

CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH

The Official Newsletter of the General William Passmore Carlin - Camp No. 25
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume 3 Number 3

May 2005

Camp Member Participates in the "Last" Funeral of a Civil War Veteran

Members of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* from various Camps across the country gathered in Memphis, Missouri, to pay their respects and participate in the *Last Funeral of a Civil War Veteran* on May 28, 2005. This was a truly historic event, as it was the original burial (not a re-interment) of a Civil War Veteran !!

In 1920, *John Payton Byrne* (a former Corporal in Company J, 21st Missouri Infantry Regiment-USA) passed away in California. As per his last request he wished to be interned next to his two brothers (Harrison and Lucian Byrne) at the family plot in Missouri. Subsequently, he was cremated and his remains placed in a sealed urn in a storage mausoleum waiting for a family member to transport him to his final resting place.

That family member turned out to be a great-great-great-grandniece (Margaret Gordon) who "found" him while she was conducting family genealogy research - 84 years later !!!

Present during this solemn occasion (in addition to the SUVCW) were members of the *Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War*, *Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic*, the *Woman's Relief Corps*, the *Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States*, the *Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans*, the *Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States*, Sons of Confederate Veterans, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, several local Civil War re-enactor groups, family members, special guests, local dignitaries,

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Camp No. 25 Members Participate in Local Memorial Day Services

On May 30, 2005, several members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25, participated in the Memorial Day services at the Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City, Nevada.

Several military, civic and lineage societies were represented and over 200 spectators were estimated to be in attendance during this solemn, but very patriotic occasion.

Members of Camp No. 25 present during the Memorial Day services included - David Davis, Mike Curtis and Brian Worcester. They placed a

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Descendants of Civil War Union Veterans from around the country recently assembled in the City of Memphis, Missouri, to participate in and pay their respects, during the "Last Funeral of a Union Civil War Veteran" on May 28, 2005. This was a joint SUVCW-DUVCW event in association with the Sons and Daughters of Confederate Veterans and various other Civil War historical groups (pictured above, behind the US Flag, is the General William P. Carlin Camp flag carried by Camp Commander Gary Parrott).

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The **CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH** is the official newsletter of the *General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25, SUVCW-Department of California and the Pacific.*

It is published six times a year (January, March, May, July, September and November) by the authority of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)* and all material contained herein is the intellectual property of the same.

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The opinions expressed by the authors of *Letters to the Editor* or any story or news article are the personal views of the writer(s) and are not necessarily the opinion or policy of the SUVCW.

Material (photographs, letters to the editor, articles, etc.) for consideration for publication should be sent to Paul Washeleski, PCC, 1305 Wheeler Way, Gardnerville, Nevada, 89460 or Gary Parrott, Publisher and Editor, Post Office Box 1181, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546.

Any material sent for inclusion in the **CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH** may be edited for content by the newsletter staff.

Delivery problems and change of address should be directed to the *General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25.*

Local Services – cont.

wreath on the headstone of one of the Union Veterans in the GAR section of the Lone Mountain Cemetery.

Flags and beautiful floral bouquets could be seen adorning the graves and headstones of veterans throughout the historic cemetery.

The featured group for this year's event was the US Navy Sea Cadet's Color Guard commanded by Lt. Robert Bledsaw.



Camp Commander Gary Parrott (the flag bearer seen above) was the representative of the SUVCW Dept. of California and the Pacific at the funeral of the *Last Funeral of a Union Civil War* in Memphis, Missouri, on May 28, 2005.

Last Funeral – cont.

and members of the local media.

Also present during this “once in a lifetime event” was *Gary Parrott* (a member of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25). He and his wife – *Lori* (member of the Auxiliary of the SUVCW No. 52) drove over 1,800 miles (one way !) to attend this historic occasion.

At Memphis, Missouri, *Gary* was one of over 1,600 participants and spectators (many in period costumes and military uniforms) in the funeral procession which marched along a 1½ mile route from the Payne Funeral Chapel to the Memphis City Cemetery.

Along the route, on both sides of the street, were numerous spectators waving flags in memory of all US Veterans who served this country and, especially, to honor Corporal John P. Byrne.

The two day event began at noon on Friday, May 27, 2005, with a vigil and wake at the Payne Funeral Chapel. All throughout the afternoon were various musical, theatrical and educational programs. At 8:00 PM a eulogy

was conducted at the chapel.

