

# **BLACK CIVIL WAR PATRIOTS OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND**

by

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the requirement for the degree of Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies

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## **DEDICATION**

To my wife, Janet Gail Mease who suffered through countless weekends and even vacations while I worked on this thesis.

Michael Dixon, MA, MS, member of the board of the Historical Society of Cecil County who directed me to the data and kept me on course with sound advice.

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this thesis is to document the lives, before, during and after the Civil War, of African American Veterans of that war, members of United States Colored Troop (USCT) regiments all, who were in some way related to Cecil County Maryland. Either they were born there, lived there, were employed there, died there, and/or were buried there. While some of the subject veterans began their lives in slavery, most were born free. During the war they enlisted in the Union Army and fought at The Crater, Deep Bottom, The Gap, Petersburg, Richmond, and the last scene of the Civil War, the Confederate surrender at Appomattox Court House, all in Virginia. They marched through Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, Florida, and Texas. They fought, they were wounded, and they lost limbs. At least four were killed in action, several more died of diseases that ravaged their military encampments, and a few have their final resting places in the cemeteries of the various black churches that dot the landscape of Cecil County, Maryland. After the war they blended into society raising families, educating their children, buying and selling land, mortgaging that land, and becoming laborers, farmers, sextons, brick makers, carters, and one restaurateur.

The information here offered came from the records of the Historical Society of Cecil County, the Cecil County Court House, the National and Maryland State Archives, The Delaware Historical Society, libraries from Wilmington, Delaware to Corkscrew, Florida, Elkton town and Cecil County municipal files, The Cecil County School District, churches, and web sites, as well as a variety of secondary sources, all giving voice to

these now silent African American Veterans of the American Civil War related to Cecil County, Maryland.

This topic is significant because it tells a story, a story that has not been told, of relatively young men related to Cecil County, Maryland who went off to fight for their freedom, the freedom of others, and the continued union of their nation. And they did it in the face of opposition from both the battlefield enemy known as the Confederacy and the enemy at home called racism. Their accomplishments, and the accomplishments of men like them, laid the foundation upon which succeeding generations of African Americans built their lives.

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## Chapter 1

### BEFORE THE WAR

#### Introduction

There are several black churches in Cecil County, Maryland whose cemeteries are dominated by the patriots' graves of African American Veterans of the Civil War. They are plain: some are marked by simple stones, with only their name, rank, and regiment, no birth nor death dates, no wives' or children's names listed. They are white. They are silent; too silent. For all African American veterans of the Civil War related to Cecil County, have stories to be told. Some of them are more detailed and more accessible than others, but at least parts of them are available on the public record. These men are not silent heroes. For while their stories have not been told, it does not mean they do not exist. A few were slaves, living the first twenty or so years of their lives as the property of another human being. The rest were born free, living and working in many locations both inside and outside of Cecil County under highly segregated conditions. Then they enlisted in the army.

The men who enlisted in the United States Colored (USC) Troops who were related in some way to Cecil County were either born there, died there, lived there, or worked there. In September of 1864, the Cecil Whig newspaper released the 1860 census data for Cecil County. It reported a total white population of 21,000 men and women. It also reported a total free black population of 2900. The slave population was listed at just over 900.

Of those free blacks, about 1500 were males.<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to determine the exact number of African Americans related to Cecil County who fought in the Civil War. Newspaper accounts refer to over four hundred black recruits. Ancestry.com Library Edition lists approximately two hundred black enlistees who noted Cecil County as their place of birth. About half of these men have census, tax, property, employment, death, or some other type of public record to link them to Cecil County, Maryland. At least four of them were slaves, but only one of those four was born in Cecil County. After the war, thirty-eight of the veterans settled in the county. Nine settled outside of Cecil County, and nine more died during the war. The rest lived out the remainder of their lives in undetermined locations.

As noted, while the exact numbers are hard to come by, determining that African Americans enlisted from Cecil County is relatively easy. There are grave stones and obituaries, as well as historical society, census, and service records to review. However, such research is not without its pitfalls. The military service records of USC Troops were not compiled until 1890 and they are not complete. Census records too are inconsistent from decade to decade. Obituaries are of minimal help as the deaths of black residents were not always reported in the local newspapers and when they were they were not listed with the obituaries of white residents and are not nearly as detailed as the obituaries for whites. What is harder is determining who these men were as human beings. None of these veterans left behind written records of any kind. Oral history is nonexistent as well. Of the four elderly African Americans interviewed for this thesis, aged seventy-

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<sup>1</sup> "Cecil County in the Census Returns," *Cecil Whig*, September 3, 1864.

five to ninety-six, all four said that when their elders spoke of the past, the children were hustled out of the room, never to hear the stories. None of the interviewees had a definitive reason for their black elders not relating stories to the younger generation. They could only theorize that the stories were too embarrassing or they just didn't want the children to hear and remember the hard times of the past. In other words, it was time to move on.

By piecing together various data from the aforementioned sources, a list was compiled of 137 persons who came from Cecil County, were credited to the county for enrollment purposes, worked in Cecil County, and/or are buried in the county. Of them, 80 were born in Maryland, 48 in Cecil County, 2 in Pennsylvania, one in Delaware, three were born in Virginia, and one each was born in Kentucky, South Carolina, and in an undetermined location. That complete list is attached in a Bibliographic Appendix (Appendix A) which includes the names of additional veterans whose records are less detailed than the 137 or their war and post war activities could not be documented. Most of the men led ordinary lives leaving little or nothing for which they could be remembered. But once in a while there are a few who stand out.

### **Literacy**

None of these veterans related to Cecil County, whether free or slave, left behind written records of any kind. Most indicated to census takers that they could not read or write. However, Constance Beims, author of A Journey through Berkeley, MD revealed in an interview that, in the course of her research, she spoke with several older black men who said their fathers and grandfathers often told census and other government officials that

they could not read or write even though they could. She said she isn't sure why except maybe as a habit passed down from slavery days when it was illegal for slaves to be taught to read or write.<sup>2</sup>

## **Marriage**

Prior to the war, there are no records indicating that any of the veterans of this study were married. However, when the census of 1900 is consulted, it indicates that several may have been. The 1900 census includes, for the first time, a data column for number of years married. Those census data indicate that five of the veterans were indeed married before the war. The first to wed was Peter Milburn in 1858. He was followed by his brother, George Milburn, Abraham Brown, and Daniel Newton all in 1862. William Cooper was married in 1863. All the rest of the veterans who married, did so after the war.

## **Residencies**

The subject veterans to be, married or single, free or enslaved, lived in Baltimore, Maryland, Glasgow and Smyrna, Delaware, Dorchester and Kent County, Maryland prior to the war. But the vast majority of the recruits lived in Cecil County. Sporadic evidence shows that the Cecil County veterans lived mostly in Elkton, but a few were living in Port Deposit, Conowingo, and the lower unincorporated areas of the county. As the county seat for Cecil County, Elkton was and is the center of business and commerce for northeastern Maryland. Records do not describe the prewar occupations of more than 2

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<sup>2</sup> Interview with Constance Beims

of the veterans from Elkton, but non-agricultural jobs would have been more available here than in the rural parts of the county.

## **Slaves**

Of the USC Troop recruits related to Cecil County, only between four and seven were slaves prior to the war. Why so few? Because of the split in Cecil County between free and enslaved African Americans living there. Slavery was legal in Cecil County during the entire Civil War. Not a single slave was freed there by the Emancipation Proclamation when it took affect in January, 1863. According to the United States Census of 1860 the African American community made up about 14 percent of the total population of Cecil County, one third of which was enslaved.<sup>3</sup> However, taken another way, two thirds of Cecil County's black population was free during the Civil War. As a result, while there were issues across the state with slaves being taken out from under their masters by Union recruiters, there is no documented evidence that such issues arose in Cecil County. Of all of the following documented cases of slave recruiting with one possible exception, the slave owner voluntarily turned his or her slave over for service in the Union Army, taking advantage of a bounty offered by President Lincoln. The military service records of only two black recruits from Cecil County list them as being former slaves. None of the military service records of any of the other black recruits indicate that they were slaves, taken by Union recruiter, General William Birney, or his subordinates. Many of the records only say that the recruit was "free" as of a certain

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<sup>3</sup> Cecil Whig, Sept 3, 1864 p.2

date, not their status prior to that date. Military service and/or other public records do show that four of the recruits definitely were slaves, but as noted, all were turned over voluntarily by their masters. Two of the slaves were held in bondage in Cecil County. James Alfred Pierce was the property of Joseph Price of Warwick, Cecil County. Price released his slave to the Federal Government to fight in the Union Army on September 29th, 1863 and received a cash reward. Price also wrote a letter stating his support for the Union which was kept in Private Pierce's service records.<sup>4</sup> Agnes Kane Callum writes that "The owner of a slave could submit a sworn affidavit proving ownership of the slave and also received \$100.00 in bounty money. This law applied to everyone except the Negro."<sup>5</sup> Pierce began his three year enlistment at a recruiting station in Baltimore followed by a nearby training camp where the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment conducted its basic training. He was twenty-one years old and five feet, eleven and one quarter inches tall.<sup>6</sup>

The other USC Troop recruit from Cecil County who was a slave at the war's beginning was Eli Taylor. Taylor began life the property of Samuel Foard of Elkton. The Cecil County Slave Record for 1861 through 1864 lists Eli as age twenty-nine to thirty-two, along with a Sambert, age twenty-five to twenty-eight as having a combined value of

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<sup>4</sup> Letter Verifying Union Support of Joseph Price, November 30, 1864, from Thomas P. Jones, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>5</sup> Keith Wilson, editor, *Honor in Command: Lt. Freeman S. Bowley's Civil War Service in the 30<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Infantry* (University Press of Florida, Gainesville/Tallahassee/Tampa/Boca Raton/Pensacola/Orlando/Jacksonville/Ft. Myers, 2006), 1

<sup>6</sup> Volunteer Descriptive Book for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, for James Alfred Pierce, September 26, 1863, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

\$800 in 1861, increasing to \$1200 in 1864.<sup>7</sup> On September 7th, 1864 Foard offered Taylor for service in the Union Army.<sup>8</sup> Foard had to present both Evidence of Title, which showed he inherited Taylor in 1834, and Evidence of Loyalty to the Union. This process took some time as the title and loyalty papers are dated in 1867, two years after the war's end.<sup>9</sup> Taylor served until December, 1865 when he was mustered out of the service at Roanoke Island, North Carolina. He was paid a \$300 bounty.<sup>10</sup>

The third recruit who was definitely a slave before the war was Robert Anderson (sometimes referred to as "Annison") of Baltimore. Anderson's military record reveals he was born the slave of the husband of Leah Jane Anderson of Baltimore. Mrs. Anderson inherited him "upon the death of my husband" in 1854.<sup>11</sup> For turning Robert Anderson over to serve in the Union Army, owner Anderson received \$300 from the government which was awarded in June of 1865.<sup>12</sup> Mrs. Anderson also had to sign a

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<sup>7</sup> *Cecil County Slave Record 1853-1864*, Third District, Elkton,

<sup>8</sup> Claim for Compensation for Enlisted Slave, February 4, 1867, to Samuel B. Foard for slave Eli Taylor, National Archives, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>9</sup> Evidence of Title, February 9, 1867, to Samuel B. Foard for slave Eli Taylor/Evidence of Loyalty, March 4, 1867 of Samuel B. Foard, National Archives, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>10</sup> Muster Roll for Company "T", 30th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, May/June, 1865, Eli Taylor, and Muster Out for Company "T", 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Troops, Eli Taylor, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>11</sup> Evidence of Title by Leah Jane Anderson of Robert Anderson, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>12</sup> Owners Award of Compensation to Leah Jane Anderson for Robert Anderson, June 17, 1865, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.



loyalty oath to the Union before receiving her bounty.<sup>13</sup> Anderson enlisted in the army in Somerset County, Maryland. His Description Roll reports he was the oldest of all the subject veterans, enlisting at the age of forty-four. The Roll describes him as a teamster who left the army on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1867 when his three year term expired.<sup>14</sup> Private Anderson is buried in Cecil County according to the card catalogue file of county cemeteries in the Historical Society of Cecil County. However, the census records do not show a Robert Anderson or Annison living in the county anytime in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. To confuse matters more, there is a land deed record in the Cecil County Court House of one Robert and Mary R. Anderson selling land to The Cecilton Creamery for \$150 in Cecilton, Cecil County.<sup>15</sup> But the confusion does not end there. Private Anderson's pension record lists his spouse as Mary "M" Anderson.<sup>16</sup>

A fourth recruit who was certainly a slave, but not a native of Cecil County, was owned by Charles F. Goldsborough of Dorchester County, Maryland who filed papers of manumission for his slave, Henry Chase, in April of 1864. Goldsborough, an attorney, later became State's Attorney and a Federal Circuit Court Judge. He was the son of a former Maryland Governor. Goldsborough applied for and was compensated \$300 for

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<sup>13</sup> Oath of Allegiance by Leah Jane Anderson, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>14</sup> Descriptive Book for Company "G", 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, January 16, 1867, Robert Anderson, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>15</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JAD, No. 18, Folio 214, 1889, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>16</sup> Pension Record for Robert Anderson, Invalid – June 6, 1878, Widow benefit – March 7, 1894, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

manumitting and offering Chase for service in the Army.<sup>17</sup> So, on September 26th, 1863 Chase was mustered into the Union Army in Baltimore, Maryland. Soon after entering the service, in October 1863, Chase went to St. Mary's County, Maryland as a part of Col. Birney's recruiting service. He mustered out of the army in October, 1866 in Indianola, Texas at which time Chase was due a two dollar enlistment premium and he purchased his Springfield rifled musket from the army for six dollars.<sup>18</sup> After the war, Chase appears on three census records indicating that he lived in Elkton, Cecil County, first as a waiter then as a laborer.<sup>19</sup> All Civil War veterans of Cecil County were awarded pensions from the county. Henry Chase was one of them. The Cecil County News reported in April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1900 that Chase's pension was increased from six dollars per month to eight dollars.<sup>20</sup> Chase was also awarded a veteran's disability pension by the Federal Government starting in 1890. Curiously, a widow's benefit was also awarded to a Kate Chase. There is a record of a Kate Chase living in Baltimore through 1900. She was a widow in June of 1900 when the census was taken. The subject, Henry Chase, died

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<sup>17</sup> Certificate of Award of the Board of Claims, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864, to Charles F. Goldsborough, for Henry Chase, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>18</sup> Muster Out Roll for Company "A", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, October 13, 1866, Henry Chase, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census, 1870, 1880, 1900 Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>20</sup> *Cecil County News*, April 25, 1900.

in August of 1900. The Veterans Schedule of 1890 shows a Henry Chase living in Baltimore, but no regiment or company information is included in the record.<sup>21</sup>

Of the other former enslaved USC Troop recruits with a relationship to Cecil County, one was claimed by his alleged owner from Missouri and the other two were listed in their military service record as being former slaves, but there is no further evidence.

The lone veteran who may have been recruited as a slave without compensation to his former master was Cecil County native John Frisby. According to military service records, Frisby was a nineteen year old farmer when he enlisted in Baltimore on August 16, 1864. However, his Descriptive book says he was a slave at enlistment in the 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment. He transferred to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment on October 19<sup>th</sup> and neither he nor an owner was paid a bounty.

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<sup>21</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Veterans Schedule 1890, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

## Chapter 2

### CECIL COUNTY RECRUITMENTS

According to the National Parks Service web site on The History of African Americans in the Civil War, about 180,000 blacks answered the call to arms in the Union Army serving in 163 units with more recruits serving in the United States Navy. However, there were many skeptics both inside and outside the armed forces who didn't think the black man would fight, let alone fight well. The black units proved themselves between 1862 and 1864, when they fought in Missouri, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and North and South Carolina. During the final two years of the conflict, United States Colored Troops served "in every major campaign of 1864-1865 except Sherman's invasion of Georgia." While African Americans made up only ten percent or roughly 180,000 of those who fought for the Union, 33 percent of the black troops lost their lives during the war. <sup>22</sup>

Popular culture dictates that recruiting of black soldiers began in 1863 in Massachusetts; an effort made popular by the movie Glory. In his article "Preserving the Legacy of the United States Colored Troops," Budge Weidman writes that recruiting began there when "Governor John Andrew... received permission to raise a regiment of African American soldiers. This", he continues, "was the first black regiment to be organized in the North," and became the Massachusetts 54<sup>th</sup>. The Massachusetts recruiting effort may have been the first for black recruits in the north, but it was not the first during the war. Blacks began service in the Union Army prior to the Militia Act of July, 1862 that allowed

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<sup>22</sup> NPS Web Site [www.itd.nps.gov/ewss/history/as\\_cw\\_history.htm](http://www.itd.nps.gov/ewss/history/as_cw_history.htm) History of African Americans in the Civil War pages 1 and 2

President Lincoln to recruit African American volunteers into the army and the Emancipation Proclamation, issued the following January, that officially triggered black recruiting. General David Hunter, operating in South Carolina, recruited escaped slaves at gun point as early as March, 1862.<sup>23</sup> Meanwhile, in April, 1862, one month after General Hunter first formed his black units, “many similar ones” formed independently hundreds of miles to the west. African Americans approached Union Officers, including General Benjamin F. Butler, in New Orleans to form their own units, the Louisiana Native Guard, including black officers. Joseph Glatthaar in his Civil War Series, Black Soldiers, describes these men as “men of considerable means, either skilled workers, professionals, or entrepreneurs.”<sup>24</sup>

Finally, there were reports of African Americans from Pennsylvania and Maryland volunteering to help defend Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in July of 1863. Those volunteers were turned away. However, just a few days earlier, there are also reports of these same volunteers joining white militia in defense of the Columbia Bridge over the Susquehanna River, preventing, it could be argued, a potential Rebel advance on Philadelphia. In his dissertation on “A History of Camp William Penn and its Black Troops in the Civil War, 1863-1865,” James Elton Johnson writes that “...only the defense and destruction of the bridge by Pennsylvania militia saved the day.” Residents, Johnson continues,

“remembered the Battle at Columbia Bridge as the pivotal defensive moment in the

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<sup>23</sup> Letter to Secretary of War Edwin Stanton from General David Hunter, August 4, 1862, Department of the South Letters Sent Volume II Page 3, National Archives, Washington, DC

<sup>24</sup> Joseph Glatthaar, *The Civil War's Civil War Series: Black Soldiers* (Eastern National, 2007) 14

Confederate invasion of their state.” “Militia included about 100 African American members.”<sup>25</sup> It is not known if any of these black volunteers were from Cecil County as all of their names are apparently lost to history.

