

Company A, 120th OVI



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WILFORD, Cyrus J. 16 Aug 1862
Cyrus Willford in Company H.]

[A note to WILFORD and WILLFORD researchers: There is another Cyrus Willford in Company H.]
Private Wilford was age 24 when he entered service. He was discharged 7 Oct. 1863 [at Mound City, IL] on a Surgeon's certificate of disability.

Father: Jacob WILFORD

Mother: Elizabeth BACKHOUSE or BACKLINS or BARKHAMER

Birth: 15 Sep 1837, East Union Twp, Wayne Co OH [ancestry family tree]

Marriage: Joanna DULL [WATKINS], 9 Nov 1869, Fulton County OH

Death: 18 September 1892

Cemetery: Greenlawn Cem, Main St, Delta, York Twp, Fulton County, OH [Grave indicates Co A 120th OVI.]

Relationship: Brother in law of Johnson R. GADDIS, Co H 120th OV

Thanks to Debbie Ferdetta for information from the National Archives.

Pension Card: Cyrus J. WILLFORD, Co A 120th OH. Invalid applied for 21 Jun 1887, Application 614141, Certificate 394517. Widow's pension [Wilford]: Application 563269, Certificate 372591

From the Widow's pension application: Cyrus J. Willford died 18 September 1892. Joanna died before 28 Apr 1904 according to pension papers.

National Archives papers, Certificate of Disability for Discharge October 1863, shows: He enlisted at Wooster. Born in Wayne County OH. He was 6' 2.5" tall Fair complexion, Blue eyes, dark hair Age 24. A farmer.

For a full year from Oct 1862 while still in Camp Mansfield through Oct 1863, he was disabled from pneumonia and its aftereffects. These aftereffects also included damage to his heart making him incapable of active exercise. Thus he was considered unfit even to be in the Invalid Corps.

His requested address was Orrville OH.

He was discharged at Mound City, Illinois.

1850 Census East Union Twp, Wayne County, OH, page 199: Elizabeth WILFORD, age 41 PA; Fianna C [female], age 19 OH; William B, age 17 OH; Delila J, age 16 OH; Lewis D, age 14 OH; Cyrus J, age 12 OH; Sarah E, age 10 OH; Mary M, age 6 OH; George P, age 4 OH.

1860 Census his mother, Elizabeth, age 51 is still in Wayne Co in 1860. Sarah [20], Mary [16] and George P [13] are living with her in East Union Township, page 28 in the census record. Have only found Cyrus J. WILLFORD [OH age 21] in Clark's Fork Twp, Cooper County, Missouri in 1860 Census, page 553. He is living with George and Mary DUNCAN and family and is a farm laborer.

Fulton County probate Court: Cyrus J. WILFORD married Joanna WATKINS on 9 Nov 1869 in Fulton County OH.

From the Widow's pension application: The soldier's wife's name was Joanna WATKINS and they were married 9 November 1869 in Delta, Ohio. He had not been previously married. Joanna was the widow of Thomas WATKINS, a farmer in Fulton County, who had died 22 August 1868 in Delta, Fulton Co OH. [Fulton Co Probate Court record: Thomas WATKINS married Joanna DULL on 12 Apr 1866 in Fulton Co OH.]

1870 Census, Delta, York Twp, Fulton County OH, page 211: Cyrus J. WIFFORD, age 32 PA, a farmer; Johanna, age 35 PA. No children listed.

1880 Census Delta, Fulton County OH, page 205: Cyrus J WILFORD, age 42 OH, a merchant, parents born OH; Joanna, wife, age 45 PA, parents born PA; Harvey, son, age 9 OH. Also living there were Jennie HUFFMAN age 30 OH parents born OH], boarder, teacher and Suma? [female] PERKINS, age 17 OH, parents born England, doing housework.

In Feb. of 1888 when he was examined for his pension his post office address was Delta, Fulton County, OH. The paper spells his name WILLARD. In his original invalid pension papers it is clear that he was sick from October of 1862 on, even spending 50 days back at home on furlough to get well. Upon "returning to rejoin his Regiment at the end of that time, he was put upon a transport at Cairo Ill. to be taken to Memphis Tenn. The weather was cold and damp and he was compelled to sleep on the upper deck exposed to the same and says he had a relapse and upon reaching Memphis Tenn. was sent to the Overton Hospital where he remained about two weeks suffering and being treated for disease of the lungs and pleurisy. That he was then sent to the U.S. Hospital at Mound City Ill. and remained until discharged, being treated for the same diseases which have continued to the present time."

In 1888 acquaintances gave affidavits to verify Cyrus Wilford's lung condition and his being half disabled for the performance of manual labor. David F. Carr [age 59] and Ephraim Sergeant [age 67] were from Orrville, Wayne County OH. N.E. Boles [age 49] and Robert Halton [age 72] were from Delta, Fulton County OH. It is interesting that the family physician who took care of Cyrus after the war in Wayne County was Samuel Wilford who was deceased by 1888. These papers indicate that Cyrus moved from Wayne County to Fulton County in 1865.

1890 special census:

Veteran's name: Cyrus J Willford

Home in 1890 (Township, County, State): York, Fulton, Ohio

Year enlisted: 1862

Year discharged: 1863

Rank: Private

Sons of Union Veterans: Burial Greenlawn Cem, Main St, Delta, York Twp, Fulton County, OH, section D.

???Brother Death record in Ohio: Brother?, File # 40157, George P WILLFORD died 6 Aug 1909 at Washington Twp, Defiance County OH. Born 20 June 1846 in Wayne Co OH. Occupation farmer. Father Jacob WILLFORD. burial Fountain Grove Bryan OH. Informant C.W. WILLFORD, of Ney? OH.

Sister's Death record in Ohio: File 12657, Sarah Elizabeth GADDIS died 16 Feb 1927 at East Main St, Marshallville, Wayne Co OH. Widow of Johnson R. GADDIS. Born 14 Dec, 1839 at East Union Twp, OH. Father Jacob R. WILFORD born PA. Mother Elizabeth BACKHOUSE or BACKLINS, born PA. Burial Crown Hill Orrville. Informant Frank GADDIS. [World Connect researcher says the mother's name is BARKHAMER.]

Research by Susie Holderfield
2001-2015
120researcher@gmail.com