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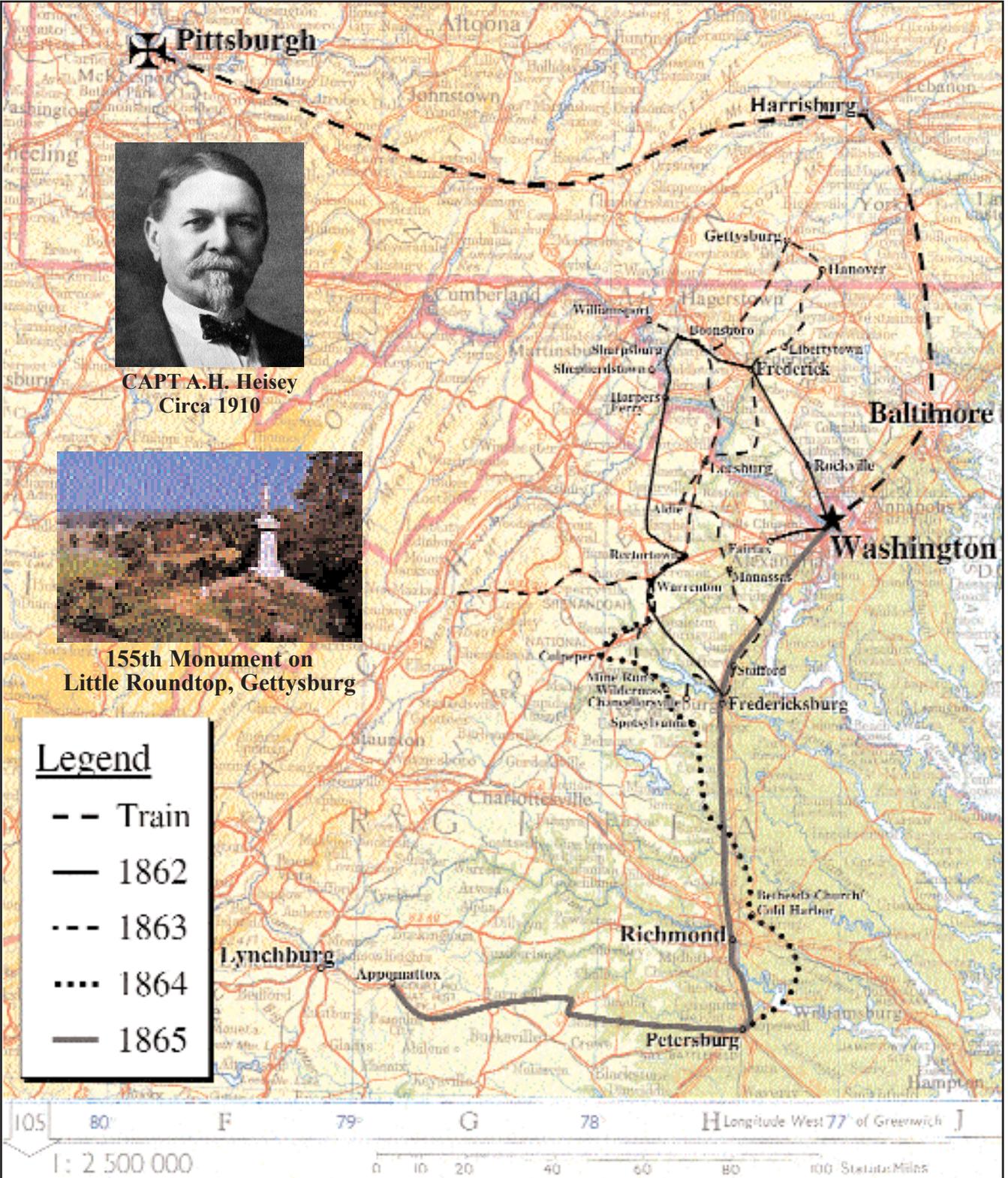
# HEISEY HERALD

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL HEISEY COLLECTORS CLUB

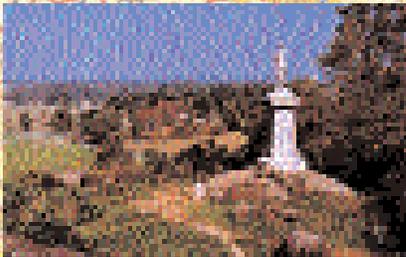
Volume XXX, No. 3

Washington, D.C.

