

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Richmond Men Who Served 13th New York Infantry

Fayette Batchellor (also 16th NY Heavy Artillery)
Godfrey Clarke
Asa Deal
Nelson Garlinghouse
George Heazlit
Christopher McCrossen
Franklin Moore (also 24th NY Cavalry)
William W. Ryan
Isaac Seward
James White (also 188th NY Infantry)
John G. Wilson (also 188th NY Infantry)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col Isaac F. Quinby
Mustered: May 14, 1861 at Elmira
Served in Virginia, guarding Washington, D.C.; participated in twenty-one battles/skirmishes including Antietam, Maryland, and Chancellorsville, Virginia.

Richmond Men Who Served 20th Colored Troops

John W. Garthen
William Garthen

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. Nelson B. Bartrum
Organized: Riker's Island, New York Harbor, February 9, 1864
Served in the District of New Orleans, and the Department of the Gulf

Personal Notes

John and William Garthen were brothers. John died of pneumonia in New York City before being deployed. Both he and William are buried in Cypress Hills National Cemetery in Brooklyn.

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Richmond Men Who Served 33rd New York Infantry

Richard Appleton
David Benson (also 15th Penn. Cavalry)
James Persons (also 8th Mich. Infantry)
Hiram Whitney (also 16th NY Heavy Artillery)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Robert F. Taylor
Muster: July 3, 1861 at Elmira
Garrisoned in Virginia, outside Washington, D.C.; participated in twenty-nine battles and skirmishes, including the siege of Yorktown, Antietam, Maryland, and Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Richmond Men Who Served 85th New York Infantry

Edgar Bentley
Nathan Briggs
Ira Deyo
Henry Simmons (also 50th NY Engineers)
George Watrous (also 20th NY Cavalry)
Elam Wetmore

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Uriah L. Davis
Organized: At Elmira November 7, 1861
In service at Newport News, Virginia, and New Berne, North Carolina. Participated in thirteen battles and skirmishes in Virginia and in fifteen engagements in North Carolina. On April 20, 1864, nearly the entire regiment was surrendered at Plymouth, North Carolina. The remnant of the regiment was transferred to the 16th New York Cavalry.

Personal Notes

Edgar Bentley was taken prisoner at Plymouth, North Carolina on April 20, 1864, and transported to Andersonville Prison in Georgia where he remained for eight months before being paroled in mid-December. He returned home to Richmond where he died a few weeks later.

Ira Deyo spent more than three hundred days in the Andersonville, Georgia, prisoner of war camp – the last full year of the war. In a memoir written fifty years later, Ira told of the Providence Spring, the prison's inadequate water supply: "This spring afforded a stream of water

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about the size of a lead pencil and it would have taken more than thirty days to have supplied each man in that stockade with one quart of water. I, on one occasion, waited for more than three hours in a line twenty rods long for my turn to fill a canteen.”

He returned to the camp in April of that anniversary year (1914) to place “on the exact spot where [he] lay for weary months” a plaque bearing two inscriptions. On the face of the board he had fashioned was the caption: “On this spot in 1864 camped Ira N. Deyo Co. B 85th N.Y.V.” And on the reverse he had written: “This white pine board is from a Grist Mill Erected in 1812 in Ontario County, N.Y.”

Elam Wetmore was taken prisoner at Plymouth, North Carolina. On October 6, 1864, he was shot and killed while trying to escape.

Richmond Men Who Served 97th New York Infantry

Francis Andrews
Charles Davis
Albert Fosburgh
Joseph Sullivan

A Bit About the Regiment

First Commander: Col. Charles Wheelock (wounded and captured July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg)

Second Commander: Major Charles B. Northrup

Muster: February 18, 1862 at Boonville

Served in Virginia and participated in more than twenty battles, including Chancellorsville and Cold Harbor, Virginia. At Gettysburg on July 2, 1863 the regiment were “engaged on Cemetery hill and at Ziegler’s Grove.” They “held the enemy in check here...charged across the field assisting in capturing Iverson’s Brigade and securing the flag of the 20th North Carolina.”

Richmond Men Who Served 102nd New York Infantry

John Bigelow (also 12th Ohio Lt. Artillery)
Stephen Cornell
Robert Whisker (also 1st NY Dragoons)
Thomas Wilcox

A Bit About the Regiment

First Commander: Lt. Col. Cornelius D. Westbrook (wounded July 2, 1863 at Gettysburg)

Second Commander: Major J. R. Tappen

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Mustered: New York City in March 10, 1862

Served in eastern Virginia where they participated in a dozen battles, including Antietam, Maryland; Chancellorsville, Virginia; and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where they lost twenty-nine men.

