

## Nana Handlin Leichliter's Family

This is a history of Grandmother Leichliter's family. Since her father, grandfather, and uncle were in the Civil War there is a great deal of information about this aspect.

If you ever wondered where the red hair in our family came from read on. The most recent redhead is Kitty, but Edith and her mother Nana were redheads as well. It's not a Leichliter trait, rather it came from Nana's family, the Handlin's. A majority of Handlins immigrated to the U.S. from Scotland and Ireland, and a few from other western European countries. So, please feel free to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, but with a definite protestant, not Roman Catholic, flare.

The *Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Fayette County, Pennsylvania*<sup>1</sup> includes an entry for our Handlin's on page 178. It follows in full:

**WILLIAM HANDLIN was born December 28, 1844, in North Union township, Fayette county, Penna. His father, Daniel Handlin, was born near Hopwood, Fayette county, Penna, in 1814. His wife (Daniel Handlin's), Nancy White, was a daughter of John White of Fayette county.**

**To them were born five children: Jacob Handlin, Sarah H Handlin, Elizabeth H Handlin, John Handlin and William Handlin. The father and two sons were soldiers in the Civil War; although the father, Daniel Handlin, could have been exempted from duty on account of his age. He enlisted in 1862 in the One Hundred and Fortieth Pennsylvania Regiment and was mustered out in April, 1864. William Handlin enlisted in 1864 as a private in the Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry under Captain Harrison's command, and J M Schoonmaker as his colonel. He joined the regiment at Martinsburg, was in the battle of Wythville Gap, and after the Union forces were defeated at Lynchburg, Mr Handlin was transferred to General Sherman's command, and was with that renowned commander at Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek. He was promoted to corporal and honorably discharged from the service November 22, 1865.**

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<sup>1</sup> Compiled and Published by John M. Gresham & Co. Chicago: 1889. Editorially managed by John M. Gresham, assisted in the compilation by Samuel T. Wiley, A Citizen of the County. Available on line at <http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/fayette/gresham.htm> (Accessed 6/8/2015)

**He was a brave soldiers as was also his brother Jacob Handlin, the latter taken prisoner by the Confederates at New River and confined in Andersonville prison, and died while incarcerated there. Daniel Handlin is still living and in good health at seventy five years of age. Anthony Handlin is the father of Daniel Handlin. His wife's maiden name was Nancy Hunt.**

**William Handlin was married June 11, 1877, to Susan Castell, daughter of James Castell of North Union township. To this union have been born six children: Louis Handlin, Henry Handlin, Jennie Handlin, Nannie Handlin, Nellie Handlin and Bessie Handlin.**

**He was educated in the common schools of the county. Leaving school he learned the trade of stone mason under James Hanan of North Union, and with whom he has been in business ever since, for the last fourteen years as partner. He is a democrat and a member of the M P church, and is a class leader.**

**He takes an active interest in educational affairs, believing the way to get good teachers is to pay good wages. He is one of the school directors of his township.**

You'll note that our grandmother Nana, is named Nannie, in this biographical sketch. This most likely was what her father called her. It is also her name in the newspaper wedding announcement of her marriage to Braden. As an aside, Edith's son, William Leichter Hoover, was believed by Nana to have been named after her father. He would be proud to be so, but Edith indicated that this connection was an after-thought.

#### Daniel Handlin's Civil War Record<sup>2</sup>

Service records are a major source of background information for ancestor not otherwise included in published documents. Especially when family records have been lost. Several of the military documents include a physical description of Daniel Handlin, as follows - He was five feet ten inches in height, dark complexion, blue eyes, and dark hair. His employment was entered as a laborer. A furlough certificate lists his hair color as sandy. These service documents were hastily

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<sup>2</sup> Compiled from his military records in the National Archives, and published histories of the 140<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry

prepared and of course hand written. At age 48 when he enlisted, it's likely that his red hair had turned sandy in color.

Voluntary Civil War military units were established under the authority of the governors of the states in which they were formed after authorization by the Secretary of War. The process generally started by a leading citizen of a community volunteering to recruit and lead a unit. In many cases these men did so for political reasons, not based on their military experience. The first civil war soldiers' enlistments were for three months, but President Lincoln soon realized that the war was not going to be over quickly. On May 3, 1861 he called upon the states to recruit additional units for 3 years or the end of the war. The First Battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, made it clear to all that this was not going to be the "party" most expected, but a real war. The enlistment legislation that most likely influenced Daniel's decision to do so was the Militia Draft Act of July, 1862. It merely tried to coordinate the procedures used by the states to recruit soldiers. It also provided a federal bounty of \$100 in addition to state bounties. Daniel received a \$25 bounty when he enlisted on August 17, 1862 in Uniontown. This would have been the "down payment" with the rest paid out over the term of service. The unit he joined was recruited primarily from Washington County.

