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STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

REPORT

OF

COMMISSIONERS

TO CARE FOR

Gettysburg Battle Monuments.

1892.



TRENTON, N. J.

NAAR, DAY & NAAR, PRINTERS

1893.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

REPORT

OF

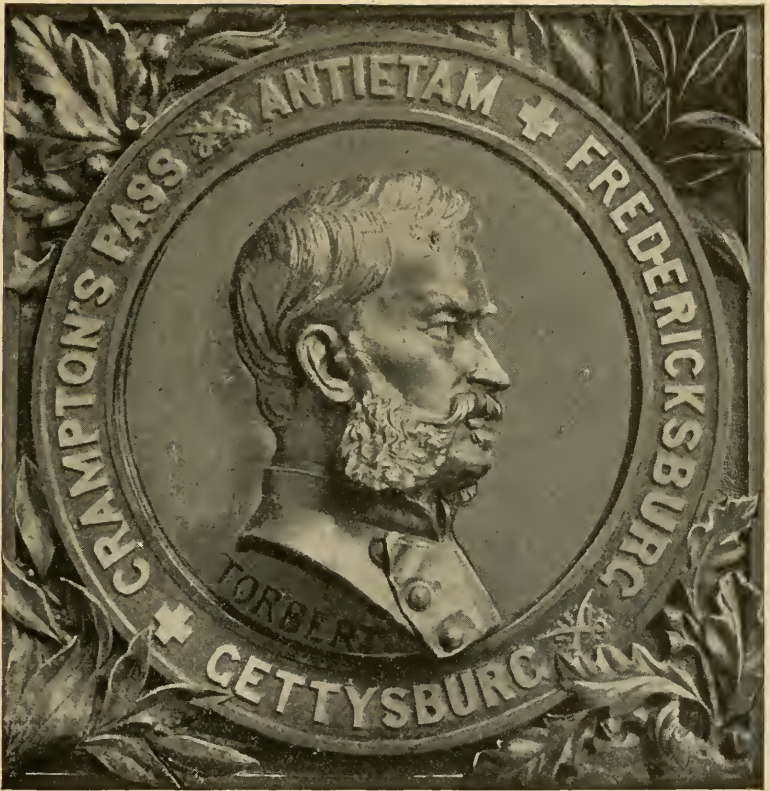
COMMISSIONERS

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MEDALLION ON EAST FACE OF BRIGADE MONUMENT.



MEDALLION ON WEST FACE OF BRIGADE MONUMENT.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

To His Excellency, Leon Abbett, Governor of New Jersey :

The undersigned Commissioners, appointed by the Governor pursuant to Chapter 35 of the Laws of 1889, to enclose, care for and improve the monuments erected upon the Gettysburg battlefield, herewith respectfully submit their final report, the three years for which they were appointed having expired.

With great respect we are your Excellency's obedient servants.

WILLIAM H. CORBIN,
E. L. STRATTON,
G. T. RIBBLE,

Commissioners.

Dated, Trenton, December 12th, 1892.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

TO CARE FOR

Gettysburg Battle Monuments.

Under an act approved March 13th, 1889, entitled "An act relating to the Gettysburg Monuments," the Governor, on November 8th, 1889, appointed Col. E. L. Stratton, of Mullica Hill, and William H. Corbin, of Elizabeth, to be Commissioners under said act. At a later date Dr. George T. Ribble, of Milford, was appointed as the third Commissioner.

By the act it is provided that "One thousand dollars annually is appropriated for the purpose of properly enclosing, improving and caring for the said monuments and grounds, and that the said Commissioners be paid their actual expenses."

By the same act the Governor was authorized to have a bronze tablet placed upon the monument erected to Battery A, with proper inscription to identify the same as Hexamer's Battery of New Jersey.

In fulfilling the duties enjoined upon them by this law the Commissioners visited the Gettysburg battlefield in May, 1890, in June, 1891, in October, 1891, and in June, 1892.

At the request of His Excellency, Governor Abbett, the Commissioners took in charge under his direction the matter of placing an inscription in bronze upon the monument to Hexamer's Battery. The work of the Commission will be best understood by speaking of the several monuments in detail and stating the work done upon each.

First New Jersey Brigade.

