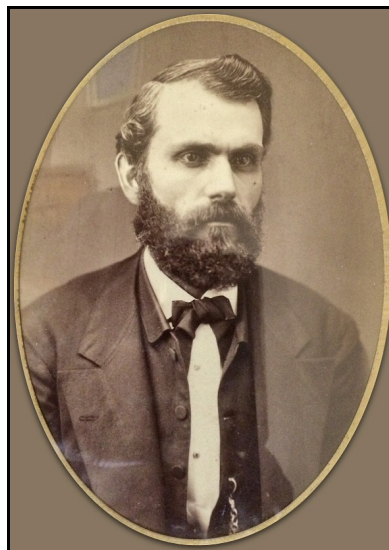




Photo Credits: John S. Sims at [Find a Grave](#)

PETTY, John S. 10 Sept 1862

Private Petty was age 24 when he entered service. He was promoted to Sergt. Major [date not given]. He was also 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant in the 120th and Adjutant in the 114th Ohio. [See Field and Staff](#)



Father: James S. PETTY
Mother: Margaret E. GRAY/GREY
Birth: 24 Jun 1838, Falmouth, VA
Marriage: 1 Sarah A. (referred to as "Sallie) Hunt on 21 Dec 1865, Baltimore Co, MD
2 Isabella "Belle" V. CAMPBELL on 16 Apr 1878 in Bradley, TN
3 Mora Alice GROVE [transcribed as] Mona A. GROVE on 23 Nov 1898 at Springfield, Clark Co OH.
4 Mary Adams Blancher, married 9/10/91.
Death: 4 Feb 1911, Morristown TN
Cemetery: Chattanooga National Cemetery, Chattanooga, Hamilton Co TN [near Cleveland TN] Section U 13517 Originally buried at Moorestown [Morristown], TN

[Interment.net](#): Petty, John S, d. 02/04/1911, 1ST LT ADJR 114 OHIO INF, Orig Bur Moorestown [Morristown], Tenn, Plot: U 13517, *

Petty, Mora Alice, d. 05/16/1930, Plot: U LOT 26, bur. 05/17/1930, *

U.S. National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962: John S. PETTY 1st LT, Adj, 114th OH Inf. Died 4 Feb 1911, Section U, Grave 13517. Originally buried at Moorestown [Morristown], TN.

U.S. National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962: Mora Alice PETTY widow of John S. PETTY, 1st Lt. and Adj. 114th OH Inf. Died 16 May 1930, buried 17 May 1930, Sec U LOT 26, Interred north side of lot. Died 4 Feb 1911, buried 6 Feb 1911, Section U, Lot 26, honorably discharged 31 July 1865. Interred south side of lot. Shipping point for headstones: Chattanooga, TN.

Pension Index: John PETTY, 1st Lt, Co C 120th OH Inf, Adjutant Field and Staff 120th, Adjutant 114th OH Inf., applied for an invalid's pension in 1887 Feb 18, Application 598487, Certificate 438793, no state was given. His widow, Mora A PETTY, applied in 1911 March 9, Application 960194, Certificate 722903, filed in TN. Pension Card: John died 4 Feb 1911.



**From descendant, Dave
Robinson**>[Updated 27 Nov 2016]
[Photo 1861-1862 in Columbus OH]

John Summerfield Petty's parents were Rev. James Spilman Petty and Margaret Eleanor (Ellen) Gray who married June 14, 1832 in Warrenton, VA.

James S. Petty was born January 24, 1807 to John and Martha Spilman Petty probably in Culpeper County, Virginia, the second of five children. Martha Petty's father, Thomas Spilman, was Sheriff of Culpeper County was in the Virginia Militia and in the Battle of Yorktown. In January 1822, at the age of 15 he was bounded as an apprentice to a tailor in Warrenton, Virginia until the age of 21. James spent approximately ten years in Warrenton. Significant events during that period were his profession of faith in 1827, serving dinner to General Lafayette on his tour of the US in 1825 and his marriage to Ellen.

In 1832, the Pettys moved to Falmouth VA where they resided for about 18 years. While his primary profession was as a tailor, he also was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. The family moved to Alexandria VA

in late 1850 or 1851 and shortly thereafter to Washington DC, remaining there until 1860. They moved to Front Royal, VA and James continued to work as a tailor and was considered one of Front Royal's finest citizens. He died of a heart attack on October 1, 1885.