November-December, 2001



**CAPT A.H. Heisey**  
Circa 1910



**155th Monument on  
Little Roundtop, Gettysburg**

## Legend

- Train
- 1862
- 1863
- .... 1864
- 1865

# The 155th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry

By John Martinez

*While surfing the net, in search of information about A.H. Heisey's Civil War record, I came upon a site that contained the text of 'Under the Maltese Cross,' a complete history of the 155th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, written by the rank and file. After reading a few pages, I decided to download the entire text, all 817 pages, and don't ask how long it took. The following is a condensed history of the 155th, with additional information from Joe Lokay's May 1978 article in the 'Heisey News,' and the History Channel's 'Civil War Journal.' The map on the front cover roughly traces their steps.*

On July 2 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 additional troops to "... help defend the Constitution." After defeats of GEN McClellan's Army on the Virginia Peninsula, and GEN Pope's Army in Culpeper, Warrenton, and Manassas, the Union Armies retreated to the defense of Washington City.

On July 24 1862, a "Great War Meeting" was held on the West Common of Pittsburgh. COL John H. Cain, CAPT Lee Anshutz, CAPT S.A. McKee, and CAPT Samuel Kilgore were recruiting for what would become the 155th PA Vol. Infantry. COL Cain and CAPT Anshutz organized the "Park Rifles" which would become Company C. Most of the new recruits were between 14 to 18 years old. It is here that a 20 year old salesman for the King Glass Co. (you know who) was recruited by COL Cain, as an Orderly Sergeant.

The new recruits for Co. C reported to Camp Howe, outside of Pittsburgh, by August 24, for their physicals (3 deep breaths and a couple of jumping jacks), and were officially mustered into the Army. They were issued ill-fitting uniforms and treated to "... food of the most abominable character, vile tasting and vile smelling." The city boys, knowing their way around town, would sneak out of camp at meal time, while the country boys, used to mom's home cooking, were forced to suffer the "government fare." Luckily for SGT A.H. Heisey, he didn't have to report until September 2, with the officers.

September 3, the regiment received orders to break camp and march to Liberty Street Station, to help in the defense of Washington. The regiment consisted of about 1,000 men, making up 10 companies. They, as yet, had no designation, and none of the officers had received their commissions, so nobody was officially in charge. It was an unusually hot day when the regiment broke camp at 3:00 PM for the 3 mile march. Many of the recruits lagged behind, burdened with knapsacks which contained: Bibles, photo albums, soap, shoe brushes, extra shoes, cups and saucers, mirrors, suspenders, gloves, neck ties, shirts, vests, umbrellas, heavy blankets, knives, old pistols, etc. The regiment made



many stops along the way, so stragglers could catch up. Many of the recruits broke down and sought transportation on carts, passing wagons, and the one-horse bob-tailed street-car line. More of the recruits stopped in the Soho District for a cold beverage. The regiment marched at a clip of two hours per mile, and the train finally left Pittsburgh at 9:30 PM, 2-1/2 hours behind schedule.

September 4, the train stopped in Harrisburg, and at the State Arsenal, the regiment was issued very heavy ordinance known as the Belgian rifle with a sword bayonet. It was at Harrisburg, the regiment received it's designation and became the 155th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and COL E. Jay Allen was given command.

September 5, the 155th PA arrived in Baltimore, and bivouacked on the sidewalk of Eutaw Street (about 130 years early to catch the O's at Camden Yard). Dinner was raw pork, hardtack, and black coffee.

September 6, the 155th PA arrived in Washington around 6:00 AM. At 10:00 AM, the regiment received orders they were needed at the front, and to march across Long Bridge to Camp Chase on Arlington Heights (now Arlington Cemetery). The 155th spent the next few days at Camp Chase, where the recruits got to know their officers, and learned to perform Guard and Picket duties. At this time, they were assigned to a new division made up of other PA regiments, commanded by GEN Humphreys.

September 11, Humphreys' Division marched about 5 miles to Fairfax Seminary, to engage the enemy. On arrival, they discovered the rear guard of the Confederates had abandoned their posts to join GEN Lee's columns in the invasion of Maryland.

September 12, Humphreys' Division returned late to Washington, and COL Allen arranged for a wagon load of oysters to be delivered to the 155th PA, forever endearing himself to the regiment.

September 13, the 155th PA exchanged their Belgian rifles (condemned by the Army as unfit for service) for Harper's Ferry muskets. Ammunition for the muskets was 3 buckshot and a bullet, known as "Buck and Ball" and was only effective at close range, about 20 yards.

