

Company G, 120th Ohio Volunteer Infantry



Photo Credit: Cemgems at [Find a Grave](#)

RYAL, Martin S. 16 Aug 1862

Martin, age 20, is listed in the Roster of Ohio Soldiers 1861-66 volume 8, page 260 as a Corporal. There are no comments listed in the Roster.

The pension papers say that Martin was listed as deserted 11 Oct 1863. He was sent out on a foraging expedition at or near Plaquemine Louisiana and was never heard from again.

Father: Phetness G. RYEL

Mother: Julia MORGAN

Birth: <1842>

Marriage: 1 Miss Margaret METZGAR [later Bash], 31 Oct 1859 near Beaver PA

???2 Harriet M BATES 16 Feb 1868 in Monroe, IA

Death: Disappeared Oct 1863 in Louisiana. Died 7 Mar 1871 in Monroe Co IA

Cemetery: Beebe Cem [Smith Cem], Mantua, Monroe Co IA

At [Soldiers and Sailors System](#) the only Martin Ryel or Ryal, in either the Union or Confederate armies, is the one in Co G 120th OVI.

It looks like the mystery is solved. RYAL disappeared during the Civ War. Military thought he deserted. Wife thought he was dead and she remarried. She later applied for pension but was turned down because soldier had deserted. RYAL's mother and brother were left in Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH in 1860 by themselves. His father ended up in CA and married someone else. RYAL shows up later in Iowa and marries and has 2 children. He dies in Iowa. His mother and brother are buried in the same cemetery as the soldier in Iowa. So apparently they had moved to Iowa to be near Martin. Mystery solved. He probably did desert.

WARD

For use in the above-entitled claim for pension you are requested to furnish this Bureau with a full military and medical history and personal description, including birthplace and occupation, of Martin S Ryel, who it is alleged, enlisted in, 1862 at Mansfield, Ohio, as a 21 in Co. G, 120 Reg't, Ohio Vol Infy., and was discharged to have disappeared at while on a foraging raid at or near Plaquemine, La., on or about February 25, 1864, and has not ever been heard from.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LANDS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1850 Census, Shalersville, Portage Co OH, Dwelling 26, Family 26: Phetness G. RYEL, age 34 NY, blacksmith; Julia, age 28 OH; Martin, age 9 OH; Charles M., age 5 OH; Clada [female] MORGAN, age 18 OH. [Philones G RYEL was married to Julia MORGAN. at Ancestry.com by Henriod74. They didn't stay in Ohio.]

Martin's mother and brother in Ohio

1860 Census, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 153, Family 154: Julia REYLE, age 32 OH; Charles, age 15 OH. Where were Martin and first wife Margaret? Where was Phetness/Philones?

Martin's father in California.

Great Register, Sonoma County CA: Date of registration 8 Oct 1866, Philones G. RYEL, registration number 1942, age 51, born NY, farmer, residence Mendocino. Another record says P.G. RYEL married H. SUTTON in 1860 in Sonoma, CA.

California, County Marriages: Philoness G. RYEL married Harriet SUTTON on 7 Sep 1874 at Sonoma, CA. Philoness was age 59, born <1815>. Harriet was age 55, born <1819>.

1870 Census, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 190, Family 199: Julia RYLE, age 45 OH.

Martin's Ohio wife tried to get his pension:

APPROVALS.	
Submitted for <i>rejection, July 16, 1904,</i>	<i>J. M. Arnell, Jr.,</i> Examiner.
Approved for <i>rejection, on the ground that Soldier deserted and is being as a deserter at large, and was never discharged from the Army</i>	Accepted due to _____ which has been legally accepted.
<i>July 22, 1904, W. F. Pierson</i> Legal Reviewer.	Medical Examiner. Medical Reviewer.
<i>July 27, 1904, L. C. Raman</i> Re-Reviewer.	_____, 190____, Medical Referee.

Pension index: Ryel, Martin S., Co G 120th OVI, widow Margaret Bash of Indiana filed for pension 20 June 1904, Application 808825. No Certificate number [because it was denied.].

Information from the Pension records sent to me by Debbie Ferdetta:

Description in pension papers: Martin S. RYAL, age 20, 5 ft 7 inches tall, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair. Born Redgeville, OH. Occupation: farmer. Enrolled 16 Aug 1862. Deserted 11 Oct 1863. Also spelled RYEL.

Sick in hospital at Memphis 20 Dec. Sick in hospital 10 Apr 1863 at St. Louis, MO.

Widow's declaration for pension shows: Margaret's maiden name was Metser [see Metzgar below], married on 31 Oct 1859 near Beaver PA.

Widow Margaret Bash's deposition, stamped 27 Jun 1904:

June 1904. I am 64 years of age and I am the wife of Samuel Bash. Our residence is Goshen, Elkhart Co Ind. My first husband's name was Martin S. Ryel. I was married to Martin S. Ryel. My father went with us when we went to get married. We lived on the farm in Wayne Co Ohio. My father is dead and there is no record evidence of our marriage and since father's death I do not think there is any living witness of my marriage to Martin S. Ryel. And it being impossible to furnish the first or second class of testimony of my marriage I ask that the third class of evidence be accepted to establish the fact of our marriage. That we lived together as husband and wife and were so respected in the community where we lived after our marriage until he enlisted and went to the war. I had several letters from him, then I had a short letter from the colonel stating that he Martin S. Ryel was detailed on a foraging expedition, and never returned and was believed that the Rebels had killed him. That since then he has made diligent effort to find some trace of him, but can learn nothing more.