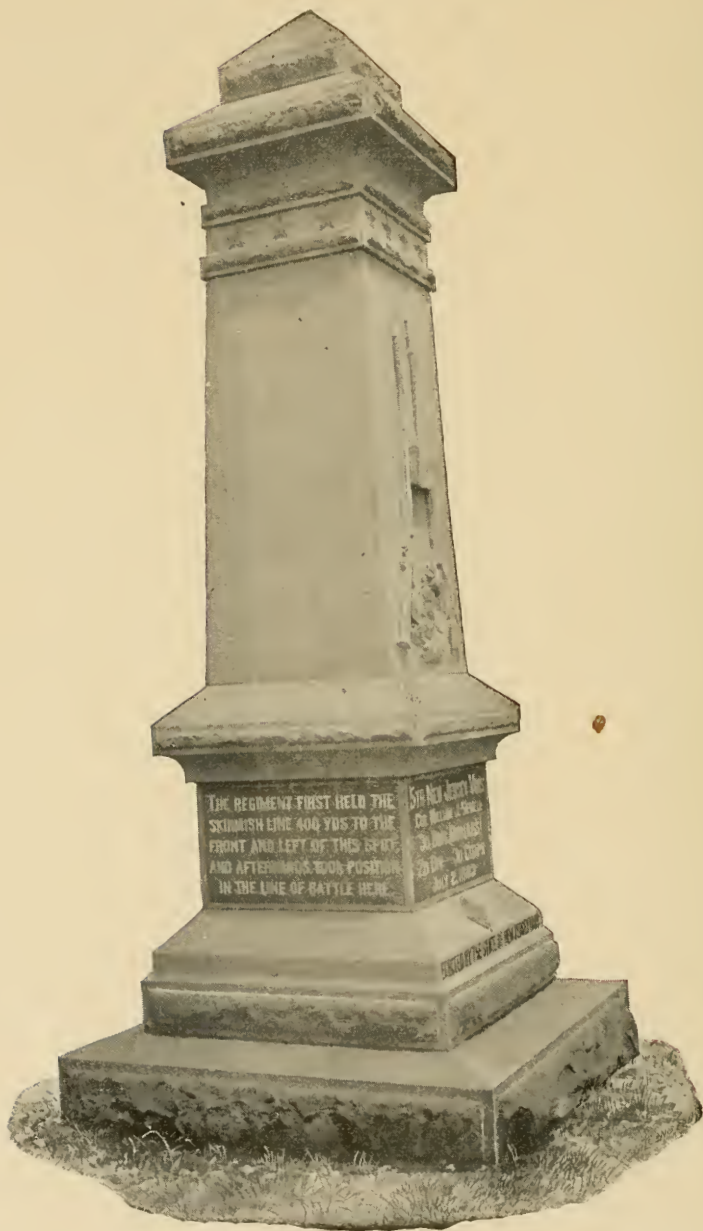
This monument is in the form of a circular watch tower, forty feet high, and stands upon a rocky wooded eminence to the north of Little Round Top and a hundred yards distant from, and much higher than Battlefield avenue, the nearest road. The Commission built a good carriage road winding around the hill as an approach to this monument, and extended the road in a true circle around the monument. The mason work was re-pointed where necessary, the ground leveled and graded and the new road well graded and graveled. This work was laid out and superintended by Mr. A. J. Zabriskie, of Newark, the engineer of the New York State Commission on Gettysburg Monuments, a gentleman of much skill and experience in his profession. The Commission are indebted to him for his courteous and friendly assistance. The monument is in perfect order and the approach and surroundings are, in the judgment of the Commission, in proper condition. The surroundings should, we think, be interfered with as little as is consistent with a decent maintenance of the monuments.

The first New Jersey Brigade was composed of the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifteenth Regiments of Volunteer Infantry.



MONUMENT TO FIRST NEW JERSEY BRIGADE.

(NORTH SLOPE OF LITTLE ROUND TOP.)



MONUMENT TO FIFTH INFANTRY.

(EMMITTSBURG ROAD.)

Fifth Infantry.

This monument stands in the open field on the west side of the Emittsburg, road south of the Rogers House. It stands near the road on high ground. Its construction is simple and massive and after standing four years it displays not the slightest evidence of deterioration in any respect. We have guarded it with a low fence and caused the sodding to be kept in order and the grass to be cut.

Sixth Infantry.

The monument stands on low, wet ground among the boulders to the north of Devil's Den. It is in perfect condition, requiring no repairs. We have had the ground properly graded and sodded and the grass cut.



MONUMENT TO THE SIXTH INFANTRY.

(DEVIL'S DEN.)



MONUMENT TO SEVENTH INFANTRY.

(TROSTLE'S FIELD, NEAR PEACH ORCHARD.)

Seventh Infantry.

