



The "HEAVIES"



Connecticut Volunteer Heavy Artillery Regiment

November 23, 1863 to August 18, 1865

A map of the CT Heavy Artillery Regiment battle Engagements was developed using GIS



BATTLE OF WINCHESTER Also known as the Battle of Opequon marked a turning point in the Shenandoah Valley in favor of the North. Leading the charge was a young colonel named Ranald S. Mackenzie, commanding the 2nd Connecticut Heavy Artillery regiment, serving as Infantry.



Engagements of the Heavy Artillery

- Spotsylvania, Va. May 22-24, 1864
- Topotomoy, Va. May 28, 1864
- Hanover Court House, Va. May 30, 1864
- Cold Harbor, Va. June 1, 1864
- Cold Harbor, Va. June 2-12, 1864
- Petersburg, Va. June 20-26, 1864
- Winchester, Va. Sep. 19, 1864
- Fisher's Hill, Va. Sep. 22, 1864
- Cedar Creek, Va. Oct. 19, 1864
- Hatcher's Run, Va. Feb. 6, 1865
- Petersburg, Va. March 25, 1865
- Petersburg, Va. April 2, 1865
- Little Sailor's Creek, Va. April 6, 1865

Artillery Regiment lost during service:
12 Officers and 242 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded
2 Officers and 171 Enlisted men by disease. Total 427



Petersburg, VA 1864 Artillery Units



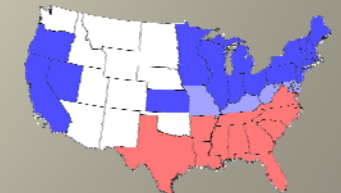
Account of Second Lieutenant William H. Cogswell Company B, Second CT Volunteer Heavy Artillery, Native American, Schaghticoke Tribe Kent, CT

In November 1863, the Nineteenth Connecticut was re-designated the Second Connecticut Volunteer Heavy Artillery. At that time, additional men were recruited, and William's cousin Newton W. Cogswell signed on. Heavy artillery regiments, whose men were trained as both infantrymen and artilleryists, primarily garrisoned forts around Washington, D.C.

The Second, however, exclusively performed infantry duties, a detail to which it was again assigned on 17 May 1864, when the unit was redeployed from defensive fortifications to the Army of the Potomac, where it would participate in what came to be known as the Wilderness campaign. By 5 March 1864, First Sergeant William Cogswell had been promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. He, along with one other second lieutenant, was the third highest ranking man in his company with authority over all the sergeants, corporals, and privates in Company B.

On 1 June, the Second Connecticut "Heavies" saw their first major action and suffered their most severe casualties of the war at Cold Harbor, Virginia. William weathered the ordeal, but among the 322 killed and wounded was his cousin Newton, who had been shot in the arm. Following the Battle of Cold Harbor, the regiment hunkered down in trenches and rifle pits through the end of July to do its part to hold the federal line at Petersburg, Virginia. On 19 September 1864, the Second was called into action to check the advance of Jubal Early's forces, which had broken through Union lines at Winchester, Virginia. During this battle, Cogswell received a wound to his leg, which required amputation. Succumbing to the effects of the operation, he died on 7 October 1864.

United States Civil War Division in 1864 - All blue areas represent Union states, including those admitted during the war; light blue areas represent Union states which permitted slavery; red areas represent Confederate states. Unshaded areas were territories before or during the Civil War. Note: West Virginia became a state during the Civil War



July 7th 1865, the remaining members of the original Nineteenth Regiment were mustered out, and left for home.

Poster by: Beth Stewart-Kelly, GIS - CT National Guard