African American enlistment was especially heavy in the Border States (Kentucky, Missouri, and Maryland) which was encouraged by both a \$300 bounty and freedom. John Blassingame writes that “In all, 41,500 Negroes from these three (border) states fought in the Union Army. This was almost one-fourth of the 178,000 Negroes who became Union soldiers.” He notes that “from Maryland there were 8,718, from Missouri, 8,344, and from Kentucky, 24,438. The large number was due to the offer of freedom for all who enlisted, to the vigor of zealous and determined recruiters, and to the agitation of the radicals.”<sup>26</sup>

Some of the more than eight hundred black recruits from Maryland came from Cecil County. As previously noted, there is some confusion as to the exact number of black recruits from Cecil County. The county newspapers referring to over four hundred recruits, while Ancestry.com Library Edition, lists approximately two hundred black enlistees who gave Cecil County as their place of birth. Only about half that number has more than their service records to relate them to the county. All of those records indicate that the men joined the army starting in 1863 when the Union Army was being decimated on the battle field and needed a fresh supply of soldiers.

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<sup>25</sup> James Elton Johnson, *A History of Camp William Penn and Its Black Troops in the Civil War, 1863-1865*, (University of Pennsylvania, UMI Dissertation Services, 1999) 38

<sup>26</sup> John Blassingame “The Recruitment of Negro Troops in Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri, 1863-1865.” *Historian* 24.4 (1967): 545

So the call went out for volunteers. This was not the first time President Lincoln had called for military recruits, but now there was a threat that went along with the call. If volunteer quotas were not met, a draft would be imposed. Maryland's December 1863 quota was 2800 men. Only 2100 men had volunteered and another 2000 man quota was anticipated in January, 1864. Still, there was much opposition to the use of black volunteers to fill those quotas. The Whig editors thought otherwise. "We believe that if the proper efforts had been made, more than enough of the colored troops could be raised in the district to prevent the pending draft. There are several hundred stout able-bodied black men in this county who would enlist if any inducement was held out to or even if any encouragement was given them." "Let us go to work at once," The Whig concluded, "and do all we can to encourage Negro enlistment in Cecil."<sup>27</sup> This belief on the part of the Whig editors that draft quotas could be filled with black recruits was not empty. Earlier, in August of 1863, a Cecil Whig article listed 445 black citizens enrolling in the army.<sup>28</sup> Two months later, to the south in Kent County, The Whig reports Union officers came recruiting black men there and, after five days, "they recruited and sent away about 300 Negroes, nearly all of them slaves. These added to the number previously taken... make a total of about 400 from our county alone."<sup>29</sup> Was this a case of a local newspaper urging equal rights or was it white racism in disguise? It could be a little of both. On the one hand the Whig editor knew that the more black men who enlisted the fewer white men would be drafted. On the other hand, those same editors later would

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<sup>27</sup> "Negro Enlistment," *Cecil Whig*, December 26, 1863.

<sup>28</sup> "The Enrollment of Cecil," *Cecil Whig*, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863.

<sup>29</sup> "Enlistment of Negroes," *Cecil Whig*, October 10, 1863.

advocate for black rights such as voting and giving equal credence to black testimony as white testimony when whites were on trial. Area black men were recruited through a recruiting office set up in Broad Creek, Cecil County and Havre de Grace in Harford County on orders from the Assistant Adjutant General, C.W. Foster<sup>30</sup>.

## 1864

Following recruitment, the men were mustered into the army. Muster In records of Cecil County veterans show three time periods when black soldiers were recruited in the county. The first was in August of 1863, not long after President Lincoln authorized military service for African Americans. The second and third efforts came between January and March and then again in August of 1864. The majority of the black recruits from Cecil County mustered into the army during these three periods, but a few men signed up at various times in between. In the first quarter of 1864, at least twelve men who were born in the county, lived in the county, or were later buried in Cecil County enlisted with the Union army. The Cecil Whig in its January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864 edition noted the numbers. "About one hundred and twenty colored recruits passed through this town on Wednesday and Thursday last, and took the cars (railroad) for Baltimore. About thirty of them enlisted in this county," the reporter noted, "and the balance in Kent (County)."<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Circular Letter from Bureau for Organization of Colored Troops from C. W. Foster, Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, October, 1863, War Department, Washington, D.C.

<sup>31</sup> "Negro Recruits," *Cecil Whig*, January 16, 1864.



Recruiting continued in Cecil County during the summer of 1864. On Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup>, a troop of ten soldiers disembarked from the train in Elkton. Accompanied by a fife and drum unit, they marched to the recruiting station <sup>32</sup> behind the Cecil County Court House at the intersection of North and Main Street in Elkton.<sup>33</sup> The site of soldiers marching was not unusual in this county seat. What was unusual was the fact that this squad, led by Lts. Frick and Edwards, consisted of United States Colored Troops who came to Elkton with the express purpose of recruiting more black troops to join the regiments already formed to defend the Union. Their recruiting efforts were not confined to fife and drum corps marching in the streets. Lt. Edwards also ventured into the black community speaking at one local black Sabbath School. The Cecil Whig reports "Lieut. Edwards, recruiting officer for the colored regiments, made the pic-nickers a speech, some extracts of which have been handed us, which our limited space compels us to omit." Too bad those words are lost to history.<sup>34</sup> Three weeks later, The Whig reported that a total of 36 African Americans had been recruited and paid a total of \$300: \$250 "citizens bounty" and \$50 bounty from the county.<sup>35</sup>

The sight of black troops may have been unusual in Elkton, but they were not discouraged by the local citizenry either. Just the opposite, as The Whig noted, the white citizens of Elkton had ulterior motives. Like all Maryland counties, in order to avoid the

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<sup>32</sup> "Local Affairs," *Cecil Whig*, August 16, 1864.

<sup>33</sup> "Our Quota," *Cecil Whig*, August 6, 1864.

<sup>34</sup> "The Colored Sabbath School of Elkton," *Cecil Whig*, October 20, 1864

<sup>35</sup> "Recruiting in Elkton," *Cecil Whig*, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

draft, Cecil County had to meet an August, 1864 quota. Cecil County's quota was 384 Union Army recruits. "Therefore, let every citizen encourage, in the proper manner and spirit, these negroes in their efforts to raise volunteers."<sup>36</sup> Remember the numbers: Cecil County's total population, according to the 1860 census, was 23,862. Of those, 3868 were African American or about fourteen percent of the total population.<sup>37</sup>

In her book, Colored Volunteers of Maryland Civil War 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment United States Colored Troops 1863-1866, Agnes Kane Callum lists fourteen black soldiers coming from Cecil County in the late summer of 1864. All of them joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Troops formed in Baltimore.<sup>38</sup> Callum does not indicate whether these fourteen recruits are credited to Cecil County, if they lived in Cecil County, or if they were born in Cecil County. However, each of them lists Cecil County, Maryland as their place of birth in their military service records. There are two other volunteers for the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, not listed in Callum's book, who had a relationship with Cecil County: one lived there for a period of time, and the other lived, worked, and died there. A third volunteer, born in neighboring Harford County, Maryland, who lived and is buried in Cecil County, was also recruited by Col William Birney in Baltimore, just one year earlier, in August of 1863. Instead of joining the 7<sup>th</sup> USCT Regiment, he joined the 4<sup>th</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> "Our Quota," *Cecil Whig*, August 6, 1864.

<sup>37</sup> "Cecil County in the Census Returns," *Cecil Whig*, September 3, 1864.

<sup>38</sup> Agnes Kane Callum, *Colored Volunteers of Maryland Civil War: 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment United States Colored Troops 1863-1866* (Baltimore: Mullac Publishers, 1990), Appendix III.

USCT Regiment. Of those seventeen recruits, five were wounded in action, two were former slaves, and one gave the ultimate sacrifice on a battlefield in Virginia.<sup>39</sup> By the end of August, thirty-six raw recruits from Cecil County were on a train to Baltimore where they would begin basic training. Among those recruits were five substitutes submitted by local men who could afford it. One of those men supplying a substitute was J.A.J. Creswell, United States Senator and abolitionist from Cecil County.<sup>40</sup> There will be more about Senator Creswell later. Of the thirty-six black enlistees noted by The Whig, twenty have military records listed on Ancestry.com Library Edition. The vast majority of those twenty were mustered into the 23rd and 28<sup>th</sup> Regiments United States Colored Troops. Of those twenty, five died of disease and three in the line of duty; all but one, according to United States Census records, were free men in 1860. The ages of the recruits between 1863 and 1865 ranged from eighteen to forty-four. Eleven were eighteen and one was forty-four.

## **Bounties**

As noted earlier, bounties were paid to slave holders who offered their slaves for service in the army. The same was true for free men who volunteered themselves for service. In the summer of 1864, The Whig listed the bounties to be paid each man starting with 3 year recruits at "\$600 - \$300 cash; \$450 for two years - \$250 cash; \$300 for one year - \$200 cash."<sup>41</sup> Cecil County paid fifty dollars of that bounty. There was a bit of a

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<sup>39</sup> Muster Rolls, United States Colored Troops, United States Army, 1863-1866, United States Archives, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>40</sup> "Colored Recruits," *Cecil Whig*, August 20, 1864.

<sup>41</sup> "Our Quota," *Cecil Whig*, August 6, 1864.

competition going on among counties and Cecil didn't want to lose out. In the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864 edition of The Whig, a reporter noted that the Cecil County Commissioners voted to pay the bounty at the time of mustering into the service. "This provision is made to prevent the threatened credit of volunteers, enlisted in the county, to Baltimore city, which is paying a Bounty of the same amount and the consequent draft in this county of the ascertained quota of eighty men." In other words, the Cecil County recruits were going to Baltimore to be enlisted and the Cecil County fathers wanted to be sure their recruits were not credited to Baltimore.<sup>42</sup> Once accepted into the army, the recruits were paid "\$16 a month, with clothing and rations furnished by the government. The committee in charge of the collection of the funds are meeting with good success."<sup>43</sup> This pay scale also made the local newspapers. Until August, black troops were paid a fraction of what the white troops were paid. The Cecil Democrat reported the change without comment, "Negro soldiers are to be paid the same pay, bounty, and clothing allowance with the late decision of the Attorney General."<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> "Proceedings of the County Commissioners," *Cecil Whig*, June 18, 1864.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid

<sup>44</sup> *Cecil Democrat*, September 3, 1864.

## Chapter 3

### WAR TIME SERVICE

Once mustered in, black volunteers related to Cecil County enlisted in many different black regiments, but most went into the 7<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> USCT Regiments. While each company of each regiment has its own rich and heroic histories, all of them fought in grinding, bloody, and decisive battles in Virginia, most notably the area just to the east of Richmond and Petersburg. Those battles included Deep Bottom, Dutch Gap Canal, New Market Heights, and the Siege of Petersburg itself. All of the enlistees from Cecil County who were killed and all but one of those wounded in the line of duty received their injuries in the Petersburg area. According to Noah Andre Trudeau's The Siege of Petersburg, nearly 8,000 black troops in twenty black divisions served in the Siege of Petersburg. One of the most famous of the siege battles was the Battle of the Crater starting on July 30th, 1864. "For three weeks, as a Pennsylvania Regiment dug a tunnel under a Confederate fort to blow it up, the black troops were being trained to lead the assault once the battle commenced. The black troops were chosen," Trudeau explains, "because they were numerically superior, and having been mainly wagon guards up to this point, they had seen little action." That was General Butler's plan. However, he was overruled by General George Meade who ordered nearly exhausted, untrained white troops to lead the charge.<sup>45</sup> The result was disastrous. After the explosion occurred, the white troops charged in and were caught in the cross fire from Rebel troops around the rim of the resulting crater. The black troops were finally ordered

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<sup>45</sup> Andre Trudeau, *The Civil War Series: The Siege of Petersburg* (Eastern National, 1995), 28

in, but they were backed up in the crater by troops who were there before them. Trudeau describes the scene: "Stiff hand to hand combat now began and the face of battle changed." "Many of the Confederate were enraged that black troops were being deployed against them," Trudeau writes, "and the fighting became vicious. As a result, many blacks who surrendered were not taken prisoner; the division suffered 209 killed, 697 wounded, and 421 missing or captured."<sup>46</sup> Keith Wilson writes in Honor in Command: Lt. Freeman S. Bowley's Civil War Service in the 30<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Infantry, "driven out of the rebel entrenchments at the right of the Crater, July 30, 1864, they were so completely routed and broken that not even a company organization remained."<sup>47</sup>

Many of those who survived The Crater participated in the siege of Petersburg in April of 1865. In her book Colored Volunteers of Maryland Civil War: 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment United States Colored Troops 1863-1866 Agnus Kane Callum writes "The 7<sup>th</sup> was used as skirmishers and over powered the Rebels works. They advanced along the road to Petersburg and were the first soldiers to enter the city."<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> Ibid, p 29

<sup>47</sup> Keith Wilson, editor, *Honor in Command: Lt. Freeman S. Bowley's Civil War Service in the 30<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Infantry* (University Press of Florida, Gainesville/Tallahassee/Tampa/Boca Raton/Pensacola/Orlando/Jacksonville/Ft. Myers, 2006), 220

<sup>48</sup> Agnus Kane Callum, *Colored Volunteers of Maryland Civil War: 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment United States Colored Troops 1863-1866* (Baltimore: Mullac Publishers, 1990), 26

## Promotions

Of all of the subject soldiers for this study, only 17 were promoted from Private to Corporal during the course of the Civil War. And only two African American soldiers related to Cecil County were promoted beyond Corporal: George Simperts who was promoted to Sergeant. on January 24, 1865, just months before the end of the war, and William Toney, born in Cecil County and a member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, was promoted to Sergeant in February of 1866.<sup>49</sup> It seems as if it was one thing for whites to put guns in the hands of black men and quite another to give them military rank and the possibility of holding authority over white soldiers.

Between Sergeants Simperts and Toney, considerably more information is known about Sergeant Simperts, although some of it is conflicting. He could have been a slave, according to the 1853 and 1864 Cecil County Slave records; or he could have been free, according to census records. Regardless of where or when Sergeant Simperts was born, he enlisted with the Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment at Readville, Massachusetts in April, 1864. He was one of only two USCT members from Cecil County (James Wilson being the other member) to serve in the Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment. After the war, Simperts's Company Muster Roll shows he was absent with leave from his company for over a month while he was stationed at New Orleans. The record does not explain the nature of

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<sup>49</sup> Muster Roll for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, January/February, 1866, William Toney, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

the absence.<sup>50</sup> Following Simperts's mustering out of the army, records indicate he settled in Cecil County. However, only two censuses mention him. The 1900 Census shows Simperts living with his wife Louisa of 20 years and four children: Garfield, Winfield, Laura, and Matilda, all born in Pennsylvania which indicates the family was living there for most of the post war period. George is listed as a laborer in the pulp mill along with his oldest son Garfield. Louisa's occupation is not listed and the three other children are in school.<sup>51</sup> The 1910 census record is the last government record of the life of George Simperts. He and his wife Louisa were still living in Elkton and no occupation listed. George is 80 years old. Louisa is 50 and they have been married for 30 years.<sup>52</sup> There are two newspaper records of George Simperts. The first is from the June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1901 edition of the Cecil Whig which reports Simperts' pension was increased to \$10 per month.<sup>53</sup> The second is from the Cecil County News which reports Sgt George Simperts died on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1912 in Elkton. "Sunday night George Simperts Jr. passed away at a ripe old age. He was a veteran of the Civil War and was one of Elkton's most respected colored men."<sup>54</sup> He was buried in the cemetery of the Wright AME Church in Elkton. However, no headstone for Sgt. Simperts can be located in that church cemetery. A notation on a three by five inch card located in the obituary file of the Historical Society

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<sup>50</sup> Muster Roll for Company "L", Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, July/August 1864, William Toney, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>51</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Twelfth United States Census 1900, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>52</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth United States Census 1910, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>53</sup> "Pensions," *Cecil Whig*, June 19, 1901

<sup>54</sup> "Obituary," *Cecil County News*, February 4, 1912.



of Cecil County has a notation that states Simperts was buried in his Civil War Uniform. There is nothing in the official record about his being buried in uniform.

### **Physical Effects of The War**

War takes its toll on all those involved, but none more so than those fighting it. In the case of USC Troops related to Cecil County during the Civil war, a total of eight gave their lives in the service of their country. However, most did not die on the battlefield. Five of the eight were claimed by disease. Three of the dead died in battle.

John Hackett, a member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Cecil County native, was killed in action in Virginia. Listed in the 1850 census as living with his parents, Frederick and Rachael, along with two siblings in Baltimore, Hackett enlisted on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1863 in Baltimore at the age of twenty-one. He also went with Col. Birney on recruiting missions in October and November, 1863. The location of this recruiting mission is not listed.<sup>55</sup> By September, 1864, the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment was operating in the tidewater of Virginia. Hackett was listed as missing in action in the battle near Fort Gilmer, Virginia on September 29. His Descriptive Book reports he was taken prisoner and moved to Salisbury, North Carolina where he died in February of 1865.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> Muster Roll for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, September and November, 1863, John Hackett, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>56</sup> Volunteer Descriptive Book for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, for John Hackett, February, 1865, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

The second African American soldier related to Cecil County to give his life for his country was John H. Hammond who signed up for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, "D" Company at Baltimore on August 10, 1864 at age twenty-one. His Muster In record shows him as a farmer, born in Cecil County. He was due a \$300 bounty. Like so many other members of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Regiments, Private Hammond was killed in action on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864 in front of Petersburg, Virginia. There were no effects left behind.<sup>57</sup>

A third Cecil County native to give his life in battle during the Civil War was George W. Taylor. The 1860 Census lists Taylor as a twenty-three years old living at home with his parents and three siblings in Elkton.<sup>58</sup> Four years later he listed himself as a twenty-four year old farmer (another Census error), born in Cecil County when he enlisted in Company "C" of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment. On November 29th, 1864 he was killed in action by a gunshot "from the enemy" at Bermuda Hundred, Virginia.<sup>59</sup>

Of the five subject veterans claimed by illness, two died from pneumonia, two by chronic diarrhea, and one by "inflammation of the liver." Those who died from disease include Charles H. Thomas, born in Cecil County, a twenty-three year old laborer when he enlisted for three years at Ellicott Mills, Maryland in July, 1864 serving with Company "H" of the 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment. On August 6th, 1865 he was hospitalized at the Regimental

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<sup>57</sup> Muster Out Roll for Company "D", 23rd Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, November 3, 1865, John H. Hammond, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>58</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Eighth United States Census 1860, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>59</sup> Company Descriptive Book for Company "C", 23rd Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, for Private George W. Taylor, December 21, 1864, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

hospital in New Orleans. Records show he was still considered sick, but mustered out of the army at Corpus Christi, Texas November 8th, 1865. He died of Chronic Diarrhea on December 14th, 1865 at the post hospital Brazos Santiago, Texas where he was buried.<sup>60</sup>

Nineteen year old Perry Mumford, born in Cecil County, who described himself as a farmer, enlisted in Baltimore with Company "G" of the 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment. He died January 14th, 1865 of pneumonia at Point of Rocks Hospital in Virginia. At the time of his death he owed the government forty-five cents for a canteen. The only item in his personal effects inventory was a knapsack.<sup>61</sup>

George W.H. Gould enlisted in Baltimore on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864 and was assigned to Company "A" of the 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Born in Cecil County, he was a farmer and twenty-nine years old at enlistment. He was due a \$300 bounty. On November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864 he reported sick and died three days later at the Hospital for Colored Troops, Army of the Potomac, City Point, Virginia of chronic diarrhea. His only effects were a pair of trousers and blouse turned over to Surgeon F.M. Hammond of the 126 NY volunteers, Army of the Potomac. Effects went unclaimed at the City Point hospital as of February,

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<sup>60</sup> Muster In Roll for Company "H", 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, November 8, 1865, Private Charles H. Thomas, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>61</sup> Final Statement, January 19, 1865 for Private Perry Mumford, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

1865. He's listed as not married. Death and internment records list him as buried the same day as his death.<sup>62</sup>

Not much is recorded about Joseph Thomas who the 1860 Census lists as seventeen years old, living with his father and three siblings in Havre de Grace, Harford County, Maryland.<sup>63</sup> The Joseph Thomas who enlisted at Baltimore on August 26th, 1864 with Company "A" of the 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment described himself as a farmer, born, but not necessarily living, in Cecil County. He died on January 31, 1865 at Point of Rocks Hospital, Virginia of pneumonia. No bounty was paid.<sup>64</sup>

Cecil County native John Frisby fell victim to disease after the cessation of hostilities. According to military service records, Frisby was a nineteen year old farmer when he enlisted in Baltimore on August 16, 1864. Records indicate he became ill on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864 and died at the General Hospital at Fort Monroe of "inflammation of the liver" on January 16, 1865. Inventory lists cap, great coat, blouse, trousers, pair of shoes, and haversack. His effects were turned over to his legal representative.

