

Index to the Civil War Letters of Wyandot County, Ohio

Compiled by Daniel A. Masters November 2005-July 2006

The Wyandot Democratic Union and the Wyandot Pioneer

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Wyandot County was served by two newspapers, each an organ for their respective political parties. It is fortunate in this examination of the soldiers' correspondence to Ohio newspapers that this important county, one of the few to give a majority vote to Vallandigham in the gubernatorial election of 1863, had two fully functioning newspapers whose editions have survived to the present day. Elections in this county were usually decided by less than 200 votes, as evidenced by Vallandigham's victory, but the trend seemed to be a consistent pattern of Democratic victories at the polls. This close divide, in stark contrast to Wood County which at the time of the Civil War was decidedly Republican in character, makes reading the weekly editions of these newspapers all the more fascinating.

The *Wyandot Democratic Union*, edited by Robert D. Dumm, staunchly supported the war for the first year or so but wavered in its support thereafter. The main turning point for the Democratic Union was the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862, and the changing direction of the war. Supporters of the Republican party took to referring to the *Democratic Union* as a Copperhead sheet but the newspaper never swung that far; while critical of the war effort, the *Democratic Union* never advocated surrender or negotiated settlement with the Confederacy. However, as a party organ, it strongly supported Vallandigham for Governor in 1863 as well as McClellan for President in 1864. Interestingly, unlike many Democratic papers which ceased to print soldiers' letters after late 1863, the *Union* printed letters all the way through, albeit with decreasing frequency after the fall elections of 1864.

In contrast, the *Wyandot Pioneer* was a staunch supporter of the war effort from beginning to end. Edited initially by Mrs. Lou A. Wilson, wife of Colonel William T. Wilson who was the newspaper's editor at the outbreak of the war, the paper soon passed into the able hands of Louis A. Brunner who edited the newspaper for more than three years before being joined by war veteran Otho J. Powell. After the war, the newspaper again passed into the control of Colonel Wilson. Throughout the war, Brunner was a strong supporter of Lincoln, the Republican Party, and the soldiers in the field. After the presidential elections of the 1864 and the series of severe defeats suffered by the Confederacy in late 1864, the volume of soldiers' letters disappeared almost entirely from the *Pioneer's* columns as the local communities started to refocus themselves on issues of more local importance.

Biographical sketches, pulled from the [History of Wyandot County, Ohio](#), of the two men most responsible for editing these newspapers are in order. Interestingly, Brunner and Dumm became partners in editing the *Democratic Union* after the war.

Robert D. Dumm, the senior member of the firm of Dumm & Brunner, editors and proprietors of *The Wyandot Union*, was born in the city of Pittsburgh, Penn., July 3, 1835, being the fourth son of Andrew and Mary (Shall) Dumm. His father served in the American Army during the war of 1812-15, and his paternal grandfather, who was a

native of Baden, Germany, served as a soldier during the Revolutionary struggle. His grandparents upon his mother's side were of English origin. In 1842, with his parents, he came to this part of Ohio, and settled at McCutchenville. Three years later he became a resident of the town of Upper Sandusky, and at the age of ten years entered the *Pioneer* printing-office as an apprentice under William T. Giles. He served with Mr. Giles four years, receiving during that time six months' schooling as per contract. During, the year 1849, in connection with J. Zimmerman, he published the *Pioneer*, with Elijah Giles as editor. In 1852, he published the paper alone, Elijah Giles still remaining as editor, and continued to be employed in that capacity until 1853, when he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University as a student. In 1854, however, he was induced to leave school and start a new Democratic newspaper at Upper Sandusky, termed the *Vindicator*, of which he was editor and publisher. This proceeding, was deemed necessary on the part of the Democratic leaders of the county, by reason of the fact that the old *Pioneer* had degenerated into a Know-Nothing organ.

Mr. Dumm continued to publish the *Vindicator* about eighteen months, when he sold out to N. W. Dennison, and began the study of law with Hon. Chester R. Mott. In the winter of 1856-57, he attended the Cincinnati Law School, where he graduated with honor and was admitted to the bar. Soon after he located at Freeport, Ill., where he remained nearly one year. He then returned to Upper Sandusky, married, and in February, 1858, purchased the then recently established *Union*, a journal which he conducted in a very successful manner for a period of eleven years. Having sold out the *Union* to E. Zimmerman, he removed to Fort Wayne, Ind., in November, 1868, and during the succeeding five years edited and published the *Fort Wayne Sentinel*, -a daily and weekly newspaper-with unwearied and, we may add, marked ability.

In August, 1873, he again returned to Upper Sandusky, purchased a one-half interest in his old paper, the *Union* (yet still retaining his share in the *Sentinel*), and with, L. A. Brunner as his partner, published the *Union* for a little more than one year, when Charles L. Zahm, by purchase, became the owner of the *Union* office. Subsequently Mr. Dumm disposed of his disastrous investment at Fort Wayne, and in the fall of 1875 was elected by a very flattering majority to the office of Clerk of Wyandot County. In 1878, he was re-elected to the same position, and thus served for a continuous period of six years. On the 27th of November, 1879, the *Union* again passed into the hands of its present proprietors-Messrs. Dumm & Brannon On the 1st of September, 1882, this firm purchased one-half of the *Marion Mirror* office, and during the political campaign of 1883 Mr. Dumm edited that paper with a vigor and ability not easily surpassed.

We have thus briefly outlined the active business career of a gentleman who has been closely identified with the interests of Wyandot County since its establishment. One who, although a strict party man, and a zealous worker for the success of the Democratic party, has ever been consistent, and has so demeaned himself as to challenge the admiration of even the most bitter of his political opponents. His untiring efforts for the promotion of the material interests, and the general prosperity of his town and county, have also secured for him the gratitude and respect of Wyandot County residents in general, and to-day none stand higher in their estimate of character and true worth than Robert D. Dumm. As already shown, he has grown up, and has been educated in the printing office, and, probably, has done more to bring Wyandot County journalism up to its present proud position than all others combined. As an editorial writer he has acquired a

reputation truly enviable, and which, indeed, is not confined by State limits. Ever careful, vigorous, versatile, brilliant and facetious, his readers are never disappointed in the perusal of an article prepared by him.

He was married on the 29th day of December, 1857, to Miss Sarah J., only daughter of Dr. R. A. Henderson, of Upper Sandusky. The results of this union are two sons, both of whom are young gentlemen of notable qualifications -William G., the present efficient Deputy County Clerk, and Frank E., who is now employed in the *Union* office.

Hon. Louis A. Brunner is of German ancestry, and was born in Frederick City, Frederick Co., Md. He fully availed himself of the advantages of an elementary and classical education, and after a thorough course of theological study was licensed, in the summer of 1846, to preach at Columbus, Ohio. Subsequently, he entered upon the duties of the ministry, and served several Presbyterian congregations. In the spring of 1852, he was elected by the Presbytery of Marion, Ohio, Commissioner to the General Assembly, and attended the sittings of that body in Philadelphia, Penn., in May following. In 1860, his nervous centers gave way, prostrating him to such an extent as to force him to relinquish his chosen profession. However, having from a young boy dabbled in printer's ink, and being compelled to labor for a livelihood, he purchased a printing office and took charge of the editorial department, and, while not engaged in the duties of the tripod, worked at the case sticking type.

He has performed editorial work on the *Odd Fellow*, published at Boonsboro, Washington Co., Md.; the *Pioneer* and the *Union* of Upper Sandusky, and the *Ft. Wayne Daily Sentinel*, an interest of which he owned in 1868 and 1869. He has resided in Wyandot County since 1849, excepting four years passed in Maryland, from 1856 to 1861. He has served on the Board of School Examiners of Wyandot County, as a member of the Village Council, and was elected a member of the 61st, 62nd, 65th and 66th General Assemblies of the State of Ohio, occupying, during the session of 1883-84, the honored position of Speaker pro tem. In the 64th General Assembly, he served as Clerk of the House, and his large experiences as a lawmaker, and his peculiar fitness for clerical duties-the result of early training-made him one of the best clerks the Assembly ever had, and it was so acknowledged by the members of both parties. Hence, as a mark of recognition, embodying the admiration of members, he was presented at the close of the session with a costly gold watch and chain, which he still carries with pardonable pride.

Mr. Brunner's first year in the General Assembly was marked with ability and true statesmanship, and although it is seldom the lot of a new member to take prominence at the beginning, his experience was an exception, for before the close of the session he was the recognized leader of his side of the House, and this position he has ably and gracefully maintained during every term of his legislative career. His superior qualifications as a presiding officer attracted attention from all parts of the State, and in the 65th General Assembly he was the almost unanimous choice of his party for Speaker, yet his usefulness upon the floor, and his own inclinations for activity amid conflict, induced him to decline the honor, and to accept at the demands of his party the position of Speaker pro tem. He is perhaps the finest parliamentarian in the State, and we cannot better express this opinion than to give an extract from a letter written by a newspaper correspondent during the session of 1883-84: "The Wyandot Sachem, Brunner, as speaker pro tem., has demonstrated himself to be a superior presiding officer, fit to have

held the gavel of the Long Parliament of Cromwell's days, and whose legislative career has given his solid little Gibraltar (Wyandot County) a cameo-like prominence in the State's councils."

In 1879, Mr. Brunner, in connection with Robert D. Dumm, purchased the *Wyandot Union* of D. J. Stalter, and by their united labors again made the old *Union* one of the best county newspapers in the State. It now enjoys a large circulation, and an enviable, widespread reputation. As an editor, Mr. Brunner has few superiors. He is logical, clear and very effective, and has gained many admirers from his humorous touches of local incidents; but his great force and efficiency is as a campaigner, filling his well rounded and emphatic periods in that direct and forcible manner, which leaves no room for effective reply. While a ready, spicy and able writer, he is equally as ready and effective as a speaker, which his prominence in the House, on all the important questions of state policy, has fully made clear. His polish as a gentleman, and his great tact in winning and retaining the admiration and esteem of his fellow-citizens is due to some extent to his genial nature, thorough education and wide range of information gained through the avenues of an extensive and careful study of books and men.

