

**Old Northwest Volunteers
Iron Brigade Guard Gettysburg NMP LH
August 23- 25, 2013**

The Concept

The Old Northwest Volunteer's are pleased to host an Iron Brigade Guard LH in the 150th Anniversary Year of the Battle of Gettysburg. On July 1st, 1863, two lieutenants of the Iron Brigade Guard, Lloyd Harris of the 6th Wisconsin and Levi Showalter of the 2nd Wisconsin led the two 50 man companies into the Battle of Gettysburg. They eventually were ordered to become the right and left flanks of the 6th Wisconsin during their charge of the Railroad Cut. Our plan is to shed some light on a unique part of history through living history demonstrations, docent readings on the original ground. and with approval of the park to march the route to the Railroad Cut where the Iron Brigade Guard aided the Sixth Wisconsin in defeating and capturing portions of Davis' Brigade composed of the 2nd Mississippi, 42nd Mississippi, and 55th North Carolina. Through their charge on the Railroad Cut, the men of the Iron Brigade Guard sustained 22 wounded in this close action engagement. Among these both Lt. Lloyd Harris on the left flank and Lt. Levi Showalter on the right flank were wounded leading their companies in the charge.

There is a \$20.00 fee to attend which will cover rations being issued and battlefield preservation. **Registration will be on a first come first serve basis.** This is an invitation only event. Please seek an invitation from the POC's listed below or event POC Tom Klas at fallriversoldier@hotmail.com

Each section of the Guard will have an impression unique to the regiment they are composed of. Listed below are the points of contact to assure your spot in the Iron Brigade Guard. Each section will have a cap of 20 men as per the original Iron Brigade Guard on July 1st, 1863.

2nd Wisconsin - POC - Brad Argue - brad-cw@hotmail.com

6th Wisconsin - POC - Tom Klas - fallriversoldier@hotmail.com

7th Wisconsin - POC - Tyler Scott - tdscott@clemson.edu

19th Indiana - POC - Open - Contact Tom Klas if interested

24th Michigan -POC - Jeremy Bevard - jbj696@yahoo.com

Two Officers -One from Sixth Wisconsin and One from the Second Wisconsin if we have enough men to fill out the original ranks of 100 men.

Uniform and Equipage should consist of:

Issue Jefferson Bootees preferred, infantry boots accepted
Pattern of 1858 Dress Hat with 1st Corps Badge and minimal hat ornamentation preferred
Fatigue Blouse preferred for 7th Wisconsin & 19th Indiana Impressions, Uniform Coat preferred for 6th Wisconsin Impression. Uniform Coat or Fatigue Blouse for 2nd Wisconsin and 24th Michigan Impressions.

Sky Blue Kersey Issue Trousers
Issue Shirt preferred, Civilian Shirt accepted
Issue pattern drawers preferred, Civilian patterns accepted
Suspenders
Issue Wool Socks preferred, wool and cotton socks accepted
Pattern of 1856 Waist Belt with leather loop keeper preferred, brass belt keeper accepted
Pattern of 1858 Smoothside Canteen with leather sling preferred or cotton sling accepted
Pattern of 1851 Haversack
Mess Furniture
Cartridge Box, Cartridge Box Belt, & Cap Box
Model of 1861 Springfield Rifle – Musket preferred for 6th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan Impressions with corresponding bayonet.
Original Pattern of 1854 Austrian Lorenz Rifle Musket preferred for 2nd and 7th Wisconsin Impressions.
Pattern of 1853 Enfield Rifle-Musket, or Model of 1861 Springfield acceptable for any impression.
Two rivet “Gaylord” pattern Bayonet Scabbard preferred
Rubber Blanket preferred, rubber poncho accepted
U.S. Issue Wool Blanket
U.S. Issue Shelter Half
Pattern of 1855 Doublebag Knapsack preferred, Blanket Roll accepted
No modern items except for car keys, medications in a period container, and contact lens if vision correction is necessary.

Uniform & Equipage Guidelines for the Iron Brigade Guard

All uniform and equipage should be correct in pattern, materials, and construction as compared to original articles. An authenticity check will occur prior to the event Saturday morning and again later on Sunday morning. Anyone failing to meet the requirements may be asked to adjust their gear to meet those guidelines or surrender participation. Feel free to ask us if you need help with your kit and we will try to assist those that want to attend as many of our members have loaner gear if necessary.

U.S. Pattern 1858 Dress Hat:

Made of black rabbit felt, with a 2.5 inch black leather sweatband, the hat has a 3 inch brim, 5.5 to 6.25 inch crown height, has double row brim stitching at 4 stitches per inch, a black silk grosgrain ribbon surrounding the base of the crown, and a black oilcloth or paper crown label. Each participant is expected to adorn the hat with a 1st Corps Badge (Red 1 7/8th inch circular disk) and one other piece of hat ornamentation. **This will be the only enlisted hat allowed.**

Fatigue Blouse:

To be made of 5 ½ oz. indigo dyed wool flannel with a noticeable weave in the material. Correct square corner or kidney shaped breast pocket. Four ¾ inch general service eagle buttons attached by hand. Fatigue blouses can be either lined (preferred) or unlined. Wool flannel lining can be tan, gray, brown, or blue with corresponding cotton muslin sleeve lining sewn in by hand. Unlined coats should have hand flat felled seams.

All buttonholes shall be entirely hand sewn using blue, black, or logwood faded (brown) linen or cotton thread. Approved styles include Schuylkill Arsenal Pattern (entirely hand sewn), J.T. Martin contract pattern, New York Depot pattern, & other documented arsenal and contract patterns.

Uniform Coat (Dress Coat):

The dress coat shall be made of an indigo dyed wool cloth (broadcloth or uniform cloth as documented in original garments), a standing collar, skirt with two rear pockets, 1/4 inch padded black or brown polished cotton chest lining, cotton muslin sleeve lining, handsewn sleeve gussets between the body of the coat and the sleeve lining, saxony blue/sky blue (not baby blue) piping or welting on collar, cuffs, and vertical piping or welting along the cuff split.

Eyes and hooks should be attached at the collar and corners of the skirt. There is no internal pocket in this coat, and there is no lining in the back of the coat body or the skirt.

