



Memorial window to the 169<sup>th</sup> N.Y.S.V. Infantry Regiment, formerly located at St. Margaret's Church, Menands, New York  
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## MEMORIAL TO THE 169<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENT.

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**It is Unveiled in St. Margaret's  
Church, Menands, With Pro-  
per Ceremony To-Day.**

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### REUNION OF THE SURVIVORS.

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IT IS HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER  
THE DEDICATORY SERVICES  
ARE CONCLUDED IN THE  
CHURCH - THE REGIMENT WAS  
ONE OF THE FIGHTING REGI-  
MENTS - ITS NOBLE HISTORY -  
PICTURE OF THE EDIFICE FOR  
WORSHIP ON THE FIELD.

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About 60 survivors of the famous One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, New York Volunteers, gathered in Menands this morning to participate in the ceremony of dedicating a memorial window in St. Margaret's Episcopal church to their dead comrades. The residents of the neat little village gave them a royal welcome and almost every house displayed the national flag. Along Brookside avenue the villas were neatly and tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, significant of the interest felt by the occupants in the reunion in which the pastor of one of their churches was to take as prominent a part.

Shortly after 10 o'clock the veterans arrived and gathered at the foot of Brookside avenue and formed for the march to the church. They presented a picturesque appearance as they moved up the roadway headed by Doring's band discoursing inspiring patriotic airs. The proces-

sion was met at the door of the church by the pastor, the Rev. E. T. Chapman and the choir who led the way, to the interior.

Flags were draped about the entrance and over the doorway was a little sketch highly valued by the pastor. It is a rough drawing of the edifice in which he held meetings while the regiment, of which he was chaplain, was encamped on an island on the coast of North Carolina.

The memorial window, which is situated on the western side of the church, was carefully hidden by flags when the exercises began. The service was simple, opening with the hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers," by the choir and the veterans. The rector then made an address of a few appropriate words to his assembled comrades and following this came the unveiling ceremony, for which a special service had been selected for the occasion by Bishop Doane. The window is simple in design, containing the single figure of an armored soldier bearing a banner on which is an army corps cross. One hand rests on a shield about which is entwined a victorious wreath. Underneath the figure is the Latin inscription: "Fortis facti sunt in bello." In addition to this is the inscription: "In memory of the heroic dead of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York State Volunteers this window is placed in St. Margaret's church by their comrades, September 25, 1894."

Immediately after the unveiling, representatives from the regiment stepped forward and deposited in a bag on the altar the amount of money subscribed for the memorial. The ceremony closed with the hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

The march was then taken up to the residence of the Rev. Mr. Chapman on the Troy road, where a speech of welcome was made to the veterans by Joseph A. Lawson, chairman of the reception committee. After other exercises similar to those held at former reunions the survivors of the regiment sat down to a collation prepared for them by the reunion committee, and they did not disband until late in the day.

The One Hundred and Sixty-ninth regiment was one of the famous fighting regiments of the war. It was organized in 1862 from Albany, Rensselaer and Saratoga counties, and during the first three years of the struggle lost more than half of the 1,400 men that comprised it at the

mustering in. It was at the front the greater part of the time, and fought in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, and many other Southern states. Its heaviest losses were sustained in engagements before Richmond, Petersburg and at Fort Fisher and Cold Harbor. It was at Fort Fisher that its magazine blew up, killing and wounding a large number.

Among those injured was General Alonzo Alden of Troy, who, however, recovered and was present at the reunion to-day. The regiment holds annually a reunion on the anniversary of its departure to the front, on September 25, 1862. At the last reunion, held at Sandlake, the members decided to place the memorial in the church of which their former chaplain is now the rector, and their plans were carried out to completion to-day. The church was crowded, veterans coming from all parts of the state, as well as many of the widows and children of the dead comrades also assembling at the dedication.

[Notes: (1) The 169<sup>th</sup> N.Y. was organized in 1862 from Rensselaer, Washington, and St. Lawrence counties, with some recruits at that time coming from other counties in the State of New York, such as Albany and Saratoga counties. (2) "Fortis facti sunt in bello" translates as "Became valiant in battle." This phrase on the memorial window appears, however, to use the word "on" instead of "in." An online Latin dictionary that was checked has no entry for the word "on," possibly an obscure Latin spelling variant for the word "in," which has the same meaning in Latin and English. (3) The 169<sup>th</sup> N.Y. served in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida. It did not serve in Georgia or any other Southern state. According to one newspaper article, the 169<sup>th</sup> N.Y. would have been among the Union regiments sent to Texas if the Confederate forces in that state had not surrendered in 1865.]