The monument stands in Trostle's field, in the midst of the plain where Sickles' fight of July second was fought. It is composed of but two blocks of granite. It has required no repairs. The mound around it required enlargement, and this has been attended to. The sodding is now in proper condition and the surroundings decent and attractive.

Eighth Infantry.

The monument stands at the extreme southerly corner of the wheat field, on the north bank of a brook. The Battlefield road runs along the north side, being the rear of the monument and several yards distant from it. We constructed a loop in the road about one hundred feet long running around the face of the monument. This we caused to be gravelled and put in good order. The grass has been kept cut. The site has been much improved.



MONUMENT TO THE EIGHTH INFANTRY.

(SOUTHERLY CORNER OF WHEAT-FIELD.)



MONUMENT TO ELEVENTH INFANTRY.

(EMMITTSBURG ROAD.)

Eleventh Infantry.

The monument stands on the east side of the Emmitsburg road, in the garden of a small farm house. It is in perfect order. We graded and sodded the ground and built a fence around the monument and kept the grass cut.

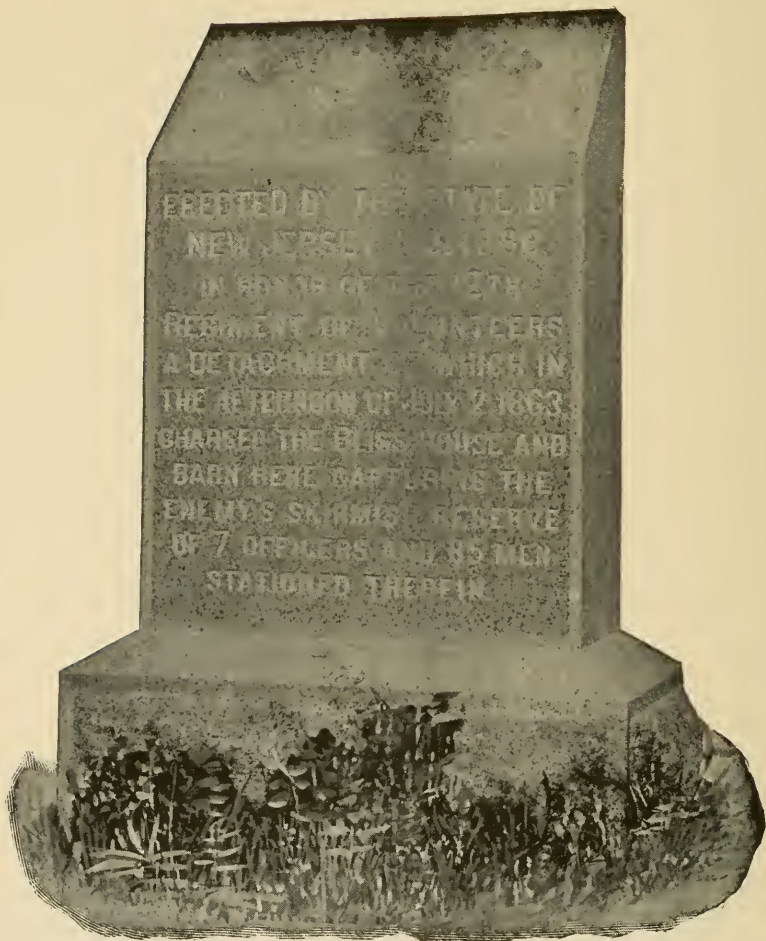
Twelfth Infantry.

This monument was erected by the survivors of the regiment previous to the passage of the act of 1886, under which the other monuments were built by the State. The State in 1888 erected a marker on the skirmish line at the site of the Bliss farm to commemorate the heroic charges made by the regiment upon that position. This marker is a single block of granite weighing eight tons, standing four feet above ground and extending five feet below the surface. It needs no attention. The grass around it is in good condition. The monument erected by the survivors stands on the main line of battle of July third near the Bryan farm. The Commission, with the consent of the Regimental Association, took down this monument and rebuilt and enlarged it. A solid concrete foundation was built six feet deep as in the case of the other monuments; a larger base and plinth were provided, and the die and cap stones remaining the same. Upon the plinth the Commission caused to be placed a bronze tablet with an artistic representation of the charge upon the Confederate skirmishers stationed in the Bliss house and barn. This work cost one thousand dollars. The result has, we believe, fully justified the expenditure. The monument is now properly founded, is massive and attractive, and more worthy of the exploits of this noble regiment on the field of Gettysburg.