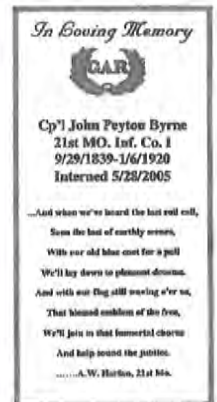
Saturday's agenda included visitation all morning and at noon a “closing of the coffin” ceremony. After which the pallbearers took charge and ceremoniously transported the coffin from the parlor to the horse drawn hearse, awaiting outside.

Shortly after 1:00 PM the funeral procession began its march along the 1 ½ mile route to the Memphis City Cemetery. It should be noted, the funeral procession was over a ½ mile long !!

Upon arrival at the cemetery, the graveside services commenced, officiated by Major Jack Grothe (Military Commander of the 4th District of the SVR), Department Commander Charles Funck (Department of Missouri – SUVCW), Sister Ozzie Thompson (President of the DUVCW) and Sister Twila Stevenson (President of the Charlotte Harrison Boone, Missouri, Tent No. 20 – DUVCW)

The graveside services included a “21 gun salute”, a cannon salute and “Taps” (performed by bugle and bagpipes).

Reportedly, all who attended this special ceremony were deeply moved by its somber nature and historic significances.



All participants of the *Last Funeral of a Union Civil War Veteran* in Memphis, Missouri, on May 28, 2005, received the above “keep-sakes”.

Upcoming Camp Events

- The next meeting of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp will be on June 26, 2005, at 2:00 PM at Camp No. 25 Headquarters (1305 Wheeler Way, Gardnerville, Nevada. All members and perspective members are encouraged to attend.

- Plans are being made for members of Camp No. 25 to participate in the Nevada Day Event (October 31, 2005) in Carson City.

- Plans are being made for members of Camp No. 25 to participate in the Veterans Day Services at the Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City.

For additional information contact Camp Commander Gary Parrott (760) 934-8013 or PCC/SVC Paul Washeleski (775) 265-2950 or via e-mail: paulww@charter.net

*For further information go to Web Page at: www.suvcw.org

GAR-Lone Mt. Cemetery



The above is a view of the main portion of the GAR Section of the Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City, Nevada, the "final resting place" of over 40 Union Civil War Veterans. The members of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25 are honored to have within its geographical territory this cemetery which contains the largest assemblage of Union Civil War Veterans in the State of Nevada (over 100 "Boys in Blue" are interned, in and around, what is now the Lone Mountain Cemetery District).

Final Muster for Relative of Camp Member

Francis Julia (Chatard) Lundy, mother-in-law of Gary Parrott (Commander of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25 – SUVCW) and mother of Lori Parrott (a member of the Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans No. 52), passed away on May 17, 2005, in Grand Junction, Colorado, after several months of declining health.

Fran was born on July 27, 1926, in Ogden, Utah, one of three daughters of Frank K. and Mary (Comer) Chatard. For the next 14 years she grew-up in Ogden until her family moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Upon her graduation from high school she entered the Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Spokane, Washington. During her time at the nursing school she began dating a pre-med student (Robert Lundy) who was attending nearby Gonzaga University. Upon graduation from nursing school she received her RN license and went to work at the County Hospital in Los Angeles, California.

Fran and Robert Lundy were married on June 6, 1949, in Spokane, Washington. Over the course of their marriage, they had resided in the states of New Mexico, Washington, California, Oregon, Nevada and Colorado.

Fran is survived by her husband, 8 children, 25 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, twin sister (Margaret Olney), younger sister (Mae Walker) and two sons (Paul and John Lundy).

Private Funeral services were held in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Highlights of April Meeting

On April 3, 2005, the General William P. Carlin Camp held its second meeting of the new year. The gathering was held at Camp No. 25 Headquarters (the home of PCC Paul Washeleski) in Gardnerville, Nevada.

Many items of interest were discussed during the course of the afternoon. In addition to the normal business items (the commander's report, the secretary-treasurer's report, various committee reports, the Graves Registration Project status report, etc.), a major portion of the meeting was devoted to making plans for this Memorial Day.

Also, time was devoted for discussion of the information obtained at the recently held – Annual Department Encampment. Representing Camp No. 25 at that meeting were Brothers Gary Parrott and Paul Washeleski.