Buttonholes should be all hand sewn using blue, black, or logwood faded (brown) linen or cotton thread. Uniform coats must have nine 3/4 inch general service eagle buttons on body front, two 3/4 inch general service eagle buttons in back (above the skirt tails), and two 5/8 inch general service eagle buttons on each functional cuff.

All documented arsenal and contract issue garments of correct construction, materials, and patterns are acceptable.

Trousers (Foot Pattern):

Some basic features include sky blue kersey wool (no dark blue trousers allowed) with a diagonal weave, correct rise of trousers in the seat (back yoke), right side watch pocket, narrow tapered waistband, four or six stamped paper backed tin suspender buttons, five small paper back tin fly buttons, side seam pockets, correct overlapping cuff vents with internal cuff facings, correct fly panels and facings, etc.

Buttonholes and tieback grommet holes should be hand sewn with dark blue or logwood-dyed cotton or linen thread.

Approved styles include Schuylkill Arsenal pattern (entirely hand sewn) preferred, J.T. Martin contract pattern, William Deering contract pattern & other documented arsenal and contract patterns.

U.S. Pattern Jefferson Bootees (Shoes):

Black dyed, semi rough out leather, squared front, one inch heels, four sets of shoelace holes with one in the vamp, accompanied with leather shoelaces. Leather soles can be either pegged or sewn. Heel rims, inlet heel rims, and hobnails are all acceptable.

Federal Issue Shirt:

Made of domet wool flannel, completely hand sewn, incorporating a rectangular body with square gussets. This is **the preferred** garment for our living history. Also acceptable are the gray wool flannel issue shirts and contract variant issue shirts.

Civilian Shirt:

Must be of period fabric, pattern, and construction. The body of the shirt may be either hand or machine stitched, but entirely hand sewn civilian shirts (which were more common) are preferred. All buttons & buttonholes are to be entirely sewn by hand as per original specimens. Civilian shirt fabrics should be of 100% cotton.

Civilian shirt patterns should be comprised of two to three colored *small* plaids, checks, & stripes. The woven shirt patterns should be the same on the reverse side of the shirting fabric. Look for small folding or banded collars, and three or four button plackets. Civilian shirts can have square gussets as popular in the 1850's, or the rounded sleeves, which became stylish during the 1860's. Correct buttons are comprised of bone, shell, china, milk glass, hard rubber, or wood in two or four hole styles.

Drawers:

Either Federal Issue pattern (preferred) or civilian patterns acceptable. Federal issue drawers shall be made of cotton canton flannel, with cotton tape ties in the rear and the ankles. Hand sewn paperback tin buttons, buttonholes, and tieback grommet holes. These should wear high on the waist.

Civilian drawers should be made of fabrics such as cotton canton flannel, cotton osnaburg, or linen. Other features include hand-sewn buttonholes, buttons, and tieback grommet holes. Buttons may be bone, china, or other documented compositions. Civilian drawers should also ride rather high on the waist.

Socks:

U.S. Issue Stockings or wool hand knitted socks with period tops and side seams, available in varying lengths. Stick to dull colors such as gray, brown, cream, blue, dark green, tan, or dark red.

Suspenders:

Should be of documented style and construction. Since the Federal Army did not issue these, soldiers had to either purchase a pair from a merchant, have them sent from home, or simply went without them. They were made out of cotton drill or linen, with differing degrees of sophistication. Common styles ranged from simple straps with hand-sewn buttonholes (poorboys), to sewn straps with two or three tined brass adjustments & leather ends on each side.

Spectacles:

For those who need vision correction, you must either purchase a set of period eyeglasses filled with your prescription, wear contact lenses, or go with out any which is very accurate! This is not negotiable.

Cartridge Box:

U.S. Pattern of 1857 & 1861 .58 caliber cartridge boxes are acceptable. Cartridge boxes shall be sewn by hand using waxed linen thread, comprised of tanned leather, dyed black, with tins, and cartridge box plate attached with a small piece of leather.

Cartridge Box Belt (Sling):

Made of bridle leather, dyed black, 2.25 inches wide, and 55.5 inches long clear of billets. Billets (two narrow four hole adjustment strips) should be 4.25 inches in length at each end of the belt. The total length of the cartridge box belt is 64 inches. The cartridge box belt should be shortened so the top of the cartridge box is no lower than the bottom of the waistbelt. The round eagle cartridge box belt plate (breastplate) should be attached using a small piece of leather.

U.S. Pattern 1856 Waistbelt:

Made of bridle leather, dyed black, 1.9 inches wide, 38.5 inches long with leather belt keeper (preferred) and lead backed pattern 1856 belt plate attached. The leather loop keeper can be cut-off as documented among several original issued waistbelts.

U.S. Pattern 1850 Cap Box:

Made of bridle leather, dyed black, has a outer flap with latching tab, wool strip hand sewn to the back of the inner flap, cone pick loop, riveted brass finial, and two waistbelt loops which were hand sewn to the back of the cap box along with small copper rivet supports. Shield front cap boxes are desired as well.

U.S. Pattern Bayonet Scabbard:

Must be the U.S. Pattern "Gaylord" two rivet sewn issue bayonet scabbard. These bayonet scabbards were made of black dyed bridle leather and featured attached frogs of either bridle or buff leather. All bayonet scabbards must have a secure brass tip.

U.S. Pattern 1851 Haversack:

Some basic features include machine sewn construction, black tarred exterior coating that seeps into the interior, cotton or linen inner bag attached by three hand sewn 5/8 inch tin buttons, hand sewn inner bag button holes, black 5/8 inch roller buckle, and a one piece shoulder strap of 40 to 45 inches in length.

Haversacks must ride at the small of the back, with the top of the haversack no lower than the waistbelt.

U.S. Pattern 1858 Smoothside Canteen:

Must be an U.S. Pattern 1858 Smoothside Canteen, with pewter spout, jack chain (New York Depot) or string stopper attachment. If string is used, then the tin strap brackets should not have a punched in hole. A mixture of the leather strap (preferred) and cloth strap (acceptable) would be appropriate for impressions during the spring through summer of 1863 for the Iron Brigade Guard

impression. There is documented evidence of the leather strap in the ranks of the federal army at the battle of Gettysburg from canteens in the collection of this national battlefield park.

Correct brownish/gray jean wool cover is highly recommended. The canteen must ride at the small of the back.

