
BVI. MAJ. GEN. GALUSHA PENNYPACKER.

MAY 29, 1900.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HAWLEY, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 4201.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 4201) to advance Bvt. Maj. Gen. Galusha Pennypacker, United States Army, from the rank of colonel on the retired list to the rank of major-general on the retired list, having duly considered the same, report it back with an amendment fixing the advance in rank to be that of a brigadier-general, and recommend that, as amended, the bill do pass.

In the judgment of the committee the very exceptional and heroic services of this officer, his many (five) severe wounds, with great and continuous suffering therefrom to the present time, fairly entitle and merit the action proposed. A germane statement of the services of General Pennypacker, and his official volunteer and regular military record are appended as a part of this report.

Statement of service of Galusha Pennypacker, United States Army.

[From "Officers of the Army and Navy (Regular) Who Served in the Civil War."]

Col. and Bvt. Maj. Gen. Galusha Pennypacker is a native of Pennsylvania, belonging to one of its oldest families, whose names are written in the annals of the State and nation. The appointment to West Point from the Sixth Congressional district having been tendered him, he would but for the war have probably entered the Military Academy in 1861 or 1862.

General Pennypacker entered the service in April, 1861. Declining on account of his youth the appointment of first lieutenant in his company, A, of the Ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, he was made a noncommissioned staff officer of that regiment, and served with it during its three months of service in Major-General Patterson's column, in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.

He entered "for the war" as captain of Company A, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, August 22, 1861, and was promoted major October 7 following. The Ninety-seventh joined the Tenth Corps in the Department of the South, and during

the years 1862 and 1863 participated in all the various movements, engagements, and sieges in which that corps took part, on the coast of South Carolina (Forts Wagner and Gregg, James Island, and siege of Charleston), Georgia (capture of Fort Pulaski), and Florida (taking of Fernandina and Jacksonville).

General Pennypacker commanded his regiment and the post of Fernandina, Fla., in April, 1864, when the regiment was ordered, with the Tenth Corps, to Virginia, and became part of the Army of the James; promoted to lieutenant-colonel April 3, 1864, and to colonel June 23, following.

In action in command of his regiment at Swift Creek May 9; Drewrys Bluff, May 16, and Chester Station May 18. On May 20 he led his regiment in an assault upon the Confederate lines at Green Plains, Bermuda Hundred, Va., receiving three severe wounds, losing 175 men killed and wounded out of 295 taken into the charge.

Returned to duty in August, and in action at Deep Bottom on the 16th, and Wier-bottom Church on the 25th of the same month. In the trenches before Petersburg in August and September.

Assigned to command the Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Corps, in September, and on the 29th led his brigade in the successful assault upon Fort Harrison, where he was again wounded and his horse shot under him.

In action October 7 at Chaffins Farm, and on the 29th at Darbytown Road. With the first Fort Fisher expedition under General Butler December 1 to 31.

General Pennypacker's brigade (composed of New York and Pennsylvania regiments) formed a portion of the expeditionary corps which, under command of Major-General Terry, made the successful (and perhaps most brilliant of the war) assault upon Fort Fisher, N. C., January 15, 1865.

For his distinguished personal gallantry in this assault, when he was most severely (and it was thought for a time mortally) wounded, and "for gallant and meritorious services during the war" Pennypacker received six brevets or promotions as follows: Brevet brigadier-general, United States Volunteers, January 15, 1865; brigadier-general, United States Volunteers, February 18, 1865, brevet major-general, United States Volunteers, March 13, 1865; colonel Thirty-fourth (designation changed to Sixteenth) Infantry, United States Army, July 28, 1866; brevet brigadier-general, United States Army, March 2, 1867, and brevet major-general, United States Army, March 2, 1867.

The Congressional medal of honor was awarded General Pennypacker for "bravery at the battle of Fort Fisher." He was one of the youngest, if not the youngest, general officers of the war, and was the youngest man in the history of the Regular Army to be commissioned a colonel and brevet major-general. His commanding general emphasized to the writer of this sketch a declaration that Pennypacker and not himself was the real hero of Fort Fisher, and that his "great gallantry was only equaled by his modesty."

Since the war, with the exception of two years on leave in Europe, General Pennypacker has served in the Southern, Southwestern, and Western States, performing the duties incident to a regimental and post commander. He was temporarily in command of the District of Mississippi in 1867, the Fourth Military district in 1868, the Department of Mississippi in 1870, the United States troops in New Orleans in 1874, and the Department of the South in 1876.

