

American Civil War Regiments

REGIMENT:	13th Infantry Regiment New Jersey
Date of Organization:	25 Aug 1862
Muster Date:	8 Jun 1865
Regiment State:	New Jersey
Regiment Type:	Infantry
Regiment Number:	13th
Enlisted Died of Disease or Accident:	3
Officers Died of Disease or Accident:	0
Enlisted Killed or Mortally Wounded:	71
Enlisted Died of Disease or Accident:	44
Regimental Soldiers and History:	<p>Regimental History NEW JERSEY THIRTEENTH INFANTRY (Three Years)</p> <p>Thirteenth Infantry.--Col., Ezra A. Carman; Lieut.-Cols., Robert S. Swords, Samuel Chadwick, John Grimes, Frederick H. Harris; Majs., George A. Beardsley, David A. Ryerson. This regiment was mustered in at Camp Frelinghuysen, near Newark, Aug. 25, 1862, and remained in camp until the 31st, when it started for Washington, reaching that city on Sept. 2 and being at once sent into camp near Fort Richardson, Arlington Heights. Its first engagement was at the battle of Antietam, where the entire loss of the regiment was 7 killed, 70 wounded (of whom</p>

11 afterward died) and 25 missing. At Chancellorsville it behaved admirably throughout, again showing that it was made of royal stuff. The loss of the regiment in killed and wounded during the three days' fighting was some 130, being nearly one-half the number taken into battle. At Gettysburg the 13th--its splendid fighting qualities being now universally recognized--was again placed, with Col. Carman in command, in a peculiarly exposed position, but though on duty for 14 hours lost only 21 men--1 killed and 20 wounded. In the fall of 1863 the regiment was transferred to Tennessee and in the following spring started with Sherman's army upon the Atlanta campaign. The first serious engagement in which it participated was that of Resaca, and although the men of the regiment fought with great steadiness throughout, the loss was much less than might have been expected, amounting to 4 killed and 23 wounded. Pushing forward in pursuit, the 20th corps came up with the enemy posted in fortifications, upon the hills south of Cassville, where the skirmishers of the regiment again became engaged, but without any serious loss. At Dallas, the 1st division was ordered to the left to reinforce Geary, the 13th being by order of Gen. Hooker deployed on the right of the line as skirmishers, and it soon drove in that part of the enemy's line, with a loss of only 6 men wounded, including Lieut.-Col. Grimes and Lieut. George Baitzel, of Co. C--the former wounded in the hand and the latter in the left arm. The 13th was then pushed steadily forward, fighting as it advanced and losing several men, including Lieut. Peter M. Ryerson, of Co. C, who was mortally wounded on June 16. At the battle of Kolb's farm, sheltered by hastily-constructed breastworks, the regiment escaped without the loss of a single man killed, and only 6 were wounded. The regiment had 2 men killed at Nancy's creek and at Peachtree creek it lost 6. It was on constant duty during the siege of Atlanta, the loss of the regiment in the campaign which ended in the capture of the besieged city being 100 in killed and wounded. At Sandersville, Ga., the regiment had 3 men wounded, one only slightly, and was very highly complimented for its conduct in the affair. When nearing Savannah the regiment formed in line in a swamp, in water from one to two feet deep, and when orders were given the men advanced with a yell in face of a galling fire from the Confederate guns, but the enemy soon evacuated the works and escaped towards Savannah, only 2 or 3 prisoners being taken. In the entire march and campaign from Atlanta to and including The capture of Savannah, the regiment lost only 6 men, 3 wounded and 3 captured. At Averasboro, N. C., the 13th passed through a deep swamp, driving the Confederate skirmishers rapidly into their works and halting some 200 yards from their position, where a line of earthworks was hastily thrown up after a severe engagement in which it lost 2 men killed and 22 wounded, many of the latter severely. At Bentonville, the last

battle of the war in which Sherman's army participated, the conduct of the 13th was of the most gallant character. On June 26 the last man of the command was mustered out, and the regiment, which on so many fields had fought bravely and well for the flag of the Fathers, ceased to exist. The total strength of the 13th was 1,438, and it lost during its term of service, by resignation 32, by discharge 152, by promotion 49, by transfer 410, by death 106, by desertion 178, not accounted for 1, mustered out, 510.

Source: The Union Army, vol. 3

Antietam after battle report:

Report of Col. Eyra A. Carman, Thirteenth New Jersey Infantry, of the battle of Antietam.

HDQRS. THIRTEENTH REGIMENT NEW JERSEY VOLS.,
Camp on Maryland Heights, September 24, 1862.