In September, 1882, he, with his old partner, Mr. Dumm, bought a half interest in the *Mirror*, at Marion, Ohio, and although it proved to be a profitable investment, and their connection with the Democracy of Marion County highly acceptable and pleasant, after eighteen months they sold their interest to their partner, Col. J. H. Vaughan. A part of this time Mr. Brunner was editor of the paper, and in the memorable campaign of 1882 gained a host of admirers for his efficient editorial work.

Since the close of the legislative session of 1883-84, he has assumed a controlling interest and editorial charge of the *Seneca Advertiser*, one of the oldest and best newspapers published in Ohio, and he has fully made up his mind to make that city (Tiffin) his future home. He still holds his connection with the *Wyandot Union* with Mr. Dumm, but undoubtedly in the near future will sever that relation and give his whole attention to the *Advertiser*, which will advance under his influence and enterprise, and rapidly become the leading county paper of the State.

He was married in 1850 to Miss Jane Sherman, of Delaware, Ohio, who was a native of Watertown, N. Y. Their three children are Mary, now the wife of John W. Geiger, of Tiffin, Ohio; Addie, now Mrs. B W. Holman, of Washington, D. C., and Grace.

Index by Correspondents

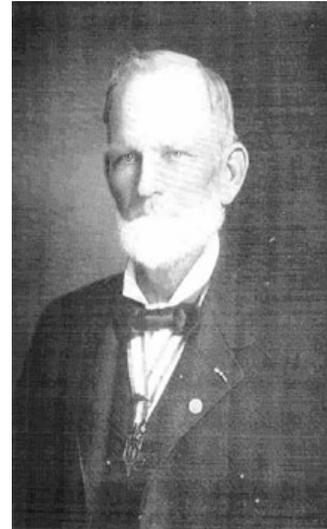
11th Ohio Battery, Independent Light Artillery

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 3, 1862 (casualties from Iuka) pg. 2

Captain Cyrus A. Sears

Cyrus A. Sears was born March 10, 1832 in Delaware Co., New York and came with his father's family, in January, 1836, to Crawford County, where he remained on a farm until of age. He graduated at the Cincinnati Law School April, 14, 1856, and, in June of the same year, was admitted to the bar at Upper Sandusky. He commenced practice at Bucyrus, April 1, 1857, and continued until June 15, 1859, when he removed to Upper Sandusky and continual practice. October 12, 1861, he was enrolled a private, at Cincinnati, in the 11th Ohio Independent Battery of Light Artillery, and was promoted to First Lieutenant to date October 27, 1861. He participated in the siege of New Madrid and Island No. 10, and commanded the battery during the siege of Corinth, and also at the battle of Iuka, where his battery lost fifty-six men and he was severely wounded. For his actions, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Cyrus A. Sears". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

In his official order on this battle, Gen. Rosecrans states that "The 11th Ohio Battery, under Lieutenant Sears, was served with unequalled bravery, under circumstances of danger and exposure, such as rarely, perhaps never, have fallen to the lot of a single battery during the war."

Sears' account of his experience at Iuka is quoted here from *Deeds of Valor*:

"At Iuka, the 11th Ohio Battery under my command made a most desperate fight, which was not only returned full measure, pressed down and overflowing, but in which it lost, in killed and wounded, over 52 percent of its entire force and over 88 percent of its combatants or cannoneers-or 48 out of 54 men.

The part taken by this battery in the field was in violation of orders. When we reached a point just south of its battle ground-which was done under pretty heavy fire from the enemy's artillery and infantry-I was ordered to 'form in battery' at a point designated, and 'await further orders.' These orders never came, but the enemy did, in force, sneaking up with their pieces at 'charge bayonets,' in plain view and at easy canister range. Though just then there was a comparative lull in the enemy's firing, their bullets were s-s-z-z-zipping among the battery with very uncomfortable frequency, and occasionally winging a two or four-footed victim. On the charging masses came, 150 or 200 yards. Still the battery was waiting 'further orders,' every man at his post, toeing the mark, with everything 'ready' under fire.

Of course, this wait was not actually long, though it seemed longer than the whole fight. Naturally, the boys grew uneasy, and chafed from seeing such splendid chances for the most beautiful pot-shot going to waste, and gave expression to views on the conduct of the war accordingly.

For example, one sergeant said: 'By God, I guess we're going to let them gobble the whole damned shooting match before we strike a lick, if we don't mind and quickly too.'

A corporal replied: 'I guess we are obeying orders.' 'Damn the orders! To wait for orders in a time like this!' the sergeant retorted.

This dialogue struck a responsive chord in my mind, and was, perhaps, the last straw that moved me to take a chance and shoulder the responsibility. I gave the order: 'With canister, load, aim low, and give them hell as fast as you can!' And so the fight was on.

Before the end it became evident that the position of the guns of this battery had become so much the bone of contention in that fight, that everything else, both flags, the Union and the Confederacy, and even the 'damned rigger' were forgotten in that all-absorbing, handspike and ramrod, rough-and-tumble, devil-take-the-hindmost fight for those six guns.

I was wounded, and after the battle was ordered home to Ohio for repairs."

Following several months of recuperation in Ohio, Sears was discharged from the 11th Ohio Battery to dated May 25, 1863 and was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Louisiana Infantry, African Descent on May 26, 1863 and commanded the regiment with great credit at the battle of Millken's Bend on June 7, 1863. In a letter to his superior officer, dated March 25, 1866, Col. Vail E. Young, commanding the post of Vicksburg, says: "Lieut. Col. Sears was specially mentioned in official reports of the battle of Iuka, and recommended for promotion for gallant conduct, by Gens. Hamilton, Rosecrans and Grant. He was also conspicuously gallant at the battle of Milliken's Bend, Sears served with this regiment throughout the remainder of the war until he was mustered out on March 22, 1866. He returned home to Wyandot County and within a few years owned a half interest in the Stevenson Machine Works which he sold in 1872. He was a member of the Oak Hill Cemetery Association and later worked as the postmaster of Pitt Twp. He started another mercantile business in Fowler, Ohio that grew into the Harpster, Sears, and McCampbell firm; he also served on the Fowler Board of Education. Cyrus Sears died November 30, 1909 and is buried at Oak Hill cemetery in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Articles:

Wyandot Democratic Union- February 25, 1864 pg. 1

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 4, 1861 pg. 2, November 15, 1861 pg. 2, November 22, 1861 pg. 2, December 13, 1861 pg. 2, March 28, 1862 pg. 2, May 2, 1862 pg. 2, May 30, 1862 pg. 2, June 20, 1862 pg. 2 (2 letters), October 3, 1862 pg. 3, June 12, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal Henry C. Worley

Henry C. Worley enlisted as a 26 year old Private on September 17, 1861 and was mustered into service October 27, 1861 at St. Louis, Missouri. He was promoted to Corporal in 1862 and was badly wounded September 19, 1862 at the Battle of Iuka, Mississippi. He was discharged for this wound August 12, 1863.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 24, 1862 pg. 2, February 6, 1863 pg. 3

"Battery"

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 10, 1863 pg. 3

“Battery Boys”

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 7, 1862 pg. 2

“J.L.B.”

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 3, 1862 pg. 2

Unknown

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 24, 1862 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- October 2, 1862 pg. 3

3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 1, 1863 (resolution) pg. 2, July 1, 1864 (resolution on death of Private John Lindsay) pg. 2

Sergeant Benjamin Franklin Kurtz, Company L

Benjamin Franklin Kurtz was born December 26, 1833 and enlisted as a Corporal in Co. L, 3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on September 22, 1861. He was mustered into service on November 22, 1861 and was promoted to Sergeant at an unknown date. He mustered out October 3, 1864 at Columbia, Tennessee. He died November 20, 1920 and is buried at Spring Grove Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 27, 1863 pg. 1

Captain Henry C. Miner, Company M

Henry C. Miner was born in April 1831 near Seigo, Perry Co., Ohio to Daniel and Margaret (Fluckey) Miner. He moved with his parents to Cardington, Morrow Co., Ohio and while there learned the carpentry trade and was living with his unmarried sister at the times of the outbreak of the war. He enlisted as the Second Lieutenant of Co. C, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 23, 1861 and was mustered into service April 27, 1861. He took part in the summer campaign in western Virginia before mustering out August 28, 1861, taking part in the Battle of Philippi. Returning home to Morrow County, he enlisted in Co. M, 3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on September 8, 1861 and was commissioned First Lieutenant. Miner served for three years but battled disease throughout his term, suffering from digestive disorders and pneumonia. Regardless, he was promoted to Captain to date January 21, 1863. He mustered out November 22, 1864 at Knoxville, Tennessee.

Returning home, he married Marian L. Doty on July 24, 1865 but soon separated from her, suspecting her of being unfaithful to him while he was away at war, and in December 1865 he moved to Knoxville, Tennessee and worked for the Southern Express Co. as a messenger. Following his divorce in 1871 from Marian, he married Mattie Hunt Phillips

on December 23, 1875 in Knoxville and had six children. He suffered a bad arm injury during a railroad accident in 1899. A member of the Nights Templar and the Grand Army of the Republic, Henry C. Miner died April 12, 1906 at the age of 75 and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Knoxville National Cemetery.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 1, 1864 pg. 2

“Vidette”

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 6, 1863 pg. 1, June 12, 1863 pg. 1, September 11, 1863 pg. 2, September 25, 1863 pg. 2, December 25, 1863 pg. 1

9th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry

Captain Joseph McCutcheon, Company F

Joseph McCutcheon was born February 21, 1798. He moved to Crawford Co., Ohio and by the early 1830s was justice of the peace and served as an agent for the Wyandot tribe in the last years before their removal from Ohio. He witnessed the signing of the Treaty of McCutcheonville, Ohio with the Wyandots on January 19, 1832 in which one band of the tribe sold what was known as the “Big Spring Reservation” in southern Seneca and western Hancock Counties granted them by an earlier treaty, and agreed to leave the state for Canada or points west.