Richmond Men Who Served 104th New York Infantry

William B. Knapp (also 126th NY Infantry)

Alonzo Micks

Samuel B. Smith (also 188th NY Infantry)

Ezekiel Wright

Isaac Wright (also 1st NY Heavy Artillery)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. John Rehrbach

Organized: October 1861 at Geneseo

Served in Virginia and participated in twenty battles, including, in Virginia, Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, and Cold Harbor; in Maryland, Antietam; and in Pennsylvania, Gettysburg.

Personal Notes

Alonzo Micks was killed at the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863. He was the only Richmond soldier to die at Gettysburg.

Richmond Men Who Served 126th New York Infantry

Richard Allen

Elias Barnes

Henry Barnes (also 4th NY Heavy Artillery)

Ira Barnes

James Barnes

John J. Barrett

John Barringer

John Cochrane

Albert Daniels

Carter Dunham

Charles A. Fields

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Erastus Fields
John Fitzpatrick
Eli Heazlit
Samuel Hewey
John W. Knapp
William B. Knapp (also 104th NY Infantry)
Marcus Knowles
Bernard Logan
George Macomber
Martin Nutt
Uriah Osgood
Gilbert Peck
Henry V. Washburn (also 4th NY Heavy Artillery)
Ira Washburn

A Bit About the Regiment

Commanders: Col. Eliakim Sherrill (mortally wounded at Gettysburg); Col. James M. Bull (killed at Gettysburg); Col. William H. Baird (killed at Petersburg)

Last Commander: Col. Ira Smith Brown

Mustered: August 22, 1862 at Troy

The 126th Regiment of New York included recruits from three counties: Ontario, Seneca, and Yates. The raw recruits were immediately dispatched from Camp Swift in Geneva, sent by boat to Watkins Glen on Seneca Lake, then aboard train to Elmira. Another train took them to Baltimore and finally to Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now in West Virginia).

They set up camp on Bolivar Heights. Less than a month after their arrival, on September 15, 1862, the Confederate Army attacked their position and one hundred men were taken prisoner. Marched to Annapolis, the unhappy troops endured the Rebel jeers, taunted by the epitaph "Maryland Heights Cowards."

They spent the next two months at Camp Douglas in Chicago, sent to fight Indians in Minnesota. Four Richmond men deserted while at Camp Douglas: **Carter Dunham, John Fitzpatrick, Marcus Knowles, and Ira Washburn.** November 19, 1862, the prisoners of the 126th were exchanged with rebel troops and sent back again to Virginia. They fought valiantly at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Bristoe Station, Virginia; Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and the Wilderness, and were present when Lee surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

Personal Notes

Elias Barnes was wounded May 6, 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness. He died two weeks later.

John Barringer, John Cochrane, and Martin Nutt were taken prisoner at different times; all were sent to Andersonville, Georgia, prison camp and all died there. Barringer's death was recorded as "scorbutus" (a deficiency of vitamin C); he was buried in the prison cemetery. Cochrane died of diarrhea and is also buried at Andersonville. Nathan Briggs (of the 85th New York Infantry), when he returned to Honeoye from Andersonville, brought the news of

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Cochrane's death. Private Nutt died in the prison of unknown cause. His body was retrieved by his family and rests in Purcell Cemetery.

Erastus Fields was killed at the Battle of Bristoe Station, Virginia, October 14, 1863.

Bernard Logan, promoted to Corporal, served through two years of war. He kept a diary off and on for part of 1863 and almost daily for most of 1864 (a transcription of which is on file at the Richmond Historian's office). Several entries are given here:

1863

Sun. Feb. 22 Washington's Birthday Fighting at Union Mills with cannon We had a great snow ball match in this reg. I got a blister on my side

Mon. Apr. 20 Corporal B. Logan

At the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863, he was slightly wounded, but quickly returned to duty.

Thurs. Oct. 22 I was up for the first line up Was listed as chronic fever Got a bottle of Parkers

Bernard was so ill he was sent home to New York to recover. He was there until mid-November.

Fri. Nov. 13 Left Canandaigua at 10 A.M. Went on to Harrisburg, Pa. [then] Lancaster Got back from furlough Nov. 14 *Not fully recovered, he was again in the hospital.*

Th. Nov. 19 Dedication at Gettysburg The President passed by A big day in this hospital

Th. Nov. 26 Had turkey and goose for dinner *Thanksgiving Day*

Sat. Nov. 28 I got my photograph taken and then was put in the guard house for 18 hours That was all for no cause except for telling the Ward Master to go to H---

Wed. Dec. 9 Joined my regiment

1864

Sun. May 1 Skirmish drill

May 2 Tornado and rain Swept everything along headquarters all to pieces

May 3 Left camp with 6 days rations Got a letter from Uncle John and Susan Swan

May 4 Stopped overnite at Chancellorsville To start again at 3 A. M.

