

Advocates for Harvard ROTC

HARVARD UNION ARMY CASUALTIES

	<u>Total served</u>	<u>Died in service</u>	<u>Killed in action</u>	<u>Died by disease</u>
Harvard College grads	475	73	} 69	} 26
Harvard College- non grads	114	22		
Harvard Graduate schools	<u>349</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
Total	938	117	69	26

The above total of Harvard alumni who died in the service of the Union included 3 Brigadier Generals, 6 colonels, 12 Lt. Colonels and majors, 17 junior officers in the Army, 3 sergeants plus 3 Naval officers, including 2 Medical doctors. 78% of all Harvard alumni who served in the Civil War fought for the Union which represent 62% of the sons of Harvard killed in action during this conflict. As result among Harvard alumni, Union military losses were 13% compared with a 20% casualty rate for the Confederate Army.

As expected, most of the Harvard alumni who died in the service of the Union were born and raised in the Northeastern states (e.g. 74% from Massachusetts). However, 9 Harvard alumni Union casualties were from the Mid West including one from the border state of Missouri. None of these Harvard men were from southern states. All of the below men made the supreme sacrifice for their country to preserve the union which also resulted in the abolition of slavery. In recognition of their unselfish service, these Harvard alumni merit a permanent place of honor and remembrance along with their brother warriors from Harvard who died for the Union in Memorial Hall as well as those listed in Memorial Church who were casualties from World War I to the Vietnam War. However, it seems more than fair and appropriate for Harvard to also provide a prominent place of honor for the Harvard alumni warriors who died serving their country which was the Confederate States of America during the War between the States as well as Harvard alumni who died for our country in military service from the American Revolution to the 1914 Vera Cruz campaign.

HARVARD UNION CASUALTIES UNION IN THE CIVIL WAR

1. HARVARD COLLEGE BY CLASS

1828

Major General James Samuel Wadsworth– 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, I Corps - Army of the Potomac. **Killed in Action.** He was born in Genesco, New York in 1807. His father was the owner of one of the largest portfolios of cultivated land in the state. He attended both Harvard University and Yale University where he studied law. He was admitted to the bar but had no intention of practicing. He spent the majority of his life managing his family's estate.



MGen. James Wadsworth USA

At the start of Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign, Wadsworth led his division in Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren's V Corps at the Battle of the Wilderness. On this day Wadsworth was Grant's oldest divisional commander at 56 years old, about nine older than the next oldest. On May 5 1864, Wadsworth was ordered to counter march and help defend the left of the Union position. However, he had lost his direction in the dense Wilderness underbrush and drifted to the north, exposing the left of his division to a sudden and harsh attack, which in turn led to the same treatment of the Union division next to Wadsworth. Wadsworth was mortally wounded on 6 May 1864, trying to turn his two intact brigades (his other brigade had collided with the Federal units on his left and lost cohesion) when he was shot in the back of his head. Wadsworth fell from his horse and was captured by Confederate forces that were pursuing his retreating men. He would die two days later in a Confederate field hospital. His Combat engagements included: 1st Battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cemetery Hill, Culps Hill and the Battle of the Wilderness.

1833

Colonel Fletcher Webster– 12th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry). **Killed in Action.**



He born in Portsmouth New Hampshire in 1813 but grew up in Boston where he graduated from Boston Latin. He was the son of Senator and later, Secretary of State, Daniel Webster. After graduating from Harvard, he became a lawyer and moved to Illinois where he met fellow local lawyer, Abraham Lincoln. He spent 2 years in China as assistant to the US government Commissioner to China and was then appointed by President Taylor as Surveyor of the Port of Boston until he organized his Infantry regiment in Boston. His Combat engagements included: Thoroughfare Gap and the 2nd Battle of Bull, where he was mortally wounded on 30 August 1862.

1834

Surgeon (i.e. Lt. Commander equivalent) Charles Henry Wheelwright US Navy – Commanding officer- Pilotstown Naval Hospital. He was born and raised in Boston in 1813. His father was a wealthy ship owner and merchant who had 6 children of which Surgeon Wheelwright was the youngest. Prior to Harvard, he traveled extensively throughout the entire British Isles. In 1834, he was the Adjutant of the Harvard Washington Corps, which was a military company of Harvard students. After college, he subsequently received a degree from Harvard Medical School. He then entered the US Navy as an assistant surgeon and spent a lot time deployed on ships in the Brazil station. Subsequent duty stations included: the USS Independence in Boston, Naval Hospital Pensacola, Hospitals in Paris and other European cities, the Mediterranean Squadron, California, USS Powhatan of Norfolk which was Part of Commodore Perry’s Japan expedition, Gulf of Mexico, Philadelphia Brooklyn at the start of the Civil War, USS San Jacinto (off Norfolk and then the Gulf Squadron), Naval Hospital of Pilotsown, Louisiana where he died from disease while treating sailors and marines from the Gulf Squadron on 30 July 1862

1837

Private James Richardson – 20th Connecticut Volunteers (Infantry). He was born and raised in Dedham in 1817. After graduation, He was a teacher at prep schools for a few years until he decided to enter Harvard Divinity School and later became a Unitarian minister. In 1862 when age 45, he enlisted in Infantry in Connecticut. Given his age and experience, he served as the company clerk as de facto Chaplain. He participated in the battle of Chancellorsville but died in November 1863 of fever in Washington, DC.

