

The ‘Glorious Old Third’

A History of the Third Michigan Infantry 1855-1927

By

Steve Soper



The farther we get from the Civil War the more we realize the immensity of the struggle and all that it has meant to the world.

Rev. Lincoln R. Vercoe, 1921¹

¹ GRH June 29, 1921, p. 3: “Old Third Michigan Deeds Lauded as 14 Survivors Gather”.

Copyright ©1988-2010 Steven P. Soper. All rights reserved.

The 'Glorious Old Third': A History of the Third Michigan Infantry, 1855-1927

2010 Version 2.0

ISBN 0-9787861-0-6

Published by **Old Third Publishing** <http://www.oldthirdmichigan.org>

Contents

ABBREVIATIONS
CHRONOLOGY
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
INTRODUCTION

PART I. DRESS REHEARSAL 1855-1860

- 1. BIRTH**
- 2. GROWTH**
- 3. CHANGE**

PART II. "THE BALL IS OPENED" 1861

- 4. WAR!**
- 5. PREPARATIONS**
- 6. ENLISTMENT**
- 7. "OFF TO SEE THE ELEPHANT"**
- 8. "MY HEALTH IS GOOD . . ."**
- 9. BULL RUN**
- 10. HARSH REALITIES**
- 11. CAMP MICHIGAN**

PART III. THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW 1862-64

- 12. THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA**
- 13. WILLIAMSBURG TO FAIR OAKS**
- 14. SECOND BULL RUN**
- 15. TO THE RAPPAHANNOCK**
- 16. CHANCELLORSVILLE TO GETTYSBURG**
- 17. REST AND RELAXATION**
- 18. CAMP BULLOCK**
- 19. "I THINK I NEVER SAW SUCH DESPERATE FIGHTING"**
- 20. "BABYLON HAS FALLEN!"**

PART IV. "THE ASSOCIATION" 1866-1927

- 21. YEARS OF POWER**
- 22. MIDDLE AGE**
- 23. A FADING MEMORY**
- 24. "MEETING ADJOURNED"**

EPILOGUE

HOW YOU CAN HELP

PART V. REFERENCE MATERIALS

- APPENDIX A. ROSTER OF THE THIRD MICHIGAN INFANTRY ASSOCIATION**
- APPENDIX B. MEN WHO REENLISTED DECEMBER 1863 AND MARCH 1864**
- APPENDIX C. SOLDIERS AND THEIR KNOWN ALIASES**
- APPENDIX D. MEN REPORTED AS DESERTERS AND NEVER ACCOUNTED FOR**
- APPENDIX E. MEN WHO WERE DRAFTED OR SERVED AS SUBSTITUTES**
- APPENDIX F. MEN WHO LOST LIMBS DURING THE WAR**
- APPENDIX G. MEN WHO WERE INMATES OF THE MICHIGAN SOLDIERS' HOME**
- APPENDIX H. MEN LISTED AS "NO FURTHER RECORD"**
- APPENDIX I. MEN NOT LISTED IN THE OFFICIAL REGIMENTAL HISTORY**
- APPENDIX J. MEN WHO WERE RELATED**
- APPENDIX K. MEN TAKEN PRISONER**
- APPENDIX L. MEN MENTIONED IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS**
- APPENDIX M. LIST OF SOLDIERS' OCCUPATIONS IN 1861**
- APPENDIX N. MEN WHO SERVED IN THE VETERANS' RESERVE CORPS**
- APPENDIX O. MEN WHO DIED DURING THE WAR**
- APPENDIX P. MEN CONSOLIDATED WITH THE FIFTH MICHIGAN INFANTRY**
- APPENDIX Q. MICHIGAN STATE MILITARY LAW, JANUARY 1859**
- APPENDIX R. THIRD MICHIGAN INFANTRY ASSN. CONSTITUTION, 1870**
- APPENDIX S. COMPANY ROSTERS OF THE THIRD MICHIGAN INFANTRY**
- APPENDIX T. THE 1,411 MEN WHO JOINED THE THIRD MICHIGAN INFANTRY**
- APPENDIX U. WEST MICHIGAN MILITIA COMPANIES, 1855-60**
- APPENDIX V. RECIPIENTS OF THE KEARNY CROSS**

CORRESPONDENTS

ORIGINS OF THIRD MICHIGAN COMPANIES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

SURNAME INDEX