May 5 Came to the Big Horn They say Gen. Hays was killed and Gen. Wadsworth too

May 6 Commenced to fight at daylight The rebels got badly whipped They made a great many charges John Cochrane has either been killed or taken prisoner Jerome Parks killed 76 wounded

May 7 Lying in trenches Hard fighting all day It was a hot day The woods are all on fire The wounded are burning up The darkies are fighting alongside the Potomac Army We lay waiting for the rebels to come

Sun. May 8 We left the wilderness Was fighting on the skirmish line all day and all that night

May 9 We came in from line at [dawn] We lay in line of battle We went into the woods and drove the rebels They forded the creeks up to the waist We lay in the woods No sleep for 3 days

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- May 10 We were all wet Fought all day Drove back again We had to cross back from the river and wait Took 2,000 prisoners and 12 pieces of cannon Cheering along the lines Fighting at Po Ridge all day
- May 11 We made a charge The rebels were fighting all day We took 25 pieces of cannon and 1,000 prisoners
- May 13 We were fighting all day It rained Burnside's troops engaged this day The rebels made a charge 8 times at the right
- May 14 Fighting this day again We lay in the woods in the rain The reserves were ordered to march at 4 P.M. A charge was made at night Three pieces of cannon taken
- Sun. May 15** Moved in advance at 8 P.M. Lay in double [ranks] waiting for a charge The rebels captured the pickets We lay in wait for them Drew rations for 6 days
- May 16 Here in old position along the line Back to Div. Headq. Fighting today again and cleaning guns
- May 17 We moved into the woods at 12 A. M. Started on the right to charge the rebels charged and struck the breastworks
- May 18 Withdrew from there and rested till daylight
- May 19 Rebels charged on the wagon train Killed the driver and the mules Took Frederick Road We went double quick They were repulsed by Gen. Burnside
- May 20 A man shot at 7 A. M. from Mass. Regt. for deserting in front of the enemy. We wrote a letter and rested
- Sun. May 22** Today we are building breastworks and drawing rations Fighting on our lines We got mail
- May 24 Marched of the North Anna River Fighting all day Drove rebels from their forts It is a very hot day Fighting for Hanover Junction The rebels are in full force there
- May 25 We lay resting in the woods south side of the North Anna River till 4 P. M. We commenced to break over the breastworks then
- May 26 We lay resting in the breastworks It rained We drew rations Recrossed the North Anna River at 1 A. M.
- May 27 We left the North Anna River in the direction of the White House lay at the side of the Potomac River Hot day No water On the way we came to Carolina Company
- May 28 We crossed the river on pontoons Had to fight the rebels in full retreat At night we built breastworks We tore a rebel barn down
- Sun. May 29** We advanced three miles We fought at the right No rations We had preaching, rested and got mail
- May 30 Fighting this day at sunrise Our regiment all on duty No sleep for us We caught the rebels playing their band in front of 40 men
- May 31 All in camp and working and working in our former positions I went out at night on the scrimmage line Fighting all the time till we left in the night Woods on fire in front of us We gained the Heights
- June 1 We were on the scrimmage line fighting until we left in the night

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- June 2 Burnside on the right 2 corps moved in the night We were left alone 24 hours on the skirmish line It rained all night
- June 3 Col. Holfer started to fight at daylight Lasted till night We are fortifying ourselves 2 heavy artillery charged our division cutting down pieces
- June 4 The rebels made a charge at daylight I got replaced I went on fatigue to Building Headquarters I wrote my brother
- Sun. June 5** We moved at night to the right of the line Had a charge by the rebels and they were repulsed Heavy cannon and shells coming in all directions after dark
- June 6 Ordered to move Rebels made a charge Each side held the ground A hard struggle for heavy cannon on both sides We were not needed We rested for the first time in 10 days Went on picket with the 40th Reg.
- June 7 We are in the woods We don't move for hours Was wounded in the hand Got back to my regt. 4 days rations were there
- June 8 Rebels commenced to fight at 11 A. M.
- June 9 Resting today The rebels are throwing shells in the night with their siege guns
- June 10 The whole brigade is on 2 days rations Train has gone back to Harrisons Landing I was all that was left of my company Lay in the breastworks All night firing by rebels
- Sun. June 12** It is a cool day The boys is here for 24 hours over to the hospital to get patched up Started to Chicahominy River Marched all night
- June 13 We crossed at daybreak Left the river Came three miles to Harrisons Landing We built breastworks Got new potatoes and apples
- June 14 The 5th corps is moving at 4 P.M. We are to move over about the side of the James River at 2 A. M. I marched two miles waiting for rations Had none in two days
- June 15 We are lying in a meadow waiting for our rations 2 miles from the city in a meadow of clover and big corn There are a lot of big farms We got rations and marched to Petersburg 18 corps fighting We charged
- June 16 We got 7 days rations from Burnside The darkies made a charge Took 7 pieces of artillery and captured two forts We lay in front under shelling for two hours I got wounded Col. Meade was killed A Lincoln agent lying in a wheat lot Almighty charge made by the 2nd corps G. W. Barlow in charge of 1st Division
- June 17 Still in wheat lot A lot of Johnnys came in prisoners Made another charge We are in Petersburg It is a hot day The wounded are lying in the sun
- Sun. June 19** We left for City Point Now in camp The wounded are here on this plain Can't get half what they want to eat
- June 20 We are still here at City Point Heavy cannon in the directions of Fort Darling It is a hot day The wounded lying in the sun The 9th, 6th, and part of the 2nd left after the night for Washington All that could walk More wounded came in from the front
- June 21 We are still in hole tents at City Point 600 more wounded came in from the front The second corps relieved from the front for 10 days Came fourteen to the left Our corps was the last one to get away