Additionally, discussed were plans for other upcoming events (4th of July, Nevada Day, Veterans Day, etc.) and various recruitment ideas were discussed.

Presiding over the meeting was Camp Commander Gary Parrott, with assistance from Sr. Vice Commander (and Past Camp Commander) Paul Washeleski.

Other members present at the meeting were: Donald Guidici, David Davis and Brian Worcester. All others were excused for valid reasons.

With all business completed the meeting was adjourned after the setting of the date and time for the next Camp meeting (refer to *Upcoming Events* on Page 3).

After the close of the meeting, several members went on a "field trip" to a nearby "little known" cemetery to search for possible Civil War veterans buried there.

The Latest *SUVCW* National News

The S. U. V. C. W.

The *Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War* (SUVCW) was formed in 1881 as the potential successor to the *Grand Army of the Republic* (GAR). Its purpose was to ensure the continuance of the mission and goals started by the GAR. It was originally called: *The Sons of Union Veterans*. The name was changed in 1925 to further identify its heritage.

Prior to the disbanding of the GAR (when the last surviving members died), the SUVCW was officially designated the legal heir to the GAR on August 20, 1954.

Currently, the SUVCW is composed of 26 Departments (each contain Camps located within one of more states in a geographical region), 5 Camp-at-Large organizations (for the states of AZ, GA, NC, OR and WA) and a National Membership-at-Large organization (for those states which do not have Camp or Department status). Total membership is approximately 6,000 Brothers in good standing.

In addition, the SUVCW is associated with several Allied Orders. These include: *Sons of Veterans Reserve*, the *Auxiliary of the SUVCW*, *Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War*, *Woman's Relief Corps* and the *Ladies of the GAR*.

For additional information go to:

www.suvcw.org

Final Muster for "Real Son" of Union Veteran

On April 6, 2005, *George W. T. Clark*, a "Real Son" of a Union Veteran of the Civil War, passed away in the Town of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. He was 90 years old.

Brother George was the son of Edwin T. S. Clark (a seaman assigned to the *USS Maria A. Wood* during the Civil War) and was a member of the SUVCW - Daniel Chaplin Camp No. 3, Department of Maine.

The following is the latest information, announcements, Press Releases and General Orders from the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

Memorial Day 2005

On May 5th, 1868, Maj. Gen. John Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued General Order 11, designating May 30th for the purpose of strewing flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades, who died in defense of this country.

The Grand Army men treated Memorial Day with great reverence. First came a special sermon on the Sunday before Memorial Day. The GAR often attended church in uniform. On the day itself, the posts assembled and marched to the local cemetery to decorate the graves of the fallen. Finally, a simple and subdued graveyard service involving prayers, short patriotic speeches and music, perhaps a rifle salute. This was a time to contemplate loss and commune with the fallen.

The GAR denounced as unpatriotic any citizen or society taking part in or placing before the public games of baseball or any other games that would entice the public and detract from the proper observance of the day. The GAR also condemned holding picnics, excursions or other public entertainment on Memorial Day. The Grand Army maintained that the memory of our dead should encourage and strengthen in us all a more loyal patriotism. Every soldier's grave was an altar of patriotism.

How often have we as a society lost our focus and forgotten our obligation to recognize and reflect on the sacrifices of our servicemen and women because we were distracted?

Mary Logan expressed sadness and trepidation when she said, "It is the saddest thought I know, that so many of the old soldiers are gone. In the very nature of things, the younger men who have come in their places will not have their enthusiasm for this ceremony, unless the press and the pulpit use their influence to keep it alive."

137 years later, we gather to remember and honor the valor and sacrifice of our fallen soldiers. We offer our deepest thanks to those, who protected our freedoms of speech and worship...appreciation to those, who shielded us from fear and aggression...and gratitude to those who shattered the bonds of human slavery and made possible the introduction of human dignity.

This year, Memorial Day is celebrated on May 30th, as it was for over 100 years, prior to 1971. Let us use this occasion to return Memorial Day to the stature afforded Independence Day and Veterans Day. Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii has introduced Senate Bill 80, designating May 30th as Memorial Day. Please join us in supporting this effort by writing your Senators and Representatives.

On behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, legal heir to the Grand Army of the Republic, thank you for taking time to pause, reflect, and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this nation.