U.S. Pattern 1855 Doublebag Knapsack:

Hand or machine sewn linen body tarred black with a glossy appearance, black dyed shoulder straps, blackened buckles, hand sewn buckles & keepers, reinforcements of split leather, and overcoat straps. Wartime documented contract versions are also acceptable.

U.S. Issue Rubber Blanket:

Rubber or Gum Blankets were the primary ground cloth of the infantry during the war. Made of rubber with a white linen backing, small brass grommets, with dimensions of 46" x 71".

U.S. Issue Blanket:

Should be of a documented pattern. Can be either the gray issue wool blanket with black woven end stripes & 4 to 4.5 inch US letters stitched in the middle of the blanket, or the brown issue blanket with woven brown end stripes & 4 to 4.5 inch US letters stitched in the middle of the blanket. All blankets should have a noticeable diagonal weave, especially visible in the end stripes. Dimensions should be close to 7 feet x 5 feet, six inches, weighting about five pounds.

Rifle-Musket:

Since there is not a dependable reproduction source for the Austrian "Lorenz" M1854, .54 or .58 rifle-musket & replacement parts at this time except for original weapons, we have opted for some other commonly reproduced rifle-muskets during the war for 2nd and 7th Wisconsin Impressions. We prefer the M1861 Springfield rifle-musket that the 6th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan carried, or the Pattern of 1853 Enfield rifle-musket that the Second Wisconsin carried by January of 1864. All muskets must have three-barrel bands, with exception to original Austrian Lorenz M1854, .54 and .58 caliber rifle-muskets. We also require that all modern makers' marks are removed, and any necessary modifications are made to ensure the accuracy of your rifle-musket.

Bayonet:

You also need a corresponding pattern of 1855 bayonet for your rifle-musket without any modern markings. Original bayonets look even better!

Mess Furniture:

We recommend as a minimum that all soldiers carry their own mess furniture to some degree. This may include a tin cup or fruit can boiler, knife, fork, & spoon or combination set, and a plate/canteen half. Remember less is more appropriate! No stainless steel mess furniture or crimped bottom boilers or dippers allowed.

U.S. Issue Shelter Half:

The shelter half must be of a documented **three-panel issue pattern**, construction, and materials as compared to original shelter halves. In Fred Gaede's typology, this would be a Type II shelter half and is preferred for our living history. Shelter halves should be carried in each soldier's knapsack as per accounts of the Iron Brigade soldiers.

Personal Items:

Since this a public event and part of what we do will be educating the public it is requested the participants bring their personal gear appropriate to the historical time period and the campaign impression we are striving for.

If you need medication, please bring them along in a period container or poke sack. The only modern items you are allowed should be your car keys, medications (if needed), and contacts if you wear them for vision correction.

Rations:

We will be issuing rations on Saturday morning of Hardtack, Coffee, & Slab Bacon for the weekend. Your fee will pay for rations.

Drill Manuals:

We will be using a variety of historically accurate drill manuals based on the regiments of the Iron Brigade Guard. For the Wisconsin Regiments – Manual of arms will be in Chandler's Tactics. For the 19th Indiana and 24th Michigan, United States Infantry Tactics for the Manual of Arms. School of the Company will be in United States Infantry Tactics.

Please review Dom Dal Bello's Instructions for Guard and Pickets for Guard duties during this living history weekend as well.

If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact the event POC:

Tom Klas
Hard Head Mess & Citizens Guard
Old Northwest Volunteers
(920) 885-9313
fallriversoldier@hotmail.com

ONV Gettysburg NMP LH
Iron Brigade Guard

August 23-25, 2013

Registration Form

Invitation Only – Please Get POC Approval First Before Registering

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Home Unit: _____

Desired Section: (Circle one) 2nd Wisconsin, 6th Wisconsin, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana,
24th Michigan.

Allergies or Medical Condition:

Emergency Contact:

Please complete this form and your money order for \$20.00, and send to:

Tom Klas
115 Gould Street
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Registration Deadline: *July 30, 2013*

ONV Gettysburg NMP LH
Iron Brigade Guard

August 23-25, 2013

Participant Release Form

I, UNDERSTAND THAT; THE OLD NORTHWEST VOLUTEERS, ITS

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS, IS IN NO WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY, DISMEMBERMENT, DISABILITY, OR DEATH INCURRED DURING ACTIVITIES THAT I ATTEND ON AUGUST 23RD , 24TH , AND 25TH , 2013 AT GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK; I ALSO AGREE THAT THE OLD NORTHWEST VOLUTEERS, IS IN NO WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSONAL PROPERTY LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED DURING AUGUST 23RD , 24TH , AND 25TH , 2013 AT GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK . I WILL HOLD HARMLESS THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PARTIES IN RELATION TO ANY LOSS, DAMAGE, INJURY, DEATH OR OTHER CONSEQUENCE OF MY PARTICIPATION.

Date:_____

Unit:_____

Name
(Please Print):_____

Signature:_____

This form must be sent in prior to the event or completed at the event in order to participate.

Registration Deadline: *July 30th, 2013*

Further Reading

Although there are plenty of on-line and written materials on the Iron Brigade of the West, here are some specific to our impression.

Dawes, Rufus R. Service With the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers Morningside House, 1984. First hand account of the Iron Brigade Guard and their charge on the Railroad Cut with the 6th Wisconsin.

Herdegen, Lance. The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory: The Black Hats from Bull Run to Appomattox and Thereafter. Savas Beatie, 2012.

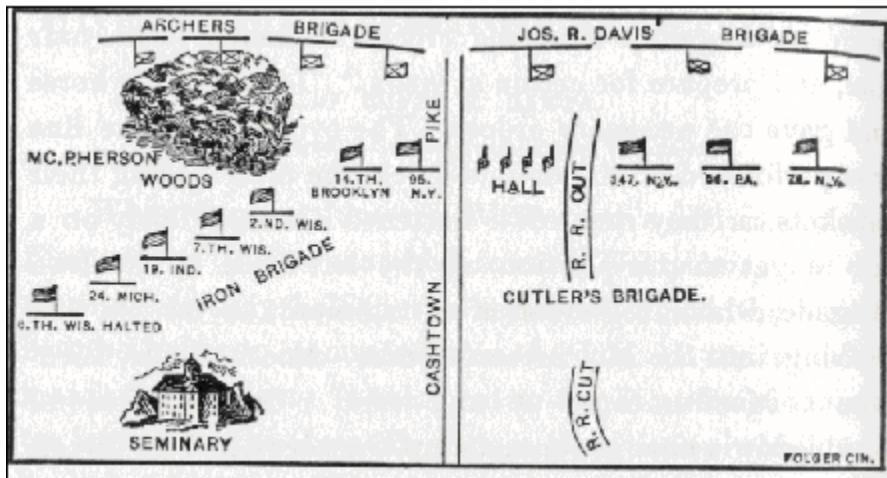
Completes the story of the Iron Brigade of the West after Gettysburg.

