

# THE BADGER TIGERS.

## WAR STORIES ABOUT THE SEVENTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS.

A Crank Regiment From the Great Northwest—Numerous Losses Suffered in the Battle of the Iron Brigade—Stories of Feats and of Individual Heroism.

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ISCONSIN sent 33 regiments of infantry to the war; 16 of the 33 have a place in the roll of "Three Hundred Fighting Regiments." The Second Wisconsin lost the highest percentage of killed in battle of any regiment in the Union army—that is, in proportion to the number enlisted it lost more than any other regiment. This percentage was 37.7, almost 40. Out of 2,303 total enlistments 238 were killed in battle. If the casualty records of the war department could be accepted as correct, the Seventh Wisconsin would stand at the head of the list of regiments which lost the most men killed in battle by actual count. The first five regiments on the war department list are the following:

Regiment	Killed or died of wounds
Seventh Wisconsin	238
Eighth Wisconsin	237
Ninth Wisconsin	237
Tenth Wisconsin	237
Eleventh Wisconsin	237

The records of the different states have been revised since the war, and soldiers reported "missing" in Oregon have been found to belong properly among the "killed in action." The list of "Three Hundred Fighting Regiments" was prepared by Colonel William F. Fox after an examination of both national and state rolls. The figures of the latter were adopted in cases where they showed the greater losses in killed. According to the state records, the five regiments at the head of the list are:

Regiment	Killed or died of wounds
Fifth New Hampshire	237
Sixth New Hampshire	237
Seventh Wisconsin	238
Eighth Wisconsin	237
Ninth Wisconsin	237

In the national list the Seventh Wisconsin stands first and in the state list third on the roll of honor. In percentage of losses it stands fifth on the list, having lost 281 killed out of 1,630 enrolled. If the percentage be based upon the number of men who joined the colors, the percentage is the highest of all. There were 236 conscripts assigned to the Seventh, very few of whom reported for duty in the field. After deducting them the percentage of killed in battle is least for the time being. It gained what it was after when the men were killed, and that counts for good work in war. I will illustrate this story of regimental heroics by a few examples of personal heroism.

The Seventh was organized in August, 1861. Each of the ten companies adopted a synonym. There were the "Columbia County cadets," "Platteville guards," "Broughton guards," "Marquette County sharpshooters," "Lancaster Union guards," "Grand Rapids Union guards," "Badger State guards," "Northwestern Tigers," "Badger rifles" and "Lodi guards." It was a good band to join the "Iron Brigade of the West." With that splendid phalanx it received its baptism of fire at Second Bull Run, Aug. 28, 1862. In the heat of the engagement there, when the combatants were not more than 75 yards apart, the Seventh changed front under fire in order to march to the relief of its companion regiment, the Second Wisconsin. (There were three Wisconsin regiments in the Iron Brigade—the Second, Sixth and Seventh.)

All the field officers of the Seventh were wounded at Second Bull Run, but Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton stuck by the colors until the battle was over, then faltered from loss of blood. At South Mountain, Md., on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 14, 1862, the regiment, with the Nineteenth Indiana, led the attack on the gorge in Turner's gap. The battle lasted far into the night, and about 9 o'clock the Wisconsin and Indiana soldiers had used up all their cartridges. Word of this in some way reached the ears of the Confederates, and they prepared to attack the Iron brigade and recover the gorge. General Gibbon ordered the men to hold their ground at the point of the bayonet. In their re-assembly, Captain Callis, who commanded in the absence of the wounded leaders—it was only 14 days after the battle at Bull Run—sent out some men to gather cartridges from the dead, and when the boxes had been refilled ordered the regiment to lie down and resume fire for close work. Soon afterward the Confederates moved up in the darkness. Captain Callis called the Seventh into line and led it forward 20 paces on a bayonet charge. One volley was fired, and the enemy's line disappeared.

South Mountain is classed as a skirmish, but the Seventh Wisconsin lost 126 men killed and wounded on that field. Sergeant Jefferson Coates was one of the wounded. He suffered the loss of an eye. At Gettysburg, a year later, Coates lost his other eye, and for gallantry displayed on that field was brevetted captain and awarded a medal of honor.