He recruited Co. F, 9th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, enlisting on September 1, 1863 and receiving his commission as Captain to date September 18, 1863. He took part in the skirmishes and scouts of the 9th Ohio until his resigned his commission effective September 24, 1864. He died March 13, 1869 and is buried at Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 16, 1863 pg. 3, November 20, 1863 pg. 3

Wyandot Democratic Union- October 22, 1863, pg. 1

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- December 4, 1863 pg. 3

Sergeant Lyman C. Moody, Company F

Lyman C. Moody was born November 22, 1842 in DeKalb Co., Indiana to Timothy and Susan (Bowsier) Moody, the family moving to Wyandot Co., Ohio in 1845. Lyman enlisted as a Private in Co. F, 9th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on August 16, 1863 and was mustered into service September 18, 1863. He soon promoted to Sergeant and took part in the many skirmishes and scouts of the 9th Ohio Cavalry while attached to Sherman’s army. He mustered out July 20, 1865 at Lexington, North Carolina. He returned home to Wyandot County and soon married Mills Lucretia Ewing on March 14, 1867, having three children. A devoted Methodist and successful farmer, Lyman C. Moody died

November 16, 1900 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 25, 1863 pg. 2

Private Emmett Hammer, Company F

Emmett Hammer enlisted as an 18 year old private in Co. F, 9th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on August 7, 1863, mustering in September 18, 1863. He took part in the many skirmishes and scouts of the 9th Ohio while attached to Sherman's army. He mustered out with the regiment July 20, 1865 at Lexington, North Carolina.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 2, 1863 pg. 2, November 20, 1863 pg. 2

Private Robert W. Morris, Company F

Robert W. Morris enlisted as a musician in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861 and mustered into service April 27, 1861. He served with the regiment through the summer campaign of 1861 and mustered out August 28, 1861. He later enlisted as a 25 year old Private in Co. F, 9th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on January 4, 1864 and was mustered in the same day. He took part in many of the skirmishes and scouts of the 9th Ohio while attached to Sherman's army and mustered out July 20, 1865 at Lexington, North Carolina.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 18, 1864 pg. 2

15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (Three Months)

Captain William Tecumseh Wilson, Company C

(see also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry 1861-1865, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry)

William Tecumseh Wilson was born October 6, 1823 in Huntingdon Co., Pennsylvania. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was editor and publisher of the *Wyandot Pioneer*. He enlisted in what became Company C of the 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 23, 1861 and raised the company in Upper Sandusky. He was elected Captain and commissioned on April 27, 1861, serving with the regiment throughout the summer campaigns of 1861. Interestingly, while he was away in the field, his wife Lou ran the newspaper. He returned home and was mustered out to date August 28, 1861. He actively recruited the new 15th



Ohio and was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of that regiment to date August 6, 1861.

He served with the 15th Ohio throughout 1862 in the Kentucky and Tennessee campaigns when he was discharged for promotion to Colonel of the new 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 26, 1862. While in command of his regiment, Wilson and most of his men were captured on June 15, 1863 in the Second Battle of Winchester. He languished for several months in Libby Prison until he was paroled March 18, 1864 and formally exchanged May 28, 1864. He rejoined the 123rd Ohio in the field and led it through the summer campaigns of 1864, including battles at Snicker's Gap, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek before transferring to the Petersburg area in the winter of 1864. The 123rd took part in siege of Petersburg and was captured at the battle of Farmville or High Bridge on April 6, 1865. With the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox, the regiment was freed from captivity.

Following the war, Wilson was given a brevet promotion of Brigadier General to date March 13, 1865 for meritorious services during the war. He returned to Ohio and died June 5, 1905 in Columbus, Franklin Co., Ohio.

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 19, 1861 pg. 3

Wyandot Democratic Union- July 18, 1861 pg. 3

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 12, 1861 pgs. 1-2, July 19, 1861 pg. 1

***Captain Peter Austva Tyler, Company G
(see also 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry)***

Peter A. Tyler was born in 1813 and was a resident of McCutchenville long before the organization of Wyandot County. A lawyer by profession, in 1852 he moved to the county seat at Upper Sandusky, where he continued to reside until his death. He was elected to the state assembly as representative for Wyandot and Hardin Counties, serving in the 51st General Assembly from 1854-1856.

He enlisted at 48 years of age on April 20, 1861 in what became Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was elected Captain and commissioned to date April 27, 1861. He served with the company throughout the summer campaign in Virginia before returning home at the expiration of three months service. He was mustered out August 28, 1861 and promptly set about recruiting what became Co. D, 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Tyler served with distinction at the battles of Shiloh and Corinth in 1862.

A pro-war Democrat, Tyler became disenchanted with the direction of the war and by February 1863, his public letters to the *Wyandot Democratic Union* had become sufficiently disloyal in sentiment that they were forwarded to the War Department. Following a short investigation, Tyler was dismissed for conduct unbecoming an officer and dismissed to date February 20, 1863.

Following his dismissal, he returned to Wyandot County and was elected Mayor of Upper Sandusky in the October 1863 elections. He took office and served in that capacity until an unfortunate instance in Bucyrus led to his early demise. While on business in Bucyrus in April 1864, Tyler was accosted by a man (the man attacked him for political

reasons the *Democratic Union* claimed) who then shot him, the effects from which he died June 15, 1864 and was buried in Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 2, 1861 pg. 3 (2 letters)

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 2, 1861 pg. 2, May 30, 1861 pg. 1, June 13, 1861 pg. 3, June 27, 1861 pg. 3, July 11, 1861 pg. 3, July 18, 1861 pg. 3

First Lieutenant William H. Kilmer, Company G

William H. Kilmer enlisted as a 37 year old First Lieutenant on April 20, 1861 in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was mustered into service April 27, 1861. He served through the summer campaign in western Virginia and was mustered out August 28, 1861. He briefly served as First Lieutenant of Runyan's Co., Harlan's Cavalry, mustering in September 1, 1861 and resigning his commission October 28, 1861. Afterward, he enlisted as First Sergeant of Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on January 6, 1862 and was mustered into service April 8, 1862. He was promoted to First Lieutenant to date May 1, 1862 and transferred to the 45th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (this was a commission given for recruiting purposes) but never served actively with the regiment. He enlisted for the final time as a Private in Co. F, 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 9, 1862. He was promoted to First Lieutenant to date October 14, 1862 and was wounded December 31, 1862 at the Battle of Stones River. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to Captain to date January 28, 1863 but was killed in action September 19, 1863 at the Battle of Chickamauga.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- June 13, 1861, pg. 1

Private William H. Ashbrook, Company G
(see also service with 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry)

William H. Ashbrook enlisted as a 25 year old Private in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on June 1, 1861 and served with the regiment during the summer campaign in western Virginia before mustering out August 28, 1861. He quickly reenlisted as a Sergeant in Co. F, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 15, 1861, mustering into service the same day. He was discharged for disability February 22, 1862.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- June 13, 1861 pg. 3

Private William S. Dumm (Dunn), Company G

William S. Dumm was born January 23, 1840 and enlisted a Private in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on June 1, 1861 and served with the regiment through the summer campaign in Virginia before mustering out August 28, 1861. He reenlisted as a Private in Co. F, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 9, 1862 but was discharged for disability on April 16, 1863 at Brook's Station, Virginia

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- July 25, 1861 pg. 3

***Captain Isaac Minor Kirby, Company I
(see also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry 1861-1865,
and 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry)***

Isaac Minor Kirby was born February 10, 1835 in Columbus, Franklin Co., Ohio to Judge M.H. Kirby, a prominent early resident of Wyandot County. He raised what became Co. I, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was the first to sign on its rolls April 20, 1861. He was elected Captain and commissioned to date April 27, 1861. He served with the regiment throughout the 1861 Virginia campaign and returned home to be mustered out August 28, 1861. He immediately set to work and recruited what became Company D of the new 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned Captain September 12, 1861 and served with the 15th Ohio until shortly after the battle of Shiloh, where Kirby commanded the regiment in the absence of Colonel Moses Dickey and Lieutenant Colonel William T. Wilson. His health shattered by constant exposure in the field, Kirby was compelled to resign his commission on May 2, 1862.



Kirby had been home only two months when the local military committee selected him to command Wyandot County's new company in the forming 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Kirby accepted command of Company F and was recommissioned Captain to date July 30, 1862. The regiment shortly thereafter set out for the seat of war in Kentucky, being lightly engaged at the battle of Perryville on October 8, 1862. Kirby was promoted to Major to date October 14, 1862 and led the regiment through the vicious fighting at the battle of Stones River on December 31, 1862. For his gallantry in action (and the deaths of both Colonel Leander Stem and Moses Wooster), Kirby was promoted to Colonel to date December 26, 1862. He led his regiment through the Tullahoma Campaign, particularly distinguishing himself at Liberty Gap. He missed the battle of Chickamauga but rejoined the command the day after the battle.

In the Atlanta campaign of 1864, Kirby was given command of the First Brigade, First Division, 4th Army Corps and led that brigade through the remainder of the war, including battles at Franklin and Nashville. He was wounded five times June 27, 1864 at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia. Kirby was given a brevet promotion of Brigadier General to date January 12, 1865 for meritorious services rendered throughout the war. He was mustered out with the 101st Ohio on June 12, 1865.

After the war, Kirby returned to Wyandot County where he was active in local Republican politics and veterans affairs. He died May 30, 1917 in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio where he is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 2, 1861 pg. 3, May 9, 1861 pg. 3, July 19, 1861 pg. 3, July 26, 1861 pg. 3

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 2, 1861 pg. 2, May 9, 1861, pg. 2, June 6, 1861 (3) pg. 3, June 27, 1861 (2) pg. 3, July 4, 1861 (2) pg.3, July 11, 1861 (3) pg. 3, July 18, 1861 pg. 3, July 25, 1861 pg. 3

“C.”

Letters:

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 9, 1861 pg. 2, May 30, 1861, pg. 1, June 13, 1861 pg. 3, June 20, 1861 pg. 3, June 27, 1861 pg. 3, July 11, 1861 (2) pg. 1

12th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (1861-1865)

“R.W.”