September 14, Humphreys' Division was ordered to join GEN McClellan's Army in Western Maryland. The troops marched all day in great heat and dusty roads. After about 15 miles, they encamped on the outskirts of "... the beautiful village of Rockville, MD." The next day, numerous well-filled knapsacks, new army overcoats, and blankets were seen lying by the side of the road, discarded by tired soldiers along the way. Teamsters with the



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army wagon train would stop and collect the abandoned items, to sell to the local citizens. Many of the inexperienced soldiers were unable to keep up with the forced march, and fell out of ranks from exhaustion.

September 17, outside of Frederick MD, Humphreys' Division could hear the battle going on at Antietam. Though they received a cool reception going through the villages of Hyattstown and Urbana, the division received enthusiastic cheers as they marched through Frederick. The division marched all night, passing through Middletown, where many of the buildings were being used as hospitals.

September 18, the division marched over South Mountain, through Boonsboro, and onto the battlefield of Antietam, reporting to GEN McClellan around 7:00 AM. Of the 8,000 troops in Humphreys' Division, about 1,000 broke down on the march, many of them contracted disabilities that made them cripples and invalids for life. Most of the 1,000 men continued the march and reported to their commands as late as noon. Humphreys' Division was ordered to the position of reserve, a great compliment for a young and inexperienced unit. If the Confederates were to attack, Humphreys' Division would be sent in where needed.

September 19, during the night, the Confederate Army abandoned their defenses at Sharpsburg and retreated across the Potomac at Shepherdstown. The Army of the Potomac marched through Sharpsburg in pursuit of Lee, and sent the 118th PA Infantry across the river to reconnaissance. The 118th met Lee's rear guard and received heavy casualties. No other attempts to cross the Potomac and chase Lee's Army were made at this time by the Union Army.

During the next several weeks, the 155th PA was assigned to Picket Duty along the Potomac, and stationed at Camp McAuley, outside of Sharpsburg. At Camp McAuley, the 155th PA learned to be soldiers through daily drills and inspections. Orderly SGT Heisey developed the raw recruits of Company C into trained soldiers.

October 30, the Army of the Potomac left Camp McAuley, crossed the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, and marched south.

November 7, at Rectortown VA, GEN McClellan was relieved of command, and replaced by GEN Burnside.

November 17, the Army of the Potomac broke camp outside of Warrenton VA, and marched east.

November 22, the Army of the Potomac made camp 6 miles from Fredericksburg VA, on the north side of the Rappahannock River. The Union Army had to wait 3 weeks for pontoon bridges to arrive from Washington, so they could cross the river and attack Fredericksburg. The Confederates used this time to strengthen their defenses, and bring in reinforcements.

December 13, the Army of the Potomac crossed the Rappahannock under heavy cannon and sniper fire. After 3 attempts to take the Confederate stronghold on Marye's Heights, Humphreys' Division was ordered to make a bayonet charge, known as a "Forlorn Hope" (last desper-

ate attempt). After the first 3 attacks, the Confederates fortified their defenses along the stone wall atop Marye's Heights to 4 men deep. The first 2 men would fire and hand back their rifles for the second 2 men to load. Humphreys' Division received their "Baptism Under Fire," making it to within 12 paces of the stone wall before being repulsed by the heavy Confederate fire. In the 10 minute assault, Humphreys' Division suffered 1,700 dead and wounded, many of the casualties being officers. In this charge, the 155th PA had 9 killed and 58 wounded. CAPT Anshutz was killed in the attack, and LT Palmer took command of Company C.

December 16, the Army of the Potomac retreated back across the Rappahannock before GEN Lee was able to mount a counter attack. The Union Army then made winter quarters on the north side of the Rappahannock.

December 29, 1st LT Palmer was promoted to CAPT of Co. C, 2nd LT Denniston was promoted to 1st LT, and Orderly SGT Heisey was promoted to 2nd LT.

January 20 1863, Burnside's Army ordered the Army to break camp and march west. The weather was beautiful at the start, but a heavy storm came in and the whole Army of the Potomac was stuck in the mud. The Army returned back to its original camp about 3 or 4 days later. This fiasco would be forever known as "Burnside's Mud March." A few days later, GEN Burnside's resigned, and GEN Hooker took command of the Army of the Potomac.



*LT A. H. Heisey*

February 3, the 155th PA moved into new winter quarters near Falmouth VA, Camp Humphreys, where they stayed until the end of April. Many of the boys sent home for their school books, so they could continue their education. At this time, COL Allen's health failed and he accepted sick leave to return home for treatment. COL Cain took command of the 155th PA Regiment. CAPT Palmer was suffering from a protracted illness, and LT Denniston was on detailed Staff Duty, so this often left LT Heisey in charge of Company C.

