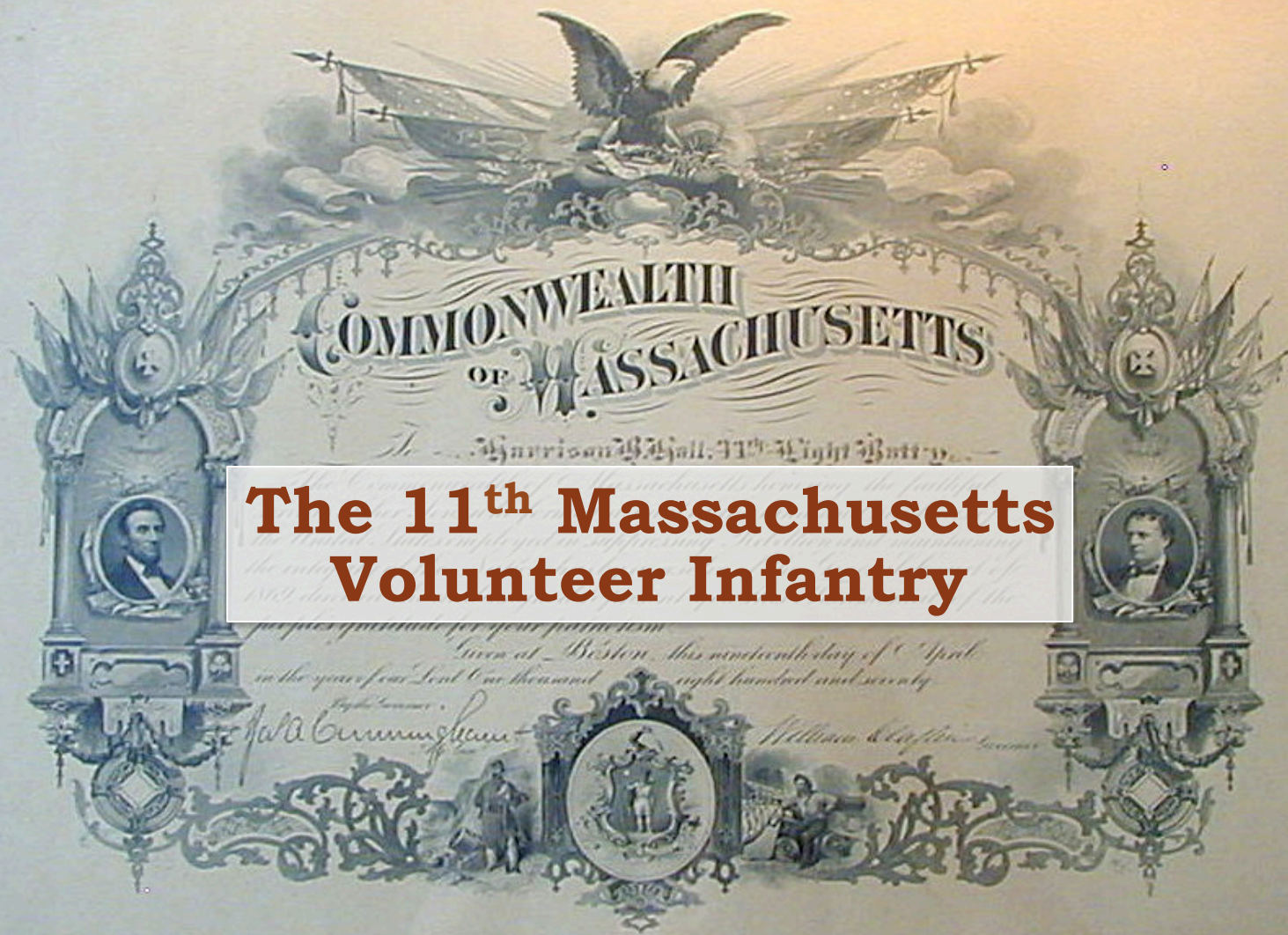


**The 11th Massachusetts
Volunteer Infantry**



The Boston Volunteers



The 11th Massachusetts was among the first three-year regiments formed in the Bay State. The core companies were originally known as the “Boston Volunteers” and the regiment was composed mostly of men from Boston. The unit formed over the course of May 1861.