1841

1st Lt. Charles Frances Simmons – 14th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry). He was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1821 where he was raise. He then prepared for Harvard at Boston Latin. He later studied law and later practiced law in Boston after being admitted to the Bar. All of the soldiers in his regiment were from Essex County, Massachusetts. After time in the field in Maryland, he came down with fever and lung congestion which forced his resignation from the Army after his one year of active service. On a trip to Cuba to treat his ling disease, he was lost at sea when his ship apparently sunk during a storm.

1841 (continued)

Lt. Colonel William Logan Rodman – 38th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry). He was born and raised in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1822. His father's family were Quakers and influential merchants and ship owners. He prepared for Harvard at Friend's Academy in New Bedford. He was an oil trader as well as a ship owner and traveled by sea extensively to San Francisco, India & Europe. He was elected to the Massachusetts legislature in the early days of the war. The governor of Massachusetts offered him a position as a Quartermaster of any regiment in the commonwealth but he wished for line position and raised his own company from the New Bedford area. In September 1862, his regiment was in camped in Baltimore and later sailed for New Orleans. In April 1863, he took part in the battle of Opelousas, Louisiana. He was killed in action on 27 May 1863 in the battle of Port Hudson, LA.

1843 (Harvard College); 1847 (Harvard Divinity School)



Chaplin Arthur Buckminster Fuller – 16th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry). He was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1822. He was descended from Thomas Fuller who emigrated from England in 1638 and his mother's father, Major Peter Crane of Canton, served in the Revolutionary Army. For 8 years, his father was a US congressman from Massachusetts. He prepared for Harvard at Leicester Academy and Mrs. Ripley's School in Concord, MA. He was a teacher for a couple of years until he returned for 2 years of graduate study at the Harvard Divinity School from which he graduated as a preacher in 1847. In from a sea cliff in Virginia, he was a witness to the battle of the Monitor & the Merrimack. In June 1862, 1863, he took part in the battle of Fair Oaks, VA (i.e. near Norfolk). He was discharged on 10 December 1862 due to his sickness which he picked up in the field and working in hospitals. However the next day, he participated in the attack of Fredericksburg as a civilian in uniform with rifle but was killed in action by 3 bullets as he entered the city on 11 December 1862 in Fredericksburg, VA. He was the grandfather of the American architect, Buckmaster Fuller.

1845

Colonel Peter Augustus Porter – 129th New York Volunteers (Infantry) & later called the 8th NY Heavy Artillery. He was born near Buffalo, NY in 1827. His grandfather was Yale graduate and physician who became a regimental colonel in the Revolutionary Army. His father was Major General Peter Porter served with distinction during the War of 1812 and later served on the Northern Frontier and was the Secretary of War during the presidency of John Quincy Adams. His mother's father was the US Attorney general under President Jefferson. After Harvard, he spent 7 years in Europe as a student at the Universities of Heidelberg, Berlin & Breslau. He was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1862 and the following year took command of an Army regiment that he raised. After 20 months of garrison duty in Ft. McHenry Maryland, he was then in the battle of Spotsylvania, VA where about 40 troops were killed. His life was repeatedly threatened by shots from a Confederate sharpshooter who after being captured had bragged that he had been Col. Porter's prisoner at Ft. McHenry. He was killed in action at the head of his column on 3 June 1864 in the battle of Cold Harbor, VA with over 643 of his men and officers. He was wounded in the neck near the Confederate rifle pits and rose to his feet and then once again to his knees in rallying his men until pierced by 6 bullets he died.

1846

1st Lt. Ezra Ripley – 29th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry), He was born in 1826 in Waltham, MA as the son of the Reverend Samuel Ripley of Waltham and a direct descendent of the Pilgrim governor Bradford. His great, grandfather was colonel in the Revolutionary Army and Lt/ Ripley was a first cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson on his father's side. He was married 6 years after graduating from Harvard and was a lawyer for 10 years in Cambridge before joining the Army. He participated in 7 days of heavy fighting at Richmond and then came home on sick leave. After his recuperations, he joined his regiment for the battle of Antietam (also known as Sharpsburg in the South) where he was wounded. After going home for recruiting duty in Massachusetts, he returned to Kentucky and the Vicksburg, MS where he contracted a fatal illness and died in 1863.

Captain Montgomery Ritchie – 1st Massachusetts Cavalry. He was born in 1826 in Boston, MA. Prior to entering Harvard, he spent 3 years in France and Germany to learn these languages. After Harvard, he was in business in a counting house in the East India trade which included time in Calcutta, India. For the 4 years prior to his Army service, he was in the grain commission business and married with 2 sons. As a result of his business experience, he became a regimental commissioner of substances but still managed to participate in a battle commanding a gunboat on Roanoke Island and later battles in Newbern and Camden NC. His last battle was at Port Hudson, LA. He died in November 1864 from a disease contracted in Louisiana.

1847

Major Edward Hutchinson Robbins Revere – 20th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



He was born in 1827 in Boston, MA as the grandson of the Paul Revere the midnight rider at the start of the Revolutionary War. He received his Medical Degree from Harvard Medical School in 1849. He then spent a year in Paris, France perusing post graduate medical studies and later visited England, Scotland and Ireland. Upon his return to the United States in 1851, he set up a medical practice in Greenfield MA and soon after married and was the father of a daughter. He returned to eastern Massachusetts to practice in the 2 years before the outbreak of the Civil War.