Herdegen, Lance. Those Damn Black Hats! The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign. Savas Beatie, 2008.

Lance's overall account of the Iron Brigade at Gettysburg reflecting on the movements of each regiment during July 1-3.

Nolan, Alan T. The Iron Brigade: A Military History. Macmillan. 1961.

The standard military account of the Iron Brigade of the West.



WITH THE SIXTH WISCONSIN AT GETTYSBURG.

By Rufus R. Dawes,

Brevet Brigadier-General United States Volunteers.

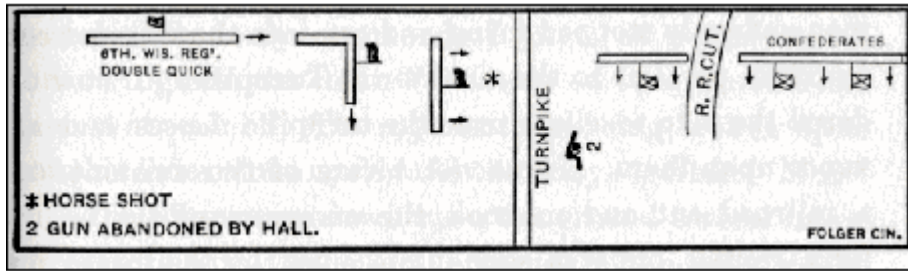
When General James S. Wadsworth's division of the First Army Corps marched toward Gettysburg on the morning of July 1, 1863, the regiment which the writer had the honor to command was the last in the order of march for the day. It belonged to the First

Brigade, better known as the Iron Brigade, a designation which has become historic. The brigade guard, two officers and one hundred men, marched immediately behind us, which accounts for their assignment to the regiment for duty when we became involved in battle. The column moved on the Emmettsburg Road. Three hundred and forty officers and enlisted men marched with the regiment. All were in the highest spirits. Intending to make a show in the streets of Gettysburg, I had brought our drum corps to the front and the colors were unfurled. The drum-major had begun to play "The Campbells are Coming," and the regiment had closed its ranks and just fairly swung into the step, when we heard the cannon of the enemy, which were firing on the cavalry of General Buford. The troops ahead of us turned across the fields to the left of Gettysburg, toward the Seminary Ridge.

We stopped our music, which had probably done something to arouse the martial spirit of old John Burns, who joined our brigade, and turned to engage in the sterner duties involved in war. When the head of the regimental column reached the crest of Seminary Ridge, an aide of General Meredith came on a gallop with the order, "Colonel, form your line, and prepare for action at once." I turned my horse and gave the necessary orders. The evolution of the line was performed on the double-quick, the men loading their muskets as they ran. We hastened forward fairly on a run to get to our position on the left flank of the Iron Brigade, which, regiment after regiment, en echelon, was dashing into the McPherson woods. Another aide, Lieutenant Martin, came up and said, "Colonel, General Doubleday is now in command of the corps, and he directs that you halt your regiment." (1) The men were halted and directed to lie down on the ground. The brigade guard (2) now reported for duty in the impending battle, and, dividing them into two companies of fifty men each, I placed them upon the right and left flanks of the regiment. The situation on the field of battle of all the troops now engaged can be made clear by a little diagram. Two brigades of each army confronted each other. Archer's brigade opposed the Iron Brigade, and Joseph R. Davis's brigade opposed the other brigade of Wadsworth's division, which was commanded by General Lysander Cutler. Hall's battery was with Cutler.

Excepting ourselves, the whole line of Wadsworth's division was now hotly engaged in battle with the enemy. Lieutenant Martin came again with orders from General Doubleday. He said, "General Doubleday directs that you move at once to the right." I immediately gave the order to move in that direction at a double quick. Other staff officers came urging me to move at the utmost speed, saying the rebels were "driving Cutler's men." The guns of Hall's battery (3) could be seen driving to the rear, and Cutler's men were manifestly giving ground.

The following diagram illustrates the movement and the change of front made to throw the regiment on the flank of the advancing enemy. Just across our track, as we hurried on, passed some officers carrying the body of our corps commander, General John F. Reynolds. But we did not then know that he was dead.



Suddenly my horse reared and plunged. It did not occur to me that she had been shot, and I drew a tight rein and spurred her sharply when she fell heavily on her haunches. I scrambled quickly from the ground, where I had been thrown sprawling, and the men gave a hearty cheer. The gallant old mare also struggled to her feet and hobbled sturdily to the rear on three legs. She had been struck in the breast by a minnie ball, which penetrated seventeen inches. For many years she carried the bullet, which could be felt under the skin behind the left shoulder blade~ but woe to the man who felt it, as her temper had been entirely spoiled. For the rest of the battle I was on foot. The regiment halted at the fence along the Cashtown Turnpike, and I gave the order to fire. In the field, beyond the turnpike, a long irregular line of yelling Confederates could be seen running forward and firing, and our troops were running back in disorder. The fire of our carefully aimed muskets, resting on the fence rails, striking their flank, checked the rebels in their headlong advance. We could see that the thin regiments of Cutler's brigade, beyond the turnpike, were being almost destroyed. The rebel line swayed and bent, and the men suddenly stopped firing and ran into the railroad cut, which is parallel to the Cashtown Turnpike. I now ordered the men to climb over the turnpike fences and advance upon them. I was not aware of the existence of a railroad cut, and mistook the maneuver of the enemy for a retreat, but was soon undeceived by the heavy fire which they began at once to pour upon us from their cover in the cut. Captain John Ticknor, a dashing soldier, one of our finest officers, fell dead while climbing the second fence, and others were struck, but the line pushed on. When over the fences and in the field, and subjected to an infernal fire, I saw the Ninety-fifth New York regiment coming gallantly into line upon our left. I did not then know or care where they came from, but was rejoiced to see them. Farther to the left was the Fourteenth Brooklyn Regiment, but we were ignorant of the fact. The Ninety-fifth New York had about one hundred men in action. Major Edward Pye appeared to be in command. Running hastily to the major, I said, "We must charge," and asked him if they were with us. The gallant major replied, "Charge it is," and they were with us to the end. "Forward, charge!" was the order given by both the major and myself. We were now receiving a fearfully destructive fire from the hidden enemy. Men who had been shot were leaving the ranks in crowds. Any correct picture of this charge would represent a V-shaped crowd of men with the colors at the advance point, moving firmly and hurriedly forward, while the whole field behind is streaming with men who had been shot, and who are struggling to the rear or sinking in death upon the ground. The only commands I gave, as we advanced, were, "Align on the colors! Close up on that color! Close up on that color!" The regiment was being broken up so that this order alone could hold the body together. Meanwhile the colors were down upon the ground several times, but were raised at once by

