



FIRST OF TEN TO DIE—Color Sgt. John Wylie of Sand Lake, at the time in his 30s, was the first of 10 flag bearers of the 30th Regiment to be killed when the regiment was making its first bayonet charge at the Second Battle of Bull Run Aug. 30, 1862. This regiment, led by Col. Edward Frisby of Albany, was composed mainly of men from Rensselaer County. Colonel Frisby also was killed in battle.

Sand Lake Flag Bearer Killed In Action In Battle Of Bull Run

By HERBERT A. CALKINS

Among the Civil War battle flags of New York State regiments which were formally presented to the state a century ago this year, all of which are on display in glass cases in the Flag Room at the State Capitol, are emblems of some Troy regiments which are of distinct local interest. This is particularly true of the flag of the 30th Regiment of New York of which ten color bearers were shot down in one battle.

A Sand Lake man, John Wylie, was the first of the 10 to be killed in August 1862 when the Regiment was making its first bayonet charge at the Second Battle of Bull Run. The body of Sergeant Wylie, who had left a wife and five small children at Sand Lake when he enlisted in Troy, was never recovered.

Among other members of the regiment killed at this battle was the commander, Col. Edward Frisby of Albany.

Thirty-six bullets passed through the regimental flag and the staff was shot to splinters.

At State Capitol

The battle flags of nearly all of the New York State regiments were deposited with the Bureau

of Military Records at Albany on the afternoon of July 4, 1865 in the presence of General Ulysses S. Grant and an immense audience amid very impressive ceremonies.

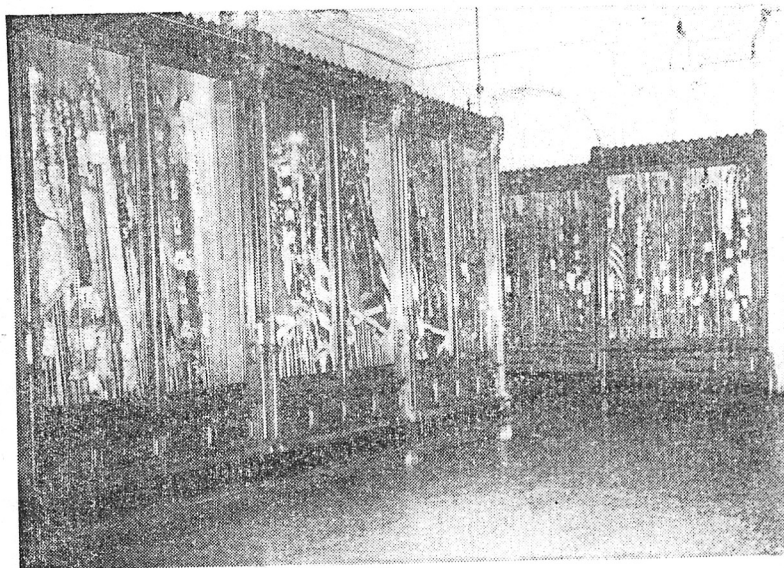
Other battle flags of regiments in which Troy and vicinity men served and which emblems were deposited that day long ago were from the 2nd Regiment; 93rd Regiment; 104th Regiment; 125th Regiment, and the 169th Regiment.

Each of the flags has its own distinctive history. In many instances the men who bore the emblems died in battle. However, it was the 30th Regiment of any of the New York units which lost the largest number of color sergeants in one battle.

Many Visitors

Many persons who now make a tour of the State Capitol, visit the Flag Room. Each of the furlled flags bears a card noting the regiment's number and the battles in which it participated.

The old flags are now so fragile, due to age and to battle



FLAG ROOM—The above picture shows a portion of the Flag Room at the State Capitol, Albany, where hundreds of furlled flags of state regiments are on display in glass cases. The collection includes flags carried in battles of the Civil War, Spanish-American War and World Wars I and II. Smaller picture at right shows one of the several cases of Civil War flags. Cards attached to each flag contain the regimental number and a list of battles in which each flag was carried.

damage, that the utmost care must be used if, for any reason, one is to be unfurled.

The Civil War ended 100 years ago this year. It now lives only in the pages of history and in the memorial reservations at some of the noted battlefields. The old flags, which have reposed for many years in their cases at the Capitol, are other tangible evidences of the long ago; silent reminders of the patriotic devotion of the color-bearers and of the soldiers who followed them into battle.