Dr. Revere was initially going to join the Navy as an assistant surgeon but accepted a commission in the same rank in 20th Massachusetts where his brother, Paul, was a major. In October 1862, he participated in the battle of Ball's Bluff, MD where his medical post was only a few feet rear of the line of battle and at all times under enemy fire. He was the only surgeon in the field during this battle. It was noted that his cool, self possessed deportment, well directed energy and self-forgetfulness were remarked by all who observed him. Following the battle, he was with the wounded under his care and was captured by Confederates. With no food or drink, he was then marched for 27 miles to Manassas Junction and then to Richmond, VA. He was placed in a tobacco warehouse of 60 by 80 feet with 80 other captured Union officers, where he cared for the invalids. The Confederate officers were reported to treat him with great respect due to his gentlemanly deportment and manly bearing. After 4 months of imprisonment in Richmond, he was released as a paroled POW. He immediately rejoined his regiment and participated in the battles of West Point and Fair Oaks as the Army of the Potomac advanced towards Richmond in 1862. In 2 days, the Union Army suffered almost 5,800 casualties. As soon as the wounded of his regiment had been taken care of, Dr. Revere then attended the Confederate wounded. He later took part in 7 days of bloody work following the battle of Antietam, MD where the 20th Massachusetts was in the hottest part of the fight. He was working at field surgery post where bullets of both armies were flying overhead. As he raised himself from an operation a wounded man, he was pierced by bullet and died on the battlefields in September 1862, which was one year after he entered the Union Army.

1848

Private John Franklin Goodrich – 21st Iowa Volunteers (Infantry). He was born in 1826 in Mt. Vernon, New Hampshire. After graduation, he worked as clerk at a manufacturing in Waltham before going to California as a miner for 5 years during the Gold Rush. He then purchased a farm in Iowa, married and had 3 children. In August 1862, he enlisted since Iowa did not have many young men enlisting. In January 1863, he participated in a large battle in Hartsville, Missouri. He then took part in the siege of Vicksburg, which determined the supremacy of the Mississippi River. He took part in the battle for Port Gibson and along Black River where he was the first one to reach an embankment held by the Confederates. He died in June 1863 from a brain fever which he contracted in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Lt. Col. Lucius Manlius Sargent – 1st Massachusetts Cavalry



He was born in 1826 in Boston, Massachusetts. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1857. During this interim period, he was involved in music, painting and seamanship where he sailed before the mast to Europe. He later became a surgeon due to his interest in art anatomy and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1857. Dr. Sargent became the house surgeon at Mass General Hospital. After establishing himself as a physician, he married and then was the first in Massachusetts to volunteer as a regimental surgeon in the 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry) at the outbreak of the Civil War. In October 1862, he transferred to the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry as a line captain where his brother was a Lt. Colonel. The reason for this shift, he said: “I am tired of curing wounds. I now prefer to make them” His regiment was part of the Army of the Potomac and was engaged in the following cavalry battles: Kelly’s Ford, Sulphur Springs, Stephensburg and then Aldie, where he was left dead on the field but revived and recovered. In September 1864, he was riding at the head of his regiment near Petersburg, Virginia within range of a Confederate stronghold when he was hit by an enemy shell in the middle of a sentence while to junior officer. He died 2 hours later.

Lt. Col. John Franklin Goodrich – 1st Mass Cavalry. He was born in 1826 in Mt. Vernon, New Hampshire. He was interested in music, painting and seamanship for which he sailed to Liverpool “before the mast”, He later became a surgeon due to his interest in art anatomy and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1857. He became the house surgeon at Mass General Hospital. At the outbreak of the War, he volunteered as a regimental surgeon of the 2nd Mass Infantry but later shifted to the Cavalry as part of the Army of the Potomac and took part in the following battles: Kelly’s Ford, Sulphur Springs, Stevensburg & Adie. In the last engagement, he was left for dead on the battlefield but subsequently revived and recovered. After a successful raid on Stony Creek, VA, his Cavalry unit was attacked by Confederate Infantry near Bellfield, VA in December 1864. He was riding at the head of his regiment and was in the middle of a sentence when he was hit and killed by a Confederate artillery shell. He fell off of his horse and said a few words before dying a few hours later.

1848

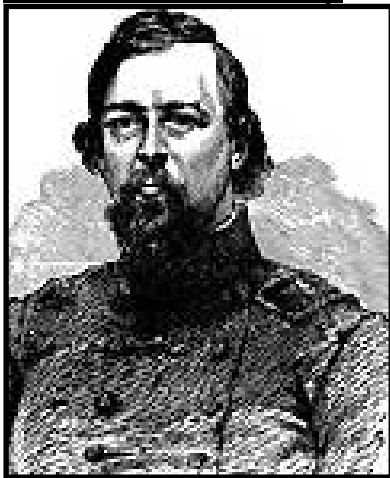
Col. William Oliver Stevens – 72nd New York Volunteers (Infantry).