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<sup>62</sup> Record of Death and Interment/Final Statement, November 24, 1864/January 10, 1865, Private George Gould, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>63</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Eighth United States Census 1860, Harford County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>64</sup> Final Statement, January 3, 1865 for Private Joseph Thomas, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

USC Troops related to Cecil County who were injured in battle include Private William Badger, one of the few veterans in this study who has a public history prior to the war. According to his Muster In papers, Badger was born in Delaware and lived in the Glasgow area of New Castle County, not far from the Maryland state line. His public history begins in April of 1862 when the Cecil Democrat newspaper ran a short two line story under their Circuit Court section reporting that one William Badger had been charged with coming into Maryland illegally. At that time, according to Maryland law “any free negro, not a resident of this state, who shall come into the state, shall be fined for the first offense twenty dollars, and for the second offence \$500, and upon failure to pay said fine at \$500, shall be sold to the highest bidder whether said bidder be a resident of the state or not.” It went on to state that proceeds from that sale would be split between the informer and the State Colonization Society.<sup>65</sup> The Democrat went on to say that the case was discharged because “he appeared to be the child of a white woman.” Again, in those days, a person’s race was determined by that of his mother.<sup>66</sup>

A year and a half later, Badger enlisted in Smyrna, Delaware, traveled to Philadelphia, and mustered into Company “I” of the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment. He trained in Philadelphia at Camp William Penn. For an unstated reason, Badger deserted from camp on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1863, but returned to duty on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1863. There is no indication that any charges were filed. The following summer, Badger’s unit went to Virginia and was involved in the battle of Deep Bottom. On September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864 he sustained a severe gunshot

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<sup>65</sup> Jerre Garrett, *Muffled Drums and Mustard Spoons: Cecil County, Maryland, 1860-1865* (Shippensburg, PA, 1996) 33

<sup>66</sup> “Circuit Court,” *Cecil Democrat*, April 12, 1862.

wound to his left arm. The Casualty Report says the wound was severe enough to require the arm's amputation. After an extended hospital stay at Grant General Hospital in Willis Point, New York, Badger was discharged in April of 1865.<sup>67</sup> He returned to Cecil County where the 1870 Census lists him as a laborer living with the Calib Wilson family in the Elkton area. The census also labels him as white.<sup>68</sup> Five years later Badger's life came to a tragic end as the Cecil County Coroner report states that Private Badger drowned in the mill race at the Head of Elk Mills on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1875 at about fifty-two years of age.<sup>69</sup>

A member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment and born in Cecil County, William Toney was, as mentioned earlier, among the highest ranking of the Cecil County enlistees attaining the rank of Sergeant. He mustered into Company "D" at aged twenty-five.<sup>70</sup> He was wounded in action on September 29, 1864 and hospitalized until May 10, 1865.<sup>71</sup> The

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<sup>67</sup> Certificate of Disability for Discharge, United States Army, Private William Badger, April 3, 1865, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>68</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census 1870, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>69</sup> Cecil County Coroner Death Certificate, William Badger, March 1, 1875, Liber DS, No.11, Folio 306, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>70</sup> Descriptive Roll for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, September 26, 1863, William Toney, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>71</sup> Muster Out Roll for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, October 13, 1866, William Toney, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

promotion to Sergeant came in February of 1866.<sup>72</sup> The Census does not reveal what happened to Sgt Toney after the war. He only appears in the 1850 Census as a fourteen year old living with the Crookbanks family in the Cecilton area. A brother, Matthew, lives with him.<sup>73</sup>

Joseph Haynes, aged twenty-two, enlisted in Company "H" of the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment, was promoted to corporal on December 2nd, 1863. He served in Virginia helping to dig the Canal Work, the attempt to divert the James River at Dutch Gap in August, 1864. Joseph was wounded in action in his right thigh at nearby New Market Heights, Virginia. He was discharged on disability on January 20th, 1865 at David's Island, New York Harbor. He used an address of Darlington, Harford County, Maryland.<sup>74</sup> After the war, Haynes settled in Cecil County. The 1880 Census shows him as a thirty-nine year old Farm laborer living in Mt. Pleasant, near Port Deposit. His wife is Maria, age twenty-seven. They lived with their daughters, Dianna seven, Kasiah six, their son George L. one, niece, Mary J. nine, and an eight-two year old mother whose name is illegible. Joseph Haynes does not appear in the 1890 Veterans Schedule nor is he listed in the 1900 Census. He is buried in Mt. Zoar Church Cemetery near Conowingo.

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<sup>72</sup> Muster Roll for Company "D", 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, January/February, 1866, William Toney, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>73</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Seventh United States Census 1850, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>74</sup> Descriptive Book for Company "H", 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, January 20, 1865, Joseph Haines, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

The last of the wounded was Cyrus Wesley. Born Cecil, Maryland in about 1827, Wesley enlisted in Baltimore on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864. Assigned to Company "C" of the 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, he was shot in the neck and hip by a Minnie ball on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864 at the Battle of the Crater near Petersburg, Virginia. He spent the rest of the war in two hospitals: The Summit House U.S.A. General Hospital in Philadelphia and the Goldsboro Hospital in Roanoke Island, North Carolina where he was discharged on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1865. Census records indicate he settled in Fair Hill, Cecil County working as a farm hand with a wife and four children.



## **Chapter 4**

### **POST WAR LIVES**

After the war many of the recruits stayed in the army for another year or two. Since most had signed up for 2 and 3 year hitches in 1864, they still had time to give. For the most part, they spent that time in Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas. It's not known when the men came home, and most are not listed in the 1870 Census. However, slowly, official records began to reappear for the men. Those records show that most of the men married and most who married had children who were educated in the segregated and highly unequal public schools. Most of the men and their families lived across Cecil County, many accumulating property and other wealth while they returned to or began new occupations. But the sad truth is that most of the men faded into the woodwork of history and were never heard of again.

#### **Marriage**

Marriage records for the subject veterans are incomplete, but available records indicate that approximately 35 of the African American veterans of the Civil War related to Cecil County were married and 33 of them had children. In a very few cases, census records show children continuing to live in Cecil County during their adulthood. At least two became small businessmen in Elkton. However, in an interview with the former custodian of the Mt. Zoar Church Cemetery in Conowingo, Cecil County, 86 year old Frank Stewart said most of the veterans' families moved away from the area around the Mt. Zoar Church. "The area around Mt Zoar was not a black community much before 1881 when the church was founded. But," he said "they (African Americans) moved into

the area then moved away starting about 30 or 40 years ago (1970s). Then white people moved in, buying up land through sheriff sales.” Stewart named several who moved to Philadelphia and Chicago. All of those he mentioned were doctors and college professors.

According to United States Census records between 1870 and 1900, the vast majority of the wives of the veterans worked at home, but several were laundresses, servants, and seamstresses working both inside and outside of the home. A few of the wives played even larger more financially significant roles in their families. For example, in 1878, Deborah Janes, the wife of Jackson Janes, sold twenty-two and one half acres of land for \$200 that she had purchased in 1874. There is not indication of how she earned the money used to purchase the land or why she sold it.<sup>75</sup>

The wife of veteran George W. Milburn, himself a small businessman, was responsible for the second and final land purchase by the Milburns in 1893. Harriott purchased a lot on Booth Street in Elkton for eighty-five dollars.<sup>76</sup> Harriet Milburn also owned shares in the Mutual Building Association (MBA) in the 1890s and into the 1900s which allowed the Milburns to take out this and future mortgages with MBA. The first such mortgage is recorded with the MBA in 1894 for \$600 against the Booth Street property.<sup>77</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber AWM No 8 Folio 529, 1878, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>76</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 5 Folio 113, 1893, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>77</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 7 Folio 410, 1894, Maryland State Archives.

In 1878, the wife of Corporal Joseph Haines of the Conowingo area of Cecil County, purchased lots seven and eight on the north side of the road leading from Rowlandsville to Conowingo. Maria paid \$110 to John and Adalade Berry. In 1890 she and Joseph mortgaged the land through the Mutual Building Association to cover a \$200 loan based on an advance for one share of stock in MBA owned by Maria. Payments were one dollar per month.<sup>78</sup>

Moses McCabe's wife, Sarah, had a last will and testament which says that she and Moses owned a residence and property in Elkton. Upon Sarah McCabe's death, the residence, the surrounding property, and all the goods within the house were left to what today is the Providence United Methodist Church on High Street in Elkton. The property was to be used as the parsonage for the church's minister, but if it is not needed for that purpose it is "to be used for any other purpose that (the church) may think for its best interest."<sup>79</sup>

### **Education of Children**

All of the USCT veterans living in Cecil County who had children and sent them to public schools there. However, these schools did not spring up overnight nor was their creation easy. In many ways, the final, and one of the most long lasting battles for

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<sup>78</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JAD No. 20 Folio 401, 1890, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>79</sup> Last Will and Testament of Sarah McCabe, February 16, 1906, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

freedom by African American veterans of the Civil War in Cecil County, was fought in the board room of the Cecil County School District and the school rooms across the county.

Since Maryland remained in the Union during the war, it did not come under the jurisdiction of the Freedmen's Bureau. However, the Bureau did exercise some oversight of Maryland's efforts to educate its black children when the state began providing that education in July of 1865 under its new education law. The law set up the process for establishing a state board of education and similar boards throughout the state. It also established a system for setting up and financing schools for black children. That system was inherently unequal. Since school taxes were based on property value and ownership by race, and African Americans in Cecil County and across the state of Maryland owned little land, the tax base was much smaller and the taxes collected much less than for the white community. The result was very little money for black schools. In February of 1867 The Cecil County School board reviewed the demand for a school for black children in Elkton and the finances to pay for it. The finances broke down as follows:

Application made to build a school "for colored children in the Town of Elkton."  
Taxable property assessed to colored people in Cecil County for 1865 amounted to:

1 <sup>st</sup> district School Commissioners District	\$41.69
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$23.84
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$ 2.43
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 2.59
5 <sup>th</sup>	\$53.72
<b>"Aggregate for the year</b>	<b>\$124.27"</b>

1866

District 1	\$62.95	District 2	\$30.22	District 3	\$4.21
District 4	\$3.36	District 5	\$71.54		
<b>Total for both years: \$296.55</b>					

State tax paid @15cents per dollar	\$169.04
County tax paid @12 cents per dollar	\$55.23
1866 State Tax Paid at 15 Cents per dollar	\$73.83
County tax at 20 cents per dollar at \$98.45	
<b>Total \$296.55</b>	

Resolved of the \$296.55 take \$200 and appropriate toward building “a good school house in the Town of Elkton for the use of the Colored Children.”<sup>80</sup>

The county school board became involved at Port Deposit in November with tax dollars, when, at its meeting that month, the board resolved that “the remaining tax dollars left for Elkton School from the property of colored people for 1866 be put toward construction of ‘a school house for colored children at or near Port Deposit.’”<sup>81</sup>

In Elkton, the \$296.55 proved inadequate to support the black school. A January, 1868 letter from the new Superintendent of Schools for the Freedmen’s Bureau, William Howard Day, reported that local citizens were making up the difference.

“It is due to the Colored People of Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland, today that they have favored an educational association which meets weekly, collects the money due, and controls all educational matters. The member of that Association pays (sic) a certain sum weekly and thus the Teachers’ board is paid and expenses met.”

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<sup>80</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County School Board, Papers of the Cecil County School Board, July 29, 1865 – May 11, 1886, February 6, 1867, Cecil County School District, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>81</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County School Board, Papers of the Cecil County School Board, Book July 29, 1865 – May 11, 1886, November 20, 1867, Cecil County School District, Elkton, Maryland.

While Day expressed doubt that the “Colored People of Elkton” could sustain their level of support for their schools, he “urged the people to be self sustaining and I have faith to believe that soon in many places they will prove to be so.”<sup>82</sup>

In spite of its official hands off policy, the Bureau continued to advocate for black students in the Port Deposit area. Superintendent Day wrote that “At Port Deposit, in the same county, I found two schools one entirely independent, taught by one of the colored ministers and the other taught by a teacher paid by the American Missionary Association of New York City. I have recommended the union of these two schools, especially in view of the erection of a new school house ordered; and the teacher of the Independent School has told me that he approves of that idea.”<sup>83</sup> Superintendant Day did more than write letters to his superiors. He visited with residents of the town and surrounding area and talked to them about their educational prospects.

“In company with the Assistant Commissioner, I spent a Sunday in Port Deposit, speaking four times to the people – at 11 o’clock A.M to the colored people alone – at 2 o’clock to the Sunday School at 3 ¼ o’clock to an audience composed of white and colored persons. And at 8 o’clock/evening/ at Cokesbury, three miles in the country, where it is said, seventy-five children are ready to go into school.”

Following those discussions, Day reported “The people of Port Deposit then commenced the fund for their lot for a school house and have now we are informed, secured their land by deed. That same evening a written application was handed in from Cokesbury as the

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<sup>82</sup> Letter to Captain (illegible) from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools Report, The Freedmen’s Bureau, January 8, 1868, page 9, Microfilm RA 353, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

<sup>83</sup> Letter to Captain (illegible) from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools Report, January 8, 1868, page 9, Microfilm RA 353, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

land had been already secured; and that application is now under consideration by the Assistant Commissioner.” If only the names of those in attendance at those meetings and who obtained the land had survived!<sup>84</sup>

Superintendent Day had reason to hope that one day the County Board would take a bigger hand in running the schools for black children. Day’s hope would become reality in August of 1871 when the board resolved:

Whereas the school fund arising from the tax on the property of colored persons in this county is entirely insufficient to defray the cost of the colored schools now in successful operation, therefore, resolved that the Commissioners be and here by are authorized whenever in their judgment they shall deem it expedient to place the colored schools in this respective districts on the same footing with the white schools, and in all cases to make such contracts with colored teachers as they consider just and reasonable.<sup>85</sup>

Throughout the 1870s schools for black students were opened in Elkton, Port Deposit, Cokesbury, Chesapeake City, Rowlandsville, Elk Neck, Cecilton, Rock Run, St. Augustine, Brick Meeting House, Kirkland, Northeast, and one in an out of the way black community in the Fair Hill election district called Cedar Hill. This last school was built on land donated by Benjamin Griffith who was a land holding African American farmer and cooper in the area. He donated the half acre of land to the county school district “in regard for the education of the colored children of my neighborhood... on which a new

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<sup>84</sup> Ibid

<sup>85</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County School Board, Papers of the Cecil County School Board, Book July 29, 1865 – May 11, 1886, August 3, 1871, Cecil County School District, Elkton, Maryland.

school house for the use of the colored children is created called the Cedar Hill School.”<sup>86</sup>

Two weeks later, Griffith was granted a four year term as a member “of the District School Board for Colored School #1 in the 4<sup>th</sup> district” along with two other black farmers living in the area, William Gibson Valentine (in the 1870 Census he is Gibson W.), and David Henderson.<sup>87</sup> Cyrus Wesley, Rev. John Webster, and Jackson Janes are three African American veterans of the Civil War who are buried in the Griffith AUMP Church cemetery, named for and built on land also donated by Mr. Griffith. All three of these veterans lived in the Cedar Hill area. All three had children who, according to the 1870 Census, attended school, presumably the Cedar Hill School, made possible by Griffith’s donation.<sup>88</sup>

### **Literacy**

While their children were attending school and learning how to read and write, among other things, the veterans, according to all postwar census records, were illiterate. However, as also noted, the men may have told the census record takers they were illiterate out of habit left over from slavery times. There were several exceptions to the rule. One entrepreneurs in the group, George Milburn – restaurant owner –needed to know how to read to do business. He was literate as was Enoch Harris, the president of the USCT GAR in Elkton, John H. Moore, the town odd job contractor, and George

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<sup>86</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber DS No. 7 Folio 300, 1871, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>87</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County School Board, Papers of the Cecil County School Board, Book July 29, 1865 – May 11, 1886, February 28, 1871, Cecil County School District, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>88</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census 1870, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.



Simpers who was a laborer at an Elkton area pulp mill. Moses McCabe, Milburn's brick making brother-in-law, and Cyrus "Pervin" Wilson, the other entrepreneur ("carter") told the 1900 census takers that they could read, but they could not write.

### **Residences**

African American veterans of the Civil War were scattered across Cecil County. The U.S. Census refers to the county's nine election districts to locate residents, but these cover large geographic areas and do not give exact locations. According to the Census, the largest concentrations of veterans were in District eight (Conowingo), District seven (Port Deposit), District two (Elkton), and a few each in Districts one and four (Cecilton and Fair Hill). However, land records show the veterans were especially concentrated in black communities in the northern and southern sections of Port Deposit and a three square block area north of High Street in Elkton. It was in these general areas that the veterans bought and sold land.

### **Property Accumulation**

Cecil County Land records show that twenty-two of the African American veterans documented in this study living in the county were land owners. Those records also show where that land was, how much was paid for it, who sold it to the veterans, what, if anything was constructed on the land, and if it was mortgaged. In the case of nearly all married black veterans of the Civil War who conducted land transactions, the land sales were in both the man and the woman's names. Sometimes land records also included goods other than land such as furniture, farm implements, and even animals. The records

do not tell us where black veterans in Cecil County obtained their money or how they used money obtained through mortgaged property. Maybe their purchasing power was accumulated through their jobs, but those jobs, with few exceptions, consisted of basic labor and did not pay a great deal. More likely, it can be theorized that the veterans had sources of income other than their daily jobs which enabled them to purchase their land and residences. One possible source was war service pay. Each man received \$13 per month during the war and most were also paid a bounty of between \$50 and \$600 which the veterans may have saved and used for these purchases. Since most of the veterans were not married during the war, they did not have families to support and they may have banked the money they made during the conflict. They also received a pension after the war, and if they applied and qualified for it, some received disability pensions.