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- June 22 The second corps wounded is going away 2 days on transport The second division is going at 7 A. M. 400 more wounded The company came here tonight Gave [us] all milk and punch
- June 23 The 2nd corps moved down on the breakwater Some of our wounded are gone from here to the hospital It is a hot day Gun boats were firing all night up the river Gen. Grant is visiting the tents More wounded came in here
- Sun. June 26** We sent the wounded from here It looked like rain so some of them came back Heavy cannonade all day
- June 27 We are still here Went out of camp to the boat It is cooler with thunder showers Digging ditches here in camp Burning the dirty clothes The N.Y. Gents have Jews harps
- June 28 We are still here No. 4 have gone on details I straightened the barracks It was another hot day
- June 29 I started from camp and went aboard the boat Shilo It is a hot day Came by Harris Island It is a rocky shoal
- June 30 I was on board [the Shilo] bound for Washington Got in at 6 P.M. Came into Lincoln Hospital at night
- July 1 I am in Lincoln Hosp. It is a hot day The Sisters of Charity here attending the sick I wrote to Brother
- Sun. July 3** Cool day We had a shower More wounded came in There are amputations every day

Bernard was in the hospital until late September. As his health improved he was moved to a convalescent ward and put on guard duty. On Monday, September 26 he noted "This is a fine day I got my furlough In New York at 8 P.M. Started for Elmira" – and there his diary ends. After fourteen days on furlough he was back in Virginia. Having returned to duty, he was transferred to Co. A in late December. He was discharged from service June 3, 1865 at Alexandria, Virginia, and was soon home in New York. He found that, in his absence, his sweetheart – one of George Swan's daughters – had married another.

Letters of Henry Lee

More than twenty men from Richmond served in the 126th and were present at the Battle of Gettysburg. A Canandaigua man, Corp. Henry Lee, was in the same regiment. His letters home to his mother provide an interesting insight to the struggles the soldiers faced.

(Union Town, Maryland) June 3, 1863

We had a forced march yesterday. We came from Fredrick 32 miles. It was awful. We had to wade steams three feet deep and then never stop to get the water out of boots and shoes. General Hancock orders were to come to this place. The stragglers have about all come in. It is now four o'clock and the bugler has just sounded "strike tents" for a march. The Rebs are within a few miles of here. We shall probably fight tomorrow or the next day.

(Gettysburg, Pennsylvania) July 6, 1863

We have whipped the Rebs terrible, but at an immense loss on our side. Our Brigade is all cut up. Our Regt lost 263 men killed and wounded out of a little over 400 men. [The only

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Richmond man to die at Gettysburg was Alonzo Micks of the 104th Regiment.] Capt Richardson [was] slightly wounded in the heel. I was not hurt, got hit by a spent ball on the heel and a shell burst so near me that almost knocked me over. It covered me with dirt.

(Hagerstown, Maryland) July 13, 1863

Last night we got a host of mail. Some of it had been captured by the Rebs and then recaptured by our forces. Mother, you have no idea what a hard time we have had in the last 19 days Campaign. Oh, it was awful. We are completely worn out and so dirty. Just think, going 19 days without putting on a clean shirt or hardly washing. We do not get time enough hardly to cook our coffee, let alone anything else. In the last days fight at Gettysburg I laid 6 long hours flat as a pancake in a cornfield, and the mud was 4 inches deep and the rain pouring down hard as it could. We were out as skirmishers. In moving around a little to get sight of the Rebs I exposed myself and you better believe several bullets came close to me from their sharp shooters.