the heroes of the color guard. Not one of the guard escaped, every man being killed or wounded. Four hundred and twenty men started as a regiment from the turnpike fence, of whom two hundred and forty reached the railroad cut. Years afterward I found the distance passed over to be one hundred and seventy-five paces. Every officer proved himself brave, true, and heroic in encouraging the men to breast this deadly storm, but the real impetus was the eager, determined valor of our men who carried muskets in the ranks. The rebel color could be seen waving defiantly just above the edge of the railroad cut. A heroic ambition to capture it took possession of several of our men. Corporal Eggleston, of "Co. H," a mere boy, sprang forward to seize it, and was shot dead the moment his hand touched the color. Private Anderson, of his company, furious at the killing of his brave young comrade, recked little for the rebel color, but he swung aloft his musket and with a terrific blow split the skull of the rebel who had shot young Eggleston. This soldier was well known in the regiment as "Rocky Mountain Anderson." Lieutenant Remington was severely wounded in the shoulder while reaching for the color. Into this deadly melee rushed Corporal Francis A. Waller, who seized and held the rebel battle flag. His name will remain upon the historic record, as he received from Congress a medal for this deed.

It would require many pages to justly recount the heroic deeds of all, but one incident is so touching in its character that it should be preserved. Corporal James Kelly, of Company B, turned from the ranks, and stepped beside me, as we both moved hurriedly forward on the charge. He pulled open his woolen shirt, and a mark where the deadly minnie ball had entered his breast was visible. He said: "Colonel, wouldn't you please write to my folks that I died a soldier?"

My first notice that we were immediately upon the enemy, was a general cry from our men of: "Throw down your muskets. Down with your muskets." Running quickly forward through the line of men, I found myself face to face with at least a thousand rebels, whom I looked down upon in the railroad cut, which was here about four feet deep. Adjutant Brooks, equal to the emergency, had quickly placed men across the cut in position to fire through it. I have always congratulated myself upon getting in the first word. I shouted: "Where is the colonel of this regiment?" An officer in gray, with stars on his collar, who stood among the men in the cut, said: "Who are you?" I said: "I am commander of this regiment. Surrender, or I will fire on you." The officer replied not a word, but promptly handed me his sword, and all his men, who still held them, threw down their muskets. The coolness, self-possession, and discipline which held back our men from pouring in a volley saved a hundred lives, and as my mind goes back to the fearful excitement of that moment, I marvel at it. The fighting around the rebel colors had not entirely ceased when this surrender was demanded. I took the sword. It would have been the handsome thing to say, "Keep your sword, sir," but I was new to such occasions, and, when six other officers came up and handed me their swords, I took them also, and held the awkward bundle in my arms until relieved by Adjutant Brooks. I directed the officer in command, who proved to be Major John A. Blair, of the Second Mississippi Regiment, to have his men fall in without arms. He gave the command, and his men, to the number of seven officers and two hundred and twenty-five enlisted men, obeyed. To our major, John F. Hauser, I

assigned the duty of marching this body to the provost-guard. Major Hauser, a thorough soldier, had been educated at a military school at Thun, Switzerland, and he had served with Garibaldi. His shout of, "Forwards, forwards," as we charged, is well remembered by all of us who yet survive.

Corporal Waller now brought me the captured battle-flag. It was the flag of the Second Mississippi Volunteers, one of the oldest and most distinguished regiments in the Confederate army. It belonged to the brigade commanded by the nephew of Jefferson Davis. It is a rule in battle never to allow sound men to leave the ranks. Sergeant William Evans, a brave and true man, had been severely wounded in the thighs. He had to use two muskets as crutches. To him I intrusted the keeping of the battle-flag. Wrapping the flag around his body, he started for Gettysburg. Weak and faint from loss of blood, he became exhausted in the street. Brave and faithful friends came to his relief. Two young women assisted the wounded soldier to their home, and placed him upon a bed. The Union troops had then begun to retreat in confusion through the town, and the cheers of the victorious enemy could be plainly heard. Evans begged of his friends to hide the rebel flag. They cut a hole in the bed-tick beneath him, and, thrusting in the flag, sewed up the rent. The flag was soaked with Evans's blood, where he had lain upon it, but it was safely concealed until the enemy had retreated from Gettysburg, and on the morning of July 4th he brought his precious trophy to Culp's Hill.

Adjutant Brooks buckled on one of the captured swords, but the other six were given to a wounded man to be delivered to our chief surgeon. The enemy, when they took the town, captured the hospital and the swords. No discredit to the doctor is implied, as his hands were full of work with wounded men.

There was now a lull in the battle. Our comrades of the Iron Brigade, who had charged so brilliantly into the McPherson Woods, had been, according to their usual custom completely victorious. They had routed Archers brigade, capturing its commander and many of its men, and then changed front to move to the relief of Cutler; but the charge upon the railroad cut, and its success, prevented that necessity. By this charge upon the cut Joseph R. Davis's brigade was scattered or captured. Wadsworth's division(4) had bravely opened the battle. They had fairly defeated, upon an open field, a superior force of the veterans of the army of General Lee. It was a short, sharp, and desperate fight, but the honors were with the boys in blue. In his official report General Doubleday says that when Cutler's regiments were overpowered and driven back, "the moment was a critical one, involving the defeat, perhaps the utter rout, of our forces." Defeat was never more swiftly turned to victory.