Daniel Handlin enlisted when the 140<sup>th</sup> was formed. The unit remained in action throughout the war, ending its distinguished service at Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, and the grand parade in Washington, D.C. Daniel's active duty with the 140<sup>th</sup> ended August 12, 1864. This means he participated in all the major battles in the Eastern Theater except the final days of the Petersburg Campaign and surrender of Richmond. The casualty rate for the 140<sup>th</sup> was among the highest of all units in the war. The 326 men lost from the 140<sup>th</sup> Regiment included 10 Officers and 188 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded, and 1 Officer and 127 Enlisted men dying from diseases. Daniel's Co. E included 101 men, all mustering in when the unit was formed, i.e. no replacements assigned to it during the war. Of this total 28 percent survived the war and mustered out with the company. Eleven percent were killed in action. Only three men deserted, although several were not present at mustering out. Thirty percent were discharged during the war, most because of wounds or diseases. Fifteen percent died in service from something other than wounds. Two members of the company were captured and died in captivity.

Daniel did not die, but was incapacitated by intestinal problems, primarily chronic diarrhea. The Civil War Society's *Encyclopedia of the Civil War* reports that "About half of the deaths from disease during the Civil War were caused by intestinal disorders, mainly typhoid fever, diarrhea, and dysentery." This was due to the almost total lack of sanitary conditions in army camps. The series of hospitals he rotated through is listed in the Service Timeline below. He was assigned to Company C, 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment Vet. Res. Corps at the Wisewell Barracks (hospital): 7th and O Streets, NW, running to P and Q Streets, Washington, D.C. He was granted a furlough from Nov. 5, 1864 to November 20, 1864. He did not return to his unit at the end of the furlough and was listed as a deserter. While at home he obtained an official determination of disability from Dr. R. M. Walker in testimony in the court of Common Pleas, Fayette County, Pennsylvania on February 11, 1865. Daniel eventually rejoined his unit and was granted a disability discharge June 27, 1865 in Washington, DC.

### Service Timeline

The flowing is based on the history of the 140<sup>th</sup> and Daniel's service record. The bimonthly Company Muster Rolls included in Daniel's military record indicate when he was on active duty in Co. E, 140<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry, and his locations while on disability assignment to a reserve unit for those unfit to be with their field unit. Considering his age, the number of marches and battles he was in, and the unsanitary conditions of camps, we, his descendants, can be proud of his service. If you visit the Gettysburg National Park, be certain to see the two memorial monuments for the 140<sup>th</sup> and look for his name.

August 17, 1862 – Enlisted for 2-year service at the age of forty-eight in Uniontown, Pa.  
Sep.4, 1862 - Company Muster-in Roll, Pittsburg, Pa. shows period of service as "duration war."  
Bounty paid was \$25.00 and \$2 bonus. He was a private in Capt. Gregg's Co., 140<sup>th</sup> Reg't. Pa. Vol. Inf.

September 8, 1862 – Unit organized at Pittsburg, immediately reported to Camp Curtin, Harrisburg

September 9, 1862 - Ordered to Parktown, Md., for duty guarding Northern Central Railroad till December.

August 22 to June 1864 – Muster rolls show him present for duty as a private, Co. E, 140 Reg't Pennsylvania Inf.

December 15, 1862 - Ordered to Join Army of the Potomac in the field, and reached Aquia Creek on this date

Duty near Falmouth, Va., till April, 1863.

April 27 to May 6, 1863 - Chancellorsville Campaign

May 1 to 5, 1863 - Battle of Chancellorsville

June 11-July 24, 1863 - Gettysburg (Pa.) Campaign

July 1-3 - Battle of Gettysburg

Pursuit of Lee July 5-24.

September 13-17 - Advance from the Rappahannock to the Rapidan

October 9-22 - Bristoe Campaign

October 14, 1863 - Auburn and Bristoe October 14

November 7-8 - Advance to line of the Rappahannock.

November 26-December 2 - Mine Run Campaign  
Pennsylvania Inf.

February 6-7, 1864 - Demonstration on the Rapidan

June 1-12 - Cold Harbor

At Stevensburg till May.