(Stevensburg, Virginia) January 6, 1864

We have had about 4 inches of snow since I returned and the weather is quite cold at present.

(Petersburg, Virginia) June 17, 1864

We fought nearly all night and before day light we made another charge. Captured a lot of prisoners and 1 or 2 guns. I believe in all we have captured about 1500 prisoners.

(Petersburg, Virginia) July 22, 1864

I think they must be a set of ninnies at the north to have been so frightened about the Rebs. They could not have taken Washington if Grant had not sent any troops. If there is not men enough left to protect the northern borders we had better quit and all come home. You wanted to know why Grant did not shell the City. I will tell you. The Johnys hold the other side of the river. Most of their works are on that side and if we did burn the town it would not help us any, as we could not stay in the place. We have got to siege them out, the same as Grant did at Vicksburg and the folks up north must wait and keep still. If they are in a hurry, why don't some of them volunteer and come down here and hurry the matter along.

(Burkesville Junction, Virginia) April 16, 1865

We have just got the news of Lincoln's death. It is awful. I had much rather have heard that Sherman and his whole army was captured. It is fearful, they whole army feels it. I have not got much confidence in Johnson, should not wonder if the death of Lincoln did not lead to war in the North. It is the worst thing that could have happened to us at the present time.

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Richmond Men Who Served 136th New York Infantry: The Ironclads

Henry Denison
John Jack
Walter Jack
Alfred Leach
David Martin
Michael McCabe
Eli Nichols
Dennis Smith
Sanford Stiles
William Ward

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. James Wood, Jr.

Muster: September 25, 1862 at Portage

Served in camp at Stafford, Virginia. They participated in the Battle of Chancellorsville and at Gettysburg. The regiment was dispatched to Tennessee and to Georgia, where they were engaged at Kenesaw Mountain and the Battle of Atlanta. They joined Sherman's troops in The March to the Sea and the Carolina Campaign.

Personal Notes

Henry Denison deserted on January 16, 1863. **Michael McCabe** enlisted, but was discharged from service before being mustered in.

William Ward was wounded at the Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia, June 28, 1864. He died in an army hospital in Jeffersonville, Indiana, a little more than a month later.

Richmond Men Who Served 188th New York Infantry

Philip G. Bacon
Charles Batchellor
James Battise
Edwin Belcher
Isaac Bentley
Oliver Brown
George Case
Caleb Clow
Henry Dunning

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Abel Gates
John H. Gilbert
Gratius Hancock
Adolph Knauer
James Mace
George McCrossen
John Miller (also 101st NY Infantry)
Eugene Moore
Robert Norgate
Amasa Plimpton
James Porter
John A. Roe
Peter Ross
John Scott, Jr.
Hugh Smith
Samuel B. Smith (also 104th NY Infantry)
Gideon Spence
Ellet Stid
Jonas Stiles
Wesley Stout
John G. Wilson (also 13th NY Infantry)
James White (also 13th NY Infantry)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. John McMahon

Mustered: October 4-22, 1864 at Rochester

The Regiment was stationed in eastern Virginia and participated in several battles, including Hatcher's Run (October 1864), Hicksford Raid (December 1864), and the Appomattox Campaign (March and April 1865).

Personal Notes

James Battise never reported for muster. **Edwin Belcher** – he enlisted under an assumed name – deserted September 10, 1864, one day after muster.

Isaac Bently was married and the father of two little girls: Eva was ten and Ella, twelve. Both girls wrote their father while he was away at the war.

On Christmas Day 1864, Eva wrote: "My dear Pa, I now sit down to write a few lines on this little sheet of paper. Pa, I was to see the Christmas tree last night. O Pa, you ought to be there. They had three trees and they were just as full as they could be. I will tell you what me and Ella got. A pair of gloves and a little colongue bottle and a little box with a stand up collar and a little neck tie in the box, too, and a very nice pincushion. It was crimson and braided with black braid and black ribbon pleated around it. And a corn-a-plenty full of candy and popcorn and chestnuts in it. And Ma got a pair of cuffs and a nice basket, Pa. We are going to have some spare rib and some tomatoes that you canned and how I wished you could be here to help us eat it, Pa. I wish

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you would write oftener cause we are go glad to hear from you. So, good bye, from Eva A. Bentley. Write often, Pa, do.”