The general falls into the time-honored line of battle fiction, when he says that the cut was "carried at the point of the bayonet." Not a single bayonet was fixed for use in the regiment. He says also that "two rebel regiments, with their battle-flags," were captured. There was really only one regiment captured as an organization, and only a part of that. One of our punsters, however, has said it was a "major" part. The Ninety-fifth New York took

prisoners, as did also the Fourteenth Brooklyn. All the troops in the railroad cut threw down their muskets, and the men either surrendered themselves, or ran away out of the other end of the cut. Later in the day we marched through this railroad cut, and at least one thousand muskets lay in the bottom of it.

During the brief period of quiet on the battle field, we moved into a piece of timber on the Seminary Ridge, just north of the deep railroad cut through that ridge, and here half an hour was spent in organizing the shattered companies. Seven of the twelve company commanders had been shot in the battle:

(5) Captain John Ticknor, Company K, killed.

Lieutenant O. D. Chapman, Company C, killed.

Lieutenant Howard F. Pruyn, Company A, wounded.

Lieutenant W. N. Remington, Company K, wounded.

Lieutenant John Beeley, Company H, wounded.

Lieutenant Lloyd G. Harris, Brigade Guard No. 1, wounded.

Lieutenant Levi Showalter, Brigade Guard No. 2, wounded.

The men of the Brigade Guard were dismissed to their several regiments, and there remained for service less than two hundred men all told. We next advanced, by order of General Wadsworth, to the ridge west of the Seminary. Here we encountered a heavy line of rebel skirmishers upon whom we opened fire, and drove them into Willoughby Run. But the enemy turned upon us the fire of at least six pieces of artillery in position just south of the Cashtown Turnpike beyond Willoughby Run. The shells flew over us, and burst around us so thickly, that I was obliged to beat a hasty retreat, and have the men lie upon the ground under the brow of the ridge. The Iron Brigade was in McPherson's Woods. The space between us and that brigade was occupied by Colonel Roy Stone's Pennsylvania Bucktails. General Lysander Cutler's(6) brigade was upon our right. This was our position when the general attack was made by the army corps of Hill and Ewell combined, at half past one o'clock in the afternoon. The first brunt of the attack struck the gallant brigade of Bucktails. They were fighting on Pennsylvania soil. Their conduct was more than heroic, it was glorious. I can not describe the charges and countercharges which took place, but we all saw the banner of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Pennsylvania planted in the ground and waving between the hostile lines of battle, while the desperate fight went on.

Under pressure of the battle, the whole line of troops on our right and on our left was at length ordered back to seminary ridge. We received no orders. Being a detached regiment

it is likely that we had been overlooked. The enemy (Ewell's corps) were getting around our right, so that the low ground between us and the Seminary Ridge in our rear was swept by their fire. It would evidently cost many lives to attempt to march in line of battle through this fire. I accordingly adopted the tactics of the enemy earlier in the day, and ordered my men to run into the railroad cut, upon which we had made our charge. Then instructing the men to follow in single file, I led the way, as fast as I could run, from this cut to the cut in the Seminary ridge. About a cart full of dirt was ploughed over us by the rebel shells, but otherwise not a man was struck. The ranks were promptly reformed in this protected position, and we marched up into the woods on the Seminary Ridge to the same position from which we had advanced. The whole First Army Corps was now in line of battle on the Seminary Ridge, and here that grand body of veteran soldiers made the most desperate effort in the history of the war to stay the overwhelming tide that swept against them. The losses sustained by that corps and those inflicted upon the corps of General A. P. Hill justify this statement.

In 1882, I visited the ground with a commander of one of Hill's brigades, General Scales, of North Carolina. He said, pointing to the ground occupied by Battery B, Fourth United States Artillery, "The fire of your battery planted there was terribly destructive to my men." The graphic story of the cannoneer, who fought in this battery, recently printed in the National Tribune, has made its readers familiar with its service and the quality of its commanders and its men.

Shortly after I took position in the woods, Battery B, which was partly manned by Wisconsin men, and under command of Lieutenant James Stewart, came up, and General Wadsworth ordered me to support it with my regiment. Stewart was as brave and efficient a man as ever fought upon a field of battle. Quoting General Doubleday's report: "About four P. M., the enemy advanced in large numbers every-where, deploying in double or triple lines overlapping our left for a third of a mile, pressing heavily upon our right and overwhelming our center." During much of the time while this attack was progressing, I stood among the guns of Battery B. Along the Seminary Ridge, flat upon their bellies, lay mixed up together in one line of battle the Iron Brigade and Roy Stone's "Bucktails." For a mile up and down the open fields before us the splendid lines of the veterans of the army of Northern Virginia swept down upon us. Their bearing was magnificent. They maintained their alignments with great precision. In many cases the colors of regiments were advanced several paces in front of the line. Stewart fired shell at them until they appeared on the ridge east of Willoughby Run; when on this ridge they came forward with a rush. The musketry burst from the Seminary Ridge; every shot was fired with care, and Stewart's men, with the regularity of a machine, worked their guns upon the enemy. They came half way down this slope, wavered, began to fire, then to scatter and then to run, and how our men did yell, "Come on, Johnny, come on." Falling back over the ridge they came on again more cautiously, and pouring upon us from the start a steady fire of deadly musketry. This killed Stewart's men and horses in great numbers, but did not seem to check his fire.

RETREAT.