April 27, the Army of the Potomac broke camp and again marched west, crossing the Rappahannock at the Rapidan River on April 30, then marched outside of Chancellorsville on May 1.

May 2, GEN Humphreys' Division was ordered to the Union left to assist in checking the advance of Stonewall Jackson's troops. That night, Stonewall Jackson was killed while reconnoitering between the Union and Confederate picket lines.

May 3, GEN Hooker was injured when a porch post he was leaning against was hit by a cannon ball. GEN Couch took command, but not knowing Hooker's plans, hesitated and refused to give orders. This caused the halt of the Army of the Potomac.

May 5, heavy rains came, and the Army of the Potomac

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retreated across the Rappahannock, before the rising waters could trap them. Humphreys' Division was assigned rear guard, and was the last to cross the river.

May 8, after returning to camp, Humphreys' Division was disbanded, and the 155th PA was assigned to the 3rd Brigade of GEN Sykes 2nd Division of the 5th Corps.

June 13, the Army of the Potomac broke camp and marched north.

June 17-25, the 5th Corps camped outside of Aldie VA to support the Cavalry, protecting the Union wagon train.

June 26, the forced march north was resumed, and when the 5th Corps passed through Leesburg VA, they learned Lee's Army had already invaded Pennsylvania.

June 28, after 2 days of forced march, the 5th Corps camped for the day at Frederick MD, for a much needed rest. GEN Hooker resigned, and GEN Meade took command of the Army of the Potomac. GEN Sykes took command of the 5th Corps, and GEN Weed took command of the 3rd Brigade, which included the 155th PA.

June 29, the 5th Corps marched to Libertytown MD.

June 30, they marched into Frizzleburg MD.

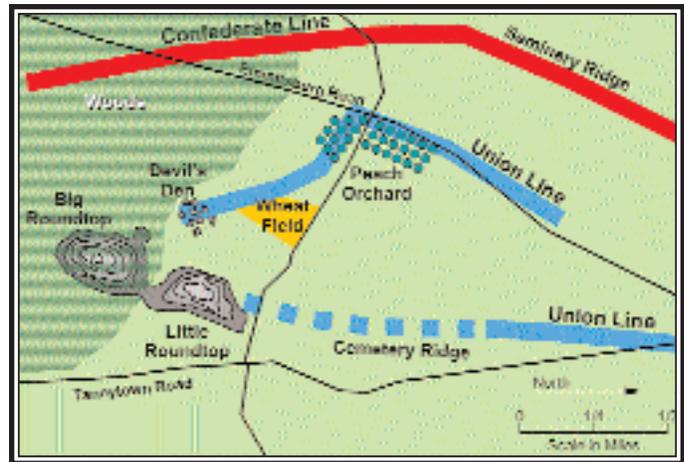
July 1, the 5th Corps passed through Hanover PA around noon, and camped a few miles outside of town. All during the afternoon, the troops could hear sounds of battle in the distance. Before the 5th Corps could settle down for the night, a courier rode into camp with news of the battle at Gettysburg, and orders to resume the march. The 5th Corps broke camp and marched until 1:00 AM, where they were given a 3 hour break and told to sleep on the road.

July 2, at 4:00 AM, the 5th Corps resumed the march to Gettysburg, and arrived around 10:00 AM. They were ordered to rest behind Culp's Hill to let stragglers catch up. Over the past week of forced marches, the troops averaged 30 miles a day. They marched through streams, fields, and over dusty roads. Many of the troops feet were bruised and blistered to the point where they arrived on the battlefield bare-foot, unable to wear shoes.



Around 3:00 PM, GEN Meade realized GEN Sickles had placed his 3rd Corps from the Devil's Den to the Peach Orchard and back along Emmitsburg Road, overextending the Union Line. This area is now known as the "Field of Death." Feeling there was not enough time to withdraw Sickles Corps back to Cemetery Ridge, where he was originally ordered to deploy, GEN Meade ordered the 5th Corps in to bolster the Union Line.