Her older sister Ella wrote to Pa also on that day: “Dear father, I wish you a Merry Christmas. Today is Christmas, and Ma told me and Eva that we might write a letter to you. Last night we had a Christmas tree at the new church and the house was so crowded you could hardly stir. There was one big tree and two little ones. The large tree come most up to the top of the church. This was loaded down with every thing that we could think of. Mother got a nice basket and a pair of cuffs. Hattie got a corn-a-copia full of candy, popcorn, hickory nuts, and a circle comb and a nice pair of Balmoral stockings, and I got a nice picture all framed and a bag of candy, a card with flowers on it, a necktie and collars, 2 handkerchiefs, and a prize package. We had a nice time but a better time if you had been with us. We are all well. WE have not hired a stick of wood cut yet. I can not think of anything more to write, so good bye from Ella J. Bentley. Pa, write every day if you can.

Ella wrote again to her father in the spring of 1865: “Dear Pa, It is Friday morning and I thought I would write a few lines to you. It is beautiful weather here now. The trees are all in bloom. They are catching lots of fish here and I wish you was here to catch some for us. School has commenced here but we are not a-going. They pay 39 dollars a month and they ain’t but 10 or 11 pupils. When do you think you will be home, for your time is up. I wish you could. Some thought when Lee surrendered the soldiers would be home in May, but I don’t believe they will be home before their time is up. Pa, you must be sure and stop in New York and get me that melodeon. A good many of the girls are taking music lessons. I am going to Bloomfield to stay or week or two. Well, I must stop writing for Eva must take it down to the post office. You must write 2 or 3 times a week just as you can for we are always glad to hear. So, good bye, Ella J. Bentley. Write in a hurry.”

Samuel B. Smith, early in the war, served a little over a year in the 104th New York Infantry. Then in September 1864 he enlisted in the 188th where he served until the end of the war. In his later years he committed this event to paper:

Sometime in Dec. ’64 – I do not recall the exact date – a movement was inaugurated known as Warren’s Raid and the purpose of which was to destroy a line of R.R. still controlled by the Confederacy. It was no doubt looked upon by the Rebs as a lowdown dirty trick, but to us it seemed the very proper thing to do.

Warren’s division broke camp on one of those warm pleasant days so common to Virginia winters. We were gone about a week, and one-half the time was ferocious winter. The storm commenced with rain and turning to snow – it froze to a degree that would have made a North Pole Expedition shiver. We were there with nothing to protect ourselves but the little shelter tents which we had supposed would fill the bill.

We needed warmth and secured something to that end by burning the R.R. ties and incidentally warping the rails so out of shape as to be useless.

As we were parking our trains just at night, we noticed boys coming from a certain direction loaded with sweet potatoes. Three or four of us struck the trail with gunny sacks thinking to get a quantity and put them on our wagons. We reached the pile in the shape of a roof made of rails put up against a ridge pole and covered with cornstalks. One end had been opened giving access to the foods.

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But we also found a guard had been placed and instructed not to let any more be taken. We thought our cake was dough and started off. I suggested that I must have some of those sweets. We parted company. It was getting nicely dusk and taking advantage of that condition, I stealthily crept up and as the guard was pacing his beat and with his back to me, I dodged into the open end where it was as dark as a pocket, took off my own coat, laid it down and placed half a bushel or more on it – then came the question of getting out with my swag. By a little search I found I could push through between the rails at the far end, and with the fruits of my raiding I made my way to camp.

Years after when in telling this story at a family gathering, my little daughter who was listening intently exclaimed – Why, Papa, you was a stealer, wasn't you? I trust the comrades who read this incident will be more generous in their views for I'm no such fellow.

Richmond Men Who Served 1st New York Light Artillery

Henry Hale
George McMichael
William H. Shelton
Isaac Wright (also 104th NY Infantry)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. Guilford D. Bailey

Organized: October 1861 at Elmira

Served with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia, the Cumberland Valley and in Georgia. They participated in more than two dozen battles in Virginia, Maryland, and Georgia, including Harpers Ferry, Cedar Mountain, Antietam, Snicker's Gap, and Atlanta.

Personal Notes

William Henry Shelton was wounded on May 5, 1894, at the Battle of the Wilderness. He was taken prisoner and later escaped. After a long arduous journey he arrived home. He was so exhausted that he fell into the house when the door was opened. In later life he wrote an interesting autobiography which included details of his military service. (The book is on file at the Richmond Historian's Office.)

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Richmond Men Who Served 4th New York Heavy Artillery

Henry Barnes (also 126th NY Infantry)
Isaac B. Green
Adam Kennedy
Edward Martin
James O'Neil
Henry Struble (also 28th NY Infantry)
Henry V. Washburn (also 126th NY Infantry)
Chauncey Worden (also 16th NY Cavalry)
Marion Worthy

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. T. D. Doubleday
Mustered: February 1862 at New York City
They were with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia and participated in several battles, including the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse and the Appomattox Campaign and were present when Lee surrendered on April 9, 1865.

