the special place that America occupied in world history. With its republican institutions, democratic ideas, and Christian values, the United States was the leader of civilization’s forward march. Thus in fighting to maintain the federal union, Northerners were struggling on behalf of more than a single nation - they were fighting for the future of humanity itself.

2) **A Union victory will prepare the way for the Kingdom of God on earth**

Christian ministers portrayed the war for the Union in religious millennial terms. They believed that a Union victory would lead shortly to a time when God’s reign would be more thoroughly established on earth. They claimed that a Union victory would bring a time that the Founding Fathers of the republic pictured and dreamed about, and prayed for. It will come with blessings, and be greeted with Hallelujahs, it will be the Millennium of political glory, the Sabbath of Liberty, and the Jubilee of humanity.

3) **The constitutional question of property or the issue of slavery**

As the war took more lives, the ministers sought a theological explanation for the many deaths and Union military failure. They drew on a tradition traceable to Puritan preaching - the jeremiad - to explain the reverses. The jeremiad was a sermon from the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah that threatened people with judgment unless they renounced their sin. Thus, the war was seen as a punishment sent by God, and the conviction grew that God would continue to chastise the North and would not allow it to win until the North took steps to end slavery. By the fall of 1862, the war had become a baptism of blood. The pouring out of blood was cleansing the nation of its sin and preparing it for moral rebirth.

* March 13, 1862. The federal government forbade all Union army officers to return fugitive slaves.

* April 10, 1862. The federal government declared it would compensate all slave owners who freed their slaves.

* April 16, 1862. All slaves in the District of Columbia were freed.

* June 19, 1862. Congress prohibited slavery in the territories.

* January 1, 1863. The Emancipation Proclamation freed about 3,120,000 slaves within the States who were in rebellion against the United States.

* In 1865. The enactment of the 13th Amendment to the United States' Constitution abolished slavery.

General Burnside's "Mud March" (January 20-24)

"Wouldn't you like to be a soldier, And hear the bugle call,
Marching in the dead of night, And into a mud-hole fall?" Samuel B. Wing.

* The rain lasted thirty hours without stopping. The roads were nothing but dirt. The rain did not remain at the surface but penetrated into the ground creating mud to a great depth. After passing through the first layer of clay, the surface reformed a hardened crust but beneath it the sticky paste mixed with the water to form "liquid mud". When the crust became softened by heavy use, whole teams of mules would be buried along with the wagons or artillery that they were pulling.

* During the winter of 1862-63, the Army of the Potomac suffered that McClellan was removed from command, the disaster of Fredericksburg, and the fiasco of the Mud March which had caused esprit to plunge to an all time low and Desertion rates rose sharply.

January 23. The 3rd Maine and the army returned to its former camp at Falmouth.

January 26. **Major General Joseph Hooker became commander of the Army of the Potomac**

February 7. General Daniel E. Sickles became Third Corps Commander.

March 3. A draft law called the Enrollment Act was passed by Congress. This act set up Provost Marshall's Bureau in each Congressional District to ensure that each male citizen was enrolled and to establish a basis for district quotas.

* By 1863, provost guards were needed to drive stragglers back into line.

* The Civil War was also a war of class struggle: “ a rich man’s war and a poor man’s fight”. this was especially true after the draft (Conscription Act of March 1863) as many poor men could not afford a substitute (\$300) so either joined or was drafted. The most unhappy lot seemed to be young married poor framers with small children who became many of the deserters and skulkers.

* The break up of the Bond of Comradeship as the substitutes, draftees, and bounty men were being absorb into the veteran volunteer regiments.

* Emancipation and abolition were important issues for about 30% of the Union army but as more soldiers saw the effects of slavery, they too became willing to fight for it.

* As the fields of battle became red with the blood of soldiers, a deeper reason for the war was needed by the people. The cause for which we fight is to make all men free. The price of the sin of slavery for the Union is the blood of our fallen sons of liberty.

* As blacks became soldiers and were killed in battle along side whites, the white soldier began to consider them comrades.

* “But the old soldiers, when they saw the raw recruits, had many misgivings. Some called them a ‘mess of cowards’. We heard it on every hand, until after the first fight. Then ... ‘How did the recruits stand the fire?’ ‘Oh! They did not know enough to run.’ And then, the fellowship between the old and the new soldier was better established.”
Samuel B Wing

March 4. With the division, the 3rd Maine marched to Potomac Creek and encamped.

* During this time, the 3rd Maine was assigned to building military roads under the command of Captain Morgan.

* After General Hooker had succeeded General Burnside, General Kearny’s idea of a system of corps badges which were to be worn upon the men’s caps was adopted by the Army of the Potomac. The Third Corps had the diamond as its badge with the first division as red, the second division as white and the third division as blue.

The Chancellorsville Campaign (April 27 - May 6)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee with Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson, Confederate. Total forces engaged were 154,734 troops (Union 97,382 and Confederate 57,352). The result(s) were a Confederate victory.

On April 27, Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker led the V, XI, and XII Corps on a campaign to turn the Confederate left flank by crossing the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers above Fredericksburg. Passing the Rapidan via Germanna and Ely’s Fords, the Federals concentrated near Chancellorsville on April 30 and May 1. The III Corps was

ordered to join the army via United States Ford. Sedgwick's VI Corps and Gibbon's division remained to demonstrate against the Confederates at Fredericksburg.

In the meantime, Lee left a covering force under Maj. Gen. Jubal Early in Fredericksburg and marched with the rest of the army to confront the Federals. As Hooker's army moved toward Fredericksburg on the Orange Turnpike, they encountered increasing Confederate resistance. Hearing reports of overwhelming Confederate force, Hooker ordered his army to suspend the advance and to concentrate again at Chancellorsville. Pressed closely by Lee's advance, Hooker adopted a defensive posture, thus giving Lee the initiative.

On the morning of May 2, Lt. Gen. T.J. Jackson directed his corps on a march against the Federal left flank, which was reported to be "hanging in the air." Fighting was sporadic on other portions of the field throughout the day, as Jackson's column reached its jump-off point. At 5:20 pm, Jackson's line surged forward in an overwhelming attack that crushed the Union XI Corps.