May 4-June 12 - Rapidan Campaign

May 5-7 - Battles of the Wilderness

May 8 - Corbin's Bridge

May 8-12 - Spottsylvania

May 10 - Po River

May 12-21 - Spottsylvania Court House

May 12 - "Bloody Angle," assault on the Salient

May 23-26 - North Anna River

May 26-28 - On line of the Pamunkey

May 28-31 - Totopotomoy

July and August, 1864 – Absent from duty, Company Muster Roll, Co. E, 140 Reg't Pennsylvania Inf.

August 12, 1864 – sent to General Hospital

August 13, 1864 – Entered Depot Field Hospital, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army Corps, City Point, Va. with remittent fever.

August 26, 1864 – Entered Harewood General Hospital (on Corcoran Farm on 7<sup>th</sup> Street Road near Soldiers' Home), Washington, D.C. with "prostration" (extreme weakness).

September and October, 1864 - Company Muster Roll, Co. E, 140 Reg't Pennsylvania Inf.

Transferred to Vet. Reserve Corps

September 3, 1864 – Entered Mower General Hospital, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa. with chronic diarrhea.



Mower Hospital, 1863 lithograph ( [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mower General Hospital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mower_General_Hospital) accessed 6/8/2015)

October 6, 1864 – Transferred to Co. C, 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment Vet. Res. Corps. Muster and Descriptive Roll, 1 Batt. Troops, VRC

Nov. 5, 1864 to November 20, 1864 – On furlough.

November 20, 1864 – Didn't return from furlough, classified as a deserter.

November and December, 1864 – Company Muster Roll, Private, Co. C, 24<sup>th</sup> Reg't Vetern Res. Corps. Deserted Nov. 20, 1864

December 1, 1864 – Descriptive List of Deserters, Wisewell or Wiswell Bldg., Washington, D.C.

January 9, 1865 – Transferred to V. R. C. by order of War Dept.

April 2, 1865 – Descriptive List of Deserters, Wisewell Bldg., Washington, (gives background of enlistment) and noted return to duty.

March 17, 1865 – Joined Co. from desertion

March and April, 1865 – Present, Co. C, 24<sup>th</sup> Reg't Veteran Res. Corps

May 31, 1865 - Company Muster-out Roll, Co. E, 140 Reg't Pennsylvania Inf., near Alexandria, Va. Transferred to V.R.C. January 9, 1865 by order of War Dept.

These are the locations of the 140<sup>th</sup> after Daniel's disability discharge:

Before Petersburg June 16-18.

Siege of Petersburg June 16, 1864, to April 2, 1865.

Jerusalem Plank Road June 22-23, 1864.

Demonstration north of James River July 27-29.

Deep Bottom July 27-28. Mine Explosion, Petersburg, July 30 (Reserve).

Demonstration north of James River at Deep Bottom August 13-20.

Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, August 14-18. Ream's Station August 25.

Reconnaissance to Hatcher's Run December 9-10.  
Hatcher's Run December 9.  
Dabney's Mills, Hatcher's Run, February 5-7, 1865.  
Watkins' House March 25.  
Appomattox Campaign March 28-April 9.  
Skirmishes on line of Hatcher's and Gravelly Runs March 29-30. Boydton Road and White Oak Road or Hatcher's Run March 31.  
Sutherland Station April 2.  
Fall of Petersburg April 2.  
Flat Creek, near Amelia Court House, April 5.  
Sailor's Creek April 6.  
High Bridge, Farmville, April 7.  
Appomattox Court House April 9.  
Surrender of Lee and his army.  
March to Washington, D. C, May 2-12.  
Grand Review May 24. Mustered out May 31, 1865.

*The Civil War Archives, Union Regimental Histories, Pennsylvania*  
<http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unreght/unpainf6.htm#140th> (accessed 6/8/15) provides additional details of the unit's service.

