

**CIVIL WAR**  
**VOLUNTEER SONS**  
**OF CONNECTICUT**  
**BLAIKIE HINES**



**AMERICAN PATRIOT**  
**PRESS**

## VOLUNTOWN

THE POPULATION IN 1860 WAS 1,055 (RANK 130)

### THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY OF THE CIVIL WAR

## MAY 16, 1864

### DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA

#### AN OBSTACLE ON THE WAY TO RICHMOND

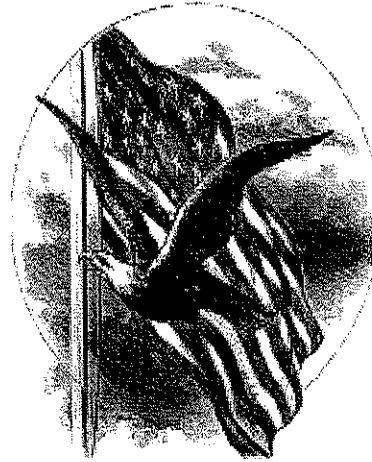
More soldiers credited to Voluntown were listed as casualties (5) on this day than on any other day of the war. One soldier was killed, 2 were wounded, and 2 were captured in the 6<sup>TH</sup> and 21<sup>ST</sup> Connecticut. The wounded and captured survived the war.

The date May 16, 1864 ranks 4<sup>th</sup> for total casualties (560) (52 killed, 3 missing, 224 wounded, 243 captured, 38 wounded & captured) for a single day for the State of Connecticut. The Battle of Drewry's Bluff accounted for 545 casualties. The 15 other casualties were scattered about Virginia.

The Battle of Drewry's Bluff (May 13-17, 1864), also called Fort Darling, ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> for total casualties (634) for an engagement for the State of Connecticut. The most intense fighting developed on May 16. Voluntown had all of its casualties on that day.

The Battle of Drewry's Bluff with 5 total casualties for Voluntown was the highest number of casualties for any single engagement of the war for the town.

The Confederate attack at Drewry's Bluff forced the Union Army to retreat to Bermuda Hundred. The civil war would have concluded sooner had the Union Army been victorious.



#### 68 MEN CREDITED TO VOLUNTOWN SERVED IN THE FOLLOWING CONNECTICUT ORGANIZATIONS

<u>REGIMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
21 <sup>ST</sup>	25 (37%)
26 <sup>TH</sup>	13 (19%)
12 <sup>TH</sup>	11 (15%)
10 <sup>TH</sup>	8 (12%)
12 <sup>TH</sup> BATTALION	6 (9%)
14 <sup>TH</sup>	3 (4%)
1 <sup>ST</sup> HEAVY ARTILLERY	2 (3%)
1 <sup>ST</sup> CAVALRY	2 (3%)
8 <sup>TH</sup>	2 (3%)
2 <sup>ND</sup> HEAVY ARTILLERY	1
6 <sup>TH</sup>	1
7 <sup>TH</sup>	1
18 <sup>TH</sup>	1

6% OF POPULATION

**FOUR WERE KILLED**

The first Voluntown soldier killed was Private William E. Sweet of Company G, 12<sup>TH</sup> Connecticut. He was killed at Port Hudson, LA on June 1, 1863.

**VOLUNTOWN SOLDIERS KILLED**

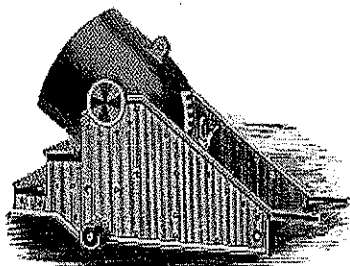
<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
Port Hudson, LA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	6/1/63	1
Drewry's Bluff, VA (21 <sup>ST</sup> )	5/16/64	1
Cedar Creek, VA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	10/19/64	2

**SEVEN WERE CAPTURED**

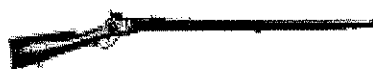
No Voluntown soldiers died in captivity.

**VOLUNTOWN CAPTURED  
NONE DIED IN CAPTIVITY**

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
Antietam, MD (8 <sup>TH</sup> ) (WOUNDED)	9/17/62	1
Winchester, VA (18 <sup>TH</sup> )	6/15/63	1
Bristoe Station, VA (14 <sup>TH</sup> )	10/14/63	1
Drewry's Bluff, VA (21 <sup>ST</sup> )	5/16/64	2
Bermuda Hundred, VA (7 <sup>TH</sup> )	6/2/64	1
Cedar Creek, VA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	10/19/64	1

**TOTAL VOLUNTOWN  
CASUALTIES**

<b>DIED</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>KILLED</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>WOUNDED</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>CAPTURED</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>DESERTED</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7%</b>

**NINETEEN WERE WOUNDED**

The first Voluntown soldier wounded was Private James R. Watson of Company F, 8<sup>TH</sup> Connecticut. He was wounded and captured at the Battle of Antietam, MD on September 17, 1862 and recovered from his wound. One Voluntown soldier died from a wound received during the war.

**VOLUNTOWN WOUNDED  
\*(1) DIED FROM WOUNDS**

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
Fredericksburg, VA (21 <sup>ST</sup> )	12/14/62	2
Kinston, NC (10 <sup>TH</sup> )	12/14/62	1
Port Hudson, LA (26 <sup>TH</sup> )	5/27/63	1
Port Hudson, LA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	5/29/63	1
Port Hudson, LA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	6/14/63	1
Port Hudson, LA (26 <sup>TH</sup> )	6/25/63	1
Port Hudson, LA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	7/3/63	1
Drewry's Bluff, VA (6 <sup>TH</sup> 21 <sup>ST</sup> )	5/16/64	2
New Market, VA (10 <sup>TH</sup> )	7/27/64	1
Deep Bottom, VA (10 <sup>TH</sup> )	8/14/64	1
Deep Run, VA (10 <sup>TH</sup> )	8/16/64	1
Petersburg, VA (21 <sup>ST</sup> ) *	8/18/64	1
Winchester, VA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	9/19/64	3
Chaffin's Farm, VA (21 <sup>ST</sup> )	9/29/64	1
Cedar Creek, VA (12 <sup>TH</sup> )	10/19/64	1