Placed on the retired list of the Army in 1883 on account of wounds, he has since resided in Philadelphia.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MAJ. GEN. ALFRED H. TERRY TO LIEUT. GEN. ULYSSES S. GRANT,
COMMANDING ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES—FORT FISHER.

* * * Ames's division had been selected for the assault. * * * When Curtis moved from the outwork, Pennypacker was brought up to it and Bell was brought into line 200 yards in his rear. * * * When Curtis moved forward, Ames directed Pennypacker to move up to the rear of the sharpshooters and brought Bell up to Pennypacker's position, and as soon as Curtis got a foothold on the parapet sent Pennypacker in to his support. Pennypacker advanced, overlapping Curtis's right, and drove the enemy from the heavy palisading, which extended from the west end of the land face to the Cape Fear River, capturing a considerable number—some four hundred of prisoners. Then, pushing forward to the left, the two brigades together drove the enemy from about one-quarter of the land face. Hand-to-hand fighting of the most desperate character ensued, the huge traverses of the land face being used successfully by the enemy as breastworks, over the tops of which the contending parties fired in each other's faces. Nine of these were carried, one after another, by our troops. * * * Our prisoners numbered 112 commissioned officers and 1,971 enlisted men. * * * I have no words to do justice to the behavior of both officers and

men on this occasion. All that men could do they did. Better soldiers never fought. Brigadier-General Curtis, Brevet Brigadier-General Pennypacker, and Colonels Bell and Abbott, the brigade commanders, led their brigades with the utmost gallantry. Curtis was wounded after fighting in the front rank, rifle in hand. Pennypacker was most severely wounded while carrying forward the standard of one of its foremost regiments—the first man in a charge over a traverse. Bell was mortally wounded near the palisades.

FORT FISHER, N. C., *January 16, 1865.*

LIEUT. COL. GEORGE F. TOWLE, INSPECTOR-GENERAL TENTH ARMY CORPS.—NARRATIVE.

[Extract.]

* * * Three o'clock p. m., the hour appointed for the assault, now drew nigh. At that time precisely General Terry signaled the Navy to change the direction of their fire, and, the order being given, Curtis's brigade bounded forward with loud cheers. Meanwhile Pennypacker's brigade, led by him in person, came on like an avalanche. Pennypacker, overlapping Curtis's brigade, encountered a murderous fire, but his lines swarmed through the stockade, and swept the enemy from it westward to the Cape Fear River, capturing several hundred prisoners and getting possession of the sallyport, which his men opened from the inside. The gaps in the stockade where Curtis and Pennypacker went through were at first only large enough for two men to go abreast, and for the first few minutes, out of every five who gained the slope of the parapet three went down killed or wounded.

The two brigades, led by Curtis and Pennypacker, then advanced eastward along the land front, carrying each traverse successively against the most desperate opposition, but with heavy loss. * * *

There, too, Pennypacker received the desperate wound that kept him in hospital at Fortress Monroe through eleven weary months of pain and suffering. Idolized by his men, young in years, his body was already covered with scars received in battle. Seizing the flag of his old regiment, the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, he rushed up the fifth traverse, then held by the enemy, his men following close. A storm of rifle-balls greeted him as he rose to the crest, one laying him low, it was feared forever. Not Ney himself could have surpassed the valor with which Pennypacker and Curtis had led their brigades into the fort and charged the traverses, always in the advance.

DECEMBER 31, 1865.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF BVT. MAJ. GEN. ADELBERT AMES, COMMANDING SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS, TO MAJ. GEN. ALFRED H. TERRY, COMMANDING THE TENTH ARMY CORPS AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES ON THE COAST OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * At 3 p. m. yesterday we stormed Fort Fisher. Brigadier-General Curtis's brigade (the First) made a lodgment on the northwest angle of the fort. I immediately ordered up Brevet Brigadier-General Pennypacker's brigade (the Second).

The enemy were at once driven from the palisading extending from the fort to the Cape Fear River, and about one-third of the work occupied by us. * * * Fighting of a most obstinate character continued until after dark, during which time we made considerable advancement on the left and captured some four hundred prisoners. * * *

The conduct of the officers and men of this division was most gallant.

The name of every officer and man engaged in this desperate conflict should be mentioned, but I shall at present only be able to give a few of the most conspicuous. It is to be hoped they all may be properly rewarded. * * * Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. Pennypacker, commanding Second Brigade, was seriously wounded while planting the colors of his leading regiment—the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania—on the third traverse of the work.