MONUMENT TO THE TWELFTH INFANTRY.

(SOUTH OF BRYAN BARN, MAIN LINE OF BATTLE.)



TABLET TO TWELFTH INFANTRY.

(CODON'S FARM, ON THE SITE OF THE BLISS BARN.)



MONUMENT TO THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.

(WEST BANK OF FOCK CREEK, McALLISTER'S WOODS.)

Thirteenth Infantry.

The monument is located in McAllister's Woods, on the west bank of Rock Creek, on a rocky knoll to the south of Culp's Hill. We built a road to it and a circular drive around it, as in the case of the Brigade Monument. The sodding was put in order and the grass kept cut.

First Cavalry.

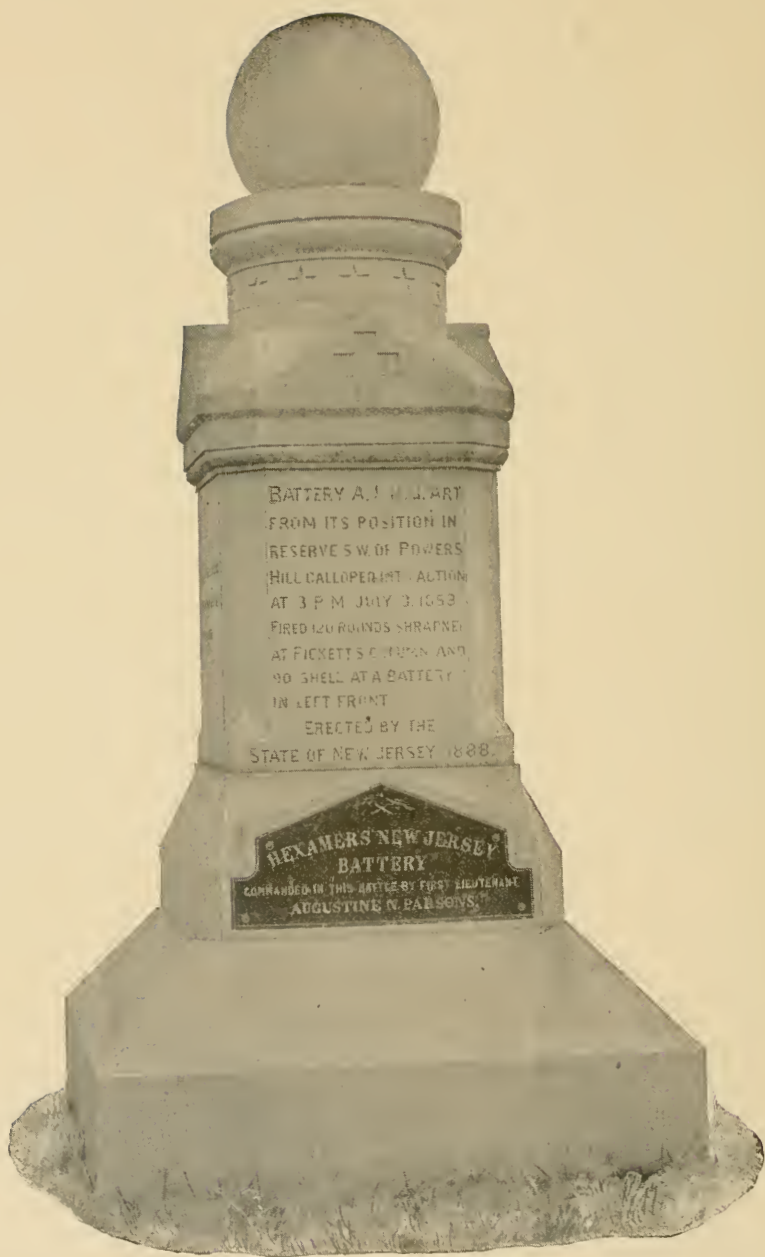
The monument stands on the farm line between Rummel and Schaeffer, on the field of the great calvary fight of July third, three miles east of Gettysburg.

An avenue has been opened through this battlefield by the Gettysburg Memorial Association, and extended westwardly to this monument, where it ends. We have fenced the monument, graded and sodded the ground and kept the grass cut. The site is very greatly improved.



MONUMENT TO FIRST CAVALRY.

(RUMMEL'S FARM.)



BATTERY A. HILL ART
FROM ITS POSITION IN
RESERVE S.W. OF POWERS
HILL CALLOPERINT. ACTION
AT 3 P. M. JULY 3, 1853
FIRED 120 ROUNDS SHRAPNEL
AT FICKETS COMPANY AND
90 SHELL AT A BATTERY
IN LEFT FRONT
ERECTED BY THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY 1888.