Federal troops rallied, resisted the advance, and counterattacked. Disorganization on both sides and darkness ended the fighting. While making a night reconnaissance, Jackson was mortally wounded by his own men and carried from the field. J.E.B. Stuart took temporary command of Jackson's Corps. On May 3, the Confederates attacked with both wings of the army and massed their artillery at Hazel Grove. This finally broke the Federal line at Chancellorsville. Hooker withdrew a mile and entrenched in a defensive "U" with his back to the river at United States Ford. Union generals Berry and Whipple and Confederate general Paxton were killed; Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded. On the night of May 5-6, after Union reverses at Salem Church, Hooker recrossed to the north bank of the Rappahannock.

**Estimated Casualties: 24,000 total
(Union 14,000 killed & Confederate 10,000 killed)**

April 28. With the Army, the 3rd Maine moved toward Chancellorsville.

April 30. The regiment bivouacked near United States Ford on the Rappahannock.

* On the battle line, the Union army had 72,300 men and 184 cannon. While, the Confederate army had 56,200 men and 243 cannon.

May 1. At day break, 3rd Maine marched along the Plank Road and was placed into line of battle.

May 2. In the morning, 3rd Maine moved further up the Plank Road and waited for an attack by the enemy.

Cedars (Catherine's Furnace)

* At **2:pm.** After receiving orders from Gen. Sickles, Birney's First Division moved forward in line of battle several miles until striking the enemy's train-guard. This was the

23rd Georgia who was the rear guard of Gen. Jackson's flanking movement. A brisk fire was opened and a charge was made upon the enemy. More than 500 prisoners were taken during the attack. The success of Sickles' attack convinces Hooker that the Confederates were in full retreat.

* **After sunset.** Third Corps marched to the sound of fighting in their rear by resuming their old position at Hazel Grove. Here they formed around the artillery batteries on the heights and remained formed in line of battle until mid-night.

* **9:pm.** After receiving orders from Gen. Hooker, Sickles order the men of Ward's Brigade to remove their knapsacks and to prepare for action at midnight. It was a bright night because of the full moon but nobody could recall if a night attack had been ordered before. The night appeared eerie and the men were nervous. They spent the time writing letters home and pinned them to their sack coats. Since the 20th Ind. had not returned from the front, the 17th Maine and the 63rd Pa. had been posted with the Ward's Brigade for the attack.

* **11:30pm.** Gen. Ward told the men that this was to be a bayonet charge. The men fixed bayonets, loaded their muskets but were ordered not to cap them until they reached the earthworks.

May 3. Just after midnight, the 3rd Maine charged upon Jackson's men who had gained possession of the Plank Road after the route of the Eleventh corps. The 3rd Maine advanced on the right end of the line and engaged the 18th N.C.

During the battle, the 3rd Maine lost its regimental or State colors.

Timothy B. Curtis, of Bath, and a member of Co."A" was the State Color Sergeant until his capture at Chancellorsville. He returned to the Third Maine shortly after the battle of Gettysburg.

* The regiment was forced back to the right which placed them in front of Gen. William's division of the 12th Corps. The 12th Corps men not having been informed by Gen. Hooker, of the night attack, open fire on the 3rd Corps men coming into their line. The 12th and 3rd Corps soon stopped firing on each other and a new line was established. As a result of this action, the first and second lines of earthworks were taken from the rebels.

At daylight. The Confederates occupied the woods on two sides of the brigade, which caused the brigade to be rearranged nearer the Chancellor house. By the end of that day's battle, the brigade was located in the first line of the new earthworks and was under heavy artillery fire from the enemy.

May 6. The brigade remained in the first line of earthworks until daylight. It was the last to leave the battle front during the Army's return to its former camp.

During the battle of Cedars and Chancellorville,

the **3rd Maine** had 4 killed, 17 wounded and 42 missing
Ward's Second Brigade had
11 killed, 125 wounded and 112 missing
Birney's First Division had
123 killed, 922 wounded and 562 missing
Sickles' Third Corps had
393 killed, 2,636 wounded and 1,095 missing
Hooker's Army of the Potomac had
1,694 killed, 9,672 wounded and 5,938 missing

May 7. **General David B. Birney became Third Corps Commander**
 General J.H. Hobert Ward became Division Commander
 General P. Regis de Trobriand became Brigade Commander

June 11. The brigade and the Third Corps broke camp (Rappahannock Station) at 2:pm and took its line of march with the 94,974 men of the Army of the Potomac. They marched about 10 miles and bivouacked at about 11:pm.

June 12. They started the march at 9:am and bivouacked at 5:30pm after marching 12 miles to Bealeton .

The Gettysburg Campaign (June 13 - July 24)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate. Total forces engaged were 158,300 troops (Union 83,289 and Confederate 75,054). The result(s) were a Union victory.

Gen. Robert E. Lee concentrated his full strength against Maj. Gen. George G. Meade's Army of the Potomac at the crossroads county seat of Gettysburg. On July 1, Confederate forces converged on the town from west and north, driving Union defenders back through the streets to Cemetery Hill. During the night, reinforcements arrived for both sides. On July 2, Lee attempted to envelop the Federals, first striking the Union left flank at the Peach Orchard, Wheatfield, Devil's Den, and the Round Tops with Longstreet's and Hill's divisions, and then attacking the Union right at Culp's and East Cemetery Hills with Ewell's divisions. By evening, the Federals retained Little Round Top and had repulsed most of Ewell's men. During the morning of July 3, the Confederate infantry were driven from their last toe-hold on Culp's Hill. In the afternoon, after a preliminary artillery bombardment, Lee attacked the Union center on Cemetery Ridge.

The Pickett-Pettigrew assault (more popularly, Pickett's Charge) momentarily pierced the Union line but was driven back with severe casualties. Stuart's cavalry attempted to gain the Union rear but was repulsed. On July 4, Lee began withdrawing his army toward Williamsport on the Potomac River. His train of wounded stretched more than fourteen miles.