From South Mountain to Gettysburg was a leap of nearly a year. Antietam, Frederickburg and Chancellorsville came between. The Seventh, with the rest of the Iron brigade, fought at Antietam, but was only slightly engaged at the other two places. The fortunes of war reserved a hot place for it at Gettysburg in the first day's fight. Ed Meredith, Iron brigade, took "Black hatted fellows," as Hill's Confederates called the men of the west, held the lead when Reynolds lost his life and risked his entire corps to save Getty-

burg. He has been reported often. It stands as the brightest page in the history of that day's operations. In forming his column to march forward in McPherson's woods at the call of the brave Reynolds Meredith placed the Second and Seventh Wisconsin on the left. One valley of Hill's men cut down 30 per cent of the Second regiment. In less than half an hour it lost 116 killed out of 300 men engaged. The Seventh then closed the gaps and checked the onward march of the victorious enemy. In the Seventh, after fighting all day, from the west slope of Seminary ridge to the foot of Cemetery hill, the loss amounted to 178 killed, wounded and missing. Regiments formations were often broken and the shattered ranks of several commands united in order to present a bold front. At one time a strange regiment came flying back from the enemy's attack, through the line of battle of the Iron brigade. Hoping to rally the panic-stricken men, Captain Richardson of the Seventh rushed among them and seized their flag. Waving it and going forward, he appealed to the fugitives to face the other way. But it was useless. The panic was beyond control. Captain Richardson stood alone, a conspicuous target, until the last of the stampeded soldiers abandoned the ground, then bore the colors, still flaunting defiance to the enemy, into the ranks of his own Iron hearted company, well named the "Lodi guards."

Battling episodes were numerous that day on Seminary Ridge. Soon after Captain Richardson saved the strange stand of colors, Sergeant Richardson's two letters which have made him a namesake of the first hero of the "Marquette sharpshooters"—saw the colors of a strange regiment go down in battle midway between the Union lines and the

Confederates. The bearer had fallen and did not rise again. Richards started for the spot determined to save the flag, but when he reached the place which he had marked with his eye, he could find neither colors nor prostrate bearer. The ground was very rough and uneven, so he could easily have missed the mark, or the wounded guardian of the flag may have crawled away to shelter. In looking the ground over, Richards saw two Confederates hugging the earth for safety. He ordered them to get up and march before him to the lines of the Seventh.

In the annals of Richards' find, E. from Marquette county I find record- one of those sad yet touching tragedies which are left out of the great war histories. One of the noblest of the Marquette boys was Sergeant Robert W. Hubbard. His biographer says of him: "A young man esteemed and respected by all who knew him." We all know what that signifies when applied to a volunteer soldier. Young Hubbard was shot through the body and lived just long enough to whisper a dying message into the ear of a comrade. It was this: "Tell my mother that I died like her boy."

The Seventh fought in the Wilderness with Hancock's corps on the Brock road, and with that corps in three separate battles on the field of Spotsylvania. In its last fight of 1864 the regiment numbered only 156 muskets. Here is the list of battles, with losses in killed or mortally wounded in each, from Colonel Fox's "Regimental Losses in the Civil War":

Battle	Killed or mortally wounded
Second Bull Run, Va., Aug. 28, 1862	42
South Mountain, Md., Sept. 14, 1862	27
Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862	12
Frederickburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862	1
Pittsburg Crossing, Va., May 7, 1864	1
Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1863	4
Spotsylvania, Va., May 9, 1864	4
Spotsylvania, Va., May 10, 1864	20
Spotsylvania, Va., May 12, 1864	8
North Anna River, Va., 1864	8
Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864	17
Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1863	36
Hatcher's Run, Va., Feb. 6, 1865	6
Gravelly Run, Va., 1864	4
Pine Forks, Va., 1864	6
Miscellaneous encounters	8
Total	281
Total killed and mortally wounded	1,630

The regiment lost comparatively few officers by death in battle, but the personnel of the battalion and company leaders changed rapidly, owing to the heavy casualties among them in wounded. The full roster shows 9 different field officers, 40 captains, 69 first lieutenants and 30 second lieutenants. Over 200 original members re-enlisted.

GEORGE L. KILMER.

An Awkward Fix.