As GEN Meade was ordering the 5th Corps in, GEN Warren, the Chief Engineer of the Army, was looking over the battle field from Little Roundtop, which was being used as a signal station. Realizing the Confederates were hiding in the woods and were about to attack, he saw undefended Little Roundtop would be the key to the battle. If the Confederates took Little Roundtop, they could then storm around the Union left flank and rout the Army of the Potomac. Wasting no time, GEN Warren sent a



messenger for reinforcements. The first group he encountered was GEN Vincent's Brigade of the 5th Corps, marching down the road on their way to the Wheat Field. GEN Vincent's Brigade raced up Little Roundtop just in time to repel the first Confederate charge.

The Confederates stormed out of the woods, before the 5th Corps could take their positions in the Peach Orchard and Wheat Field. GEN Weed's Brigade was ordered to about face, and double-quick up Little Roundtop. While charging the hill, the 155th PA came under heavy fire, and many of the troops were wounded. (*According to his obituary in the February 1922 'China, Glass, and Lamps,' LT Heisey was shot from his horse and slightly wounded while leading his company at Gettysburg. This would probably have been where it happened.*) While ascending the hill, a squad of the 155th PA assisted CAPT Hazlitt's 5th Artillery by hauling up 4 cannon to the summit of Little Roundtop.

Many officers, including GENs Vincent and Weed, were casualties on Little Roundtop, falling victim to Confederate sniper fire from the Devil's Den, a group of large rocks and boulders that afforded the snipers with cover. Weed's Brigade arrived just in time to help Vincent's Brigade fend off the first Confederate charge. The next order of business for the 155th PA on Little Roundtop was to build a stone wall for protection from the snipers, with the abundant supply of rocks on the hill.

After several attempts to take Little Roundtop, the Confederates realized there was no fire coming from the position held by the 155th PA. (*Remember, the 155th was armed with Harper's Ferry muskets, accurate at a range of only 20 yards.*) Believing it to be a break in the Union Line, the Confederates stormed the position, but were held at bay when they entered the regiment's firing range. The Confederates then traded volleys with the 155th PA.

While this was going on, COL Chamberlain, who's 20th Maine was running low on ammunition, suggested to the soldier next to him that he should fix his bayonet in case the Confederates were to overtake their position. Thinking an order had been issued, troops all along the Union Line started to fix their bayonets. When the Confederates saw the Union soldiers fixing bayonets they retreated, fearing a Union charge. Seeing the retreat,

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Union soldiers attacked the fleeing Confederates in a famous bayonet charge that would forever be credited to Chamberlain. LT Bell of the 155th PA, who was in charge of the Ambulance Corps of Weed's Brigade reported, that from 4:00 PM until 2:00 AM on the morning of July 3, the stretcherbearers removed over 1,300 wounded from the rocks and fields surrounding the positions held by Weed's and Vincent's Brigades.

July 3, the Confederates started to shell positions along the Union Line around 10:00 AM. Shells aimed at Little Roundtop had little effect. Many of the shots flew over the hill and landed in the woods behind. The 155th remained huddled behind the stone wall they built the day before, protected from the enemy guns. The battery on Little Roundtop was accurate, and able to drive the Confederates back into the woods when they attempted to attack. Around 1:00 PM, the Confederates made one last attack on the middle of the Union Line, known as Pickett's Charge. The charge was repulsed by the Union troops along Cemetery Ridge, but not until both sides suffered considerable losses.

July 4, after a rainy night that left the troops on Little Roundtop cold and wet, the Confederates were still holding their positions along Seminary Ridge, but made no attempts to engage Union forces. Union troops were kept busy collecting the wounded of both sides, and burying the dead. COL Cain of the 155th PA, who had been corresponding with Washington for months about replacing the regiments dated muskets, ordered his troops to visit the battlefield in front of Little Roundtop and exchange their weapons for the newer Springfield rifles, from the dead and wounded Union soldiers in the Field of Death. While exploring the Devil's Den, James Finnegan of Co. D came upon 4 Georgia Sharpshooters hiding in the rocks. Even though he was unarmed, the Confederates threw down their weapons and surrendered. When asked by a superior how he captured 4 Confederate sharpshooters, Finnegan replied "Be gorra, I surrounded 'em!"

July 5, morning found Lee's Army had abandoned their positions along Seminary Ridge, and retreated during the night. GEN Meade sent Pleasanton's Cavalry and the 6th Corps in pursuit, but J.E.B. Stuart's Cavalry, left as the Confederate rear guard, was able to hold off the Union troops long enough to make good Lee's escape to the south-west. Back in Gettysburg, as many as 2,000 5th Corps Infantry were deemed unfit for service and sent to field hospitals for treatment, not to return to service until they could again wear shoes.

