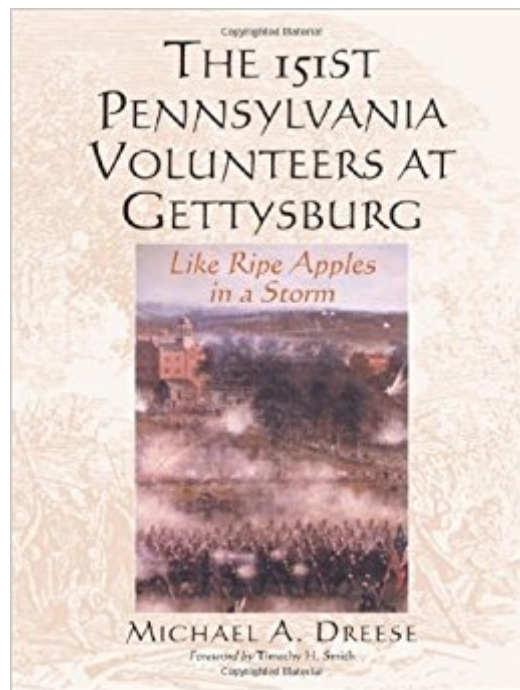




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# The 151st Pennsylvania Volunteers At Gettysburg: Like Ripe Apples In A Storm



## Synopsis

While the Battle of Gettysburg is often remembered for Chamberlain's dramatic defense of Little Round Top, Pickett and Pettigrew's tragic charge, and the stand of the "Iron Brigade," less-remembered units like the 151st Pennsylvania were also crucial in the Civil War's most famous battle. The 151st lost over 72 percent of its men to death, wounds, or capture, the second-highest-percentage loss of all Federal units at the battle. This is the account of that courageous unit and its role in this decisive moment in American history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael A. Dreese is the author of five books and numerous journal articles on topics including Pennsylvania and the American Civil War. An award-winning photographer, he is the president of the Friends and Descendants of the 151st Pennsylvania, and vice-president of the Susquehanna Civil War Round Table. He lives in Kreamer, Pennsylvania. --North & South "Nicely produced...aptly illustrated...Dreese's vivid narrative and eye for accurate detail lends a real 'you are there' feel to the book." --Flesh and Bones "This is an excellent, well written unit study and a 'must' for students of the Gettysburg Campaign. Recommended" --Crossfire "Nicely produced...aptly illustrated...Dreese's vivid narrative and eye for accurate detail lends a real 'you are there' feel to the book." --Flesh and Bones "This is an excellent, well written unit study and a 'must' for students of the Gettysburg Campaign. Recommended" --Crossfire

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"The 151st Pennsylvania Volunteers at Gettysburg: Like Ripe Apples in a Storm" by Michael A. Dreese (McFarland & Company Inc, 2000, 190 pages). "The 151st Pennsylvania Volunteers at Gettysburg: Like Ripe Apples in a Storm" by Michael A. Dreese is the history of this regiment from the Keystone State that fought at Gettysburg from July 1st to July 3rd 1863, and the aftermath of the battle. Michael Dreese, noted Gettysburg author and historian wrote this excellent account of these brave men and their actions at the battle of Gettysburg when they fought the regiments on the first day from North Carolina including the famous 26th North Carolina under the leadership of their boy Colonel Henry Burgwyn. The 151st was a relatively new regiment in the Army of the Potomac, being formed in 1862, however the men of the regiment "saw the elephant" when they became veterans of the bloody battle of Chancellorsville. Prior to Gettysburg, the regiment was stationed several months in Maryland and was rushed to Gettysburg when the battle commenced. The regiment would become heavily engaged on the first day and was near General John Reynolds when he was killed on the first day due to a Confederate sharpshooter. Due to the regiments excellent training and discipline as well as being from the state where the battle was fought, the regiment stood firm amid heavy casualties and carnage and would have losses (337 casualties among 467 soldiers). Michael Dreese has done an outstanding history about the regiment during the three days of the battle and the weeks afterwards. The book is full of the accounts of the men of the 151st PA and their descriptions of the heavy combat they were involved with, where the action was, the Confederate Officers and men they fought against. The 151st would also take part in the repulse of Pickett's Charge on the 3rd day of the battle. The commanders who were in charge of the regiment and brigade, excellent photos and maps also enhance the history of the regiment in this book. Noted Civil War Historian and author Timothy H. Smith wrote the forward to this book and his observations and remarks are 100% "on the money" as he says that the 151st was one of the hardest fighting regiments in the Army of the Potomac under General George Meade. The 26th North Carolina would suffer heavily while facing the 151st PA. The 151st would also fight the 14th South Carolina Infantry, the price the 14th SC was heavy as it fought the 151st as it would suffer the highest casualty rate of a regiment under General Dorsey Pender's brigade at Gettysburg. The men from Pennsylvania would fight tirelessly and honorably as any regiment in the Army of the Potomac

during the battle of Gettysburg, however the 151st Pennsylvania after reading this book in my opinion was "a notch above" most of the regiments of the Army of the Potomac during the battle. There are many vivid and stirring accounts in this book that are too numerous to write in this review, but all of them are riveting and you feel "witness to the battle". Mr. Dreese also gives a brief history of the regiment and the men and officers of the 151st after Gettysburg in the final chapters and the bloody price many of the soldiers would suffer due to the battle of Gettysburg. The chapters in the book are:- Acknowledgments- Foreword by Timothy H. Smith- Introduction- Chapter 1: Countdown to Glory- Chapter 2: The March North: June 12 - June 30, 1863- Chapter 3: July 1, 1863- Chapter 4: July 2nd & 3rd 1863- Chapter 5: The Final Days: July 4-July 27, 1863- Chapter 6: Hospital Scenes- Chapter 7: Twenty Months in Dixie- Epilogue- Appendix I: What's in a name? Appendix II: List of Casualties of the 151st PA, Volunteers in the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, Notes, Bibliography, Index. This is an excellent history of this brave regiment from Pennsylvania as they fought on their home soil from July 1-3, 1863. Michael Dreese has done the regiment a great honor in writing this account of the regiment. It is highly recommended for anyone interested in the Battle of Gettysburg and the Army of the Potomac, Pennsylvania Infantry Regiments at Gettysburg, and Civil War history. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

I purchased two copies of "The 151st PA Volunteers: Like Ripe Apples in a Storm" to read for myself and share with my parents and siblings. My great great great grandfather served in company K of this unit. We learned in much more detail about the events of these three days in Gettysburg, how the unit fared before and after, as well as many personal stories of some of the individual soldiers. I am looking forward to getting one if the copies back so I can take my time in taking in all of the interesting information. I may have to purchase another copy for myself as there is a list if family members waiting to read the other two.

Excellent book on one of the most important Federal regiments during the first day's battle at Gettysburg. Major General Abner Doubleday, First Corps Commander on July 1, 1863, wrote of the 151st: "At Gettysburg, they won, under the brave McFarland, an imperishable fame. They defended the left front of the First Corps against vastly superior numbers; covered its retreat against the overwhelming masses of the enemy at the Seminary, west of town, and enabled me by their determined resistance, to withdraw the corps in comparative safety."

I bought this book for my son. My great-great grandfather fought in this group in Gettysburg. He was

from Corry, PA.

I purchased this book to find out more about me great Uncle Geroge Washington Anderson, a volunteer who was killed at the battle of Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. What I was delighted to learn was the development and movemnet of the 151st through out the rest of the Civil War. This book was wonderful to read and very informative to the historian of Gettysburg enthausists.

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