### **140th Regiment Infantry**

**Organized at Pittsburg and Harrisburg and mustered in September 8, 1862. Ordered to Parktown, Md., September 9, and duty guarding Northern Central Railroad until December. Attached to 8th Corps, Middle Department, to December, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, 2nd Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to September, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 2nd Army Corps, to May, 1865.**

**SERVICE.--Ordered to Join Army of the Potomac in the field, and reached Aquia Creek December 15, 1862. Duty near Falmouth, Va., until April, 1863. Chancellorsville Campaign April 27-May 6. Battle of Chancellorsville May 1-5. Gettysburg (Pa.) Campaign June 11-July 24. Battle of Gettysburg July 1-3. Pursuit of Lee July 5-24. Advance from the Rappahannock to the Rapidan September 13-17. Bristoe Campaign October 9-22. Auburn and Bristoe October 14. Advance to line of the Rappahannock November 7-8. Mine Run Campaign November 26-December 2. Demonstration on the Rapidan February 6-7, 1864. At Stevensburg until May. Rapidan Campaign May 4-June 12. Battles of the Wilderness May 5-7; Corbin's Bridge May 8; Spottsylvania May 8-12; Po River May 10; Spottsylvania Court House May 12-21. "Bloody Angie," assault on the Salient, May 12. North Anna River May 23-26. On line of the Pamunkey May 26-28. Totopotomoy May 28-31. Cold Harbor June 1-12. Before**

**Petersburg June 16-18. Siege of Petersburg June 16, 1864, to April 2, 1865. Jerusalem Plank Road June 22-23, 1864. Demonstration north of James River July 27-29. Deep Bottom July 27-28. Mine Explosion, Petersburg, July 30 (Reserve). Demonstration north of James River at Deep Bottom August 13-20. Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, August 14-18. Ream's Station August 25. Reconnaissance to Hatcher's Run December 9-10. Hatcher's Run December 9. Dabney's Mills, Hatcher's Run, February 5-7, 1865. Watkins' House March 25. Appomattox Campaign March 28-April 9. Skirmishes on line of Hatcher's and Gravelly Runs March 29-30. Boydton Road and White Oak Road or Hatcher's Run March 31. Sutherland Station April 2. Fall of Petersburg April 2. Flat Creek, near Amelia Court House, April 5. Sailor's Creek April 6. High Bridge, Farmville, April 7. Appomattox Court House April 9. Surrender of Lee and his army. March to Washington, D. C, May 2-12. Grand Review May 24. Mustered out May 31, 1865.**

#### William Handlin's Civil War Record

Oral history within our family holds that William Handlin entered into service as a drummer boy. His father was already in the service as William reached manhood, as was his older brother Jacob. The military records tell us that he enlisted at 18, the youngest age allowed. It's possible that William wanted to enter the war effort earlier and his only choice would have been as a drummer boy. No source for the names of drummer boys has been found, so for now we'll accept his status as a drummer boy prior to his enlistment.

William's service record shows that he was 5 ft. 2-1/8 inches tall. He had brown eyes and red hair, of course, and fair complexion. His occupation was listed as farmer. He was paid a bounty of \$78 when he enlisted for three years on February 28, 1864 in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He immediately traveled to Pittsburgh where he was mustered in on February 29, 1864.



Three-hundred ninety-five men passed through the Regiment during the war. The Regiment lost 2 Officers during service and 97 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded. Disease



resulted in the discharge of 296 enlisted men. Two-hundred and forty-two men passed through William's Co. E. Many were replacements who joined the unit after it was formed. Twenty-six percent, 63, of these men mustered out with the unit. Desertions were very high, almost 21 percent, 50 men. Twenty-six percent, 64, were discharged, mostly because of debilitating diseases. Only 3 percent, 7, were killed in action, but 4 percent, 10, were captured and all except one died in captivity. The term of 5 percent, 13, expired during the war, leading to end of their service. (Source: Bates, Samuel P. *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers 1861-65.*)

This is an abbreviated list of the locations of the unit. It is for the entire Regiment, not Co. E alone, William's unit. The Regiment operated primarily in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The Regiment relocated to Ft. Leavenworth, KS at the end of the war. William returned home from here. He was allowed to keep his saber (sword). Its current location is unknown.

<b>1862</b>	
<b>William Handlin not with unit</b>	
October and November	Organized at Pittsburg, Philadelphia and Erie
November 24	Moved to Hagerstown, Md.
December 28	To Harper's Ferry
<b>1863</b>	
<b>William Handlin not with unit</b>	
January	Picket and outpost duty in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry attached to <a href="#">Defenses Upper Potomac, 8th Army Corps, Middle Department</a>
March	Attached to <a href="#">1st Brigade, 1st Division, 8th Corps</a> , then <a href="#">4th Separate Brigade, 8th Corps</a>
March 15	Scout to Leesburg
April 21-24	Scout to Leesburg
May	Ordered to Grafton, W. Va., and duty protecting Phillippi, Beverly and Webster
June	Attached to Averill's 4th Separate Brigade, Dept. West Virginia
July 2-3	Forced march to relief of Beverly
July 4	Huttonsville
July 5-14	Moved to Webster, then to Cumberland, Md., and to Williamsport, Md., and join Army of the Potomac
July 15	Advance to Martinsburg
July 18-19	Martinsburg and Hedgesville
July 30	McConnellsburg, Pa.
August 1-31	Averill's Raid from Winchester through Hardy, Pendleton, Highland, Bath, Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties, W. Va.
August 2	Newtown
August 6	Moorefield and Cacapon Mountain (Detachment)
August 19	Salt Works, near Franklin
August 25	Jackson River