At Fort Warren

They were quartered at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor for most of their training, also for a short time at Camp Cameron in North Cambridge. They departed the Bay State on June 29, 1861

- Massachusetts Infantry Mustered in United States service for three years on 13 June, 1861, and arrived at Washington D. C. on 2 July, 1861
- COLONEL G CLARK, JR.
- LIEUTENANT COLONEL W BLAISDELL
- MAJOR G F TILESTON
- Company A: CAPT. M MOORE
- Company B Paul Revere Guard: CAPT. J H DAVIS
- Two companies, under the command of Captain J H Davis, were assigned to escort the 1st United States Artillery, Light Company G, 2nd Section, to Sangster's Station, Virginia, at 4 PM on 16 July, 1861.
- Company C Clark Light Guard: CAPT. P D TRIPP
- Company D: CAPT. J W BUTTERS
- Company E Boston Light Guard: CAPT. J R BIGELOW
- Company F: CAPT. L GORDON
- Company G: CAPT. W C ALLEN
- Company H Sanford Light Guard: CAPT. S PAGE
- Company I Bunker Hill Volunteers: CAPT. B F WRIGHT
- Company K Charlestown City Guard: CAPT. B STONE, JR.

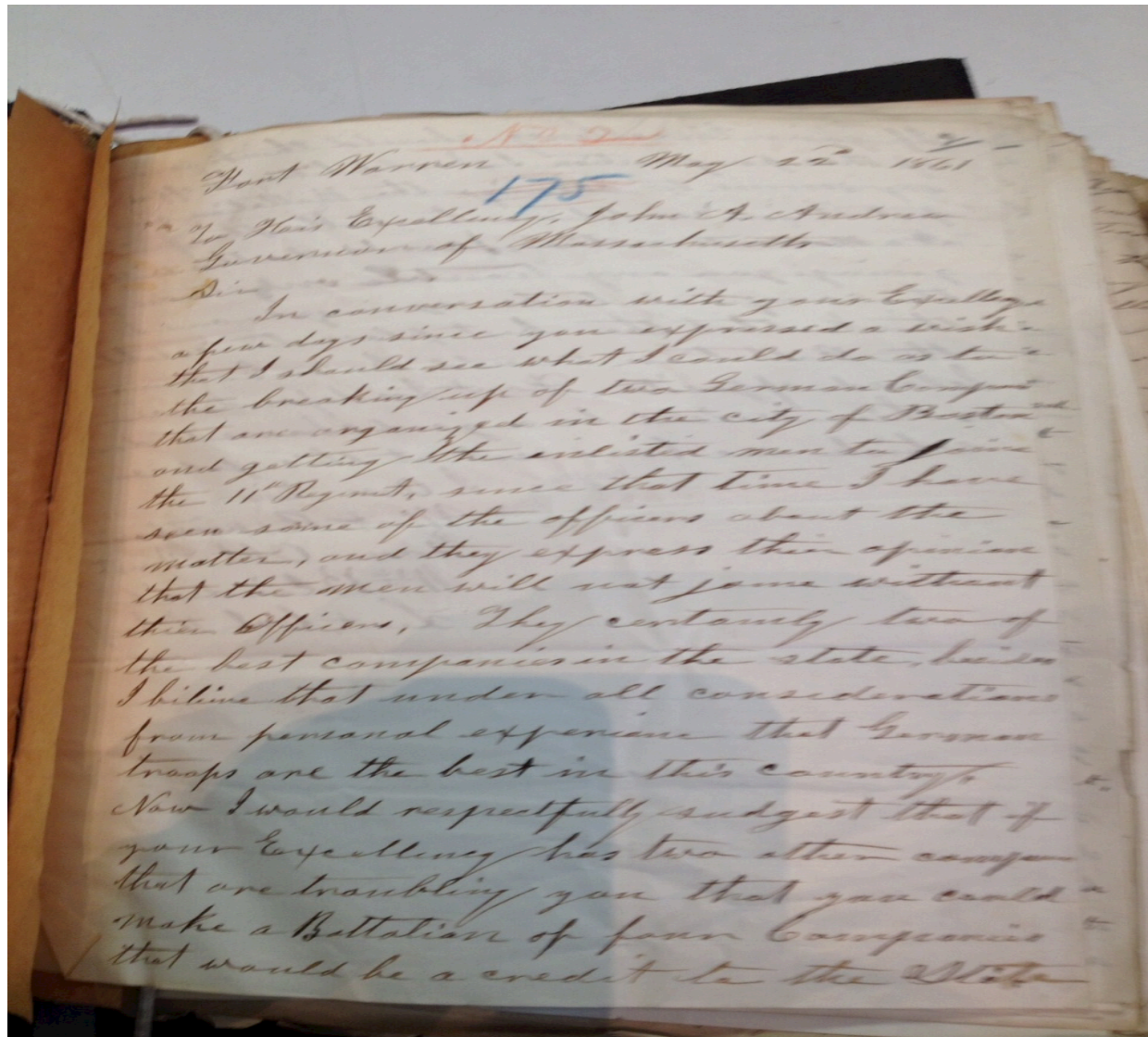
The 11th Original Company Roster

Companies/Towns/ Commanders Name

Courtesy of Massachusetts Archives

| Company Officers | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Company. | Captain. | |
