

## Company I, 120<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry



Photo Credit: Jill and Ron Weikle at [Find a Grave](#).

RICHEY, William F. 11 Aug 1862  
Private Richey was age 18 when he entered service. Transferred to Co. K, 114th OVI on 27 Nov 1864. Transferred to Co F, 48th OVI, 24 July 1865.  
Was in the Battle of Arkansas Post.

Father: John H. RICHEY  
Mother: Mary THROGMARTIN [by David Herzog at WorldConnect]  
Birth: 1 May 1844, Paris, Henry Co TN [by David Herzog at WorldConnect]  
Marriage: Elsy Mary GRANT on 29 Sep 1875 in Cincinnati, Hamilton Co OH  
Death: 12 Feb 1895 [?Galion, Crawford County OH]  
Cemetery: Fairview Cemetery, Galion, Crawford Co OH

Pension Index: William F RICHEY, I 120th, F 48th and K 114th OH Inf. Invalid filed 1885 Feb 20, 532947, 441148. Widow Elsy M RICHEY filed 19 Feb 1895, Application 609337, Certificate 430606, filed in OH. Pension Card: William died 12 Feb 1895.

1850 Census, have not found.

1860 Census, Ontario, Springfield Twp, Richland Co OH, Dwelling 1294, Family 1304:  
John RICHEY, age 49 OH, carpenter; Rachel, age 49 PA; William, age 13 OH; Sarah, age 10 OH. [???Ohio, County Marriages: John H. RICHEY married Rachel BELL, 15 Aug 1848, Richland Co OH.]

Lived in Richland county at time of enlistment.

1870 Census, have not found.

Time in Buffalo NY and in Cincinnati OH. Fall 1872 to 1 May 1874 he was in Buffalo NY. July 1874 to part of 1880 he was in Cincinnati. [See pension info below]

Hamilton County Probate Court record: William F. RICHEY married Elsy M. GRANT on 22 Sep 1875 in Hamilton Co OH.

1880 Census, Cincinnati, Hamilton, OH, Dwelling, Family 34?: W. F. RICHEY, age 33 TN, carpenter, father born OH, mother born TN; MIX UP IN PEOPLE? Mary K is listed as wife, age 25 born OH, parents born OH; daughter is listed as Elsy K, age 4 OH; Wm A., son, age 2 OH; John K, son, 8 months OH.

1890 Special Veterans Schedule, 4th Ward, Crawford Co: William F. RICHEY, I 120th OH, K 114th OH, F, 48th OH, residence Galion OH, lung ?? and diarrhoea [Galion is a city in Crawford, Morrow, and Richland counties]

1900 Census, 245 Jefferson St, Galion Ward 4, Crawford Co OH, Dwelling 392, Family 404: Mary E. RICHEY, widow, age 45, born Nov 1854 OH, parents born OH; William A., son, age 22 OH, born Aug 1877, single, father born TN, mother born OH, brakeman on Railroad; James H, age 17 OH, born Jan 1883, father born TN, mother born OH, cigar maker; Andrew O, age 15 OH, born Oct 1885, father born TN, mother born OH; Ray F, age 11 OH, born Mar 1889, father born TN, mother born OH; Newton P, age 9 OH; Hugh D, age 7 OH, born Apr 1891, father born TN, mother born OH.

1910 Census, 245 Jefferson St, Galion Ward 4, Polk Twp, Crawford Co OH, Dwelling, Family 216: Elsy M, RICHEY, age 53 OH, widow, 9 children/9 still living, parents born OH; Ray, son, age 21 OH, single, father born TN, mother born OH, cigar maker; Newton Portor, son, age 18 OH, single, father born TN, mother born OH, no occupation; Hugh D, son, age 16 OH, father born TN, mother born OH, helper.

1920 Census, 1623 Freeman Ave, Cincinnati, 21 ward, Hamilton Co OH, Dwelling 63, Family 123: Elsie M. RICHEY, age 65 OH, widow, parents born OH; Ray F, son, age 30 OH, single, father born TN, mother born Oh, cigar maker in cigar factory; Hugh D, son, age 26 OH, single, father born TN, mother born OH, switchman on railroad.

Elsie M. Richey, 1623 Freeman Ave, Cincinnati, died 19 May 1923.