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 20, 1863 pg. 1

15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (1861-1865)

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 27, 1861 pg. 3, April 25, 1862 (Shiloh casualties) pg. 2, May 2, 1862 (Shiloh casualties) pg. 2, July 11, 1862 (protest letter with many signatures) pg. 3, October 2, 1863 (Chickamauga casualties) pg. 3, October 9, 1863 (Co. D casualties at Chickamauga) pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 1, 1862 (Shiloh casualties) pg. 3

Lieutenant Colonel William Tecumseh Wilson

(see also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months} for biographical information and subsequent service with 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry)

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 15, 1861 pg. 2, May 9, 1862 pg. 2, May 16, 1862 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- November 14, 1861 pg. 3

Chaplain Randall Ross

Randall Ross enlisted as a 43 year old Corporal in Co. I, 62nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on October 16, 1861 and was mustered into service the same day. He served with the 62nd through the battles of Kernstown and the summer campaign of 1862 before he was promoted to Chaplain of the 15th Ohio to date July 6, 1863. He joined the command around Chattanooga and served with the regiment through the rest of the war, mustering out November 21, 1865. He is buried in Cass Co., Missouri.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- June 10, 1864 (with casualty lists of Rocky Face Ridge and Buzzard's Roost Gap and pg. 2, June 24, 1864 (with casualty list of Pickett's Mill) pg. 2

Musician Samuel D. Welch (also listed as Welsh)

Samuel D. Welch enlisted as a 31 year old musician in the 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry September 17, 1861 and was discharged along with the rest of the regimental band on January 8, 1862 due to a War Department order requiring the discharge of all regimental bands, in part as a cost cutting measure.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- December 27, 1861 pg. 2

Captain Isaac M. Kirby, Company D

(see 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months} for biographical and service information, see also subsequent service with 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry)

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- December 27, 1861 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- November 14, 1861 pg. 3, December 26, 1861 pg. 3, April 24, 1862 (2) pg. 3

Captain David J. Culbertson, Company D

David J. Culbertson enlisted as a 47 year old First Lieutenant of Co. I, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861 and mustered into service April 27, 1861. He served with the regiment through the summer campaign in western Virginia and mustered out August 28, 1861. He helped recruit Co. D for the new 15th Ohio and was elected First Lieutenant, mustering into service September 12, 1861. He served in that capacity until after the battle of Shiloh, when, with the resignation of Captain Kirby, he was promoted to captain to date May 4, 1862. His date and method of discharge are not given in the state roster.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- April 24, 1862 pg. 3

Captain Samuel S. Pettit, Company D

Samuel S. Pettit enlisted as a 28 year old and was immediately promoted to First Sergeant upon his enlistment September 11, 1861 in Co. D of the 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Following his good conduct at Shiloh and the resignation of Captain Isaac M. Kirby, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant to date April 30, 1862. Pettit led Co. D throughout the Kentucky and Stones River campaigns and was promoted to First Lieutenant to date March 18, 1863, which was followed shortly thereafter by his promotion to Captain to date April 6, 1863. He was discharged for disability on April 29, 1864.

Articles:

Wyandot Democratic Union- August 25, 1864 pg. 3

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 15, 1861 pg. 2, November 29, 1861 pg. 2, January 24, 1862 pg. 2, February 14, 1862 pg. 2, April 4, 1862 pg. 2, June 13, 1862 pg. 2, November 14,

1862 pg. 3, February 6, 1863, pg. 1, March 6, 1863 pg. 2, May 8, 1863 pg. 2, July 24, 1863 pg. 2, October 9, 1863, pg. 2, January 15, 1864 pg. 2

First Lieutenant David A. Geiger, Company D

David A. Geiger was born in 1842 and enlisted as a Private in Co. I, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861 and was appointed Sergeant when he mustered into service on April 27, 1861. He was appointed First Sergeant May 20, 1861 and served with the regiment through the summer campaign in Virginia in 1861, mustering out with the regiment August 28, 1861. Upon returning home, he actively helped to recruit the new 15th Ohio and was appointed Sergeant Major when he reenlisted September 23, 1861. He served with the regiment through the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, and Perryville before being promoted to Second Lieutenant of Company D to date November 28, 1862. He was with the company through the battle of Stones River and led it at Chickamauga. He was promoted to First Lieutenant in 1864 but his discharge date is not given in the state roster. Following the war, he moved to Akron for a few years before finally moving to Ravenna, Portage Co., Ohio where he died in 1896. He is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery. He married Hattie Shurtz and had two daughters and one son

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 23, 1863 pg. 2, June 10, 1864

First Lieutenant Charles J. Rodig, Company D

Charles J. Rodig was born December 10, 1820 and enlisted as a Private in Co. I, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861 and was mustered into service April 27, 1861. He took part in the summer campaign in western Virginia and was mustered out with the regiment August 28, 1861. He soon reenlisted in the 15th Ohio, serving as the regimental Hospital Steward until he was discharged for disability on May 1, 1862. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant of the 15th Ohio on November 2, 1863 and served with the regiment through the Atlanta campaign, being promoted to First Lieutenant to date August 11, 1864. He fought at Franklin before being killed in action December 16, 1864 in the Battle of Nashville. He was originally buried at the National Cemetery in Nashville but also has a stone (and may be buried there) at the Chandler Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- June 10, 1864 pg. 2

First Sergeant John Sheehy (Sheeley), Company D

John Sheehy enlisted as a 27 year old Corporal in Co. D, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 11, 1861 and took part in the battle of Shiloh and in the Kentucky campaign before being captured at the battle of Stones River, December 31, 1862. He returned to the regiment on January 21, 1863 and served with the company for the rest of the war, gaining promotion to Sergeant (October 12, 1863) following the battle of Chickamauga. He reenlisted as a veteran and took part in the battles of Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Pickett's Mills, Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, and Nashville. He was promoted to First Sergeant February 10, 1865 and was discharged September 24, 1865.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- August 18, 1864, pg. 3

“Fat Boy,” Company D

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 29, 1864 pg. 2

“G. R.-er,” Company D

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 7, 1862 pg. 2

Unknown, Company D

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- December 4, 1863 pg. 2

17th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Captain James W. Stinchcomb, Company B

James W. Stinchcomb was born in February 1822 in Thorn Twp., Perry Co., Ohio to George and Ann (Wiseman) Stinchcomb. He served two terms as county prosecutor of Fairfield Co., residing in Lancaster. He recruited the second company to leave Fairfield County, Co. B, 17th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisting on April 22, 1861. He was elected Captain and mustered into service April 27, 1861, serving with the regiment through the summer campaign in western Virginia before returning home and mustering out August 15, 1861 at Camp Goddard, Zanesville, Ohio. He recruited a new company for the 17th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was recommissioned Captain on September 11, 1861. He took part in the fight at Wild Cat, Kentucky and led his company of 70 men into the Confederate lines at Corinth, Mississippi in May 1862, holding an exposed position for over two hours before withdrawing. Shortly thereafter, he was detached to serve on the brigade staff. At the Battle of Stones River, he was slightly wounded in his side on January 2, 1863 while leading a party of skirmishers on a reconnaissance to probe the Confederate position. He was wounded again on January 10, 1863 near Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He was court martialed on March 30, 1863 for arresting a non-commissioned officer without cause, but was found innocent of the charge. He continued to serve on the brigade staff until his resignation on May 2, 1864. The letter cited here was widely republished in Republican newspapers throughout Ohio.

Following the war, James moved to Juniata, Adams Co., Nebraska where he lived the rest of his life. He was married twice; first to Sophronia Louisa Shaw on August 10, 1847 to which five children were born, and secondly to Amanda McKee on April 25, 1875 in Morrow Co., Ohio to which one son was born. He died December 18, 1878 in Juniata and is buried at Kenesaw Cemetery there.

His obituary from the *Juniata Herald* describes an active life:

“The dreaded but expected messenger came on Wednesday-afternoon, Dec. 18, 1878, and from the mortal tenement bore away the immortal spirit of Major J. W. Stinchcomb. For several months, his friends had marked the serious impairment of his health; but not until recently would the Major acknowledge that the symptoms were necessarily alarming; and even to the last he fought bravely the terrible and universal enemy before whose power all shall sooner or later lay down their lives.

Major Stinchcomb was born in the county of Perry, Ohio, in the month of February, 1822, and was therefore in the 57th year of his age. For some years he practiced law in Lancaster, Ohio. Hearing the call "To arms!" he enlisted in the 17th Ohio regiment as a private, but soon, by his bravery and devotion to his country's service, earned, and was promoted to the position of Major. He served upwards of three years in the army, in Gen. Steadman's division, and was faithful and efficient in the discharge of his duty as a soldier.

Returning from the field of battle to his native state, rejoicing in the assured integrity and perpetuity of the grand old Union that he was ready to die for, he entered the editorial arena, and edited, for a couple of years, a paper at Athens, Ohio. Subsequently, he removed to Nebraska, settling at Plattsmouth, where he resumed his practice in the legal profession, which became quite extensive; and he numbered among his clients such men as Mr. Todd, the late greenback candidate for governor. From the law he returned to journalism, accepting a position on the Lincoln State Journal, which he filled with marked ability. He finally retired from this pursuit and entered upon farm life at Kennesaw. Still, his pen refused to be quiet, and his contributions frequently found their way into the public journals, our own among them. His articles were always gladly received, and read with avidity; for the Major held a trenchant, instructive pen, and he never wrote without saying something. In the last county seat contest he spent several days at Juniata, contributing to these columns a series of articles full of good sense and sound logic, and assuming certain legal positions from which the rivals of Juniata in vain sought to dislodge him. These articles doubtless had an appreciable effect upon the result of that memorable contest.

Major Stinchcomb was emphatically a man of opinions. These were not hastily and inconsiderably formed; but arrived at as the result of studious examination and intelligent analysis, they were fixed, and he was not to be swerved from them, while at all times he had the courage to assert, and the ability to defend them. He possessed a large fund of information, on a wide variety of topics, and could therefore conversationally interest the man of broadest culture, while without effort he could adapt himself to the capacity of prattling infancy.

Politically, Major Stinchcomb had in early life imbibed the strong-meat principles of Jeffersonian and Jacksonian democracy, and for years he acted with the democratic party. The war against and for the Union effected a change in his associations and his sympathies, and he became a republican, with liberal tendencies, supporting Horace Greeley for the presidency, in 1872. He had full faith in the patriotism and political integrity of President Hayes, and felt assured that the events of the near future would vindicate the wisdom of the president's policy.

But he is gone. All will miss him--greatly and sorrowfully miss him. All will draw the mantle of charity over his foibles and his errors--for without these he was not. As his end drew near, his sufferings were great, caused by the lungs difficulty that ate away his life. Yet, as an attendant assures us, his end was peaceful, and his mind unclouded to the last. He leaves a wife and five children, a daughter and four sons, the youngest a mere babe. The funeral services occurred on Friday, and the remains were followed to their last resting place, on the family homestead, by a large procession of neighbors and friends. The bereaved ones have the unstinted sympathy and condolences of a wide circle of acquaintances.

