

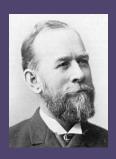
The call came for the defense of Pennsylvania and the Union

148th Beginnings

In August of 1862, the call came from Governor Andrew G. Curtin for men to serve the Union Army for the defense of Pennsylvania from invasion.

The 148th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment mustered immediately. This regiment consisted of ten companies from central Pennsylvania, seven of which came from Centre County.

During the Civil War, the 148th came to be known as the "Centre County Regiment".



James A. Beaver (October 21, 1837 – January 31, 1914)

Join our ranks!

James Addams Beaver was given command of the 148th regiment upon its formation.

Before the war, Beaver had served with a militia, "The Bellefonte Fencibles". Prior to command of the 148th, Beaver had served as adjutant with the 45th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment.

Following the war, Beaver practiced law, served as Acting President of Penn State (1906-1908), and 20th Governor of Pennsylvania (1887-1891). Penn State's "Beaver Stadium" is named in his honor.

For More Information

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148th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment

Company C The Centre County Regiment



Central PA Civil War Reenactors

The 148th Company C Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry distinguished itself as a Civil War fighting unit that drew many of its members from the central part of Pennsylvania.

Our family-oriented group celebrates this legacy by participating in local and national living histories and Civil War reenactments. Meetings each month allow us to discuss Civil War history, plan activities, and practice drills.





"Ready, Always Ready"

- Colonel James Beaver drilled the recruits daily and placed the regiment under the most rigid and uniform rules of discipline

On the 22nd of April 1864, the reinforced corps was for the first time brought together, on the occasion of a review by General Grant. More than twenty-five thousand men actually marched in review. The appearance and bearing of all the troops was brilliant in the extreme, but among all the gallant regiments that passed the reviewing officer, two excited especial admiration — one of which was the 148th Pennsylvania under Colonel Beaver.

The 148th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment paid dearly for its service to the Union cause. The Regiment was present in every battle of the Army of the Potomac from Chancellorsville to the surrender at Appomattox and was in the hottest of the fighting in all of them except the Wilderness. At Spotsylvania it lost 301 killed, wounded and missing, the greatest loss of any infantry regiment on that field. Four of its men were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor!

According to Fox's "Regimental Losses," of the 2,047 regiments in the Union Army, the 148th Pennsylvania ranks 14th in highest percentage (15.6%) killed in battle and 30th for actual number of men killed in battle (210).

The total casualties in action for the regiment were 915 out of 1,370, a 66% casualty rate. Of these, 421 were killed in battle or died of their wounds. Wounded were 34 officers, including Col. Beaver (who's leg was amputated at the age of 26), and 581 men. Reported captured or missing were 4 officers and 168 men.

And all of this for a unit that entered the war a year later than many of the other regiments...

Brave boys are they/ Gone at their country's call/ And yet, and yet/ We cannot forget/ That many 'brave boys' must fall