Pension papers from the National Archives sent by Debbie Ferdetta:

[2479] Children of William RICHEY: John F, Hannah I, James H, Audrey O, Ray F, Newton P, Hugh D. Widow Elsy M. RICHEY

[2480] Original illnesses started at Arkansas Post, Ark, winter of 1862-63....lung trouble and diarrhoea.

[2485] Elsy was living on Cherry St, Galion, Crawford Co OH in August 1896.

[2486] Dr. Hackedorn: William had tuberculosis of both lungs and chronic diarrhoea. Dated Jan 1896

[2488] Birth dates of children: John F, 22 Sep 1879; Hannah I, 28 Apr 1881; James H, 4 Jan 1883; Andrew O, 10 Oct 1885; Ray F, 8 Mar 1889; Newton P, 4 Apr 1891; Hugh D, 26 Apr 1893.

[2491] Dr. John C. McILVAIN, dated 1896 testified that there were 7 children in the family and that the soldier had not been previously married.

[2497] The soldier was a carpenter after the war....when he was able to work.

[2499] Letter from Conrad BOHL to pension telling of the soldier's illness. Galion OH, 17 Aug 1887.

[2501] Aaron C. PEPPER, of Cincinnati OH, testified that he worked with soldier RICHEY from Feb 1875 until latter part of 1880 and told of his illness. He mentioned that in the latter part of 1880 the soldier was so low ...that he was given up for death by Doctor A M BROWN who waited on him at the time.

[2507] Dated 26 Aug 1887 George MOORHOUSE wrote: I knew W F Richie when a boy. He was a stout hardy boy up to the time he enlisted in the army. I saw him in camp and he was still a sound healthy boy. Saw him after he returned from the army. He was then in poor health. Saw him again at his fathers in June 1876. He had a little family to keep. Worked for me the following harvest. He was not able to make more than a good half hand. (Did all he could) Paid him the same paid other hands out of sympathy for him in his then condition.

[2513] Aaron PEPPER testified that widow Elsy had not been previously married.

[2517] Dated 18 Feb 1896. Christopher AU, age 71, of Ontario, Richland Co OH testified: I have known Wm F. RICHEY since about the year 1856 or 1858. ??? lived within one and one half miles of his home in 1855 to the time of his enlistment in my Company viz Co I 120 Regt OVI in the year 1862. And after his term of service...was closed until the year 1869 which year I moved to within a few rods to his fathers house where he lived. Have been intimately acquainted with him since, especially up to the date of his marriage to the above named claimant, his present widow. That he was not married to any other person prior to having been married to his present widow...

[2520] Dated 5 Feb 1896. John W. GRANT, age 44, of Cincinnati, Hamilton Co OH: "that I have known Elsy M. Richey for at least thirty nine years, and since her birth; and knew from personal knowledge that she was never previously married prior to her marriage to Wm. F. Richey.

[2525] Dated Oct 1887. Nancy GRANT of Cincinnati, Hamilton Co OH testified that she had boarded in the same house with W. F. Ritchie in Feb 1875. She said also that in 1880 he was given up for death by Dr. A M Brown.

[2528] Dated Sep 1887. Henry W. Kirkland, of Ontario, Richland co OH testified that the soldier was at his father's from 1865 until 1872. The soldier's father lived a quarter mile from Kirkland's place and he often saw him. He also worked for Kirkland in 1876 a short time. The soldier had been living in Galion several years.

[2535] Date might have been 1887, Henry KIRKLAND of Ontario, Richland Co OH: "That he has personally known W. F. Richey the claimant for about thirty years. That he employed said Richey in agricultural labor before the war and that he was a good hand as a boy of his age could be at any ordinary work. That he personally knows that said Richey was not able to earn a living for at least one year from the date of his return in 1865. That said Richey staid[sic] at his father's house in Ontario (Jno H. Richey's) in Ontario most of the time. His general appearance was that of a weakly run down man and he did no labor except what we call chores about his father's cabinet shop. That I have since employed Richey to hoe potatoes and help harvest and tend to berried; during all the time since, except during about three years I have known him and seen him frequently. When in my employ he was not more than a half hand and that was at his best; part of the time he could not work at all so that he was not fully a half hand. I lived about a half mile from him during his residence in Ontario, and have frequently seen him during his residence in Galion O. I honestly think if any man deserved a pension he does....."