August 26-27	Rocky Gap, near White Sulphur Springs
October 15	Hedgesville (Detachment)
November 1-17	Averill's Raid against Lewisburg and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad
November 4	Cackletown
November 5	Mill Point
November 6	Droop Mountain
December 8-25	Averill's Raid from New Creek to Salem, on Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. Attached to 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, Dept. West Virginia.
December 11	Marling's Bottom Bridge
December 12	Gatewood's
December 16	Descent upon Salem
December 19	Scott's or Barber's Creek
December 19	Jackson River, near Covington
<b>1864</b>	
<b>William Handlin joined unit on February 28, 1864</b>	
March 22	Winchester
April 8	Winchester
April 23-May 16	Sigel's Expedition from Martinsburg to New Market. Attached to 2nd Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia (Detachment)
May 5-19	Averill's Raid on Virginia & Tennessee Railroad
May 10	Grassy Lick, Cove Mountain, near Wytheville and New River Bridge
May 15	New Market (Detachment)
May 26-July 1	Hunter's Expedition to Lynchburg
June 5	Piedmont, Mount Crawford
June 6	Occupation of Staunton. Detachment with Sigel rejoined Regiment at Staunton. Attached to 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia.
June 11	Lexington
June 13-15	Scout around Lynchburg
June 13	Near Buchanan
June 16	New London
June 17	Diamond Hill
June 17-18	Lynchburg
June 19	Liberty
June 20	Buford's Gap
June 21	Catawba Mountains and about Salem
June 22	Liberty
July	Moved to the Shenandoah Valley
July 17	Buckton

July 20	Stephenson's Depot
July 22	Newtown
July 24	Kernstown, Winchester
July 25	Near Martinsburg
July 29	Hagerstown
July 31	Hancock, Md.
August 4	Antietam Ford
August to November	Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign. Attached to <a href="#">3rd Brigade, 1st Division, Cavalry Corps, Army Shenandoah, Middle Military Division</a> , then 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia
August 7	Near Moorefield
August 26	Williamsport, Md.
August 31	Martinsburg
September 2-3	Bunker Hill
September 5	Winchester
September 10	Darkesville
September 13	Bunker Hill
September 14	Near Berryville
September 19	Opequan, Winchester
September 22	Fisher's Hill
September 23-24	Mount Jackson
September 24	Forest Hill or Timberville
September 26	Brown's Gap
September 26-27	Weyer's Cave
October 3	Mount Jackson (Detachment)
October 19	Battle of Cedar Creek
October 23	Dry Run (Detachment)
October 25-26	Milford
November 8	Cedar Creek
November 12	Nineveh
November 23	Rude's Hill
November 30	Snicker's Gap
December 17	Millwood (Detachment)
December 19-28	Expedition from Winchester to Gordonsville
December 21	Madison C. H.

December 22	Liberty Mills
December 23	Near Gordonsville
December 24	At Winchester
<b>1865</b>	
February 18-19	Expedition into Loudoun County (Detachment)
February 19	Expedition to Ashby's Gap
April 20	Ordered to Washington, D.C. and duty there attached to <u>1st Separate Brigade, 22nd Corps, Dept. of Washington</u>
May 28-24	Grand Review
June	Moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and duty in the District of the Plains, Dept. of Missouri
August 24	Mustered out

The following summary of the 14th Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry (159th Volunteers) organization, attachments, and locations is from the National Park Service website ( <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UPA0014RC> )

OVERVIEW: Organized at Pittsburg, Philadelphia and Erie October and November, 1862. Moved to Hagerstown, Md., November 24, 1862, thence to Harper's Ferry, W. Va., December 28. Attached to Defences Upper Potomac, 8th Army Corps, Middle Department, to March, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 8th Corps, March, 1863. 4th Separate Brigade, 8th Corps, to June, 1863. Averill's 4th Separate Brigade, Dept. West Virginia, to December, 1863. 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, Dept. West Virginia, to April, 1864. 2nd Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia, to June, 1864. 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia, to August, 1864. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, Cavalry Corps, Army Shenandoah, Middle Military Division, August, 1864. 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, West Virginia, to April, 1865. 1st Separate Brigade, 22nd Corps, Dept. of Washington, to June, 1865. Dept. of Missouri to August, 1865.