July 6, the Army of the Potomac left Gettysburg in pursuit of the Confederate Army. They took a more southerly route in case Lee decided to cut back and attack Washington City.

July 7, Lee's Army reached the Potomac at Williamsport, but was unable to cross because Union troops had destroyed their bridges, and the river was swollen from recent heavy rains. The Confederates then built defenses around Williamsport.

Late on July 12, after taking a more circuitous route,

crossing over the east side of South Mountain and through Boonsboro, the Army of the Potomac finally reached Williamsport. Instead of attacking, GEN Meade decided to let the troops rest, and the next day, come up with a plan to attack the Confederate fortifications.

July 14, Union forces discovered Lee's Army had slipped over the Potomac during the night, and were headed down the Shenandoah Valley.

July 15, the Army of the Potomac marched back to South Mountain and then to Berlin MD, where they crossed the Potomac on July 16. For the next few days, the Army marched down the Loudon Valley "... amidst the marvelous profusion of blackberries." They ate blackberries for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and even made blackberry shortcake out of crushed hardtack and berries.

July 24, the 5th Corps was ordered to march through a gap in the mountains, near Warrenton VA, and attack the Confederates flank. By the time they arrived in the Shenandoah Valley on the morning of July 25, Lee's Army was long gone. The 5th Corps returned to Warrenton, and on August 6, made camp at Beverly Ford, on the Rappahannock River.

From September 15 through the middle of November, the Union and Confederate Armies did a lot of maneuvering, but not much fighting, along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Line. Both sides occupied and retreated from Culpeper VA numerous times, but were unwilling to attack the other sides defenses.

November 10, LT Denniston was transferred to permanent staff duty. November 13, 2nd LT Heisey was promoted to 1st LT. November 22, CAPT Palmer resigned due to his health, leaving LT Heisey officially in charge of Company C.

During this time, President Lincoln urged GEN Meade to engage the enemy before winter set in. Meade ordered his troops to march on the Confederates on November 23, but a bad storm delayed the action until the 26th.

Late on November 28, freezing weather set in when the Army of the Potomac encountered the Confederate stronghold at Mine Run. The troops huddled together all day on the 29th, trying to stay warm, while plans were prepared to attack the enemy fortifications. No fires could be lit for fear of giving away the Union positions. On the morning of November 30, after closer inspection, the Confederate stronghold was deemed too formidable to attack, and caused the Union forces to withdraw back to Warrenton. The Army of the Potomac marched all night in the bitter cold, and on December 3, the 155th PA crossed the Rappahannock for the 14th and final time of 1863.

December 5, the Army of the Potomac built winter quarters outside of Warrenton VA.

Late in January 1864, LT Heisey received a 10 day furlough and returned to Pittsburgh to visit his sister, who was very sick. While in Pittsburgh, he developed a case of Nephritis (a kidney infection) and per doctors orders, was unable to return to duty for several weeks.

At Gettysburg, after the death of GEN Weed, GEN Garrard was given command of Weed's Brigade. GEN

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Garrard demanded all of the regiments in his command became proficient in the Zouave skirmish and bayonet drills. (*Napoleon hired North African mercenaries, known as Zouaves, who were expert at storming and overwhelming fortified positions.*) As a reward, the best regiment would receive new Zouave uniforms imported from France. CAPT Kilgore of Co. D, and LT Heisey were in demand as experts in the Zouave skirmish drills, and in early February, the 155th PA Vol. Infantry was declared the winner. The Zouave uniforms provided greater comfort than regulation Union uniforms, and were considered to be quite beautiful. The knee-breeches were dark blue, with enough material to make two pairs of pants. The jacket was made of the same dark blue material as the breeches, and trimmed with yellow at the collar, wrists, and down the front. A red flannel sash, 10 feet long, was wound around the waist. The breeches were fitted into white canvas leggings, which came down over the shoes, and were buckled around the ankles. Last but not least, was a red fez skull cap with a blue tassel. A 10 foot white flannel sash was used to wrap around the fez to make a turban,



worn only for dress-parades and formal occasions.

In early March 1864, GEN Grant was assigned command of the Army of the Potomac. GEN Warren was given command of the 5th Corps, and GEN Ayres took command of Garrard's Brigade.

May 3, the Army of the Potomac broke camp, and crossed the Rappahannock at Brandy Station, heading south to Culpeper. May 4, hoping the Confederates were thinking the Army of the Potomac was headed south for Richmond, Grant marched his Army east, towards Fredericksburg. After passing the former Confederate stronghold at Mine Run, the Union Army set up camp outside the Wilderness on the evening of May 4.