One of the best examples of veteran land activity comes from the records of Jackson Janes. The first officially recorded land transaction by Jackson and his wife, Deborah Janes, was recorded in the Cecil County Land Records in October of 1876 when they sold a piece of land in the town of Northeast, Maryland for \$100. There is no indication when the Janeses purchased the land which is situated along the Northeast River, or from whom it was purchased.<sup>89</sup> As noted earlier, two years later, Deborah Janes sold twenty-two and one half acres of land for \$200 that she purchased in 1874.<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>89</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber AWM No. 4 Folio 417, 1876, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>90</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber AWM No 8 Folio 529, 1878, Maryland State Archives.

Finally, in the summer of 1880 the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company was purchasing land to lay tracks for their railroad route across Cecil County. They approached Jackson and Debora Janes to purchase a right of way through a piece of their land. The Janeses agreed and the B&O railroad paid \$300 for the swath of land “33 feet on either side of said center line” on “the west bank of the Little Northeast Creek.”<sup>91</sup> There is even a hand written map of the land area including the local land holders through whose land the railroad would run, and the route of the line.

Enoch Harris and his wife, Sarah, also produced several land deals and mortgages between 1877 and 1906. In 1894 Harris and his wife began a chain of events that would lead to several land transactions and possibly their bankruptcy. That year they purchased land on the west end of Elkton along the east side of the Elkton and Blue Ball Road from Ann Eliza Lyons for \$180.<sup>92</sup> That same year they mortgaged the land through what was called the Mutual Building Association for \$800.<sup>93</sup> Soon after that mortgage, they mortgaged the same land to Jacob Rambo for \$125 which Harris owed Rambo. According to the deed, the mortgage was not dealt to Rambo until December, 1896.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JAD No 6 Folio 428 , 1880, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>92</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 5 Folio 582, 1894 Maryland State Archives.

<sup>93</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 7 Folio 475, 1894, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>94</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 7 Folio 520, 1896, Maryland State Archives.

Jacob Rambo was a builder/contractor in Elkton who, according to The Cecil Whig “is the contractor to build the new colored school in Elkton. The contract price is \$1279.”<sup>95</sup>

The Mutual Building Association was founded in Elkton in July of 1870. Its purpose was to sell stock and collect dues from its members. The money would be made available to those members in the form of mortgage loans at a specified interest rate, thus keeping the amount of money available through the Association replenished and then some.<sup>96</sup>

Several African American Civil War veterans and/or their wives were members of the Association and took advantage of the Association’s mortgage program.

The land Harris acquired in 1894 appears in the 1896 county tax assessment records. It is described as being a lot on Blue Ball Road, sixty feet by one hundred feet, worth \$240. The buildings on the lot were worth \$550. Household goods were worth \$100. A horse, dearborn, and pigs were valued at twenty-eight dollars. Total value of the lot, house, and goods: \$678.<sup>97</sup> In 1899 Harris took out a third mortgage on the land for \$725 with the Mutual Building Association.<sup>98</sup> Three years later he took out a fourth mortgage, again to the Mutual Building Association for one dollar and monthly payments at an interest rate

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<sup>95</sup> *Cecil Whig*, September 12, 1891.

<sup>96</sup> “The Mutual Building Association,” *Cecil Whig*, August 6, 1870.

<sup>97</sup> 1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment Book, Historical Society of Cecil County, Maryland, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>98</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JGW No. 5 Folio 563, 1899, Maryland State Archives.

of one and one half percent.<sup>99</sup> The Harrises took out their final mortgage on the property in 1906 for another \$600 with William Porter who charged six percent interest.<sup>100</sup>

In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. George Milburn lived by themselves in Elkton: he a laborer and she a washwoman. The Census lists their real estate value at \$900 and personal goods at \$200.<sup>101</sup> Like the Harrises, the Milburns purchased real estate and mortgaged that real estate for cash. The first of the land purchases occurred in 1874 when George joined with other men, including family members, to purchase a lot on an alley that joined Main and Back Streets in Elkton for \$621.86 from Jacob Rambo. This is the same Jacob Rambo to whom Enoch Harris sold land.<sup>102</sup> There is no record of how the land was used or who used it.

The 1880 Census lists George Milburn as a Waiter, but he and his wife, Harriet were no longer living alone. Harriett's mother, Millie was living with them in 1880. Moses McCabe, the brick making veteran, aged thirty-five, is Harriett's brother and he too is living with the Milburns. George Milburn is also thirty-five years old.<sup>103</sup> As noted earlier, the second and final land purchase by the Milburns occurred in 1893 when

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<sup>99</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JGW No. 10 Folio 521, 1902, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>100</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber MD No. 5 folio 348, 1906, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>101</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census 1870, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>102</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber SWM No.1 Folio 61, 1874, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>103</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Tenth United States Census 1880, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

Harriott purchased a lot on Booth Lane in Elkton for eighty-five dollars.<sup>104</sup> Between 1893 and 1908 the Milburns took out a total of four mortgages on the Booth Lane property.<sup>105</sup> There is no record indicating how the mortgage money was used, however; the 1910 Census lists George Milburn as owning a restaurant that specializes in oysters.<sup>106</sup> It could be speculated that the money was used to purchase and operate this business.

About a block west of George Milburn in Elkton there resided Corporal John H. Moore and his wife Mary. Before he married Mary J. Moore in 1874, Moore purchased land on the east side of Collins Avenue in Elkton for \$425.<sup>107</sup> In 1869 he purchased another lot on Collins Avenue, right next to the one he purchased three years earlier.<sup>108</sup> The 1880 Census shows Moore working on a farm, but unlike later census records, it does not record if it was his farm.<sup>109</sup> The Moores disappear from the real estate business for the next twenty plus years as they began their family with the birth of their lone child, John,

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<sup>104</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 5 Folio 113, 1893, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>105</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber MD No. 10 Folio 319, 1908, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>106</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth United States Census 1910, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>107</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber HRT No. 1 Folio 149, 1874, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>108</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber DS No. 2 Folio 223, 1869, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>109</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Tenth United States Census, 1880, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

junior. However, in 1892 they purchased a lot on the northeast corner of Clinton and Milburn Street in Elkton for \$125. This property became their home.<sup>110</sup> Unlike the Milburns and Harrises, the Moores only took out one mortgage and it was on the Clinton and Milburn Street properties in 1899. They utilized the services of the Mutual Building Association to which John Moore was a member. The mortgage was for \$250.<sup>111</sup> It was during this time too that the county tax man caught up to Moore. On May 31st, 1892 the County Commissioners put an additional tax assessment on John Moore's property of \$600. The exact property is not noted, but none of his two properties in Elkton are valued at \$600 per their deeds.<sup>\*112</sup>

Within three years of mustering out of the service, Cyrus "Pervin" Wilson owned half of a frame house worth \$250.<sup>113</sup> According to the 1900 Census, Wilson married in 1879<sup>114</sup> and in 1893 he and his wife, Mary sold land that they had purchased in 1888 to a Caleb Wilson for \$550. It was located along Torbert Lane or Alley running between Main and

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<sup>110</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JAD No. 23 Folio 534, 1892, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>111</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JGW No. 6 Folio 460, 1899, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>112</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County Commissioners, Papers of the Cecil County Commissioners, May 31, 1892, p 339, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>113</sup> 1868 Cecil County Tax Assessment Book, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>114</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Twelfth United States Census 1900, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

High (Back) Street in Elkton.<sup>115</sup> In 1896 Cyrus Wilson applied for and was granted an army disability pension.<sup>116</sup> The 1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment also shows the Wilsons own four other lots in Elkton worth \$1075.<sup>117</sup>

The worldly wealth of Private William Cooper is also documented in the county tax records. The 1867 Tax Assessment lists Cooper as living in the Port Deposit area owning one and three quarters acres of land with a frame house plus other goods and livestock worth \$660.<sup>118</sup>

Another source of information about a veteran's possessions is his last will and testament or the will of his wife. But not all of the wills were equally informative as can be seen in that of Jackson Janes, which does not reflect the land that he owned in Northeast. In fact, it only mentions his personal belongings and the house and grounds where he and his family lived.<sup>119</sup> An inventory taken after his death shows his personal belongings were worth \$172.50. Those items included: a sewing machine, coal stove, one brown mare, one brown colt, one black sow, and two hogs among other things. A house is not listed.

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<sup>115</sup> Cecil County Land Records, Liber JTG No. 2 Folio 364, 1893, Maryland State Archives.

<sup>116</sup> Pension Record, Private Cyrus Wilson, United States Colored Troops, September 10, 1893, National Archives, Washington, D.C., Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>117</sup> 1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment Book, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>118</sup> 1867, 1868, and 1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment Books, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland

<sup>119</sup> Last Will and Testament of Jackson Janes, March 8, 1890, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.



Unfortunately, there were \$172.50 worth of bills to pay, following Jackson Janes' death, so, while the record does not indicate it, his entire estate, minus his house, may have been sold to pay that debt.<sup>120</sup>

Enoch Harris's will is much less informative about his belongings. Harris' will granted his belongings to Sarah, his wife of forty years. She is also the executrix of his will.<sup>121</sup>

The only debts were those surrounding his death and burial. These, the account reports, were paid out of an insurance policy which was made payable to Sarah. "The deceased", the account continues, "left no personal estate."<sup>122</sup>

In his Will, John Moore gave all of his household goods to his wife, along with half of his tools. The other half went to his son along with two guns the elder Moore owned. Was one of them the musket he kept after the war? The Will does not say.<sup>123</sup> At the time of his death, Moore had just under \$900 in several banks and was owed \$132 by the "Colored MP Church of Elkton." All of this money was spent on expenses at Moore's death.<sup>124</sup>

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<sup>120</sup> Personal Inventory of Jackson Janes, August 9, 1892, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>121</sup> Last Will and Testament of Enoch Harris, March 31, 1906, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>122</sup> The First and Final Account of Enoch Harris, January, 1915, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>123</sup> Last Will and Testament of John H. Moore Sr., January 24, 1900, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>124</sup> The First and Final Accounts of John H. Moore, January 15, 1902, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

We cannot learn anything from Moses McCabe's will because he did not have one. However, his wife, Sarah, did have a will. In it we learn that the McCabes owned a house and property in Elkton. Upon Sarah McCabe's death, the residence, the surrounding property, and all the goods within the house were left to what today is the Providence United Methodist Church on High Street in Elkton. The property is to be used as the parsonage for the church's minister, but if it is not needed for that purpose it is "to be used for any other purpose that (the church) may think for its best interest."<sup>125</sup>

### **In the Work Place**

In September of 1864 the Cecil Democrat sarcastically noted that black soldiers would receive pay equal to their white comrades. In that same edition, another article announced that black soldiers would do "their share of fatigue duty with the white soldiers."<sup>126</sup> This sharing of duties and presumed upward mobility did not translate to the workplace after the war. In his book, Imperfect Equality, Richard Paul Fuke wrote that "Black Marylanders had been poor unskilled workers as slaves and remained so as freedmen with only limited means of improving their situation. Their determination to win for themselves and their families a self-reliant place in the post-emancipation economy ensured enhanced autonomy but not upward mobility."<sup>127</sup> With few exceptions,

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<sup>125</sup> Last Will and Testament of Sarah McCabe, February 16, 1906, Office of Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>126</sup> *Cecil Democrat*, September 3, 1864.

<sup>127</sup> Richard Paul Fuke, *Imperfect Equality: African Americans and the Confines of White Racial Attitudes in Post-Emancipation Maryland*. (Fordham University Press, New York, 1999), 14.

the same was true for the veterans from Cecil County who returned from the war to many different livelihoods, the majority of which were unskilled: laborer, farm hand, and waiter. But there were some exceptions. A few were farmers, and there was a brick maker, a church sexton, quarryman, carter, and one restaurant entrepreneur. The three laborers who worked for the town of Elkton were paid at a rate of one dollar and 25 cents per day.<sup>128</sup> However, carters such as Pervin Wilson, were paid two dollars and fifty cents per day.<sup>129</sup> So when Wilson collected twenty-dollars and twelve cents for work done for the town in April of 1872, that pay represented at least 2 weeks worth of work.<sup>130</sup> Eli Taylor returned to Elkton as a laborer.<sup>131</sup> There is also a municipal record of Taylor doing one job for the Town of Elkton. In 1875 the town Commissioners' minutes show "The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid: Eli Taylor - \$3."<sup>132</sup> There is fairly extensive information about Eli Taylor's employment late in life. It appears in the quarterly treasury reports for Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church on Elkton's west

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<sup>128</sup> Minutes of the Elkton Town Commissioners, Papers of the Town of Elkton, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1876, Book May 23, 1867 – May 3, 1882, p 310, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>129</sup> Minutes of the Elkton Town Commissioners, Papers of the Town of Elkton, June, 15, 1877, Book May 23, 1867 – May 3, 1882, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland, p 323

<sup>130</sup> Minutes of the Elkton Town Commissioners, Papers of the Town of Elkton, April 29, 1872, Book May 23, 1867 – May 3, 1882, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>131</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census 1870, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>132</sup> Minutes of the Elkton Town Commissioners, Papers of the Town of Elkton, September 20, 1875, and April 29, 1872, Book May 23, 1867 – May 3, 1882, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

side. The report for January 4, 1890 shows Taylor was sexton at the church no earlier than the last quarter of 1889 when it states Taylor was paid \$5.00 on October 1st, 1889 for services in September. He was paid in November for October services of five dollars. He was paid another five dollars in December, 1889 for November services. The church records do not indicate how many hours that pay represented, but for comparison, the church pastor was paid sixty dollars per month.<sup>133</sup> No start or end date is given for Taylor's tenure as sexton; however, he was not sexton by March, 1897.<sup>134</sup>

This study found one entrepreneur in the group, George W. Milburn of Elkton. As noted, the 1910 Census lists Milburn as owning a Restaurant that specialized in oysters.<sup>135</sup> In his book, Parts of Elkton in 1918 As I Remember It, F. Rodney Frazer writes, "There were several minor frame houses in this area, some inhabited by Negroes." "East of Lee's is a small frame building of one story where George Milburn will shuck oysters for you in season."<sup>136</sup>

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<sup>133</sup> Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, Elkton, Maryland. January 6, 1890, Archives of Trinity Episcopal Church, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>134</sup> Vestry Minutes 1833-1946 M354 1. Vestry Minutes 1833-1900, Microfilm MSA SC 2655 Trinity Church Collections 1835- 1957, Maryland Archives, Annapolis, MD.

<sup>135</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth United States Census 1910, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>136</sup> F. Rodney Frazer, *Parts of Elkton in 1918 As I Remember It* (Elkton, Maryland: Historical Society of Cecil County, 1989)13

The Elkton Town Commissioners' Minutes record (Corporal) John H. Moore doing odd jobs for the town. A June 15, 1877 entry says "Bill of John Moore for ½ dup work on Fire Engine examined and passed \$.75." Other payments for services range from seventy-five cents to four dollars and fifty cents, but the work is not described.<sup>137</sup> In addition, there is a J.H. Moore listed as doing work for the Cecil County School Board grading the yard and fencing for School number one, District four. He was paid fifteen dollars and four cents between June and July, 1897.<sup>138</sup> Moore also played a role in local Republican politics. According to an article in The Whig from October, 1872, he chaired a meeting of black Republicans at the Cecil County Court House and introduced the featured speakers: one local black orator and J.W. Handy from Baltimore.. The Whig reports that Mr. Handy spoke "in support of education and his reasons why no colored man should be allowed to vote the Democratic ticket...."<sup>139</sup>

The 1860 Census lists the seventeen year-old Moses McCabe living in Elkton with a white family. The head of the household is Samuel King, a brick maker.<sup>140</sup> A Cecil Whig article from March, 1853 notes that "Mr. Sam'l King has commenced a brick yard, at the west end of Elkton, on the lot formally occupied by the old almshouse. He will furnish,

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<sup>137</sup> Minutes of the Elkton Town Commissioners, Papers of the Town of Elkton, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1877, Book May 23, 1867 – May 3, 1882, Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>138</sup> Minutes of the Cecil County School Board, Papers of the Cecil County School Board, June – July, 1897, Cecil County School District, Elkton, Maryland.

<sup>139</sup> "Colored Rally," *Cecil Whig*, October 26, 1872.

<sup>140</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Eighth United States Census 1860, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

we are told, 200,000 bricks for the new hotel which is about to be erected on the site of the old Washington Hotel.”<sup>141</sup> That “new hotel” is the Howard Hotel which occupies the corner of North and Main Streets in Elkton today. The Census does not say what McCabe was doing with the Kings, but he may have been apprenticed to them to learn the brick-making trade. After the war McCabe returned to Elkton and took up the brick-making trade, presumably with what is now the Gilpin and King establishment, since it was the only brick-making facility in Elkton. In 1870 he lived with “A.E.” McCabe along with C.A. Conway and W.H. Miller. Conway was an eighteen year old woman and Miller, a two year old boy. She was a domestic servant. “A.E.” was keeping house.<sup>142</sup>

There is one religious minister in this group of veterans, the Rev. John Webster. He mustered out of the service in December of 1865 at Roanoke Island, North Carolina.<sup>143</sup> Census records show Webster married a Mary Jane or Jane M., depending on which census record is referenced (the 1870 Census lists her as Mary Jane and 1880 lists her as Jane M.) The 1880 Census also has John and Mary’s ages incorrect by eight years. Together they have nine children, three of whom were over ten years of age and in school in 1880.<sup>144</sup> The Cecil County News for July 5, 1890 reports on Webster’s ministerial

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<sup>141</sup> *Cecil Whig*, March 5, 1853.

<sup>142</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth United States Census. 1870, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>143</sup> Muster Out Roll for Company “C”, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, December 10, 1865, Rev. John Webster, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>144</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Ninth and Tenth United States Census 1870 and 1880, Cecil County, Maryland, Ancestry.com Library Edition.

status: "The first Quarter Conference of Cedar Hill Circuit was held in Cedar Hill A.U.M.P. Church on June 28. Rev. E.W. Scott of Elkton presided." "The local preachers' licenses of James Holland and J.C. Webster were renewed."<sup>145</sup> Then, two months later, the Elkton Appeal newspaper reports on Reverend Webster's death: "Rev John Webster, a very respected colored man, living near Warburton's mill died on Friday last. He had been suffering with typhoid fever for some time. . . . He served in the late war and was an honest and industrious man. He was about fifty-five years of age, and leaves a number of small children--his wife having died about a year ago. His funeral took place on Sunday (August 31st) at Cedar Hill A.U. M.P. Church, of which he was a member"<sup>146</sup>

There is a tombstone in the Mt. Zoar Church Cemetery near Conowingo with the name James Collins, 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment USCT chiseled in it. The Company letter is illegible. A census record lists him as a quarryman, meaning he could have worked at one of the many quarries near Port Deposit, not far from Conowingo. Ninety-six year old James E. Griffin of Aberdeen, Maryland grew up in Rock Run Hallow, one of three African American communities near Port Deposit in the late 1800s as well as today. As a young man, Griffin worked in area quarries until they closed during the Great Depression of the 1930s. In an interview he said that he did not know any Civil War veterans, as they were dead by the time his memory starts. But he said his father did know some and "they were held in high esteem by everyone in the community." Griffin described a variety of jobs

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<sup>145</sup> *Cecil County News*, July 5, 1900.