#### SERVICE:

Picket and outpost duty in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, W. Va., till May, 1863. Scout to Leesburg March 15 and April 21-24, 1863. Ordered to Grafton, W. Va., May, 1863, and duty protecting Phillippi, Beverly and Webster till July. Forced march to relief of Beverly July 2-3. Huttonsville July 4. Moved to Webster, thence to Cumberland, Md., and to Williamsport, Md., July 5-14, and join Army of the Potomac. Advance to Martinsburg July 15. Martinsburg and Hedgesville July 18-19. McConnellsburg, Pa., July 30. Averill's Raid from Winchester through Hardy, Pendleton, Highland, Bath, Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties, W. Va., August 1-31. Newtown August 2. Moorefield and Cacapon Mountain August 6 (Detachment). Salt Works, near Franklin, August 10. Jackson River August 25. Rocky Gap, near White Sulphur Springs, August 26-27. Hedgesville October 15 (Detachment). Averill's Raid against Lewisburg and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad November 1-17. Cacketown November 4. Mill Point November 5. Droop Mountain November 6. Averill's Raid from New Creek to Salem, on Virginia & Tennessee Railroad, December 8-25. Marling's Bottom Bridge December 11. Gatewood's December 12. Descent upon Salem December 16. Scott's or Barber's Creek December 19. Jackson River, near Covington. December 19.

**William Handlin joins the unit at this time.**

Winchester March 22 and April 8, 1864. Sigel's Expedition from Martinsburg to New Market April 23-May 16 (Detachment). Averill's Raid on Virginia & Tennessee Railroad May 5-19. Grassy Lick, Cove Mountain, near Wytheville, May 10. New River Bridge May 10. New Market May 15 (Detachment). Hunter's Expedition to Lynchburg May 26-July 1. Piedmont, Mount Crawford, June 5. Occupation of Staunton June 6. (Detachment with Sigel rejoined Regiment at Staunton.) Lexington June 11. Scout around Lynchburg June 13-15. Near Buchanan June 13. New London June 16. Diamond Hill June 17. Lynchburg June 17-18. Liberty June 19. Buford's Gap June 20. Catawba Mountains and about Salem June 21. Liberty June 22. Moved to the Shenandoah Valley July. Buckton July 17. Stephenson's Depot July 20. Newtown July 22. Kernstown, Winchester, July 24. Near Martinsburg July 25. Hagerstown July 29. Hancock, Md., July 31. Antietam Ford August 4. Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign August to November. Near Moorefield August 7. Williamsport, Md., August 26. Martinsburg August 31. Bunker Hill September 2-3. Winchester September 5. Darkesville September 10. Bunker Hill September 13. Near Berryville September 14. Opequan, Winchester, September 19. Fisher's Hill September 22. Mount Jackson September 23-24. Forest Hill or Timberville September 24. Brown's Gap September 26. Weyer's Cave September 26-27. Mount Jackson October 3 (Detachment). Battle of Cedar Creek October 19. Dry Run October 23 (Detachment). Milford October 25-26. Cedar Creek November 8. Nineveh November 12. Rude's Hill November 23. Snicker's Gap November 30. Millwood December 17 (Detachment). Expedition from Winchester to Gordonsville December 19-28. Madison C. H. December 21. Liberty Mills December 22. Near Gordonsville December 23. At Winchester till April, 1865.

Expedition into Loudoun County February 18-19 (Detachment). Expedition to Ashby's Gap February 19. Operations in the valley till April 20. Ordered to Washington, D. C., April 20, and duty there till June. Grand Review May 23-24. Moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., June, and duty in the District of the Plains till August. Mustered out August 24, 1865.

The following summary of the actions of the unit is from *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-65*. 1869. Volume 4 by Samuel P Bates.

( [http://www.civilwarindex.com/armypa/159th\\_pa\\_regiment.html](http://www.civilwarindex.com/armypa/159th_pa_regiment.html) )

The Fourteenth Cavalry was commanded by Col., James N. Schoonmaker, a recipient of the Medal of Honor. The companies were commanded by Lieut. Cols., William Blakeley, John M. Daily; and Majors Thomas Gibson, Shadrack Foley, John M. Daily, William W. Miles, John Bird.