Richmond Men Who Served 8th New York Heavy Artillery

Florentine Brown
John S. Clark
Theodore Greenman (also 10th NY Infantry)
Joseph Harris
James Keegan
Daniel Kerrigan
Frederick Robison
George Welsh
John Williams

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. Peter A. Porter
Muster: August 22, 1862 at Lockport
They were based in and near Baltimore; participated in a number of battles in Virginia including Spotsylvania Courthouse and Cold Harbor, and were present on April 9, 1865 when Lee surrendered at Appomattox Couthouse.

Personal Notes

These men enlisted at Richmond but never turned up for Muster: **John Clark, James Keegan, Daniel Kerrigan, Frederick Robinson, George Welsh, and John Williams.**

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Richmond Men Who Served 16th New York Heavy Artillery

Francis Anderson
Fayette Batchellor (also 13th NY Infantry)
Ichabod Carpenter
William Giddings
William B. Thompson
Hiram Whitney (also 33rd NY Infantry)

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. Joseph J. Morrison
Muster: September 1863 to February 1864 at New York City
The Regiment served near Richmond, Virginia, participating in the Battle of Petersburg, and in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Richmond Men Who Served 1st New York Dragoons

Sylvester Peavy
Joshua Simpson
Robert Whisker (also 102nd NY Infantry)

A Bti About the Regiment

Commanders: Col. William S. Fullerton succeeded by Col. Alfred Gibbs
Muster: September 2, 1862 (as 130th Infantry); converted to Cavalry July 28, 1863
The Regiment was based in eastern Virginia and participated in more than twenty battles. They were present at Baltimore Crossroads, Manassas Junction, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. On April 9, 1865 they were present at Appomattox Courthouse when Lee surrendered.

Personal Notes

Joshua Simpson deserted soon after enlisting.

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Richmond Men Who Served 1st New York Mounted Rifles

Harrison Babcock
Truman Bishop
Willard Doolittle
Tisdale G. Doty
George Gaines
Neil Gould
Samuel Kenyon
William McNinch
Orrin Purcell
Almeron Reed
Mortimer Sleight
Willard P. Smith
William Symonds
Purlee Wilbur

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Major C.C. Dodge

Muster: Over a period of several months from the summer of 1861 to the fall of 1862

The Regiment was collected from different units into a whole by the fall of 1862 and consolidated with the 3rd Regiment of Cavalry in July 1865. They were posted to eastern Virginia and later to the coast of North Carolina.

Richmond Men Who Served 21st New York Cavalry

Alijah Hall
Corydon Hyde
Simon McCabe

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. W. B. Tibbits

Muster: September 1863 at Troy

Served with the Army of the Potomac in eastern Virginia and were present at several battles, including, in Virginia, Winchester, Stony Creek, and Berryville; and at Frederick, Maryland.

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Richmond Men Who Served 50th New York Engineers

John Cornell
James McKelvey
Edward Munson
Henry Simmons (also 85th NY Infantry)
Richard Warfield
Charles Wheeler

A Bit About the Regiment

Commander: Col. C. B. Stuart

Muster: August and September 1861 at Elmira

Served at various points in eastern Virginia, building bridges, breastworks, and roads. They were at Yorktown, Fredericksburg, Harpers Ferry, and Washington, D.C.

Personal Notes

John Cornell enlisted, but never reported for Muster.

Richmond Men Who Served The United States Navy

James Kane
William Thompson
Unknown (1)
Thomas Wannall

A Bit About the Navy

The primary missions of the Union Navy during the war were – to maintain the blockade of the Confederacy; to meet in combat enemy warships; to transport Army troops; and to provide offshore support by bombardment when possible.

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Other Notes

“My Childhood Recollections of the Civil War”

Clara Ellen Cartwright Case (1855-1940) was the daughter of Truman Cartwright (1826-1874) and Almira Wheaton (1830-1919). She lived with her parents and older sister Sarah in Bristol. In 1861 Clara was six years old. When the war ended four years later she was ten. She was in her eighties in 1939 when she wrote an article printed in a local (unidentified) newspaper and saved in a scrapbook. Her words are excerpted here.

Among my earliest recollections of what our people and their neighbors were talking about was the great war. Though young I remember with much distinctness many circumstances connected with that period of my life. Much of the horror, anxiety, trouble and suffering of those anxious years made a strong impression on my mind.

In looking back I believe my early childhood was saddened by the cloud that hung over our country at that time. As I remember, [the war] always seemed just beyond the skyline in all directions and likely to appear in sight at any time. My sister, older than I, was very nervous, so much so that our people tried to avoid talking about the war in her presence.

In the early part of the war meetings were held all through the country to create enthusiasm and excite interest for the cause: eloquent speakers to arouse and urge men to enlist. There were bands of music, firing of cannon, and much excitement prevailed. I remember attending several of those meetings at Honeoye village.