On the second day of Chickamauga, after the disastrous rout and disorganization of most of the Federal army, many of the Perry and Fairfield boys, members of the 17th and 31st Ohio, kept together, as well as they could, and when orders were given by General Thomas, commander of the army of the Cumberland, to which they belonged, to form a second line of battle, and throw up temporary breast-works, they joined heartily in the movement. Captain J. W. Stinchcomb, born and brought up in Thorn township, Perry County, but in command of a Fairfield County company, was very active and conspicuous in the formation of this famous second line of battle. So much so, in fact, that he is mentioned by General Thomas in the official report of the battle. His loud hoarse voice was heard above the din, rallying the scattered soldiers, and his stalwart form almost tottered beneath an incredible load of rails. A private soldier of the 31st Ohio facetiously remarked that he "never had the most distant idea how many rails were a load for a man, until he saw 'Jim' Stinchcomb in the business at Chickamauga."

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 13, 1863 pg. 1

21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Unknown

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- August 21, 1862 pg. 2

34th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

First Lieutenant James K. Agnew, Company H

James K. Agnew was born March 16, 1836 to John and Mary Agnew. He was immediately promoted to First Sergeant when he enlisted October 19, 1861 in Co. K, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant to date November 21, 1861 but resigned his commission due to health reasons July 16, 1862. He reenlisted in the 34th Ohio sometime in 1864 and was serving with Company H during the summer. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant to date September 30, 1864 and on February 28, 1865 was transferred to command of Company B, 36th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to First Lieutenant to date March 8, 1865 and mustered out July 27, 1865 at Wheeling, West Virginia. He died January 14, 1875 and is buried in Nevada Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio. His widow Jennie survived him.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- June 17, 1864 pg. 2, August 12, 1864 pg. 2

49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 25, 1862 (Shiloh casualties) pg. 2, May 2, 1862 (official report on Shiloh), April 15, 1864 (tribute to actions at Mission Ridge) pg. 2

Chaplain George S. Phillips

George S. Phillips was commissioned Chaplain of the 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on May 6, 1863 and served with the regiment through the Tullahoma, Chickamauga, and Chattanooga campaigns before resigning his commission July 8, 1864.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 30, 1863 pg. 2

Captain Daniel Hartsough, Company G

Daniel Hartsough was born October 4, 1824 and enlisted as a Sergeant in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861. He served with the regiment through the summer campaign in Virginia and mustered out with the regiment August 28, 1861. Immediately thereafter, he recruited Co. G, 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was elected First Lieutenant to date September 6, 1861. He served with the unit through the battles of

Shiloh, Corinth, and Stones River. On June 23, 1863, he was promoted to Captain and given command of Co. A. He fought at Chickamauga where we was wounded in the right wrist, and Pickett's Mill, as well as Franklin and Nashville before mustering out January 12, 1865. He died January 27, 1911 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 20, 1863 pg. 2

Private William Page Blackburn, Company D

William Page Blackburn was born August 12, 1839 and enlisted August 14, 1861 as a Private in Co. D, 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into service on August 20, 1861 and served with the 49th Ohio throughout the war, including the battles of Shiloh, Perryville, Stones River (where he was wounded and captured), Chickamauga, and Pickett's Mill. He was promoted to Corporal August 12, 1862 but was reduced to Private on January 1, 1864. He mustered out August 20, 1864 on the expiration of his term of service. He died December 20, 1924 and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 21, 1862 pg. 3

Private Edwin W. Smith, Company D

Edwin W. Smith enlisted as a 26 year old Private in Co. D, 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry August 14, 1861 and was mustered into service August 20, 1861. He served with the regiment through the Shiloh campaign but became ill and was discharged for disability on October 17, 1862 at Nashville, Tennessee.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 25, 1861 pg. 3

Corporal George P. Ogg, Company K

George P. Ogg enlisted as a 22 year old Private in Co. K, 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, mustering in September 9, 1861. He took part in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Stones River, and Chickamauga before reenlisting for another three year term in 1864. He was wounded at the Battle of Pickett's Mill May 27, 1864 and was later promoted to Corporal to date November 2, 1864. He mustered out with the regiment November 30, 1865 at Victoria, Texas.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 1, 1864 pg. 2

"M.J."

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 10, 1863 pg. 2

54th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

“Knox”

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 15, 1864 pg. 3

55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 8, 1861 pg. 3, May 15, 1863 (Chancellorsville casualties) pg. 3, June 5, 1863 (article on 11th Corps conduct at Chancellorsville) pg. 1

Wyandot Democratic Union: September 11, 1862 (Second Bull Run casualties) pg. 3

Colonel John Calvin Lee

John Calvin Lee was born March 7, 1828 in Brown Twp., Delaware Co., Ohio and entered the war as a lawyer from Tiffin, Ohio. He was mustered in as Major of the 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry September 11, 1861 and was quickly promoted to Colonel to date November 20, 1861. He led the regiment through the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, and was particularly distinguished by his services at the battle of Second Bull Run, August 29-30, 1862. He led the 55th Ohio through Chancellorsville but resigned his commission effective May 8, 1863. A year later, he served as Colonel of the 100 days 164th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, mustering in May 2, 1864 and mustering out August 27, 1864. He was given a brevet promotion to Brigadier General to date March 13, 1865 for meritorious services rendered during the war. He was twice elected Lieutenant Governor of Ohio, in 1867 and 1869. He later joined the law firm of Lee, Brown, and Lee and died March 24, 1891 in Toledo, Lucas Co., Ohio.



Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 27, 1863 pg. 1

Captain Henry Miller, Companies K and C

Henry Miller was born May 1, 1818 and served in the Mexican War before enlisting October 11, 1861 in Co. K, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned First Lieutenant and served with Co. K through the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, and Second Bull Run before being promoted to Captain and transferred to Co. C on February 12, 1863. He led that company through the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the battles around Chattanooga and through the Atlanta campaign before resigning his commission effective September 28, 1864. He died February 16, 1895 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 23, 1863 pg. 2, August 14, 1863 pg. 1

Captain Charles D. Robbins, Company F

Charles D. Robbins enlisted as a 25 year old First Sergeant in Co. F, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on October 8, 1861 and was quickly commissioned Second Lieutenant to date October 16, 1861. He participated with his regiment in the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, Second Bull Run, and others, and was promoted to First Lieutenant to date July 23, 1862. Following the disastrous losses at the battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863, he was promoted to Captain to date May 8, 1863. He resigned his commission on March 24, 1864.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 28, 1862 pg. 2, October 17, 1862 pg. 2, March 13, 1863 pg. 2

Sergeant William H. Ashbrook, Company F

(see also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months} for biographical and service information)

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- February 20, 1862 pg. 1

"Knox," Company F

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 14, 1862 pg. 2, June 6, 1862 pg. 2

Private Henry M. Kellogg, Company G

Henry M. Kellogg enlisted August 5, 1862 as a 21 year old Private in Co. G, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served with the regiment for the remainder of the war and was mustered out May 29, 1865 in Washington, D.C.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 2, 1863 pg. 2

Captain Robert William Pool, Company H

Robert W. Pool was born August 18, 1837 in Richland Co., Ohio to Ira and Margaret (Mitchell) Pool. He enlisted originally in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861, being mustered into service April 27, 1861. He served with that regiment throughout the summer campaign as a Sergeant until his mustering out on August 28, 1861. He enlisted in Co. H, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 25, 1861 and was elected then commissioned Second Lieutenant to date October 24, 1861. He served with the 55th in the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, and Second Bull Run before he was promoted to First Lieutenant, and assigned as regimental Adjutant to date October 3, 1862. He served in this responsible position through the bloody Chancellorsville and Gettysburg campaigns before he was promoted to Captain to date August 1, 1863 and transferred to command of Company A. He served through most of the Atlanta campaign in the summer of 1864 before resigning his commission August 29, 1864.

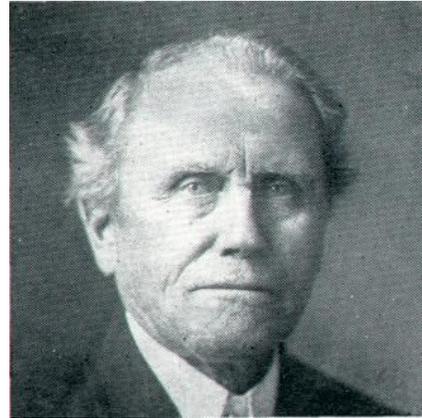
He returned to Wyandot Co. after the war and was active in veterans' affairs. He married Rachel E. Armstrong March 26, 1863 in Richland Co., Ohio and died April 21, 1925, burial at Nevada Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 23, 1862 pg. 2, June 10, 1864 pg. 2

***Second Lieutenant Henry Harrison Ragon, Company H
(see subsequent service with 144th Ohio Volunteer Infantry)***

Henry Harrison Ragon was born on March 8, 1837 in Tymochtee Township, Wyandot Co., Ohio to John and Elizabeth (Duddleston) Ragon, pioneers of Wyandot County who settled there in 1827. The Ragon family moved from Tymochtee Township to Crane Township in 1842 where John was elected Justice of the Peace, a position he held for 18 years. Henry was one of 12 children, four of whom served in the Civil War: William M., Eli B., Irene, Mary J., Eliza A., Lydia M., George W., Harvey B., Julia, Rebecca, and Albert. Henry grew up working on the family farm and he married Leefe C. Stephens on September 25, 1860 in Wyandot County, Ohio. The marriage produced 4 children: Elmer E., twins Allen and Almon, and Minnie Lucille. The family worked a portion of land near Upper Sandusky, Ohio for several years.



Ragon was one of the first to answer Lincoln's call for volunteers in 1861. He enlisted as a sergeant of Co. H, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 28, 1861. His regiment was actively engaged with General Thomas J. Jackson's army at the Battles of McDowell and Cross Keys before moving to join General John Pope's army and fighting at Cedar Mountain and Second Bull Run. He was promoted to second lieutenant to date October 3, 1862 and moved with the Army of the Potomac to Fredericksburg but did not participate in the battle. He then endured the agony of the Mud March in January 1863 and resigned his commission March 24, 1863 due to poor health at Falmouth, Virginia.