<sup>146</sup> *Elkton Appeal*, September 3, 2900.

at a quarry, any one of which Pvt. Collins may have held in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Those jobs included water carrier, drilling, explosives, driving wagons, blacksmithing, and stone cutter. Griffin said he started at age ten as a water carrier and was a stone cutter when the quarry closed. He also said “it was tough” working at the quarry. Safety conditions were not good. Men lost limbs (he mentioned one who lost a leg) and were also killed in explosions.<sup>147</sup> While nothing else is recorded about the life of Private Collins, clearly, if he worked in a quarry, he did not lead an easy life. However, according to Griffith, Collins would have been “held in high esteem.” In addition, unlike the majority of the rest of the veterans in this study, and like the lone brick maker, he probably knew and practiced a trade.

While, as Griffith said, the black Civil War veterans were “held in high esteem,” the ones listed here who were married, had children, accumulated land and other material wealth, make up less than half of all the veterans of this study. They did not hold political office. With two exceptions, they did not own their own businesses. With one exception, they did not learn trades and become large tradesmen. In fact, not even their stories were passed down from generation to generation, casting doubt on the extent of that “high esteem.” However, there is one community organization where one black veteran of the Civil War who was a native and life long resident of Cecil County made a name for himself. The organization is the Grant Army of the Republic and the man is Enoch Harris.

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<sup>147</sup> Interview with James E. Griffin



## **GAR Activities**

After the war at least four Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Civil War veterans organizations were established across Cecil County. They were segregated. The black vets of the war established their GAR Post seventy-three in Elkton, as noted in the Cecil County News of May 2, 1900. "A colored club of Grand Army men (Monday April 30) was organized in this town on Monday night with thirteen members. The club will be known as the J.A.J. Creswell Grand Army Club of Cecil County." <sup>148</sup>

Private Enoch Harris of Elkton was elected the commander on Monday, April 31, 1900. <sup>149</sup> The Post is named for the late J.A.J. Creswell a United States Congressman, Senator, U.S.. Post Master General under President Grant, and staunch abolitionist from Cecil County. One month later, the Cecil County News notes an honor conferred on the GAR post by Senator Cresswell's wife.

"Mrs. H.J.R. Cresswell presented a handsome silk flag to J.A.J. Creswell Post G.A.R. on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Presentation speech was made by H.M. McCullough and the speech of acceptance by the Commander, Enoch Harris. Addresses were also made by George A. Blake Esq. and Postmaster Wm J. Smith. Music was furnished by St. Augustine Band. The banner bears the name of the Post, is mounted on an oak staff, surmounted by a bronze eagle. Exercise took place in Providence Hall, Elkton." <sup>150</sup>

Providence Hall is today's Providence United Methodist Church located on High Street in Elkton. It is the same church to which Sarah McCabe, the wife of veteran Moses McCabe, left her house, also located on High Street.

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<sup>148</sup> *Cecil County News* page 2, May 2, 1900

<sup>149</sup> *Cecil County News*, May 2, 1900.

<sup>150</sup> *Cecil County News*, June 30, 1900.

## Life Span

The life spans of the African American veterans of the Civil War related to Cecil County were not generally very long by 21<sup>st</sup> century standards. While a few of the veterans-to-be were in their thirties and even forties when the Civil War began, most were about 20 years old in the early 1860s when they enlisted into the army. Neither slave records nor census records are very accurate when it comes to listing nativity dates for African Americans either free or slave in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, so it is impossible to know the exact age of most of the subject veterans. Of those who survived the war, only thirteen lived into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The longest surviving of the subject veterans was Daniel Warner or Warren, as he sometimes called himself. Private Warren was born in Easton, Kent County, Maryland and, at the age of 23 enlisted on September 20, 1864 in Easton. He was mustered into Company "I" of the 6th Regiment at Camp Wm Penn in Philadelphia.<sup>151</sup> After the war, Warren was granted a pension as reported in The Cecil County News from April 25, 1900: "Daniel Warner, colored, who is employed by Dr. J.W. Cooper as hostler, has been granted a Government pension of \$6 per month. He formally resided in Kent County."<sup>152</sup> Private Daniel Warren was 83 years old when he died in 1924.<sup>153</sup>

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<sup>151</sup> Descriptive Book for Company "I", 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, September 20, 1864, Daniel Warren, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

<sup>152</sup> Cecil County News, page 2, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1900.

<sup>153</sup> Pension Application for Daniel Warren, June 24, 1924, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ancestry.com Library Edition.

## CONCLUSION

On Memorial Day, 1901 the graves of the black soldiers were recognized and decorated by "a delegation from the colored post [Grand Army of the Republic] of Port Deposit." This delegation gathered at the Mt. Zoar Church cemetery along with "quite a crowd of the colored people of the neighborhood." During the ceremony, "short addresses were made suitable to the occasion... after which the crowd quietly dispersed and went to their homes."<sup>154</sup> Today, many of the Mt. Zoar graves lie undecorated. At least 5 are without tombstones, marked only by small metal posts with a star, the symbol of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), topped by a small American flag. A former custodian of the cemetery, 86 year old Mr. Frank Stewart, says even some of the GAR posts are missing. "The American Legion comes around every year and replaces them, because many are stolen every year." He says most of the descendants of those buried in the cemetery moved away some time ago.

Approximately one hundred men related in some way to Cecil County, Maryland served in the United States Colored Troops during the American Civil War. Each of them left a legacy for future generations to discover and review. This thesis reports on that legacy: how they lived before, during, and after the War and what challenges they faced as they lived and worked in a segregated society. Thirty-nine of these one hundred black men were born free in Cecil County which was a slave county in a slave state. Four suffered through slavery, one in Cecil County. Newspapers, reflecting the divided politics of the day, argued over the enlistment of black men into the army, the bounty they would be paid, their monthly salary, whether slaves should be recruited into the Union Army, if

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<sup>154</sup> "Memorial Day in Upper Cecil," *Cecil Whig*, June 8, 1901

any former owners would be compensated and if so, the amount of that compensation. Those who enlisted did so starting in the summer of 1863 and continuing through 1864. Of those one hundred, nine would not survive the war: four were killed in the line of duty and five died of one or more of the many diseases that ravaged the military camps. One man lost an arm. All of the veterans served in the Army of the Potomac, many fighting in battles crucial to the outcome of the war, including the last battle at Appomattox Court House. Of those vets who lived, at least 38 made lives for themselves in post war Cecil County. They found jobs that were mostly of the day laborer variety, although a few worked at specific occupations and at least two had their own small businesses. Thirty-five of the men married and thirty-three had children. Some of them bought and sold land that was purchased, perhaps with military enlistment money. Many built houses and accrued possessions to fill those houses. Some of the land was mortgaged several times over to gain income for unknown purposes. The African American veterans may have participated in the political system, but evidence of such participation is scarce and circumstantial. According to newspaper articles from Cecil County published in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the African American vote was highly sought after. An Elkton Appeal article from April of 1884 warns black voters of blacks and whites attempting to buy black votes for democrats.<sup>155</sup> Other articles urged blacks to vote and reported on how, in 1867, African Americans voted “solidly for the Republican ticket.”<sup>156</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> “To the Colored Republican Voter of Cecil County,” *Elkton Appeal*, April 18, 1884

<sup>156</sup> “The Colored Vote,” *Cecil Whig*, June 15, 1867

A few of the former soldiers formed a Grand Army of the Republic Chapter in Elkton to remember and perhaps share their war time service legacy. They sent their children to schools, so those children would have the education that their fathers did not have. However, there is no evidence that any of the veterans participated in the educational system, although there was black participation at both the individual school and county district levels.

It is not surprising that so little is written about these men who offered, and in some cases gave their lives for their segregated and racist country. After all, the black population of Cecil County was only fourteen percent in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and then, as now, the majority rules. If only fourteen percent of the population is interested in something and eighty-six percent is not, well, too bad. What is surprising is the relatively large extent of information that is available about these heroes through government and newspaper archives and how little it has been utilized. Both the white and the black communities share the blame in this ignorance of history for both have had the opportunity to research them over the decades. But now, with the proliferation of on-line research, there is no excuse for not reviewing the record and informing ourselves and our posterity of the works of these brave men who fought and died for their country, and in the process, help deliver Lincoln's "new birth of freedom" and clear the way for the truths of equality promised eighty-seven years earlier.

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## Appendix A

### Bibliographic Listing

*The following individuals were all African American veterans of the Civil War related in some way to Cecil County, Maryland and about whom some information was gleaned. While many of these veterans were included in the thesis, many others were not for various reasons including a lack of information about some of them.*

#### **Bowser, Charles H. (Bowzer) Private 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Company F**

Born Middletown, PA. Joined 54th MA April 8, 1863 Reedville, MA at age 18. A Farmer. 1896 Tax Assessment: Owned lot on Booths Lane next to Thos. Francis. Has a frame dwelling worth \$425. Household goods worth \$50. 2 hogs worth \$10.

1880 Census

35 year old illiterate laborer living in Elkton with wife Fannie, 35 keeping House. Son Washington 13, Waiter; Charles 9; John 3; Charles Johnson 18 a boarder works on farm.

Cecil County News: Died November 11, 1912 in Elkton  
Buried in Elkton Cemetery

#### **Brown, Charley Private Unknown Regiment**

Lived in Chesapeake City. According to the 1890 Vets Schedule there is a Charles Brown living in Elkton

#### **Butler, J.N. Corporal 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company H**

25th Regiment trained and mustered out of Camp Wm Penn.

Buried at Mt Zoar AME Cemetery, Conowingo, Maryland

#### **James Butler Private 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company A**

Enlisted as substitute March 1865. Mustered out December 1865. Trained at Camp Wm Penn.

**Harvey Butler; Corporal, 25<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company H**

1890 Census of Civil War Veterans lists a Harvey Butler "colored" as serving from 1864 to 1866. Living in Conowingo, MD in 1890.

**Chambers, Thomas; Private 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company E**

Enlisted 1/17/1864. Mustered out 11/26/1866. Granted pension of \$12/month 8/1/1900. Lived at Warwick. Farmer. \$2 Recruit premium due. 28 yrs old at recruitment. Invalid Benefits Oct 11, 1898. Wife named Misty.

1870 Census: Farm Hand Living in Cecilton with wife "Misty"?. He was born in MD. She in DE. No children. Living with a white family: David, Emma, Ezra, and Raymond Robinson. David is a farm hand too. Also living in the household is another white family: Eugene, Agnes, and William Green. Eugene is listed as "Farming" His farm worth \$4000. David Boyer is a 14 yr old black farm hand.

**Chase, Henry Private, 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Enlisted 9/26/1863 in Baltimore under Col Birney. 20 yrs old. 5 ft 5 inches tall. Musted out 11/16/1866. Received a pension of \$8/month. Died 8/23/1900, age 63. Owned by Charles Goldsborough of Dorchester County, MD. Invalid Benefits 1890, Death benefit 1904.

1870 Census: Literate Hotel Waiter, 28 yrs old, living in Elkton. Born in DE.

Buried in Iron Hill "Colored" Cemetery, in Delaware.

**Cole, William (alias for Francis Cole. Might be middle name) 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company G**

20 years old at enlistment on July 1 1864 at Ellicott Mills, MD. Mustered out Nov 8, 1865 at Corpus Christy, TX. Lived in Elk Neck area. Wife: Emmaline. The Cecil County News for October 18, 1933 has an obit for Emmaline. It states that William was deceased and was a Civil War vet. Three sons and two daughters. Emmaline was buried at St. Mark's Colored Church in Lower Elk Neck. Invalid June 13, 1881. Widow benefits as of June 15, 1916.

1870 Census: 25 yrs old Collier. Illiterate. Born in Maryland. Living in Fair Hill. Wife Mary 28 yrs old. Keeping House. Tenants.

1880 Census: Living in North East. 35 yrs old. Emmaline is wife, aged 30. He is a laborer. She keeps house. Sons: Harry and Elijah 6 and 2. Daughter Mary is 4.

1900 Census: 56 years old. Married 27 years. Wife not listed. Day Laborer. Can read and write. Lives in a house, not a farm.

1910 Census: 63 years old. Married but no wife listed and no children listed. Labor, odd jobs.

### **Collins, James 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment**

25th trained and Mustered out of Camp Wm Penn

1880 Census: 42 year old quarryman, was unemployed for 3 months in 1880. Wife, Sarah is 30. Daughters: Emma and Nelly 6 and 4 yrs old. Also living with them: his mother, Violet aged 60, Mary Owens 14 "S Daug, and Mary Hill 70, Mother in Law.

### **Cooper, William 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Company K**

Died 10/23/1920. 1867 Tax Assessment: living in 7th district Port Deposit area. 1 3/4 acres with frame house worth \$150. \$85 livestock, \$400 furniture, \$75 other money on deposit or other description. 1868 6 3/4 acres with \$150 frame dwelling. 1869 - same. 1870 Tax Assessment \$150. 1896 6 3/4 acres in Cokesbury. Neighbor is Charles Campbell. House, 3 pigs, fishing tackle, household goods. Land worth \$108. Goods and animals and house \$106. In 1896 purchased two horses: "Dock" and "Tillie" from Richard Addison.

1870 Census: 30 yrs old, illiterate laborer on Farm. \$700 Worth of land and \$100 worth of personal property. Living in Perryville. Wife "CSM" keeps house. 28 yrs old. Sons: Thomas, \_\_\_\_\_, Louis ages 7, 4 and 2.

1880 Census: This William Cooper is 39 yrs old laborer living in Port Deposit area, Wife is Annie, 33, keeping house. Son Horace, 17, farm laborer.

### **Christy (Christie), Leander Corporal 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company E**

24th Regiment Mustered out of Camp Wm Penn.

Invalid Pension Nov 4, 1890. Widow benefits to wife as of Aug 29, 1895. Wife Augusta.

1870 Census: 35 yrs old living in Sassafras, MD as a Laborer. Wife Augusta Christie, 25 and son Dennis 6. All are living with Nathaniel Paulsbury, 28, who is also a laborer with personal estate valued at \$100. John W. and James A. are 11 and 1. Wife name is illegible.

1880 Census: 46 yrs old, Living in Village of Sassafras working on a farm. Wife Augustana, 33 keeps house. Son Dennis, 16, works on the farm. Daughters Alice, 17 and Elza born in April. John Anderson, 23, is a boarder and farm hand. All born in Maryland.

Buried in Wesley Chapel of Love UM or Rehoboth MP Church Sassafras, Kent County, MD.

### **Douglass; 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment**

24th Regiment trained and mustered out of Camp Wm Penn.

### **Gordon, George**

The only George Gordon with a pension record is a George E. Gordon who served in Company "C" of the first Md Volunteers. Probably not USCT. Died Sept, 1898. Mother Emily Gordon listed as benefactor. The Adjutant General Enrollment Record shows a George Gordon aged 20 and a laborer living in the 6th (Rising Sun) election district. There is a George W. Gordon living in Elkton through 1900, wife Francis (Franny). Day laborer. Born about 1846. Buried in Elkton "Colored" Cemetery.

### **Haines, George (alias George Haynes and Hines) (spelled Haines on 1870 Tax Assessment) 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company C**

If alias Haynes, then Free on or before April 19, 1861. Born in Harford County, MD. 5 ft 8 inches tall. Farmer. Enlisted in Baltimore under Col. Birney July 15, 1863, age 23. Orderly for Lt. Sherriff in June, 1864. August 1864 Dutch Gap Canal Work. Teamster Feb 1866 at Dept HQ. Muster Out May 4, 1866 Washington, DC. In 1885 he and wife mortgaged 2 acres of land near Conowingo for \$250. This is land that he purchased in 1882 for \$140. By 1905 the Haines could not keep up the payments, so they sold the land for \$1 and the purchasers picked up the mortgage payments. Somewhere in there the Mutual Building Company assumed the mortgage. In 1899 he sold one bay mare "Bess" and one three month old colt for \$60. In May of 1901 the Haines are experiencing financial problems. He also sold, for \$25, a hog, a wagon, some bridle equipment, and what appears to be most of his household belongings such as tables, chair, sewing machine, and sofa. 1900 Census says he is a farm laborer and his home is mortgaged. Two daughters living at home, one in school. Applied for invalid pension in 1891 and died in 1909. Buried in Mt. Zoar AME Cemetery, Conowingo, Maryland.

1870 Assessment, 6th District: New House valued at \$180

1880 Census: 39 yrs old living in Port Deposit as a laborer. Single.

1900 Census: 59 yrs old Living in Oakwood, MD, 8th District. Farm Laborer married 15 years to Adelaide (Adlaid B.) also 59. Has a mortgage on his house. Daughter Dianah B. 12 yrs. Grand Daughters: Sarah Baird 21, and Mary E. Baird 19. May mean step daughters.

### **Harris, Enoch 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company F**

Born about 1843 per 1850 Census. Cecil Democrat 3/11/1865 Paid \$250 bounty for joining the army in July, 1864. Commander of J.A. J. Creswell Post No. 73, G.A.R. of Elkton, MD. In 1894 he purchased a piece of land from widow Ann Eliza Lyons for \$800 along Blue Ball Road. The money came from a cash advance on 4 shares of stock Harris held with the Mut Blg Assn.

1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment: Lot on Blue Ball Road. 60 by 100 worth \$240. Buildings on lot worth \$550. Household goods worth \$100. Horse, dearborn, pigs, \$28. Total \$128.

1860 Census: 18 years old living in District 3 (Elkton area) as an unmarried coachman with the Duncan Family. Can't read head of household's first name. Son is John M. Duncan, 4, Eliza M. 3, and Caroline 1. Duncan's Estate worth \$1300. Born in New Hampshire. Harris born in Maryland.

1900 Census: 55 Years old Day laborer married for 20 years to Sarah age 49. One granddaughter, Helen, aged 7. Enoch can read and write. Has a mortgaged home. Enoch born in MD. Sarah and Helen both born in PA.

Died before January 9, 1915. Obit in Cecil Democrat 1/9/1915

### **Haynes, Joseph (Haines) Corporal 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company H**

22 years old at enlistment, Aug 11, 1863 in Baltimore under Col Birney. Born in Harford County, MD. Laborer. Promoted to Corp Dec 2, 1863. Canal Work at Dutch Gap, Aug 1864. Wounded in action in right thigh at New Market Heights, VA, Discharged on disability January 20, 1865. at David's Island, New York Harbor. Addressed to Darlington, Harford County, MD. Haynes enlisted the same day in the same company of the same regiment as Sgt Alfred B. Hilton who earned the Congressional Metal of Honor and about whom Jim Chrismer wrote in the Harford Historical Bulletin in the fall of 2000. "With him that day in late summer was (2 brothers) and several other free Blacks from Harford County."