In Aug., 1862, James N. Schoonmaker, a citizen of Pittsburg, and a lieutenant in the 1st Md. cavalry, was authorized by Secretary of War Stanton to recruit a battalion of five companies of cavalry. Recruits were rapidly obtained and authority was given to recruit a full regiment. The men were principally from the counties of Allegheny, Fayette, Armstrong, Washington, Lawrence, Erie and Warren, and the city of Philadelphia. They rendezvoused at Camp Howe, afterwards at Camp Montgomery, near Pittsburg, and were mustered into the U. S. service from Aug. 21 to Nov. 4, 1862, for three-year terms of service. On the latter date it moved to Hagerstown, Md., where it received horses, arms and equipment and was drilled in the various cavalry evolutions.

On Dec. 28, it moved to Harper's Ferry and was engaged for several months in picket and scouting duty. A detachment of unmounted men under Maj. Foley was left at Harper's Ferry and the remainder of the command joined Gen. Averell's forces at Grafton. It skirmished at Beverly and Huttonville early in July, a few days later rejoined Gen. Kelley's forces at Cumberland, and proceeded thence to Williamsport, where it joined the army of the Potomac, being engaged with the enemy's cavalry near Martinsburg on the 15th. Shortly after it was joined by Maj. Foley's detachment. On Aug. 4 it moved with Gen. Averell on the Rocky gap raid in West Virginia and was hotly engaged at White Sulphur springs losing 80 men, killed, wounded and missing. On this raid it marched over 600 miles in 27 days, being frequently engaged. On Nov. 1, it moved with Gen. Averell on the Droop mountain raid and was engaged at Mill Point, and Droop mountain. Returning to New creek by easy marches, it shared in Averell's second raid into southwestern Virginia in December, when an immense amount of stores and merchandise, many miles of rail-road track, and numerous bridges were destroyed. Its loss during the raid was about 50 and the command marched over 345 miles under very trying conditions. It went into winter quarters at Martinsburg and was almost constantly engaged in picket, guard and scout duty until the opening of the spring campaign.

As a part of the 1st brigade, (Col. Schoonmaker) of Averell's division, it broke winter quarters on April 12, 1864, and moved to Parkersburg, whence it proceeded south to the Virginia & Tennessee railroad, aiming to destroy the salt works at Saltville. The regiment was heavily engaged at Cove mountain in May, losing 12 killed and 37 wounded. At Union, Averell's forces effected a junction with Gen. Crook, advanced to Lewisburg and then to Staunton, to join the forces of Gen. Hunter, who was about to move on the Lynchburg campaign. A detachment of the regiment, which had been left behind at Martinsburg under Capt. Duncan, was meanwhile hotly engaged at New Market and Piedmont, carrying an earthwork, capturing a number of prisoners, and winning praise for its gallantry in the latter action. At Staunton the detachment rejoined the regiment and started on the Lynchburg campaign.

The Union cavalry drove Imboden at Lexington, destroyed the Virginia military institute, skirmished at Buchanan, and June 17-18 fought the battle of Lynchburg, but was forced to retire. During the retreat, the 14th, as part of Hunter's rear-guard, was warmly engaged at Liberty on the 19th, holding the enemy in check for several hours and losing 6 killed and 18 wounded. It was active at Salem on the 21st and finally reached Parkersburg, after a march which entailed great hardship and suffering from hunger and fatigue. From Parkersburg it moved by rail to Martinsburg. In July it was twice engaged with Early's forces at Winchester, being forced to fall back to the Potomac with the rest of Averell's command.

After the burning of Chambersburg, Pa., it followed in pursuit of McCausland, overtook him at Moorefield, Va., where severe punishment was administered to the forces of McCausland, Johnson, Gillmore, and McNeill, the 14th losing here 10 killed and 25 wounded. It now returned to Martinsburg and later participated under Sheridan in the brilliant campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, losing heavily at the Opequan and being active at Fisher's hill. For gallantry displayed in the action at Weyer's cave, against the forces of Fitzhugh Lee, the name was inscribed upon its battle flag by general order.

A detachment under Capts. Miles and Duff was engaged at Cedar creek, on Oct. 19. The regiment soon after made a reconnaissance in the Luray valley and was hotly engaged with McCausland at Front Royal, losing 15 killed and wounded. During the winter of 1864-65, it suffered severely in expeditions to Millwood and Ashby's gap.

