



**Department of New Jersey
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

Headquarters
201 Sentinel Avenue
Newtown, PA 18940
(215)-579-1537
www.nidept-suvcw.org

**Department Order 014
December 19, 2015**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I greet you in anticipation of cheerful holiday celebrations with our family and friends. At this time every year, as Americans, we recall our past in collective memories of Trenton, Valley Forge, Fredericksburg, and the Ardennes forests. We give thanks for the bravery and sacrifice of our citizen soldier forbears.

Please join with me in reciting the following prayer from my father's unit, the 28th Infantry "Keystone" Division, which was resting and refitting in the exact center of the American sector on December 16, 1944.

DIVISION PRAYER

I

*Our Father, Creator of beauty and life,
Spare this earth from wanton strife,
28th men, who through history long,
To thy Kingdom now belong,
Bless and abide with them there.*

II

*God in Heaven, Eternal Love,
Protect their homes with Grace from above,
Their loved ones, who Thy will endure,
Comfort their hearts, keep them secure,
Bless and abide with them here.*

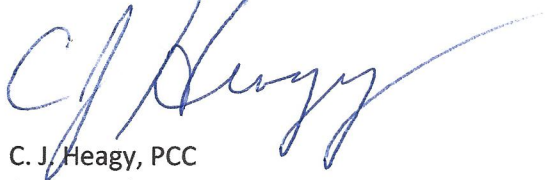
III

*We, on earth, who await Thy call,
Help us to keep the Faith with all,
With banners high and hearts in line,
In Thy holy light may the Keystone shine,
Bless and abide with us all.*

AMEN

I wish to each of you all the blessings of a Merry Christmas and the optimistic hope for a Joyous New Year.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. J. Heagy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

C. J. Heagy, PCC

Commander

New Jersey Department

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