

NEW JERSEY'S MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS IN THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865



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Preface

This booklet is a compilation of the panels prepared for an exhibit at the General James A. Garfield Camp No. 4, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Museum to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. This museum is co-located with the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey in the Armory at 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ. Volunteers who work in both museums prepared the exhibit over the past year. The exhibit opened on May 23, 2011, the 150th anniversary of the New Jersey Brigade's crossing over the Potomac River into the Confederacy on that date in 1861.

The two museums are open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Group tours may be scheduled for other hours by leaving a message for the Museum Curator at (609) 530-6802. He will return your call and arrange the tour.

Denise Rogers, a former Rider University student intern at the Militia Museum, and Charles W. Cahilly II, a member and Past Commander of the General James A. Garfield Camp No. 4, assisted with research in the preparation of this exhibit.

Cover Picture: Medal of Honor awarded to Sergeant William Porter, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment. Photo courtesy of Bob MacAvoy.

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The Medal of Honor in the Civil War



US Navy Medal of Honor
(Courtesy of Hall of Heroes)

An Act of Congress in 1861 established the Medal of Honor to “promote efficiency in the Navy.” President Abraham Lincoln signed it into law on December 21, 1861. A second Act followed for the Army, which Lincoln signed into law on July 12, 1862. The intent behind the two medals was to recognize those service men who distinguished themselves by their gallantry in action or “other seaman- or soldier-like qualities.” While only enlisted men were eligible for the Navy award until 1915, officers and men were eligible for the Army medal from its inception.

The Army and Navy awarded nearly 2,500 medals during the Civil War, many of them for rather mundane acts. Over time, the military tightened the criteria for award of the Medal of Honor and, in 1916, a panel of five Army generals reviewed the Army medals awarded to date and rescinded 911 of them as not being worthy. In addition to the tightening of the award criteria for the Medal of Honor, the Congress authorized the creation of additional lesser awards for valor.



US Army Medal of Honor
(Courtesy of the Army
Institute of Heraldry)

The Medal of Honor now stands at the top of a pyramid of honor and is the highest medal for valor in combat awarded a member of the US Armed Forces. New Jersey soldiers, sailors, and marines earned seventy of the Medals of Honor from the Civil War period. This booklet provides information about these men and the deeds they performed to earn this medal.

NEW JERSEY'S CIVIL WAR MEDAL of HONOR RECIPIENTS

Archinal, William 30 th Ohio Infantry	DeCastro, Joseph H. 19 th Massachusetts Infantry	Grant, Gabriel 2 nd New Jersey Infantry	Lawson, John <i>USS Hartford</i>
Beech (Beach), John P. 4 th New Jersey Infantry	Davis, John <i>USS Valley City</i>	Hamilton, Richard <i>USS Shamrock</i>	Leon, Pierre <i>USS Baron DeKalb</i>
Brant, William Jr. 1 st New Jersey Infantry	Dorsey, Decatur 39 th US Colored Infantry	Hooper, William B. 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Locke (Tacy), Lewis 1 st New Jersey Cavalry
Bronner, August Frederick 1 st New York Light Artillery	Drake, James M. 9 th New Jersey Infantry	Hopkins, Charles F. 1 st New Jersey Infantry	Magee, William 33 rd New Jersey Infantry
Carmin, Issac H. 48 th Ohio Infantry	English, Edmund 2 nd New Jersey Infantry	Houghton, Charles H. 14 th New York Heavy Artillery	McIntosh, James <i>USS Richmond</i>
Clancy, James T. 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Evans, James Robert 62 nd New York Infantry	Howard, James 158 th New York Infantry	Meyer, Henry Coddington 24 th New York Cavalry
Conner, Richard 6 th New Jersey Infantry	Fallon, Thomas T. 37 th NY Infantry & 35 th NJ Infantry	Kane, Thomas <i>USS Nereus</i>	Mindil, George W. 61 st Pennsylvania Infantry
Crocker, Henry 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry	Fesq, Frank 40 th New Jersey Infantry	Keele, Joseph 182 nd New York Infantry	Oss, Albert 11 th New Jersey Infantry
Cummings, Amos J. 26 th New Jersey Infantry	Follett (Follet), Joseph L. 1 st Missouri Light Artillery	King, Rufus 4 th US Artillery	Pitman, George J. 1 st New York Cavalry

NEW JERSEY'S CIVIL WAR MEDAL of HONOR RECIPIENTS (Continued)

Porter, Horace Ordnance Department, USA	Shivers, John <i>USMC USS Minnesota</i>	Thomson, Clifford 1 st New York Cavalry	Williams, John <i>USS Mohican</i>
Porter, William 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Southard, David 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Titus, Charles 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Wilson, Charles 1 st New Jersey Cavalry
Rhodes, Julius Dexter 5th New York Cavalry	Stewart, George W. 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Toffey, John J. 21 st New Jersey Infantry	Wilson, John 1 st New Jersey Cavalry
Robbins, Agustus J. 2 nd Vermont Infantry	Strahan, Robert <i>USS Kearsarge</i>	Tomlin, Andrew J. <i>USMC on USS Wabash</i>	Wood, Richard H. 7 th Illinois Infantry
Sagelhurst , John C. 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Strausbaugh, Bernard A. 3 rd Maryland Infantry Posthumously awarded	Tompkins, Aaron B. 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Woodward, Evan M. 2 nd Pennsylvania Reserves
Scott, Julian A. 3 rd Vermont Infantry	Streile, Christian 1 st New Jersey Cavalry	Traynor, Andrew 1 st Michigan Cavalry	Wright, Robert 14 th US Infantry
Sewell, William J. 5 th New Jersey Infantry	Taylor, Anthony 15 th Pennsylvania Cavalry	Veale, Moses 109 th Pennsylvania Infantry	Young, Edward B. <i>USS Galena</i>
Shaler, Alexander 65 th New York Infantry	Taylor, Forrester I. 23 rd New Jersey Infantry	Weeks, Charles H. <i>USS Montauk</i>	
Sheridan, James <i>USS Oneida</i>	Thompson, William <i>USS Mohican</i>	Whitfield, Daniel <i>USS Lackawanna</i>	

EARNING THE MEDAL OF HONOR

To receive a Medal of Honor for heroism during the Civil War, the soldier, sailor, or marine almost always had to survive the combat action in which he performed his heroic deeds. If he died in action, his heroic actions were not rewarded with a medal. Only one of New Jersey's Civil War medals was awarded posthumously - after the death of the recipient - and that medal was awarded some five months after the battle and only 25 days after the death of First Sergeant Bernard Strausbaugh.

The action that almost guaranteed the award of a Medal of Honor was the capture of an enemy flag. National and unit flags carried by soldiers played a significant role in combat as soldiers looked to the flag for direction and inspiration in battle. Flags were greatly revered and aggressively defended by the soldiers that carried them. Being a member of the Color Guard was considered to be a great honor as well as a near guarantee of death or wounding in battle as the colors were normally in the forefront of the unit, drew the highest amount of enemy fire, and were always the focal point of combat. Ten of the seventy New Jersey Medal of Honors involved the capture of an enemy flag.

Actions that prevented the capture of a unit's own flag was also considered worthy of a Medal of Honor. Four of New Jersey's Civil War awards involved defending the national or unit colors and preventing it from falling into enemy hands.

Another heroic deed that earned recognition was being in the forefront of a charge on enemy fortifications or planting the unit flag on the enemy works. The attack did not have to be successful. In fact, a failed charge in which the enemy's works were entered often was a greater indication of bravery than a successful attack in which the enemy's position was captured. Twelve of the medals awarded entailed being in the forefront of an attack on the enemy position.

For the Navy, actions that prevented the loss or destruction of a ship were greatly prized. This generally involved preventing an explosion of a powder magazine, fighting fires, or steering a ship out of danger. Four of the twelve medals earned by naval crewmen involved this type action.

Six Navy awards recognized remaining at the guns while under enemy fire.

Continuing to fight after being wounded was viewed as a very heroic act worthy of a medal. Four of the awards recognized this courageous act.

Finally, risking one's own life in order to save a comrade from injury or capture was deemed a very heroic and selfless act deserving of recognition. Seven awards were for risking one's own life to save others.

EARNING THE MEDAL OF HONOR (Continued)

Of New Jersey's 70 Medals of Honor, 35 were awarded for action involving an offensive battle and 35 were for actions during a defensive battle.

Awards for offensive actions are: Leading or participating in a charge (16); capturing the enemy's flag (10); remaining at the guns of a bombarding ship despite being under attack by the enemy's guns (6); and continuing combat after receiving a wound (3). Six men led storming or assault parties into the enemy position, three were wounded while doing so, one permanently disabling, two men received the award for participating in an assault, one saved the life of a wounded officer and one was wounded and captured. One captured enemy artillery pieces. Two assaults pierced the enemy lines or flanked them. Three of the twelve men in an assault carried the regiment's colors to the enemy lines, while one shot and killed the enemy General leading a counter-attack, and two were part of an assault. Five men earned their medals because of their steadfastness in remaining at their ship's guns during attacks despite heavy shore bombardment, one after being wounded. Two men received the award for continuing to fight after being severely wounded.

Awards for defensive actions included: holding a position (11); saving regimental flags (4); saving wounded men (7); preventing the capture of cavalry horses (2), artillery pieces (2); enabling the retreat of artillery pieces and supply wagons (1); conducting the withdrawal of a regiment while severely wounded (1); successfully scouted an advancing enemy (1); carrying orders to the brigade commander (1); engineering an escape from captivity (1); preventing the explosion of a barrel of powder (1); extinguishing a shipboard fire (1); and steering a ship out of danger (2). Maintenance of a defensive position took many forms: rallying routed troops, holding a position while under attack by superior forces, checking an enemy charge, saving the regiment's colors, firing artillery into superior forces and firing ship's guns while under fire by the enemy. Seven medals were awarded for the removal of severely wounded men from the battlefield; one was wounded several times himself while doing it. Two awards were for shooting rebel flag bearers, actions that saved the horses of a cavalry unit by slowing an enemy attack. Two awards were made for preventing the capture of artillery guns and another for the saving of supply wagons in addition to permitting artillery to disengage. One award was made to a captured man who, with a captured civilian wagon driver, killed two of his attackers and engineered the escape of himself, the wagon driver and several other Union soldiers. Four were awarded to Navy men for saving their ships by: smothering a fire, preventing the explosion of a powder barrel by smothering it with his body, continuing to steer his ship after being wounded, and sailing two lashed together ships out of Mobile Harbor while under heavy enemy fire.

COUNTING MEDAL RECIPIENTS

For administrative purposes, the Government credits a Medal of Honor to the State in which the recipient entered the military service. Using this criteria, the government credited New Jersey with thirty-five Medals of Honor earned during the Civil War. However, thirty-five recipients whose Medals of Honor are credited to other States have ties to New Jersey. Twelve were born in New Jersey; twenty-two more lived in or are buried in New Jersey; and one, who was neither born nor buried in the State, served in New Jersey regiments for most of the war. We chose to recognize all seventy Medal of Honor recipients with a connection to New Jersey. Some might argue that we should only honor sixty-nine recipients as the award of the medal given to Willie Magee was based on fraudulent claims. The federal government has not rescinded this medal, so we have included it in the display and this booklet.

You will note that many of the awards of the Medal of Honor did not take place until years after the war ended. Those awards were a result of the recipient petitioning the government for the award. They essentially nominated themselves for the award, including supporting documentation for justification. The medals recommended by commanding officers during the war were generally processed quickly and awarded a relatively short time after the battle in which the heroic act occurred. The Navy awards fall into this category.

Of the seventy New Jersey, Medal of Honor recipients, fifty-seven served in the Army, eleven served in the Navy, and two served in the Marine Corps. Of the soldiers, thirty-four were in the infantry, nineteen were in the cavalry, three were in the artillery, and one was in the ordnance corps.

Of the seventy New Jersey Civil War Medal of Honor recipients, only First Sergeant Bernard Strausbaugh was awarded the medal posthumously, that is, after he died. During the Civil War, heroism of men who died in combat was not generally recognized with a medal. For the most part, awards went to those who survived the battle.

TERMINOLOGY

This section provides definitions of terms used throughout these display panels that may be confusing or unclear to the non-expert.

Artillery Section - Two guns of an artillery battery working together and commanded by a Lieutenant.

Brevet – a promotion without an increase in pay. Normally done for officers to recognize meritorious service during a battle or campaign.

CSA – Confederate States of America or the South.

Death knell – a bell rung to announce a death.

Flanked - A term used to describe an attack on the side or the rear of a military unit.

Forlorn hope - A group of soldiers selected to lead an assault on a defended position, where the risk of casualties is very high.

Ironclad – a warship made of or plated with iron for protection against enemy weapons.

Monitor – a type of Union ironclad with one or two revolving turrets.

Muster In or Out– After a State recruited and organized a unit for military service, a Regular Army officer would assemble the unit and accept it into the Army. The unit is “mustered in”. When the unit completed its service, it “mustered out”, i.e., left Army service.

Parole – a soldier’s release from captivity in exchange for a promise not to take up arms until properly exchanged for another prisoner of war.

Redan - a work made from earth or other material in a V-shaped angle pointing toward an expected attack.

TERMINOLOGY (Continued)

Rod - A unit of length equal to 5.5 yards.

Skirmishers or skirmish line – a small number of troops deployed in front of the main battle line to provide warning of an attack and to harass the enemy.

Steam screw frigate or sloop – a naval warship that uses a steam driven screw propeller rather than wind for propulsion.

Union Army Units

- **Company** – the building block of the infantry or cavalry regiment and commanded by a captain.
- **Regiment** – the basic fighting organization of the infantry (ten companies) and cavalry (twelve companies in three squadrons); commanded by a colonel.
- **Brigade** – two to seven regiments commanded by a brigadier general.
- **Division** – two to four brigades commanded by a major general.
- **Corps** – two to four divisions commanded by a major general.
- **Army** – two to seven corps commanded by a major general.

USA – United States Army

US Army Ranks

- **Private** – a basic soldier of the lowest rank.
- **Corporal** – a junior non-commissioned officer who ranks just above a private.

TERMINOLOGY (Continued)

US Army Ranks (Continued)

- Sergeant – a non-commissioned officer who normally leads a squad of men.
- First Sergeant – the senior non-commissioned officer in a company.
- Quartermaster Sergeant – a non-commissioned officer on the regimental staff in charge of supplies and ammunition.
- Sergeant Major – the senior non-commissioned officer of a regiment.

USMC – United States Marine Corps

USN – United States Navy

US Navy Ranks

- **Captain of the Forecastle** - a first class working petty officer, appointed for command in the area of the ship before the foremast.
- **Captain of the Top** - a first class working petty officer, appointed for command of the gun platforms on the top of a mast.
- **Captain of the Hold** - a first class working petty officer appointed for command in the area below the main deck.
- **Coxswain** - a first class working petty officer put in charge of a boat and crew in the absence of officers.
- **Landsman** - a man with no naval training who performed basic tasks on a ship such as hauling and hoisting sails.
- **Quarter Gunner** - a first class working petty officer put in charge of four guns.
- **Quartermaster** - a first class working petty officer appointed for the man responsible for monitoring the helmsman and assisting in navigational duties (heaving the log, shooting azimuths, etc.)

TERMINOLOGY (Continued)

US Navy Ranks (Continued)

- **Signal Quartermaster** - a first class working petty officer, appointed for the man responsible for signaling and the caring for flags, halyards, markers, lanterns and other paraphernalia.

USS – United States Ship, a ship belonging to the USN.

Corporal William Archinal



(Photo courtesy of Bill McKern)

William Archinal was born in Germany on June 3, 1840.

He immigrated to the United States in 1860, and was 21 years old when he enlisted in the 30th Ohio Infantry Regiment on August 22, 1861 at Canal Dover, OH.

At Vicksburg, Mississippi on May 22, 1863, 150 men volunteered to make a "forlorn hope" diversionary charge on the Confederate position known as the

Stockade Redan – a charge that was intended to draw fire away from the main attack, and one from which no one was expected to return. After charging across an open plain in full view of the Confederates, the withering fire was such that most of the volunteers were cut down, and those that made it through the fire took shelter in a ravine under the Redan. They stayed there and fought until nightfall, when the survivors, who had not been captured, made their way back to the Union lines. Of the men who made the charge, eighty-five percent did not return; Private Archinal was one of them, having been captured.

Paroled and exchanged, Archinal served in the 1864 Atlanta Campaign, the March to the Sea, and the drive through the Carolinas in March and April of 1865. Archinal was one of nine 30th OH soldiers awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery during the Civil War.

His Civil War service ended on August 13, 1865 when he mustered out at Little Rock, Arkansas, having done his duty for nearly four full years in the field with his regiment.

Corporal William Archinal was awarded the Medal of Honor on August 10, 1894, for gallantry on May 22, 1863 during the Vicksburg Campaign while serving as a Private in the 30th Ohio Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Gallantry in the charge of the volunteer storming party.

Archinal later settled in Canton, OH, where he became a prominent businessman and served as Postmaster for four years.

William Archinal died on May 10, 1919 and is interred in Riverview Cemetery in Trenton, NJ.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Sergeant John Beech



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

John Beech was born in Stratfordshire, England on May 1, 1844.

Beech joined Co. B, 4th New Jersey Infantry Regiment in Trenton on August 9, 1861 to fight for the Union in

in the Civil War. He was promoted to Corporal on September 1, 1864, and was made Sergeant on February 1, 1865.

The Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse was the second ferocious battle in the 1864 campaign launched by General Grant to defeat the Confederate Army under Robert E. Lee. After fighting to a bloody draw in the Wilderness, Grant turned his Army south towards Richmond only to be stopped again by Lee's men at Spotsylvania Courthouse.

On May 12, 1864, during the fighting at Spotsylvania Courthouse, a section of an artillery battery was deployed in front of then-Corporal Beech's 4th NJ. In minutes, enemy fire cut down most of the battery's men. Corporal Beech sprang forward and assisted the remaining cannoneers in working their guns, despite being under severe fire the entire time.

John Beech died on November 27, 1926 and is buried in Mercer Cemetery in Trenton, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant John Beech on June 1, 1894 for valor at the Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse on May 12, 1864 while serving as Corporal, Company B, 4th New Jersey Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Voluntarily assisted in working the guns of a battery, all the members of which had been killed or wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Captain William Brant Jr.



US Army Civil War Medal of Honor

(Courtesy of the Army Institute of Heraldry)

William Brant was born in Elizabeth, NJ in 1842 and became a volunteer fireman prior to the Civil War.

He enlisted in the Union Army on May 16, 1861, serving as a Corporal in Company A, 1st NJ Infantry. He was promoted to Sergeant, Company A on February 4, 1862 and fought at this rank at the Battles of Gaines Mills, Glendale, Malvern Hill, and Second Bull Run.

Brant was promoted to First Sergeant on September 1, 1862, serving in this capacity in the Battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and the Mine Run Campaign. Brant re-enlisted in December 1863. On February 2, 1865 he was commissioned as a 1st Lieutenant in Co. B.