After his return home, Ragon became active in the government's secret service. He also helped to organize Co. A, 19th Battalion, Ohio National Guard in the summer of 1863 and was elected captain of Co. A, 144th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He mustered into service again May 2, 1864, just 3 weeks after the birth and death of his twin boys Allen and Almon. He served his 100-day enlistment creditably and was involved in the fighting at Berryville, Virginia. He was mustered out with his company on August 31, 1864.

With the close of the Civil War, Ragon returned to civil life and soon separated from his first wife on October 26, 1866, a divorce which was not completed until March 1870 by which time Ragon had moved to Lake Co., Indiana. He remarried on April 13, 1871 to Jennie A. Smith at Lowell, Indiana and six children were born to this union: Leonard Wilbur, Lola Montey, Mertie Elizabeth, John Clifford, George Vernon, and Cordie Uiral.

After moving to Lowell in the late 1860s, he proceeded to teach at a number of area schools. He retired from teaching in 1885 and founded the *Lowell Tribune* with A.A.

Winslow. He and his son Elmer bought the paper in 1890 and operated it jointly for a year. Ragon sold out his interest but purchased the newspaper again with another son, Leonard, in 1897. He was the newspaper's editor until about 1913, when poor health forced him to retire. In addition to his activities as editor, Ragon served as a Cedar Creek Township trustee and represented Lake County in the Indiana Legislature.

Captain Ragon took an active interest in the 144th O.V.I. reunions and attended almost all of them, often making a speech. He was a founding member of Burnham Post G.A.R. in Lowell, and worked tirelessly at erecting the soldier's monument in his hometown. Ragon was also a member of Colfax Lodge, F & A.M. Captain Ragon died at his home in Lowell May 3, 1918 and was buried in nearby Lowell Cemetery with full G.A.R. and Masonic honors.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 10, 1862 pg. 2, May 2, 1862 pg. 2

Private George Harkcom, Company H

George Harkcom enlisted as a 33 year old Private in Co. H, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 12, 1862 and was mustered in the same day. He was mustered out by order of the War Dept. on June 19, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 27, 1863 pg. 2

Captain Augustus S. Wormley, Company K

Augustus S. Wormley enlisted as a 33 year old Sergeant on September 15, 1861 and was mustered into service November 11, 1861. He served with the regiment through the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, Second Bull Run, after which he was promoted to Second Lieutenant to date August 19, 1862. Following the battle of Chancellorsville, he was promoted to First Lieutenant to date May 8, 1863. He reenlisted in the spring of 1864 and was promoted to Captain to date May 9, 1864. He served with the regiment in that capacity for the remainder of the war, mustering out with the regiment July 11, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 26, 1862 pg. 3, October 17, 1862 pg. 2, November 27, 1863 pg. 2, May 27, 1864 pg. 2, November 25, 1864 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- September 25, 1862 pg. 3

Captain Jesse Bowsher, Companies K and F

Jesse Bowsher was born about 1834 to Samuel and Mary (Moody) Bowsher. He was elected Second Lieutenant of Co. K, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on October 10, 1861. He served with the regiment through the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg before the regiment was transferred to the western theater in September 1863. Following his reenlistment in early 1864, he was promoted to First Lieutenant to date March 19, 1864 and fought throughout the Atlanta Campaign. On

July 25, 1864, he was promoted to Captain and led Co. F through the remainder of the war. He was mustered out with the regiment July 11, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 26, 1862 pg. 3

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 8, 1862 pg. 3, September 25, 1862 pg. 3

Second Lieutenant James K. Agnew, Company K
(see additional service in 34th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for biographical and service information)

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 15, 1861 pg. 2

Private Jesse W. Brandenburg, Company K

Jesse W. Brandenburg was born in 1831 and enlisted on April 23, 1861 as a 30 year old Musician in Co. C, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, mustering in April 27, 1861 and participating the summer campaign in western Virginia before mustering out with the regiment August 28, 1861. He enlisted as a Private in Co. K, 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on October 9, 1861 and mustered in the same day. He participated in all the battles of the 55th Ohio, including McDowell, Cross Keys, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg (where he was wounded on the second day), Mission Ridge, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, and many others. He reenlisted in 1864 and mustered out with the regiment July 11, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky. His letter lists him as a sergeant but no mention of this is made in the state roster. He died June 11, 1870 and is buried in Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- June 5, 1863 pg. 1

“The Whartenburg Soldier”

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- June 5, 1863 pg. 2

61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Captain James M. Reynolds, Companies B and A

James M. Reynolds enlisted as a 24 year old First Lieutenant in Co. B, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 8, 1862 and was mustered in the same day. He took part in the battles of Freeman’s Ford and Second Bull Run before being promoted to captain to date October 6, 1862 and transferred to command Company A. He led that company through Chancellorsville before being mortally wounded in the hip July 3, 1863 at the battle of Gettysburg, dying on the field in the 12th Corps hospital that same day.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 29, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal Abraham Bope, Company K

Abraham Bope enlisted as a 25 year old Private in Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on February 1, 1862 and was mustered into service the same day. He served with the regiment throughout the war, participating in the battles of Freeman's Ford, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and several engagements around Chattanooga before reenlisting as a veteran in early 1864. He took part in the battles of the Atlanta campaign including Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, and Peach Tree Creek, also took part in Sherman's march to the sea and through the Carolinas. The 61st Ohio was consolidated with the 82nd Ohio on March 31, 1865, and Bope was transferred to Co. I of the 82nd Ohio. He was promoted to Sergeant July 1, 1865 and mustered out with the regiment July 24, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 10, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal James W. Brewer, Company K

James W. Brewer enlisted as a 22 year old private in Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was mustered into service the same day. He was promoted to Corporal on April 8, 1862 and served with the regiment through the summer and fall campaigns of 1862. He deserted at an unknown date.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 30, 1863 pg. 2

Private Isaac Lott, Company K

Isaac Lott enlisted as a 45 year old Private in Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on January 2, 1862 and served with the regiment through most of the war. He was mustered out March 21, 1865 at Columbus, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 9, 1863

Private James M. McAfee, Company K

James M. McAfee enlisted as a 45 year old Private in Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on May 1, 1862 and was mustered into service the same day. He served with the regiment through the summer campaigns in Virginia but was transferred into Co. F, 19th Regiment, Veterans Reserve Corps on October 20, 1863. His date of discharge is unknown.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- August 1, 1862 pg. 1, May 3, 1865 pg. 3

Private Henry B. Nichols, Company K

Henry B. Nichols enlisted as a 22 year old Private in Co. K, 61st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on February 24, 1862 and was mustered into service the same day. He served with the regiment throughout the war in battles such as Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg before transferring to the western theater in September 1863. There, he took part in the battles around Chattanooga and reenlisted for another three year term. He took part in many of the battles of the Atlanta campaign and was on Sherman's march to the sea and through the Carolinas. On March 31, 1865, the 61st Ohio was consolidated with the 82nd Ohio, and he was transferred to Co. I, 82nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving with that unit until the end of the war. He was mustered out with the regiment July 24, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 24, 1862 pg. 2, June 12, 1863 pg. 2

81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 25, 1862 (Shiloh casualties) pg. 2, October 17, 1862 (Corinth casualties) pg. 3, March 20, 1863 (resolution about Copperheads) pg. 2

Captain Peter Austva Tyler, Company D

(See also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months} for biographical and service information)

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 23, 1863 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- March 12, 1863 pg. 2, April 9, 1863 pg. 3, April 23, 1863 pg. 3, May 14, 1863 pg. 2, April 14, 1864 pg. 3, June 22, 1864 pg. 3

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 10, 1862, pg. 1, April 18, 1862 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- November 14, 1861 pg. 1, November 21, 1861 pg. 3, December 5, 1861 pg. 3, January 9, 1862 pg. 1, January 16, 1862 pg. 2, February 20, 1862 pg. 3, April 10, 1862 pg. 2, October 30, 1862 pg. 1, November 27, 1862 pg. 2, December 23, 1862 pg. 3, February 19, 1863 pg. 2, March 12, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal John W. Gillian, Company D

John Gillian enlisted as a 23 year old Corporal in Co. D, 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 1, 1861 and served with the regiment throughout the war. He was reduced to the ranks as a Private and was mustered out March 9, 1865 at Columbus, Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Democratic Union- April 16, 1863 pg. 2, October 1, 1863 pg. 3

Private Jeremiah C. Groff, "J.C." Company D

Jeremiah C. Groff was born December 21, 1838 and enlisted as a Private in Co. D, 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 1, 1861. He was soon transferred to the Quartermaster's Department and served in that capacity until January 1864, having served with the regiment through the Shiloh, Corinth, and Vicksburg. He was selected to become Quartermaster Sergeant of the 110th United States Colored Troops and joined that regiment January 5, 1864, serving until his mustering out on February 6, 1866. He returned to Ohio following the war and died March 7, 1883, being buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 4, 1861 pg. 3, October 19, 1861 pg. 1, October 25, 1861 pg. 2, November 29, 1861 pg. 2, December 13, 1861 pg. 2, January 3, 1862 p. 2, January 10, 1862 pg. 2, January 24, 1862 pg. 2, April 4, 1862 pg. 2, May 30, 1862 pg. 2, September 26, 1862 pg. 3

Private Michael W. Kimmel, Company D

Michael W. Kimmel enlisted as a 41 year old Private in Co. D, 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 1, 1861 and was mustered into service the same day. He served with the regiment throughout the war, taking part in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca, and Atlanta. He mustered out at the expiration of his term of service September 26, 1864.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 13, 1863 pg. 2

"Democrat," Company D

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- April 2, 1863 pg. 2

"H.," Company D

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 21, 1862 pg. 2

"Young America"

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 10, 1863 pg. 3

82nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Article:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 18, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal John M. Myers, Company K

John M. Myers enlisted as a Private in Co. K, 82nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on January 3, 1862 and served with the regiment throughout the war, taking part in the battles of McDowell, Cross Keys, Groveton (Second Bull Run), Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg

before being transferred to the western theater with 11th Corps. The regiment took part in the fighting at Wauhatchie and at Chattanooga before being incorporated into the 20th Corps and fighting in the battles of Resaca, Dallas, Peach Tree Creek, Averysboro, and Bentonville . He was promoted to Corporal November 1, 1864 and mustered out with the regiment July 24, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union: October 1, 1863 pg. 3