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2005 Annual National Encampment

The 124th Annual National Encampment of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* will be hosted by the Department of New Hampshire, at Nashua, New Hampshire, August 3 - 7, 2005.

* for additional information refer to the latest issue of *The Banner* or on-line at www.suvcw.org

Message From the Editor

Dear Brothers,

Our Camp was very busy during the Memorial Day Weekend 2005. Although we were not as "officially" involved as we were in 2004, members of our Camp participated in a wide variety of events – *near and far*.

Locally, several members of Camp No. 25 were present during the memorial services at the Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City, Nevada, on May 30th (a few words were spoken and a wreath was placed on the final resting place of a Union soldier in the GAR section of the cemetery).

I wish I could have been present however I had committed myself to another event (1,800 miles away !!).

My wife and I traveled to and participate in the *Last Funeral of a Civil War Veteran* in Memphis, Missouri (refer to the article on Page 1 and 2 for additional information) on May 28, 2005.

That was truly – "*a once in a lifetime event*" (this was not a re-internment but the original burial of a Civil War soldier !!).

Additionally, on the way back home, we had the opportunity to stop in Grand Junction, Colorado, on Memorial Day, where we were able to seek out the city's oldest cemetery and locate the final resting places of several Union Veterans and have an informal memorial service.

It is good to know that, we, the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* are maintaining the traditions started by our ancestors over 137 years ago !!

I wonder if General John A. Logan fully realized what he had started in 1868 (when he issued GAR Order No. 11) what it would grow into and how long it would continue !!!

Let us (as members of a veteran's organization and as citizens of this great nation) never forget the courage, conviction and sacrifice of those "*Boys in Blue*" !!

F, C & L,

Gary E. Parrott

Publisher and Editor

The following is the latest information from the SUVCW – Department of California and the Pacific:

Department Officers 2005 - 2006

- | | |
|--|--|
| Commander
- <i>Tad D. Campbell</i> (Gilroy, CA) | Senior Vice-Commander
- <i>Jerry R. Sayre</i> (Fallbrook, CA) |
| Junior Vice-Commander
- <i>Gary E. Parrott</i> (Mammoth Lakes, CA) | Secretary-Treasurer (term expires 2007)
- <i>J. Thomas Smith</i> (Elk Grove, CA) |
| Department Council
- <i>D. Brad Schall</i> , PDC (Lincoln, CA)
Chairman (term expires 2006) | <i>Alan E. Peterson</i> , PDC (Las Vegas, NV)
Member (term expires 2005) |
| - <i>Glen L. Roosevelt</i> (Anaheim Hills, CA)
Member (term expires 2007) | |
| Patriotic Instructor
- <i>William Tisch</i> (Santee, CA) | Chaplin
- <i>Ernest L. Powell</i> (Fallbrook, CA) |
| Historian
- <i>Robert L. Nelson</i> (Santa Cruz, CA) | Counselor
- <i>Daniel R. Earl</i> (Gilroy, CA) |
| Guide
- <i>Paul Washeleski</i> (Gardnerville, NV) | Guard
- <i>John P. Patchin</i> (Los Molinos, CA) |
| Color Bearer
- <i>Charlie Mabie</i> (Newark, CA) | Graves Registration Officer
- <i>Bob Lowe</i> , PDC (El Cajon, CA) |
| Civil War Memorials Officer
- <i>Kirby R. Morgan</i> (Coarsegold, CA) | Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator
- <i>Al Peterson</i> , PDC (Las Vegas, NV) |
| Grand Army of the Republic Highway Officer
- <i>Gary E. Parrott</i> (Mammoth Lakes, CA) | Signals Officer
- <i>Tad D. Campbell</i> , (Gilroy, CA) |
| Department Newsletter (<i>The California Column</i>) Editor
- <i>Daniel R. Earl</i> (Gilroy, CA) | |

Department Orders Series 2005 – 2006

Department Orders No. 2

Tad D. Campbell
Department Commander

ASSISTANT TREASURER

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, by the Department Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Brother Daniel R. Earl, of Camp 4, is appointed Assistant Department Treasurer for the Department of California and Pacific.