On April 3, 1865 the 1st NJ participated in the final assaults on the Confederate positions at Petersburg, where Brandt captured the battle flag of the 46th North Carolina Infantry Regiment.

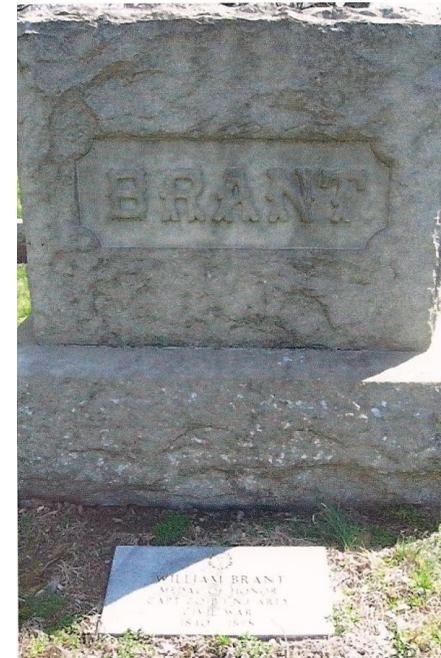
William Brandt was promoted to Brevet Captain, US Volunteers on April 2, 1865. On May 11th he was promoted to full Captain, and was mustered out of Union service on June 29, 1865, having served the entire War.

The 1st New Jersey Infantry Regiment participated in twenty-two battles and numerous skirmishes and was present at General Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

William Brant died March 1, 1898. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Hillside, NJ.

Captain William Brant Jr. was awarded the Medal of Honor on May 10, 1865 for bravery on April 3, 1865 at Petersburg, Virginia.

Citation: Capture of battle flag of 46th NC.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Private August Frederick Bronner



**Flag of 1st Regiment Artillery (Light)
NY Volunteers**

(Courtesy of New York State Military Museum)

August Frederick Bronner was born in Germany in 1835 and migrated to the United States prior to the Civil War.

Bronner's war records provide contradictory information about the units in which he served during the war. The records do show that, at age 25, Bronner

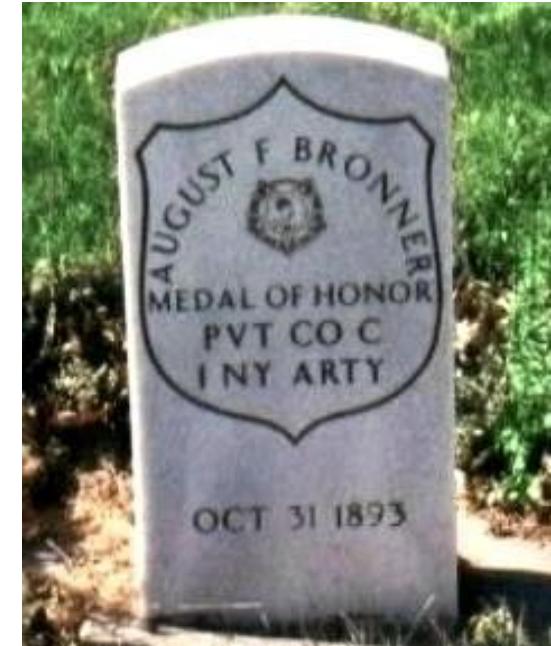
enlisted in a New York artillery unit on September 19, 1861 as a private for three years and that he served in various New York artillery units until he was discharged on August 22, 1864.

The Battle of White Oak Swamp took place on June 30, 1862 in Henrico County, Virginia during the Peninsular Campaign as part of the Seven Days Battles. After four days of fighting, the Union Army of the Potomac was retreating southeast toward the James River. Its rearguard, under Major General William Franklin, stopped Major General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's divisions at the White Oak Bridge crossing, resulting in a long artillery duel in which Bronner participated. Meanwhile, the Battle of Glendale raged two miles farther south around Frayser's Farm. Because of the strong resistance from Franklin's V Corps, General Jackson's forces were not able to participate in the main Confederate assault on the Union Army at Glendale that had been ordered by General Robert E. Lee. This led to an inconclusive result at Glendale, but one which allowed the Union Army to assume a strong defensive position at Malvern Hill on the following day.

August Frederick Bronner died on October 31, 1893 and is buried in Fairmount Cemetery, Newark, NJ.

Private August Bronner was awarded the Medal of Honor on April 19, 1892 for his courage at White Oak Swamp, Virginia on June 30, 1862 while serving in the 1st Battalion New York Artillery.

Citation: Continued to fight after being severely wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Corporal Issac H. Carmin



48th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry

(Photo courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society))

Issac H. Carmin was born on November 17, 1841 in Monmouth County, NJ. He joined the 48th Ohio Infantry Regiment in February, 1862.

Corporal Carmin earned the Medal of Honor for saving the flag of his regiment and the lives of several of his comrades during an assault on Confederate defenses at Vicksburg on May 22, 1863. In his own words: "I reached the top of the bastion and grabbed the Ohio flag; the Illinois standard could not be saved. How I got down and paced the hundred feet to our ditch, through all that

tremendous fire, I cannot tell. In my great haste I ran right into the bayonet of one of my own company, who was then in charging position, driving its entire length into my leg and thigh. Although I almost dropped into a faint, I had enough presence of mind to run the shaft of the flag into the dust and hang on to it. My comrades pulled me down into their ditch and got the bayonet out of my leg. I was then taken to the rear."

Following the failed assault on May 22, 1863, Union forces, under General Ulysses S. Grant, besieged Vicksburg for forty-seven days before the Confederate forces finally surrendered the bastion on July 4.

Corporal Issac H. Carmin died on June 3, 1919 and is buried in Washington Cemetery in Washington County, OH.

Corporal Issac H. Carmin was awarded the Medal of Honor on February 25, 1895 for extraordinary heroism at Vicksburg, MS, on May 22 1863 while serving as Corporal in Company A, 48th Ohio Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Saved his regimental flag; also seized and threw a shell, with burning fuse, from among his comrades.



(Photo courtesy of [Art Moss](#))

Captain James T. Clancy



US Army Civil War Medal of Honor

(Courtesy of the Army Institute of Heraldry)

James T. Clancy was born in 1833 in Albany, NY. He was a boatman living with his parents until he moved to Camden and mustered into the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment on October 24, 1863 after enlisting in the Army for three years.

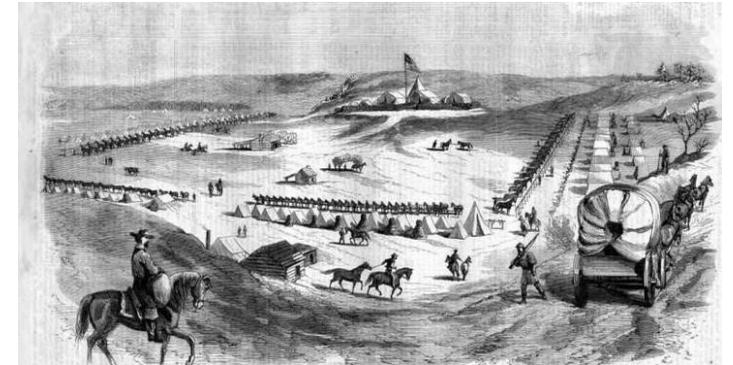
Clancy was promoted from Sergeant to 2nd Lieutenant of Co. F on September 23, 1864 and then to Captain of Co. B on June 8, 1865.

The Battle of Vaughn Road (also known as Peebles's Farm) occurred in October of 1864 during the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign. In late September, Union forces launched an assault to extend their lines and to cut Confederate supply lines southwest of Petersburg. They made some gains and on October 1, 1864, the Union Army repulsed a Confederate counterattack directed by Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill. Confederate Brig. General John Dunovant was killed when his unit attacked Federal dismounted cavalry, including the 1st NJ Cavalry. The Federals resumed their advance on the next day and extended their left flank from the Federal works on Weldon Railroad to the vicinity of Peebles' and Pegram's Farms.

Clancy mustered out of the Army on July 24, 1865 and moved to the New York City area where he spent the remainder of his life as a deliveryman and, in later life, a farmer. He died around 1905, probably in Crawford Town, NY. The location of his gravesite is unknown.

Captain James T. Clancy was awarded the Medal of Honor on July 3, 1865 for action on October 1, 1864 at Vaughn Road, Virginia while serving as a Sergeant in Company C, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

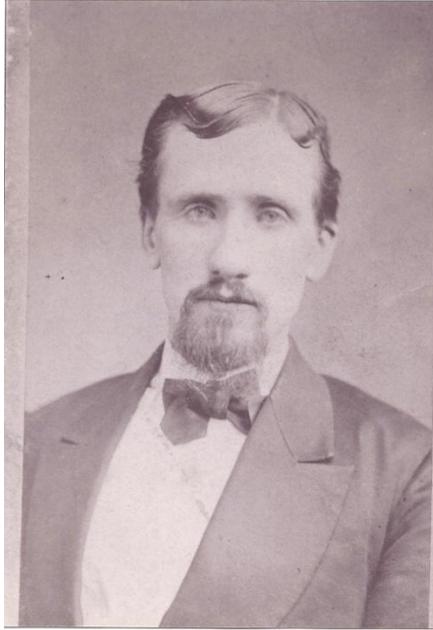
Citation: Shot the Confederate Brig. Gen. John Dunovant dead during a charge, thus confusing the enemy and greatly aiding in his repulse.



1st NJ Cavalry Camp in Virginia – 1864

(Photo of sketch by New York Illustrated News courtesy of 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment Association)

Private Richard Conner



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

Richard Conner was born on December 23, 1840 in Philadelphia, PA. He was living in Burlington, NJ when the Civil War began. On August 7, 1861, he enlisted in the 6th New Jersey Infantry Regiment and was mustered in as a Private in Company F on August 26, 1861. He was promoted to Corporal on September

10, 1862 and Sergeant on February 4, 1863. He re-enlisted in February of 1864 and transferred to Co. E, 8th NJ when the 6th NJ's term of service expired in September 1864. Conner was wounded at Chancellorsville in 1863. He mustered out of the Army in July 1865.

Richard Conner earned his Medal of Honor in the Second Battle of Bull Run (called Second Manassas by the South), which was fought on August 28-30, 1862. This battle marked the emergence of General Robert E. Lee as an army commander. He inflicted 14,500 [casualties](#) on the Federals while suffering about 9,500 casualties for the Confederacy. Although the campaign demonstrated General Lee's operational brilliance, it did not reflect well on his Union counterpart, Major General John Pope. Pope was relieved of his command in the East and transferred to a small command watching Indians in the Midwest.

After the War, Richard Connor moved to Philadelphia. He died on November 4, 1923 and is buried in North Cedar Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA.

Private Richard Connor was awarded the Medal of Honor on September 17, 1897 for his bravery at the Second Battle of Bull Run, VA, on August 29, 1862.

Citation: The flag of his regiment having been abandoned during retreat, he voluntarily returned with a single companion under a heavy fire and secured and brought off the flag, his companion being killed.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Captain Henry Crocker



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

Henry Crocker was born in Colchester, CT on January 20, 1840. When the war began, Crocker was living in San Francisco, CA. He joined one hundred other California men and returned east to fight for the Union. The so-called “California Hundred” organized

as a cavalry troop and used their enlistment bonuses to travel to Camp Meigs, Massachusetts, where they became Company A and were joined by several companies from Massachusetts to form the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry Regiment. Californians later formed four other companies of the regiment. The California Hundred fought in 51 battles, skirmishes and campaigns from Gettysburg to Appomattox. Today, the California Hundred’s war-torn colors and guidon are hanging in the California State Capitol. Crocker enlisted on May 19, 1863 as a Second Lieutenant. Crocker became Captain and Commander of Company F, 2nd MA Cavalry on January 1, 1865. He mustered out of the Army on July 20, 1865.



California Hundred Guidon

(Photo courtesy of Fort Lejon Association)

Captain Henry Crocker was awarded the Medal of Honor on January 10, 1896 for extraordinary heroism at the Battle of Cedar Creek, VA on October 19, 1864.

Citation: Voluntarily led a charge, which resulted in the capture of 14 prisoners and in which he himself was wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Henry Crocker died in 1913 and is buried in Washington Cemetery, Warren County, NJ.

Sergeant Major Amos J. Cummings



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

Amos J. Cummings was born on May 15, 1841 in Conklin, NY and became an apprentice printer at age twelve. He enlisted in the Union Army on September 1, 1862, in Irvington, NJ and was mustered in as a Private on September 18, 1862 in Company E, 26th New Jersey Infantry Regiment. He was selected to be the regiment's Sergeant Major on March 6, 1863. He fought with his unit in the Battle of Chancellorsville, where his heroism and bravery in the May 4, 1863 engagement at Salem Heights near Fredericksburg would earn him the Medal of Honor.

He mustered out of the Army on June 27, 1863. He became a prominent editor of the "New York Tribune," the "New York Sun", and "The New York Express" newspapers. He had the reputation of being an expert printer and a talented newspaper writer and editor. Cummings served in the United States House of Representatives from 1879 until his death while in office in 1902. During that time he represented four different New York Congressional Districts, the 6th, 9th, 10th, and 11th.

Amos Cummings died on May 2, 1902 and is buried in Clinton Cemetery, Irvington, NJ.



(Photo courtesy of [Fred Otto](#))

Sergeant Major Amos J. Cummings was awarded the Medal of Honor on March 28, 1894 for bravery at Salem Heights, VA on May 4, 1863.

Citation: Rendered great assistance in the heat of the action in rescuing a part of the field batteries from an extremely dangerous and exposed position.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Quarter Gunner John Davis



(Picture courtesy of www.homeofheroes.com)

John Davis was born in Cedarville, NJ. He served in the US Navy on the *USS Valley City* as a Quarter Gunner.

The *USS Valley City* was a 190-ton steamer acquired by the Union Navy after the war began. It was outfitted as a gunship and served on blockade duty as well as performing surveillance duty. *USS Valley City* was with Admiral Goldsborough's Northern Atlantic

Blockading Squadron when it participated in the Battles of Roanoke Island and Elizabeth in February 1862. Both were Union victories that closed Albemarle Sound to the Confederates.



"HE DID NOT FLINCH" Artwork depicting Davis' heroic act.

(Photo courtesy of US Naval Historical Center)

Quarter Gunner John Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor on April 3, 1863 for his courageous act on February 10, 1862.

Citation: Served on board the *USS Valley City* during action against rebel fort batteries and ships off Elizabeth City, NC February 10, 1862. When a shell from the shore penetrated the side and passed through the magazine, exploding outside the screen on the berth deck, several powder division protecting bulkheads were torn to pieces and the forward part of the berth deck set on fire. Showing great presence of mind, Davis courageously covered a barrel of powder with his own body and prevented an explosion, while at the same time passing powder to provide the division on the upper deck while under fierce enemy fire.

Sergeant Joseph H. De Castro



**Currier & Ives lithograph
3rd Day at Gettysburg, 1863**
(Courtesy of the Library of Congress)

Joseph H. De Castro was born on November 14, 1844 in Boston, MA. He enlisted in Company F, 19th MA Infantry Regiment on August 28, 1861. He was promoted to Corporal and later to Sergeant. Corporal Joseph H. De Castro was the first Hispanic-American to earn the Medal of Honor.

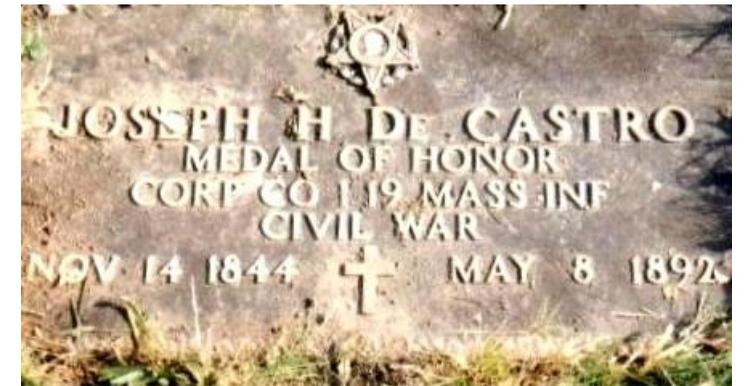
The 19th MA participated in the Battle of Gettysburg and lost 9 killed, 61 wounded and 7 missing out of 231 men on the field. The regiment captured the

colors of the 14th, 19th, 53rd and 57th Virginia Infantry Regiments. On 3 July, 1863, the third and last day of the battle, De Castro participated in the repulse of Pickett's Charge. During the battle, De Castro attacked a Confederate flag bearer from the 19th Virginia Infantry Regiment, seized his flag, and handed the prize over to his brigade commander, General Alexander Webb. General Webb later wrote: "At the instant a man broke through my lines and thrust a rebel battle flag into my hands. He never said a word and darted back. It was Corporal Joseph H. De Castro, one of my color bearers. He had knocked down a color bearer in the enemy's line with the staff of the Massachusetts State colors, seized the falling flag and dashed it to me."

De Castro mustered out of service on June 30, 1865 at Munson's Hill, VA. After the war, he served in the regular army for a few years and married Rosalia Rodriguez. In 1882, De Castro moved to New York City where he was an active member of the Philip Kearny Post Number 8, Grand Army of the Republic and worked in the NY Barge Office. Joseph H. De Castro died on May 8, 1892 in New York City and is buried in Fairmount Cemetery in Newark, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Joseph De Castro on December 1, 1864 for heroic actions on July 3, 1865 at Gettysburg while serving as State Color Bearer for Co. I, 19th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of flag of 19th Virginia regiment (C.S.A.).



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

First Sergeant Decatur Dorsey



The Petersburg Crater

(Courtesy of the National Archives)

Decatur Dorsey was born a slave in 1836 in Howard County, MD. He enlisted in Company B of the 39th United States Colored Infantry as a private on March 22, 1864 at age 25. He was promoted to Corporal less than two months later.

After three months of fighting their way to the defenses of Richmond, the Union Army was stalled. After weeks of preparation, on July 30, 1864, Union soldiers exploded a

mine under a portion of the Confederate lines, called Pegram's Salient, in Burnside's IX Corps sector. The explosion blasted a gap in the defenses of Petersburg and created a large crater that gave the fierce fighting that followed its name, the "Battle of the Crater." Unit after unit charged into the crater, where soldiers milled in confusion due to a lack of high-level leadership. The rebels recovered quickly and launched a strong counterattack that sealed the breach. The Union assault ended with more than 7,000 men killed, wounded, or missing. Twenty-three soldiers were awarded Medals of Honor for their valor in this deadly battle, including Sergeant Decatur Dorsey.

Dorsey was mustered out as a First Sergeant in December 1865 in Wilmington, NC. After the war, Dorsey settled in North Jersey and worked as a laborer and sailor. Decatur Dorsey died in Hoboken on July 11, 1891. He is buried in Flower Hill Cemetery, North Bergen, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to First Sergeant Decatur Dorsey in November 1865 for his heroism at Petersburg, VA on July 30, 1864 while serving with the 39th United States Colored Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Planted his colors on the Confederate works in advance of his regiment, and when the regiment was driven back to the Union works he carried the colors there and bravely rallied the men.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Brigadier General James M. Drake



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

James Drake was born in Washington Valley, NJ in 1837. He became a journalist and then publisher of the Trenton Evening News by 1857.