He was born in 1828 in Belfast, ME as the grandson of a veteran of the battle of Bunker Hill. Prior to Harvard, he graduated from Phillips Andover Academy. He was small of stature but was an athlete and at Harvard served as coxswain of one of the first college boat clubs. He became a lawyer and was elected as a District Attorney in upstate New York. Col. Stevens was the commander of NY militia company and volunteered for active service after the fall of Fort Sumter. He was a great drill master of the troops and was described as affable, manly, unaffected dignity and a true soldier. In Virginia, he participated in the siege of Yorktown as well as the battle of Williamsburg, where 33% of their brigade was killed or wounded. He later fought at Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, and Fredericksburg, which are all located in Virginia. While leading his brigade in a front assault against General Stonewall Jackson CSA at the battle of Chancellors Ville, VA, he was struck by a Minnie ball which pierced his chest. He died on May 1863 from wounds received. His brother, Gorham, and cousin General I. Stevens, a West Point graduate, also died for the Union during the Civil War.

1849

Col. Everett Peabody – 25th Missouri Volunteers (Infantry).



He was born in 1830 in Springfield, MA as the son of a minister and great grandson of Major Moses White, a veteran of the American Revolution. Prior to Harvard, he spent a year at Burlington College in Vermont but this transferred to Harvard College as a sophomore. He was suspended from Harvard for a year for helping to make a bonfire on the University steps. He was tall, athletic and enjoyed the outdoors and a naturally smart student but he also had a lot of fun at college. After graduation, he worked as an engineer at Boston Water Works. In 1859, he became the chief engineer and partner in the Platte county railroad in Missouri with an annual salary of \$3,000 with an expectation of making up to \$25,000. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, he joined the Army as and subsequently promoted in colonel 4 months later. He was in command of the 1st Brigade, 6th division of the 25th Missouri under Brigadier General Prentiss who in turn reported to General US Grant in charge of the Army of Tennessee.

His first battle was at Lexington where he was captured but later escaped. He was also fought in battles at Shiloh, Warrensburg, Missouri and Plattsburg Landing, TN where he was morally wounded. While leading his brigade against a much larger Confederate force, he was wounded four times, including a fatal head wound. While his brigade was being overrun, Peabody encouraged his soldiers, “Stand to it yet! Remember Lexington!” Prentiss blamed Peabody for instigating a general engagement before the army was prepared. After the battle, Prentiss made no mention of Peabody but the men of Prentiss' division never forgot and Peabody is now considered the savior of Grant's Army of the Tennessee.

In Colonel Peabody's gun box coffin was placed the following couplet:

“A braver man ne'er died upon the field; A warmer heart never to death did yield”

1851

Major William Dwight Sedgwick – 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

He was born in 1831 in Lenox, MA. After college, he briefly worked in a law office in Boston before leaving to study law in Germany where he married the daughter of a German university professor. During his 2 years in Europe, he also traveled in the Alps and Italy. He then returned to Cambridge for Law school before moving to St. Louis, Missouri to practice law. In May of 1862, he was commissioned as an ordnance officer in the 2nd MA volunteers and later served as a staff officer when he was promoted to major. He was mortally wounded in the battle of Antietam (MD) on 17 September 1861 and died 2 weeks later.

1852

Private Henry Hill Downes– 124th Illinois Volunteers (Infantry).

He was born in 1830 in Boston as the son of Commodore John Downes USN. MA. He entered Harvard College after graduating from the Chauncey School in Boston. He worked in a Boston law office for a few years before being admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1855. However to expand his legal opportunities, he moved to Michigan and later to Iowa and then Illinois where he enlisted into the Union Army in August 1862. He served in General U.S. Grant's Army when he was afflicted with malaria from which he died in the Union hospital in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Major (Surgeon) Samuel Foster Haven Jr. – 15th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).



He was born in Dedham MA in 1831. He was the 4th generation in his family to attend Harvard. After graduation from college, he entered Harvard Medical School and graduated with an MD in 1855. He then spent 2 years in further medical education in London, Paris, Vienna and Berlin where he specialized in ophthalmology. He then returned to Boston and later To Worcester where he specialized in diseases of the eye. He was a published author of a book dealing with the US printing industry prior to the American Revolution. He volunteered for the Union Army in August 1861 and was deployed with his regiment for the next 18 months without ever returning on leave to his home on family. He directly participated in the battles of Balls Bluff, Yorktown, Harrison's Landing, Antietam and Fredericksburg, where he was killed in December 1862.

He was marching through the streets of Fredericksburg with his regiment when struck in the leg by a causal shell from a Confederate battery. He was evacuated to a near by hospital where was hoped that amputating his leg would save Dr. Haven's life. However, he never rallied from the shock of his wounds. His superior officer, Surgeon Sherman, wrote the following in a letter to Dr. Haven's parents relating to his conduct at Fredericksburg: "Witnessing his self-exposure at the battle of Antietam, I had, as Medical Director of the Second Division, detailed your son, in a written order, in event of battle, to repair to the division hospital, and give his services there instead of the field with his regiment. When I communicated this order to him, he evidently felt disappointed. He expressed a strong choice to go wherever his regiment went; and when the column to which the Fifteenth Massachusetts was attached was about to pass over the bridge in front of Fredericksburg, he was expostulated with, and reminded of the previous order; but he asked as a special favor to be allowed to go with his regiment, and said that as soon as the fight was done he would return to the hospital and remain there."