CAPT.:I have the honor of reporting the part performed by my command

in the action at Antietam Creek, near Sharpsburg, on Wednesday, September 17, 1862:

At daybreak on the morning of that day I was ordered to advance with the brigade to the support of Gen. Hooker's corps, then hotly pressed by the enemy. Advancing in brigade line, I formed to the right of the One hundred and seventh New York, where we were exposed for a few minutes to a very heavy artillery fire. I was then ordered by Gen. Gordon to advance thought the corn-field on the right across the road and down into a thick wood to support Gen. Sumner's corps. Advancing through the corn-field up to the road, I was fired into by the enemy, who had driven Gen. Sumner's corps from the wood. Seeing that my whole command would be annihilated if I advanced, and knowing that Gen. Sumner's corps had been driven from the wood, I formed my line was heavy, and after a stand of a few minutes I was obliged to retire. I report, with regret, the loss of a gallant officers at this place, Capt. H. C. Irish, of Company K, who fell at the head of his company while directing their fire.

After retiring about 200 yards to the rear and reforming my command, I was ordered to support Gen. Greene's brigade, then in possession of the wood near the school-house, but heavily pressed by a superior force of the enemy. I advanced to this position formed on the right of Gen. Greene's brigade, and engaged the enemy for an hour. Being flanked on the right, the whole brigade was obliged to retire, which they did in very good order, followed by the enemy for a short distance. The farther pursuit of the enemy was checked by the rapid and effective fire of the battery attached to this brigade, under command of Capt. Cochran. I again formed my command in line, waiting for an attack or an order to advance, but was not again called on.

I mention with pleasure the heroic conduct of James Kilroy, private in Company G, of this regiment, who, when the color-bearer was disabled, volunteered to carry the honored emblem, and did so always pressing forward until severely wounded. I append a list of my killed, wounded, and missing.*

I am, yours, truly,

E. A. CARMAN,
Col., Commanding Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers.

Capt. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-Gen.

Source: Official Records: Series I. Vol. 19. Part I, Reports. Serial No. 27

Gettysburg after battle report:

Report of Lieut. Col. John Grimes, Thirteenth New Jersey Infantry.

----, --- ---, 1863.

Sir: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers in the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 2, and 3:

Having passed through and encamped near Littlestown, Pa., in the afternoon of June 30, on the morning of July 1 we counter-marched, again passing through Littlestown, and took the turnpike

leading to Gettysburg, Pa. After marching to within about 3 miles of Gettysburg, we took a road leading to the right, which we followed about 1 1/2 miles, when the rest of the brigade deployed in a piece of woods, and our regiment was held as a reserve. Remaining in this position for about an hour, our regiment countermarched about a mile, and took a position supporting Battery M, First New York Artillery, during the night.

July 2.--Moved out on the turnpike again, and in the direction of Gettysburg, to within 1 mile of that place, when we took a wood road leading to the right, on which we marched about half a mile, when we formed in double column and rested from 10a. m. until 6 p. m., when we moved with our brigade to the extreme left, where we remained but a short time, when we were ordered to our old position, where we arrived at midnight, and, after changing position several times, we assisted in building breastworks, which formed the extreme right of our line, resting on Rock Creek, and which position flanked to some extent the enemy, who for the time occupied a portion of our works.

At 4 a. m. July 3, firing commenced by the enemy, and our regiment was immediately under arms, and was soon engaged with the enemy's sharpshooters, and fighting the enemy as they fell back from the position they had held.

We remained thus under fire for fourteen hours, when, at 6 p. m., we moved from the position on the extreme right farther up the line to a position formerly occupied by the First Brigade, where we remained until 7.30 p. m., firing occasionally, when we moved out of the breastworks, and, with the One hundred and seventh New York Volunteers and the Fifth Connecticut Volunteers, the whole under command of Col. Carman, moved in the direction of Littlestown. Marched 2 miles, then took a road leading to the left, and marched 2 miles to a large cavalry camp, where we bivouacked in a meadow at 11 p. m., and remained during the night.

The foregoing report is taken from the diary of Capt. Beardsley, and approved by Capt. Harris, said officers being with the regiment during the time. Col. Carman at present being absent, sick, and as I was at that time absent from my regiment, occasioned by a wound received at Chancellorsville, from which I had not recovered, I am unable to give a more correct and minute report.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GRIMES,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers.

Col. S. Colgrove,
Comdg. Third Brig., First Div., Twelfth Corps.

Source: Official Records: Series I. Vol. 27. Part I. Reports. Serial No. 43

Battles Fought

Fought on 4 Jun 1864.

Fought on 16 Jun 1864 at Pine Knob, GA.

Fought on 9 Apr 1865 at North Carolina.