In April 1861, Drake volunteered in Elizabeth, NJ with Company C, 3rd New Jersey Militia as a sergeant. He carried the Colors of the 3rd NJ Militia during the first Union movement across the Potomac into Virginia on

May 23, 1861. Drake mustered out with his Regiment in July of 1861 and re-enlisted in Company K, 9th New Jersey Infantry, nicknamed the 'Jersey Muskrats' for its experience of "... slogging through shoe-sucking mud into waist deep water..." at the Battle of Roanoke Island.

Drake was captured while commanding part of the regiment's skirmish line at the Battle of Drewry's Bluff, VA on May 16, 1864. He made a daring escape jumping from a train in SC and walking to Union lines, hundreds of miles away in Tennessee.

After the Civil War, Drake was active in the Grand Army of the Republic and the NJ National Guard, serving as Colonel of the 3rd Regiment and ending his career as a Brevet Brigadier General.

Drake became the publisher of the *Elizabeth Daily Monitor* and *Sunday Leader and Daily Leader*, Elizabeth, NJ. He was an author and wrote a history of the 9th NJ Volunteers and an account of his prisoner of war escape, entitled **Fast and Loose in Dixie**.

James Drake died on November 28, 1913 in Elizabeth, NJ and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Hillside, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Brigadier General James M. Drake on March 3, 1873 for his heroic actions at Bermuda Hundred, VA on May 6, 1864 while serving as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Citation: Commanded the skirmish line in the advance and held his position all day and during the night.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

First Lieutenant Edmund English



(Photo courtesy of Leon Basile)

Edmund English was born in CappanHITE, Ireland on November 16, 1841.

He enlisted as a Corporal in Company C, 2nd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry on May 27, 1861. He was promoted to Sergeant on July 1, 1862 and to First Sergeant on September 21, 1862.

After he was mustered out of the 2nd NJ on February 28, 1865 as a paroled prisoner, he re-enlisted in the Regular Army, serving as Sergeant Major of the 6th United States Veteran Volunteers, and a First Lieutenant of the 7th United States Veteran Volunteers. He mustered out in August 1866.

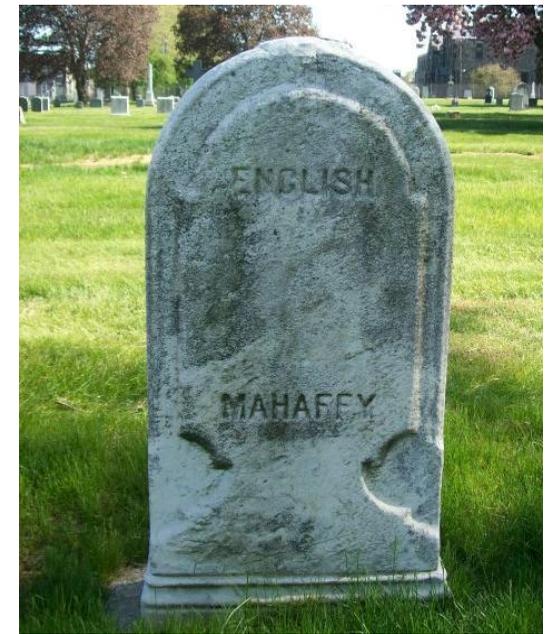
The Battle of the Wilderness was fought on May 5-7, 1864. It was the beginning battle of General Grant's sustained offensive against the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

Fighting was fierce, but inconclusive as both sides attempted to maneuver in the dense woods. The battle was a tactical draw. Grant, however, did not retreat as had the other Union generals before him. He kept his Army headed south.

Edmund English died on February 7, 1912. He is buried in Old Cathedral Cemetery, in Philadelphia, PA.

First Lieutenant Edmund English was awarded the Medal of Honor on February 13, 1891 for his bravery at the Battle of the Wilderness on May 6, 1864.

Citation: During a rout and while under orders to retreat seized the colors, rallied the men, and drove the enemy back



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Captain James Robert Evans



The United States Army Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of Army Institute of Heraldry)

James Robert Evans was born in New York City, NY on September 12, 1843.

He entered the Army in New York City as a Musician on June 30, 1861, enlisting in Co. F, 62nd New York Infantry Regiment. He transferred to Company H on the same day.

He fought at Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Spotsylvania and the Wilderness, along with several other smaller battles. During the Wilderness battle, Evans entered enemy lines and brought back information that saved his regiment from "probable annihilation". He received a promotion to Captain after this action.

In addition to The Medal of Honor, Evans was a recipient of the New York State Medal (for fighting at Gettysburg) and the medal awarded to members of the Anderson Zouaves, the 62nd New York Infantry, by their regimental commander.

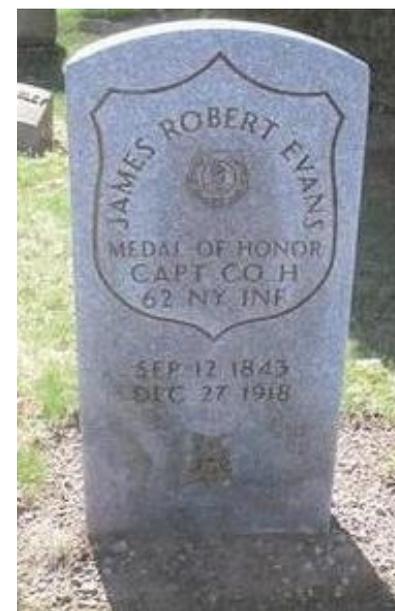
Evans mustered out of the Army on June 29, 1864 at Petersburg, VA.

After the war, Evans returned to Jersey City and married Julia A. Kinsley.

James Evans died December 27, 1918 at Caldwell, NJ and was buried at the First Reformed Church Cemetery in Pompton Plains, Morris County, NJ.

Captain James Robert Evans was awarded the Medal of Honor on February 25, 1895 for bravery at the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia on May 5, 1864.

Citation: Went out in front of the line under a fierce fire and, in the face of the rapidly advancing enemy, rescued the regimental flag with which the color bearer had fallen.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Sergeant Thomas T. Fallon



Flag of the 37th NY Regiment Irish Rifles

(Photo courtesy of New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center)

Thomas T. Fallon was born in County Galway, Ireland on August 13, 1837.

Fallon entered the Army at Freehold, NJ as a private with Company K, 37th NY Infantry, also known as the Irish Rifles because of the ethnic make-up of the regiment. He served with the 37th NY in the First Battle of Bull Run and the Peninsula Campaign. He then transferred to Battery K, 4th US Artillery and served with it at Second Bull Run, Chantilly,

Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Fallon mustered out of the Army in May 1863.

On September 17, 1863 in Flemington, NJ, Fallon enlisted as a Sergeant in Company H, 35th New Jersey Infantry Regiment for three years. The 35th NJ joined the XVI Corps of the Army of Tennessee in December 1863 and participated in operations in the Western Theater including actions in Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee, the Atlanta Campaign, and General Sherman's march to the sea. In December 1864, after the capture of Savannah, Fallon was hospitalized for several months. He rejoined the 35th NJ in Washington, DC on June 9th, after the conclusion of the fighting in the Eastern Theater. He mustered out of the Army on July 20, 1865.

Thomas T. Fallon died on August 6, 1919 and is buried at St. Rose of Lima in Freehold, NJ.

Sergeant Thomas Fallon was awarded the Medal of Honor on February 13, 1891 for heroism during three battles: on May 5, 1862 at Williamsburg, VA and on May 30-31, 1862 at Fair Oaks, VA while a member of the 37th NY; and on June 14-15, 1864 at Big Shanty, GA while a member of the 35th NJ.

Citation: At Williamsburg, VA, assisted in driving rebel skirmishers to their main line. Participated in action, at Fair Oaks, Va., though excused from duty because of disability. In a charge with his company at Big Shanty, GA, was the first man on the enemy's works.



(Courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Private Frank Fesq



(Photo courtesy of Leon Basile)

Frank Fesq was born on April 4, 1840 in Brunswick, Germany.

Fesq joined Co. A, 40th New Jersey Infantry in Newark, NJ in late 1864. The 40th NJ was the last regiment New Jersey raised for the war. The 40th New Jersey Infantry was present at the Battle of Hatcher's Run or Dabney's Mill on February 5-7, 1865, but was not engaged. The

unit fought in their only battle on April 2nd at Petersburg, where it participated in the final Union army assaults on Confederate entrenchments. There the unit suffered 23 wounded (two of whom died later). The regiment remained on occupation duty after the Confederate surrender and was mustered out at Hall's Hill, VA on July 13, 1865.



Flag of the 40th New Jersey Infantry

(Photo Courtesy of the New Jersey State Archives)

Private Frank Fesq was awarded the Medal of Honor on May 10, 1865 for bravery at Petersburg, VA on April 2, 1865.

Citation: Capture of flag of 18th NC (CSA) within the enemy's works.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Frank Fesq died on May 6, 1920 and is buried in Rosedale Cemetery, Orange, NJ.

Second Lieutenant Joseph Leonard Follett



(Photo courtesy of Leon Basile)

Joseph Leonard Follett was born in Newark, NJ on February 16, 1843. He moved to Missouri as a child with his family and entered military service in St. Louis, MO when the war began.

Joseph, at 19 years old, joined the 1st Missouri Infantry, a three-month service unit, on April 23, 1861. The unit was re-organized on September 1, 1861 as the 1st Missouri Light Artillery. Battery G, Follett's unit, was also known

as Hescoc's Battery after its first commander, Captain Henry Hescoc.

Regarding his war service, Follett said: "I was nineteen years old, when at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, I had charge of a battery as First Sergeant. Again at the age of twenty-one, as a Second Lieutenant, I drew and equipped a six-gun battery and reported to General King on Lookout Mountain. I commanded Fort Sheridan, one of the defenses at the right of Chattanooga . . . Later I was appointed adjutant of the Artillery District of Etowah, General J.B. Steedman commanding."

On March 3, 1862, Union forces reached the New Madrid, MO outskirts, and laid siege to the city. Follett was wounded at the battle of New Madrid, MO, March 2, 1862 and he received his second wound at Farmington, MS on May 9, 1862. He noted that "on more than one occasion, I had a miraculous escape from death."

Follett was a Mason for 42 years. He died on April 1, 1907 and is buried in Albany Rural Cemetery, Albany, NY.

Second Lieutenant Joseph Leonard Follett was awarded the Medal of Honor on September 19, 1890 for extraordinary heroism while serving in Company G, 1st Missouri Light Artillery on March 3 1862 at New Madrid, MO and on December 31, 1862 at Stone River, TN.

Citation: At New Madrid, MO, remained on duty though severely wounded. While procuring ammunition from the supply train at Stone River, TN, was captured, but made his escape, secured the ammunition, and in less than an hour from the time of his capture had the batteries supplied.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Dr. Gabriel Grant



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

Dr. Gabriel Grant was born in Newark, NJ on September 4, 1826. His father was a direct descendent of Robert Treat, a founding settler.

Grant graduated from Williams College in 1846 and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1851.

When the Civil War broke out, Grant was commissioned as surgeon of the 2nd NJ Infantry and, because of his qualifications, he became Division Surgeon-In-Chief. He served in the battles of Bull Run, Fair Oaks, Gaines Mill, Peach Orchard Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Vicksburg.

Dr. Grant was honorably mentioned in reports for exceptional bravery at Fair Oaks, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mechanicsburg and Sartatia on the Yazoo River.

In 1863 he was appointed Medical Director of Hospitals and in May was put in command of the hospital steamer, *USS Atlantic*. General Ambrose Burnside placed Grant in charge of the US Army Madison Hospital in Indiana.

Grant resigned his commission on January 18, 1865.

Dr. Grant was awarded the Medal of Honor on July 21, 1897 for his heroism on June 1, 1862 at Fair Oaks, VA.

Citation: Removed severely wounded officers and soldiers from the field while under a heavy fire from the enemy, exposing himself beyond the call of duty, thus furnishing an example of most distinguished gallantry.

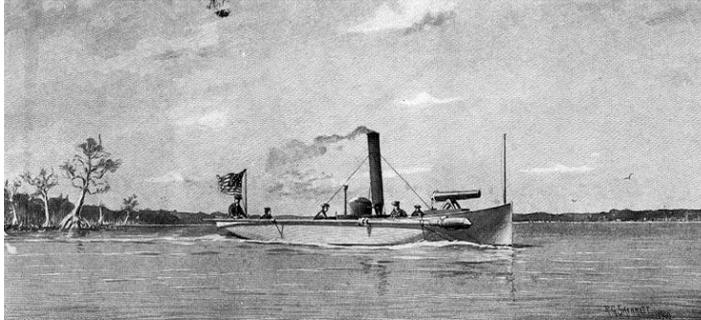


(Courtesy of Don Morfe)

Dr. Gabriel Grant died on November 8, 1909 and is buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Tarrytown, NY.

Coal Heaver Richard Hamilton

Photo # NH 63378 Picket Boat # 1, used to sink CSS Albemarle, 1864



US Picket Boat No. 1

(Drawn by R. G. Skerrett - Photo courtesy of Department of the Naval Historical Center)

Richard Hamilton was born in 1836 in Philadelphia, PA. He entered the US Navy from Pennsylvania.

In April 1864, the *CSS Albemarle*, an ironclad ram, attacked US ships off Plymouth, NC, sinking the *USS Southfield* and driving away *USS Miami* and two other gunboats. The Confederate ram severed the Union's water-based lines of communications and forced the surrender of Plymouth.

Two weeks later, on 5 May, *CSS Albemarle*, accompanied by two gunboats, steamed into the North Carolina Sounds and attacked and defeated a US Navy force consisting of five small ships. The

Confederate ironclad was only slightly damaged and its presence in the area threatened the entire Union position on North Carolina's internal waters.

On the night of 27-28 October 1864, USN Lieutenant William Cushing took *Picket Boat No. 1*, with a 14-man, all volunteer crew, upriver to Plymouth equipped with a torpedo on a spar projecting in front of the boat. In a daring raid, he sank the *Albemarle* at her berth. This allowed the Union to recapture Plymouth and regain Union control of the local waters.

Richard Hamilton volunteered to participate in Cushing's attack on the *CSS Albemarle*, was wounded during the attack, and was captured. Cushing, Hamilton and seven other crewmen were awarded the Medal of Honor for this action.

Richard Hamilton survived the war and died on July 6, 1881 in Camden, NJ. He is thought to be buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Camden, but the cemetery can find no record of his grave.

RIGHT: **Cushing's Daring and Successful Exploit.** (Artwork by Bacon, photo courtesy of Naval Historical Center)

Coal Heaver Richard Hamilton was awarded the Medal of Honor on December 31, 1864 for his courage on October 27, 1864 at Plymouth, NC. Seven fellow crewmen received the Medal of Honor because of Hamilton's actions.

Citation: Richard Hamilton served on board the US *Picket Boat No. 1*, in action, 27 October 1864, against the Confederate ram *Albemarle* which had resisted repeated attacks by our steamers and had kept a large force of vessels employed in watching her. The picket boat, equipped with a spar torpedo, succeeded in passing the enemy pickets within 20 yards without being discovered and then made for the *Albemarle* under a full head of steam. Immediately taken under fire by the ram, the small boat plunged on, jumped the log boom which encircled the target and exploded its torpedo under the port bow of prisoner or lost.

Photo # NH 79932 "Cushing's Daring and Successful Exploit"



CUSHING'S DARING AND SUCCESSFUL EXPLOIT

Corporal William B. Hooper



Calvary Charge by Winslow Homer

(Photo courtesy of 1st NJ Cavalry Association)

William B. Hooper was born in Willimantic, Connecticut in 1841.

Hooper mustered into the Army on February 24, 1864 and served as a Corporal in Company L, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment. He mustered out of the Army on July 24, 1865 along with the rest of his regiment.

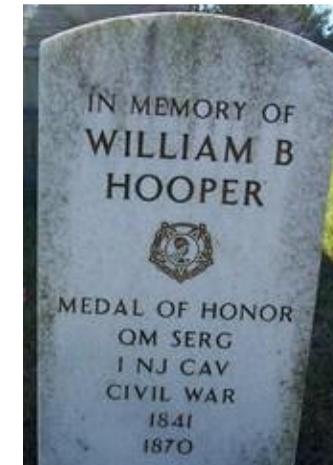
In late March 1865, the Union Army began an attack to cut the last railroad line supplying the Confederate forces holding Richmond. The attack, aimed at

Dinwiddie Courthouse, was slowed by torrential rains that turned the roads and fields into quagmires and by Confederate resistance. At Chamberlain's Creek, near Dinwiddie Courthouse, General Sheridan had his cavalry dismount and fight on foot. However, dismounting required one of every four men to hold the horses of the other three; regulations called for the herd to be about 100 yards behind the men, in a place protected from fire. These horse-holders had the responsibility of guarding the regiment's horses from capture by the enemy. Fortunately, in 1865 Sheridan's cavalry units were equipped with seven-shot Spencer repeater carbines. Because of the wooded and broken country and the recent heavy rain, enemy progress was slow and Union forces were able to repel the Confederate counterattacks. Hooper earned his medal while serving as a horse-holder.

William Hooper died on January 16, 1870 and is buried in Old Willimantic Cemetery in Windham, Connecticut.

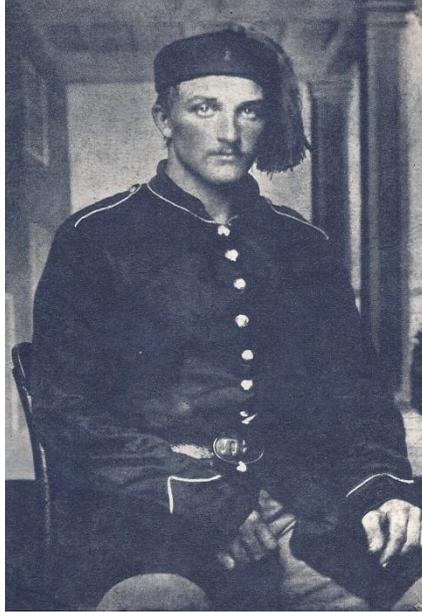
Corporal William B. Hooper was awarded the Medal of Honor on July 3, 1865 for his actions on March 31, 1865 at Chamberlain's Creek while serving with the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: With the assistance of a comrade, headed off the advance of the enemy, shooting two of his color bearers; also posted himself between the enemy and the led horses of his own command, thus saving herd from capture.