1852 - continued

Captain William Sturgis Hooper– Staff of Major General Nathaniel Banks – Union Gulf Army

He was born in Boston, MA in 1833 to a family of long term Boston merchants. He graduated from Boston Latin and entered Harvard when he was 16 years old. He was an expert marksman and helm and excelled in billiards and chess. After sailing to California and then on to China as a 3rd mate on a merchant ship, he briefly attended Harvard Law School. He then went to Europe for 2 years in 1853 where he picked up a chronic intestinal disease that bothered him for the rest of his life. Upon returning to Boston, he started the Bay State Iron Company that he ran with his cousin until he was commissioned as a captain as an adjutant for the Sequestration Committee on General Banks' staff which confiscated enemy property and was significantly involved with handling the needs of thousands of former black slaves which gathered around the Union camps in Louisiana. While mostly was involved in administrative and logistics work, but did participate in the battle for Port Huron. However during this time of time, his health further deteriorated and he died on sick leave during September 1863.

Colonel Paul Joseph Revere – 20th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).



He was born in 1832 in Boston as the grandson of Paul Revere, the midnight rider during the American Revolution. After college, he worked in business but was an active adventurer who hiked in the Adirondacks, hunted in Northern Maine and searched the shores of Lake Superior for copper, where he saved the life of a companion when their boat sank. In 1859, he married and later had 2 children before joining the Army after the attack on Fort Sumter in South Carolina. After Picket duty with the Army of the Potomac, he was wounded in the leg at Balls Bluff in Virginia where he demonstrated “high character with cool and disciplined courage”. After this Confederate victory, his regiment then was forced to return to Maryland across the Potomac River. Major Revere was one of the last to remain on the Virginia side with his elderly CO looking for a boat even though he could had easily swam across the river. He and his companions were eventually captured by Confederate cavalry. He was soon offered but refused parole by the Confederate commander since the related terms were ambiguous. After 2 days of marching in

the rain and mud, he and 529 other prisoners from his regiment were sent to Richmond by rail for internment in a former warehouse. Among their prison guards was then Confederate First Sergeant Wirz, who was later the commandant at Andersonville Prison of War camp. After 4 months as a prisoner of war, Major Revere was selected to be part of a unique prisoner exchange when the Union government agreed to change the status of captured Confederate blockade runners and sailors from pirates to that of prisoners of war. After briefly leave in Boston, Major Revere reported back to his regiment in time for the battle at Yorktown. After a subsequent battle at Fair Oaks / Seven Oaks, he was then severely stricken with malaria which forced him again to briefly return to his home in Boston for recuperation. In the following month, he again reported to his regiment and was wounded in Antietam. Lt. Colonel Revere again was forced to return home for several months of rehabilitation as a suffering invalid without knowing that his brother was killed in the same battle. After a brief service as Inspector-General of the 2nd Army Corps, he was promoted to colonel and returned to his old regiment as the commanding officer. He then participated in the battle of Gettysburg where he was struck by a Confederate bullet on the 2nd day of the battle and then died 2 days later with knowledge of the Union victory.

1852 -continued

Major Sidney Willard – 35th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

He was born in 1831 in Lancaster, MA as a direct descendant of Major Simon Willard who 200 years earlier had led a hardy group of Puritans to the frontier of Central Massachusetts. When he was 2 years old, his parents moved to Boston, where he went to Boston Latin. At Harvard, he rowed on the Heavy weight crew and he also participated in fencing and boxing. After Harvard College & Law School, he joined a Boston Law office. In 1858, he joined the Boston Cadets & joined the 35th MA with the Army of the Potomac. After his promotion to major. He was killed in action at Fredericksburg while leading a charge against the Confederates.

Major (Surgeon) Robert Ware – Surgeon 44th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

He was born in 1833 in Boston, MA as the youngest son of Dr, John Ware, Professor of Medicine at Harvard University. He prepared at Boston Latin for Harvard where he graduated with honors. His medical studies followed both in Paris as well as at Harvard. Upon graduation, he primarily served the poor and was a key factor in fighting the Boston smallpox epidemic in 1860. In 1861, he entered the Sanitary Commission as an inspector. He latter joined his regiment as surgeon in the Army of the Potomac where he cared for the sick and the wounded of both the Union Army as well as in the black camps in North Carolina. As a result of this dual service, he contracted typhoid pneumonia in April 5 1863 from which he died the following week.

1853

Lt. Colonel Wilder Dwight – 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

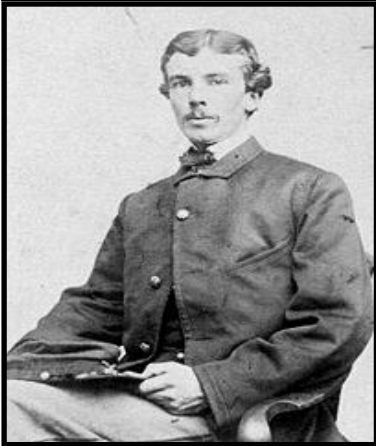


He was born in 1833 in Springfield, MA. into an old Yankee family with his paternal ancestors from England settling in Dedham, MA in 1636 and 1655 on his mother's side. He prepared for Harvard at Phillips Exeter as well as 6 months at a private military School in West Point where he learned military drill along with mathematics and French. After graduating from Harvard, he attended Law School there (LL.B '55), and began to practice in 1857 in Boston. At the outset of the War, he helped obtain authority for and organized a regiment of troops (April 1862) and was appointed Major of the 2nd Massachusetts on 24 May 1861. In May 1862 he was captured in action near Winchester, Virginia. He was paroled and returned "within the Union lines" in June, and was officially exchanged, returning to duty just after the battle at Cedar Creek, in August 1862. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on 13 June 1862.

