

GETTYSBURG:

“WHAT THEY DID HERE”



PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED HISTORICAL GUIDE BOOK

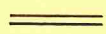
BY

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“GETTYSBURG KNAPSACK SOUVENIR,” ETC.

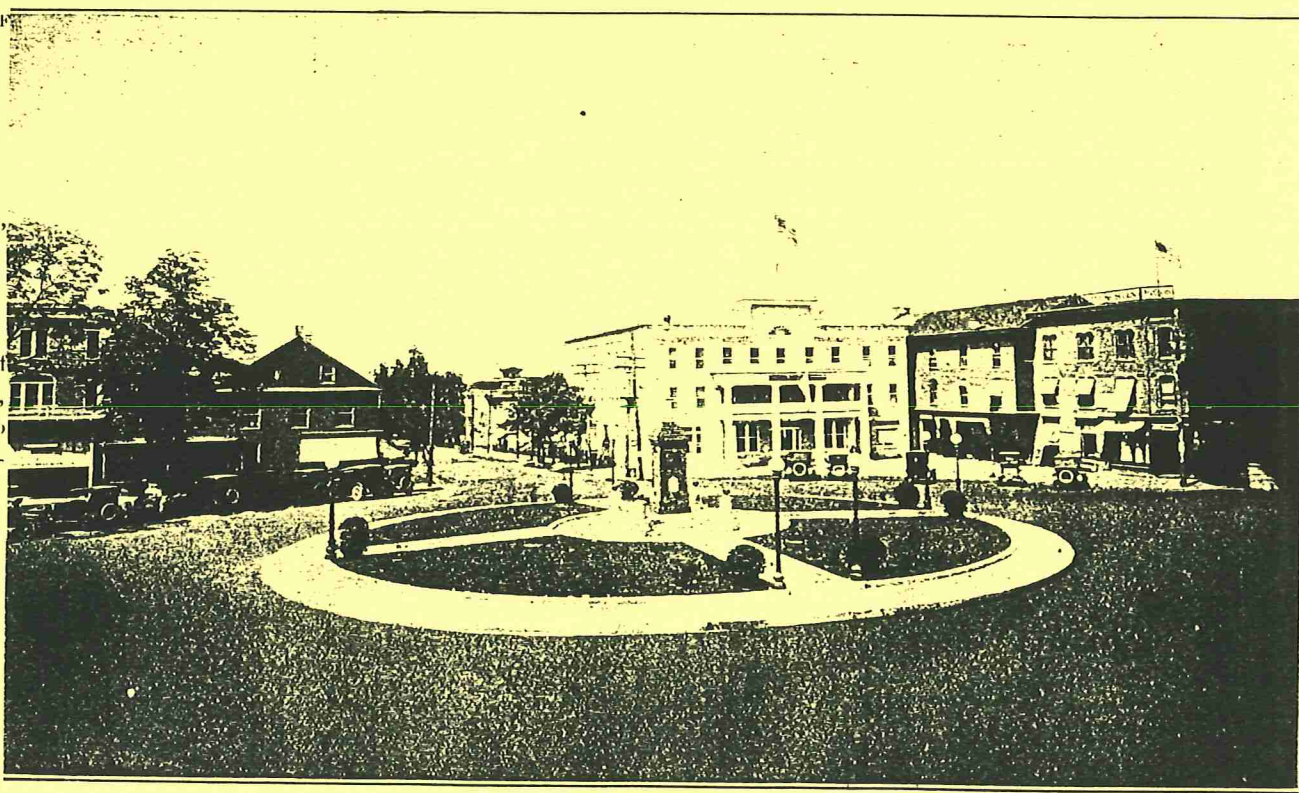


“The world will little note nor long remember what we say here,
but it can never forget WHAT THEY DID HERE.”

President Lincoln at Gettysburg, Nov. 19th, 1863.

“Wheresoever throughout the civilized world the accounts of
this great warfare are read, and down to the latest period of time,
in the glorious annals of our common country, there will be no
brighter page than that which relates THE BATTLES OF GETTYS-
BURG.”

Edward Everett at Gettysburg, Nov. 19th, 1863.



CENTER SQUARE, GETTYSBURG, PA.

Photo by W. H. Tipton, 1924.