In a deposition by widow Margaret's sister: Mary Vansicles of Goshen, Elkhart Co IN: "...I am a sister of Mrs. Margaret Bash of Goshen Ind formerly a widow of Martin S. Ryel, Wayne Co Ohio and later of Bryan, Wayne Co Ohio. [Note: Bryan is actually in Williams County in northwest Ohio.] That my sister Miss Margaret Metzgar went in company with Martin S. Ryel. That is my father. He took them away as we lived on a farm to get married They came back. Said they were married. I personally know that from this time they lived together as husband and wife until he went to the war. My father is dead. Martin S. Ryel and his wife had one child. It only lived a short time. I worked for them after they went to keeping house in Bryan, Ohio. I am 50 years of age have known my sister continuously since, and she becoming satisfied that her husband Martin S. Ryel was dead, she married Samuel Bash who is at this date [June 1904] still living in Goshen Ind.

Mary Vansickle " Stamped 27 Jun 1904

[Note: Indiana, Marriages: Mary METZER was married to David Van Sycle (Vansickle). They had at least two children: Margaret and Delbert, both born in Bryan, OH.]

Leonard Myers of Goshen IN post office was deposed: "I was personally and well acquainted with Margaret S. Ryel and her husband Martin S. Ryel before his enlistment to serve in the war of the Rebellion. I know that

they lived together as husband and wife and were reputed as such in the community at Bryan Ohio where they [live] before he enlisted and went into the United States service from which he never returned. It was and is believed that he fell into the hands of the rebels and was killed." [Stamped 27 June 1904]
[Note: Leonard Myers is living with Daniel and Mary Van SICKLE family in 1900 in Elkhart, Elkhart Co IN. He was born <1855> in OH.]

Margaret Metsker Ryel remarried 6 Feb 1865 to Samuel BASH.
Widow's Declaration for Pension paper was witnessed by Mattie PALMER and Lillen WINTERS.

Application rejected "on the ground that soldier deserted and is born as a deserter at large, and was never discharged from the army." July 1904

Margaret Bash's address was 717 Emerson St, Goshen, Elkhart Co IN.

-----end pension record-----

1900 Census, 115 Wilson Ave, Goshen, Elkhart Co IN, Dwelling 133, Family 137: Samuel BASH, age 64 OH, born Oct 1835, married 33 yrs, teamster, parents born PA; Margrett, wife, age 53 OH, born May 1847, married 33 yrs, 2 children/2 still living, parents born PA.

Indiana Death Index: Margaret BASH died 1908, Goshen IN. Age 55. Born <1853>. City Health Office, Goshen. [She is buried at Oakridge Cemetery, Goshen, Elkhart Co IN. See [Find a Grave](#).

But Martin was out in Iowa with wife number 2.

1870 Census, Series: M593 Roll: 412, Cuba and Mantua Twp, Monroe Co IA, page 372: Martin S RYAL, age 30 OH, farm laborer; Harriet M, age 23 OH; Eunice, age 1 IA. [Iowa, County Marriages: Martin S. RYEL married Harriet M BATES 16 Feb 1868 in Monroe, IA.]

[Find a Grave](#): Martin S. RYEL buried at Beebe Cem [Smith Cem], Mantua, Monroe Co IA. Died 7 Mar 1871. Civil War vet.

This must be Martin's mother!

Julia died 24 Sep 1876. Burial [Beebe Cem](#), Monroe Co IA. Age 55 y 3m 12d

This must be Martin's brother:

Charles M RYEL died 6 Mar 1874. 29y 8m 3d Burial [Beebe Cem](#), Monroe Co IA.

Iowa, County Marriages: Danile L. McFADDEN married Harriet M. RILE on 10 Apr 1874 at Monroe Co IA. He was age 23, born abt 1851. Harriet was age 27, born abt 1847.

1880 Census, Mantua, Monroe Co IA, Dwelling 208, Family 209: Daniel McFADEN, age 29 OH, coal miner, father born OH; Harriet, age 32 OH, wife, father born NY, mother born CT; Unisriah, age 11 IA, daughter; Henry, son, age 9 IA; Ora, daughter, age 5 IA; Emergin [female], age 8 months IA, daughter, born Oct.

1885 Iowa State Census, Mantua, Monroe Co IA, Dwelling 13, Family 13: Daniel McFADDEN, lot 10 Fairview, age ?35 OH, married, miner; Harriet M. McFADDEN, married, age 38 OH; Eunice RYLE, age 16, single house keeper; Henry RYLE, age 14, laborer; Ora A McFADDEN, age 10; Emergen McFADDEN [male], age 5. Census didn't list birthplaces of children, must have been Iowa.

?Marriage of daughter: Iowa, County Marriages: Eunice A. RYEL married Arthur E. DODGE on 26 Jun 1886 at Monroe, Iowa. Her age was 17, born <1869>. His age was 24, born <1862>.

This might actually be Henry, but I can't see the original

Death of son: Iowa, Deaths and Burials: Nervey G. RYEL died 6 May 1907 at Union Twp, [county not given], age 37, born 1870 in Iowa. Single. Father Martani RYEL (OH). Mother Hannah BATES.