In the Antietam Campaign, he was mortally wounded in combat on 17 September, and died two days later at Boonsborough, Maryland. His brother William, West Point 1859, rose to be Brigadier General, and served in the West during the War. Two other brothers, Charles and Howard (killed in 1863), also fought in the Federal Army during the War.

1854

Major General Charles Russell Lowell – 2nd Massachusetts Calvary.



He was born in 1835 in Boston as son of Anna Cabot Jackson Lowell and Charles Russell Lowell, Jr., the eldest son of Unitarian Minister and the brother of James Russell Lowell. He graduated from both Boston Latin and Boston English High School and later was the valedictorian of his Harvard class. After college, he briefly worked as a common laborer in an iron mill in central Massachusetts. He later moved to a management position in an iron mill in New Jersey. However, the mill environment was bad for his health and he was forced to return to Boston. After his recuperation, he journey abroad for 2 years when he visited Havana, Cuba and traveled throughout the Mediterranean including Algeria where he trained in fencing. After his return to the US, he became the treasurer of a rail road company in Iowa. A few years later in 1860, he became general manager of an Iron foundry in Maryland.

Lowell entered the Union Army in June 1861 as a captain in the 3rd U.S. Cavalry. He later served as an aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan during the formation of the Army of the Potomac in the summer and fall of 1861. He served in the 1862 Peninsula Campaign and the Battle of Antietam with McClellan. In 1863, Lowell recruited and organized the 2nd Mass Cavalry and was appointed its colonel. Later that year, he had married Josephine Shaw, a sister of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw of the 54th Mass (H-'60) who was killed with his black troops at Ft. Wagner. During the winter of 1863–64, he was in charge of the outer defenses of Washington, D.C., and was engaged in repelling the raid by Confederate Lt. Gen. Jubal Early that reached the outskirts of the capital. During the Valley Campaigns of 1864, Lowell commanded a brigade of cavalry in Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt's division of the Cavalry Corps of Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan's army. He distinguished himself at Third Winchester and took a leading role in the Confederate rout at Tom's Brook. He was mortally wounded during the Union counterattack at the Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864. General Sheridan interceded to ensure that he was promoted to brigadier general on that day but Lowell died on the next day at Middletown. Upon hearing of his death, Brig. Gen. George Armstrong Custer wept and Sheridan remarked "I do not think there was a quality which I could have added to Lowell. He was the perfection of a man and a soldier."

Captain Richard Chapman Goodwin – 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

Richard Chapman was born in Boston in 1833. He graduated from the Boston Latin School prior to entering Harvard College. On leaving college, he was in a mercantile house in Boston for more than a year, when he left for India. A few months later, he traveled throughout the Holy Land and then extensively toured Europe. 2 years later, he returned home to Boston. On the outbreak of Civil War, he joined the 2nd Massachusetts Regiment which left Boston in July, 1861 with several of his personal friends. In Virginia, he participated in the battles of Winchester and Cedar Mountain where he was killed in action. The Colonel of his regiment testified that Captain Goodwin's personal behavior rose to the highest level of nobility and fidelity.

1854 (continued)

Lt. Colonel James Savage – 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



He was born in 1831 in Boston, MA. His paternal ancestor was the commander of Massachusetts forces in the King Phillips War. He prepared for Harvard at Boston Latin. During college, he lost his mother and 2 sisters in a relatively short period of time. He was an accomplished piano player which helped him in his grief. After college, he sailed to Europe where he studied agricultural chemistry in Germany in anticipation of a future career path. During this period, he also traveled in the UK, Italy, France and Austria.

LTC Savage was involved in battles at Balls Bluff, Conrad's Ferry and Cedar Mountain, VA where he was wounded and captured by the Confederates. He died as a prisoner of war in Charlottesville, VA in September 1862 of wounds received at few months earlier at Cedar Mountain.

1855

1st Lt. George Foster Hodges – 18th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



He was born in Providence, RI in 1837, as the son of the president of the Washington Bank. He entered for Harvard College at age 15 as sophomore. After graduating from Harvard with honors, he briefly taught Jamaica Plain before leaving for Havana, Cuba for a year as a tutor in a private home. On his return to Boston, he entered Harvard Law School. After his graduation, he worked in a Boston Law office as well as a librarian at Harvard Law Library. He enlisted as private in the Charlestown City Guards but was commissioned as 1st Lt. 2 months later in Washington DC. He participated in combat in Alexandria, VA as well as the 1st battle of Bull Run where he rescued and carried his wounded regimental commander from the battle field (i.e. a classmate, Col. Lawrence)

Lt. Hodges briefly returned to Boston on leave but then returned to Virginia where he caught typhoid and died a few days later on 31 January 1862.

1856

Private Daniel Hack – 14th Massachusetts Battery

Private Hack was born in Taunton in 1834 as the oldest of 3 children. He taught school during the winter of his junior year. He planned to study Law after graduation but instead worked in his father's printing business until he enlisted in January 1864. In the following month, he stood for several hours with wet feet during a troop review by Major General Burnside. As a result, he contracted a severe cold and congestion of the lungs. He was then dropped from the rolls due to his physical disability. After several attempts to reenlist, he again joined the Army in Connecticut but was again taken ill and died in Hartford in April 17, 1864 after having enlisted twice in less than 4 months.