HEXAMERS NEW JERSEY
BATTERY
COMMANDED IN THIS BATTERY BY FIRST LIEUTENANT
AUGUSTINE N. PARSONS.

MONUMENT TO BATTERY A.

(MAIN LINE OF BATTLE, SOUTH OF COPSE OF TREES.)

Hexamer's Battery "A."

The monument stands on the east side of Battlefield avenue, on the field of July third, to the rear and left of the place where General Hancock was wounded. The former Commission had purchased a ten-pounder Parrot rifle and mounted it beside this monument. The carriage was a cheap affair, frail and unsuitable. At a cost of one hundred dollars we provided a carriage made entirely of iron, which, in shape and appearance, is an exact *fac simile* of the carriages used in actual service. The gun is now properly and permanently mounted. The ground has been graded and the grass cut.

Under direction of the Governor a bronze tablet was placed on the face of this monument with the following inscription, prepared and approved by the Governor:

“HEXAMER'S NEW JERSEY BATTERY. COMMANDED IN THIS
BATTLE BY FIRST LIEUTENANT AUGUSTINE N. PARSONS.”

This was done in accordance with the requirements of the third section of the act of March 13, 1889.

Clark's Battery "B."

The monument stands in the open field, of July 2d, near the position of the Seventh Infantry, above referred to. A ten pounder Parrot rifle, provided by the former Commission, has been mounted properly as in case of Hexamer's Battery.



MONUMENT TO BATTERY B.

(TROSTLE'S FIELD, NEAR PEACH ORCHARD.)

The Commissioners believe that all the New Jersey monuments and markers, twenty-six in number, and their surroundings, are in thorough order. Their solidity and the simplicity of their designs will tend to render them permanent. All are of granite of most excellent quality, and not the slightest deterioration is as yet noticeable in them. Even without any care or attention they will doubtless stand for centuries. The only one likely to need repairs in future is the Brigade Monument, which is built of a large number of stones and has many vertical joints; but even this one has a cap stone covering the entire monument. It also has bond-stones seven feet in diameter, a single stone constituting an entire course of masonry.

There are now upon the Gettysburg battlefield about three hundred and fifty monuments. These are all under the care of the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association, a corporation of Pennsylvania, which has control over the field. This Association has a superintendent constantly in charge, and during the summer has laborers at work upon the roads.

The management is enterprising and patriotic, but is somewhat straightened by lack of funds. They cut the grass around the monuments at least twice a year and keep the roads in order.

Our term of office, which was for three years, has now expired. We are of opinion that it will be unnecessary to continue the Commission longer, unless the State should undertake some new work upon the field.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

We have received from the State Treasurer the following sums:

August 20th, 1890.....	\$46 12
“ “	100 00
October 31st, 1891.....	127 30
“ “	900 00

June 22d, 1892.....	\$57 45
“ “	640 00
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	\$1,870 87

Our expenditures have been as follows :

May 29th, 1890. Expenses of Commission to Gettysburg	\$46 12
October 31st, 1891. Expenses of Commission for the year, two trips to Gettysburg and two trips to Trenton	127 30
June 3d, 1892. Expenses of trip to Gettysburg.....	57 45
May 28th, 1890. W. B. Miller, care of Cavalry Monument	5 00
March 5th, 1891. W. T. Ziegler, cutting grass, 1890...	26 75
June 25th, 1891. I. H. Rummel, grading and sodding.	17 50
August 11th, 1891. N. G. Wilson, grading and fencing and roads.....	39 85
December 16th, 1891. Calvin Gilbert, two gun carriages.....	200 00
December 7th, 1891. N. G. Wilson, on account, roads, etc.....	200 00
March 14th, 1892. Frederick & Field, on account, Twelfth Regiment Monument.....	500 00
June 22d, 1892. N. G. Wilson, balance for roads, etc..	25 00
Frederick & Field, balance on Twelfth Regiment Monument.....	531 00
June 21st, 1892. A. J. Zabriskie, surveying.....	8 00
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Total for care and improvements.....	\$1,783 97
Balance on hand to be covered into State Treasury....	86 90
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	\$1,870 87

All which is respectfully submitted this twelfth day of December, A. D. 1892.

WILLIAM H. CORBIN,
E. L. STRATTON,
G. T. RIBBLE,

Commissioners.

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