THE HUMISTON CHILDREN

After the close of the Battle of Gettysburg, on Stratton Street, near York Street, in Gettysburg, was found the corpse of a Federal soldier. Tightly grasped in the dead soldier's hand was an ambrotype likeness of three children, and on them his last gaze had been fastened as his soul had departed to its God. He was buried on a lot of Judge Russell's, near where he was found. The incident awoke the tenderest sympathies of Dr. J. Francis Bournes, of Philadelphia, who borrowed the picture and had thousands of copies struck and widely circulated. A copy reaching Cattaraugus County, N. Y., was recognized as the children of Orderly Sergeant Humiston, of the 154th N. Y. Regiment of Costar's Brigade, 11th Corps. The remains of Sergeant Humiston were buried in grave No. 14, row B, of the New York Section of graves in the National Cemetery. The fund created by the sale of the photographs formed the nucleus for the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, for some years at Gettysburg, and the children were brought there and educated, the mother for a time being matron of the institution. The Philadelphia branch of the Sanitary Commission offered a prize for the best poem upon this touching incident. The award was made to James G. Clark, of Dansville, N. Y., for the following thrilling stanzas:

Upon the field of Gettysburg
The summer sun was high,
When freedom met her traitorous foe
Beneath a Northern sky;
Among the heroes of the North,
Who swelled her grand array—
Who rushed, like mountain eagles
forth
From happy homes away,
There stood a man of humble fame,
A sire of children three,
And gazed, within a little frame,
Their pictured forms to see;
And blame him not if, in the strife,
He breathed a soldier's prayer—
"Oh! Father, guard the soldier's
wife,
And for his children care."

Upon the field of Gettysburg
When morning shone again,



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THE HUMISTON CHILDREN.

The crimson cloud of battle burst
In streams of fiery rain;
Our legions quelled the awful flood
Of shot, and steel, and shell,
While banners, mark'd with ball and
blood,
Around them rose and fell;
And none more nobly won the name
Of Champion of the Free,
Then he who pressed the little frame
That held his children three;
And none were braver in the strife
Then he who breathed the prayer:
"Oh! Father, guard the soldier's
wife,
And for his children care."

Upon the field of Gettysburg
The full moon slowly rose,
She looked, and saw ten thousand
brows

All pale in death's repose;
And down beside a silver stream,
From other forms away,
Calm as a warrior in a dream,
Our fallen comrade lay;
His limbs were cold, his sightless
eyes
Were fixed upon the three,

Sweet stars that rose in memory's
skies
To light him o'er death's sea,
Then honored be the soldier's life,
And hallowed be his prayer:
"Oh! Father, guard the soldier's
wife,
And for his orphans care."

The charge at Balaklava will live forever in song; but the feat shrinks almost to triviality when we consider the facts. According to Kingslake, the Light Brigade took 673 officers and men into that charge; they lost but 113 killed and 134 wounded, the total being 247, or 36.7 per cent.

The heaviest loss in the German army, during the Franco-Prussian War, occurred in the Sixteenth Infantry (Third Westphalian) at Mare La Tour, where it lost, in killed, wounded and missing, 49.4 per cent.

But Colonel Fox enumerates no less than sixty-three Union regiments which lost over 50 per cent in single battles of our Civil War, without including others where the statistics are incomplete. In some of these cases the bulk of the losses occurred within an hour. The First Minnesota lost at Gettysburg, in killed and wounded, 82 per cent of the number that went in; the One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania lost 75.7 per cent in the same battle; the One Hundred and First New York lost 73.8 per cent at Manassas; the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts lost 70 per cent at Cold Harbor.—*San Francisco Argonaut*.

The Twenty-sixth North Carolina regiment went into the Gettysburg fight with less than 800 men. It reported 86 killed, 502 wounded—total, 588. This does not include 120 missing. In one company of 84, every officer and man was hit, and the orderly who made out the list did it with a bullet through each leg. This is by far the largest regimental loss on either side during the war.—*Century Magazine*.

Colonel Jeffords, of the Fourth Michigan Regiment, was killed by a bayonet thrust, while heroically holding up with his own hands the colors of his command.

The Second Maryland Confederate Regiment, commanded by *Lieut.-Colonel James R. Herbert*, was the pride and boast of the army.—made an assault on the evening of July 2d on the Federal entrenchments on Culp's Hill. In this movement they occupied part of the Federal works, but on the next morning, July 3d, in storming the hill in the face of Geary's White Star Division, they were compelled to fall back with heavy loss. Nearly all the commissioned officers were killed or wounded, and of the five hundred of the command who went into the fight only two hundred escaped unhurt. *General Herbert* was severely wounded in the fight, and was confined to a hospital for two months. Being captured, he was sent to Johnson's Island, Ohio, and in 1864 was exchanged for a lieutenant-colonel of a New York regiment, and within thirty days again took command of his regiment.