Estimated Casualties: 50,000 total

Gettysburg (July 1-3, 1863)

Confederate: 77,518 engaged with 27,000 casualties (35%)

Federal: 93,500 engaged with 23,003 casualties (25%)

Union Army Loss:

3,072 killed, 2,000 mortally wounded & 16,850 wounded, and 5,434 captured or missing.

Grand Total: 23,003.

Confederate Army Loss:

4,000 killed, 2,000 mortally wounded & 12,709 wounded, and 5,150 captured or missing.

Grand total: 27,000.

June 14. Broke bivouac at 4:30pm, marched 8 miles arriving at Catlett's Station at 10:pm.

June 15. Broke bivouac at 5:am, marched 10 miles arrived near Centreville at 6:pm.

June 16. Broke bivouac at 5:30am, marched 3 miles to occupy rifle pits.

June 19. Broke bivouac after being in the Centreville area for three days at 3:pm, marched 10 miles arriving at Gum Spring at 10:30pm. While at Gum Spring, the regiment did picket duty.

June 22. General Hiram Berdan became Brigade Commander

June 25. Broke camp at 6:am, marched 24 miles arriving at Monocay at 10:pm.

June 26. Broke bivouac at 6:am, marched 6 miles to Point of Rocks.

June 27. Broke bivouac at 10:am, marched 12 miles to Middletown.

June 28. Broke bivouac at 8:am, marched 16 miles through Frederick to Walkerville and encamped.

General Meade became commander of the Army of the Potomac

General John F. Reynolds commanded a 'Wing' with Corps: 1, 3 & 11

General Daniel E. Sickles became Third Corps Commander

General David B. Birney became Division Commander

General J.H. Hobert Ward became Brigade Commander

June 29. Broke camp at 6:am, marched 18 miles to beyond Taneytown.

June 30. Broke bivouac at 2:30pm, marched 8 miles to Emmitsburg.

Gettysburg (July 1-3)

“The old Third Maine was not detailed for guard duty, but was continually at the front and could be depended upon every time.” Samuel B Wing

July 1. After arriving at Emmitsburg, Sickles' Third Corps of about 10,000 men were ordered back into line of march for the remaining 10 miles along the Emmitsburg turnpike to Gettysburg. Birney's 1st Division with its 1st brigade, under General Graham and the 2nd brigade, under General Ward arrived at Gettysburg at about 5:30pm. The regiments moved down the Emmitsburg Road and turned right into the Wheatfield Road and camped near the Weikert house which was in front of Cemetery Ridge. The 63rd Pennsylvania and the 4th Maine spent the night on picket duty with General Buford's cavalry in and near the Peach Orchard. The 3rd Division under General Humphreys arrived about midnight after being lost along the way.

* The Third Maine was considered as fine a veteran regiment as there was in the Army of the Potomac.

July 2. **General David B. Birney became Third Corps Commander**
 General J.H. Hobert Ward became Division Commander
 General Hiram Berdan became Brigade Commander

* Before the battle of Gettysburg, the Third Maine was in Ward's brigade But it was detached to Graham's brigade and was posted on its left during the battle
* Early in the morning, General Birney ordered the 3rd Maine to relieve the 4th Maine and the 99th Pennsylvania went to the relief of the 63rd Pennsylvania who were on the picket line with General Buford's cavalry men.

* The Third Maine had about 196 men and 14 officers at morning roll-call. During the morning, the 3rd Maine was the first Union regiment to attack the enemy.

* At about **5:am**, Devin sent a skirmish line forward to reconnoiter enemy positions beyond the Emmitsburg road. They meet Rebel infantry pickets and with Calef's battery were drawn into a firefight. In conjunction with the engagement, General Sickles ordered General Ward to support Devin's men.

The 3rd Maine had advanced by orders from General Ward in support of about 100 Berdan Sharpshooters commanded by Col. Berdan. They crossed the Emmitsburg road and advanced three-quarters of a mile through open fields to enter Pitzer's woods.

* At **9:am**, Buford's cavalry was recalled but Devin's men remained until about Noon. Captin Tim Hanley's squadron of the 9th New York was posted to the left of Sicles' line and remained there until sunset.

* At about **11:30am**, the Sharpshooters, with Third Maine in support, engaged Confederates from the 8th, 10th, and 11th Alabama which belonged to Wilcox's brigade of Anderson's division of A. P. Hill's Corps. The action was fought with only 300 yards between them and after twenty-five minutes, the 3rd Maine had 18 killed and 30 wounded or missing.

William Livermore was the Color Sergeant with the National Colors (the only colors carried at Gettysburg by the 3rd, except for the left and right general guide markers) and he was wounded during the action in Pitzer's Woods.

* Leaving its dead and some wounded, the regiment retired to take its position in the Peach Orchard.

* This action was unnecessary because the 4th Maine had spent the night on picket duty and had reported the rebel movements that morning.

* After returning to the Peach Orchard, the regiment ate a hasty luncheon from their haversacks and was posted behind the fence that bounded the Peach Orchard on the southwest side with its right resting along the east side of the Emmitsburg road.

* At about **2:30pm** in the afternoon, Sickles ordered the Third Corps forward from the line along Cemetery ridge to Little Round Top to form a salient from the Peach Orchard on the Emmitsburg turnpike, south and east, to the Devil's Den at the base of Little Round Top. The divisions moved out in full line of battle with drums pounding and bugles sounding the advance.

The movement had resulted in a half mile gap between the Second Corps' left and the Third Corps right ends of their battle line. The Third Corps' right flank was now vulnerable to enfilade and their battle line was now twice as long as before.

Third Corps line of battle positions on July 2, 1863

* Ward's Brigade was on the left near Devil's Den.

* de Trobriand's brigade was in the center at the Wheat Field.

* Graham's brigade was on the right at the Peach Orchard.