I recall one in particular where they had a parade. The people formed in a procession, headed by the wagons that drew the bands of music. There was the beating of drums with martial music, banners and many flags. They drove around the square, a distance of about eight miles, starting from Honeoye village toward Allens Hill, across to the Richmond Center road and back to Honeoye.

But the time came when the call for more volunteers failed to bring the men needed. Then came the draft. If they did not willingly go to war they must be forced to go or find a substitute. I remember one summer day when they were shearing sheep at our barn. I was playing about the barn. There were four or five men at the bench, when two strangers drove up and tied their horse near the barn. It was well understood that men were being sent out through the country to enroll for the draft and it did not take long for the shearers to guess their errand.

One of the men put his sheep back in the pen and stepped out of sight before the strangers entered the barn. They enrolled the others, my father among them. I remember the shearers spoke of it as a cowardly act to hide, but I would have been glad to have seen them all hide. I had learned what it meant to go to war.

Early in the war a young man, son of a farmer neighbor, worked at our place. Stirred by the enthusiasm of the times, he thought it his duty to help defend his country. Only a boy he seemed at work on the farm, but a man of much importance when he and his brother came to bid us good-bye, dressed in their uniforms. He fell in the first battle, was brought back and buried in the cemetery at Bristol.

It was fall, I think, for I remember the apples were being gathered in the orchard, when those who had been enrolled were summoned to Honeoye to be examined – only the able-bodied men were wanted. There was rejoicing at our house that night – father had been rejected.

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

Then came the good news that the war was over and almost with it came the great blow that President Lincoln had been shot. The [news of that] stunning blow [is] stamped indelibly on my memory. A neighbor's boy came rushing in to tell the news with the exclamation that "Abe was shot!" As I remember he was commonly spoken of in that familiar way. Not from any lack of respect – far from it – he was friend and comrade, one in common with all. I can remember the room and the expressions on the faces of those present. Later when I asked the question, "Will there be more war?" it was not only a child's question. It was as if the light had gone out and the people groped in darkness.

"News From the Front"

"Hold there, Courier! What news from the front?

Go not so fast on your galloping way!

Have the armies met, has a battle been fought?

Tell us which side has won the day.

Tell us who is living and who lie low.

We all have friends in, you know."

"The armies met but a few days since.

And a terrible battle has been fought.

We are the victors, thank the Lord,

But the victory, oh, it was dearly bought!

For the ground is littered with Union dead

And the trampled grass with their blood is red."

"Tell me, courier, say if you can,

How has it fared with my own brave boy.

He was the last of five gallant sons,

His the only remaining joy,"

Thus spoke a woman wrinkled and gray,

As the courier pauses a while by the way.

"Your boy, good woman, alas he is killed.

In the front of the battle I saw him fall.

With his face to the enemy, he lay,

Shot through the heart by a rifleman's ball.

But tell me, mother, was your boy's life

More dear than our cause in this deadly strife?"

"Courier, I have already said

He was the child of my later years.

I have given him to our noble cause

And the Lord will wipe away these tears.

'Tis hard with one's flesh and blood to part,

But I yield them all with a willing heart."

Notes of Some of the Regiments Where Richmond Men Served

“Courier,” said a young wife then,
 “Is my husband living and is he well?”
“My captain, lady, was wounded at first.
 Close by my side in the fight he fell,
 And asked that this token to you I’d give,
 For he knew himself that he could not live.”

“O, God, he is dead! ’Tis my picture, this.
 I bade him wear it in every field
Close to his heart where I placed then,
 Praying his precious life it might shield.
 And I strove to keep the tears from my eyes
 When I gave to God a sacrifice.”

“And, Courier, what of Walter Flott?
 Pray, tell me if of him you know aught.”
This from the lips of a fair young girl.
 “I know how bravely and well he fought.
 And I know as well that he lost an arm,
 But otherwise he is safe from harm.”

“O, Courier, tell him when you return
 How that of one thing he may be sure:
That I am his when ever he will.
 And though he has lost an arm, and poor,
 Bid him remember that I have two
 And will prove what a Yankee girl can do.”

Then the Courier spurred his foaming steed.
 Thinking aloud as he rode away:
O, when will the night of battle clear
 And show us the dawn of a brighter day?
 When these groans of anguish and grief shall cease
 In the golden sunrise of perfect peace.

This poem, attributed to “A Soldier’s Friend,” was copied out by hand on the back of a printed form used by Richmond’s Justice of the Peace. It first appeared in the June 11, 1864, edition of Harper’s Weekly Magazine and was reprinted in the 1878 edition of the Grand Army of the Republic Almanac.