| A <u>Boston.</u> | Richard H. Kimball. | ^{1st Lieut. Co. D.} Best man in field & must go |
| B <u>Boston.</u> | George M. Murch. | good |
| C <u>Boston.</u> | William S. White. | ^{1st Lieut. Co. D.} will make a good Captain |
| D <u>Boston.</u> | Nathaniel B. Shurtleff Jr. | good |
| E <u>Boston.</u> | Edward C. Saltmarsh. | first rate |
| F <u>No. Bridgewater.</u> | Alexander Dickson. | all right |
| G <u>Abington.</u> | Era Blanchard. | first rate man |
| H <u>Weymouth.</u> | James L. Bates. | best Captain of all |
| I <u>Stoughton.</u> | John Ripley. | good |
| J <u>Gloucester.</u> | David Allen Jr. | splendidly posted |

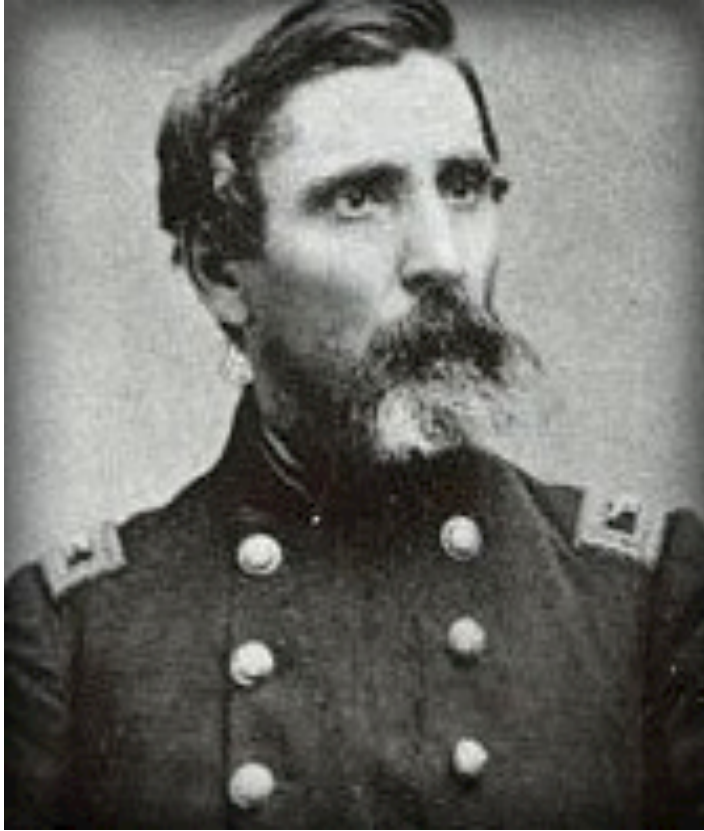
Primary Source Letter to the Governor requesting Germans be included in the 11th Regiment



Move the Germans
to the 11th "they
are best fighting
men in the
country".

Courtesy of
Massachusetts Archives

At First Bull Run



*Lieutenant Colonel W Blaisdell,
11th Massachusetts Infantry*

The regiment was one of only three Massachusetts units to take part in the First Battle of Bull Run on July 21, 1861. The green unit saw some tough fighting there at the foot of Henry House Hill. In the spring and summer of 1862, the unit participated in the Peninsular Campaign.