The foregoing Department Order is proclaimed this 12th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-ninth, in the City of San Luis Obispo, County of San Luis Obispo, State of California by the Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of: /s/ Tad D. Campbell
Department Commander
Department of California and the Pacific

ATTEST:
By: /s/ Jerry R. Sayre
Department Senior Vice Commander
Department of California and Pacific

Another Civil War Moment

General William P. Carlin Camp No. 25 Northern Nevada

Organized in December 2002 and officially chartered by the SUVCW – Department of California and the Pacific on August 23, 2003.

The SUVCW is a tax exempt organization pursuant to the provisions of Section 501c (4), Internal Revenue Code and all donations are fully tax deductible as permitted by the US Internal Revenue Service (Section 170, Internal Revenue Code).

The current officers and staff of Camp No. 25 are:

Commander – Gary E. Parrott
Sr. Vice Comdr – Paul Washeleski
Jr. Vice Comdr – Frank Wood, Jr.
Secretary – Brian Worcester
Treasurer – Brian Worcester
Camp Council: Michael Curtis
David Davis
Donald Guidici
Patriotic Instructor – Brian Worcester
Chaplain – Donald Guidici
Guide – Curtis A. Thomas
Guard – Curtis A. Thomas
Historian – David A. Davis
Counselor – Gary Parrott
Graves Reg. Officer – Gary Parrott
Civil War Mem. Ofc. – David Davis
Color Bearer – Jerry Griffith
Signals Officer – Donald Huffman

Civil War Letters



The above is a copy of an original Civil War letter written by a Union soldier in 1863 (from the private collection of the Editor).

Stephen P. Cary was one of the thousands of loyal Americans that responded to the call from President Abraham Lincoln in August of 1862 to defend the Union against the Rebel threat.

Subsequently, on August 28, 1862, *Stephen* enlisted in Company K, 14th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment, at the age of 29. Upon completion of its organization and training it was attached to the 2nd Brigade of General Silas Casey's Division of the Military District of Washington.

The following letter was sent by *Stephen* to his wife (Elizabeth) in March of 1863 (it should be noted: he could not read or write, so he had a friend - Luke B. Gray, also a member of Company K, actually write the letter).

Virginia

March 14th /63

Camp near Fairfax Station

My Dear, but absent wife, I now take this opportunity to write you a few lines just to let you know that I am well and I hope these few lines will find you the same.

My business now is standing guard at a house. I have been there about 5 weeks. I have a good easy time of it. There is nobody there but an old widow lady and her son.

My box came safe and I thank you for it. Yesterday & today, we are digging rifle pits.

The news came yesterday that Stonewall Jackson has crossed the Rappahannock with 40,000 men and we calculate to give him a warm reception when he comes.

The measles are in our camp. One boy in Co. C died this morning. It is cold windy weather we have very sudden changes here - one day warm and the next, cold & stormy.

There is no news here of any importance so I will close yours with much love & respect.

Stephen Cary

(by L. B. Gray, Co. K)

The above letter contains several Civil War references, which include the following:

- the 14th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment was camped near Fairfax Station, Virginia, from December 29, 1862 to March 24, 1863, during which, reportedly, they spent most of their time "digging rifle pits";
- the "house" is believed to be a reference to the main living quarters situated on the *Blenheim Estate* (which was occupied by Union forces between 1862 and 1863 near Fairfax Station, Virginia);
- the "widow and her son" is believed to be a reference to Margaret Willcoxon Farr (the widow of Colonel Richard Ratcliffe Farr) and Richard R. Farr, Jr. (the youngest son of the widow who stayed, at home, during the first half of the War);
- the anticipated Spring offensive by the Confederate forces commanded by General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson that had been "wintering" at Guinea Station, Virginia (south of the Rappahannock River); and,
- Private George Damon of Company C, 14th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment, reportedly died of disease on March 14, 1863.

Our Civil War Ancestors

Department of Calif. & Pacific

The *Department of California and the Pacific - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* (SUVCW) was organized in February 1886. Its territory includes the states of California, Nevada and Hawaii.

To date, the Department is composed of 14 Camps. The oldest of which is the General Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 (San Jose, California). It was formed on December 4, 1897.

The Department held its Annual Encampments concurrently with the GAR – *Department of California and Nevada* between 1886 and 1949 (while there were still Union Veterans living in California).

From 1950 to the present, the Department has held its Annual Encampment with one or more of the Allied Orders of the SUVCW.

