





PRIVATE CHARLES SWISHER

Was a young stone-cutter when he joined the army in 1861, and so was used to difficult work. After just about two years of war though, he apparently needed a break and deserted (left without permission) on June 26 as they were heading toward Gettysburg. Perhaps he went home to recover from an illness, or to get some home-cooked meals; sickness and disease were far more common than wounds among Civil War soldiers.