This officer was surpassed by none. His absence during the remainder of the day was most deeply felt and seriously regretted.

FORT FISHER, N. C., *January 16, 1865.*

See "Official War Records," volumes relating to campaigns against Fort Fisher, N. C., and its capture, December, 1864, and January, 1865.

See Army Register for 1900, pages 211, 345, and 366, as to appointments, brevets, and medal of honor.

Case of Galusha Pennypacker, late brigadier-general and brevet major-general, United States Volunteers.

It is shown by the records that Galusha Pennypacker was enrolled and mustered into service April 24, 1861, at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pa., as quartermaster-sergeant, Ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, to serve three months, and that he was mustered out as such with the regiment at the same place July 29, 1861.

He was again mustered into service August 22, 1861, at Camp Wayne, Westchester, Pa., as captain Company A, Forty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers (the designation of which company was changed shortly thereafter to Company A, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers), to serve three years; was mustered in as major Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry at the same place October 7, 1861; was mustered in as lieutenant-colonel August 13, to date June 7, 1864, at Bermuda Hundred, Va. (which muster has been amended under the act of June 3, 1884, to date May 21, 1864); was mustered in as colonel same regiment, August 31, to date August 15, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.; was brevetted brigadier-general of volunteers, to rank from January 15, 1865, "for gallant services in the capture of Fort Fisher," and was discharged as colonel of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to date May 8, 1865, to enable him to accept appointment in the full rank of brigadier-general of volunteers. He was commissioned as a brigadier-general of volunteers to take rank from February 18, 1865, and accepted the appointment May 8, 1865; was brevetted major-general of volunteers to take rank from March 13, 1865, "for gallant and meritorious services during the war," and was honorably discharged from the service as brigadier-general of volunteers, on tender of resignation, by Special Orders No. 165, paragraph 5, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, dated April 11, 1866, to take effect April 30, 1866.

He was in command of his regiment most of the time from November 12, 1863, to September 15, 1864, when he was assigned to the command of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Corps, which he commanded until January 15, 1865, the brigade from December 5, 1864, being a part of the Second Division (Gen. A. Ames), Twenty-fourth Corps.

He was absent with leave, on account of disability incurred in the line of duty, from about September 23 to November 12, 1863; was severely wounded in the right arm and side while leading his regiment against a fortified position of the enemy at Green Plains, near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 20, 1864, on account of which he was absent on sick leave from May 23 to August 12, 1864; and was again severely wounded on the right side and hip while taking part in the assault on Fort Fisher, N. C., January 15, 1865, on account of which disability he was absent thereafter with leave to the date on which his resignation took effect, April 30, 1866.

Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, commanding the expeditionary forces against Fort Fisher, N. C., in referring to the conduct of the various officers under his command in the assault on that place, January 15, 1865, says:

"I have no words to do justice to the behavior of both officers and men on this occasion; all that men could do they did. Better soldiers never fought. Of General Ames I have already spoken in a letter recommending his promotion. He commanded all the troops engaged, and was constantly under fire. His great coolness, good judgment, and skill were never more conspicuous than in this assault. Brigadier-General Curtis, and Colonels Pennypacker, Bell, and Abbott, the brigade commanders, led them with the utmost gallantry. Curtis was wounded after fighting in the front ranks, rifle in hand; Pennypacker, while carrying the standard of one of his regiments, the first man in charge over a traverse; Bell was mortally wounded near the palisades."

General Ames in his report of the same affair says:

"Colonel G. Pennypacker, commanding the Second Brigade, was seriously wounded while planting his colors on the third traverse of the work. This officer was surpassed by none and his absence during the day most deeply felt and seriously regretted."

In addition to the brevet of brigadier-general of volunteers, which was bestowed upon him by the President immediately after the assault on Fort Fisher, he was further rewarded for his conduct on that occasion by the award of a medal of honor on August 17, 1891.

Respectfully submitted.

F. C. AINSWORTH,
Chief Record and Pension Office.

RECORD AND PENSION OFFICE, War Department, April 28, 1900.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, April 23, 1900.

The following is a statement of the military service of Galusha Pennypacker, colonel, retired, of the United States Army, compiled from the records of this office: *Regular Army record.*—He was appointed colonel, Thirty-fourth Infantry, December 1, to rank from July 28, 1866; accepted the appointment December 10, 1866; transferred to Sixteenth Infantry March 15, 1869, and retired July 3, 1883.