(Photo courtesy of brianz190)

Corporal Charles Ferren Hopkins



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

Charles F. Hopkins was born on May 16, 1837 in Hope, NJ. He was mustered in as a Private in Company I, 1st New Jersey Volunteer Infantry on June 10, 1861, and was promoted to Corporal on January 1, 1862

Despite his brave efforts in the Battle of Gaines Mill on June 27, 1862, he and the fellow soldier he tried to

save were captured by Confederate forces after the Union Army retreated, leaving its wounded on the field. Hopkins was paroled and convalesced in a Union hospital until he recovered and was exchanged. After returning to his regiment, he was wounded and captured again during the May 1864 Battle of the Wilderness. This time he remained in Rebel hands and spent a ten-month captivity in the infamous Andersonville Prison in Georgia. He was discharged from the Army as a paroled prisoner on April 21, 1865 at Trenton, NJ.

In 1898, he was appointed by New Jersey Governor Foster M. Voorhees to head the commission that would erect a monument at Andersonville commemorating the 235 men from New Jersey who died there. In 1911, he led the successful drive to have his former brigade commander, General Philip Kearny, disinterred from his unmarked grave in Manhattan's Trinity Churchyard and re-buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery. Hopkins was the only living Medal of Honor recipient in New Jersey when he died on February 4, 1934. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Boonton, NJ.

Charles Ferren Hopkins was awarded the Medal of Honor on July 9, 1892 for bravery on June 27, 1862 at Gaines Mill, VA while serving with the 1st NJ Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Voluntarily carried a wounded comrade, under heavy fire, to a place of safety; though twice wounded in the act, he continued in action until again severely wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Brevet Major Charles H. Houghton



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

Charles H. Houghton was born on April 30, 1842 in Macomb, NY. He enlisted in the 60th NY Infantry on August 26, 1861, was promoted to Sergeant and then to 2nd Lt. He was discharged on March 5, 1863. He enlisted in December 1863 in the 14th NY Heavy Artillery and was appointed Captain of Company L. Because of heavy casualties in the 1864 campaign, the 14th NY and other artillery units in the Washington defenses were converted to Infantry and assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Houghton was wounded five times during the Civil War and was visited by President Lincoln in the hospital. In the battle of Bethesda Church on June 1, 1864, he was wounded in the left temple, right hand and left leg

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and had his temporal artery severed. He was wounded in his right leg at Fort Haskell, VA on March 25, 1865 and it was amputated at the thigh. Captain Houghton was brevetted Major, US Volunteers for his performance of duty and was discharged on September 11, 1865.

After the Civil War, Houghton resided in Metuchen, NJ and worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He served as the Commander of the New Jersey Department of the G.A.R. in 1881. In 1875, he served as the U.S. Collector of Customs and remained until his arrest in May 1882. He was charged with embezzlement, fraud, and forgery and was tried, convicted, and fined.

Charles Houghton died on April 6, 1914 in Jersey City and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain Charles H. Houghton, 14th NY Heavy Artillery Regiment on April 5, 1898 for conspicuous bravery at the Battle of the Crater VA on July 30, 1864 and Fort Haskell, VA on March 25, 1865.

Citation: In the Union assault at the Crater (30 July 1864), and in the Confederate assault repelled at Fort Haskell (25 March 1865), displayed most conspicuous gallantry and repeatedly exposed himself voluntarily to great danger, was 3 times wounded, and suffered loss of a leg.



(Photo courtesy of Russell P. Jacobs)

Sergeant James Howard



(Photo courtesy of Hall of Heroes)

James Howard was born in Newton, NJ. He was a Sergeant in Company K, 158th NY Infantry. He mustered out on June 30, 1865. Howard's date of death and burial location are unknown.

Encouraged by his victory at the Battle of Five Forks on April 1, 1865, Union Gen. U.S. Grant ordered an assault all along the lines protecting Petersburg, and at 4:00 the next morning, 63,000 Union soldiers charged the 18,500 Rebel defenders. The attackers crashed through the entrenchments on the right of

the Rebel lines and, after ten months of fighting, the siege of Petersburg was finally over. Gen. Robert E. Lee advised Confederate President Jefferson Davis to evacuate Richmond and issued orders for the Army of Northern Virginia to withdraw.

"Men, the salvation of the army is in your keep. Don't surrender this fort", Confederate Gen. Nathaniel H. Harris shouted above the roar of cannon to the 214 soldiers he was leaving at Fort Gregg, an unfinished earthwork defending the southwestern approach to Petersburg. It was 1:00 pm and two Union divisions - ten times larger than the defenders - were just beginning the attack when the leading ranks were staggered by the hail of gunfire from the fort. Confederate Pvt. Frank Foote related, "Each defender had two or three rifles at hand, and while the rear rank loaded them, the front rank handled them with most deadly execution." Three successive attacks were repulsed before the sheer numbers of federal troops breached the parapets and swarmed into the fort. The fighting continued hand-to-hand inside the fort until only 30 defenders remained alive to be captured. The battle lasted less than two hours, but the gallant defense bought the time Lee needed for

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant James Howard on May 12, 1865 for his heroic actions on April 2, 1865 at Petersburg, VA.

Citation: Carried the colors in advance of the line of battle, the flagstaff being shot off while he was planting it on the parapet of the fort.



The Taking of Ft. Gregg

(Photo courtesy of petersburgsiege.org)

his Army to escape. Fifty-five of the defenders were killed and 129 wounded. The federal losses of 122 killed and 592 wounded were more than triple the number of Rebels defending the fort.



US Navy Civil War Medal of Honor
(Photo courtesy of HomeofHeroes.com))

Thomas Kane was born in 1841 in Jersey City, NJ. He enlisted in the US Navy from New Jersey.

Kane was assigned to the Union steamer *USS Nereus*, which was built as a commercial steamer in New York in 1863 and bought by the Navy.

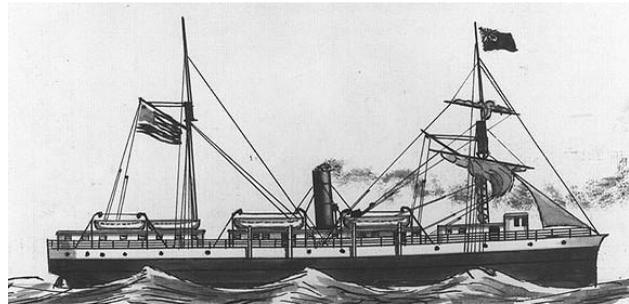
On January 15, 1865, Fort Fisher, the North Carolina Confederate stronghold, was taken by a combined Union storming party of sailors, marines, and soldiers commanded by Admiral David Porter and General Alfred Terry.

Captain of the Hold Thomas Kane



The "Pulpit" after capture, Fort Fisher, N.C., January 1865. Photographed by Timothy H. O'Sullivan.

(Photo courtesy of the National Archives & Records)



Steamer *Somerset* aka *USS Nereus* from 1863-65
Watercolor by Erik Heyl

(Photo courtesy of US Naval Historical Center)

Captain of the Hold Thomas Kane was awarded the Medal of Honor on October 3, 1867 for his actions on January 15, 1865 at The Second Battle of Fort Fisher.

Citation: On board the *USS Nereus* during the attack on Fort Fisher, on January 15, 1865. Kane, as captain of the hold, displayed outstanding skill and courage as his ship maintained its well-directed fire against fortifications on shore despite the enemy's return fire. When a rebel steamer was discovered in the river back of the fort, the *Nereus*, with forward rifle guns trained, drove the ship off at the third fire. The gallant ship's participation contributed to the planting of the flag on one of the strongest fortifications possessed by the rebels.

Thomas Kane's date of death and place of burial are unknown.

Captain Joseph Keele



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

Joseph Keele was born on August 1, 1840 in Ireland. He immigrated to the US in 1846. He entered military service in Staten Island, NYC on September 6, 1862. He enlisted in Co E, 182nd New York Infantry Regiment as a private for three years. Many of the regiment was Irish, with large numbers coming from the famous 69th Infantry Regiment after it completed its first 90 days of service. Keele was promoted to

Sergeant on April 1, 1863 and to Sergeant Major on June 10, 1863. He was mustered into Co I as a 1st Lieutenant on January 25, 1865 and as a Captain in Co B on May 16, 1865. He mustered out of service with his company on July 15, 1865 near Washington, DC.

Keele's first eight months of service with the 182nd NY was along the Virginia coast near Suffolk and the peninsula in the VII Corps. The 182nd NY then transferred to the Washington defenses with the XXII Corps until May 1864, when it joined II Corps of the Army of the Potomac after the Wilderness battle for the remainder of Grant's Overland Campaign. Keele and the 182nd NY fought in all the major battles of the campaign including Spotsylvania Courthouse, North Anna River – where Keele earned his Medal of Honor, Cold Harbor, the battles around Petersburg, Sailor's Creek, and Appomattox Court House, where Lee surrendered his army.

After the war, Keele settled in Jersey City and worked as a clerk. He married in 1865 and had two sons. Joseph Keele died on October 16, 1906 and is buried in Bayview-New York Bay Cemetery in Jersey City.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain Keele on October 25, 1867 for conspicuous bravery on May 23, 1864 at North Anna River, Virginia while assigned to the 182nd New York Infantry Regiment as Sergeant Major.

Citation: Voluntarily and at the risk of his life carried orders to the brigade commander, which resulted in saving the works his regiment was defending.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

First Lieutenant Rufus King, Jr.



King remained in the Army after the war, reverting to his permanent rank of First Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain on April 4, 1869 and was honorably mustered out of the Army on January 1, 1871.

Rufus King died on March 18, 1900 and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Hillside, NJ.

1st Lt. King's Battery in 1864

(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

Rufus King, Jr. was born on March 21, 1838 in New York City. He was the son of an Army officer, Brigadier General Rufus King. When the Civil War started, he enlisted as a Private in Company F, 7th New York Militia, and served in that unit from April to July 1861. He then was appointed Second Lieutenant and then First Lieutenant, 4th US Artillery. King served in the Army of the Potomac through the entire war. He was honored by Brevet promotion to Captain for "gallant and meritorious service at the battle of White Oak Swamp" and a Brevet to Major in 1865 for "good conduct and gallant service during the War."



(Photo courtesy Fred Otto)

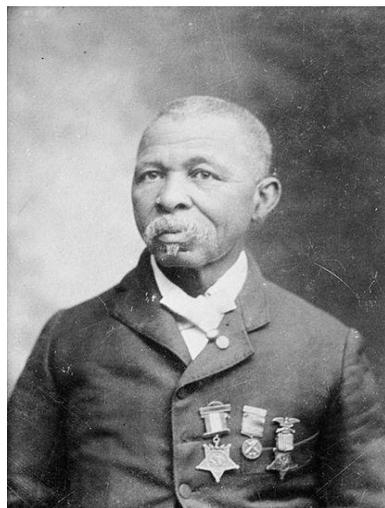
The Medal of Honor was awarded to Lieutenant Rufus King, Jr. on April 2, 1898 for conspicuous bravery on June 30, 1862 at Oak Swamp Bridge, VA while assigned as 1st Lieutenant, Combined Batteries A and C, 4th US Artillery.

Citation: This officer, when his captain was wounded, succeeded to the command of two batteries while engaged against a superior force of the enemy and fought his guns most gallantly until compelled to retire.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Landsman John H. Lawson



(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

John Lawson was born on June 16, 1837 in Philadelphia, PA. He enlisted in the Union Navy on December 3, 1863 in New York and soon joined the *USS Hartford*, Admiral David Farragut's flagship while it was in Philadelphia for refit. The US Navy was not segregated at that time and was the only military service open to African-Americans early in the war. Lawson was mustered out of service in July of 1865.

Lawson returned to Philadelphia after the war, raised a large family, and lived in the Philadelphia-Camden area for the rest of his life as a self-employed peddler.

Lawson died on May 3, 1919 and is buried in "Soldiers' Row" in Mount Peace Cemetery, which is located in Center Township, NJ. The part of Center Township around the cemetery is now known as Lawnside. "Soldiers' Row" is a grouping of gravesites of over seventy African-American Civil War veterans.

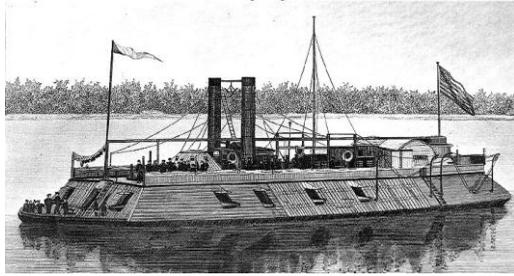


(Photo courtesy of Harry Lamb)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to John Lawson on December 31, 1864 for conspicuous bravery during the Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama on August 5, 1864 while assigned as Landsman on the *USS Hartford*.

Citation: On board the flagship *USS Hartford* during successful attacks against Fort Morgan, rebel gunboats and the ram *Tennessee* in Mobile Bay on 5 August 1864. Wounded in the leg and thrown violently against the side of the ship when an enemy shell killed or wounded the 6-man crew as the shell whipped on the berth deck, Lawson, upon regaining his composure, promptly returned to his station and, although urged to go below for treatment, steadfastly continued his duties throughout the remainder of the action.

Captain of the Forecastle Pierre Leon



USS Baron de Kalb, 1862

(Photo courtesy of US Navy Historical Center)

Pierre Leon was born on Aug. 23, 1838 in Nice, France. At age eleven, he stowed away on a ship bound for Philadelphia. He worked on that ship for three years and on other coastal steamers for several more years. In 1860, he was involved in the development of the submarine known as the Alligator. Leon was living in Delanco, NJ when enlisted in the Navy on August 27, 1861 in Philadelphia for four years. During his enlistment, he served on the *USS Princeton*, *Saint Louis*, *Baron De Kalb*, *Black Hawk*, *Romeo*, *New Hampshire*, *Nantucket* and *Nahant*. He was wounded in action at Island Number 10 on the Mississippi River on March 17, 1862. He mustered out of the Navy on August 29, 1865 and lived in Riverside, NJ until his death. He worked as a watchman after the war.

Pierre Leon died on Dec. 7, 1915. He is buried in St. Peter's Cemetery, in Riverside, NJ.



(Photos courtesy of Timothy Murphy)



The Medal of Honor was awarded to Pierre Leon on April 3, 1863 for distinguished service during the Yazoo River Expedition, Mississippi from December 23 to 27, 1862 while serving as Captain of the Forecastle on the *USS Baron De Kalb*.

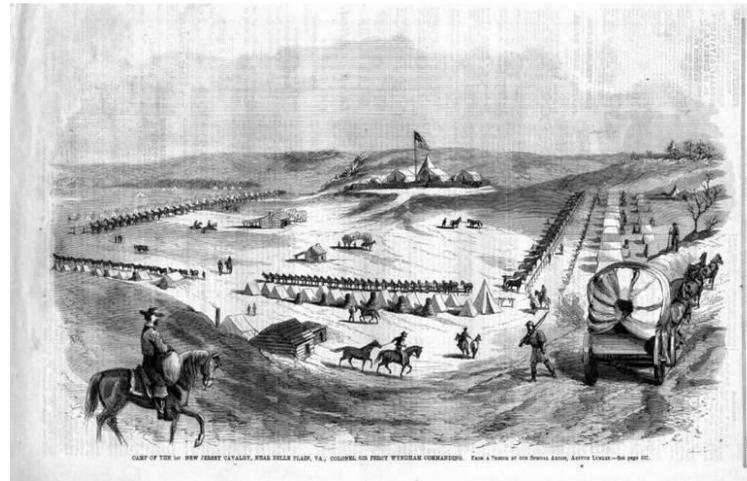
Citation: Serving on board the *USS Baron de Kalb*, Yazoo River Expedition, December 23 to 27, 1862. Proceeding under orders up the Yazoo River, the *USS Baron De Kalb*, with the object of capturing or destroying the enemy's transports, came upon the steamers *John Walsh*, *R. J. Locklan*, *Golden Age* and the *Scotland* sunk on a bar where they were ordered fired. Continuing up the river, she was fired on, but upon returning the fire, caused the enemy's retreat. Returning down the Yazoo, she destroyed and captured larger quantities of enemy equipment and several prisoners. Serving bravely throughout this action, Leon, as captain of the forecastle, "distinguished himself in the various actions."

Private Lewis Locke



Guidon of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment
(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

Lewis Locke was born on November 5, 1835 in Clintonville, NY. He enlisted as a Private in Company A, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment in Jersey City on October 6, 1864. New Jersey records do not indicate when he mustered out of service, although he probably mustered out with the Regiment in July of 1865. Later in life, Locke took on the name Lewis Tacy.



1st NJ Cavalry Camp Bayard near Belle Plaine, VA 1864
(Drawing from NY Illustrated News courtesy of 1st NJ Cavalry Association)

The Battle at Paines Crossroads was a raid on Confederate supply trains by a Union cavalry brigade. The raiders burned many wagons and captured over 300 Confederates. A Confederate counterattack resulted in a running nine-mile fight and the death of the commander of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry, Colonel Hugh Janeway.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Lewis Locke on May 3, 1865 for gallantry on April 5, 1865 at Paines Crossroads, Virginia while assigned as Private, Company A, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of a Confederate flag.



(Photo courtesy of Jan Franco)

Lewis Locke died on June 4, 1920 in Hadley Falls, MA and is buried in Saint Mary Cemetery in Northampton, MA.

Drummer William Henry “Willie” Magee



Flag of the 33rd New Jersey Infantry Regiment
(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

William Magee was born on May 13, 1849 in Newark, NJ. He left his job as a waiter and enrolled in the Army on July 28, 1863, mustering into the 33rd NJ Infantry Regiment on August 29, 1863 as a musician. He campaigned with the Regiment through January 1864 until hospitalized with typhoid. While the 33rd went off with Sherman on the Atlanta Campaign, Magee remained behind as a hospital orderly. In December, he reportedly participated in a small battle during the Nashville Campaign and performed the heroics that earned him the Medal of Honor. He rejoined the 33rd in

June of 1865 and mustered out of service with the regiment on July 17, 1865.

After the war, Magee was a con-man. He convinced Governor Marcus Ward to hire tutors to help him become an Army officer. Shortly thereafter, Magee killed an officer in a drunken rage and went to prison. Upon his release, he got Governor Ward to get him a presidential pardon. He pawned his Medal of Honor and then pawned money from the Governor to retrieve it. He married three different women and deserted them, enlisted in the 7th US Cavalry and later tried to pass himself off as the sole survivor of Custer’s Last Stand. In 1878, Magee applied for a disability pension based on non-existent war wounds. The pension review revealed that his 1864 heroics were entirely fabricated. His Medal of Honor, however, was never rescinded. In 1904, Magee stabbed a man to death in an argument over a meat pie. He was sentenced to Sing Sing Prison and denied an appeal for clemency. Magee might have died in Sing Sing Prison, but records from that period no longer exist so his date and cause of death and burial place are unknown.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to William Magee on February 7, 1866 for conspicuous bravery at Murfreesboro, TN on December 5, 1864 while assigned to Co. C, 33rd NJ Inf. Regt. and serving as a mounted orderly.

Citation: In a charge, was among the first to reach a battery of the enemy and, with one or two others, mounted the artillery horses and took two guns into the Union lines.