Margaret Eleanor Gray was born June 7, 1811 in Warrenton Virginia. She was known as Ellen to her friends. Her marriage to James produced 13 children. Eleven, including John Summerfield, were born in Falmouth. During her years in Front Royal she was very active in the Methodist Episcopal church. She lived until August 24, 1899. However, she suffered a "sun stroke" the summer of 1880 and was debilitated by this for the remainder of her life.

Prominent stained glass windows in the Front Royal United Methodist Church are in memory of her. Nine children produced from this marriage lived into adulthood:

Virginia (Ginnie) Williams (b. 5/13/1833; d. June 1912) married to John B. Mecartney
Mary Elizabeth (b. 12/27/1834; d. 3/4/1875; m. Harrison Carter 1859)
James Thomas (b. 11/3/1836; d. 5/3/1929; m. Martha Adeline Deshields 12/5/65)
John Summerfield (b. 6/24/1838; d. 2/4/1911; four marriages listed below)
Helen Hamilton (b. 9/15/1840; d. 7/5/1912; never married)
Henry Slicer (b. 4/8/1842; d. 8/19/1919 m. Margaret Ellen Hodges 7/12/1877)
George Kelso (Kelly) (b. 3/12/1844; d. 7/23/1898 m. Mary Mahorney 10/1865)
Sallie Maud (b. 8/6/1847; d. 12/12/1923; m. George C. Davis; later Gibson Eldredge Roy)
Emma Hanson (d. 6/17/1851; d.10/28/1920 m. William Cass Weaver 4/12/1877)

Most prominent of the siblings were:

Thomas - joined what would become Company B of the 17th Virginia Infantry known as the "Warren Rifles" 4/25/1861. He was captured during the Seven Days battle in June 1862, paroled in August, and wounded at Dinwiddie Court House on March 31, 1865. In 1870, he went to work for the city of Washington as a bookkeeper. For 15 years he was Chief Auditor for the District of Columbia. His career spanned 54 years. He is buried in the Confederate section of Arlington National Cemetery.

Henry - enlisted in the 17th Virginia in 1864. He was captured at Five Forks in early April 1865. After the war he became an educator. He was principal of schools in Anacostia (part of DC) and Alexandria VA. He is also buried in the Confederate Section of Arlington National Cemetery.

Sallie Davis Roy - was a prominent citizen of Front Royal and head of the local chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy.

John Petty was named "John Summerfield" after a very famous English preacher of the same name. At 17, he moved to Strasburg Township of Lancaster, PA in 1855 to work as an apprentice to John Mecartney, the husband of his oldest sibling, Ginnie. In 1861 he moves to Franklin County, Ohio to be near his brother-in-law's brother, Jacob Mecartney, and becomes a teacher. I have his teaching certificate. Later in 1862, he moves to Hayesville, Ohio and attends the Vermillion Institute. He answers President Lincoln's call for more volunteers and is sworn in as a soldier on September 10, 1862.

After the war, Summer (as he is referred to by the family) joins the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as serves a number of churches in East Tennessee as a pastor and district elder, the first being in Jonesborough TN in 1866. He is with the conference until his death in 1911. From sometime in the 1890's until his health fails him in the fall of 1909, he is business manager for the Methodist Advocate Journal. He receives an honorary doctorate from Grant University which eventually becomes UT-Chattanooga. Shortly after his death, Petty-Manker Hall at Tennessee Wesleyan University is named after him but has been razed in the last 10 or 15 years.

He was married four times - First on 12/21/1865 to Sarah A. (referred to as "Sallie) Hunt (b. 1842) of Long Green, MD which is in Baltimore County and that is where the marriage takes place. I have the marriage certificate. They have five children, three of which live into adulthood. Sallie dies in June 1875 after a six day illness in the parsonage of Asbury ME Church in Greeneville, TN which abuts the homestead of former President Andrew Johnson. Her obit says she is buried in Greeneville but the church historian has been unable to find any records of the gravesite. May Carlton is the oldest, born in May 1867. She becomes ill in 1884 and dies of "consumption" in September 1888. Edward Simpson Petty (4/18/1869 -4/19/1960 He eventually becomes a bank president (Merchants Bank) in Cleveland, TN.