He received the brevet of brigadier-general, United States Army, March 2, 1867, "for gallant and meritorious services at the capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.," and major-general March 2, 1867, "for gallant and meritorious services during the war."

He was on delay and surgeon's certificate of disability from December 10, 1866, to June 2, 1867; on duty at headquarters fourth military district to August, 1867; joined regiment August 17, 1867, and served with it in Mississippi to April 14, 1870; on court-martial and inspection duty to August 22, 1870; with regiment to October, 1870; member of retiring board at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to February 10, 1871; commanding regiment at post of Nashville, Tenn., to December 22, 1871; on sick leave to October 21, 1873; commanding regiment and post of Nashville, Tenn., to July 10, 1876, being detached in the meantime in command of United States troops at New Orleans, La., from September 20 to October 5, 1874; commanding Department of the South to September 8, 1877; en route to and in Kansas to April 29, 1879; member of court of inquiry at Fort Stanton, N. Mex., to August 2, 1879; commanding post of Fort Riley, Kans., to November 15, 1880, San Antonio, Tex., to March 12, 1881, and Fort McKavett, Tex., to June 17, 1882; on leave to September, 17, 1882, and on sick leave to July 3, 1883, when retired from active service for disability resulting from wounds received in battle while in the volunteer service. He was examined by a retiring board May 2, 1883, and the finding of the board, upon which he was retired, was that:

"Col. Galusha Pennypacker, Sixteenth United States Infantry, is incapacitated from active service and the duties of his office, and in the judgment of the board said incapacity is due to wounds received in battle, and especially to one received at the storming of Fort Fisher, N. C., January 15, 1865, which fractured the pelvis bones, causing shortening of the right leg and so injuring the nerves as to induce severe neuralgic pains. He is also afflicted with insomnia. The board is further of opinion that his disability was incurred in the line of duty as an officer of the Army."

W. H. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Col. Galusha Pennypacker, Sixteenth Regiment United States Infantry, having applied for a certificate on which to ground an application for a leave of absence, I do hereby certify that I have carefully examined this officer and find that he has received five wounds in the line of duty—three near Drews Bluff, Virginia, May 20, 1864; one at Chaffins Farm, September 29, 1864, and one at Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865.

At Drewrys Bluff a ball passed through the right arm, implicating (but not fracturing) the humerus and perforating the triceps muscle, impairing the power of extension in that limb; a second ball produced a flesh wound of right side, and a third (a spent ball) a contusion of the left knee. At Chaffins Farm he received a gunshot wound of the right ankle, involving the inferior extremity of the tibia, causing caries of that bone, greatly impairing the mobility of the ankle joint, and weakening the limb.

At the capture of Fort Fisher, N. C., he received an extremely severe wound. A conoidal ball entered the abdomen just above and on the inner side of the anterior superior spinous processes of the right ilium, and made its exit on the same plane near the sacro-iliac junction, passing through the right ilium and pelvic viscera, seriously injuring the lumbar and sacro-lumbar plexuses of nerves, causing severe neuralgic pain in the region of the wound and in the right inferior extremity, especially along the tracts of the anterior ceural and the great sciatic nerves. The limb is shortened one and a half inches. In consequence of the almost constant neuralgic pains, which are frequently extremely severe, and the loss of sleep occasioned thereby, his general health is impaired and he suffers from attacks of nervous prostration and mental depression that are truly alarming, and that in consequence thereof he is, in my opinion, "unfit for duty."

"I further declare my belief that he will not be able to resume his duties" in a less period than one year, and that a total change of scene and climate, that can only

be found by crossing the sea, together with a complete relaxation from all care, responsibility, and anxiety, are absolutely necessary to his recovery. Without these (in my opinion) his nervous system will never recover its normal tone.

I have known Colonel Pennypacker for nearly two years, and for sixteen months have been his medical adviser, during which time I have carefully studied his condition, and I am forced to the conclusion that his wounds are the cause of the frequent attacks of extreme nervous and mental depression, and that they can not be cured excepting by a complete change of all his surroundings and an absence of all care.

He has been constantly on duty for five years, all the time suffering in a greater or less degree, he is much lamer now than at any previous period, and his attacks of neuralgia, accompanied with nervous prostration and mental depression, are becoming more frequent and of greater severity.

Given at Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1871.

JAMES F. WEEDS,
Surgeon, U. S. A.

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