101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 23, 1863 (report on Stones River) pg. 2, October 16, 1863 (Chickamauga casualties) pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- January 22, 1863 (report on Stones River) pg. 2

Colonel Isaac M. Kirby

(See also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months and 1861-1865} for biographical and service information)

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 16, 1863 pg. 2, July 22, 1864 pg. 2, November 25, 1864 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- January 22, 1863 pg. 3 (2), January 29, 1863 pg. 2, February 12, 1863 pg. 1

Captain George Washington Hale, Company F

George Washington Hale was born March 25, 1833 and enlisted as the First Sergeant of Co. F, 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 9, 1862, mustering into service August 30, 1862. He took part in the battle of Stones River and was commissioned Second Lieutenant to date December 23, 1862. He was again promoted to First Lieutenant to date February 17, 1863 before being wounded and captured September 19, 1863 at the Battle of Chickamauga. He was imprisoned for 18 months in Libby and Columbia prisons, escaping three times but being recaptured each time. He was promoted to Captain to date November 3, 1864. He mustered out June 12, 1865 at Camp Harker, Nashville, Tennessee. He died December 6, 1921 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 20, 1863 pg. 3

Sergeant Claudius N. Martin, Company F

Claudius N. Martin was born March 12, 1843 in Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and enlisted as a Corporal in Co. F, 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 9, 1862, mustering in August 30, 1862. He was promoted to Sergeant February 17, 1863 and took part in the battles of Stones River, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Rocky Face Ridge, Jonesboro, Franklin, and Nashville before mustering out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Harker, Nashville, Tennessee.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- August 7, 1863 pg. 2

118th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

First Lieutenant Anthony Bowsher, Company C

Anthony Bowsher was born July 8, 1837 to Henry and Margaret (Dickens) Bowsher in Bowsherville, Ohio. He enlisted as a 24 year old First Sergeant of Co. C, 118th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 12, 1862 and was mustered into service September 15, 1862. He served with the regiment throughout the war, taking part in the battles of Mossy Creek, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, and Nashville before the regiment was sent to North Carolina, where it took part in the assault on Fort Anderson. Bowsher was promoted to First Lieutenant to date January 23, 1865, and transferred to Co. D. He was discharged May 26, 1865. He died August 25, 1871 and is buried in Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union: May 7, 1863 pg. 3

123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Articles:

Wyandot Pioneer- December 25, 1863 (Second Winchester casualties) pg. 3, May 31, 1865 (return of flags) pg. 3

Colonel William T. Wilson

(see also 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry {Three Months} for biographical and service information)

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 27, 1863 pg. 3, October 23, 1863 pg. 2, November 13, 1863 pg. 3, November 20, 1863 pg. 2, December 4, 1863 pg. 2, December 18, 1863 pg. 2, January 29, 1864 pg. 2, June 24, 1864 pg. 2

Major John W. Chamberlain, Company A

John W. Chamberlain enlisted as the Captain of Co. A, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 12, 1862 and was mustered into service September 24, 1862. He was captured June 15, 1863 at the Second Battle of Winchester along with most of the regiment. He endured many months of captivity at Libby Prison in Richmond before being released in March 1864. He spent several months at home in Wyandot County before returning to the field and leading Company A through the rest of the war. He was given a brevet promotion to Major to date December 30, 1864 but never mustered at that rank. He mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- November 28, 1862 pg. 3, December 12, 1862 pg. 3, January 2, 1863 pg. 2, January 30, 1863 pg. 1, March 6, 1863 pg. 2, April 3, 1863 pg. 2, July 15, 1864 (2) pgs. 1 and 2, July 29, 1864 pg. 2, September 2, 1864 pg. 1, October 7, 1864 pg. 3

“A History of Prison Life in Libby”- Pt. 1 April 22, 1864 pg. 1, Pt. 2 May 13, 1864 pg. 1, Pt. 3 June 3, 1864 pg. 1, Pt. 4 June 10, 1864 pg. 1, Pt. 5 July 1, 1864 pg. 1, Pt. 6 July 8, 1864 pg. 1

Surgeon Orrin Ferris

Dr. Orrin Ferris was born February 2, 1817 in Shalersville, Portage Co., Ohio to Charles and Mary (Card) Ferris. Dr. Ferris married Oliver Flower on June 2, 1843 in Upper Sandusky, Ohio and had one son with her. Following her death, he married Mary Hirschill December 20, 1858 and had one daughter.

He served as the regimental surgeon for the 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for about the first year of the war. He enlisted and was commissioned April 27, 1861 and mustered out August 30, 1861 at Columbus, Ohio. He reenlisted in the 15th Ohio on September 20, 1861 and served with the regiment until failing health forced him to resign effective March 15, 1862. He enlisted once again as surgeon in the 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on September 4, 1862, and was mustered into service September 4, 1862. He resigned his commission November 10, 1864. He died May 8, 1876 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 6, 1863 pg. 3, August 7, 1863 (with casualty list for Second Winchester) pg. 2, May 27, 1864 (with casualty list for New Market) pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 26, 1864 (with casualty list for New Market) pg. 3

Assistant Surgeon James H. Williams

Dr. James H. Williams enlisted as an assistant surgeon on September 4, 1862 and was given his commission on September 16, 1862. He remained with the regiment through its capture at Winchester in June 1863 and resigned his commission January 25, 1864.

Letters:

Wyandot Democratic Union- December 18, 1862, pg. 1, January 29, 1863 pg. 2, September 10, 1863 pg. 1

Captain John F. Randolph, Company B

John F. Randolph recruited Co. B, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry and enlisted August 16, 1862, receiving his commission as First Lieutenant to date September 24, 1862 when he mustered into service. He was promoted to Captain to date March 6, 1863 and was captured at the Second Battle of Winchester on June 15, 1863, being imprisoned at Libby Prison for several months. Following his return to the 123rd Ohio in 1864, he took part in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar

Creek before being wounded at the battle of High Bridge on April 6, 1865. He was mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- October 23, 1863 pg. 2

First Lieutenant Martin W. Willoughby, Company F

Martin W. Willoughby enlisted as 22 year old Corporal in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on April 20, 1861 and was mustered into service April 27, 1861. He served throughout the summer campaign in western Virginia before mustering out at the expiration of the regiment's term of service on August 28, 1861. The following summer, he was instrumental in recruiting Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisting August 17, 1862 and was named First Sergeant when the regiment mustered into service September 24, 1862. He was promoted to Second Lieutenant to date December 12, 1862 and was captured along with most of the regiment at the Second Battle of Winchester, Virginia June 15, 1863. He was paroled July 19, 1863 and returned to the regiment December 2, 1863, later participating in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek before taking part in the Appomattox campaign in April 1865. He was promoted to First Lieutenant to date December 9, 1864 and mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 23, 1863 pg. 2

Sergeant Samuel Hayman, Company F

Samuel Hayman was born in 1832 and enlisted in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 17, 1862 and was mustered into service September 24, 1862, being named Sergeant that same day. He was captured along with most of the regiment at the Second Battle of Winchester, Virginia June 15, 1863 and was paroled July 19, 1863. He returned to the regiment November 2, 1863 and participated in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek before taking part in the Appomattox campaign in April 1865. He mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio and died July 3, 1869. He was buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 1, 1863 pg. 1

Sergeant Benjamin Franklin Willoughby, Company F

Benjamin Franklin Willoughby was born May 16, 1841 to Tarlington B. and Diana (Caldwell) Willoughby in Harrison Co., Ohio. He served as a Private in Co. G, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry at the war's beginning, enlisting April 20, 1861, mustering into service on April 27, 1861 and serving through the summer's campaign in western Virginia. He was mustered out with the regiment August 28, 1861. The next summer, he enlisted on August 21, 1862 in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry as a Corporal and was mustered into service September 24, 1862. He was promoted to Sergeant to date

April 5, 1863 and was captured with most of the regiment June 15, 1863 at the Second Battle of Winchester, Virginia. He was paroled July 19, 1863 and returned to the regiment on October 2, 1863; afterwards he participated in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek before taking part in the Appomattox campaign in April 1865. He was mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio. He married Miranda Debolt in 1866, but died August 1, 1873 and is buried in Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- April 3, 1863 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union: February 12, 1863 pg. 2

Corporal Josiah Paul Dry, Company F

Josiah P. Dry was born May 4, 1840 and enlisted as a Corporal in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was mustered into service on September 24, 1862. He was captured along with most of the regiment at the Second Battle of Winchester June 15, 1863 and was paroled August 2, 1863. He reenlisted in the regiment November 6, 1863 and served with it through the remainder of the war, taking part in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. He was mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio. He died September 17, 1895 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.



Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 16, 1863 pg. 2,

February 20, 1863 pg. 2, May 15, 1863 pg. 1,

September 11, 1863 pg. 2, November 25, 1864 pg. 2

Private Robert N. McConnell, Company F

Robert N. McConnell was born April 29, 1843 and enlisted as a Private in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 22, 1862, mustering into service September 24, 1863. While serving as a hospital attendant, he was captured at the Second Battle of Winchester June 15, 1863 and paroled July 5, 1863; later, he was discharged for disability October 24, 1863 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio. The next summer he served as assistant surgeon of the 133rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, mustering in May 2, 1864 and mustering out August 20, 1864, having spent the majority of his service in the Bermuda Hundred area. He died June 6, 1917 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 17, 1863 pg. 3

Private Morris P.H. Oberlin, Company F

Morris P.H. Oberlin was born in 1818 and enlisted August 19, 1862 as a Private in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was captured along with most of the regiment on June 15, 1863 at the Second Battle of Winchester, Virginia but was paroled on July 19, 1863. He returned to the regiment on October 2, 1863 and served with it for the duration of the war, taking part in the battles of New Market, Cool Springs, Third Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek. He was mustered out with the regiment June 12, 1865 at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio and died in 1890, being buried at St. Peters Catholic Cemetery in Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- March 6, 1863 pg. 3, April 3, 1863 pg. 2

Private Levi Parson Willoughby, Company F

Levi Parson Willoughby was born January 20, 1832 to Tarlington B. and Diana (Caldwell) Willoughby in Dohrman Twp., Harrison Co., Ohio. Moving to Wyandot Co. with his family around 1847 He joined the first company from Wyandot County to go to war when he joined Co. C, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry April 23, 1861, and was mustered in April 27, 1861. He served with the regiment through the summer campaign and was mustered out August 28, 1861. He joined the army again when he enlisted as a Private in Co. F, 123rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry on March 30, 1864. He took part in the several battles of the Shenandoah Valley campaign and was captured at the battle of High Bridge, Virginia April 6, 1865. He was mustered out June 14, 1865 at Annapolis, Maryland. Levi was noted for his poems and songs.