[2537] 1887, Daniel Oyster of Jefferson Twp, Richland Co OH testified for Richey: .....in Jan 1863 at Arkansas Post, Ark, I personally know that the above named contracted jaundice and chronic diarrhoea and I also know that while convalescent he contracted lung disease and constipation from severe exposure. It rained constantly and it was a very cold rain and we were not allowed any fire for awhile, the rebs being near. I was a private. I was a mess mate of his and was with him from Chickasaw Bluffs to Arkansas Post, Ark.

[2539] Dr. Aaron M. BROWN: BROWN had known RICHEY since the fall of 1879 ..at which time he was called in to treat him ...until 12 Feb 1881 at which time he advised RICHEY to move to his native town, Galion OH as he was entirely unable to do any manual labor and BROWN did not think that RICHEY would live through the year of 1881. [Note; Aaron M BROWN, MD, was an assistant surgeon with the 22nd OVI.]

[2545] Dated 2 July 1886. Included in pension papers for William RICHEY [See below] of this same company, was a letter of testimony for Richey written by J. H. MORTON of Galion, Crawford Co OH.

Mr. W. F. RICHIE was a comrade in the 120 Reg. Co I, the same that I was in and we were intimate friends. He was then a stout hearty young man and seemed to be in perfect health and a good soldier and he is as worthy of a pension as I am or any other soldier. And if he don't get it soon it will never do him any good. He is unable to do anything and [has] a large family of small children. But to the evidence you are after covers much time and space. I kept a diary from Aug 1862 to May 1864 up to the time I was wounded and I shall make the statement as short as possible. While we lay at Chickasaw Bluffs in 1862 he was afflicted with yellow jaundice and diarrhea. And he would never report [sick] as long as he could get around and by not reporting [he] was on duty when called. Then at Arkansas Post Jan 1863 did not report and was in the fight when I knew he ought to of been in the hospital. And there he caught a bad cold that settled on his lungs. But still kept in the ranks by not reporting until we were at Champion Hills he was absent from the ranks for a short time. He frequently reported for a few days at a time. Then we were sent to New River Landing and I remember his being brought in from picket insensible caused by a combination of the above named complaints which produced general debility. Then we was sent up Red River and about the first of May 1864 our Reg 120th OVI was all ?ent? to peaces [pieces] and our regimental papers were all destroyed by the enemy. I was ?and? crippled for life and from that time until the close of the war I have no personal knowledge of Mr. Richie. I signed a statement once before but did not realize what was required of me. I get to see him occasionally and in my judgment he is badly used up in the service of his country and he is legally entitled to a pension and if it ever does him any good it must come soon. I could say much more but time and space is to great for me to do more. Yours in spirit and truth, from J. H. Morton co I, 120th Reg OVI

[2549] Similar testimony by W. B. MILLIKIN, age 48, of Ontario, Springfield Twp, Richland Co OH.

[2551] Dated 5 Sep 1887. Lieut. W. B. Millikin wrote that Richey was offered a discharge at different times at St. Louis Hospital and was offered a discharge by General Austerhouse. [Osterhaus] He wrote that no doctors thought when he was taken from the hospital at Youngs Point and onto a hospital boat that he would ever get well.

[2563] Dated 16 Aug 1886, letter from Alfred WILSON: The the Hon Commissioner of Pensions. Sir This is to certify that I, Alfred Wilson, a Private of Co I 120th OVI was well acquainted with W. F. Richey in the winter of 1862. He was taken sick with yellow jaundice and diarrhea at Chickasaw Bluffs Miss. Afterwards took part in the Battle of Arkansas Post 63 when not well. From exposure there, took cold that settled on his lungs. Done but little duty till May 63. Remained with the Regt. till March 65 doing duty when able. Complaining of his lungs a great deal of the time. Was then sent to Hospital 2 or 3 weeks at Fort Gains, Ala. Then returned to Regt at Mobile Ala. And remained with it to Oct 14 1865. Said

W. F. Richey was a good soldier and a good citizen, sober and industrious, needy with a large family to support. Not been able to work. Ought to have had a pension long ago. Yours respectfully, Alfred Wilson, P.O. address Crestline, OH.