Roberta (Bert or Berta) Entwistle Petty (7/26/1871 – 4/23/1963) marries Clement Woodworth, a prominent citizen of Chattanooga. John Summerfield Petty II and Maud Petty die in infancy.

Second marriage was to wife Isabella "Belle" V. Campbell on 4/16/1878. Born in 1849, she also had five children, only two of which live past an early age. One is Arthur Preston (3/24/1883 – December 1972) who lives most of his adult life in Shreveport LA. The other is Margaret Eleanor Petty (5/18/1886 – 8/15/1973). She is the person who held on to so much information about the Petty family. She worked for the TVA for 22 years and is buried next to her mother in Cleveland TN. She kept up with many relations and had handed down to her genealogy work that had been done by her Uncle Thomas (more about him later) that he did in the late 1890s until about 1920. She never married. Maggie, Keiberd and Charles Campbell Petty died in infancy in the years 1880, 1882 & 1889. Belle also died in 1889 on September 9th.

His third marriage was to my great grandmother, Mary Adams Blancher (b. 1861) of Newton, MA. He married her in Boston MA on 9/10/91. Both her parents died before she reached the age of 6. She was raised by a well-to-do uncle and aunt named Kingsbury who were very well to do. Mary moved to Morristown, TN to teach at black school called Morristown College. I don't know if the term "freedman school" was still apropos. Summer was serving the Methodist Church in town at that time. She had three children: Marion Kingsbury, (b. 12/1893 d. 12/1973) lived most of her adult life in Mt. Pleasant MI. Twins Helen Gray and Mary or Macey Hazel (always referred to as Hazel) were born 6/5/97 in Chattanooga. Sadly, Mary died three days later on her 36th birthday. Hazel also dies in September from thrush.

The fourth marriage was to Mora Alice Grove (b. 1861) on 11/23/1898. She has one child who dies shortly after birth. She outlives her husband, dying 5/16/1930 while living with her step-daughter and husband.

The John Summerfield Petty diaries: In 2015 I donated four pocket diaries to the American Civil War Museum (f/k/a as the Museum of the Confederacy) in Richmond. That may seem odd. However, JSP had two brothers who fought in the "Warren Rifles", the 17th Virginia. His older brother, James T. Petty (Uncle Thomas) b. 11/3/1836 also had several pocket diaries while in the Army of Northern Virginia. Two have been housed in this museum since 1943 covering most of 1861-1863. I wanted to have the brothers' diaries housed in the same location. I later learned that there is a transcribed copy of another diary for the entire year of 1864 at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania NMP. I have paper copies of these diaries. Fortunately, the brothers never faced each other and never forsook their love for each other. I have a few letters after the war expressing their care for each other.

Here are a couple of entries about the other brother:

[Summerfield's diary] JSP's (9/26/62 while training at Camp Mansfield) "Home - what thoughts come flitting through my mind as I write that word. When as an undivided family we assembled around the hearthstone at home and heard the passages of Divine truth expounded and the matin (morning) song or the vesper hymn of praise ascended the throne of the Heavenly Mercy. When my brother Thomas and I rambled through the forests or fished in the clear streams of the "Old Dominion". Then we looked to a future of pleasant intercourse, when we would be united in sympathy but what a sad change time has wrought. He is in the army arrayed against my country, and I perhaps am to meet him in deadly conflict. Oh that God would keep us from a meeting other than two loving brothers should meet.

*James Thomas Petty
Co B 17th Virginia
C.S.A*

*John Summerfield Petty
Company E 120th O.V.I
and Adjutant 120th O.V.I
U.S*



*Brothers
1866*

[Brother James T.] Brother JTP (11/3/64 his 28th birthday - he is having a chat with brother Henry who has joined the 17th VA earlier in the year - they are in the trenches at the siege of Petersburg) - "Talked of 'home, sweet, home' of brothers and sisters scattered afar and of that misguided but dear brother who has forgotten the land of his nativity and wears the hated blue of our invaders. Poor Summerfield! He has cost his family many a pang - many a tear but for all his wanderings he has still a home in our hearts and is never forgotten at the family altar. Where will I spend the next anniversary I wonder. A wise Father will decree.