Civil War Drum
(Photo Courtesy of National Gallery of Art)

Captain of the Top James McIntosh



Crew of the *USS Richmond* 1863

(Photo courtesy of Navy History Center)

James McIntosh was born on November 17, 1829 in Canada. He immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the US Navy. During the Civil War McIntosh served on the *USS Richmond*, a ship that participated in the capture of New Orleans, the bombardment of Port Hudson, the battle of Mobile Bay, and numerous other actions. The crew earned 31 Medals of Honor during the war, with McIntosh receiving his for actions at Mobile Bay. The Battle of Mobile Bay, noted for the famous quotation, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" attributed to Union Adm. David Farragut, was the last major naval engagement of the Civil War and led to the

closing of the Mobile port. The Union fleet seemingly accomplished the impossible at Mobile Bay: racing past defending forts, skillfully navigating a minefield, and capturing the Confederacy's most powerful ship, the *Tennessee*. After dispatching the Confederate Navy, he turned back to help the Army capture Forts Morgan and Gaines.



Battle of Mobile Bay

(Print courtesy of The Civil War Home Page

<http://www.civil-war.net>)

James McIntosh died on May 28, 1908 and is buried in Arlington Memorial Park in Kearny, NJ.

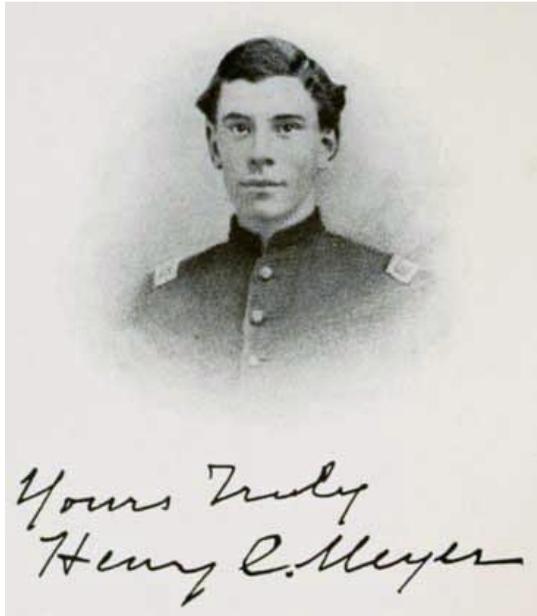
The Medal of Honor was awarded to James McIntosh on December 31, 1864 for bravery on August 8, 1864 at the Battle of Mobile Bay while assigned as Captain of the Top, *USS Richmond*.

Citation: On board the *USS Richmond* during action against rebel forts and gunboats and with the ram *Tennessee* in Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864. Despite damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire raked her decks, McIntosh performed his duties with skill and courage throughout the prolonged battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram *Tennessee* and in the successful attacks carried out on Fort Morgan.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Brevet Major Henry Coddington Meyer



(Photo courtesy of Internet Archive American Libraries)

Henry Coddington Meyer was born on April 14, 1844 in Hamburg, Germany. He was working as a clerk in his uncle's company when the war started. He tried to enlist, but his parents refused him permission. In July, 1862, when he was 18 and no longer needed his parent's approval, he enlisted in the 2nd NY Cavalry for three years as a private. He campaigned for about six months with the unit and then moved to staff because of his

education and general abilities. He served as a clerk and field orderly to Generals Bayard, Gregg, Kilpatrick, and Custer for over a year, earning a positive reputation and receiving a minor saber wound at Brandy Station.

Meyer was discharged in February 1864 to receive a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in Co. D, 24th NY Cavalry. His skills and experience as a cavalryman were used in organizing and training the newly formed 24th NY. He was made Captain and he led D Company until wounded at Petersburg on June 17, 1864. His promotion came through while he was in the hospital. He spent several months in hospital and was discharged for disability in October 1864. He received a brevet to major after his discharge for his meritorious service.

After the war, Meyer married and had two sons. He founded, owned, and edited the **Engineering Record of New York City**. He authored several engineering books and in 1911 wrote his war memoirs, **Civil War Experiences Under Bayard, Gregg, Kilpatrick, Custer, Raulsten, and Newberry, 1862, 1863, 1864**.

Henry Meyer died on March 3, 1935 in Montclair, NJ and is buried in Rosedale Cemetery in Orange, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain Meyer on March 29, 1899 for conspicuous bravery on June 17, 1864 at Petersburg, Virginia while assigned as Captain, Company D, 24th New York Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: During an assault and in the face of a heavy fire rendered heroic assistance to a wounded and helpless officer, thereby saving his life and in the performance of this gallant act sustained a severe wound.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Brevet Major General George Washington Mindil



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

George Washington Mindil was born on August 8, 1841 in Frankfort, Germany and immigrated to Philadelphia in 1849.

At the start of the Civil War, Mindil joined the 23rd Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment as a Second Lieutenant and later transferred to the 61st PA Infantry Regiment. He served in the Peninsula Campaign of 1862, where he earned his Medal of Honor. He was elected Colonel of the newly formed nine-month 27th New Jersey Infantry

Regiment in Newark on October 5, 1862 at age 19. In 1852, Mindil received what would have been a second Medal of Honor for offering to extend the service of his Regiment during the Gettysburg Campaign. (The Medal Review Committee of 1917 rescinded this award). Mindil became Colonel of the 33rd New Jersey Infantry Regiment on September 5, 1863 and commanded it in the Western Theater during the rest of the war, including the Battle of Chattanooga, the Atlanta campaign, the March to the Sea, and the Carolinas campaign. He served periodically as an Acting Brigade Commander and, on March 13, 1865, he was promoted to Brevet Brigadier and Major General for meritorious service. He mustered out of Volunteer service on July 17, 1865, but remained in the Regular Army. After leaving the Army, he was appointed to a position in the Port of New York in 1895 and served until removed for corruption in 1907.

George Mindil died on July 20, 1907 before the investigation looking into charges against him was completed. He and his wife, Caroline, are buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Major General George Mindil on October 25, 1893 for conspicuous bravery on May 5, 1862 at Williamsburg, VA while assigned as Captain, Company I, 61st Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment and serving on the staff of Brigadier General William Birney.

Citation: As aide-de-camp led the charge with a part of a regiment, pierced the enemy's center, silenced some of his artillery, and, getting in his rear, caused him to abandon his position.



(Photo courtesy of M. L. Paterson)

Private Albert Oss



33rd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry Regimental Flag
(Photo courtesy of NJ State Archives)

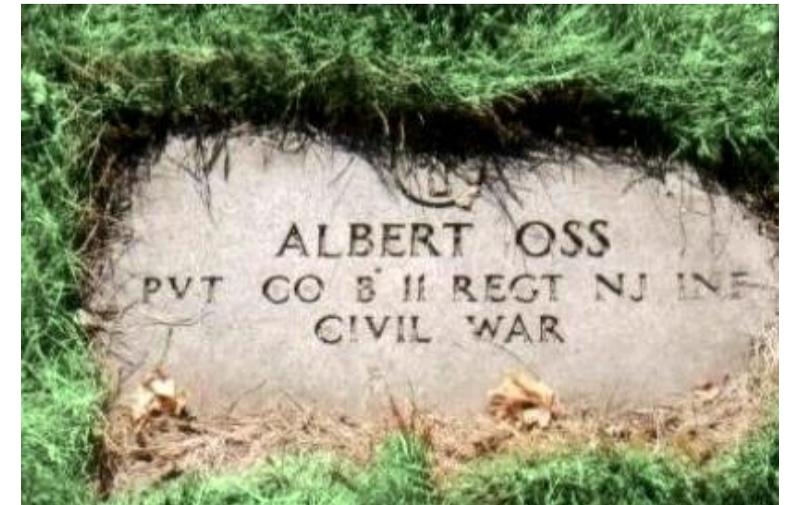
Albert Oss was born in 1818 in Belgium. He immigrated to the United States and enlisted as a Private in Company B, 11th New Jersey infantry Regiment in Newark on July 16, 1862 for three years or the duration of the war.

The 11th New Jersey began recruiting in May of 1862 and was fully organized, equipped, and manned by August 18. It mustered into the US Army at Camp Perrine in Trenton near the current location of the New Jersey State Prison. The 11th NJ departed for Washington, DC on August 25 and, after several months of garrison duty, it joined the 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, III Corps in November. The III Corps participated in the Battle of Fredericksburg, but the Regiment was not actively involved. At Chancellorsville, the Regiment was very heavily engaged during the second day of the battle, resisting the attacks of the Confederate Army on the Union lines for several hours. The Regiment suffered eighteen killed in action, 146 wounded, and five missing; 169 casualties out of almost 500 men engaged in the battle.

Private Oss mustered out of the Army near Washington, DC on June 6, 1865. Little is known of his post-war activities. Oss died on December 18, 1898 and is buried in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in East Orange, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Albert Oss on May 6, 1892 for gallantry on May 3, 1863 at Chancellorsville, Virginia while assigned as Private, Company B, 11th New Jersey Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Remained in the rifle pits after the others had retreated, firing constantly, and contesting the ground step by step.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Sergeant George J. Pitman



Flag of the 1st NY Veteran Volunteer Cavalry Regiment
(Photo courtesy of New York State Military Museum)

George J. Pitman was born on March 21, 1838 in Recklesstown, NJ, which is now a part of Chesterfield. He enlisted in the Union Army for three years on August 26, 1862, when he mustered in as a Private in Company C, 1st New York Volunteer Cavalry. This regiment, known as the "Lincoln Cavalry," recruited Company C in Philadelphia for New York service. When his enlistment ended, he re-enlisted for the duration of the war. Pitman was promoted to Corporal on August 18, 1864 and to

Sergeant on June 1, 1865. He was honorably mustered out on June 27, 1865.

On April 6, 1865, the Army of Northern Virginia lost 7,700 men, including eight generals, in the Battle of Sailor's Creek. This defeat led to the surrender at Appomattox Court House 72 hours later that ended the war in Virginia. Pitman earned his medal in this battle.

George Pitman lived in Camden, NJ after the war, working as a carpenter. He died on April 30, 1884 and is buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, PA.



Flank markers of the 1st New York Veteran Volunteer Cavalry after its re-enlistment in August 1864

(Photo courtesy of New York State Military Museum)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant George Pitman on May 3, 1865 for conspicuous bravery on April 6, 1865 at Sailor's Creek, Virginia while assigned as Sergeant, Company C, 1st New York (Lincoln) Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of flag of the Sumter Heavy Artillery (C.S.A.).



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Brigadier General Horace Porter



(Photo courtesy of Matthew Brady, National Archives)

Horace Porter was born on April 15, 1837 in Huntington, PA. He studied at Harvard for a year and graduated third in his class from West Point in 1860. Porter served in the Eastern Theater until after Antietam and then transferred west and participated in the Battle of Chickamauga. He linked up with General Grant and served as his aide-de-camp from April 1864 until 1869. He was promoted five times during the war for gallant

and meritorious service, reaching Brigadier General in March of 1865. He served as Assistant Secretary of the War Department from 1867-1869 and, when Grant became President, Porter served as his Executive Secretary from 1869-1873. He then resigned from the Army and entered the business world as Vice President of the Pullman Palace Car Company before moving on to serve in other executive positions. He served as Ambassador to France from 1897-1905. While Ambassador, Porter personally funded the search for John Paul Jones' gravesite in Paris and he was instrumental in having Jones' body to the United States. Porter was a popular orator and spoke at the dedication of Grant's Tomb, the West Point Centennial, and the re-interment of John Paul Jones in Annapolis.

Porter was also a noted author and wrote **West Point Life** (1866) and **Campaigning with Grant** (1897).

Horace Porter died on May 29, 1921 and is buried in Old First Methodist Cemetery in West Long Branch, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Brigadier General Horace Porter on July 8, 1902 for gallantry on September 20, 1863 at the Battle of Chickamauga, Tennessee while assigned as Captain, Ordnance Department, US Army.

Citation: While acting as a volunteer aide, at a critical moment when the lines were broken, rallied enough fugitives to hold the ground under heavy fire long enough to effect the escape of wagon trains and batteries.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Sergeant William Porter



William Porter, 1st New Jersey Cavalry

(Photo courtesy of Military Times Hall of Valor)

William Porter was born in New York City. He enlisted in Trenton in the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment on August 22, 1862 for three years and mustered in on August 27. He re-enlisted for the duration of the war on January 1, 1864. Porter was promoted to Corporal on September 1, 1864 and Sergeant on March 1, 1864.

The 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment was with the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac under Major General Phil Sheridan during the Appomattox Campaign - the Confederate retreat from Petersburg and Richmond to Appomattox Court House that ended the war in the east. On April 6 at Sailor's Creek, Sheridan's Cavalry and elements of the Union II and VI Corps cut off nearly one-fourth of the retreating Confederate army. Most of the over 7,000 cut off Confederates surrendered. This included generals Richard S. Ewell, Barton, Simms, Kershaw, Custis Lee, Dubose, Hunton, and Corse. This action was the death knell of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. Upon seeing the survivors streaming along the road, Lee exclaimed "My God, has the army dissolved?"

Sergeant William Porter mustered out of the Army on July 24, 1865. No information is available about what he did after he mustered out and his date of death and place of burial are unknown.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant William Porter on July 3, 1865 for conspicuous bravery on April 6, 1865 at Sailor's Creek, Virginia while assigned as Sergeant, Company H, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Among the first to check the enemy's countercharge.



Union Cavalry Unit in Virginia, 1864

(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

Private Julius Dexter Rhodes



5th NY Cavalry (Veteran Volunteers) Battle Flag

(Courtesy of NY State Military Museum)

Julius Dexter Rhodes was born on October 1, 1841 in Monroe County, Michigan. He was a student at the Springfield Institute in Erie County, NY when the war broke out. He immediately enlisted in the 21st NY Infantry, but his parents refused to allow him to serve because of his age. Upon the President's second call for troops, Rhodes enlisted on September 3, 1861 in the 5th NY Cavalry as a private and bugler. His unit served in the Shenandoah Valley and Rhodes distinguished himself in several actions. Because of wounds he received at Bull Run, Rhodes spent several

months in Harewood Hospital in Washington and was discharged as permanently disabled on February 27, 1863. Rhodes then went to Louisiana to nurse his sick brother who was serving in the 116th NY Infantry. While there, he grew tired of nursing and enlisted in the 1st Louisiana Cavalry and was mentioned in reports for his actions during the Battle of Donnellsville. Rhodes resigned from his unit on September 10, 1864 and enlisted in Company M, 31st Maine Infantry Regiment in Augusta, Maine on October 8, 1864 as a Sergeant. He served through the end of the war and was discharged in October 1865 from wounds received at the Battle of Petersburg on April 2, 1865. During this battle, Rhodes distinguished himself, but was severely wounded in hand-to-hand fighting in the struggle to take Fort Mahone. His skull was fractured and he was bayoneted through the cheek. Despite his wounds, Rhodes continued to lead his men until the next day.

Julius Dexter died on January 19, 1906 in Washington, DC. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Atlantic City, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Julius D. Rhodes of Company F, 5th New York Cavalry Regiment on March 9, 1887 for his extraordinary heroism on August 28 and 30, 1862 at the battles of Thoroughfare Gap and Second Bull Run, respectively.

Citation: After having had his horse shot under him in the fight at Thoroughfare Gap, Va., he voluntarily joined the 105th New York Volunteers and was conspicuous in the advance on the enemy's lines. Displayed gallantry in the advance on the skirmish line at Bull Run, Va., where he was wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Second Lieutenant Augustus J. Robbins



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Special)

Augustus J. Robbins was born on November 17, 1839 in Grafton, VT. He enlisted in Grafton on July 5 1861 as a Corporal in Company A, 2nd Vermont Infantry. He was promoted to Full Commissary Sergeant on Jan 16,

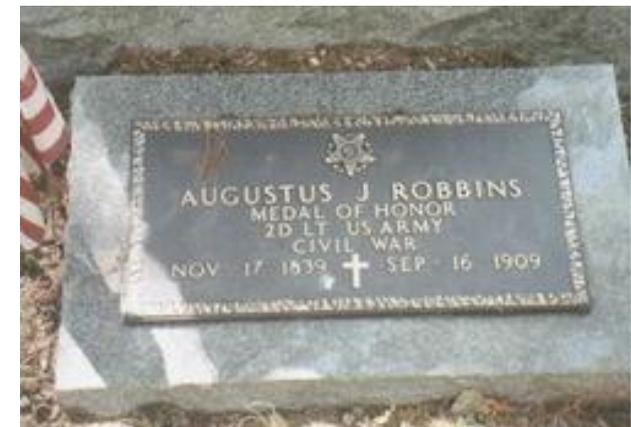
1862 and to 2nd Lieutenant on December 20, 1862. He mustered out of the Army on June 29, 1864 when the 2nd Vermont Infantry concluded its service.

The 2nd Vermont Volunteer Infantry was a three-year infantry regiment that served predominantly in the VI Corps of the Army of the Potomac from June 1861 to July 1865. The regiment rendezvoused at Burlington and mustered into United States service on June 20. In September, the 4th, 5th, and 6th Vermont regiments joined with the 2nd and 3rd to form the famous "Old Vermont Brigade." This Brigade lost more men in combat than any other Union Brigade during the Civil War. Of the five members of the regiment awarded Medals of Honor, three, including Robbins', were for their actions at the "Bloody Angle" in the Battle of Spotsylvania, on May 12, 1864.

Augustus Robbins died on September 16, 1909 in Lakewood, NJ and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Lakewood, New Jersey.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Second Lieutenant Augustus J. Robbins on March 24, 1892 for his bravery at the Battle of Spotsylvania, Virginia on May 12, 1864.

Citation: While voluntarily serving as a staff officer successfully withdrew a regiment across and around a severely exposed position to the rest of the command; was severely wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Sergeant John Christopher Sagelhurst



Guidon of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry

(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

John Sagelhurst (also spelled Segelhurst) was born on June 1, 1841 in Buffalo, NY. He entered service in Jersey City, NJ with the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment and earned his Medal of Honor during the Richmond - Petersburg Campaign at the Battle of

Hatcher's Run, February 5-7, 1865. The 1st New Jersey Cavalry rode with Brig. Gen. David Gregg's cavalry division to intercept Confederate wagon trains beyond the flank of the Union lines. Union II and V Infantry Corps advanced to protect the flank of Gregg's raid. Confederates attacked the Union infantry and Gregg's cavalry joined the battle after returning from its unsuccessful raid. After severe fighting that claimed about 2,700 casualties on both sides, the Union advance was halted, but their lines around Petersburg were further extended.

John Sagelhurst died on May 9, 1907 and is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo, NY.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant John Sagelhurst on January 3, 1906 for conspicuous bravery on February 6, 1865 at Hatcher's Run, Virginia while assigned as Sergeant, Company E, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Under a heavy fire from the enemy carried off the field a commissioned officer who was severely wounded and also led a charge on the enemy's rifle pits.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Musician Julian Scott



(Photo courtesy of Hall of Heroes)

Julian Scott was born on February 15, 1846 in Johnson, Vermont. He enlisted into the 3rd Vermont Infantry Regiment on June 1, 1861 at age 15 and served until April 1863 when he received a disability discharge. Scott visited with the Army of the Potomac as an artist in 1864. After the war ended, Scott studied art at the National Academy of Design and was a student of the history painter, Emile Leutze. He

then traveled to Paris and Stuttgart, Germany, to continue his education.