1856 - continued

Sergeant Charles Brooks Brown – 19th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).

Sgt. Brown was born in Cambridge in 1835. He was the 6th in a family of 11 siblings. He was educated in the Cambridge public school system prior to Harvard College where his family situation required him to have pay for his own expenses at college which he did for the most part as a writer. While relatively short in height, he was very muscular and a good athlete at Harvard where he graduated 20th out of his 92 classmates. He then joined a Boston Law firm and passed the Bar. He later moved to Springfield Illinois where he became an acquaintance of another Springfield lawyer named Abraham Lincoln for whom he actively campaigned in the Lincoln – Douglas political contest of 1858. He was instrumental in having Lincoln's son enter Harvard. In 1860, he returned to Charlestown where he opened a law office. On 17 April 1861, he was returning to home on afternoon and saw an Army recruiting rally. He enlisted up on the spot and that same night was a ferry to Virginia with his new regiment. He returned home to Boston in 3 months after his enlistment expired. However, he soon reenlisted in the 19th Mass regiment where he soon was made a sergeant. He was then involved in picket duty along the Potomac River until he participated in the battle of Ball's Bluff. He later participated in active combat in Yorktown and Richmond, Virginia. At the battle of Fair Oaks in June 1862, a Minnie balls passed through his left leg just above his ankle but he continued to fight. He was later evacuated with crutches to a New York hospital to recover from his wounds.

After 5 months of recuperation, he rejoined his regiment in December 1862 and participated in the battle of Fredericksburg (VA) where he was shot in the head after being the 7th and last of 11 men to pick up the regimental colors in the heat of battle. After his 2nd hospitalization, he again returned to his regiment and participated in the 2nd battle of Fredericksburg (i.e. also known as Chancellorsville). Subsequently against his will, he was sent to a hospital for the 3rd time due to a persistent fever. He then reenlisted for the 3rd time in December 1863. Given his education and extensive combat experience, he could have received a commissioned but he would have had to transfer to another regiment which he elected not to do. In May of 1864, he participated in the Wilderness campaign. During this time, he was in effect commanding his company, although he was still a sergeant. Due to action of some of his friends, Major General Butler, his Corps commander sent him a written appointment as a 1st Lt. He put this written commission in his pocket without seeking leave or orders to report elsewhere and then took part in serve days of hard fighting at the Spotsylvania Court House. While leading his company, he was struck by shell fragments which nearly took off his left leg and badly mangled his right leg. He lay on the battlefield for an hour before being evacuated to a field hospital where he died the following morning. Both of Sergeant Brown's brothers were in his regiment and one brother was also mortally wounded at Spotsylvania. His finance who he had met during his last recuperation became ill from consumption after learning of his death and she died 6 months later with his name on his lips. Sergeant Brown was a penultimate warrior and hero and proud son of Harvard.

1st Lt. Stephen George Perkins – 2nd Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



He was born in Boston in 1835, MA as the son of a well known Boston merchant. He initially entered Harvard with the class of 1855 but had to leave due to problems with his eyes. He returned the following year and was on the crew team. He graduated as part of the class of 1856 and then entered the Harvard Law School. However, he later transferred to the Lawrence Scientific school where he received a degree in mathematics in 1861 and the following month was commissioned a 2nd Lt. and sent to the Army of the Potomac. Although sick at the time, he participated in the battle of Cedar Mountain in August 1862. He was wounded in his hand but continued to fight with a handkerchief to bind his wound. However, 10 minutes later he was killed in action after being struck by 3 more bullets.

1857

Captain Howard Dwight – 4th Missouri Cavalry



He was born in Springfield, MA in 1837 and attended Phillips Exeter prior to entering Harvard College. After his Harvard graduation, he went to Tennessee to build and run a cotton press since he was challenged by manufacturing. He entered Army with the 24th Massachusetts Regiment as a 1st Lt. in September 1862. On the advice of his brother Lt Col Wilder Dwight who is noted above, he volunteered for the Fremont Hussars (the 4th MO Cavalry) under General Fremont since he was familiar with the Tennessee area. In October 1861, he took part in the battle of Pea Ridge and as senior officer charged the Confederate cavalry. After a year in the Missouri campaign, he was sent as a captain to Louisiana to participate in the Gulf campaign. He distinguished himself in the Teche campaign and one time had his horse shot out from under him. A few weeks later, he temporarily attached to the brigade of his brother, Brig. Gen. William Dwight and ordered to carry dispatches to General Banks.

In his last dispatch run on 4 May 1863, he was stopped by several Confederate cavalymen in Bayou Courtableau, Louisiana. He had no choice but to surrender. However, one of the Confederates then fired his gun and shot Captain Dwight in the brain which killed him instantly

1st Lt. James Amory Perkins – 24th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)

Lt. Hack was born in Dorchester, MA in 1836 to a merchant father. He was hard worker in school but was not strong and tended to be sickly. After graduating from Harvard, he sailed for India and spent a year Calcutta and then Bombay to better understand the East India Company, which traded with his father. He returned home after extensive travel in Italy, Switzerland, Italy and England. When he was 16, he went to England for his health. In late 1862, he was commissioned a 1st Lt in the Army and was sent to North Carolina under General Burnside. He participated in expeditions to Little Washington & Plymouth as well as the landing on Morris Island near Fort Wagner. Although very sickly during the Morris Island siege, he stayed on the front line with his men. In the middle of a sentence to his men on 26 August 1863, he was struck by a cannon ball which hit him in the upper part of his arm and went right through his body causing his instant death.

