

SCARCE WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR MEDAL. 'FOR LIBERTY' TYPE DIED OF WOUNDS RECIEVED AT THE BATTLE OF BERRYVILLE 3RD SEPTEMBER 1864



WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR MEDAL 'FOR LIBERTY' TYPE, 'CHAS R PERDUE CO A 1ST REGT VET INF VOLS'

Charles R Perdue, a 41 year old farmer from Franklin, Virginia, enlisted into 'B' Company, 5th West Virginia Infantry on 18th October 1861. He Reenlisted as a Veteran on December 23rd 1863. During his service, the 5th WV took part in numerous battles and campaignd, including; the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Waterloo Bridge, Gainesville , Groveton, Bull Run, Hunter's Expedition to Lynchburg and Battle of Kernstown.

The 5th West Virginia took part in Major General Philip H. Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign August 6-November 1864. After taking control of Smithfield Summit on August 29, Sheridan marched to Berryville with his 50,000 man Army of the Shenandoah. At the same time Confederate Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early sent Maj. Gen. Joseph B. Kershaw's division east from Winchester to Berryville. At about 5:00 p.m., Kershaw attacked Colonel Joseph Thoburn's division of the VIII Corps while they were preparing to go into camp. Kershaw routed Thoburn's left flank before the rest of the corps came to the rescue. Darkness ended the fighting, with both sides bringing in heavy reinforcements. The next morning, Early, seeing the strength of the Union's entrenched line, retreated behind Opequon Creek.

At the battle of Berryville on 3rd September 1864, Perdue was severely wounded; gunshot wound in right arm, which was amputated. He died of his wounds at Annapolis on 13th September 1864.

Between Sept and October 1864, non Veterans were discharged and Veterans from the 5th and 9th West Virginia Infantry Regiments were consolidated to form the 1st Veteran Infantry

Regiment at the beginning of November 1864. As Perdue died during this time, his medal was issued from the latter Regiment, not the 5th.



Condition near mint, only 3320 'For Liberty' medals struck, the majority of which were for men who died of disease.

5TH WEST VIRGINIA INFANTRY

Organized at Ceredo, W. Va., September 2, 1861, and mustered in October 18, 1861. Served Unattached, District of the Kanawha, West Virginia, to March, 1862. District of Cumberland, Md., Mountain Department, to April, 1862. Milroy's Independent Brigade, Mountain Department, to June, 1862. Milroy's Independent Brigade, 1st Army Corps, Army of Virginia, to September, 1862. Defences of Washington, D.C., to October, 1862. District of the Kanawha, West Virginia, Dept. Ohio, to January, 1863. Unattached, District of the Kanawha, West Virginia, to March, 1863. 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, 8th Army Corps, Middle Department, to June, 1863. 1st Brigade, Scammon's Division, Dept. of West Virginia, to December, 1863. 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, West Virginia, to April, 1864. 1st Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, West Virginia, to November, 1864.

SERVICE.—Duty at Ceredo and in the Kanawha Valley, W. Va., to December 10, 1861. Moved to Parkersburg, W. Va., December 10, thence to New Creek, W. Va., February, 1862. Linn Creek, Logan County, February 8. Duty at New Creek till May. Joined Milroy's Brigade May 2. Battle of McDowell May 8. Near Franklin May 10-12 and May 26. Battle of Cross Keys June 8. At Strasburg June 20-July 5. Advance to Luray July 5-11. Moved to Sperryville July 11, thence to Woodville July 22, and duty there till August 9. Battle of Cedar Mountain August 9. Cedar Run August 10 Pope's Campaign in Northern Virginia August 16-September 2. Fords of the Rappahannock August 20-23. Freeman's Ford, Hazel River, August 22. Johnson's Ford August 22. Waterloo Bridge August 24-25. Gainesville August 28. Groveton August 29. Bull Run August 30. Duty in the Defences of Washington, D.C., till September 29. Moved to Beverly, W. Va., September 29-October 9. Parkersburg October 10. Duty at Ceredo till March, 1863. Scouting Little Kanawha and east side of Big Sandy Rivers. Ordered to Wayne Court House March. Hurricane Creek March 28. At Charlestown, Barboursville, Hurricane Bridge and other points in the Kanawha Valley till April, 1864. Scammon's demonstration from the Kanawha Valley December 8-25, 1863. Crook's. Raid on the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad May 2-19, 1864. Rocky Gap May 6. Battle of Cloyd's Mountain May 9. New River Bridge May 10. Blacksburg May 10. Union May 12. Meadow Bluff May 24. Hunter's Expedition to Lynchburg May 26-July 1. Lexington June 11-12. Buchanan June 14. Otter Creek June 16. Diamond Hill June 17. Lynchburg June 17-18. Buford's Gap June 19. Salem June 21. Moved to the Shenandoah Valley July 13-15. Kablestown July 19. Battle of Kernstown, Winchester, July 23-24 Martinsburg July 25. Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign August 6-November 1. Strasburg August 15. Summit Point August 24. Halltown August 2. Berryville September 3. Battle of Opequan, Winchester, September 19. Fisher's Hill September 22. Battle of Cedar Creek October 19.

Consolidated with 9th West Virginia Infantry November 9, 1864, to form 1st Veteran Infantry Regiment