Scott's first art studio was in New York City. In 1870 he moved to Plainfield, New Jersey, his home for the remainder of his life. Scott was a noted American artist and is best known for his large, realistic, historical paintings, many of which recorded events of the Civil War. He gained fame for his portrayal of the Vermont Brigade in his painting, "The Battle of Cedar Creek," (1872) which is displayed in the Vermont Statehouse. His also famous "Death of General Sedgwick" (1887) is on display at The Historical Society of Plainfield's Drake House Museum.

The Department of the Interior commissioned him in 1890 to draw and paint Native American tribes. This work was published as part of the Eleventh Census Report on Indians Taxed and Untaxed, and in Edna Dean **Proctor's Song of the Ancient People** (1892).

Julian Scott died on July 4, 1901 and is buried in Hillside Cemetery, in Scotch Plains, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Julian Scott in February of 1865 for conspicuous bravery during the Battle of Lee's Mills, VA on April 16, 1862 while assigned as Musician, Company E, 3rd Vermont Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Crossed the creek under a terrific fire of musketry several times to assist in bringing off the wounded.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Brevet Major General William Joyce Sewell



(Photo courtesy of Big Country)

William Sewell was born on December 6, 1835 in Castlebar, Ireland. He immigrated to New York in 1851 and moved to Camden, NJ in 1860. When the Civil War started, he raised a volunteer company and became Captain, Co. C, 5th New Jersey Infantry Regiment. He served in the Peninsula Campaign and Second Bull Run in 1862 and became Lieutenant Colonel, 5th NJ in July 1862. Sewell became commander of the 5th NJ in October 1862 and was promoted to Colonel in January 1863. He led the 5th NJ at Chancellorsville, where he was lightly wounded,

and at Gettysburg, where he was severely wounded. He recovered in time to lead the 5th NJ during the Wilderness Campaign, but retired for health reasons in July 1864. Two months later, he became Colonel of the 38th New Jersey Infantry Regiment and commanded it for the rest of the war, performing garrison duty on the James River. On March 13, 1865, he received brevet promotions to Brigadier and Major General for gallant and meritorious service at Chancellorsville and during the war, respectively.

He was mustered out of service in July, 1865. After the war, Sewell returned to Camden and served as a railroad executive, a NJ Senator from 1872-1880, a US Senator from 1881-1886 and 1895-1901, and a Brigadier General in the NJ National Guard. William Sewell died on December 27, 1901 and is buried in Harleigh Cemetery, in Camden, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Major General Sewell on March 25, 1896 for conspicuous bravery during the Battle of Chancellorsville, VA on May 3, 1863 while assigned as Colonel, 5th NJ Infantry Regiment.

Citation: Assuming command of a brigade, he rallied around his colors a mass of men from other regiments and fought these troops with great brilliancy through several hours of desperate conflict, remaining in command though wounded and inspiring them by his presence and the gallantry of his personal example.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Brevet Major General Alexander Shaler



(Photo courtesy of National Archives)

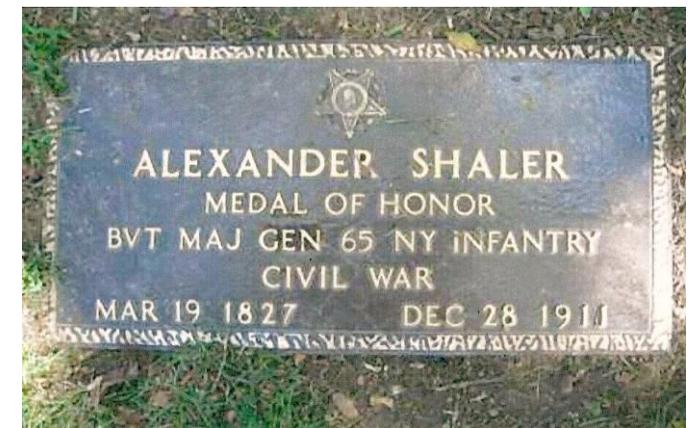
Alexander Shaler was born on March 19, 1827 in Haddam, CT. He enlisted in the 7th Regiment, NY State Militia in 1848 and, while living in Hoboken,

served as Colonel of the 1st Regiment, Hudson Brigade, NJ State Militia. In June of 1861, Shaler was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the 65th New York Infantry Regiment. He participated in the Peninsula Campaign and the Battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg with his regiment. On June 17, 1862, he was promoted to Colonel of the 65th NY. He assumed command of a brigade in March 1863 and led it at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and the Wilderness, where he was captured and imprisoned. After exchange, he served as a brigade and division commander in the Departments of the Gulf and Arkansas. He was promoted to Brigadier General on May 26, 1863 and to Brevet Major General in July 1865. Shaler mustered out of the Army on August 24, 1865. After the war, he served as a Major General of the NY National Guard and held many NYC municipal positions. He retired from his National Guard and city positions and then moved to Ridgefield, NJ where he served as Mayor from 1899-1901.

Alexander Shaler died on December 28, 1911. He is buried in English Neighborhood Reformed Church Cemetery in Ridgefield, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Major General Alexander Shaler on November 25, 1893 for conspicuous bravery during the Second Battle of Fredericksburg, VA on May 3, 1863 while assigned as Commander, 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, VI Corps.

Citation: At a most critical moment, the head of the charging column being about to be crushed by the severe fire of the enemy's artillery and infantry, he pushed forward with a supporting column, pierced the enemy's works, and turned their flank.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Quartermaster James Sheridan



US Navy Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of US Navy)

James Sheridan was born on May 27, 1832 in Newark, NJ. He enlisted in the US Navy in New York and was assigned to the *USS Oneida*, a three-masted screw sloop of war. The *Oneida* participated in many of the naval actions in the western theater such as the capture of New Orleans, the running of the river at Vicksburg, the Battle of Mobile Bay, and blockading actions.

The Battle of Mobile Bay was the last major naval battle of the Civil War. Ninety-eight Medals of Honor were awarded for that battle, eight of which went to

members of the crew of the *USS Oneida*, including Quartermaster Sheridan's medal.

James Sheridan died on November 9, 1893 and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn, NY.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to James Sheridan on December 31, 1864 for conspicuous bravery on August 5, 1864 at the Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama while assigned as Quartermaster, *USS Oneida*.

Citation: Served as quartermaster on board the *USS Oneida* in the engagement at Mobile Bay August 5, 1864. Acting as captain of the after 11-inch gun, and wounded in several places, Sheridan remained at his gun until the firing had ceased and then took the place of the signal quartermaster who had been injured by a fall. Recommended for his gallantry and intelligence, Sheridan served courageously throughout this battle which resulted in the capture of the rebel ram *Tennessee* and the damaging of Fort Morgan.

Private John Shivers



The Battle of Fort Fisher

(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

John Shivers was born on March 21, 1830 in Canada. He immigrated to New Jersey and enlisted for four years as a Private in the Marine Corps on September 17, 1863.

In January 1865, a combined Army, Navy, and Marine Corps force assaulted Fort Fisher, which guarded the last remaining Confederate port of Wilmington, NC. Shivers was among the 240 sailors and marines from the *USS Minnesota* who participated in the 2,000 man

Naval augmentation to the Army. After a fierce battle, the Confederates defending the fort surrendered on January 15, 1865. Fifty-one soldiers, sailors, and marines earned the Medal of Honor for their heroism during this battle.



Steam Frigate *USS Minnesota*

(Photo courtesy of US Navy History Center)

On October 27, 1865, Shivers apparently tired of his military service as records show he deserted in October, 1865. John Shivers' date of death and burial location are unknown.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private John Fisher on June 22, 1865 for conspicuous bravery on January 15, 1865 during the Second Battle of Fort Fisher, NC while assigned as Private, USMC on the *USS Minnesota*.

Citation: On board the *USS Minnesota*, in the assault on Fort Fisher, 15 January 1865. Landing on the beach with the assaulting party from his ship, Pvt. Shivers advanced to the top of the sandhill and partly through the breach in the palisades despite enemy fire which killed or wounded many officers and men. When more than two-thirds of the men became seized with panic and retreated on the run, he remained with the party until dark when it came safely away, bringing its wounded, its arms and its colors.

Sergeant David Southard



Guidon, 1st New Jersey Calvary
(Photo courtesy of NJ State Archives)

David Southard was born in 1845 in Jackson Township, NJ. On August 5, 1861, the sixteen year-old basket weaver answered the call to the colors in Florence, NJ. He enlisted in the NJ Mounted Volunteers, which became a part of the 1st NJ Cavalry Regiment. Southard served in the field continuously through the next four years, and re-enlisted as a veteran volunteer on February 25, 1864. He was promoted to corporal on September 1, 1864 and sergeant on December 12, 1864. Southard was riding

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with his regiment on April 6, 1865 at the Battle of Sailor's Creek. He participated in two charges, the second one has been called "... probably the grandest cavalry charge of the war." The battle resulted in the destruction of a Confederate Corps and the capture of its commander. Twelve members of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry were awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery during the Civil War, making it the most decorated New Jersey Civil War regiment.

Southard mustered out of the Army on July 24, 1865 and returned to Colliers Mills, NJ where he resumed his profession as a basket maker. He was engaged in a controversy in 1892 when he was indicted for arson of several barns of a former Assemblyman. He protested his innocence and claimed that he was being persecuted for political reasons. Southard was not convicted of any wrongdoing.

David Southard died of pneumonia at Pennsylvania Hospital on May 6, 1894 and is buried in the Zion Baptist Church Cemetery in New Egypt, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant David Southard on July 3, 1865 for conspicuous bravery during the Battle of Sailor's Creek, VA on April 6, 1865 while assigned as Sergeant, Company C, 1st New Jersey Volunteer Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of flag; and was the first man over the works in the charge.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)



Union Cavalry Unit in Virginia, 1864
(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

George W. Stewart was born in 1839 in Salem, NJ. He enlisted for a term of three years as a Private in the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment on August 11, 1861, mustering in on August 20. He was promoted to Corporal on April 1, 1862 and to Sergeant on November 1, 1862. He re-enlisted for the duration of the war on February 1, 1864 and was promoted to First Sergeant on December 11, 1864.

The 1st NJ Cavalry was in Major General Phil Sheridan's Cavalry Corps (Davies Brigade, Crook's Division) during the Appomattox Campaign. Davies

First Sergeant George W. Stewart

Brigade intercepted some Confederate wagon trains on April 5, 1865 at Paines Crossroads during their retreat from Petersburg. First Sergeant Stewart was one of ten cavalrymen awarded the Medal of Honor for the action with enemy forces at Paines Crossroads. All of these awards were for the capture of one of the several battle flags of the Confederate units taken in action in that battle.

Stewart was mustered out of service on July 24, 1865. Little is known of his later life. He died on November 17, 1911 and is buried in New Camden Cemetery in Camden, NJ.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to First Sergeant George W. Stewart on May 3, 1865 for conspicuous bravery on April 5, 1865 at Paines Crossroads, Virginia while assigned as First Sergeant, Company E, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of flag.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Captain of the Top Robert Strahan



Crewmen of the *USS Kearsarge* in 1864. Strahan is four to the left of the officer

(Photo courtesy of US Navy History Center)

Robert Strahan was born on March 21, 1838 in NJ. He enlisted in the Navy and served on the *USS Kearsarge*, a 1550-ton Mohican class steam sloop of war built at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Kittery, Maine, under the 1861 Civil War emergency shipbuilding program. Commissioned in January 1862, she deployed to European waters where she spent nearly three years searching for Confederate raiders. In June 1864, while under the command of Captain John Winslow,

Kearsarge found *CSS Alabama* at Cherbourg, France, where she had gone for repairs after a long cruise spent in devastating the United States' merchant marine. On 19 June, the two ships, nearly equals in size and power, fought a battle off Cherbourg that became one of the Civil War's most memorable naval actions. *Kearsarge's* superior gunnery completely defeated her opponent in about an hour. Seventeen Union sailors received the Medal of Honor during the battle in which the *CSS Alabama* sunk.

Nothing is known about Strahan after the war.

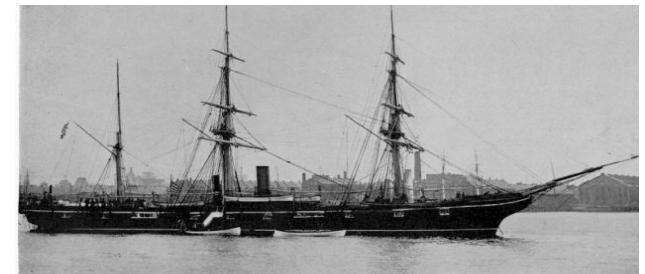


Hauling Down the Flag – Surrender of the Alabama

(Photo courtesy of Navy History Center, Art by J. O. Davidson)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Robert Strahan on December 31, 1864 for gallantry on June 19, 1864 off the coast of Cherbourg, France while assigned as Captain of the Top, *USS Kearsarge*.

Citation: Served as Captain of the Top on board the *USS Kearsarge* when she destroyed the Alabama off Cherbourg, France, 19 June 1864. Acting as captain of the No. 1 gun, Strahan carried out his duties in the face of heavy enemy fire and exhibited marked coolness and good conduct throughout the engagement. Strahan was highly recommended by his division officer for his gallantry and meritorious achievements.



***USS Kearsarge*, 1861**

(Photo courtesy of Navy History Center)

First Sergeant Bernard A. Strausbaugh



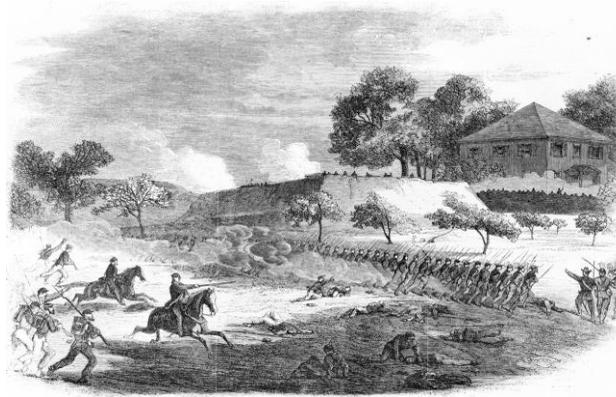
Maryland State Flag

(Photo courtesy of State of Maryland)

Bernard A. Strausbaugh was born in 1831 in Adams County, PA. On August 15, 1861, he enlisted in the 3rd Maryland Volunteer Infantry at Warfordsburg, PA, located on the border with Maryland. Strausbaugh joined up as the First Sergeant of Company A.

The Second Battle of Petersburg, fought on June 15-18, 1864, marked the end of the Overland Campaign and the beginning of the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign. The Army of the Potomac slipped away from the lines at Cold Harbor, crossed the James River, and tried to capture Petersburg before the Confederate Army could react. The march to the

James and the river crossing went exceptionally well, but the overly cautious Union generals commanding the attack bungled it. Weak Confederate forces under General Beauregard held off the larger Union Army for three days until General Lee could re-enforce his lines.



Assault on Petersburg, June 15, 1864

(Art by Edwin Forbes; Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

First Sergeant Strausbaugh was wounded in action at Petersburg and died on November 6, 1864 in the General National Hospital in Beverly. He is buried in the Beverly National Cemetery in Beverly, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to First Sergeant Bernard A. Strausbaugh almost one month after his death on December 1, 1864 for conspicuous bravery on June 17, 1864 at Petersburg, Virginia while assigned as First Sergeant, Company A, 3rd Maryland Infantry.

Citation: Recaptured the colors of the 2nd Pennsylvania Provisional Artillery.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Private Christian Streile

Regiment served from August 1861 until July 1865 with 3,317 men passing through its ranks. Of these, 12 officers and 116 enlisted were killed in action and 43 officers and 116 enlisted died of disease. Another 238 men went missing.

Streile mustered out of the Army on July 24, 1865. Little is know about his life after the Army. He died on December 4, 1886 and is buried in Lutheran Cemetery in Middle Village, NY.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Christian Streile on April 2, 1898 for conspicuous bravery on April 5, 1865 at Paines Crossroads, Virginia while assigned as Private, Company I, 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Capture of flag.



Guidon of the 1st NJ Cavalry Regiment

(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

Christian Streile was born in 1839 in Germany. He immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment in Jersey City on February 15, 1864 for three years.

The 1st New Jersey Cavalry was a highly respected unit in the Union Army with over ninety-five skirmishes, battles, or campaigns to its credit. The

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(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)



Army Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of Army Institute of Heraldry)

Anthony Taylor was born in Burlington, NJ on October 11, 1837. Taylor enlisted as a Private in Company A, 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry on August 8, 1862. He advanced through the ranks to Sergeant on Oct. 30, 1862 and First Sergeant on March 1, 1863. On May 8, 1863 he was discharged as an enlisted man and commissioned as First Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain of Company G on June 1, 1865. Taylor was mustered out of the Army on June 21, 1865.

First Lieutenant Anthony Taylor

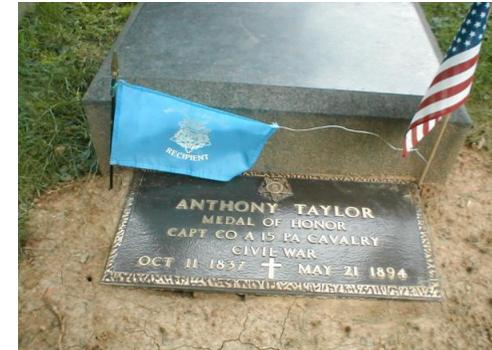
The 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry organized at Carlisle, PA and was initially assigned to the Army of the Potomac. It performed scouting during the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. The regiment went to Louisville, KY on November 7, 1862 and served with the Army of the Cumberland. It fought in the Battle of Chickamauga on September 19-21, where Anthony Taylor performed the extraordinary service for which he received the Medal of Honor.

The regiment continued its service by participating in the skirmish on Hillsboro Pike, near Nashville, TN; the Battle of Stone's River; the pursuit of Hood's forces and trains from December 20, 1864 to January 6, 1865; Stoneman's Raid into Southwest Virginia and Western North Carolina, March 21 - April 25, and finally the pursuit of Jeff Davis.

Taylor died on May 21, 1894 and is buried in the Saint James the Less Episcopal Churchyard in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

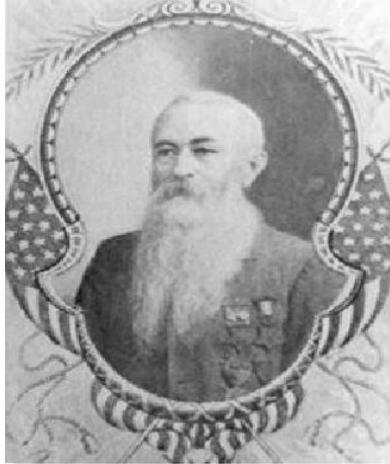
The Medal of Honor was awarded to Lieutenant Anthony Taylor on December 4, 1893 for conspicuous bravery at the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia on September 20, 1863 while serving as First Lieutenant of Company A, 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment.