1858

Assistant surgeon (Captain) Samuel Henry Eells – 12th Michigan Volunteers (Infantry)

He was born in Oberlin, Ohio in 1836 as the son of a preacher who drowned just after Samuel was born. When he was 10, his mother moved to Boston where he attended Boston Latin prior to entering Harvard College. After his college graduation, he then attended medical school at the University of Michigan but enlisted in the 12th Michigan as hospital steward in February 1862. He participated in the battle of Shiloh where he was made a prisoner. A few days later, he was then exchanged for Confederate doctors and stewards along with each other's wounded. He then took part in the battles of Hatchie, Vicksburg and an expedition to Arkansas when he was promoted to assistant surgeon. In August of 1863, he became fatally sick with multiple complications including bronchial consumption. He returned to Detroit on sick leave in December 1863 and died the following month.

1858 - continued

1st Lt. James Jackson Lowell – 20th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).



Lt. James Lowell was born in Cambridge in 1837 and was the younger brother of General Charles Russell Lowell (H-54) who as noted earlier was also killed during the Civil War. He was descended from John Lowell one of the framers of the Massachusetts Constitution whose son started the US cotton manufacturing industry and co-found of the city of Lowell, MA. On his mother's side, his antecedents included a Judge of the Massachusetts Supreme Court.

James graduated from Boston Latin before entering Harvard where he graduated first in his class, as did his brother Charles. James then entered Harvard Law School intending to be a lawyer before entering the Army shortly after the start of the war,

Lt. Lowell fought in the battle of Ball's Bluff where he was wounded in the thigh and his cousin 1st Lt. William Putnam was killed in action. After returning to active duty from sick leave, James then was involved in a fierce fight at Fair Oaks in May and June of 1862. He was later mortally wounded at the battle of Glendale near Richmond in June 1862 while leading his company on a mission to destroy an enemy ammunition dump. Lt Lowell was one of the earliest Harvard grads to be killed in action during the Civil War.

2nd Lt. Edward Bromfield Mason – 2nd Massachusetts Calvary

Lt. Edward Mason was born in Boston in 1837 and was the grandson of Senator Jonathan Mason of Massachusetts. As a teenager, he traveled in Europe for almost 2 years with his parents before entering Harvard as a sophomore. After the College, he then entered Harvard Medical School but left to accept a commission as an assistant surgeon (i.e. Captain equivalent) in the 14th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry) since he was not able to get an appointment as a line officer in a combat unit. In August of 1862 he participated in the battle of Fairfax Court House in VA where his field hospital was captured by the Confederates and he was taken prisoner. In the rebel camp, he unexpectedly met a classmate Rooney Lee, who was a rebel colonel and son of General Robert E. Lee CSA to whom he was introduced and repatriated shortly thereafter. After much delay, he finally was offered and accepted a 2nd Lieutenant commission in the 2nd Massachusetts Calvary by Colonel Lowell. At an evening parade at camp in Massachusetts, an undisciplined horse reared and fell back on him from which he died after 2 weeks of very painful suffering.

Major Lt. Henry Lyman Patten – 20th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry).



Lt. Patten was born in Kingston NH in 1836. He prepared at Boston Latin for Harvard where he was a speedy football player, the best cricketers at Harvard and a member of the Hasty Pudding Club. He taught for a year before entering Harvard Law School but accepted a commission with the 20th Massachusetts at the end of 1861 before graduating from the Law School. 4 months later he was in his first combat at Yorktown and later at Fair Oaks, Beaver Dam Creek, Gaines's Mill, Savage Station, Chantilly, White Oak Swamp, Fredericksburg, Antietam, Mine Run, Chancellorville, the Wilderness, Gettysburg where he was wounded, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom and finally at Glendale where he was

mortally wounded with a deep wound in the leg in August 1864 and he died a month later in Philadelphia.

1858 - continued

Assistant Surgeon (Lt. equivalent) Henry Augustus Richardson USN –N. Atlantic Squadron. Lt. Edward Mason was born in Boscawen in 1837 and prepared for Harvard at Phillips Exeter in NH and received his MD from Harvard Medical School and performed his residency at the US Marine Hospital in Chelsea, MA. He was commissioned as an assistant surgeon in August 1861 and got underway for Blockading duty off the coast of South Carolina. At sea, his health suffered in the damp weather and he was forced to accept a medical discharge and returned to Boston where he died a year later.

1st Lt. Thomas Jefferson Spurr –15th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



Lt. Spurr was born in Boscawen in 1837 and was the grandson of General John Spurr and the son of Colonel Samuel Spurr, who later became a merchant after his military service. He prepared for Harvard at Worcester High School where he graduated first in his class. He was in Russia at the start of the Civil War and hastened home to accept a commission in the 15th MA. He was too ill to join his regiment at the battle of Malvern Hill but more than participated in the battle of Antietam where he was mortally wounded.

1861- HLS

2nd William Lowell Putnam–20th Massachusetts Volunteers (Infantry)



Born in 1840, Lt. Putnam was the cousin of Charles and James Lowell) was a law student at Harvard College when the war broke out. At the age of 21 he was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company E, 20th Massachusetts Infantry. Putnam died of a gunshot wound at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861.

To be continued (work in progress)