[2567] Official record for RICHEY:

\*15 June 1863 admitted to Convalescent Hospital at Millikensville near Young's Point, La

\*11 Aug 1863 admitted to the hospital steamer Charles McDougall.

\*18 Aug 1863 entered General Hospital New House of Refuge, St. Louis MO

\*Returned to duty 4 Dec 1863

\*6 Apr 1865, as part of Co K, 114th OH Vols, entered General Hospital Ft. Gaines, Dauphin's Island, AL.

\*Returned to duty 25 May 1865.

[2570] Discharged at Houston TX. RICHEY's own letter.

[2572] Letter by Richey dated 20 Sep 1887: In the fall of 1872 I went to Buffalo New York and remained until the spring, 1st May 1874. While there I was under the care of Dr. G. E. Harrington who treated me for constipation and lung trouble.

.... May 1st had to quit work on account of my health and returned home to Ontario. Had to leave a good steady employment as painter for the Buffalo St Car Co. 2.25 per day. .... then went to Cincinnati about the last of July 1874

[2575] Affidavit of A. C. BIEN of Cincinnati, Hamilton Co OH: I lived in the same neighborhood with W. F. Richey during the years 1878, 1879, 1880 A.D. My residence was within two (2) squares of his and I saw and conversed with him from two to three times a week on an average during the years 1878 and 1879. I was on friendly terms with him during that period.

They said W. F. Richey was afflicted with chronic diarrhea and hemorage of the lungs during all the time of my acquaintanceship with him. During a large part of 1878 and 1879 he was disabled from work. And during a greater part of 1880 he was so bad from the effects of sickness that he was confined to his bed.

I am able to tell what his disease was from statements he made to me at the time and from his appearance and acts. He appeared thin and pale and haggard and was continually coughing. In 1878, he was sickly, frequently prevented from working. In 1879 he was growing worse. In 1880 he was confined more to his bed.

[2582] Soldier died 12 Feb 1895.

[2583] Elsy M. Richey, 1623 Freeman Ave, Cincinnati, died 19 May 1923.

[2584] Regimental Hospital records and Morning reports and returns: on rolls: To April 30, 1863 present - May and June 1863, left at Thomsons Hill Miss sick May 2/63 July and Aug 1863 same report. Sept and Oct 1863 sick at Youngs Point La May 2, 1863 Nov and Dec 1863 present, and so borne to Oct 31, 1864. Not reported absent on return Jan 1863.

Transferred to Co K 114 OVI and reported on rolls: Nov and Dec 1864 present. Jan and Feb 1865 present. March and April 1865 present. Transferred to Co F 48th Battalion OVI and reported on roll. July and Aug 1865 present. Mustered out with Co Oct 14, 1865 at Houston Texas.

[2589] Elsy M GRANT and Wm F. RICHEY married 29 Sep 1875 at West 5th St, #529, Cincinnati O., by Rev. M. B. Taylor.

There is a repeat here of the birth dates of the children.

[2591] Probate Court record: Ray Field RICHEY was born 8 Mar 1889 at Galion, Crawford Co OH. Father W. F. RICHEY, mother Mary Elsie GRANT residing Galion.

[2592] Probate Court record: Newton Porter RICHEY, born 4 Apr 1891, at Galion, Crawford Co OH. Parents W. F. RICHEY and Mary Elsie GRANT of Galion.

[2593] Probate Court record: Hugh Dale RICHEY, born 26 Apr 1893, at Galion, Crawford Co OH. Parents W. F. RICHEY and Mary Elise GRANT of Galion, OH.

[2594] Probate Court record: Hiram J. RICHEY, born 4 Jan 1883 at Galion, Crawford Co OH. Father W. F. RICHEY and Mary Elsie GRANT of Galion.

[2595] Probate Court record: Andrew O. RICHEY, born 10 Oct 1885 at Galion, Crawford Co OH. Parents W. F. RICHEY and Mary E. GRANT of 4th ward Galion OH.

[2596] Copy of Marriage record.

[2600] Christopher Au's affidavit.

VA Pension Payment Card, 1907-1933, Shows Elsy's death date as 19 May 1923.