The historian at the ACWM plans to write a story about the brothers in their quarterly magazine.

David Robinson

Summerfield's brother, James Thomas, wrote in his own words to Summer's daughter: "I volunteered April 25, 1861, in the Warren Rifles, of Front Royal, Va, which afterward became Co. B, 17th Virginia Regiment (Infantry), Corses Brigade, Pickett's Division, Longstreet's Corps, Army of Northern

Virginia. I was taken prisoner in the battle of Frazier's Farm, June 30, 1862 - one of the seven days' fights with McClellan around Richmond. Was carried first to Governor's Island, in New York Harbor, and a few days later transferred to Fort Warren, Boston Harbor. Was exchanged August 4, 1862. Was wounded in the battle of Dinwiddie C. H., Va., Friday, March 31, 1865. Ten days later, April 10, 1865, I surrendered and was paroled. Thus ended my career as a soldier."

1850 Census, Eastern Dist, Stafford Co VA, Dwelling 402, Family 402: James S. PETTY, age 43 VA, tailor; Margaret E., age 39 MD; Virginia W., age 17 VA; Mary E., age 15 VA; **James T**, age 13 VA; John S., age 11 VA; Hellen H., age 9 VA; Henry L, age 8 VA; George F, age 6 VA; Sarah M, age 2 VA. [Note: ??James S. PETTY married Margaret E. GRAY in VA on 4 or 11 Jun 1832 and were the parents of John S. PETTY....Family Search members.]

Living with sister's family.

1860 Census, Strasburg, Lancaster Co, PA, Dwelling 283, Family 283: John McCARTNEY, age 36 PA, mill wright; Virginia, age 26 VA; Winia, age 5 PA; Annie, age 4 PA; Edgar, age 2 PA; Irene, age 1 PA; Jane WITMER, age 19 PA, servant; John PETTY, age 22 VA, mill wright.

Parents, 1860 Census, Front Royal P O, Warren Co VA, page 983: Jas. S. PETTY, age 52 VA, tailor; Margt. E., age 49 VA; Helen, age 19 VA; Sarah, age 12 VA; Emma, age 8 PA.

Jonesborough TN in 1866

Name badly misspelled:

1870 Census, Athens, McMinn co, TN, Dwelling 254, Family 254: John PETTIT, age 31 VA, minister; Sallie, age 27 MD; May, age 3 TN; Edward, age 1 TN; Catherine WEEKS, age 19 VA, black, domestic servant.

Bradley Co TN marriage records: John S. PETTY married Belle V. CAMPBELL on 16 Apr 1878 in Bradley, TN.

1880 Census, Cleveland, Bradley Co TN, page 270, Dwelling 32, Family 45: Oney CAMPBELL, mother, age 63 VA, servant, parents born VA; John S PETTY, age 41 VA, minister, parents born VA; Bell ?V., wife, age 30 TN, parents born VA; May C, daughter, age 13 TN, father born VA, mother born MD; Edward S, son, age 13 TN, dry goods clerk, father born VA, mother born MD; Berta E., daughter, age 8 TN, father born VA, mother born MD. [?adopted children? or was John married before Belle? I can't find May C or Edward S in the 1860 census with the last name PETTY.]

Trying to find out who those children were listed in 1880:

?son: 1900 Census, Cleveland, Bradley Co TN, Dwelling 231, Family 239: Edward S. PETTY, born Oct 1868, age 31 TN, parents born TN, marked married, depot Agent, So. Ry. Co. Two lines are left blank, never filled in. [Family Search, Tennessee, Marriages, 1796-1950: Edward Simpson PETTY married Minna Louise MANSFIELD on 15 July 1893, at Bradley Co TN. Minna died 21 Mar 1948, Cleveland TN] [Find a Grave](#): Edward Simpson PETTY died 19 Apr 1960, buried Fort Hill Cemetery, Cleveland, Bradley Co TN. They list his mother as Belle V. CAMPBELL PETTY.

Belle died 9 Sep 1889 according to [Find a Grave](#) and is buried at Fort Hill Cemetery, Cleveland, Bradley Co TN. Section 01, Plot 177.

