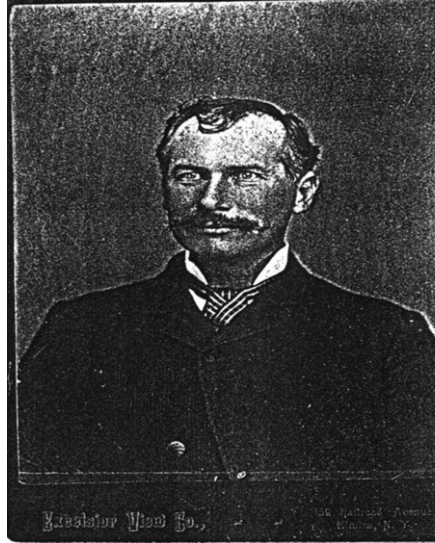


Corporal Walter Henry French

17th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company D, (162nd Regiment)



Walter French, 1847 - 1911

FRENCH, Walter H., corporal; enlisted Oct 3, 1862; promoted from private; wounded at Front Royal, Va., Aug 16, 1864 with loss of left leg; discharged Aug 7, 1865.

W.H. French is reported in the Athens Borough, "History of Bradford County" H. C. Bradsby 1892 segment as an inspector for 1890.

Our Boys in Blue

Heverly V.I.

French, Walter H.

Hospital Incident 79

Walter H. French was one of the brave boys who went out from Sheshequin in 1860. Enlisting in Company D, 17th PA Cavalry. He served under Sheridan in the 47th Regular engagement in which he participated with the enemy at Front Royal VA., Aug 16, 1864. He had his leg shot off by a shell and his horse was killed at the same time. He was put in an ambulance and taken to Winchester, a distance of 17 miles, when he was captured the next morning. He was, however, retaken from the enemy at Winchester, Sept 19, 1864. Mr. French says: When I was captured at Winchester, the hospital I was in was located on Main St., there which the rebels ran, after being routed by the Union Army. Sheridan shelled them as they were running thru the town, their cannon balls passing thru the hospital, one within a foot of my head, which knock me senseless for a time, passing thru another room where another wounded soldier lay, cutting his bunk and even his sheet in tow, and throwing him on the floor without seriously injuring him. My company stopped when passing thru the town after the rebels and Amos Congdose, a member of the Company went out and brought the shell in that passed so close to my head.



17th Pennsylvania Cavalry
162nd Regiment
Pennsylvania
Volunteers

By the call of the President, of the 2d of July, 1862, Pennsylvania was required to furnish three regiments of cavalry. The Seventeenth was one of these, and was recruited:

- Company A in Beaver County
- Company B in Susquehanna
- Company C in Lancaster
- Company D in Bradford
- Company E in Lebanon
- Company F in Cumberland
- Company G in Franklin
- Company H in Schuylkill
- Company I in Perry and in the City of Philadelphia
- Company K in Luzerne
- Company L in Montgomery and Chester
- Company M in Wayne

The companies rendezvoused at Camp Simmons, near Harrisburg, where a regimental organization was effected, on the 18th of October, with the following field officers:

- Josiah H. Kellogg, Colonel
- John B. M'Allister, Lieutenant Colonel
- David B. Hartranft, Major
- Coe Durland, Major
- Rueben R. Reinhold, Major.

Organization:

Organized at Harrisburg September to November, 1862.
 Left State for Washington, D.C., November 25, 1862.
 Attached to Cavalry Brigade, 11th Corps, Army Potomac, to February, 1863.
 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, Cavalry Corps, Army Potomac, to August, 1864,
 and Army Shenandoah to March, 1865.
 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, Cavalry Corps, Army Potomac, to June, 1865.