*For additional information go to
Web Page at: www.suvcw.org



Cpl. B. K. Curtis – USA

The above is a photograph of Corporal Benjamin K. Curtis (the Civil War ancestor of Camp No. 25 member – Mike Curtis). Corporal Curtis was a member of Company B, 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment – USA, from August 1862 to June 1865 (from the private collection of Mike Curtis).

Benjamin Kingman Curtis (a Civil War ancestor of Camp No. 25 member – Mike Curtis) heeded the call from President Lincoln “to preserve the Union” and enlisted in Company B, 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment on August 14, 1862 (at the age of 34 !!).

Upon successful completion of its organization and training, the regiment left the state, en route to Washington, D.C. Subsequently, it was assigned to the Military District of Washington (in the 22nd Army Corps), where it performed guard and picket duty until June 1863. Then it was attached to the Army of the Potomac where it would remain for the majority of the War.

Once reassigned from the Defenses of Washington, the 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment would see and participate in some of the fiercest fighting, the bloodiest battles and longest campaigns of the Civil War.

On May 11, 1864, at Yellow Tavern, Virginia, the 5th encountered a Confederate Cavalry force commanded by General J. E. B. Stuart. During the ensuing battle a member of the 5th (Private John A. Huff) shot and killed General Stuart (reportedly, at a distance of over 400 yards !!).

On October 9, 1864, at Tom’s Brook, Virginia, the 5th was part of the Michigan Brigade under the command of General George Armstrong Custer. During an engagement against a superior Confederate force General Custer ordered a “dismounted charge” which resulted in a major Union victory (one of the many in General Custer’s extraordinary military career !!).

At the end of the War, *Benjamin*, mustered out with the remaining soldiers of the 5th Michigan Cavalry Regiment at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, (on June 23, 1865) after a long and distinguished tour of duty.

*Major battles or actions: *Hanover*, Pennsylvania (June 30, 1863), *Gettysburg*, Pennsylvania (July 1-3, 1863), *Williamsport*, Maryland (July 6 - 8, 1863), *Falling Waters*, West Virginia (July 14, 1863), *Mine Run Campaign*, Virginia (November 26 – December 2, 1863), *The Wilderness*, Virginia (May 6-7, 1864), *Cold Harbor*, Virginia (May 31 – June 1, 1864), *Deep Bottom*, Virginia (July 27-28, 1864), *Battle of Opequan Creek*, Virginia (September 19, 1864), *Battle of Fisher’s Hill*, Virginia (September 21 - 22, 1864), *Battle of Cedar Creek*, Virginia (October 19, 1864), *Dimwiddie Court House*, Virginia (March 30 – 31, 1865), *Saylor’s Creek*, Virginia (April 6, 1865), and *Appomattox*, Virginia (April 8 – 9, 1865).

*note: it should be noted that the 5th Michigan Cavalry was one of the first regiments to be issued Spenser Repeating Rifles.

Benjamin K. Curtis was born January 12, 1828, in Prairie Round, Genesee County, New York. Sometime prior to 1850, he moved to St. Joseph County, Michigan, where he was a laborer on the Shoemaker Farm.

On May 21, 1851, he married longtime girlfriend and neighbor, Sarah L. Card, in the Town of Park, Michigan. Over the next 40 years years they would raised 10 children.

Shortly after the start of the Civil War, *Benjamin*, joined the Union Army and enlisted in a newly forming “mounted rifle regiment” in Detroit, Michigan.

After the War, *Benjamin* returned home and resumed the life of a farmer and family man. Sometime around 1885, he sold the farm and moved the family to Logan, Utah, where they resided for several years.

In 1891 Sarah passed away in Logan, Utah. Soon thereafter, he moved to Preston, Idaho, where he lived with his youngest son (DeWilton Emory Curtis) for the next 10 years.

On December 13, 1902, *Benjamin Kingman Curtis* (at the age of 74) passed away in the Town of Preston, Oneida County, Idaho.

Membership Information

Membership in the national society of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* is open to all male descendants (direct or collateral), 14 years and older who:

- are a relative of a soldier, sailor, marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service;
- who was regularly mustered and honorably served in, was honorably discharged from, or died in the service of the United States of America or in a State regiment called to active service between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865.

* For further membership information go to the SUVCW Web Page at:

www.suvcw.org



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Gen. William P. Carlin Camp No. 25
1305 Wheeler Way
Gardnerville NV 89460



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Reno, NV 89506

