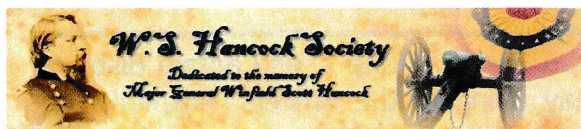


Christ Church (Old Swedes)
Swedesburg, PA

As we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg this year, we remember the Civil War Veterans buried in this churchyard.

George Bailey	William Haines
Jonas Beckwith	Charles Hansell
George W. Bisbing	Isaac Hughes
Abner H. Brown	James McBride
James Cameron	Henry McVaugh
John Coates	William Mayall
Richard Read Corson	William Miller
Amos P. Custer	John Mills
Simon P. Emery	Davis Mitchell
James M. Engle	Thomas Henry Munson
Andrew Fair	Charles K. Rambo
Charles B. Fair	Lewis Rambo
Samuel Fair	Charles Stewart
Nathan Fornwalt	James Yocum Shainline
George W. Glisson	William M. Shainline
James Griffith	Alfred Taylor
William Griffith	I. W. Yocum
Samuel Hagan	
John Hallowell	



This year's Veterans Day Tribute was sponsored by the W.S. Hancock Society. Since our inception in 1995, the W.S. Hancock Society has concentrated our aim on these three objectives in relation to the life and legacy of Winfield Scott Hancock, Major General, USA. Our endeavors seek the preservation of any and all sites related to the General and his family preceding, during and subsequent to his lifetime. Through our use of interpretive history displays, lectures and programs, we account the chronicle of events that make up his narrative, as well as, his bearing on the events that shaped American history. In conjunction, it is equally important to cultivate an understanding of his ancestors that forged the individual and the times in which they lived. Yearly, in deference to the esteemed life of W.S. Hancock, we gather at his final resting place in Montgomery Cemetery, West Norriton Township, Pennsylvania and on East Cemetery Hill in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania to pay tribute on Memorial and Remembrance Days. It is our pledge to pursue these endeavors accurately and with the dignity and honor befitting this great American.

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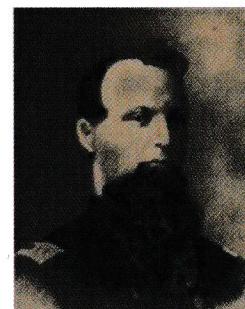
www.kophistory.org

VETERAN'S DAY TRIBUTE

Honoring George Bisbing

Christ Church (Old Swedes)
Swedesburg, PA

November 10, 2013 at 12 Noon



Elizabeth Holstein Shainline married George, son of William and Maria Bisbing of Upper Merion Township on December 13, 1849. During the war, George W. Bisbing entered the army as a lieutenant in Company I, Fifty-First Pennsylvania volunteers. Col. John Hartranft, afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania, was commander. Bisbing was in the battles of Roanoke Island, Camden, second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, Jackson (Mississippi), Campell's Staddon, the siege of Knoxville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania. At the battle of Antietam, his regiment, with the Fifty-First New York, held the bridge over the creek under a terrific fire of artillery. While on the bridge, Lieutenant Bisbing's sword was struck by a

piece of shell and broken in half, but he was able to escape serious injury. He was promoted to the rank of Captain at Camp Reno, Newbern, North Carolina in June, 1862. On the 16th of July, 1863 he was wounded at Jackson, Mississippi. After recovering from his wound, he participated in all of the battles in which his regiment was engaged. On the 12th of May 1864, he was fatally wounded by musket shots in the thigh and arm, carried from the field into Fredericksburg, and placed in the upper story of a factory, where he remained for four days. He was later moved to the officers' hospital in Georgetown, where he lingered until June 7, 1864. His body was brought home and interred in the cemetery of Old Swedes Christ Church in Upper Merion on June 12, 1864. His tombstone was inscribed: "Never truer soul/Than his sped to his goal./Whose legend marked our roll, "slain at his duty".



*Captain Bisbing's Tombstone
at Christ Church (Old Swedes).*

On Sunday, June 7, as Captain Bisbing lay dying in the officers' hospital, his wife, sitting by him, was watching the ebbing away of his life. Suddenly rousing up, his voice, which had previously been faint and feeble, rang out in a startlingly clear, loud tone. "Lieutenant! Lieutenant!" A wounded lieutenant lying near him answered, "What is it, Captain?" He replied, "I am not calling you. It is Lieutenant Colonel Schall. I saw him fall and thought the way he was lying perhaps he was dead." His wife tried to soothe him by saying, "The colonel was all right," and the captain sank back exhausted on his pillow. But a few moments passed, and the same words were repeated in the same clear tone, "Lieutenant! Lieutenant! and again he was soothed and became quiet. Now fully conscious that death was near, the brave soldier, in a message, that "he gave his life freely for his country." Then commending his wife and children to God's loving care, in two hours he peacefully passed away.

When Mrs. Bisbing returned home with her husband's body to Upper Merion, she learned that Lieutenant Colonel Schall had fallen, as the Captain had described two days previously, shot through the neck at Cold Harbor. His body also was brought home for burial, and was interred in Montgomery

Cemetery in Norristown on the day preceding the Captain's funeral.



Bisbing's tombstone inscription:

*Never truer soul
Than his sped to his goal.
Whose legend marked our roll, "slain at his
duty".*

This tombstone is found in Christ Old Swedes Church in Swedesburg. It commemorates one of Upper Merion's volunteers, Captain John Bisbing, who served in the Civil War. His body was brought home and interred in the cemetery of old Swedes Christ Church in Upper Merion on June 12, 1864.