* This left a five hundred yard gap south of the Wheatfield Road between the Emmitsburg Road and the stony hill. Birney ordered a skirmish line to be formed in this gap by the 3rd Michigan at stony hill connecting with the 3rd Maine at the Wheatfield Road near the Peach Orchard.

* At about **4:pm**, Ames' battery G, 1st New York took a position near the regiment. It was subsequently relieved by Watson's Battery I, 5th U.S. which had four 3" Ordnance rifles.

* During the afternoon, the 3rd Maine's skirmish line was under both Confederate artillery and skirmisher fire.

* **4:pm.** The Confederate brigades of Kershaw and Barksdale, belonging to McLaws' division, were advancing upon the Peach Orchard. The 3rd Maine fell back from its skirmish line through Watson's Battery and went into line on the right of the 2nd New Hampshire.

* Kershaw's South Carolina brigade attacked Watson's battery and the 2nd New Hampshire advanced to support the guns. At the same time, the 141st Pennsylvania advanced from its position on the shoulder of the Wheatfield Road with the 3rd Maine on its right and the 3rd Michigan on its left. The regiments crossed to the south edge of the orchard and went into line on the left of the 2nd New Hampshire.

* During the battle, Kershaw's South Carolina brigade attacked the battalion's front while Barksdale's and Wofford's brigades, after breaking through Graham's line, attacked its right and rear.

* The 3rd Maine and the 3rd Michigan regiments were executing a "charge of front" in order to face the Emmitsburg Road. The color company K of the Third Maine was ordered to form on the Emmitsburg Road. The color company took its position first, so the remainder of the battalion could line up on them. The color company K was alone and completely exposed when struck by an enfilading volley which killed or wounded most of its members.

During this battle, the 3rd Maine lost its national colors.

* The Battalion fell back and changed its front to the west. The batteries had already departed. The battalion fell backed to higher ground midway through the orchard. It formed a "V" shaped echeloned formation with the 3rd Maine to the left of the 2nd New Hampshire which was the lead regiment and the 68th Pennsylvania on its right. The 141st Pennsylvania and the 7th New Jersey formed somewhat to the right and rear of this formation.

*By late afternoon, the Third Maine had about 150 men in its battle line. The regiment had lost about a third of it's men during the battle. The 3rd Maine retreated with Graham's brigade behind the second Union line that Hancock had established to check the Confederate onset. Birney's shattered division formed and bivouacked east of the Taneytown Road. Humphreys' division formed on the ridge crest north of the George Weikert house.

*That night, the regiment's remaining 97 men rejoined Ward's brigade. The official report of General Ward said that Col. Lakeman and the 3rd Maine did their full duty with gallantry. That night, the regiment slept upon their arms.

**Third Maine: 18 killed, 59 wounded, and 45 missing = 122 Casualties (58%)
III Corps: 593 killed, 3,029 wounded and 589 missing (42%)**

The honor of escorting the colors was given to individuals selected from the companies of the regiment as the color bearers which were usually sergeants and the color guard which were corporals. This select squad was placed in the ranks of the color company which was the company just to the right of the regiment's center when it was in a line of battle and on its left so that the colors would then be at the regiment's center.

The color squad was composed of a national color bearer and a regimental color bearer with seven color guards. If the regiment had only one color, the color squad would consist of a bearer and eight guards.

The Color Guard was a target for enemy fire and it took brave men to volunteer for this job. Capturing the colors was a battle trophy: loosing your colors was a dishonor. The casualties in the guard were always high. When the bearer was unable to go on, another member of the guard would move forward to rescue the flag. The flag of the regiment served as a rallying point for the men and often indicated the location of its leaders. The flag and its bearer usually lead the regiment into battle therefor offering themselves as the first targets to the enemy.

The Color Squad of the Third Maine Volunteers (7 men)

* At the battle of Gettysburg, the color squad of the Third Maine Volunteers consisted of 7 men a national color bearer and six color guards. The possible members were:

national color bearer, sergeant William Livermore of Co. H, Vassalboro (WOUNDED)
and color guards; corporal John W. Jones of Co. B, Augusta (KILLED)
corporal Amos H. Cole of Co. F, Starks (KILLED)
corporal Eben Farrington of Co. H, Livermore (KILLED)
corporal Charles M. Landers of Co. C, Danville (WOUNDED)
corporal Danforth M. Maxcy of Co. C, Gardiner (WOUNDED-DIED)
and ...(?)

July 3. During the afternoon, the 3rd Maine, under the command of Captain Morgan (Company "F"), was ordered with three other regiments (99th Penn., 4th Me. & 20th Indiana) as a brigade under the command of Col. Lakeman to support a battery of General Webb's Second Division of the Second Corps; but the attack had been repulsed before their arrival.

July 4. The regiment was on skirmish duty on the Second Corps front.

* After Gettysburg, the corps was increased by the accession of General French's Division, which had been in garrison at Harper's Ferry. The division was composed of regiments with comparatively full ranks since the regiments had been in service only for a few months. General French became the commander of III Corps and General Carr became the commander of the 3rd division.

The Army of the Potomac's Pursuit of General Lee (July 5-24)

July 5 & 6. Rejoined Third Corps under the command of General William French and encamped. The regiment then found and buried their dead and visited field hospitals.

July 7. The 3rd Maine, with the Army of the Potomac, started in pursuit of the rebels.

July 9. General William H. French became Third Corps Commander

General David B. Birney became Division Commander

General J.H. Hobert Ward became Brigade Commander

WAPPING HEIGHTS (July 23)

The battle was also called 'Manassas Gap'. The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. William H. French, Union and Maj. Gen. Richard Anderson, Confederate. The result(s) were inconclusive.

After recrossing the Potomac River at Williamsport, Lee's army withdrew up the Shenandoah Valley. Meade crossed the Potomac River east of the Blue Ridge and followed Lee into Virginia.