Pension benefit spells "Haines". Invalid benefits filed Sept 14, 1865. Widow benefit filed June 3, 1893. Wife: Mariah Haines

1880 Census: 39 year old Farm laborer living in Mt. Pleasant, Cecil County. Wife Maria age 27. Daughters: Dianna 7, Kasiah 6, Son George L. 1, Niece Mary J. 9, 82 year old mother can't read name. Brother, Joseph 39, lives next door. Twins?? Everybody born in Maryland.

Buried in Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery

### **Hemsley, Jacob**

Pension of \$8/month 3/1/1903. Died 1/25/1931 age 92. Cecil County News January 28, 1931: "Jacob Hemsley, colored, a veteran of the Civil War, died Sunday at his home near Iron Hill, after a long illness, aged about 90 years. He is survived by two step-daughters. 'Uncle Jake' was an upright, colored man and was respected by white people as well as by his own race." Buried in Iron Hill Cemetery.

### **Hillstone, William A. Private, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company F**

Enlisted 10/22/1863. Discharged 11/16/1866. Granted pension \$10/month 6/1/1902. Lived at Warwick. Pension record says applied for Invalid pension in 1890. No wife or other beneficiary listed.

### **John L. Hopkins 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company H**

Enlisted Feb 3, 1864 in Philadelphia. Farmer. Born Cecil Maryland. 43 yrs old. Mustered out Dec 6, 1865 in Philadelphia. Noted as Free in Muster out. Owed \$300 bounty at muster out. Widow Benefits May 19, 1892. Wife Lenetta Hopkins.

1870 Living in District 7 Cecil County, Rowland Mills. 50 years old. Wife, Mintie aged 45 married within year of 1870. Laborer on farm. Wife keeps house. Boarder Jacob Allen 45, also laborer for Farm. Hoklins Property worth \$100. Buried in Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery.

### **Lewis P. Hopkins Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> Company H**

Feb 27, 1864 mustered in at Reedville, MA. Laborer from Cecil, MD. 28 yrs old. Bounty Paid. Company Cook. Mustered out Oct 3, 1865 in Texas. Widow Pension application March 21, 1891. Wife: Delia J. Hopkins. Buried in Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery.

1867 Cecil County Tax Assessment: A Philip Hopkins lives in Port Deposit. House and lot worth \$500. \$150 furniture. \$650 total value.

1870 Census: Wife, Delila, 45, listed as a widow. House keeping. Two daughters, one 18 the other 8. Hard to read names. 8 yr old, Iona, goes to school.

**Janes, Jackson (Jackson James and James Jackson) Private, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Born December 14, 1827 and Died June 5, 1892

Enlisted 2/27/1864 Musted out 3/28/1865. Wounded July 30, 1864. The Cecil Whig of July 30, 1864 notes in July 21st draft of one Jackson Jaynes of North East drafted into the army. Are these two different Jackson Janes (Jaynes)? The land deals are from North East Jaynes. Jackson Janes buried in Griffith Church near Fairhill. Invalid application April 1, 1865. Widow benefit application July 20, 1892. Wife: Deborah A.

**Kinslow, John W. (Aaron?) 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company B**

1870 Census: Living in Fair Hill as a farm Hand with a Benjamin Gale and his family who is also a farmhand. 36 years old. No family listed.

1880 Census: John W. Kinslow Sr. laborer 45 born in MD. Lives with brother Samuel 45 laborer. Brick Mtg House - 9th district of Cecil County, MD.

Pension/Death application indicates death by June, 1890; Died Feb 20, 1898 (65th yr.); buried in Trinity AUMP Church Cemetery.

**Maskins, William James or James William a Massachusetts Regiment**

Buried in Reeds AUMP Church Cemetery in North East, MD

**McFadden, Henry (Census lists as Henry McFadien) member of a Kentucky Regiment**

1870 Census: 30 years old. Living Fair Hill. Born in Kentucky. Farm Laborer/tenant. Property value \$100. Wife Mary (23) Keeping House. Hester (4). Wife and child born in MD

1880 Census: This census lists has them all living in Northeast. Henry as 33 and a laborer. Wife, Mary is 27 and keeping house. Children: Anna 10, John 4 and an unreadable name 4 months old, born in June of 1880. Boarder Allen Stephen 25, a laborer.

Buried in Reeds AUMP Church Cemetery in North East, MD



**Mc Hall served in the 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Buried in Mt Zoar AME Cemetery Conowingo, Maryland

**Milbourne (Milburn), George W. Corporal began service with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment then transferred to 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company F.**

Data transferred to 23rd Reg. Born in Cecil, MD. Waiter. 21 yrs old Aug 16th, 1864 sign up in Baltimore. Appointed Corp. Nov. 20, 1864. Mustered out Brazos Santiago, TX Nov 30, 1865. Retained Musket and equipment. Died 11/25/1917, age 74 at Elkton. Cecil County News 11/28/1917: "George W. Milburn, one of Elkton's most respected colored men, died Sunday morning after a long illness of a complication of diseases aged about 74 years. He was a veteran of the Civil War and is survived by his wife, one son, Rominal Milburn, and one daughter, Mrs. William Gibson." 1910 Census lists him as owning a restaurant specializing in oysters.

Pension has him from Co F 23 and 28th Reg. Pension application April 1, 1889. Widow benefit Jan 12, 1918. Wife: Harriet R.

1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment: Lot on Booths Lane 25 ft long valued at \$75. See 1893 sale/deed from Joseph Wells for \$85. Frame dwelling valued at \$500. Household goods \$100. Pigs \$5.

1870 Census: Laborer living in Elkton age 25. Wife a washer woman age 22. Both born in Maryland. No children listed.

1880 Census: Listed as "G.W.". Aged 35 and a waiter. Wife, Harriet is 33 and house keeper. Son is Rominal, aged 12.

1900 Census: Listed as 55 years old, married 33 years. He's listed as a Day Laborer. George is listed as being able to both read and write. No occupation for Harriet, aged 50. Son is 32 and a barber.

1910 Census: Listed as 62 years old, married 43 years. He's listed as Owner of a restaurant specializing in Oysters. George is listed as being able to both read and write. No occupation for Harriet, aged 60. Son, Roman, is 42 and a barber. Owns the shop. His wife is Anne, aged 30. She is a laundress at home. His daughter, also Harriet, is 8 yrs old.

1920 Census: George is deceased. Harriet lives with daughter, Mollir, and son in Law, William Gibson. Son, Rominal is listed as "Arominal" and a laborer working in a print plant. He has an 18 year old daughter, Harriet. He's also listed as a literate.

Died 11/25/1917 at 74.

**Moore, John H; Corporal 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C.**

Enlisted 9/23/1863. Mustered in 9/26/1863 by Col Birney. 21 years old. 5 ft 4 inches tall. Born in Dorchester County, MD. Farmer. for 3 yrs. Mustered out 11/16/1866. Coachman for Mrs. H.J.R. Crewswell. Died 12/21/1900 in Elkton (Not in Ancestry Library database)

1867 Cecil County Tax Assessment: In Elkton a Lot and Frame House on the east side of Collins Ave. worth \$300. Nothing else listed. 1868 Same 1869 Same.

1870 Census: 8 year old laborer. Wife 19 year old Amanda - house keeping. Son John H. 4 months old. All born in Maryland.

**Moore, John H. (this is the subject veteran) Private 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company F**

Born Cecil, MD Farmer Enlisted Aug 10, 1864 Baltimore, 22 yrs old. Cecil Democrat 3/11/1865 paid \$250 bounty. Mustered out of army November, 1865. The muster out papers note he owed the gov for one musket. Pension application lists Mary J. Moore as wife. In his Will, Moore wills his two guns to his son, John jr.

1867 Cecil County Tax Assessment: Lot and Frame house worth \$300. 1868 Same. 1869 same. 1896 Lot corner of Milburn and Clinton St. 22 by 62 worth \$88. Dwelling \$500. Lot Back (High) Street and Collings Ave 60 ft worth \$120. House worth \$230 total value \$938. Wife sold the house to David Gilpin for \$250 in 1901. Originally it was three lots: 18, 20, and 22. Household goods worth \$75 2 hogs worth \$10.

1880 Census: John, 35 works on a farm in Elkton. Wife, Mary 24 keeps house. Son, John is 7. Four white people live with them: John Bedwell, 65 is a wheelwright and a widower. Hannah Smith, 30, is a servant and a widow. Emma Smith, 13, is a servant. Salma Smith is 9.

Pension application 1889. Death benefit June 15, 1901. Wife Mary J.

Dead by June, 1901 when pension applied.

**Moore, John Wesley; 22 Regiment, Company A**

Born Cecil County MD Farmer, Enlisted Dec 7, 1863 Philadelphia. 20 yrs. Oct 16, 1865 Mustered out in Brownsville, TX.

**Munson, James; 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

6th Regiment Mustered in at Camp Wm Penn.

1850 Census: 18 yr old Apple Farmer of Salem County, NJ

Buried at Wesley Chapel of Love United Methodist or Rehoboth Methodist Protestant Church Sassafras, Kent County, MD

**Newton, Daniel; 29<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company I**

1870 Census: Born about 1833 in South Carolina. 37 years old in 1870. Lived near Principio Furnace. Laborer Farmer land valued at \$400 and personal property worth \$100. Wife Maria aged 36 keeping house, born in MD. Daughters: Harriet 18 and Laura 8. All born in MD

1880 Census: Age 47 farm laborer from South Carolina living in Port Deposit. Wife Maria is a 62 year old house keeper. Step daughter Laura Ruse is 18 and living at home. Wife and step daughter born in MD.

1890 Census of Civil War Vets: lists Daniel as living in Worchester, Cecil County. Discharge papers lost.

Applied for Invalid Pension January 18, 1892. No widow listed/no widow pension application.

Buried in Cokesbury United Methodist Church Cemetery, Port Deposit, Maryland.

**Nilson; 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company E.**

(#70) Charles Nelson. Born in Maryland. Can't read town name. Enlisted at Sommerset, MD on Nov. 5, 1863. Promoted to Sgt Decembe 30th, 1863. Killed in action Sept. 29, 1865 (can't be. War ended in April) at age 27. 5 ft 4 inches tall. A Farmer. Another Nelson (can't read the first name) Born Warchester County, MD. Enlisted at age 19 in Worecester, MD November 6th, 1863. Says he was killed in action on Sept 29th, 1863. (Can't be)

**Quomany, Peter** (also Quominy and Quaminy); **Private** (Corp 7/3/1863 reduced in rank Sept 8th, 1863). **3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company C.**

Enlisted 7/3/1863 in Philadelphia, PA by Lt. Col. Wayne. 22 years old. 5ft 10 1/2 inches tall. Born in Lancaster, PA. Laborer. Historical Society of Cecil County record shows

Discharged 10/31/1865 Pension #308617. Discharge papers held by grand daughter Morton F. Taylor.

1870 Census: Peter Quomony living in Lower Chanceford, York County, PA, age 30 a laborer with 25 year old wife, Mary keeping house and a one year old son Albert. Estate worth \$200.

1880 Census: A Peter Quomony Lives in York County. A 42 year old farm laborer. Wife, Mary is 35. Three children: Sons Turner 12 (attends school) and ??? Age one. Daughter Rebecca also aged 1. All family members born in PA. Adults are illiterate.

Invalid Filing Jan 18, 1880. Filed in Pennsylvania. No widow listed. No widow benefit application.

Buried in Cokesbury United Methodist Church Cemetery, Port Deposit, Maryland

**Reed, William B. or L. 21<sup>st</sup> Regiment Company K**

Lived in Elk Neck Died 3/5/1904 in Elkton. Cecil Democrat 3/11/1865 paid \$250 bounty. Question: The quarterly report from Trinity Episcopal church in Elkton for the quarter ending Sept 10, 1898 lists "paid \$7.00 to Reed June 30, July 30, Aug. 30." No listing for a sexton that quarter. Unusual not to list a sexton pay. Unusual to list sexton's name. Trinity Church records at MD Archives notes Samuel Reed hired as sexton on April 6, 1891. The \$7 quarterly rate is in line with payment averages between 1882 and 1900, although the amount varies greatly. A Wm Reed is also hired for one year as sexton but he is described as a "youth".

1870 Census: 28 year old Farm Hand tenant with \$100 worth of personal property, born in MD living in Fair Hill. Wife Susan, 25 yrs Old Keeping House. Daughter Julia Anna 3 years old.

1900 Census: lists him 60 years old living with wife Susan and three kids, one grand daughter, one grand son, and one son in law. He's a farm laborer renting a house.

Invalid Application Sept 7, 1890. Widow Application April 28, 1890 something??. Obit would indicate 1904. Wife: Susan Reed Died March 5, 1904

**Larue, Charles C. (alias- Sayers), 43<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company D**

43rd Regiment mustered in Camp Wm Penn. Sayers was an alias. Charles Larue. Wife Laura. Charles dead by Feb 27, 1912. Pension benefits awarded.

Nothing as Larue or Sayers thru 1880 Census.

1900 Census: Charles Laurow 53 living in Rising Sun with Wife, Laura, 57. Both born in MD. Married 35 years. Charles is a literate farm hand who has a mortgaged farm. Laura can read, but can't write. Doesn't say what she does. Children: C. Charles is 26 and a literate farm hand. Elnora is 12.

1910 Census: Charles and Laura still living in Rising Sun. Still live on mortgaged farm. Listed as doing odd jobs. Hard to read the entry. Son lives next door, is married, mortgaged a farm, and works in the stone quarry.

Filed for Invalid Pension August 28, 1890. Widow filed for benefits February 27, 1912. Wife: Laura Larue alias Sayers.

Dead by Feb 27, 1912 and buried in Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery, Conowingo, Maryland.

**Sears, George R. (Seavs and Leavs as alias) Corporal, 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H.**

Born in Cecil, MD. Enlisted Feb 3 1864. 28 years old at enlistment. Adjutant General Enrollment Record from March 10, 1864 lists a George Sears aged 28 as a laborer in the 8th election district which is Conowingo. 25th Regiment mustered at Camp Wm Penn. Laborer. Appointed Corp. Oct 13, 1865 Mustered out Dec 6, 1865 with regiment.

1860 Living with 11 other people in Elkton. Some are "Sears" and others are not. 26 yr old. No occupation. No spouse listed specifically. First name appearing on the household is Squire Fisher, 27.

Buried Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery, Conowingo, Maryland

**Simpers, George Sgt, Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> Colored Cavalry Regiment, Company L**

1860 Census lists a George Simpvers aged 22 living free in Elkton. (Another 1860 Census document from North East lists George Simpvers as 22 yr old son of Thomas Simpvers. This Simpvers is white. George is a laborer. Thomas as farmer.) The Cecil County Slave records list a Johnson Simpvers owning a "George" age 20 in 1861 valued at \$250. Still owned him in 1864 valued at \$600. The Sgt. in the MA 5th Cavalry company "L" was born in Alton, MD near Annapolis in about 1838. Cecil Whig reports: Died 2/4/1912 in Elkton. Buried in Uniform. Cecil County News obit "Sunday night George Simpvers Jr. passed away at a ripe old age. He was a verteran of the Civil War and was one of Elkton's most respected colored men." Nothing about being buried in uniform.

1900 Census: 69 years old laborer at the Pulp Mill living at Elkton. Says he can read and write. Married to Louisa for 20 years. Louisa is the mother of 8. Only these four survive. They rent a house in Elkton. Children: Garfield 18 works in the Pulp Mill, Winfield 15 at

school, Laura 14 at school, and Matilda 9 at school. All but George born in PA. George born in MD.

Buried in Wright AME Church Cemetery in Elkton, Maryland

**Smith, Charles A. 5<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment, Company L**

Born Cecil County, MD. About 1845. Age 19. Enlisted Feb 27, 1864. Laborer. Rejected, March 12, 1864 (data from Ancestry Library Edition). 1881 sold land on Main St. Port Deposit which he inherited from his Grandparents through his also deceased mother. Also purchased in 1911 for \$2150, land between Conowingo and Rock Springs. Original owners shown on the 1858 map of Conowingo area.

1860 Census: 14 years old living in 7th District of Cecil County. Living with William 60 and Rachel 72 his grandparents. Mother is Cassa Smith Hall living next door and listed on the 1860 census, same page, just above Charles and his grandparents.

1870 Census: Living with Laura Johnson, 38, keeping house; Elizabeth Smith 25 also keeping house. Charles is 22, living in Havre de Grace keeping a Salon.

A land sale he made in 1881 says Charles lived in PA.

Buried in Mt. Zoar AME Church Cemetery, Conowingo, Maryland

**Smith (Earle), John H.; Private, 55<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment, Company B**

Killed by a train 2/2/1901 at jail crossing in Elkton. Obit: "A Colored Man Meets Death on the Railroad. John Smith, colored, better known as John Earle, was instantly killed Saturday afternoon about half past one o'clock by being struck by the locomotive of the Limited Express just above the jail crossing. Smith had a bag of coal on his shoulder and was standing on the end of the ties on the southbound track watching a freight going north. The engineer of the Limited stated that he only had time to give one blast of the whistle when the locomotive struck the man. The train stopped and the body was picked up and taken to the station, where it was found that the neck was broken, as well as many bones. Coroner Lizenberg summoned the following jury of inquest (names listed). Smith was about 55 yrs old and leaves a wife and several children. He was a pensioner, having served in the Civil War in the 55th Massachusetts. Unfortunately, very little good can be said of his later record." Cecil County News 2/6/1901

1900 Census: 63 year old Day Laborer living in Elkton with wife Susan 34 year old married 17 yrs. Rent a house with Children: Daisy 9, Rhoda M. 8, John W. 4. Everybody born in MD except John Sr born in DE.

Applied for Invalid Pension Aug 30, 1877. Applied for widow pension April 27, 1901.  
Widow: Susan Earle

Buried in Elkton Cemetery

**Stewart, Sam a Teamster working for the Union Army. Not a soldier.**

Muffled Drums and Mustard Spoons on page 107: "Sam Stewart, another black teamster, was wounded" The action took place in Virginia as Stewart worked for the Union Army. Cecil Democrat 6/14/1862

**Taylor, Eli H. Private 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company I**

Born Cecil, Maryland. Farmer. Slave of Samuel B. Foard who inherited him in 1834. Slave Record for 1861-64 list Eli's value at \$400 in 1861; climbing to \$600 in 1864. Lists Foard as a resident of Elkton. Muffled Drums and Mustard Spoons lists an ad for Foard in Pivot Bridge, Md Enlisted 9/7/1864 in Baltimore. Mustered out 12/10/1865 maybe a Roanoke Island, NC. Sexton of Trinity P.E. Church. Church quarterly treasury reports indicate Taylor specifically was sexton the quarter ending Jan 4, 1890. That report states Taylor was paid \$5.00 on October 1, 1889 for services in September. He was paid in November for October services of \$5.00. He was paid in December, 1889 \$5.00 for November services. January 6th, 1890 Taylor paid \$5 for Sept, and \$5 each for Oct., Nov., and Dec. April 30, 1891 Samuel Reed was hired as sexton at the rate of \$6 per month. No start or end date is given for Taylor's tenure as sexton; however he was not mentioned as sexton after April, 1891.. The quarterly report ending December 6, 1897 says on March 25th, 1897 John Quinn was paid \$2.00 as "janitor". Quarterly report ending Sept 1, 1900 Samuel Timble is sexton from July, 1900. Vestry minutes December, 1900 Sewell James Gamblin is sexton. The quarterly report for quarter ending September 1, 1900 Samuel Timble is sexton from July, 1900. John S. Wirt, attorney at law, is the treasurer during 1890s into 1900. Taylor Died in Elkton 9/22/1900

1870 Census: 40 years old laborer, born in MD. Mary also born in MD is 40 yrs old and keeping house. James is 9 yrs old, born in MD.