After Lee's surrender it was stationed for two months near Washington and the latter part of June moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where it was consolidated into a battalion of six companies on July 17, 1865. The field and staff and Cos. B, C, D, E and F were mustered out here, on Aug. 24, and Co. A on Nov. 2, 1865, the last named having been detailed as an escort to Gen. Dodge, commanding the department, on a tour of inspection.

### **Personal Information From Pension Forms**

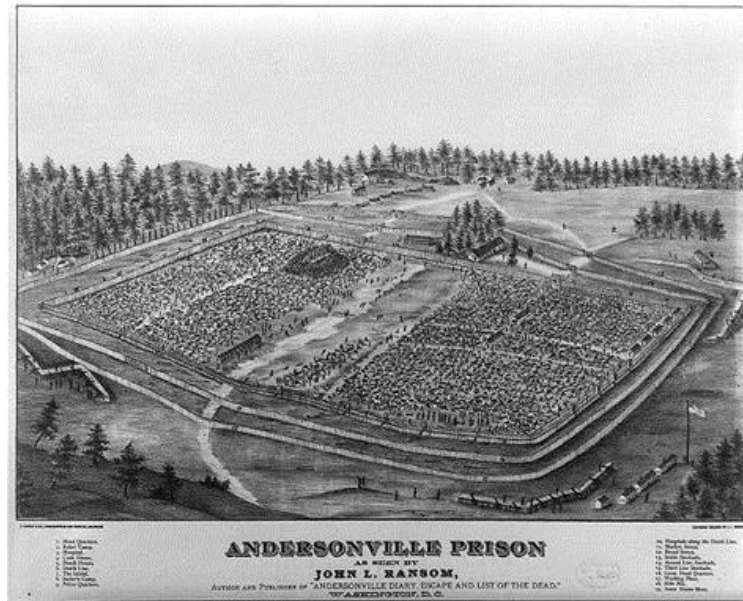
William applied for a veteran's pension on October 1, 1904 because of poor health. The Surgeon's Certificate accompany the application provides detailed information on his physical condition. He then weighed 120 pounds. He had received a battle wound in the palm of his left hand, but this didn't incapacitate him. The major factor was enlarged glands in many sites and an enlarged spleen. Also dry skin and a wound (not war related) on his leg. On his death certificate the cause was shown as lymphadenoma. More specific terms are used today. The modern terms are lymphoma, and Hodgkin's disease, among others. So, he had a form of cancer. The medical examiner also note that William was not an alcoholic, and had no other bad habits contributing to his incapacitation. William died on January 16, 1906 at the age of 61, approximately 2 years after the cancer diagnosis.

Susan died May 1, 1930 at 1:30 AM based on letter sent by Miss Nelle Handlin, Mt. Braddock, Pa. Nelle notes in the letter hat "I always attended to mothers business as she has not been able to be around for some time."

William received an invalid pension based on the medical exam in 1904. Susan received a widow's pension after his death. Hers eventually increased to \$100 per month.

### **Jacob Handlin**

The military records of Jacob Handlin have not been obtained as yet. Internet sources show him as a Corporal, Company H, 1st WV Cavalry -- Vet. Vol. He was captured near Dublin Station, VA, 5/25/64; Died at Andersonville Prison, September 26, 1864 of Chronic Diarrhea; Grave #9794; age -- 20. He was born in 1841. (Dates can't be correct if his age was 20 in 1864. Other sources show 22 as his age at death.) The 1<sup>st</sup> WV Cavalry recruited in northern WV and SW Pennsylvania. This would explain his enlistment in a West Virginia unit. Dublin is in SW Virginia on US Rt 11, SW of Roanoke.



### Burial Locations of Handlins

Daniel and Mary, and William and Susan are buried in the Fairview Cemetery, North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. At the time of their deaths it was known as the Percy Cemetery.



Location of cemetery: From the overpass where Rt 119 passes over Rt 40 in Uniontown, go north on Rt 119 for 4.3 miles and bear off on ramp to Connellsville St Ext. Go 0.2 miles to the bottom of the ramp and turn left (Gallatin Ave Ext). Go 1.0 miles (through light) and the cemetery in on the left. GPS Location: 39.93163 N 79.64941 W





Many other Handlins are buried in this cemetery.

Daniel Handlin - 1814

William Handlin – December 28, 1844