On July 23, Meade ordered the III Corps, under Maj. Gen. William H. French to cut off the retreating Confederate columns at Front Royal by forcing passage through Manassas Gap. At first light, French began slowly pushing Walker's Confederate brigade (Anderson's division) back into the gap. About 4:30 pm, a strong Union attack drove Walker's men until they were reinforced by Rodes's division and artillery. By dusk, the poorly coordinated Union attacks were abandoned. During the night, Confederate forces withdrew into the Luray Valley. On July 24, the Union army occupied Front Royal, but Lee's army was safely beyond pursuit.

The Total Estimated Casualties were 440 killed

July 23. The 3rd & 4th Maine, under the command of Col. Lakeman, engaged and routed the enemy.

* At **4:am**. The regiments were moved to support the 4th Maine Battery.

* At **6:am**. The 3rd and 4th regiments were ordered to clear the hill of the enemy. Union Sharpshooters kept fire upon the enemy while the regiments crept up the hill. Once at the top, the regiments stood and fired a volley into the Confederates which caused them to be routed.

July 24. 3rd & 4th Maine marched toward Warrenton in pursuit of the enemy.

July 31. Arrived at Warrenton Sulphur Springs and remained until September 16th.

September 16. 3rd Maine marched to Culpeper to encamp until October 11th.

The Bristoe Campaign (October 11-22)

Auburn Mills

October 12. The 3rd Maine participated in the battle of Auburn Mills in which the enemy was routed. The battle occurred at Catlett's Station, St. Stephen's Church, Virginia on October 13, 1863.

Early October, Lee began an offensive sweep around Meade's right flank with his remaining two corps, forcing the Federals to withdraw along the line of the Orange & Alexandria Railroad. On October 13, Stuart, with Fitzhugh Lee and Lomax's brigades, skirmished with the rearguard of the Union III Corps near Auburn. Finding himself cut off by retreating Federal columns, Stuart secreted his troopers in a wooded ravine until the unsuspecting Federals moved on from the area. The results of the battle were inconclusive for the Union commander Maj. Gen. William H French and Confederate commander Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart

Estimated Casualties for both Union and Confederate forces: 50 killed
October 14-19. The regiment was encamped at Fairfax Station.

October 22. 3rd Maine encamped at Catlett's Station until November 7th. While encamped, the regiment was detailed to repairing the railroads.

The Advance to the line of the Rappahannock River (November 7-8)

Kelly's Ford

November 7. The Union Army made its approach in two wings. The left wing consisted of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Corps. The rebels, when they saw the advance of the skirmishes, took to their rifle pits. General French had ordered artillery into the bend of the river so that they could fire into the rear of the enemy rifle pits. As the Union skirmishes advanced, the Union artillery fired into the Confederate rifle pits.

November 9. The enemy was driven back along the railroad to Brandy Station.

Gettysburg Address

On Nov. 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln dedicated a national cemetery on the battlefield at Gettysburg, where a few months earlier thousands had died. Although Lincoln's address (text follows) received little attention at the time, it has since come to be esteemed as one of the finest speeches in the English language.

The Mine Run Campaign (November 26 - December 2)

The principal commanders were Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate. The total forces engaged were 114,069 troops (Union 69,643 and Confederate 44,426). The result(s) were inconclusive.

Payne's Farm and New Hope Church were the first and heaviest clashes of the Mine Run Campaign. In late November 1863, Meade attempted to steal a march through the Wilderness and strike the right flank of the Confederate army south of the Rapidan River. Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early in command of Ewell's Corps marched east on the Orange Turnpike to meet the advance of William French's III Corps near Payne's Farm. Carr's division (US) attacked twice. Johnson's division (CS) counterattacked but was scattered by heavy fire and broken terrain. After dark, Lee withdrew to prepared field fortifications along Mine Run. The next day the Union army closed on the Confederate position. Skirmishing was heavy, but a major attack did not materialize. Meade concluded that the Confederate line was too strong to attack and retired during the night of December 1-2, ending the winter campaign.

**Estimated Casualties: 1,952 total
(Union 1,272 killed & Confederate 680 killed)**

Orange Grove

November 26. Most of the Army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan river at Ely's and Germanna Fords. The Third Corps crossed at Jacob's Ford and encamped.

November 27. At noon, the Third Corps, because of a number of problems such as a late start and getting lost, finally began their advance on the enemy. Before General French realized what was going on, Third Corps, which was the lead Corps, had become involved in a full scale battle which lasted until after dark. After dark, the enemy crossed the river and entered their entrenchments.

Mine Run

November 30. General Meade brought up the Army of the Potomac into position opposite the Confederates. Third Corps held the center of the Union line with Warren's Fifth Corps on the left and Sedgwick's Corps on the right. The men of the regiment saw the strong fortifications and they wrote their names on pieces of paper and pinned them to their sack coats. At the last moment, General Meade called off the attack. The regiment and the Army remained in position until December 1st.

The 3rd Maine lost 1 killed, 8 wounded and 23 missing during the battles

December 1. The Army of the Potomac left its position to recross the Rapidan river and returned to encamp near Brandy Station.

December 14. The regiment constructed their winter quarters. They dug holes into the ground, boarded up the walls with chinked logs and spread shelter halves over the tops for roofs. Many of the men added crude chimneys so that they might be able to heat

their quarters. These crude quarters were quite comfortable, but they were notorious for harboring bugs and other undesirable creatures.

1864

January 1. The Army of the Potomac remained in camp at Brandy Station until May.

Feb. 1864 until April 1865. Andersonville prison was in existence. 33 men of the 3rd Maine Regiment died of disease in the Confederate prison at Andersonville.

February 5-7. 3rd Maine participated with the army's demonstrations on the Rapidan River line.

March 31. General Ulysses Grant became Lieutenant General or General-in-Chief of the Union Army.

* Meade remained commander of the Army of the Potomac. He had requested that the War Department reorganize the Army of the Potomac because he felt that there was not enough commanders to lead an army of seven corps. With General Order #9, it was done. 11th and 12th Corps were sent west. 1st and 3rd Corps were disbanded with their troops being transferred into the three remaining Corps.