Citation: Held out to the last with a small force against the advance of superior numbers of the enemy at Chickamauga, GA, September 20, 1863.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Captain Forrester Lore Taylor



(Photo courtesy of Wikipedia)

Forrester Lore Taylor was born on October 30, 1833 in Philadelphia, PA. During the Civil War he resided in Beverly, NJ where he joined a militia company. It was mustered into service as Company A of the 23rd New Jersey Infantry Regiment, a nine-months regiment. Taylor became a Sergeant on September 13, 1862. The 23rd NJ became a part of the First New Jersey Brigade in October 1862. In their first battle at Fredericksburg, VA in December 1862, the 23rd NJ performed well despite its being green and untested.

After this battle, the First NJ Brigade went into winter quarters, where Forrester Taylor was promoted three times: to Second Lieutenant, Company G; First Lieutenant, Company D; and Captain of Company H.

During the Chancellorsville Campaign in May 1863, the 23rd NJ attacked Confederate positions in and around Salem Church. The Confederates, in strong defensive positions and having superior numbers, caused the brigade to retreat with a great number of casualties. During that retreat, Captain Taylor braved intense enemy gunfire and friendly Union artillery fire twice to save wounded comrades.

After his enlistment expired on June 27, 1863, he enlisted in the 34th NJ Infantry. He was commissioned as Captain of Company H on October 6, 1863. Taylor farmed in Virginia after the war, on a farm known as the "Sweeney Plantation"

Taylor is buried in his family's Rustburg, VA cemetery.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain Forrester Lore Taylor on November 2, 1896 for conspicuous bravery at the Battle of Chancellorsville, VA on May 3, 1863.

Citation: For extraordinary heroism on May 3, 1863, while serving with Company H, 23d NJ Infantry, in action at Chancellorsville, VA. At great risk Captain Taylor voluntarily saved the lives of and brought from the battlefield two wounded comrades.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)



1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment Guidon
(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

Aaron Blake Thompkins was born February 15, 1844 in Orange, NJ and enrolled in the First New Jersey Cavalry Regiment on December 20, 1861. He was mustered in as a Private in Company G.

The cavalry attack at Sailor's Creek that resulted in Charles E. Wilson being awarded the Medal of Honor was the second attack over the same "plain, open field, where the enemy had a good line of rifle pits"; the first being repulsed by the Confederates. This attack was considered by Major Robbins, the regimental commander of the 1st NJ Cavalry, 67

Sergeant Aaron Blake Thompkins

"probably the grandest cavalry charge of the war." Gen. Davies, in his After Action Report, described the 1st New Jersey Cavalry and its comrades as "keeping their line perfectly, and leaping the breast works (driving) the enemy in confusion, capturing many prisoners; then charging right up on the hill...upon the enemy's wagon train, which they followed up for some distance destroying many wagons and capturing many prisoners."

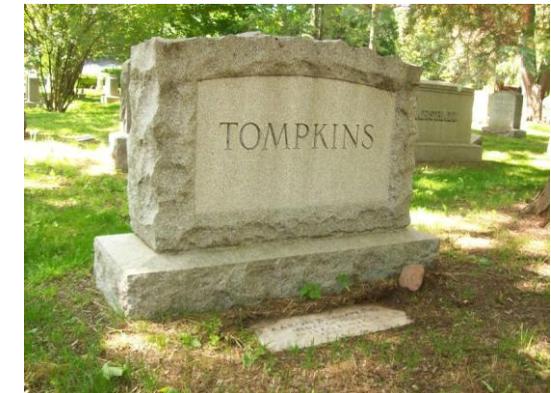


Union Cavalry Regiment in Northern VA, 1864
(Photo courtesy of Library of Congress)

Tompkins died on November 27, 1931 and is buried in Rosedale Cemetery in Orange, NJ.

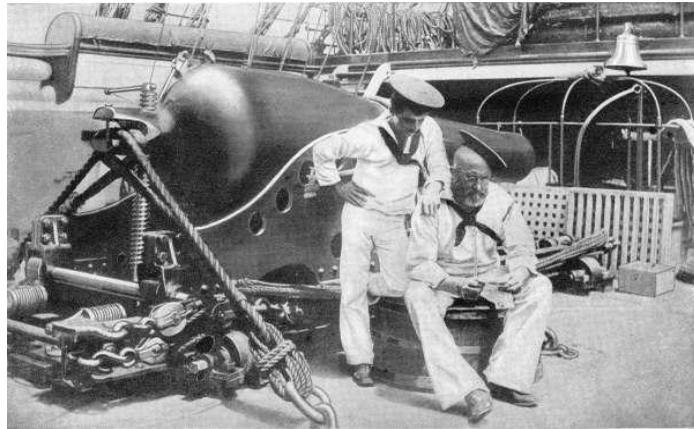
The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant Aaron Blake Thompkins on July 3, 1865 for his bravery on April 6, 1865 at the Battle of Sailor's Creek, VA.

Citation: For extraordinary heroism on April 5 1865, while serving with Company G, 1st NJ Cavalry, in action at Deatonsville (Sailor's Creek), Virginia. Sergeant Tompkins charged into the enemy's ranks and captured a battle flag, having a horse shot under him and his cheeks and shoulders cut with a saber.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Signal Quartermaster William Thompson



Gun on the *USS Mohican*
(Photo courtesy of US Navy)

William Thompson was born in Cape May County, NJ in 1812. He enlisted in the United States Navy in Boston, MA. He served as Signal Quartermaster, US Navy, on the sloop *USS Mohican* when he performed the heroic action at Fort Beauregard (Hilton Head), SC on November 7, 1861 for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

The *USS Mohican* was a steam-driven warship in the United States Navy during the American Civil War,
68

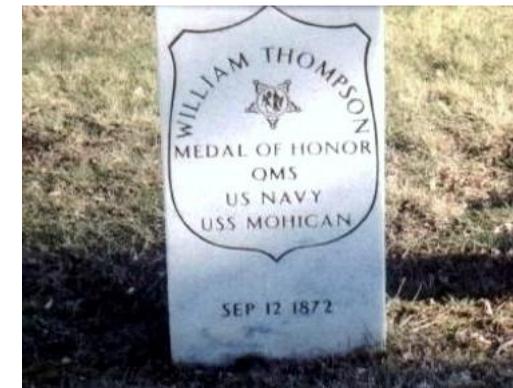
named for the Mohican Indian tribe. Her crew was comprised of 160 officers and enlisted men. Her armament consisted of two 11-inch guns, and four 32-pounder guns.

Departing Norfolk, Virginia on 29 October for Port Royal, SC, as part of the largest US naval squadron assembled to that time, the sloop steamed in the battle line on 7 November as DuPont's squadron pounded Fort Walker on Hilton Head Island, forcing the Confederates to abandon the emplacement. This allowed a combined Union Army and Navy Force to land, occupy this site, and establish an important base of operations to support the blockade of Southern ports. Confederate shells hit the *USS Mohican* six times in this engagement, causing superficial hull damage to the ship, killing one man and wounding seven others.

Thompson died on September 12, 1872. He is buried in Philadelphia, PA in Mount Moriah Cemetery.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Signal Quartermaster William Thompson on July 10, 1863 for extraordinary heroism during action against the heavily defended Confederate Forts Beauregard and Walker on Hilton Head, SC on November 7, 1861.

Citation: Serving as Signal Quartermaster on board the *USS Mohican*, William Thompson steadfastly steered the ship with a steady and bold heart under the batteries; was wounded by a piece of shell but remained at his station until he fell from loss of blood. Legs since amputated.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

First Lieutenant Clifford Thomson



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Special)

Clifford Thomson was born in Fulton, NY on April 15, 1834. At age 27, he enlisted in Company B, 1st New York Cavalry on July 19, 1861, at New York City and mustered in as private on July 19, 1861 to serve for three years. He advanced quickly to become the regimental quartermaster sergeant. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in Company A on September 13, 1861. On September 9, 1862 he was promoted to first lieutenant. Thomson became the regimental quartermaster on October 22, 1862.

Thomson joined General Alfred Pleasonton's cavalry staff and moved to the Western Theater with Pleasanton when he was transferred in 1864. He served as an Aide-de-Camp and as an Assistant Adjutant General for over two years and mustered out at Louisville, KY on June 25, 1865. After mustering out, he joined the 5th United States Colored Cavalry Regiment as major and served until the regiment was disbanded on March 16, 1866.

After the war Thomson lived in East Orange, New Jersey and was a newspaper editor.

Clifford Thomson died on May 5, 1912 and is buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, East Orange, New Jersey.

Clifford Thomson was awarded the Medal of Honor on November 27, 1896 for his bravery at the Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia on May 2, 1863.

Citation: Volunteered to ascertain the character of approaching troops; rode up so closely as to distinguish the features of the enemy, and as he wheeled to return they opened fire with musketry, the Union troops returning same. Under a terrific fire from both sides Lieutenant Thomson rode back unhurt to the Federal lines, averting a disaster to the Army by his heroic act



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Sergeant Charles Titus



1st New Jersey Cavalry Guidon

(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

Charles Titus was born on January 1, 1838 in Millstone, NJ and inducted at New Brunswick, NJ on August 28, 1861 for three years in the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment. He was promoted to Corporal on December 20, 1861 and elevated to Sergeant in

Company H on August 20, 1862. He re-enlisted on January 1, 1864. Titus mustered out on July 24, 1865.

The cavalry attack at Sailor's Creek that resulted in Charles Titus being awarded the Medal of Honor was the second attack over the same "plain, open field, where the enemy had a good line of rifle pits"; the first being repulsed by the Confederates. This attack was considered by Major Robbins, the regimental commander of the 1st N J Cavalry, "probably the grandest cavalry charge of the war." Gen. Davies, in his After Action Report, described the 1st New Jersey Cavalry and its comrades as "keeping their line perfectly, and leaping the breast works (driving) the enemy in confusion, capturing many prisoners; then charging right up on the hill ... upon the enemy's wagon train, which they followed up for some distance destroying many wagons and capturing many prisoners."

Charles Titus died in Belmar on March 26, 1921 and is buried in Glendola Cemetery in Wall Township, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant Charles Titus on July 3, 1865 for his bravery on April 6, 1865 at the Battle of Sailor's Creek, VA.

Citation: For extraordinary heroism on 6 April 1865, while serving with Company H, 1st New Jersey Cavalry, in action at Deatonville (Sailor's Creek), VA. Sergeant Titus was among the first to check the enemy's countercharge.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

First Lieutenant John James Toffey



(Photo courtesy of John Kuhl)

John James Toffey was born on June 1, 1844 in Pawling, NY. He enrolled in Company C, 21st NJ Infantry on Aug. 28, 1862. He mustered in on Sept.

15, 1862 in Hudson, New Jersey and served as a private for the nine-month's duration of the regiment's service. He mustered out on June 19, 1863. On August 23, 1863, Toffey was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in Company F, 33rd NJ Infantry, and was mustered on August 29, 1863. He was discharged from the 33rd NJ on June 2, 1864 because of the hip wound he received at the Battle of Missionary Ridge. He subsequently served as a Lieutenant in the Veteran Reserve Corps until June 1866. Lieutenant Toffey was present at Ford's Theater when Lincoln was assassinated. He participated in the search for the conspirators, testified at their trial and witnessed their subsequent execution.

After the war, Toffey led a life of extensive public service in New Jersey. He served two terms as Hudson County Sheriff, was State Treasurer from 1875 to 1891, and he was an Alderman of Jersey City. He was served in the State Legislature.

John Toffey died in Pawling, NY on March 13, 1911 and is buried in the Pawling Cemetery.

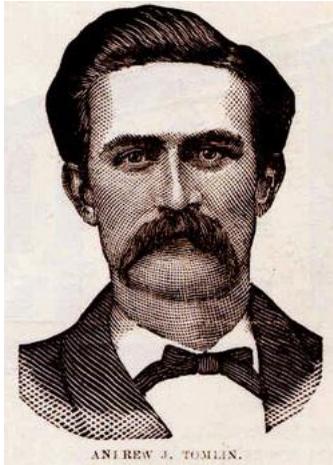
The Medal of Honor was awarded to Lieutenant John James Toffey on September 10, 1897 for his act of bravery on November 23, 1863 at the Battle of Missionary Ridge, at Chattanooga, TN.

Citation: Although excused from duty on account of sickness, went to the front in command of a storming party and with conspicuous gallantry participated in the assault of Missionary Ridge; was here wounded and permanently disabled.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Corporal Andrew Jackson Tomlin



(Photo courtesy of US Navy)

Andrew Jackson Tomlin was born on March 15, 1845 in Goshen, New Jersey. During the Civil War he served as a corporal in the United States Marine Corps on the *USS Wabash*.

After the war, Tomlin returned to his home in New Jersey becoming commissioner of juries in 1880 and Sheriff of Cape May County, NJ in 1895.

USS Wabash (1855) was a steam screw frigate based on the same plans as *USS Colorado*. Her armament consisted of forty smoothbore guns: two 10-inch Dahlgrens, fourteen 8-inch Dahlgrens; and twenty-four 9-inch Dahlgrens.

USS Wabash participated in the first attack on Fort Fisher, NC, on December 24-25, 1864. The failure of this initial attempt necessitated a second combined operation between January 13-15, 1865. It was during this second attack on Fort Fisher that Corporal Andrew J. Tomlin earned the Medal of Honor.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Corporal Andrew Jackson Tomlin was awarded the Medal of Honor on June 22, 1865 for his bravery at the Battle of Fort Fisher on January 15, 1865.

Citation: As corporal of the guard on board the *USS Wabash* during the assault on Fort Fisher, on January 15, 1865. He was one of 200 Marines assembled to hold a line of intrenchments in the rear of the fort which the enemy threatened to attack in force following a retreat in panic by more than two-thirds of the assaulting ground forces. Corporal Tomlin took position in line and remained until morning when relief troops arrived from the fort. When one of his comrades was struck down by enemy fire, he unhesitatingly advanced under a withering fire of musketry into an open plain close to the fort and assisted the wounded man to a place of safety.

Andrew Tomlin died on November 1, 1906 and is buried in Goshen Methodist Cemetery in Goshen, NJ.

Corporal Andrew Traynor



Army Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of Army Institute of Heraldry)

Andrew Traynor was born on Feb. 9, 1843 in Newark, NJ. Near Mason's Hill, VA, on March 16, 1864, Corporal Andrew Traynor of the 1st Michigan Cavalry was sent on scout duty with one private. Traynor said "The Confederates were very numerous in the neighborhood,. . . We had just wormed our way into a dense thicket and out again when we were surprised and captured by four heavily armed guerrillas. We were taken a short distance to another spot in the woods where a civilian who, with his team and wagon had been captured. Leaving two of their companions to guard the captives, the other two guerillas went back to the woods to return again very shortly with three more prisoners, stragglers from the Union lines.

Again leaving the party under guard of two companions, the other two returned to the road for further prizes."

"Here it was that I communicated my intention to escape, telling my companions to watch me closely and keep by my side. Selecting an opportune moment, I sprang past the two guards, and before they could fire their guns or otherwise give a signal, I was engaged in a sharp struggle with both. They were able bodied and well armed men, but my attack had been so sudden and well directed that almost in an instant I had both of their guns and had handed one to the civilian who had kept by my elbow. Just then the other two guerillas had returned hastily and before they could realize the situation, the civilian and I both fired, each one dropping a man. At this moment, the two unarmed guerillas made their escape in one direction, while my five companions and I made our escape in an opposite direction."

Andrew Traynor died on July 6, 1920 and is buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Omaha, NE.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Corporal Andrew Traynor on September 28, 1897 for conspicuous bravery at Mason's Hill, VA on March 16, 1864.

Citation: Having been surprised and captured by a detachment of guerrillas, this soldier, with other prisoners, seized the arms of the guard over them, killed 2 of the guerrillas, and enabled all the prisoners to escape.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Captain Moses Veale



(Photo courtesy of Gregory Speciale)

Moses Veale was born in Bridgeton, NJ on November 9, 1832. He became a lawyer and on February 20, 1862 mustered into Co. F, 109th Pennsylvania Infantry as a Second Lieutenant. During the war, he held several staff positions, was wounded three times, taken prisoner at the Battle of Cedar Mountain, and held at the infamous Libby Prison. After his

exchange, Veale served on the staff of Union General John W. Geary during Sherman's March to the Sea.

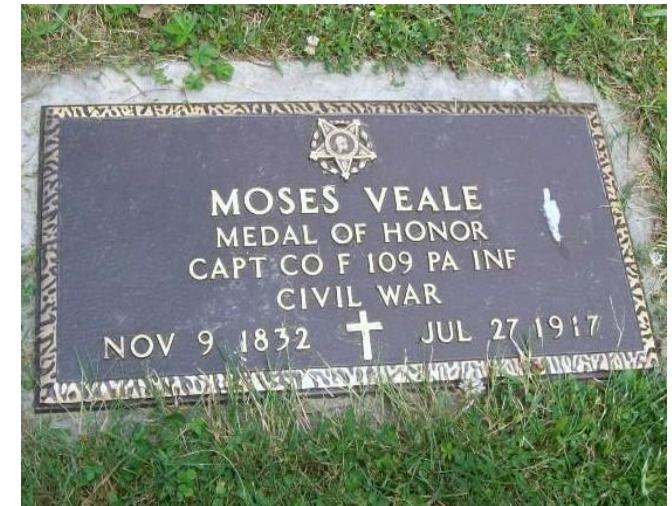
After the defeat at Chickamauga, Union troops under siege in Chattanooga were in danger of being starved into surrender. Two Corps were sent from the East under General Hooker to re-enforce them. In late October 1863, they marched to break the siege. General Geary's division took up positions at Wauhatchie Station separated from the rest of Hooker's forces by several miles. Confederates launched a night attack, a rare event in the Civil War, against Geary that, while expected, surprised the Union forces with its ferocity. After several hours of fighting, Hooker began to support Geary and the Confederates withdrew. The siege was broken

After the war, Veale served briefly as US Attorney in Montana. He was approved and commissioned in April 1867 and resigned by July 1867. Veale returned to Philadelphia in 1876, where he was involved in politics and reform movements.

