



General Orders Number Five-015

September 12, 2015

Re: Gettysburg Living History

Gentlemen,

We are now just two weeks out from the Gettysburg Living History and everything has pretty much come together and is ready to go.

As you should know by now, this will be a weekend with the focus on drill at the battalion level. This means the men will bear the brunt of the work while the officers of various ranks learn their trade. My staff and I will work to make this burden as light as possible and make every effort to make the weekend interesting to all levels of rank.

To All Officers: In order to make the most out of the time we have I intend to shuffle officers about so they may experience command positions in which they may not normally serve. In other words, any company commander may find himself acting as a field officer, while junior company officers will find themselves in command of the company. I believe the best way to take the mystery out of a position is to serve in that position in a low-stress, training mode. In the Information enclosure are listed several maneuvers from "Casey's Tactics". I urge all officers to read these over and be familiar with the general movement at least, if not the specific details.

Due to the NPS asking for 3 firing demos on Saturday we may have to incorporate some of the drill into the body of the demonstration itself, similar to what we did at Gettysburg in 2013.

While this is not the ideal condition I envisioned for our drill I am confident enough in the officers and men to know that we can do this "on the fly" and still achieve benefit from it.

I would also point out that we will have a battalion level pack inspection on Sunday morning. As it has been many years since we have done this I urge ALL ranks to familiarize themselves with this procedure. If the rank and file are wise, they can also make this do double duty by packing up extra items they won't need and pack them out to the vehicles after the inspection.

Everyone have a safe trip and I'll see you there.

If you have any questions contact me at t_downes@att.net

Thomas M. F. Downes
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National Regiment