1880 Census: Eli Taylor is 41, lives in Elkton with wife Hannah age 24. Son Eli H. is 3 and daughter Sarah is 1. Boarder is 70 year old Rebecca Martin. Mother in law? Everybody born in Maryland.

1900 Census: Eli H. Taylor is a 68 year old day laborer married to Hannah for 25 years living in Elkton in a rented house. She is 41 and keeps house. Children: Eli H. Jr is 23 and a News Dealer. Mary F. is 19 and at school as is Harriet M. 16 and Lambert C. 9. Lodger: Elizabeth Underhill age 1.

Applied for invalid benefits Feb 11, 1887. Widow applied for widows benefits November 3, 1900. Minor applied for benefits July 14, 1908. Wife: Hannah C. Taylor. Minor: Hannah C. Price living in DE

Buried Elkton Cemetery

**Thomas, Henry; Corporal 19 Regiment, Company A**

Farmer from Talbot, County. 19 years old. Enlisted 12/15/1863. Promoted to Corporal July 1, 1865. Mustered out 1/15/1867 at Brownsville, TX. Received \$10/month pension. No Pension application listed in Ancestry.

1870 Aged 30, a laborer, living in Galena, Kent County. Married Martha Thomas, 20, in January of 1870.

**Thompson, Richard; Private, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H**

1870 Census: Aged 45, a farm hand living in Chestertown, Kent County, MD with wife Mary, aged 35, keeping house. Children M. Jane, 16, Martha, 5, Thomas "H". 3.

1880 Census: Richd. Thompson 45 a laborer and widower living in Chestertown, Kent County, MD.

Martha J. Thompson 24 Keeping house,

James Thompson 23 laborer,

Mamy Thompson 16 domestic servant,

Thomas Thompson 11 laborer but attended school in the last year. All Maryland natives

Applied for invalid pension July 22, 1889 from Maryland

Buried in Elkton Cemetery

**Tilloston, Peter Teamster working for the Union Army. Not a soldier.**

Muffled Drums and Mustard Spoons by Jerre Garrett page 107 notes "On June 14th the Cecil Democrat noted the death of Peter Tilloston, a local black man, a teamster with the army in Virginia; Sam Steward, another black teamster, was wounded." Cecil Democrat June 14, 1862.

**Walker, William A. Private 39<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company B**

Enlisted 3/22/1864. Sick Leave 7/18/1864. Died 3/15/1930. Grandson's wife: Mrs. Annie Kell of Craigtown No records in Ancestry Library Ed



1870 Census: There is a Wm H. Walker, born in Virginia living in Elkton. Age 36 with a 17 year old Rachel and one year old Mary, both born in MD.

There is a pension record in Ancestry Lib Ed for Co H 55 Mass Inf. Application for Invalid pension 1/11 1888 hard to read.

Buried in Cokesbury United Methodist Church Cemetery

**Warner, Daniel (also known as Daniel Warren) Private 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company I**

6th Regiment mustered in at Camp Wm Penn. Granted \$6/month pension. Enlisted Sept 20, 1864 at Easton for one year. 23 yrs old. Born in Easton, Maryland. Laborer. Cecil County News from April 25, 1900 "Daniel Warner, colored, who is employed by Dr. J.W. Cooper as hostler, has been granted a Government pension of \$6 per month. He formally resided in Kent County." *Cecil County News* 4/25/1900

1880 Census: Daniel Warn a 49 yr old Farm Laborer living in Kent County with wife Ida, a 24 yr old house keeper. All born in MD. Two Sons: Henry 13 and a laborer who attended school in 1880 and Samuel 8 who also attended school in 1880. Live in Piney Neck.

1910 Census: Daniel, 68, laborer at odd jobs living in Kent Coty, District 5. Wife Susie L, aged 39 a house keeper. His second marriage, her first. No children. Renting a house.

Applied for invalid pension July 28, 1882. Minor benefits applied June 21, 1924. Minor named Frances C Warren

**Webster, Rev. John C. Corporal, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Enlisted 2/27/1864. Age 21. Farmer. Born in Cecil, MD. Due balance of pay between \$7 and \$13. July/Aug, 1865 Muster Roll notes "Free". Musterd out 12/10/1865 Dec 19 1879 certificate notes reduction in rank. Died 8/28/1890. From Thomas S. Miller's diary located in the Historical Society of Cecil County.

1860 Census: Election District 4: 17 yrs old, Living with Joseph Miller aged 51. Miller has wife (Margaret 52) and two kids (Can't read the names. Does not look like a "Tom"; and a second border (Elisah Alexander, 17).

1870 Census: Living in District 5, Fair Hill, 28 yrs old, Farm Hand. Mary Jane, age 25 is house keeping. Daughter Catherine, 5, and George, 1, both at home.

1880 Census: John only aged 2 years, 30 yrs old. laborer, listed as iliterate, Living at Brick Meeting House in the 9th election district of Cecil County with wife Jane M., 26 a

house keeper. They have 9 children: Sallie I. 16 "at service", Catherine E 13 at school, George A. 11 at school, Clora S. 10, John A. 7, Mary V.L. 6, J.J.T. 4, Samuel M. 2, Ann L. 9 months.

John E. Wilson applied for minor benefit on May 19, 1891. No spouse listed.

*Elkton Appeal* of September 3, 1890, said: "Rev John Webster, a very respected colored man, living near Warburton's mill died on Friday last. He had been suffering with typhoid fever for some time. . . He served in the late war and was an honest and industrious man. He was about 55 years of age, and leaves a number of small children--his wife having died about a year ago. His funeral took place on Sunday (Aug 31) at Cedar Hill A.U. M.P. Church, of which he was a member"

### **Wesley, Cyrus T. Private 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Born Cecil, MD. 37 yrs old. Farmer. enlisted 2/27/1864. Wounded July 30th. 1864 Battle of the Crater, Petersburg, VA. Sits out the rest of the war. Discharged for physical disability from Goldboro Hospital Roanoke Is, NC. Difference in pay made between \$7 and \$13. mustered out 6/17/1865/

1870 Census: 50 years old living in Fair Hill as a farm hand and tenant. Wife, Rebecca, 30, and children: Evan, 16, Stephen, 9, Henry, 4, Sarah Elen, 6 months. Born January, 1870. Everybody born in Maryland.

1880 Census: 59 year old farmer with a war wound. Wife Rebecca, 40, keeping house. Children: Henry L. 14 at school, Sarah 10 at school, Mary 6 at school. Son Evan, a 26 yr old farmer lives nearby with wife Sarah and son Benjamin.

1890 Census: Civil War Veteran Census Records from the HSCC list Cyrus as living in Cecil County in 1890. Nothing else.

1900 Census: Rebecca, 65, now a widow still lives in Fair Hill with Son William and daughter in law Mary. Grand daughter Nora 12, Nephew James Webster 13, Lille Johnson Grand daughter 12, Dora Webster grand daughter 9 months old.

Widow Benefit application Dec 19, ??

Mrs. Cyrus T. Wesley (Rebecca) died Sept 27, 1903 according to board of health death record. Age about 69 years.

Widow: 1880 Census lists Rebecca Wesley age 40 as wife. Possibly Ann R. Wesley

**Wilson, Andrew A. (J) Corporal, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Enlisted 12/17/1863. Mustered in at Camp Stauton near Bryarstown, MD. 18 years old. Cecil, Maryland. Farmer. "Mulatto". Promoted to Corp Feb 26, 1864, then reduced to Private. Recruiting Service in Baltimore. Free April 19, 1861, noted on Sept/Oct muster roll 1864. Detached from Reg to serve in Brownsville, TX 1865 to 1867. Mustered out 1/15/1867. Pension of \$6/month 10/1/1902. Government owed him \$22.84 for clothing. May have been owed up to \$200 for bounty. Address of Cecilton, MD

1880 40 year old farm worker, wife 35 year old wife Louisa keeps house. Children: Hosanna 12 listed as a nurse. Alfred is 6, Mary E. is 3 and George is 6 months. All born in live in Maryland. First ward.

1900 Andrew A. 55 yr old and single farm worker. Louisa is also listed as single, 44 and a house keeper mother of 7 of whom 4 lived. George, Alfred(both farm laborers) and Bertha. 21, 23, 13. Thomas Edwards 27 and Hester Reason 20 are boarders. Andrew Wilson rents a house near Cecilton.

1910 This Andrew is Andrew A. 65 doing odd jobs. Lists Wife Sarah 68 of 40 plus years. Son Harry aged 30. Farm laborer. Single. Grand Children Ralph 5 and Viola 13.

1920 Andrew A. at 73 widowed. Not listed as working. Grandchildren: Elonzo 26 and Virginia 19. 2 boarders: Hartta Wright 60 and married. Wilbert W. Washington 13. Andrew Wilson cannot read or write. Grandchildren can.

Pension application for Andrew J Wilson Aug 22, 1890. Attorney signed as Louis K. Gillson and Company.

**Wilson, Cyrus Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H**

Born in Cecil, MD. Laborer. Enlisted Aug 10, 1864 in Baltimore 22 years of age. January/February 1865 \$300 bounty due him. Absent sick January 14, 1865. Oct 1865 stationed at Camp Carrington Indianapolis, IN. Muster Out Corpus Cristi, TX. Nov 8, 1865. Free. Entitled to \$300 bounty. Carting business. Died 3/20/1909 age about 70. Owned land on the west side of Collins avenue w/1/2 frame house. Sold it to the Hindmans and they borrowed \$225 from Wilson mortgaging the land. Several transactions involving that land between 1903 and 1904. Wife Mary.

Pervin Wilson listed in 1868 Cecil County Tax Assessment Book owning half a frame house worth \$250. 1896 Assessment worth \$1075.

1900 Census: 55 year old Cyrus Wilson in Elkton, Cecil County, MD with wife Mary E. 50, for 21 yrs of marriage, no children. Living in a farm house. "Carter".

Invalid application Sept 10, 1883

Buried in Elkton "Colored" Cemetery

**Names of black volunteers receiving District Bounty of \$250 each and credited to  
3rd (Elkton) District (Cecil Democrat 3 11 1865):**

**Robert Gorden (There is no documented record for Robert Gorden anywhere)**

**Charles H.B. Thomas Private, 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Companies B and C**

First notation Charles H. Thomas. Enlisted Feb 2 1864 in Washington, DC. Age 21. Joined as company was organized in Camp Casey. Service record says he died of pneumonia at Camp Casey Virginia on the way to Pt of Rocks Hospital, VA aboard hospital transport "George Washington". Born in Charles County, MD. Listed as a laborer. Personal Effects: 1 forage cap, 1 great coat, 1 pair of trousers, 1 haversack, 1 knapsack which were given to surgeon H.B. Fowler, "In charge, Pt of Rocks Hospital". There is another Charles Thomas... this one listed as Charles H.B. Thomas in the same regiment, Company B. No listing where he's from. He went missing in action on July 30, 1864 at Petersburg, same day as The Crater. Declared dead on Nov 8, 1864. No cause of death given. No enlistment location or residence given. Neither lists a burial location or next of kin.

1850 Census listed as 8 yrs old living with large family. Middle initiall "H"

1860 Census age 18 living with the same family.

**Charles H. Thomas Private 28 transferred to 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiments Company B**

No word on where he enlisted or his nativity or his age. Listed as Missing in Action July 30, 1864 at Petersburg.

**Charles B. Thomas, Private 28 Regiment Company B**

28 yr old Farmer born in Cecil County when he enlisted in Baltimore on August 10, 1864. Transferred to the 23rd on October 19, 1864. Mustered out December 8, 1865 at Corpus Christi, Texas. He was paid a \$300 bounty.

1870 Census living in Port Deposit with the Nathaniel Thomas family, maybe a brother... or maybe the ages are wrong and Nathaniel and Elizabeth Thomas are his parents. See

1880 Census. Charles is listed as Charles Brown Thomas, 29 yrs old. Occupation listed as fireman.

1880 38 yrs old, still living in Port Deposit as a fireman. Here Nathaniel and Elizabeth Thomas are listed as his parents and their ages are much greater than in 1870.

### **Samuel Chambers 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company K**

Born in Cecil, MD. Enlisted in Cecil, MD on Aug 10, 1864. Laborer, 20 yrs old. Discharged June 9 1865 "in accordance with orders from War Dept." Patient in U.S. General Hospital, Ft Monroe, VA at discharge. Muster in at Baltimore. Farmer and Free. Paid \$300 bounty. Listed as sick May June 1865

1860 Census: One listed as 15 yrs old born in MD living in White Clay Creek Hundred, Newark. Race not listed. OTHER listed as 24 living in Chesapeake City, MD and born in MD

1870 Census: listed as 31 yrs old. About 7 yrs too old. Living in Chesapeake City with wife Mary and daughter Mary.

1900 Census: living in Northeast, MD with William and Eliza Jefferson as a day laborer. May be Eliza's brother. Hard to read the census.

Filed for pension Oct 28, 1895 no spouse listed.

### **James Wilson (number 1) Corporal 5 Reg't Mass Cavalry, Company H**

Enlisted in Boston, MA Feb 27 1864. Born in Cecil County, MD. 25 yr old laborer. Mustered in at Readsville. March 12, 1864. No bounty listed but credited "4 Disi, Suffolk". May-June 1865 was "orderly in Headquarters". Guard on transport June 12, 1865. Muster out Oct 31 1865 Clarkesville, TX. Last paid Dec 31, 1864.

1880 Census: Should be 50. This one is 46 yrs old living in Easton, Talbot County. Works with a butcher. Second census he is a butcher and 45 yrs old. Wife, Sarah keeps house is 35 yrs old. No kids.

1900 Census: Easton District, First Precinct Talbot County, MD. Wife Sarah, 55 yrs old, no children. Day Laborer. 57 Yrs old, married 30 yrs.

**James Wilson (number 2) Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company E**

Enlisted Baltimore Aug 10 1864. 20 yrs old, Farmer. Paid \$300 bounty. Mustered out at Corpus Christi, TX Nov 8, 1865. Paid \$100 of \$300 bounty due. Also paid \$13.60 for clothing.

1870 Census: 28 yr old laborer living with wife Sarah and daughters Harriett and Rachel. This is a little old, but not by much.

1880 Census: Should be 38, but this one is 46 yrs old living in Easton, Talbot County. Works with a butcher. Wife, Sarah keeps house is 35 yrs old. No kids.

1900 Census: James N Wilson 57 years old living in Elkton on the same street as John H. Moore. Wife Susan for 29 years and four sons.

**Moses McCabe (McCaeb) Corporal, Started in 28th, transferred to Oct 21 1864 to 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Company F**

Enlisted Aug 16, 1864 in Baltimore. Born Cecil, Maryland. 23 year old brickmaker. Appointed Corp March 20 1865. Not paid a bounty. Took "G.R." musket and "equipment" with him. (Probably "G.O." or "General Order" 101.) Owed Gov \$6 for it. Served in the same regiment and company at the same time with brother in law George W. Milburn.

1850 Census: 4 yrs old living in Elkton w/6 or 7 brothers and sisters. Mother is Mary, 35. Next oldest person is John aged 20 listed as a laborer.

1860 Census: 17 yrs old living in Elkton with the King family which appears to be white, head of household, Samuel is a brickmaker.

1870 Census: 27 yrs old Brick Maker living in Elkton with A.E. McCabe 19 (housekeeper), C.A. Conway 18 (Domestic Servant), W.H. Miller 2. There was a brick yard called Gilpin and King in Elkton at this time.

1880 Census: 35 yrs old, Living in Elkton with George Milburn who is Moses' future brother in law. Moses works in brick. His mother, Milley, age 70, also lives with them all.

1890 Census: Civil War Veterans Schedule lists McCabe living in Elkton

1900 Census: 55 yrs old living in Elkton with wife of 15 years, Sarah. Makes them married in 1885. No one else in household. Occupation as "molder of bricks". Says he can read, but not write. Last census record where he's listed.

1896 Cecil County Tax Assessment: Sarah McCabe listed owning a lot on corner of Milburn and Clinton Streets: 25 X 75 @4 frame dwelling. Lot worth \$100 and house worth \$700. Moses is still alive.

Pension filed maybe in 1883 hard to read. Death benefit application maybe 1905, hard to read. Sarah McCabe is widow

**Edward Boyer (Bayer), Private, 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Enlisted in Feb 1865 in Philadelphia. Paid a \$200 bounty. Born in Cecil County, was a waiter at time of enlistment. Paid for his musket and took it home at war's end.

1880 Census: Living in Elkton as a laborer with wife Indianna and son Charles H. Boyer age 10.

1890 Census: Vets Schedule lists a laborer living in Elkton.

**William Hollis, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company F**

Enlisted Aug 16, 1864 in Baltimore. Born in Cecil, MD was a 29 year old farmer. Mustered out Nov 8, 1865 Corpus Christi, TX. Was due \$83.39 but he kept his musket.

1860 Census: 22 yrs old living in BelAir, Harford county. Living at home oldest son of Jarrett and Harriet Hollis.

1870 Census: Nothing in MD, PA, DE (Should be about 35 yrs old.)

1880 Census: would be about 45. Nothing in MD, PA, or DE

**William Hollis (Number 2) Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company L**

Hospitalization record for individual born in MD. Living with wife in Elkton. Admitted to Hospital Nov 17 1864. "Chronic" something starts with an "R". Wife's name may be "Jane". Returned to duty April 28, 1865.

**Cyrus P. Wilson Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H**

Enlisted August, 1864. Absent sick January 14, 1865.

Muster Out indicate he was paid while in the hospital for May and June, 1865. May have been hospitalized a second time in 1865.

Oct 1865 stationed at Camp Carrington Indianapolis, IN.

Muster Out Corpus Cristi, TX. Nov 8, 1865. Entitled to \$300 bounty.

Applied for military pension in September 10, 1893.  
Carting business.

**Frisby H. Douglas**

**Joshua Ricketts Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment Company F**

1860 Census: 15 yr old living in Elkton with the Smitt family which appears to be white and fairly wealthy. Born in DE.

1870 Census: 23 yrs old farm laborer living near DE City, DE with the Richard Canne family who is a farmer. 6 other black farm laborers or domestics are living in the household.

1880 Census: No record in MD, DE, or PA. One in TN but not born in MD.

1900 Census: 59 Yrs old living in West Bradford Township, Chester County PA with wife Mary of 26 yrs. Son George who is 26. No age for Mary

1890 something filed for pension, but no death filing and no spouse listed.