On May 5, Ayres' Brigade took the lead, as the Union Army entered the Wilderness. In a short while, Ayres' Brigade was ambushed by superior Confederate forces. In the thick forest, with heavy gun smoke, it was impossible to see 10 feet, and there was much confusion on both sides of the fight. Ayres' Brigade managed to retreat, but only after receiving heavy losses. The fighting was so intense, the woods caught fire, and the dead and wounded were cremated in the blaze. After more than a few officers came up to GEN Grant to tell him what Lee was going to do next, and that they had to retreat, Grant erupted and said, "Stop worrying about what GEN Lee is going

to do next. Go back to your command and think about what we are going to do to GEN Lee!" It was then apparent to all, GEN Grant would never retreat.

On the evening of May 7, Grant realized he was at a stalemate in the Wilderness, so he ordered his Army to make a night march, of about 15 miles, to the Spotsylvania Court House. He hoped this flanking move would catch Lee off-guard, and draw his Army from their defenses in the Wilderness. Unfortunately, Lee realized what Grant was doing, and had his troops cut down trees along the only road through the Wilderness to Spotsylvania, slowing the Union march.

May 8, the Army of the Potomac exited the Wilderness at Alsop's Farm around 8:00 AM, about 2-1/2 miles from the Spotsylvania Court House. The Confederates were laying in wait for Grant's Army, and repelled their first attempt to leave the Wilderness. The 5th Corps made a second advance, suffering heavy losses, and caused the Confederates to withdraw to their fall-back positions. After digging in, except for minor skirmishes, both armies refused to attack the other behind their intrenchments. During this standoff, the 5th Corps received new troops from Washington, to fill out their depleted ranks from the last two engagements.

May 20, in a move to draw the Confederates from their defensive positions, Grant ordered the 2nd Corps to march about 20 miles, in a south-easterly direction to Guinea Station. Hoping Lee would attack the exposed 2nd Corps, Grant would then attack with the main body of his Army before the Confederates could intrench. Unfortunately, Lee refused to attack, but moved his Army quickly south, over the North Anna River, to Hanover Junction VA. On May 22, Lee's Army was intrenched between Richmond and the Army of the Potomac.

May 24, the 5th Corps crossed over the North Anna River, and on May 26, they destroyed tracks and bridges on the Virginia Central Railroad. By May 27, the 5th Corps advanced towards Hanover VA.

June 2, the 5th Corps dug in around Bethesda Church. On June 3, GEN Grant ordered an attack on the Confederate works around Bethesda Church and Cold Harbor. Both attacks were repelled by the Confederates with heavy losses to the Army of the Potomac. After the attacks, President Lincoln was pressured to relieve GEN Grant, but he said, "How can I replace him? He's the only general I have who fights."

After the disaster of June 3, the Union Army pulled back to their positions around Bethesda Church and Cold Harbor. The Union and Confederate Armies had been locked in continuous battle for almost an entire month, and an unofficial cease fire was observed by both sides.

June 12, believing the Confederate defenses around Richmond were impenetrable, Grant moved his Army in a flanking march south, around Richmond.

By midnight June 16, The entire Army of the Potomac had crossed the James River, and was on the outskirts of Petersburg VA. The 155th PA Regiment was then trans-

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**NOVEMBER MEETING**

Monday, November 5 - 7:00 P.M.  
 Potomac Community Library  
 10101 Glenolden Drive  
 Potomac, MD

**PROGRAM**

**Heisey's No. 300 Peerless Pattern**

Please bring Examples  
 Whatzits & Finds/Fakes

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ferred to Sweitzer's Brigade of the 5th Corps.

June 17 was spent on planning the attack of the Confederate fortifications. Unfortunately, this gave Lee time to send in reinforcements, and for the Confederates to strengthen their works.

June 18, a bayonet charge was ordered on the enemy fortifications for noon. LT COL Ewing led the 155th PA in the charge, but gave the order to fall back when heavy losses made success of the charge impossible. CAPT McKee of Co. I was killed while leading a column in the charge. The "Boy Captain" LT Heisey continued the charge, and his column was the last to obey the order to fall back. The 155th PA Regiment received considerable losses, many being killed within 20 feet of the Confederate works. LT Heisey received commendations from both LT COL Ewing and GEN Sweitzer, for his "cool courage throughout the action."