Lieutenant Clayton E. Rogers, an aide on General Wadsworth's staff, came riding rapidly up to us. Leaning over from his horse, he said, very quietly: "The orders, colonel, are to retreat beyond the town. Hold your men together." I was astonished. The cheers of defiance along the line of the First Corps, on Seminary Ridge, had scarcely died away. But a glance over the field to our right and rear was sufficient. There the troops of the Eleventh Corps appeared in full retreat, and the long lines of Confederates, with fluttering banners and shining steel, were sweeping forward in pursuit without let or hindrance. It was an even race which could reach Gettysburg first, ourselves, or the troops of Ewell's Corps, who pursued the Eleventh Corps. Facing to the rear, we marched in line of battle over the open fields toward the town. We were north of the railroad, and our direction separated us from other regiments of our corps. If we had desired to attack Ewell's twenty thousand men with our two hundred, we could not have moved more directly toward them. We knew nothing about the Cemetery Hill, but we could see that the oncoming lines of the enemy were encircling us in a horseshoe. But with the flag of the Union and of Wisconsin held aloft, the little regiment marched firmly and steadily. As we approached the town, the buildings of the Pennsylvania College screened us from the view of the enemy. We could now see that our troops were retreating in a direction almost at right angles to our line of march. We reached the street extending through Gettysburg from the college to Cemetery Hill, and crossing it we were now faced by the enemy, and turned our course toward the Cemetery Hill, although then unconscious of the fact. The first cross street was swept by the musketry fire of the enemy. There was a close board fence, enclosing a barn-yard, on the opposite side of the street. A board or two off from the fence made what the men called a "hog hole." Instructing the regiment to follow in single file on the run, I took a color, and ran across the street, and jumped through the opening. Officers and men followed rapidly. Taking position at the fence, when any man obstructed the passage-way through it, I jerked him away without ceremony or apology, the object being to keep the track clear for those yet to come. Two men were shot in this street crossing. The regiment was reformed in the barnyard, and we marched back again onto the street leading from the Pennsylvania College to the Cemetery Hill. To understand why the street was crossed in the manner described, it should be remembered that men running at full speed, scattered in single file, were much safer from the fire of the enemy than if marching in a compact body. By going into the inclosure, the regiment came together, to be at once formed into compact order. It was in compliance with the order, "Keep your men together." The weather was very sultry. The sweat now streamed from the faces of the men. There was not a drop of water in the canteens, and there had been none for hours. The streets were jammed with crowds of retreating soldiers, and with ambulances, artillery, and wagons. There were cellars crowded with men, sound in body, but craven in spirit, who had gone there to surrender. I saw no men wearing badges of the First Army Corps in this disgraceful company. In one case, at least, these miscreants, mistaking us for the rebels, cried out from the cellar, "Don't fire, Johnny, we'll surrender." These surroundings were depressing to my hot and thirsty men. Finding the street blocked, I formed my men in two lines across it. The rebels began to fire on us from houses and cross-lots. Right here came to us a friend in

need. It was an old citizen with two buckets of fresh water. The inestimable value of this cup of cold water to those true, unyielding soldiers, I would that our old friend could know.

After this, in response to my call, the men gave three cheers in honor of our capture of the rebel regiment and battle flag, and three cheers for the good and glorious cause for which we stood in battle. The enemy now fired on us sharply, and the men returned the fire, shooting wherever the enemy appeared. This firing had one good effect. It cleared the street of stragglers in very short order. When the way was open I marched again toward the Cemetery Hill. The enemy did not pursue us; they had found it to be dangerous business. We hurried along, not knowing certainly that we might not be marching into the clutches of the enemy once more. But the colors of the Union, floating over a well ordered line of men in blue, who were arrayed along the slope of Cemetery Hill, suddenly became visible. This was Steinwehr's division of the Eleventh Army Corps, left in reserve by General Howard. With swifter steps we now pressed on up the hill, and, passing in through the ranks open to receive us, officers and men threw themselves in a state of almost perfect exhaustion on the green grass and the graves of the cemetery. The condition of affairs on Cemetery Hill at this time has been a subject of discussion. It is likely that if fresh troops had attacked us then, we would have fared badly. The troops were scattered over the hill in disorder, while a stream of stragglers and wounded men pushed along the Baltimore Turnpike toward the rear. But this perilous condition of affairs was of very short duration. There was certainly no condition of panic on the Cemetery Hill. After a short breathing spell our men again promptly responded to the order to "fall in." Lieutenant Rogers brought us orders from General Wadsworth. They were to join our own brigade, which had been sent to occupy Culp's Hill.(7) As we marched toward the hill our regimental wagon joined us. In the wagon were a dozen spades and shovels. Taking our place on the right of the line of the brigade, I ordered the regiment to intrench. The men worked with great energy. A man would dig with all his strength till out of breath, when another would seize the spade and push on the work. There were no orders to construct these breastworks, but the situation plainly dictated their necessity. The men now lay down to rest after the arduous labors of this great and terrible day. Sad and solemn reflections possessed, at least, the writer of this paper. Our dead lay unburied and beyond our sight or reach. Our wounded were in the hands of the enemy. Our bravest and best were numbered with them. Of eighteen hundred men who marched with the splendid brigade in the morning, but seven hundred were here. More than one thousand men had been shot. There was to us a terrible reality in the figures which represent our loss. We had been driven, also, by the enemy, and the shadow of defeat seemed to be banging over us. But that afternoon, under the burning sun and through the stifling clouds of dust, the Army of the Potomac had marched to the sound of our cannon. We had lost the ground on which we fought, we had lost our commander and our comrades, but our fight had held the Cemetery Hill and forced the decision for history that the crowning battle of the war should be at Gettysburg.

It is a troubled and dreamy sleep at best that comes to the soldier on a battle field. About

one o'clock at night we had a great alarm. A man in the Seventh Indiana Regiment, next on our right, cried so loudly in his sleep that he aroused all the troops in the vicinity. Springing up, half bewildered, I ordered my regiment to "fall in," and a heavy fire of musketry broke out from along the whole line of men. At three o'clock in the morning, according to orders, the men were aroused and made their coffee. The morning of the second day found us lying quietly in our breastworks near the summit of Culp's Hill. We were in the shade of some fine oak trees, and enjoyed an excellent view of nearly the whole battlefield. Our situation would have been delightful, and our rest in the cool shade would have been refreshing, if it had not been for the crack, crack, of the deadly sharpshooters on the rebel skirmish line. Owing, probably, to the crooked line of our army, the shots came from all directions, and the peculiarly mournful wail of the spent bullet was constantly heard.

LONGSTREET'S ATTACK ON SICKLES.