"What! You say that Herr Schmide, the merchant, has gone blind? Here's a pretty how d'ye do. I've got a bill on the man which is made out, 'payable at sight!'"—Dorfbarber.

Colorado Populists.

The new governor of Colorado said in his inaugural that Colorado would grow and prosper were she completely surrounded by Jefferson's sea of flame or John Adams' wall of brass. In spite of this assurance, the public remembers perfectly well that two years ago the leading business men of Colorado signed a document declaring that a Populist administration had almost ruined the

State.

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Harve A. Clough of Newberg, county of Yamhill, state of Oregon, has filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2736, for the purchase of the E½ SW¼ sec 28 in Twp 40 S., R 13 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Friday the 12 day of Feb. 1904.

They name as witnesses: Lora E. McClure, John McClure, of Stillwater, Minn., Carmichael, Wm., Hutchison, of Klamath Falls, Or.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 12 day of Feb. 1904.

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Edna F. Burt of Hopland, county of Chablis, state of Wash., sworn statement No. 2707, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 27 in Twp 38 N., R 13 E., W 3 M.

Edna F. Burt of Hopland, county of Chablis, state of Wash., sworn statement No. 2737, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 27 in Twp 38 N., R 13 E., W 3 M.

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Ellis B. Clark of Seaside, county of Clatsop, state of Oregon, sworn statement No. 2738, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 14 in Twp 38 N., R 12 E., W 3 M.

They name as witnesses: J. O. Hamaker, D. F. Driscoll, O. T. McKendree, J. D. Hamaker, all of Bonanza, Ore., and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 12 day of Feb. 1904.

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Oliver R. Rogers, of Portland, county of Multnomah, state of Oregon, has filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2731, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 4 in Twp 38 N., R 13 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk, Klamath Falls, Or., on Saturday, the 13 day of Feb. 1904.

He names as witnesses: J. O. Hamaker, of Bonanza, Or., Roy I. Kilgore, of Bonanza, Or., C. Smith, of Klamath Falls, Or., H. Driscoll, co. clerk, Klamath Falls, Or.

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George H. Woodbury of Klamath Falls, county of Woodbury, state of Oregon has filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2732, for the purchase of the SE¼ sec 20 N., R 8 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Monday the 15th day of Feb. 1904.

He names as witnesses: J. G. Pierce, Geo. H. Woodbury, Geo. H. Woodbury, Bert Whitlow, all of Klamath Falls, Or.

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Margaret Morris of Buckley county of Pierce, state of Wash., sworn statement No. 2733, for the purchase of the E½ SW¼ sec 21, Twp 38 N., R 13 E., W 3 M.

Edith B. Blake of Lynn St., San Francisco, county of San Francisco, state of Calif., sworn statement No. 2734, for the purchase of the E½ SW¼ sec 21, Twp 40 S., R 13 E., W 3 M.

That they will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish their claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Friday the 12 day of Feb. 1904.

They name as witnesses: Lora E. McClure, John McClure, of Stillwater, Minn., Carmichael, Wm., Hutchison, of Klamath Falls, Or.

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John Chandon Reasoner of Ashland, county of Jackson, state of Ore., sworn statement No. 2739, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 23, R 8 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Saturday the 13th day of Feb. 1904.

He names as witnesses: Jas. Sigler, Geo. Porter of Klamath Falls, Or., Jos. Ellison, of Independence, Or., J. H. Lewis, of Black River Falls, Wis.

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Planned Manning of Seaside, county of Clatsop, state of Oregon, sworn statement No. 2738, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 14 in Twp 38 N., R 12 E., W 3 M.

They name as witnesses: J. O. Hamaker, D. F. Driscoll, O. T. McKendree, J. D. Hamaker, all of Bonanza, Ore., and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 12 day of Feb. 1904.

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Hugh L. Clifton of Bonanza, county of Klamath, state of Oregon has filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2743, for the purchase of the SW¼ sec 30, Twp 38 N., R 13 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Friday, the 12 day of Feb. 1904.

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George H. Woodbury of Klamath Falls, county of Woodbury, state of Oregon has filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2732, for the purchase of the SE¼ sec 20 N., R 8 E., W 3 M, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before C. H. Driscoll, co. clerk at Klamath Falls, Or., on Monday the 15th day of Feb. 1904.

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