* The Second Corps had its three divisions consolidated into two and Birney's 1st division of the old Third Corps became the third division of the Second Corps while Humphrey's' old Third 2nd division became Mott's 4th division of Second Corps. The Second Corps now numbered about 25,000 men. The remaining Third Corps men were set to Sedgwick's 6th Corps. This action caused the men of the "Old Third Corps" to sew their new Second Corps badges onto the seat of their pants and to refuse to remove their Third Corps diamonds.

Second Corps, commanded by Major General Winfield Scott Hancock

Campaign from the Rapidan River to the James River (May 3 - June 5)

May 4. The Army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan river and moved toward Richmond. The Third Maine encamped that night on the old battlefield of Chancellorsville.

Wilderness (May 5-7)

The principal commanders were Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate. Total forces engaged were 162,920 troops (Union 101,895 and Confederate 61,025). The result(s) were inconclusive as Grant continued his offensive.

The opening battle of Grant's sustained offensive against the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, known as the Overland Campaign, was fought at the Wilderness, May 5-7. On the morning of May 5, 1864, the Union V Corps attacked Ewell's Corps on the Orange Turnpike, while A.P. Hill's corps during the afternoon encountered Getty's Division (VI Corps) and Hancock's II Corps on the Plank Road. Fighting was fierce but inconclusive as both sides attempted to maneuver in the dense woods. Darkness halted the fighting, and both sides rushed forward reinforcements. At dawn on May 6, Hancock attacked along the Plank Road, driving Hill's Corps back in confusion. Longstreet's Corps arrived in time to prevent the collapse of the Confederate right flank. At noon, a devastating Confederate flank attack in Hamilton's Thicket sputtered out when Lt. Gen. James Longstreet was wounded by his own men. The IX Corps (Burnside) moved against the Confederate center, but was repulsed. Union generals James S. Wadsworth and Alexander Hays were killed. Confederate generals John M. Jones, Micah Jenkins, and Leroy A. Stafford were killed. The battle was a tactical draw. Grant, however, did not retreat as had the other Union generals before him. On May 7, the Federals advanced by the left flank toward the crossroads of Spotsylvania Courthouse.

**Estimated Casualties: 29,800 total killed
(Union 18,400 & Confederate 11,400)**

May 5. At 5:am, Second Corps was moving down the Furnace Road to Todd's Tavern and then onto Shady Grove Church by way of another road. The plan was to have Second Corps in position to turn the Confederate's right.

* **At 9:am,** Meade's order for the Second Corps to halt its march toward Todd's Tavern and to attack the enemy on the Turnpike was received by Hancock.

Birney (3rd Maine) moved his division up the Brock road and placed it at the intersection with the Plank Road where Getty's division of the Sixth Corps was holding the cross roads.

* **At 4:30pm,** Hancock started the attack with Getty's division in the center, Birney's division (3rd Maine) on the right and Mott's division on the left. The confusion caused by Meade's order for the arrangement of the attacking divisions resulted in the divisions

moving forward at odd angles and Getty's flanks were not covered as they should have been by the other divisions. After advancing about half-mile, Getty's division hit Heth's Confederate division and sent word to Hancock that they needed reinforcements. Birney sent Ward's brigade (3rd Maine) to support Getty's left and this action stabilized the Union line. The fighting stopped soon after sunset with Hancock's Union troops and Hill's Confederates still facing each other on the plank road as they met that morning.

May 6. At 5:am, Second Corps' attacking column with Birney in command moved to meet the rebels. The Union column consisted of Birney's (3rd Maine), Mott's and Wheaton's (Getty's) divisions. Two brigades of Gibbon's division were placed in support of the attack. The Union assault pushed back Hill's troops. The assault was slowing down because the Union line soon became broken in the dense forest.

* **At 6:20am,** Longstreet's Corps slammed into the weary and confused Union line.

* **At 9:45am,** Birney was ordered to send two brigades to connect with Warren's left. Birney's attack against Longstreet failed because he had had four brigades removed from his division and thus was unable to hammer the rebels with enough strength to make a break in their line. The fighting soon stopped at 10:am.

* **At 11:am,** The Confederates attacked the Union left flank from the railroad cut. The brigades (3rd Maine) of Hancock's Division were unable to change their front in time and were forced to retreat back to the breastworks along the Brock Road.

* **At 4:15pm,** The Confederates attacked the Second Corps breastworks. After a half hour, the rebels were unable to gain a foot hold in the Union line. The woods had been on fire for some hours and in the late afternoon, the fire began to burn the breastworks in front of Mott's division. The defenders were forced to leave their line due to the heat, smoke and flames. The Confederates attacked and broke through Mott's division but on either side of Mott's division, Getty's, Birney's (3rd Maine) and Barlow's men held firm and the breach could not be widened. The Confederates retreated in defeat and the battle of the Wilderness was over.

* During this battle, the 3rd Maine made and repelled many charges. The men of the 3rd Maine won much praise for their courage and steadiness under the furious attacks of the enemy.

May 7. The Third Maine Regiment Volunteer Infantry spent the day in their rifle pits.

Spotsylvania (May 8-21)

This battle was known by other names such as Combats at Laurel Hill and Corbin's Bridge (May 8); Ni River (May 9); Laurel Hill, Po River, and Bloody Angle (May 10); Salient or Bloody Angle (May 12-13); Piney Branch Church (May 15); Harrison House (May 18); and Harris Farm (May 19). The principal commanders were Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant with Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee,

Confederate. Total forces engaged were 152,000 troops (Union 100,000 and Confederate 52,000). The result(s) were inconclusive as Grant continued his offensive.

After the Wilderness, Grant's and Meade's advance on Richmond by the left flank was stalled at Spotsylvania Court House on May 8. This two-week battle was a series of combats along the Spotsylvania front. The Union attack against the Bloody Angle at dawn, May 12-13, captured nearly a division of Lee's army and came near to cutting the Confederate army in half. Confederate counterattacks plugged the gap, and fighting continued unabated for nearly 20 hours in what may well have been the most ferociously sustained combat of the Civil War. On May 19, a Confederate attempt to turn the Union right flank at Harris Farm was beaten back with severe casualties. Union generals Sedgwick (VI Corps commander) and Rice were killed. Confederate generals Johnson and Steuart were captured, Daniel and Perrin mortally wounded. On May 21, Grant disengaged and continued his advance on Richmond.