Service:

Camp at East Capital Hill, Defenses of Washington, till December, 1862.
 Skirmish at Occoquan, Dumfries, Va., December 19.
 Occoquan December 19-20 and 27-28.
 Frying Pan, near Chantilly, December 29.
 Wiggenton's Mills February 6, 1863.
 Kelly's Ford April 28.
 Chancellorsville Campaign April 26-May 8.
 Rapidan River April 29.
 Chancellorsville April 30-May 6.
 Brandy Station and Beverly Ford June 9.
 Upperville June 21.
 Battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 1-3.
 Williamsport, Md., July 6.
 Boonsboro July 8.
 Benevola or Beaver Creek July 9.
 Funkstown July 10-13.
 Falling Water July 14.
 Kelly's Ford July 30-August 1.
 Brandy Station August 1.
 Expedition from Leesburg August 30-September 2.
 Advance to the Rapidan September 13-17.
 Brandy Station and Culpeper C. H. September 13.
 Raccoon Ford September 14-16.
 Reconnoissance across the Rapidan September 21-23.
 Jack's Shop, Madison C. H., September 22.
 Bristoe Campaign October 9-22.
 Raccoon Ford and Morton's Ford October 10.
 Stevensburg October 11.
 Near Kelly's Ford October 11.

Brandy Station or Fleetwood October 12.
Oak Hill October 15.
Advance to line of the Rappahannock November 7-8.
Mine Run Campaign November 26-December 2.
Parker's Store November 29.
Demonstration on the Rapidan February 6-7, 1864.
Kilpatrick's Raid on Richmond February 28-March 4.
Fortifications of Richmond March 1.
Ashland March 1.
Reconnoissance to Madison C. H. April 28.
Rapidan Campaign May-June.
Wilderness May 5-7.
Brock Road and the Furnaces May 6.
Todd's Tavern May 7-8.
Sheridan's Raid to the James River May 9-24.
North Anna River May 9-10.
Ground Squirrel Church and Yellow Tavern May 11.
Meadow Bridge May 12.
Line of the Pamunkey May 26-28.
Hanover town May 26.
Hanover town Ferry and Hanover town May 27.
Crump's Creek May 28.
Haw's Shop May 28.
Totopotomoy May 28-31.
Old Church and Mattadequin Creek May 30.
Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, May 31-June 1.
Bottom's Bridge June 1.
Sheridan's Trevillian Raid June 7-24.
Trevillian Station June 11-12.
Newark or Mallory's Cross Roads June 12.
White House or St. Peter's Church June 21.
Black Creek or Tunstall Station June 21.
Baltimore Cross Road, June 22.
Jones' Bridge June 23.
Demonstration on north side of the James at Deep Bottom July 27-29.
Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign August 7-November 28.
Toll Gate, near White Post, August 11.
Near Newtown August 11.
Cedarville, Guard Hill or Front Royal, August 16.
Summit Point August 21.
Kearneysville and Shepherdstown August 25.
Leetown and Smithfield August 28.
Smithfield Crossing of the Opequan August 29.
Berryville September 6.
Sevier's Ford, Opequan Creek, September 15.
Battle of Opequan, Winchester, September 19.

Middletown and Strasburg September 20.
Near Winchester and Smithfield September 24.
Fisher's Hill September 29 and October 1.
Newtonia October 11.
Winchester November 16.
Expedition from Winchester into Fauquier and Loudoun Counties November 28-December 3.
Expedition to Gordonsville December 19-28.
Madison C. H. December 21.
Liberty Mills December 22.
Near Gordonsville December 23.
Sheridan's Expedition from Winchester February 27-March 25, 1865.
Occupation of Staunton March 2.
Waynesboro March 2.
Appomattox Campaign March 28-April 9.
Dinwiddie C. H. March 30-31.
Five Forks April 1.
Scott's Cross Roads April 2.
Tabernacle Church or Beaver Pond Creek April 4.
Sailor's Creek April 6.
Appomattox Station April 8.
Appomattox C. H. April 9.
Surrender of Lee and his army.
Expedition to Danville April 23-29.
March to Washington, D.C., May.
Grand Review May 23.
Consolidated with 1st and 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry to form 2nd Provisional Cavalry June 17,
1865.

Losses:

Regiment lost during service:

6 Officers and 98 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and
128 Enlisted men by disease.
Total 232.