1890 Veterans Schedule: District 1, Hamblen, TN: Line 23, House 200, Family 211: John S. PETTEY, 1st Lieut, Co C 120th OH Inf. Post Office: Morristown TN. Disabilities: chronic diarrhoea and partial deafness.

Married Mora Alice GROVE: Family Search: Ohio, Marriages, 1800-1958: John S. PETTY married [transcribed as] Mona A. GROVE on 23 Nov 1898 at Springfield, Clark Co OH.

1900 Census, Morristown, Hamblen Co, TN, Dwelling 412, Family 423: John S. PETTY, age 61 VA, born Jun 1838, married 2 yrs, parents born VA, business manager ?papper?; Mora, wife, age 38 OH, born Oct 1861, married 2 yrs, parents born VA; Arthur P, son, age 17 TN, single born Mar 1883, father born VA, mother Born TN, at school; Margret E, daughter, age 13 TN, born May 1887, father born VA, mother born TN, at school; Marion K, daughter, age 6 TN, born Dec 1893, father born VA, mother born MA; Helen G, daughter, age 2 TN, father born VA, mother born MA. [Belle's children]

According to a news article in the Fredericksburg Free Lance, on 12 Aug 1909, Summerfield and his brother Thomas visited Falmouth together.

Widow: 1920 Mora A. PETTIE is in Hamblen TN with children Margret PETTIE and Helen EARNEST.

Widow and daughter: 1930 Census, District 8, Cleveland, Bradley Co TN, Dwelling 164, Family 184: Russell E. ERNST, age 36 OH, age at first marriage 26, salesman, father born VA, mother born OH; Helen G, wife, age 32 TN, age at first marriage 22, father born VA, mother born MA; Allice E, daughter, age 8 TN, father born OH, mother born TN; Mora A. PETTY, mother in law, age 68 OH, widow, parents born VA; Margaret E, sister in law, age 40 TN, single, father born VA, mother born TN.

A message that John sent to the Methodist Advocate-Journal during his last illness:

"A Beautiful Message from Dr. Petty

I desire to say through the Advocate-Journal that the expressions of sympathy and the appreciative words commendatory of my life work received from my Brethren have given me much comfort and joy during the eleven months of my affliction.

When I was stricken down I had no thought of lingering in this manner; but God in His providence has extended my period on earth and I accept it with gratitude, knowing that He doeth all things well.

I am no longer able to sit up, except for a few moments at a time, but I am comparatively comfortable. I find the descent to the Jordan more easy and comfortable than I anticipated.

During my constrained inactivity I have been led to test in fuller manner the promises of the

gospel which I have preached to the afflicted and I have so far found them worthy of all acceptance.

Instead of a source of regret, it has been my great satisfaction that the chief theme in my ministrations to the people has been the Atonement of Jesus Christ, the propitiation which He has made for sins.

In my early ministry I determined to know nothing among men save Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

'I've reached the land of corn and wine,
And all it's riches freely mine;
Here shines undimmed one blissful day,
For all my night has passed away.

'The Savior comes and walks with me,
And sweet communion here have we;
He gently leads me with His hand,
For this is heaven's border land.

'A sweet perfune upon the breeze
Is borne from ever vernal trees,
And flow'rs that never fading grow
Where streams of life forever flow.

'O Beulah land, sweet Beulah land,
As on thy highest mount I stand,
I look away across the sea,
Where mansions are prepared for me,
And view the shining glory shore,
My heav'n, my home forevermore.'

Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958: John S. PETTY died 4 Feb 1911, white male, age 72, married. Died Morristown TN. Born Falmouth VA. Minister.

[Contributed by descendant, Dave Robinson]



Obituary for John S. Petty

"Rev. J. S. Petty Died Saturday at His Home in Morristown, Confined about 15 Months. Remains passed through Athens [McMinn county] Sunday Afternoon En Route to Chattanooga Where Burial Took Place Monday – He Was Widely Known and Greatly Loved Throughout McMinn County

The Rev. John Summerfield Petty has for many years been a conspicuous figure in the Holston Conference, but his face will be seen among us no more. He has gone home to the heavenly city. Our readers already know of his long illness, beginning Sept. 9, 1909. It terminated in his death on the fourth day of the present month.