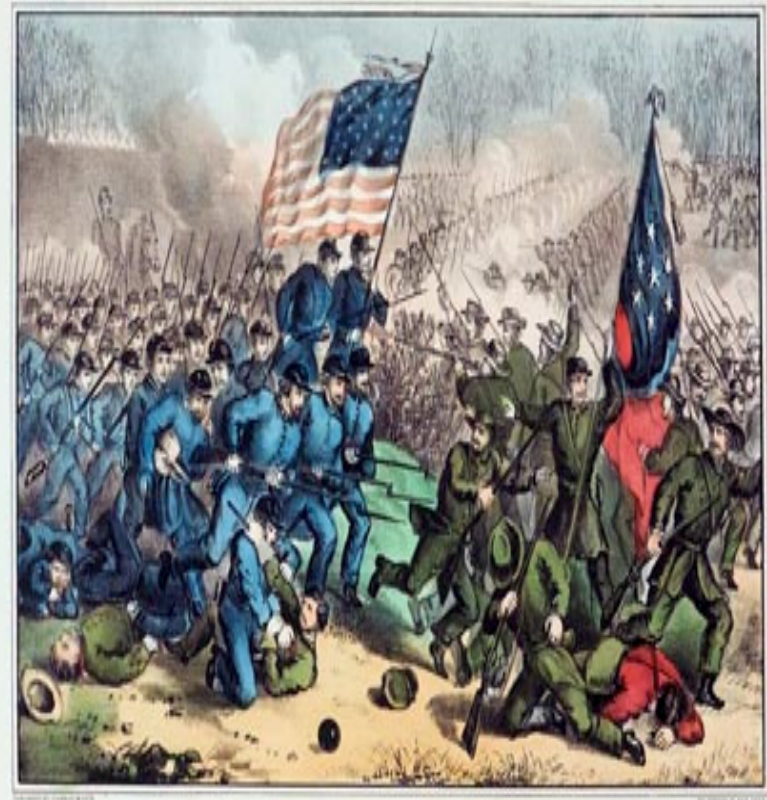
First Bull Run



Again at Bull Run

When the Army of the Potomac was pulled off the Virginia Peninsula in August 1862 to support the new Army of Virginia, the III Corps was among those units that reached the vicinity of Manassas in time to participate in the Second Battle of Bull Run.

Of the 13 Massachusetts units that participated in this fight, only two (the 1st and 11th Massachusetts) had fought on that same ground slightly more than a year prior.



THE SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN, FOUGHT AUG 29TH 1862.

Between the "Army of Virginia" units, Maj. Gen. John Pope, and the combined forces of the Rebel Army under Lee, Jackson, and others. This terrible battle unfolded on the national battle field of Bull Run, and lasted with great fury from daylight until after dark, when the rebels were driven back and the Union Army rested in triumph on the field.

Bayonet Charge



General Cuvier Grover

And they were very heavily engaged at Second Bull Run. Their brigade, at the time commanded by Brigadier General Cuvier Grover, who made a bayonet charge against the Confederate position along an unfinished railroad bed. The 11th was one of the few brigades to break through that heavily entrenched position.

Sadly, this advantage was not supported and resulted in many casualties for Grover's Brigade. The 11th Massachusetts took 40% casualties in a span of just 20 minutes.

At Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville

They were present for Fredericksburg but assigned to guard pontoon bridges and did not participate in assaults.

During Chancellorsville in May 1863, they were again detached and assigned a position which may have been meant to keep the undersized unit out of the worst of the fighting ...however they ended up being hotly engaged and again suffered severe casualties.



At Gettysburg



By the time of Gettysburg in July 1863, the 11th Massachusetts was a seriously war-torn unit. They were 1,000 strong when they left the Bay State. At Gettysburg the 11th Massachusetts fielded 286 men.

The 11th at Gettysburg

The Eleventh Massachusetts Infantry was commanded at the Battle of Gettysburg by Lieutenant Colonel Porter D. Tripp. It brought 286 men to the field and lost 23 killed, 96 wounded and 10 missing.



Colonel Porter's Report

At 8 a.m. the same day orders were received to move to the front to support a line of skirmishers, in which position we remained until 3 p.m., when the regiment was ordered into line of battle to withstand a charge made by the enemy, led by General Barksdale, of Mississippi. The regiment was engaged with the enemy until 8 p.m. on the 2d instant, having made two distinct charges and helping to repulse the enemy from that point.

We were ordered to fall back to the edge of the woods, where we remained until 3 p.m. on the 3d instant, when we were moved at double-quick to the front. We lay in line of battle of brigades until 6 p.m., when we again fell back to the edge of the woods.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PORTER D. TRIPP,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Mustered Out

Mustered out, 14 June, 1864: The three years men were mustered out on June 12th , 1864, and the veterans and recruits were consolidated as the 11th Massachusetts Battalion Infantry with five companies. The 16th Massachusetts Infantry veterans and recruits were assigned to the 11th Massachusetts Battalion Infantry on 11 July 11th , 1864, and the 11th Massachusetts Infantry was mustered out at Readville, Massachusetts, on 14 June, 1865.

Sources

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Researcher for Power Point Presentation 11th and 12th Massachusetts Regiments

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