**Joshua Ricketts (No 2) Private 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Company I**

Age 25, mustered in May 16, 1864 at Washington, DC. Wounded at Petersburg, VA July 30, 1864. Hospitalized Balfour General Hospital, Portsmouth, VA sick May June 1865. Muster out Nov 30 1865 but he is still in Balfour. No bounty but he was due \$100.

**George Ricketts Private 18<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Enlisted at age 25, a laborer, in Wyandotti, Kansas January 23, 1864. Born in Maryland. Died in Cape Girardeu, MO June 23 1864 of dysentery. No bounty listed as being paid, but enlistment credited to Layfeyette County, MO. A slave claim is listed on final papers. An Andrew Gartin claimed Ricketts was his slave who he purchased when young. Another slave, Jake, was owned by Gartin too. Not clear if Jake was a vet too or his origins. Filed claim in Clay County, MO. Effects were turned over to brother, but no name listed. Maybe Jake?



### **George Ricketts No. 2 Private 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment**

Born in Cecil, Maryland. Enlisted August 26th, 1864 in Baltimore. Estimated birth date as 1846 making him 18 at enlistment.

1860 Census: 16 yrs old living with the James Davis family, apparently white, a farm family, in Elkton. 9 other non Davis last name people living in household.

1880 Census: 36 yr old laborer living alone in Kent County, MD

1900 Census: 58 yrs old living alone in Galena, Kent County, MD. Listed as a U.S. Pensioner.

### **Nelson Harris, Private, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H**

18 yrs old. Mustered in at Baltimore August 26, 1864. Farmer. Due Gov for knapsack, haversack, and half tent shelter \$5.12. The equipment is listed as "lost". Due Gov \$2.50 for lost Springfield bayonet. Mustered out Jan 15, 1867 at Brownsville, TX. Due \$200 in bounty.

1860 Census: 12 yrs old living with family in Elkton including older brother Enoch.

1870 Census: 22 yrs old Farm laborer with wife Sarah a house keeper. No kids. Living in Pleasant Hill, DE in Mill Creek Hundred.

1900 Census: a Nelson shows up in Pencader Hundred, DE. Only 48 yrs old. Wife Sarah married only ten years. He is too young. Also says he was born in DE. Two step daughters: Amanda E. Gordon age 8 and Julia Gordon age 6.

Pension filed From Delaware in 1890. No death benefit filing and no spouse named.

### **Robert B. Thomas Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Enlisted in Baltimore, Dec. 18, 1864 aged 18. Lists Indianapolis as duty enrollment location. No further service information.

1870 Census: 25 yrs old living in Charles County with wife Betsie, age 22, and daughter Mary. No occupation given.

1880 Census: 37 yr old Farm laborer living in Chester County, PA with wife Elizabeth.

1900 Census: Lists a Robert and Elizabeth living in St. Marys, MD, but they are way too young. Another Robert is 52 yrs old and living in Chester, PA with wife of 28 yrs Mary who is 64.

1867 Cecil County Tax Assessment book: An R. Thomas living in Port Deposit on Grant St owning a house and lot worth \$300. There is a Lizzie Thomas with household good worth \$100.

**Perry Mumford, Private, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company G**

Enlisted Baltimore Aug 26, 1864. Born about 1844 in Cecil County, MD. A Farmer. Died January 14, 1865 of Pneumonia Pt of Rocks Hospital in Virginia. Hospitalized Dec 26, 1864. Owed the Gov 45 Cents for a canteen. Only item in personal effects inventory was a knapsack.

**Abe Redding**

**Jacob Morgan, Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Enlisted in Baltimore, 18 yrs, Aug 10, 1864, a farmer. Paid \$300 bounty. Mustered out Nov 8, 1865 in Corpus Christi, Tx. Retained his musket for \$6.

1860 Census: 15 yrs old living in Elkton with James and Amanda Stepter or Stepten a weaver who appear to be white. Also living with 17 yr old James and 12 yr old female Morgan.

**George W.H. Gould, Private, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Born in Cecil County, MD, a farmer. 29 yrs old. Was due \$300 bounty. Reported sick Nov 28, 1864. Died Nov 25, 1864 at Hospital for Colored Troops, Army of the Potomac, City Pt, Virginia of chronic diarheria. Effects: trousers and blouse turned over to Surgeon F.M. Hammond of the 126 NY volunteers, Army of the Potomac. Effects were still at the City Pt hospital in Feb 1865. Listed as not married. Death and internment record lists as buried same day as death. Probably not buried in Cecil County. Owes Wm A. Jones "sutler" \$3.

1860 Census: 15 yrs. Enlistment age was 29. Meant 19? Living in Elkton with John, Hannah and Richard Booth all in their 80s. Also Wm Green and Hannah Leonard.

**John H. Hammond, Private, 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company D**

Enlisted in Baltimore on August 10, 1864 at age 21. Farmer, born in Cecil County, Md. Looks like he tried to enroll in the 28th reg, but was transferred to the 23rd company "B". Due \$300 bounty. Transferred to 23rd Reg company "D" January 1, 1865. Killed in

action July 30 1864 in front of Petersburg, VA. Indebted to Orin A. Morse for \$10. No effects.

**William Bostic, Corporal, enlisted in 23rd transferred to 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment on Oct 21 1864, Company B**

A farmer born in Cecil County on record and Kent, Maryland in another. Enlisted in Baltimore on August 10, 1864 at the age of 21. Due \$300 bounty. Promoted to Corp May 5 1865. Mustered out Nov 30 1865 in Texas.

1860 Census: 16 yr old living in Elkton with the Joseph Jackson family. Joseph is a farmer and apparently white worth \$9000. A 12 yr old black female also living with the family of 7 not including the African Americans.

1870 Census: 22 yrs old living on a farm of Samuel Mazel in London Grove Twmsp Chester County, PA. No one else in household.

1900 Census: 52 yrs old living in Avondale, Chester County, PA with wife Alice of 24 years 45 yrs old. Six children, 3 and 3. William was born in PA for this record. The vet said he was born in MD

**William H. Holden**

**William H. Tasco**

**George W. Taylor, Private, Enlisted in 28, transferred to 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment on Oct 21, 1864, Company C**

24 yr old Farmer born in Cecil County, Enlisted on Aug 16, 1864 in Baltimore. Listed as Killed in Action on November 29, 1864 by gunshot "from the enemy" at Bermuda Hundred, VA.

1860 Census: 23 yrs old living in Elkton with family as oldest son. Maybe a little old.

**John H. Frisby, Private 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company C**

Born in Cecil County, MD. 19 yr old farmer. Enlisted in Baltimore on August 16, 1864. Descriptive book says he was a slave and died at hospital at Fort Monroe of disease on Jan. 15, 1865. Transferred to 23 reg from 28 on Oct 19, 1864. No bounty paid. Became ill July 30, 1864. Died in Gen'l Hospital at Fort Monroe January 16, 1865. Death listed as inflammation of the liver. Inventory lists cap, great coat, blouse, trousers, pair of shoes, and

haversack. Effects turned over the legal representative of deceased. "Indebted to P.A. Morse sutler \$10.00."

**Abram (Abraham) Brown, Private, Enlisted in the 28th, transferred to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Company C.**

35 yr old laborer, born in Cecil County, Maryland. Enlisted at Balt. August 16, 1864. Oct 21, 1864 transferred from the 28th to the 23rd Reg. July Aug 1865 Muster Roll lists him as "Company Cook". Paid \$100 bounty. No more bounty due. Due \$31.25 for clothing. Mustered out at Brazos Santiago, TX Nov 30 1865.

1860 Census: 38yr old laborer living in Elkton with his family. Wife Maria. 8 kids.

1870 Census: 40 yr old farm laborer living with wife Anna and daughter H. Jane. He was born in MD, wife in DE, and daughter in PA.

**Jacob Evans, Private, 28th transferred to 23rd Regiment. Company C to Company H**

30 yr old Free laborer on one roll and Farmer on another, born in Cecil County, MD, enlisted Baltimore August 16th, 1864. Joined 28 Regiment, Company C but transferred to Company H Dec 1 1864. Transferred to 28th Reg Company C Oct 19, 1864. Mustered out Brazos Santiago, TX Nov 30, 1865. Transfer to Company "H" was per General Order No. 61. Absent sick at discharge. No bounty paid but due \$100. Also due to him \$67.57 for clothing.

1860 23 yrs old living in Elkton with family, Jane, his wife, and two children.

**Joseph Thomas, Private, 19h Regiment, Company A**

18 yr old Farmer enlisted Baltimore Aug 26th, 1864. Died January 31, 1865 at Pt of Rocks Hospital, VA. of pneumonia. No bounty paid.

1860 Census: 17 yr old laborer from Harford County living with mother, brother, and sister in Havre de Grace.

1870 Census: 30 yr old farm hand living in Ceciton with the N.H. Roberts family. *Not sure about this listing. Supposed to have been killed during the war.*

**John W. Conyer, Private, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

The only one I found was for a 22 yr old farmer from Baltimore. Enlisted August 26th. No mention of Cecil County. Hospitalized sick on Aug 8, 1865. back on duty in November. Muster out Jan 15 1867. No Bounty was paid, but may have been owed something. unreadable.

1880 Living with the Thomas Cole family. Can't read the occupation. Is 38 yrs old. 12 other boarders live in this Baltimore household.

**Joseph McCabe, Private, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company A**

Only listing is a 27 yr old farmer vet born in Baltimore enlisted in Balt Aug 26, 1864. Hospitalized sick Sept/Oct 1864. Nov/Dec due to Gov \$22 for a Enfield Rifle and full set of accoutrements. Nov/Dec reported sick in hospital. Back on duty Jan/Feb, 1866. Mustered out Jan 15, 1867 at Brownsville, TX. Was due \$47.99 and was not paid a bounty but was due either 2 or \$300. Can't read it.

1870 Census: 41 yrs old 4 yrs too old. In Elkton Jail along with Maria McCabe aged 45. She is listed as "insane". No One comes close in MD, DE, or PA

Mother Amelia filed for benefits unreadable year. In MD.

**William Hill, Private, 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company H**

Closest veteran to Cecil County is born in Harford County, 18 yr old farmer, enlisted in Baltimore August 26, 1864. Mustered out Jan 15, 1867. Was due \$11.67. No bounty paid but was due \$200.

1860 Census: Wm Hill living in Baltimore is right age (13). One living in Elkton is a little young in 1860 (11)

1870 Census shows two possibilities: one in Baltimore and one in Port Tobacco Charles County.

1880 Census: One is a sailor who is a boarder in Balt. Most likely person is 38 yrs old laborer living in St. Mary's County, MD with wife Matilda and sons George and Author.

1900 Census: 57 yrs old living for 33 yrs with Matilda his wife in St. Marys County, MD. Now has son George and three grand daughters.

Invalid Benefits filed March 7 1890. Widow benefits filed Aug 11 maybe 1906. Wife Matilda Hill. This person is listed in company "I" not "H".

**Stephen E. Hammond, Private, 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company D**

Born in Cecil County, MD. 18 yr old farmer. Enlisted in Balt Aug 10, 1864. Free and due a \$300 bounty. Transferred from 28 Reg to 23 Oct 21, 1864. Pay stopped for lost ordinance and "Figures and Letters 3 cents." Muster out Nov 30 1865 Brazos Santiago, TX. Paid \$100 bounty, no more due. Lost one letter and two numbers worth 3 cents.

1900 Census: 55 yrs old living with wife Martha, 44, of 9 years. Son, John is 24. Living in Elkton works as a laborer at the Foundry..

Pension filed Sept 1 1890. No death benefit filed and no spouse listed.

**The names of the following two veterans were taken from a Cecil Whig article June 11, 1864 that noted that each was due a bounty through the Cecil County Commissioners:**

**Amos Dunmore, Corporal, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company F**

Only military record is a 30 day furlough notice for May, 1865. He's also noted on the 1890 Vets Schedule. That's it except for...

Two listed in 1860 Census: One born in 1842 the other in '45. 1842 Dunmore, born in MD, is 18 yrs old, no occupation listed, living in Elkton with Henry Nesbit family (white), a "Merchant" worth some money. 1845 Dunmore is 15, no occupation listed, born in MD, living with the Thos Taylor Family in Elkton. Taylor family is Black.  
1870 Census An Amos Dunmore living in Balt born in 1848 laborer with a wife named Henrietta, Laundress. Son, Henry, aged 2.

1880 Census: 1845 Dunmore 35 living in Balt as a waiter with wife, Annie who is a laundress. Daughter, 9 yr old Mary. Sister in law, Mary Williams lives there too.

1890 Civil War Vets Schedule lists as living in Baltimore, 1421 Boulden Alley. No age given.

1900 Census in Balt but born in 1838 and wife Pricilla.

**Daniel Holly, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Company H**

Military record indicates he enlisted in March of 1864 and transferred to the Navy

## **Drummer Boy**

The drummer boy for the USCT recruiting party at Elkton "had one of the fingers of his left hand severely injured on Wednesday morning last, by the bursting of a gun." Cecil Whig 9/3/64 No name was given in the article.

## **Appendix B**

### **Birth Location and Age at Enlistment**

1. Aaron Kinslow: Elkton, MD, 22 yrs old
2. Abraham Brown: Sommerset County, MD; 35 yrs old
3. Amos Dunmore: Maryland;
4. Charles H.B. Thomas: Charles County, Maryland; 21 yrs old
5. Edward Boyer: Maryland; 20 yrs old
6. George Farrell: Charles County, MD; 21 yrs old
7. George Ricketts: Maryland; 25 yrs old
8. George W.H. Gould: Cecil County, MD, 29 yrs old
9. George W. Taylor: Cecil County, MD; 24 yrs old
10. Jacob Evans: Cecil County, MD; 30 yrs old
11. Jacob Morgan: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
12. James Wilson No. 1: Cecil County, MD; 25 yrs old
13. James Wilson No. 2: Cecil County, MD, 20 yrs old
14. John Conyers: Maryland; 22 yrs old
15. John H. Frisby: Cecil County, MD; 19 yrs old
16. John H. Hammond: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
17. Joseph McCabe: Baltimore, MD; 27 yrs old
18. Joseph Thomas: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
19. Joshua Rickets No. 2: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
20. Joshua Rickets No. 1: Unknown; Unknown
21. Moses McCabe: Cecil County, MD; 23 yrs old



22. Nelson Harris: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
23. Perry Mumford: Cecil County, MD; 20 yrs old
24. Robert B. Thomas: Maryland; 18 yrs old
25. Samuel Chambers: Cecil County, MD; 20 yrs old
26. Stephen Ham: Maryland; Unknown
27. Stephen Hammond: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
28. William Bostic: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
29. William Hollis: Cecil County, MD 29 yrs old
30. Andrew A. Wilson: Cecil County, MD 18 yrs old
31. Charles Brown: Maryland; 20 years old
32. Charles A. Smith: Cecil County, 19 yrs old
33. Charles Bowser: Middletown, PA, 18 yrs old
34. Charles C. Sayers (Larue): Maryland
35. Cyrus T. Wesley: Cecil County, MD; 37 yrs old
36. Cyrus "Pervin" Wilson: Cecil County, MD; 22 yrs old
37. Daniel Newton: South Carolina; 30 yrs old
38. Daniel Warner: Kent County, MD; 23 yrs old
39. Eli H. Taylor: Cecil County, MD; 39 yrs old
40. Enoch Harris: Cecil County, MD; 22 yrs old
41. George Gordon: Maryland; 18 yrs old
42. George Haines: Maryland; 24 yrs old
43. George Haynes: Harford County, MD; 23 yrs old
44. George R. Sears: Cecil County, MD; 28 years old

45. George Simpers: Alton, MD; 26 yrs old
46. George W. Milburn: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
47. Henry Chase: Dorchester, MD; 26 yrs old
48. Henry Dumpson: Cecil MD; 23 yrs old
49. Henry McFadden: Kentucky; 23 yrs old
50. Henry Thomas: Talbot County, MD; 19 yrs old
51. J. Butler: Harford, MD; 23 yrs old
52. Jackson Janes: Maryland; 37 yrs old
53. Jacob Janes: Dorchester, MD; 21 yrs old
54. James Collins: Maryland; 26 yrs old
55. John Bradford: Harford, MD; 24 yrs old
56. Rev. John C. Webster: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
57. John Collins: Cecil County; 21 yrs old
58. John Earl alias John Smith: Richmond, VA; 23 yrs old
59. John H. Moore: Cecil, MD; 22 yrs old
60. John L. Hopkins: Cecil, MD; 43 yrs old
61. John Wesley Moore: Cecil, MD; 20 yrs old
62. Joseph Haynes: Harford, MD; 22 yrs old
63. Lewis P. Hopkins: Cecil County, MD; 28 yrs old
64. Nelson Harris: Cecil County, MD; 18 yrs old
65. Peter Quomony: Pennsylvania; 22 yrs old
66. Philip O. Brown: Virginia;
67. Phrisbey Douglass: Cecil County, MD; 19 yrs old

68. Richard Thompson: Kent County, MD; 39 yrs old
69. Robert Anderson: Maryland; 44 yrs old
70. Thomas Chambers: Cecil, MD; 28 yrs old
71. William A. Hillstone: Virginia; 18 yrs old
72. William Cole: Maryland; 20 yrs old
73. William Cooper: Maryland; about 23 yrs old
74. William H. Badger: Delaware; 22 yrs old
75. William Reed; Maryland; 22 yrs old
76. Alexander Bailey: Maryland; 19 yrs old
77. Alfred T. Bowyer: Cecil County, MD; 28 yrs old
78. Charles Plater: Queen Anne's County, MD; 20 yrs old
79. Felix Perkins: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
80. George Jones: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
81. Henry Raley: Cecil County, MD; 25 yrs old
82. Henry Rhodes: Cecil County, MD; 20 yrs old
83. Isaac Cooper: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
84. James A.H. Berry: Cecil County, MD; 24 yrs old
85. James Alfred Pierce: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
86. John Hackett: Cecil County, MD; 21 yrs old
87. John Henry Davis: Cecil County, MD; 30 yrs old
88. Samuel Nicholas: Cecil County, MD; 19 yrs old
89. William Toney: Cecil County, MD; 25 yrs old

## **Appendix C**

### **Topics for Further Study**

- Businesses that employed African Americans post Civil War such as the Gilpin/King Brick Yard and “The Foundry” both in Elkton, the Susquehanna Canal, Rail Roads, and Quarries.
- Mutual Building Association
- Education in Cecil County post Civil War
- Benjamin Griffith (land owner, cooper, member school board for black schools in Cecil County, Maryland)
- Review, organization, and verification of Eva Muse research papers located in the Historical Society of Cecil County
- Review, organization, and verification of the unpublished manuscript: “History of Cecil County, Maryland” circa 1939 by J. Frank Holt. Located in the Historical Society of Cecil County.
- Elkton’s black neighborhood, north of High Street, west of Booth, south of Clinton, and east of Milburn Streets.