Moses Veale died on July 27, 1917 and is buried in West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

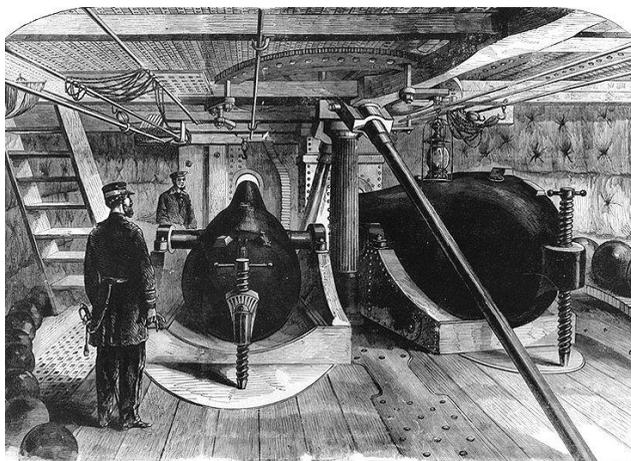
The Medal of Honor was awarded to Moses Veale on January 17, 1894 for conspicuous bravery for his bravery at Wauhatchie, Tennessee on October 28, 1863.

Citation: Gallantry in action, manifesting throughout the engagement coolness, zeal, judgment and courage. His horse was shot out from under him and he was hit by 4 enemy bullets.



(Photo courtesy of Don Morfe)

Captain of the Foretop Charles H Weeks



Inside the *USS Montauk* turret

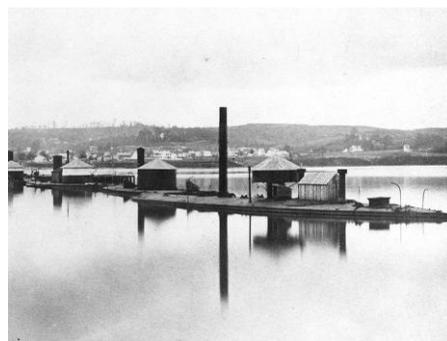
(Photo courtesy of US Navy)

Charles H. Weeks was born in NJ in 1837. He served as Captain of the Foretop on board the *USS Montauk* on September 21, 1864.

The *USS Montauk* was one of five ironclad monitors to bombard Fort McAllister, Georgia. Although hit 13 or 14 times, *USS Montauk* was undamaged. Four days later, the ironclads made a second attack. The fort was badly battered, but *USS Montauk* was hit 48

times and was slightly damaged. She destroyed the blockade runner *Rattlesnake* in the Ogeechee River and was later damaged by a torpedo (mine).

The ironclad monitors bombarded Fort Wagner on Morris Island from July 10th until it was evacuated by the Confederates on September 6th. The ships then turned their attention to Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie and operated for the rest of the year against these fortifications that guarded Charleston, the Cradle of the Rebellion. Despite their efforts, the Confederate works were never taken by sea.



USS Montauk

(Photo courtesy of US Navy)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain of the Foretop Charles H. Weeks on October 3, 1867 for conspicuous bravery on the *USS Montauk* on the night of September 21, 1864.

Citation: Served as Captain of the Foretop on board the *USS Montauk*, September 21 1864. During the night of September 21, when fire was discovered in the magazine lightroom of that vessel, causing a panic and demoralizing the crew. Weeks, notwithstanding the cry of "fire in the magazine," displayed great presence of mind and rendered valuable service in extinguishing the flames which were imperiling the ship and the men on board.

At the end of the Civil War, the *USS Montauk* went to the Washington Navy Yard where on April 27, 1865 she served as a floating bier for assassin John Wilkes Booth. She was later the prison for his six accomplices.



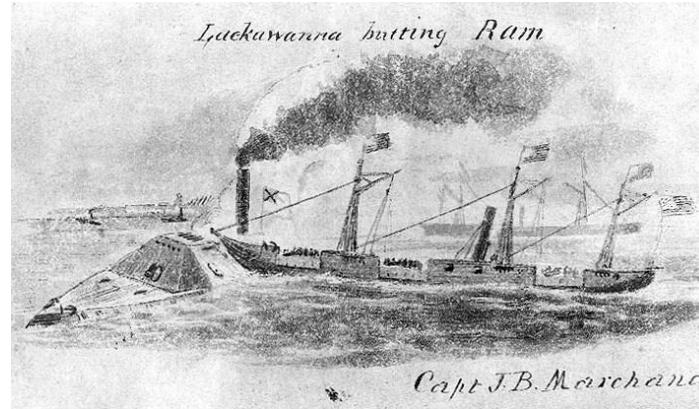
Navy Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of United States Navy)

Daniel Whitfield was born in 1821 in Newark, NJ. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the *USS Lackawanna* as Quartermaster.

The *USS Lackawanna* was a screw sloop-of-war, built in the New York Navy Yard and commissioned on January 8, 1863. It had formidable armament: two 24-pounder howitzers, two 12-pounder howitzers, two 12-pounder rifles, one 150-pounder Parrott rifle, one 50-pounder Dahlgren rifle, two 11-inch Dahlgren smoothbores, and two 9-inch Dahlgren smoothbores.

Quartermaster Daniel Whitfield



Lackawanna hitting Ram

(Drawing courtesy of US Naval Historical Center)

Admiral David Farragut's ships entered the Mobile Bay at dawn on August 5th. In addition to Forts Morgan and Gaines and a minefield, the Confederate's protected the Bay with a naval squadron, led by ironclad ram *CSS Tennessee*. The battle continued for more than an hour. During the struggle, *USS Lackawanna* rammed *CSS Tennessee* at full speed causing the *CSS Tennessee* to list. *CSS Tennessee* surrendered, and with it came the closure of Mobile Bay, the last major Southern gulf port.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Quartermaster Daniel Whitfield on December 31, 1864 for conspicuous bravery on the *USS Lackawanna*, on August 5, 1864.

Citation: Serving as quartermaster on board the *USS Lackawanna* during successful attacks against Fort Morgan, rebel gunboats and the rebel ram *Tennessee* in Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864. Acting as captain of a gun, Whitfield coolly stood by his gun, holding on to the lock string and waited alongside the rebel ram *Tennessee* until able to fire the shot that entered her port. Whitfield courageously carried out his duties during the prolonged action which resulted in the capture of the prize ram *Tennessee* and in the damaging and destruction of Fort Morgan.

There is no information on Whitfield's later life, his date of death, or where he is buried.

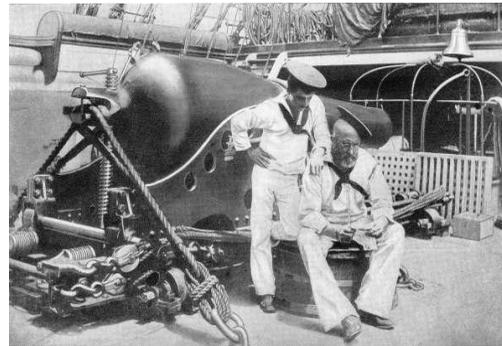
Boatswain's Mate John Williams



Old Salts of the Square-Rigger Navy, *USS Mohican*
(Photo courtesy of United States Navy)

John Williams was born in Elizabethtown, NJ. He entered the United States Navy in New York City. He served as Captain of an 11-inch gun aboard the steam sloop *USS Mohican* during action of the main squadron of ships against the heavily defended Confederate Forts Beauregard and Walker on Hilton Head, and against ships of the Confederate Fleet on November 7, 1861.

USS Mohican, as part of Admiral Du Pont's squadron, pounded Fort Walker on Hilton Head Island, forcing the Confederates to abandon the emplacement, allowing a combined Union Army and Navy Force to land and occupy this important base of operations. Confederate shells hit the *USS Mohican* six times in this engagement, causing superficial hull damage to the ship, killing one man and wounding seven.



Gun on the *USS Mohican*
(Photo courtesy of USN Institute Proceedings)

The Medal of Honor was awarded to John Williams on July 10, 1863 for conspicuous bravery on the *USS Mohican* on November 7, 1861.

Citation: Captain of an 11 inch gun aboard the *USS Mohican* during action of the main squadron of ships against the heavily defended Forts Beauregard and Walker on Hilton Head, and against ships of the Confederate Fleet, November 7, 1861. Cool and courageous at his battle station, Williams maintained steady fire against the enemy while under the fort batteries during a 4 hour engagement which resulted in silencing the batteries of the forts and in the rout of the rebel steamers.

Sergeant Charles E. Wilson



Guidon of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry

(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

Charles E. Wilson was born in 1840 in Bucks County, PA and joined the First New Jersey Cavalry Regiment in Hatborough, NJ. He mustered in as a Private in Company A on August 14, 1861. He re-enlisted on December 27, 1863, and was promoted to Sergeant on November 1, 1864. Wilson served through the conclusion of the conflict, and was honorably mustered out on July 24, 1865 (he received a commission of First Lieutenant of Company F on July

18, 1865, but was mustered out before the commission could become effective).

The cavalry attack at Sailor's Creek that resulted in Charles E. Wilson's Medal of Honor was the second attack over the same "plain, open field, where the enemy had a good line of rifle pits"; the first being repulsed by the Confederates. Major Robbins, the regimental commander of the 1st NJ Cavalry, considered this attack "probably the grandest cavalry charge of the war." In his After Action Report, Brigadier General Davies described the 1st New Jersey Cavalry and its comrades as "keeping their line perfectly, and leaping the breast works (driving) the enemy in confusion, capturing many prisoners; then charging right up on the hill ... upon the enemy's wagon train, which they followed up for some distance destroying many wagons and capturing many prisoners."

Charles Wilson died on Aug. 15, 1915 and is buried in Highland Cemetery in Hopewell NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant Charles E. Wilson on July 4, 1865 for his bravery on April 6, 1865 at the Battle of Sailor's Creek, Virginia.

Citation: For extraordinary heroism on April 6, 1865, while serving with Company A, 1st New Jersey Cavalry, in action at Deatonsville (Sailor's Creek), Virginia. Sergeant Wilson charged the enemy's works, colors in hand, and had two horses shot from under him.



(Photo courtesy of Russ Dodge)

Sergeant John Wilson



1st New Jersey Cavalry Guidon

(Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives)

John Wilson was born in England and enrolled in the 1st New Jersey Cavalry Regiment in Jersey City on Jan. 22, 1864 for three years. He mustered in as a Private in Company I on Jan. 23, 1864 and was promoted to Sergeant on Jan. 1, 1865. He served through the end

of the war, and was honourably discharged on July 24, 1865. John Wilson died on Aug. 15, 1915.

In late March 1865, the Union Army began an attack to cut the last railroad line supplying the Confederate forces holding Richmond. Torrential rains and a strong Confederate counterattack slowed this attack aimed at Dinwiddie Courthouse. At Chamberlain's Creek, near Dinwiddie, General Sheridan dismounted his cavalry and had them fight on foot. However, dismounting required one of every four men to hold the horses of the other three; regulations called for the herd to be about 100 yards behind the men, in a place protected from fire. These horse-holders had the responsibility of guarding the regiment's horses from capture by the enemy. Fortunately, Sheridan's cavalry carried seven shot Spencer repeater carbines in 1865, which made the horse-soldiers more than a match for the counter-attacking Confederates. Wilson earned his medal, while assigned as a horse-holder.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Sergeant John Wilson, on July 3, 1865 for his bravery on March 31, 1865 at Chamberlain's Creek, VA.

Citation: For extraordinary heroism on March 31, 1865, while serving with Company L, 1st New Jersey Cavalry, in action at Chamberlains Creek, VA. Sergeant Wilson with the assistance of one comrade, headed off the advance of the enemy, shooting 2 of his color bearers; also posted himself between the enemy and the lead horses of his own command, thus saving the herd from capture.



Cavalry on the March

(Photo courtesy of National Archives)



Army Medal of Honor
(Photo courtesy of the US Army)

Richard H. Wood was born in Cumberland, NJ on Nov. 15, 1833. Wood first enlisted in April 1861 as a Private in Co. F, 7th Illinois Infantry, a three months unit. He entered service again in 1862 as First Lieutenant in the 97th Illinois Infantry, and later became Captain of Company A, 97th IL Infantry. Wood was wounded in the left arm at the Battle of Mobile.

The volunteer storming party, called a “forlorn hope, was comprised of 150 men”, led by Captain Wood of the 97th IL, was to cross eighty rods of open ground and build a bridge over the ditch in front of the

Captain Richard H. Wood

enemy’s fort. The first group was to carry logs and throw them across the ditch to form the groundwork of a bridge, the second was to throw lumber across the logs and the third was to cross this bridge with scaling ladders, These actions were to be followed by supporting brigades, ready to take the works.

The enemy opened a heavy fire the moment that the “forlorn hope” emerged. When the survivors arrived at the ditch, it impossible to build a bridge, so there was nothing for them to do but to jump into the ditch, and seek shelter. Eighty-five percent were killed or seriously wounded. Few escaped without a wound of some kind.

After the war, Wood was a businessman and also served in local government, as president of the board of trustees of Woodburn, Bunker Hill Township supervisor, Justice of the Peace, census enumerator, township collector, assessor, and notary public.

Richard Wood died on March 8, 1903 and is buried in Woodburn Cemetery in Woodburn, IL.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain Richard H. Wood on December 12, 1895 for leading an assault upon the enemy's works at Vicksburg, Mississippi, May 22, 1863

Citation: For leading a "volunteer storming party," which made a most gallant assault upon the enemy's works.



(Photo courtesy of Connie Nisinger)

First Lieutenant Evan M. Woodward



(Photo courtesy of Leon Basile)

Evan M. Woodward, was born on March 11, 1838 in Philadelphia, PA. Woodward served during the Civil War with the 2nd Pennsylvania Reserves. The highest rank he held was Major.

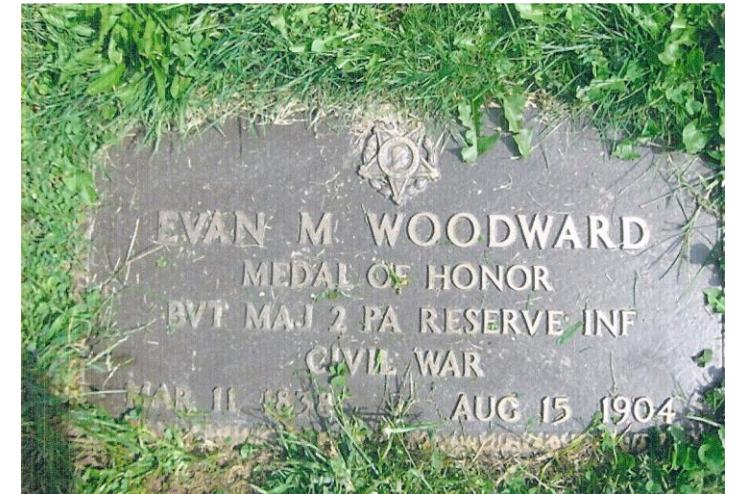
Woodward described the action when he earned his Medal at Fredericksburg, VA. “Instantly realizing that we should be wiped out if something were not done, I sheathed my sword, and, with my hat in hand,

advanced between the lines to the rifle-pits, stopped the fire of my own men and that of the enemy, and demanded and received the surrender of the Nineteenth Georgia regiment. The rebel color-bearer attempted to escape up the heights with his flag, but I headed him off and captured it. I gave it to Charles Upborn, who was soon afterwards wounded, and it fell into the hands of the Seventh Reserves. By this time all but five men of my small party were killed or wounded, and, seeing the impossibility of holding the prisoners with this handful, I crossed the rifle-pits, and, with a Confederate on each side, advanced towards the Seventh, waving my hat and thereby stopping their destructive fire. Returning to the rifle-pits, I got the Johnnies out, and sent them with their arms and accoutrements over to the Seventh. They numbered over three hundred, and were the only prisoners taken in this battle.”

Little is known of Woodward’s post war life. He died on August 15, 1915 and is buried in Riverview Cemetery in Trenton, Mercer County, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to First Lieutenant Evan M. Woodward on December 14, 1894 for his bravery at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA, on December 13, 1862.

Citation: Advanced between the lines, demanded and received the surrender of the 19th Georgia Infantry and captured their battle flag



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)

Private Robert Wright



14th US Infantry Coat of Arms

(Photo courtesy of 25th Infantry Division Association)

Robert Wright was born in Ireland in 1828. He enlisted in the US Army in Woodstock, CT. While a Private in Company G, 14th U.S. Infantry, he fought in 56 battles and lost an eye.

The 14th US Infantry Regiment came into being when President Lincoln called for nine additional Regular Army infantry regiments in 1861. These units were organized as "three-battalion" regiments, with each battalion containing eight companies of infantry instead of the traditional ten. The 14th US was organized on May 3, 1861 at Fort Trumbull, CT and

was assigned to the Regular Army Corps (V Corps) of the Army of the Potomac. The Regiment fought in twelve campaigns of the Civil War including the Peninsula, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, and Petersburg.

In late September, the Union Army launched an attack to extend its left flank and cut Confederate supply lines southwest of Petersburg. On October 1st, Union forces, including the 1st Battalion, 14th US Infantry Regiment, repulsed a counterattack, allowing the advance to be continued on October 2nd. After some limited success, General Meade suspended the offensive.

General George Meade awarded the 14th US Infantry Regiment the place of honor at the "Right of the Line" in the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington, DC at the end of the war in recognition of the regiment's heroic performance of duty during the Civil War. This gave the Regiment its motto: "The Right of the Line".

Robert Wright died October 22, 1885 at the age of 57 and is buried in Cedar Lawn Cemetery, Paterson, NJ.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Robert Wright on November 25, 1869 for gallantry on October 1, 1864 at Chapel House Farm, Virginia.

Citation: For gallantry in action on October 1, 1864, while serving with Company G, 14th US Infantry, in action at Chapel House Farm, VA.



(Photo courtesy of Fred Otto)



US Navy Medal of Honor

(Photo courtesy of United States Navy)

Edward B. Young was born in Bergen, NJ in 1835. He enlisted in the US Navy in the Civil War and served on the *USS Galena* as Coxswain during the battle of Mobile Bay. The *USS Galena*, a former ironclad, had her ineffective iron plating stripped off in Philadelphia, was re-fitted as a wooden sloop, and was re-commissioned on February 15, 1864. After re-commissioning, she became part of Admiral David Farragut's fleet in the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5. The *USS Galena* and *USS Oneida* were lashed together to pass into Mobile Bay through the narrow channel under heavy fire from Forts Morgan and

Coxswain Edward B. Young

Gaines. Once in the bay, *Galena* participated in a fleet action that lasted about three hours; she was hit seven times and had thirty-eight casualties with one man killed in action. During the fight, *CSS Tennessee* caused considerable damage to the *USS Oneida*. It fell to Coxswain Young to bring both ships to safety.



USS Galena

(Photo courtesy of United States Navy)

Edward Young died on Feb. 24, 1867 and is buried in Rosedale Memorial Park in Bensalem, PA.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to Coxswain Edward B. Young on December 31, 1864 for his skill and courage demonstrated at the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864.

Citation: On board the *USS Galena* during the attack on enemy forts at Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864. Securely lashed to the side of the *Oneida* which had suffered the loss of her steering apparatus and an explosion of her boiler from enemy fire, the *Galena* aided the stricken vessel past the enemy forts to safety. Despite heavy damage to his ship from raking enemy fire, Young performed his duties with skill and courage throughout the action.



(Photo courtesy by Don Morfe)

ARMY MEDAL of HONOR (1862-1895)



NAVY MEDAL of HONOR (1862-1912)



