

OCCGS Civil War Veterans Project

Veteran's Information

Veteran's Name: William Newton NELSON

Birth Date: 27 April 1847

Location: Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Death Date: 27 April 1917

Location: Santa Ana, Orange County, California⁵

Buried at: Fairhaven Memorial Park

Plot Location: S-67-3

GPS Coordinates: N33° 46' 14.36204" W117° 50' 30.12560"

(DMS) Datum: NAD83. Coordinates are +/- 1.00 feet of the grave location



Side Served: Union

First Enlistment

Rank: Corporal

Company: K

Unit: 18th Cavalry Regiment

State: Pennsylvania

Consolidated Into

Rank: Corporal

Company: H

Unit: 3rd Provisional Cavalry Regiment

State: Pennsylvania

Occupation: Miller

Family Information

Parents –

Father: John Nelson

Birth Date/Location: 9 June 1821, Spring Mills, Centre County, Pennsylvania

Death Date/Location: 5 September 1904, near Cessna, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Mother: Elizabeth Hefner

Birth Date/Location: 10 July 1826, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Death Date/Location: 20 February 1851, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Spouse: Elizabeth H.

Birth Date/Location: 5 February 1848, Pennsylvania

Death Date/Location: 12 September 1935, California

Marriage Date/Location: 1873, Unknown

Children –**Name: John E. Nelson**

Birth Date/Location: 1873, Pennsylvania

Death Date/Location: 9 September 1937, Santa Ana, Orange County, California

Name: Harry Raymond Nelson

Birth Date/Location: 24 August 1879, Shellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Death Date/Location: 1957, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Additional Information

Member of Sedgwick Post No 17, GAR

Co K, 18th Cavalry Regiment – Enlisted 20 October 1862 (at age 15) at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, transferred out 24 June 1865. Transferred in 24 June 1865 when the 18th and 22nd Cavalry Regiments were consolidated, mustered out 31 October 1865. Fought under Custer for a short period.

Civil War Pension Index

Corpl Co K, 18th PA Cav, Co K 3rd PA Prov CAV

William N. Nelson, invalid, 3 October 1877

Elizabeth Nelson, widow, 9 May 1917

Died 27 April 1917

William's farther, John Nelson enlisted in the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company K, as a 1st Lieutenant. While stationed at Fairfax Court House, in February, 1863, they were attacked by Moseby's guerillas, and John Nelson received a serious wound in the shoulder and a more serious one in the right leg, necessitating its amputation. He was elected associated judge of Bedford county in 1878 and served for one term

William's son Harry R was vice-president of the Warner Klipstein Company

Photograph of headstone for William N Nelson, Fairhaven Memorial Park, Orange County, California taken by Charles Lewis Beal, 3/12/2007. Used with the permission of Charles Beal.

Sources

"Pioneers in Blue and Gray", Civil War Veterans in Orange County by Gordon Bricken, First Edition, The Bricken Press, Santa Ana, California, Copyright 2009

Orange County California Genealogy Society Quarterly Journal, XVIII, #2, June 1981 – Roll of Honor for the Sedgwick Post No 17 GAR

National Archives and Records Administration. *U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000
Historical Data Systems, comp., *American Civil War Soldiers* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999

Obituary for William N Nelson Bedford Gazette (Bedford, Pennsylvania) May 18, 1917 - NewspaperArchives.com

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Porter, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania; Roll M432_784, Page 37B, Family 136, Record for Newton Nelson

1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

- Bedford, Bedford County, Pennsylvania; Roll M653_1072, Page 36, Family 251, Record for William Nelson

1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

- St Clair, Bedford County, Pennsylvania; Roll M593_1304, Page 670A, Family 176, Record for William Nelson

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Napier, Bedford County, Pennsylvania; Roll T9_1098, Page 269A, ED: 231, Family 70, Record for William Nelson

United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls

- Saxton, Bedford County, Pennsylvania; Roll T623_1376; Page 22A, ED: 0020, Family 451, Record for William Nelson

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Santa Ana Ward 2, Orange County, California; Roll T624_90, Page 8A ED: 0056, Family 185, Record for William H Nelson

United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

- Santa Ana, Orange County, California; Roll T626_18,; Page 8A, ED: 74, Record for John E Nelson

Findagrave.com, searchable database of cemeteries with tombstone inscriptions, memorials and photographs

- Memorial 8722370, Created by Shiver, Record for William N Nelson
- Memorial 59032141, Created by Tony & Cindy Lloyd, Record for Elizabeth Nelson
- Memorial 59032158, Created by Tony & Cindy Lloyd, Record for John E. Nelson
- Memorial 9050449, Created by P S Barlow, Record for Harry R Nelson
- Memorial 13265073, Created by Kat, Record for Lieut John Nelson
- Memorial 89565957, Created by Ancestry-Detective, Record for Elizabeth Nelson

United States, Selective Service System. *Selective Service Registration Cards, World War II: Fourth Registration*. Records of the Selective Service System, Record Group Number 147. National Archives and Records Administration.

- Record for Harry Raymond Nelson, Union County, New Jersey

California, Death Index, 1905-1939. California Department of Health and Welfare. California Vital Records

- Record for John E Nelson