He first married Sarah Jane Gibson on January 9, 1853, but was married a second time to Lavina Elizabeth Smith with whom he had 10 children. He died April 28, 1898 and is buried in Old Mission Cemetery, Wyandot Co., Ohio.

Poem "The Battle of Cedar Creek"

Wyandot Democratic Union- January 5, 1865 pg. 1

"B."

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- February 27, 1863 pg. 3

"J.M.E."

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 8, 1864 pg. 2

Unknown

Letters:

Wyandot Democratic Union- August 4, 1864 pg. 3, November 24, 1864 pg. 2

144th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Article:

Wyandot Pioneer- September 2, 1864 (report on Berryville Wagon Raid) pg. 1

Adjutant Jonathan Ayres

Jonathan Ayres was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania on March 12, 1822 to Dr. Isaac and Eliza (Coulter) Ayres and moved with them from Pennsylvania to Richland County, Ohio where he came of age. He moved to Upper Sandusky in 1846 and spent the remainder of his life in that town. He laid out the town of Nevada, Wyandot County, Ohio in October 1852 with George Garrett and afterwards became active in the dry goods business until about 1864.

He married Jennie Harris of Detroit, Michigan on April 10, 1856. He had to sell off his stock and business when he was called to service in May 1864. He was commissioned adjutant of the 144th Ohio and during his service he participated in the battle of Monocacy and as second in command at Berryville, where he was instrumental in rallying portions of the regiment. Adjutant Ayres continued in the Ohio National Guard service until he was mustered out on March 1, 1866 as a lieutenant colonel.

“Mr. Ayres was a man of high sense of honor. He had his convictions and was always frank in giving expression to them, even at times when it was very unpopular to do so. He could not act the hypocrite. On the temperance question he held intense views. He had seen much of the evils resulting from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors, hence his decided convictions, and he practiced what he professed. He was a man of industry and tireless energy. He was honest and a true friend.” Adjutant Ayres died from the complications of long-standing rheumatism on November 2, 1889 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Crane Township, Wyandot County, Ohio.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- May 27, 1864 pg. 2, June 3, 1864 pg. 2

Chaplain Jacob G. Baughman

Chaplain Jacob G. Baughman was born May 17, 1832. He mustered in as a private in Co. D on May 2, 1864, and was promoted to chaplain of the 144th Ohio on May 12, 1864, being honorably discharged on August 31, 1864 with the regiment. He died at the Ohio Soldier's and Sailor's Home in Sandusky, Ohio on June 23, 1897 and is buried in that cemetery.

Article:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 8, 1864 pg. 2

Captain Henry H. Ragon, Company A
(see also 55th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for biographical and service information)

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- August 19, 1864 pg. 2

Private Otho J. Powell, Company A

Otho J. Powell enlisted as a Private in Co. A, 144th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on May 2, 1864 and served with that unit throughout his 100 days of service. Following his mustering out on September 2, 1864, he edited the *Wyandot Pioneer* with Louis A. Brunner.

Letters:

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 26, 1864, pg. 1, June 16, 1864 pg. 1, July 7, 1864 pg. 1

Private William A. Butler, Company G

William A. Butler mustered into Co. G, 144th Ohio Volunteer Infantry on May 2, 1864 and took part in the battle of Monocacy before mustering out August 31, 1864.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- August 5, 1864 pg. 1

Captain James A. Gibson, Company H

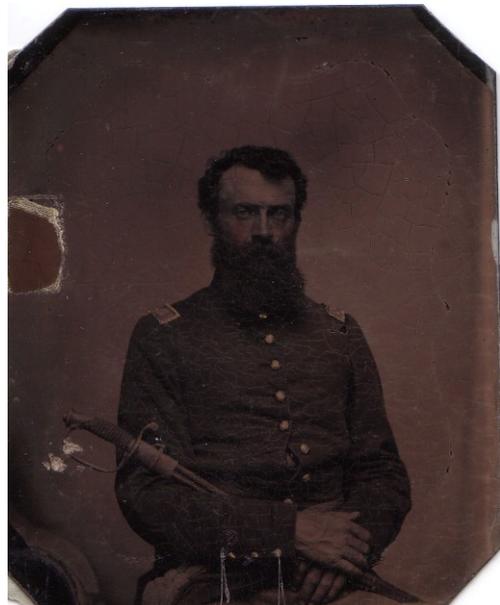
James A. Gibson was born about 1823. During the Civil War, he raised Co. H of the 144th Ohio and was elected its captain in May 1864. He was stationed at Fort Dix until the time of Early's raid and then spent the remainder of his service pursuing Rebels in the Shenandoah Valley, including the engagement at Berryville. He was mustered out with his company on August 31, 1864.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 8, 1864, pg. 2

First Lieutenant James Steele Leith, Company H

James S. Leith was born on March 6, 1838 in Wyandot County, Ohio to George W. and Margaret P. (Steele) Leith, the father being a native of Ohio and the mother a native of Pennsylvania. The couple were married in Seneca County and moved to Antrim Township, Wyandot County in 1837 and lived there for 30 years. In 1867, the parents of J.S. Leith moved to Nevada, Wyandot County, Ohio where the mother died in 1868 and the father in 1883. George and Margaret Leith had ten children, five of whom survived them: James S., Mary, Martha S., Jessie, and Josie. George Leith served as



associate judge from 1845 to 1852 for Wyandot County

Leith lived with his parents until 1861. On September 29, 1861, he married Melissa M. Pease and had one daughter, Maggie E. After Melissa's death in 1866 he did not remarry. Leith enlisted as first lieutenant in Co. H, 144th O.V.I. on May 2, 1864 serving 100 days before being honorably discharged with the company on August 31, 1864 at Columbus, Ohio.

He resumed farming after the war until 1866 when he engaged in the dry goods trade in Nevada. He remained there two years, selling his stock and entering the wholesale dry goods establishment of Lathrop & Luddington of New York City and remained with the firm until it became insolvent in December 1869. He sold agricultural implements during the seasons of 1871 and 1872 and was one of the incorporators of the Nevada Deposit Bank, selling his stock in 1877. He was appointed railway postal clerk in 1875 and held the position for the Pennsylvania Railroad for nearly 30 years. Lieutenant Leith's daughter married Edward Williams and died shortly after her marriage. In politics, Mr. Leith followed the Republican Party and was a member of the Leith Post G.A.R. at Nevada. Lieutenant Leith died from the effects of pneumonia on May 18, 1911 in Nevada and is buried in Nevada Cemetery, Eden Township, Wyandot County, Ohio.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 8, 1864, pg. 2

Second Lieutenant Andrew R. Ingerson, Company H

Lieutenant Andrew R. Ingerson was born on April 10, 1827 and married Eliza J. McCauley on February 28, 1853 in Wyandot County. He first served in Co. G 49th Ohio, mustering in September 5, 1861 as a corporal and served with that unit in Kentucky and Tennessee until he was mustered out due to disability May 18, 1862. He then returned home and recuperated, then was commissioned second lieutenant of Co. A, 123rd Ohio on August 12, 1862. The regiment left Ohio in October 1862 and was stationed in West Virginia, mostly at Romney being attached to the Railroad Division of West Virginia. He resigned his commission on February 12, 1863 on account of physical disability, no doubt from exposure in the harsh winter. He was called up with the Ohio National Guard and was again commissioned a second lieutenant in Co. H, 144th Ohio on May 2, 1864 and honorably discharged on August 31, 1864 with the company. He died at Sycamore, Wyandot County, Ohio on November 30, 1875 and is buried in Old Sycamore Cemetery.

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 8, 1864, pg. 2

175th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

First Lieutenant William Rummell, Company I

William Rummell was commissioned as a 29 year old Second Lieutenant on October 8, 1864 in Co. I, 175th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment proceeded south to Tennessee, guarding bridges and blockhouses along the railroad south from Nashville on the Tennessee & Alabama Railroad. The regiment was heavily engaged at Franklin and

retreated to Nashville but took no further part in the fighting. Rummell was in command of the company from November 17, 1864 to June 1865, and was promoted to First Lieutenant to date June 6, 1865 but was never mustered at that rank. He was mustered out with the regiment on June 27, 1865 at Nashville, Tennessee.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- May 11, 1865, pg. 3

180th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

"J.W.W."

Letter:

Wyandot Pioneer- January 18, 1865 pg. 3

Units from other States

11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry

Sergeant James C. Stein, Company M

James C. Stein enlisted as a 44 year old Private in Co. M, 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry on August 17, 1861 and was mustered into service on August 19, 1861. He was quickly promoted to Sergeant on September 6, 1861 and served with the regiment in eastern Virginia until he was mustered out August 18, 1864 at Jones' landing, Virginia at the expiration of his term of service. He was promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant to date February 24, 1863.

Letters:

Wyandot Pioneer- July 18, 1862 pg. 2

Wyandot Democratic Union- July 24, 1862 pg. 3

Corporal Thomas Laux, Company M

Thomas Laux enlisted as a 22 year old Private in Co. M, 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry on August 28, 1861 and was mustered into service August 30, 1861. He reenlisted with the regiment in 1864 and was wounded May 14, 1864 at the Battle of Flat Creek Bridge, Virginia and mustered out August 13, 1865 at Manchester, Virginia.

Letter:

Wyandot Democratic Union- March 27, 1862 pg. 3

Private James W. Keller, Company M

James W. Keller enlisted August 17, 1861 as a 24 year old Private in Co. M, 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry and was mustered into service August 19, 1861. He was transferred out of the regiment October 21, 1863 into the 28th Company, 2nd Battalion, Veterans Reserve Corps where he was mustered out October 19, 1864 at Norfolk, Virginia.

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