Dr. Petty was born June 24, 1838, at Falmouth, Va. His father, James Spilman Petty, was a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and his mother, Margaret Eleanor Petty, was also a devout member of the same communion. D. Petty received a good common school and academic education and was himself a school teacher. On the

breaking out of the civil war he enlisted in the union army and served three full years and was at the close of the last campaign mustered out with the rank of first lieutenant and adjutant. Two older brothers served in the confederate army.

In May 1866 he was received on trial in the Holsten Conference at Greeneville, Tenn. He continued in unbroken effective service for over forty-three years. He was granted a superannuate relation at the session of conference held at Morristown, Tenn., in October 1909. His health had entirely failed and he himself requested to be given a place on the honor roll of the superannuates. [Note: retirement] It was thought then that he could live but a very short time, but more than fifteen months yet it was his lot to linger and suffer. He was an honored leader and a shining light when well and in active service, but through all his protracted illness the heavenly light within him shone brighter and brighter to the last.

All through his ministerial life Dr. Petty was a diligent and discriminating student. He knew his Bible, was well versed in theology and had a large and ever growing fund of general knowledge. The degree of doctor of divinity conferred upon him by the University of Chattanooga without his solicitation or even his knowledge was worthily bestowed.

As a preacher Dr. Petty was original. He thought out and elaborated his sermons with careful preparation and delivered them with convincing and moving power. As a pastor he was faithful to all and a real comforter to those in trouble and sorrow. He served as pastor a number of the most important appointments in the conference and was presiding elder of the Greeneville, the Knoxville and the Chattanooga districts and in every place assigned served with fidelity and success. He always left his work in better condition than he found it. He was in the highest degree conscientious, courageous, just and manly. He did not hesitate at any task imposed upon him nor did he quail in the presence of danger. He did his duty whatever it might be regardless of comfort of compensation or personal inconvenience or loss or peril.

Dr. Petty leaves a faithful wife and six children and leaves to them the treasure of a noble example and a name absolutely above reproach. They have also the assurance that he has gone to join the company of the redeemed in glory. The memory of such a man enriches the church and is a precious treasure to his friends.

Funeral services were conducted in the church at Morristown on Sunday morning, Feb. 5, and also at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. N. Woodworth, at Chattanooga on Monday the 6th. At Morristown the pastor, Dr. T. B Russell, Rev. J. A. Ruble, Rev. W. M. Christian and J. J. Manker took part in the service, and the Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Stapleton assisted with the music.

At Chattanooga bishop Anderson, Dr. Mason, President Race, Dr. Newcomb and the editor of the Advocate-Journal participated in the service, the choice music being rendered by Mrs. M. A. Pratt, Miss Ocey Schoff, Mr. Herman Ferger and Mr. Lem A. Warner. The interment was in the National Cemetery, the services being conducted by the comrades of the G. A. R. according to the beautiful ritual of that order.

Methodist Advocate-Journal." [Volume XXVIII, number 33]

[Published in Evening Star (Washington DC), 10 Feb 1911, page 13 available at GenealogyBank]
"Rev. John S. Petty Dead. A Resident of the National Capital Before Civil War. Rev. John Summerfield Petty of the Holston conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a former resident of this city, died recently at Morristown, Tenn. Mr. Petty was a native of Falmouth, Va., and lived in this city prior to the civil war. He served as a volunteer in the Union army and was mustered out at the close of the war as adjutant of the 114th Ohio Regiment of Infantry.

Rev. Petty was in his seventy-second year, and is survived by two brothers, James T. Petty of this city and Henry S. Petty of Arlington, Va., and four sisters, Mrs. Virginia W. McCartney, Miss Helen H. Petty, Mrs. Sallie Davis Roy and Mrs. Cass Weaver of Front Royal, Va."

Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958: Mora Alice PETTY died 16 May 1930 at Cleveland, Bradley Co TN, widow, born 6 Oct 1861. Father George W. GROVE, born West Virginia. Mother Mary KEESEKER, born W. VA. Informant Margaret PETTY of Cleveland. Burial at National Cemetery, Chattanooga TN.

Research pages by Susie Holderfield, 2001-2016
120researcher@gmail.com

[120th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 9th Division, 13th Army Corps](#)