**Estimated Casualties: 30,000 total killed
(Union 18,000; Confederate 12,000)**

May 8. The Army of the Potomac made their move toward the Spotsylvania Court House. The 3rd Maine was involved in very little fighting at Laurel Hill.

May 10. The divisions of Gibbon and Birney were ordered to join with the Fifth Corps for an attack. The 3rd Maine was held in reserve until sunset. At 7:pm, they joined their division (Birney's) in a charge with Gibbon's division against the rebels but were turned back near Po River.

May 11. Under the cover of darkness, Birney's (3rd Maine), Gibbon's and Barlow's divisions marched to a point opposite the right center of the rebel line near the Brown's house. This position in the Confederate line was called the "Mule Shoe".

May 12. At 4:35am, 20,000 men of Second Corps assaulted the Confederate works. Barlow's division was on the left with Gibbon's division in support and Birney's division (3rd Maine) on the right with Mott's division supporting them. They succeeded in carrying the works at the "salient" and with bayonets and clubbed muskets, they captured Johnson's division with their support artillery.

*** From 6:am to after midnight,** The Second Corps was successful in defending the works against the counter-assaults of the enemy. The battle was fought at point-blank range, firing into each other's faces, stabbing with bayonets through gaps in the works, pulling their opponents over the piled-up logs.

It had rained all day and the bodies of the dead and wounded were trampled down into the mud as the men fought. The angle between the north and west face of the salient, held by the Second and Sixth Corps, became known as the "Bloody Angle".

* General Ward was arrested for being drunk and was relieved of his command.

May 13. Hancock consolidated Mott's division into a single brigade and assigned it to Birney's division (3rd Maine).

General Thomas W. Egan became Brigade Commander

May 13 - 17. The Second Corps was slowly moving around the left of the Confederate line.

May 18. During the night, Barlow, Birney (3rd Maine) and Gibbon moved their divisions out of line in preparation for Second Corps movement toward the North Anna River.

Fredericksburg Road

May 19. At 5:pm, Ewell's Corps hit Tyler's division of "heavy artillery" infantry and the Corcoran Legion of four New York infantry regiments who were assigned to it. They were guarding the supply trains of the Second Corps. The Third division of Second Corps, which the 3rd Maine belonged, was ordered to rescue Tyler's division who were under heavy attack by the enemy on Fredericksburg Road at the Harris Farm. The Union troops held their ground and drove Ewell from the field.

May 20. The Army of the Potomac headed south towards the North Anna River.

May 21. The Second Corps marched south and east to Guiney's Station, Bowling Green, and Milford Station where it captured the bridge over the Mattapony River.

May 22. The Second Corps remained in its position on the Mattapony.

North Anna (May 23-26)

The principal commanders were Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant with Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate. The result(s) were inconclusive but Grant continued his advance on Richmond.

After the fighting at Spotsylvania Court House, Grant continued his Overland Offensive against Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. He was brought up short on the North Anna River by Lee's widely studied "hog snout line,"

which forced Grant to divide his army into three parts in order to attack. On May 23, 1864, one of A.P. Hill's divisions assaulted the V Corps which had crossed the river at Jericho Mill,

resulting in bloody see-saw fighting. On the 24th, Union infantry was repulsed at Ox Ford (the snout) but advanced to near the Doswell House on the Confederate right. Lee hoped to strike an offensive blow, but he was ill, and the opportunity for defeating an isolated part of the Federal army passed. Once the threat of Lee's position was revealed, Grant withdrew both wings of the army back across the North Anna River.

Grant outflanked the position by moving downstream and continued his advance on Richmond.

Total Estimated Casualties for Union & Confederate were 4,000 killed

May 23. In the morning, 3rd Maine, with the Army, started moving toward the North Anna River. The enemy had built defensive works in front of the bridge. Early in the evening, the brigades of Egan (3rd Maine) and Pierce of Birney's division charged the bridge and captured it.

In this action, Colonel Lakeman was wounded.

May 24. In the morning, the rebels were turned back in their attempts to burn the bridge. The Confederates retreated from the field and the Second Corps crossed and occupied the abandoned works.

May 27. The Second Corps moved south and east toward Hanover town on the Pamunkey River and went into camp at 10:pm.

May 28. At 5:30am, The Second Corps crossed the Pamunkey river and at noon, they linked up with the Sixth Corps.

Totopotomoy (May 28-30, 1864)

The principal commanders were Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant with Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, Union and Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate. The result(s) were inconclusive and Grant ordered a flanking movement by the Army.

Operations along Totopotomoy Creek opened with cavalry combats at the Pamunkey River crossing at Dabney's Ferry (Hanover town) and at Crump's Creek on May 27. During the cavalry fight at Haw's Shop on May 28, Union and Confederate infantry arrived in the vicinity. The Confederates entrenched behind Totopotomoy Creek. On the 29th, the Union II, IX, and V Corps probed Lee's position along the creek, while the VI Corps felt its way toward Hanover Court House. Early on the 30th, the VI Corps turned south to come in on the far right flank of the Union line (II Corps) but bogged down in swampy Crump's Creek without getting into position. The II Corps forced a crossing of Totopotomoy Creek in two places, capturing the first line of Confederate trenches, but the advance was stopped at the main line. The IX Corps maneuvered into position on the left of the II Corps, driving back Confederate pickets on the Shady Grove Road. In the meantime, the V Corps, moving near Bethesda Church on the far left flank of the Union army, was attacked by Early's corps. The Federals were driven back to Shady Grove Road after heavy fighting.

