

William H. Hiskey Private Union Army 7 November 1862 – 30 March 1863

William (c. 1844 – 30 March 1863) was born in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania, probably in East Texas. In 1860, prior to enlisting in the army, William was living with the William Kemmerer family in Lower Macungie Township. He enlisted in the Union Army as a Private in Company A, 176th Infantry Regiment, on 7 November 1862 at Camp Philadelphia, located near Haddington, Pennsylvania. The camp was a rendezvous point for conscripts of eastern Pennsylvania. The Regiment was composed of ten companies of militia; seven from Lehigh County and three from Monroe County. The majority of Company A came from Millerstown (Macungie) Borough and the surrounding Lower Macungie Township. On 27 November 1862, the regiment left Camp Philadelphia for Washington, D.C., and then went to Suffolk, Virginia, where it was assigned to Colonel Robert S. Foster's Virginia Brigade, 7th Corps. In December 1862 the Regiment left Suffolk for the Charleston, South Carolina, area via New Berne and Morehead City, North Carolina, to reinforce the 3rd Division, 18th Army Corps, in the defense of Charleston. On 29 January 1863, the Regiment sailed to Port Royal Island, South Carolina, for a week and was then transferred several times between Saint Helena Island: Port Royal Island; Beaufort; and Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, where it remained until July 1863 as part of the 10th Army Corps under Major General David Hunter. The Regiment was principally employed building fortifications and providing garrison protection and picket duty as part of the blockade and defense of Charleston harbor. On 30 March 1863, while in Beaufort, William fell ill and died of disease. It is not known where William is buried. William's brother Charles H. Hiskey (22 September 1841 – 26 December 1878), who also enlisted in Company A, 176th Infantry Regiment, along with William, completed his enlistment and later returned to Lower Macungie Township where he and his family were farmers. Charles' parents were Charles H. Hiskey (22 September 1811 – 26 December 1890) and Judith Keck (5 August 1817 – 4 November 1849).