

# OCCGS Civil War Veterans Project

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## Veteran's Information

**Veteran's Name:** Thomas Spafford BUTLER

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**Birth Date:** 2 October 1840

Location: Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

**Death Date:** 9 July 1905

Location: Santa Ana, Orange County, California

Buried at (Cemetery): Santa Ana Masonic Z

Plot Location: Masonic Z (21, 3, 2)

GPS Coordinates: N33° 46' 10.57238" W117° 50' 26.52731"

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



**Side Served:** Union

Rank: Private

Company: G and C

Unit: 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry and 2<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Cavalry

State: Michigan

**Occupation:** Farmer

## Family Information

**Parents –**

**Father: Chancey Butler**

Birth Date/Location: 3 October 1793, Pompey, Onondaga County, New York

Death Date/Location: 30 August 1858, Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

**Mother: Aurelia Baldwin**

Birth Date/Location: 1 June 1798, Goshen, Litchfield County, Connecticut

Death Date/Location: 18 January 1847, Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

**Spouse: Sarah H. Thompson**

Birth Date / Location: March 1834, New York

Death Date/Location: After August 1905, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: 31 March 1867, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

**Children –**

**Name: Eleanor A. Butler**

Birth Date / Location: 24 September 1869, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska

Death Date / Location: After 1880, Unknown

## Additional Information

### Member of Sedgwick Post No 17, GAR

### Michigan Civil War Volunteer Registries 3rd Michigan Infantry

Thomas S. Butler, age 20, of Ingham County enlisted in company G, Third Infantry, May 10, 1861, at Grand Rapids, for a period of 3 years.

Mustered Out - June 10, 1861.

Discharged for disability on May, 1862.

### Civil War Draft Registration

Thomas S. Butler living in Lansing, Michigan, age 22, single and born in Michigan. His previous military service was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Michigan Infantry.

### Civil War Pension

G Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Michigan Infantry.

Thomas S. Butler, invalid, 15 September 1879

Sarah Butler, widow, 7 August 1905, California

### Michigan, Marriages, 1822-1995

Thomas S. Butler, born 1839, age 28, married Sarah H. Thompson, born 1839, age: 28, on 31 Mar 1867 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan

## Sources

MEN OF THE 3RD MICHIGAN INFANTRY THE LIFE STORIES OF THE 1,411 SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN THE 3RD MICHIGAN INFANTRY BETWEEN APRIL OF 1861 AND JUNE OF 1864

Website: <http://thirdmichigan.blogspot.com/2008/01/thomas-spafford-butler.html>

Civil War Veterans – Orange County, California submitted by Gordon Bricken, searchable database, <http://www.cagenweb.com/orange/civilwarvets.htm>

National Park Service, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, searchable data base on-line  
<<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>> Film Number M545 roll 6

Historical Data Systems, U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2009 (Accessed 10 April 2012)

Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Individual Records, Published under the Supervision and Direction of Coleman C. Vaughan, Secretary of State, Lansing, Michigan, 1915; Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co., State Printers, 1915

Ancestry.com. *U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010

“Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1900,” digital images, Fold3.com (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed [date image viewed]); [soldier’s name (company, regiment)] index card; imaged from Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1900, T289 (Washington, D.C.; National Archives [n.d.]), roll number found in Image Information].

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.

- East Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan; Roll M432\_349, Page 127B, Family 674, Line 39, Thomas living with Abel Demham

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

- Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan; Roll M653\_545, Page 87, Family 672, Record for Thos. S. Butler

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

- Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska; Roll M593\_829, Page 445B, Family 21, Record for Thos Butler,

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.

- Grant, Franklin County, Nebraska; Roll T9\_748, Page 593, Family 91, Record for Thomas S. Butler

Ancestry.com. Nebraska State Census Collection, 1860-1885 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009

- 1885 Nebraska State Census: Franklin County, Nebraska, Thomas Butler

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.

- Santa Ana, Orange County, California, page 17, Thomas S. Butler

"Michigan, Marriages, 1822-1995," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/FCCN-HXT> : accessed 4 April 2012), Thomas S. Butler(1867).

"California, Great Registers, 1866-1910," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VNN4-B4T> : accessed 4 April 2012), Thomas S Butler (1892).

"California, Great Registers, 1866-1910," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VNNH-4GJ> : accessed 4 April 2012), Thomas S Butler (1896).

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

- Memorial 8721916, Created by Shiver, Record for Thomas Butler
- Memorial 86648481, Created by Sandra Moore, Record for Aurelia *Baldwin* Butler
- Memorial 86648494, Created by Sandra Moore, Record for Chancey Butler

## Footnotes

**1** Photograph of tombstone for Thomas S. Butler, Santa Ana Cemetery, Orange County, California taken by Charles Lewis Beal, 2/21/2007. Retrieved 14 February 2013, from Findagrave.com. Used with the permission of Charles Beal.

## Comments

### **MEN OF THE 3RD MICHIGAN INFANTRY THE LIFE STORIES OF THE 1,411 SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN THE 3RD MICHIGAN INFANTRY BETWEEN APRIL OF 1861 AND JUNE OF 1864**

Thomas Spafford Butler was born October 2, 1840, in Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan, the son of Chancey (1793-1858) and Aurelia (Baldwin, 1798-1847). His parents, Chancey and Aurelia, were married in May of 1815 in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.

When the Civil War broke out Thomas Butler joined the "Williams' Rifles" of Lansing, a local militia company that would serve as the nucleus for Company G of the Third Michigan infantry.

On September 4, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, Second Regiment, Veteran's Reserve Corps (VRC), at Jackson, Mississippi, and was honorably discharged from the VRC on November 11, 1865.

After the war he was living in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, where he married Omaha native Sarah H. Thompson on March 31, 1867; they had at least one child a daughter Eleanor.

In 1879 he applied for and received pension, and his widow was living in California in August of 1905 when she applied for and received a pension.