Our line faced toward the town of Gettysburg. For hours I watched the rebel troops with a field-glass, as their heavy columns of infantry marched toward our right. We could see them forming in the field beyond Rock Creek, and knew that they were preparing to attack Culp's Hill. But until four o'clock, but little sound was heard but the monotonous noise of the sharpshooter. At this hour, from the Cemetery Hill and from a long distance in that direction, the storm of battle suddenly broke out. Artillery and musketry thundered and crashed together. Amid the tumult we could plainly hear the rebel charging yell. We momentarily expected that the rebels in the valley of Rock Creek would advance upon us. But they did not come, and gradually our attention became absorbed by the awful combat on our left. We could plainly see that our troops were giving ground. Thousands were streaming to the rear.

Our suspense and anxiety were intense. We gathered in knots all over the hill, watching the battle. It seemed to us a long time that this savage, but to all appearances unfavorable struggle went on. The rebel line certainly was advancing. The rebel yell certainly was predominant. Brigade after brigade moved in, but the tide was against us. As the sun was low down a fine sight was seen. It was two long blue lines of battle, with twenty or thirty regimental banners, charging forward into the smoke and din of battle. To all appearances they saved our position. But a sound came now from the woods to our right, that made us jump for our breastworks. It was the rebel yell, sounded by thousands of voices. It was now dusk, and beginning to be quite dark in the woods. I ran to my post, and ordered: "Down, men, watch sharp, keep your eyes peeled. Shoot low now, shoot low, the hill is steep; quiet, now; steady." After these orders and cautions, the men peered sharply into the woods to "let them have it" as they came up the hill against us. But there is no attack upon us. The crash of Union muskets broke out on the right, and we know that the attack is on the Twelfth Corps. Soon a staff officer came along, calling: "Where is Colonel Dawes?" I answered; "Here." He said: "Take your regiment, sir, and report to General Greene." I said: "Where is he?" "He is right over in the woods where they are attacking." I commanded: "Attention, battalion, right face, forward by file right-march!", and we started for General

Greene. Who he was I did not know, but the musketry showed where to go. The first mounted officer I saw proved to be General G. S. Greene, of the Twelfth Army Corps. Taking from his pocket a card, he wrote in the darkness his name and command, which he handed to me. He then directed me to form my regiment, and go into the breastworks; to go as quickly as possible, and to hold the works after I got there. I did not then understand that the rebels already had possession of these works. Facing the regiment to the front, I ordered: "Forward~run; march!" We received no fire until we neared the breastworks, when the enemy who had possession of them, lying on the lower side, and who were completely surprised at our sudden arrival, rose up and fired a volley at us, and immediately retreated down the hill. This remarkable encounter did not last one minute. We lost two men killed~both burned with the powder of the guns fired at them. The darkness and the suddenness of our arrival caused the enemy to fire wildly. We had recaptured the breastworks on our front, and the Fourteenth Brooklyn, which came in on our right, also got possession of the works. We remained here till about midnight, when we were relieved by troops of the Twelfth Corps, who had left these works to support General Sickles's corps against Longstreet's attack. We then marched back to our breastworks on Culp's Hill.

During the whole day of July 3d, we occupied our own entrenchments on Culp's Hill. They seemed a coign of vantage. We had the zip of the sharpshooter's bullet, the "where is you" of cannon shot, the ringing whistle of the ragged fragments of bursting shell, all around us. At some hours of the day, especially during the great cannonade preceding Pickett's charge, the air seemed full of missiles fired by the enemy. But no man was touched, and we were devoutly thankful that such immunity was granted us.

On July 4th, I applied to General Wadsworth for authority to send to Wisconsin the captured battle-flag. He said it could only be obtained, if at all, from General Meade, so to army headquarters I went, carrying the flag folded loosely upon my arm. I passed over the ground where Pickett's men had charged, and saw quite a number of wounded Confederates still lying there. One of them called out to me: "You have got our colors; let me see them." This man and I had quite an interview. He was badly, possibly mortally, wounded. He was a color-bearer in the Second Mississippi Regiment. Those of his regiment who escaped capture in the railroad cut had been in this charge with Heth's division. The poor fellow was quite afflicted to see his colors, and I did all I could to comfort him. From him I learned the history of his regiment and the names of its officers, which enabled me to report later on that day that Major John A. Blair was the officer of whom I had received the surrender. No introductions took place in the railroad cut.

January, 1890.

(Source: Sketches of War History, Ohio MOLLUS, volume 3, pages 364 to 388)

1. General John F. Reynolds had been killed, but the fact was not disclosed to us.
2. The brigade guard comprised twenty men from each of the five regiments of the Iron

Brigade. The two officers, Lieutenant Lloyd G. Harris, Sixth Wisconsin, and Lieutenant Levi Showalter, Second Wisconsin, proved themselves very capable men and excellent leaders, and both were shot and severely wounded. Eighty-one men of the other regiments of the brigade were thus, by the emergency of sudden and unexpected battle, brought into our ranks.

3. Captain Hall was obliged to leave one gun of his Second Maine Battery in the field between us and the enemy. Captain Rollin P. Converse, Company B, rallied a force and hauled it off. Converse and his first lieutenant, Charles P. Hyatt, were two of the best line officers in battle I met with in the war. Both were killed later in the war.

4. The activity, efficiency, and, if I may so express it, ubiquity, of General James S. Wadsworth in the battle was remarkable. He was of venerable and commanding appearance, and was absolutely fearless in exposing himself to danger.

5. The line officers in addition to this list were: Captain J. H. Marston, commanded Company E; Lieutenant Michael Mangan, Company E, lost a leg; Lieutenant Oscar Graete, commanded Company F; Captain Thomas Kerr, commanded Company D; Lieutenant James L. Converse, commanded Company G; Lieutenant John Timmons, Company G; Lieutenant H. B. Merchant, Company H, wounded; Lieutenant Earl M. Rogers, commanded Company I; Lieutenant Howard J. Huntington, Company A; Lieutenant Wm. Golterman, Company F; Captain R. P. Converse, commanded Company B; Lieutenant C. P. Hyatt, Company B.

6. General Lysander Cutler was of about the same age and of much the same appearance as General Wadsworth. He was one of the coolest, bravest, and most capable officers in the Army of the Potomac. His brigade was handled with remarkable skill in this attack. It captured large portion of Iverson's brigade, of North Carolinians.

7. Colonel W. W. Robinson, of Seventh Wisconsin Regiment, was in command of the brigade, having succeeded General Meredith, who was wounded.