June 19, the siege of Petersburg began. For the next 7 months, the Army of the Potomac cut off the city by capturing and destroying railroads. By blocking off all roads in and out of Petersburg, GEN Grant was hoping to starve out the Confederate forces.

September 22, LT Heisey was promoted to Captain of Company C.

Late in March of 1865, CAPT Heisey was granted a leave of absence to visit his dying sister. This probably caused him to miss the end of the war.

March 29, GEN Grant started a campaign that would force GEN Lee to abandon Petersburg and flee west.

April 1, the Union Army attacked and routed the last Confederate stronghold at Five Forks. LT Thomas Dunn, who was recently promoted and had just returned from a 15 day furlough, was killed while commanding Co. C of the 155th PA at Five Forks.

April 3, the 5th Corps was marching towards Richmond, when they heard it had also fallen, and Lee's Army was marching west, fleeing to North Carolina. The

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**Message from the Prez**

We had 17 club members at our Oct 8, Columbus Day meeting. New members Ken and Sue Buckstrup, from Leesburg, attended their first meeting. I hope we didn't scare you off, our programs are not usually so long winded, and they usually deal with Heisey Glass. Actually, Heisey was well represented at Gettysburg, as was demonstrated by the amount of souvenir items present.

If you missed our Oct. meeting, the program was on the 155th PA Vol. Infantry. There is an interesting footnote that didn't make it into the article. Some years ago, an attempt was made by Tom Felt to retrieve A.H. Heisey's military record from the National Archives, but it had been misfiled and lost. Maybe someday it will turn up.

Plans for the 30th Annual All-Heisey Show and Sale are sailing along as planned. George Schamel is still looking for an apprentice. Give him a call if you are interested.

Evidently, Gert and Jack Swetnam haven't been paying attention to my decree that ALL club members stay healthy. They both just left the hospital and are hopefully doing better. Mrs. Chris will miss our next meeting because she will be going into the hospital for a knee replacement. All of our best wishes will go with her.

Don't forget, our November meeting will be the first Monday of the month, the 5th, so mark your calendars. Knobby Ross will be giving a program on Peerless.

See ya at the next meeting,

John Martinez

**Christmas Dinner Party**

Please join us for our annual  
 Christmas Dinner Party  
 on Monday December 10,  
 at the **Golden Flame Restaurant**  
 8630 Fenton St., Silver Spring MD

It is the "Early Bird" Dinner and we  
 should be seated at 6:30 promptly

Please RSVP by Dec. 3 with:  
**Butch Jones** (301) 505-0041  
**Chris Maskaleris** (410) 798-5527

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5th Corps then marched in pursuit of Lee's Army.

April 8, Sheridan's Cavalry captured 4 trains loaded with supplies in Lynchburg VA, intended for Lee's Army.

April 9, realizing he was boxed in, and his troops were out of ammunition and starving, GEN Lee surrendered at Appomatox VA.

On April 12, the 155th PA, 20th Maine, 32nd MASS, 1st MICH, 16th MICH, 83rd PA, 91st PA, and One Co. 1st Maine Sharpshooters were honored to receive the surrendering Confederate Army. From 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, the regiments stood at attention as brigade after brigade surrendered their arms.

April 17 to May 12, the Union Army marched from Appomatox to Petersburg, and on to Washington. Along the way, they learned of the assassination of Lincoln.

May 24, the 155th PA participated in the Grand Review of the Army of the Potomac, in Washington City.

June 1, the 155th PA was ordered to report to Camp Reynolds, in Pittsburgh, for final pay and mustering out.

On the morning of June 7 1865, the 250 surviving com-

rades arrived in Pittsburgh for a parade, from Liberty Street Station to Allegheny Park, where the 155th PA performed the Zouave bayonet drill, ending with a Final Review, and Dress Parade of the Regiment.

June 8, the 155th PA received their final pay, and were mustered out of the Army. CAPT Heisey, along with many of the other popular officers were surrounded by the men of the regiment, and received "... many expressions of good will and esteem."

After the war, CAPT Heisey returned to the King Glass Co. as a salesman. From their, we are all familiar with the history of A.H. Heisey.

There is much confusion over Heisey's military career, even in his obituary in '*China, Glass, and Lamps*,' which stated he was a Major when mustered out of the Army. On April 23 1904, per Act of Congress, "... any officer below the grade of Brigadier General, who served in the Civil War prior to April 9 1865, theretofore or thereafter retired would be advanced one grade and would receive the retired pay and allowances of the advance grade." So, in 1904, Captain Heisey was promoted to Major.

Hopefully, this has provided some insights into the

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