**Estimated Casualties: 2,200 total
(Union 1,100 killed and Confederate 1,100 killed)**

May 30-31. The enemy was alert on the front and at every crossroad. No major battle but alot of heavy fighting by skirmishes. The 3rd Maine was ordered to build

entrenchments and to send out pickets. The regiment lost 16 men while on picket duty; most of them were taken prisoner during a change of position by the Army. Since there was no opening along the 10 mile front, Grant ordered a flanking movement by the Army.

Cold Harbor (June 1-5)

June 1. Grant ordered Hancock's Second Corps to support Wright's corps' left at Cold Harbor by marching 10 miles overnight.

June 3. Third division of the Second Corps of which the 3rd Maine was a part, was ordered to support General Barlow's division in the battle.

June 4. 3rd Maine was ordered to the rear. The 64 men of the 3rd Maine who had reenlisted and the 65 men who were new replacements & recruits were transferred to the 17th Maine. These men severed with the 17th Maine in Gen. de Trobriand's First Brigade of the Third Division of Second Corps until it was mustered out of service on June 4, 1865.

June 5. The Third Maine Regiment of Volunteer Infantry after being highly complimented by General Birney left for Maine. Its term of service had expired.

* The 3rd Maine was one of the best regiments in the service from Maine and was held in high esteem by those who commanded it. In "Regimental Losses of the Civil War" by Fox, the 3rd Maine is classed among the three hundred fighting regiments of the Union Army because of their losses in battle.

June 11. The Third Maine arrived in Augusta Maine. The veterans were greeted with a public reception prepared by the city's authorities.

June 16. General Henry J. Madill became Brigade Commander

June 28. The regiment was mustered out of the U.S. service.

* During its service, the Third Regiment Maine Volunteer Infantry lost 10 Officers and 124 Enlisted men killed or mortally wounded while in battle and lost 1 Officer and 148 Enlisted men by disease. The total deaths for the 3rd Maine during its service was 283 men.

General David B. Birney became Division Commander

3rd Maine Losses At The End Of The War

(1) Col. OLIVER O. HOWARD, W. P., BVT. MAJOR-GEN. U.S.A.

(2) Col. HENRY G. STAPLES.

(3) Col. MOSES B. LAKEMAN.

O Officers K Killed and died of wounds.

M Men D Died of disease, accidents, in prison, &c.

T Total E Total Enrollment

Companies		-----K-----			-----D-----			
	O	M	T	O	M	T	E	
Field and Staff	2	1	3	--	--	--	20	
Company A	1	12	13	--	9	9	159	
B	2	12	14	--	15	15	165	
C	--	10	10	--	11	11	147	
D	--	12	12	--	15	15	154	
E	1	11	12	--	15	15	149	
F	--	20	20	--	19	19	166	
G	--	15	15	1	17	18	156	
H	--	10	10	--	17	17	146	
I	1	12	13	--	15	15	161	

	K	3	9	12	--	15	15	163
Totals		10	124	134	1	148	149	1,586

Total of killed and wounded, 489;
Died of disease in Confederate prisons, 33.

BATTLES	K.& M.W.	BATTLES	K.& M.W.
First Bull Run, Va	8	Gettysburg, Pa	30
Fair Oaks, Va	14	Mine Run, Va	1
Malvern Hill, Va	1	Wilderness, Va	24
Manassas, Va	5	Spotsylvania, Va	15
Chantilly, Va	8	North Anna, Va	9
Fredericksburg, Va	6	Totopotomoy, Va	6
Chancellorsville, Va	6	Gunboat Service, Miss	1

Present, also, at Bailey's Cross Roads; Yorktown; Williamsburg; White Oak Swamp; Glendale; Wapping Heights; Kelly's Ford; Cold Harbor.

Brief History of the 17th Maine

Formed: August 7, 1862

Muster in: August 18, 1862

Muster out: June 10, 1865

Length of service: Three years

Casualties

1,371 Enrollment

207 Killed

552 Wounded

163 Died of disease

31 in Confederate Prisons

* The 17th Maine Regiment sustained the heaviest battle losses of any Maine Infantry Regiment . Re-enlisted men and recruits of the 17th Maine were transferred to 1st Regiment Maine Heavy Artillery, June 4, 1865.

Engagements Of The 17th Maine Infantry

Fredericksburg, VA - December 13, 1862

Chancellorsville, VA - May 1-4, 1863

Gettysburg, PA - July 1-3 1863 (Gettysburg Campaign)
Wapping Heights, VA - July 21-23, 1863
Catlett's Station, VA - October 14, 1863 (Bristoe Campaign)
Kelly's Ford, VA - November 7, 1863 (Bristoe Campaign)
Mine Run, VA - November 26 December 1, 1863
Wilderness, VA - May 5-7, 1864
Po river, VA - May 9-11, 1864 (Spotsylvania Campaign)
Spotsylvania, VA - May 7-20, 1864
North Anna, VA - May 23-27, 1864
Totopotomy, VA - May 26,-30, 1864
Cold Harbor VA - May 31 June 12, 1864

June 4, 1864. 3rd Maine was ordered to the rear. The 64 men of the 3rd Maine who had reenlisted and the 65 men who were new replacements & recruits were transferred to the 17th Maine. These men severed with the 17th Maine in Gen. de Trobriand's First Brigade of the Third Division of Second Corps.

Cold Harbor VA - May 31 June 12, 1864
Petersburg, VA Siege - June 1864
Jerusalem Plank Road, VA - June 22-23, 1864 (Petersburg Campaign)
Deep Bottom, VA - August 14, 1864 (Petersburg Campaign)
Poplar Spring Church, VA - September 30 October 2, 1864 (Petersburg Campaign)
Fort Hell, VA - (Petersburg Campaign)
Boydton Road, VA - October 23, 1864 (Petersburg Campaign)
Hatchers Run, VA - December 8-9, 1864 (Petersburg Campaign)
Deatonsville, VA - April 6, 1865 (Appomattox Campaign)
Saylor's Creek, VA - April 6, 1865 (Appomattox Campaign)
Farmville, VA - April 7, 1865 (Appomattox Campaign)
Appomattox, VA - April 9, 1865

June 28, 1864. The regiment was mustered out of the U.S. service.

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