

Captain Louis Muller



The commanding officer of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry, at the Battle of Gettysburg, Louis was born in 1835 in Canton Grison, Switzerland. He immigrated to the United States and was working as a clerk (perhaps at a store) in Stillwater, Minnesota, when the Civil War broke out. On April 29, 1861, he volunteered to serve his adopted country. He must have been a strong leader, for he was promoted to sergeant soon after enlisting, and then promoted to lieutenant. In September 1862, he was again promoted to captain and would lead the company at the battle of Gettysburg

1st Lieutenant David B. Demarest



David was born in the state of New York sometime around the year 1834 but had migrated westward to Minnesota prior to the start of the Civil War. When the war began, he was working as a "trimmer" in St. Paul, Minnesota; trimmers worked with coal usually on steamships, so he had to be physically strong. On April 29, 1861, David volunteered and entered the army as a sergeant in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was a good leader. He was later promoted to 2nd Lieutenant and then promoted again to 1st Lieutenant, meaning he was second in command of Company E.

Sergeant Francis Kittel



Born in Germany in 1824, Francis immigrated to the United States sometime prior to 1846. He served in the United States Army during the War with Mexico (1846-1848) as a private in the 6th U.S. Infantry, and was discharged from the army in 1851. Afterward, he moved to St. Anthony, Minnesota. On April 29, 1861, Francis volunteered to fight for his adopted country a second time and became a corporal in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. Because of his prior military experience and his good leadership, he was soon promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Sergeant Samuel Stites



Samuel B. Stites was born in Illinois in 1837. At some point prior to the Civil War, Samuel migrated to Minnesota where he worked in a horse stable. On April 29, 1861, Stites, along with his brother Adam, entered the army as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry; there were at least 4 other sets of brothers in Company E. He stood 5'8" in height, had blue eyes, and dark hair. He was a good leader and a good soldier and was promoted to the rank of sergeant in September 1862. A man who served with Stites called him "one of the best soldiers in our company."

Sergeant Patrick Taylor

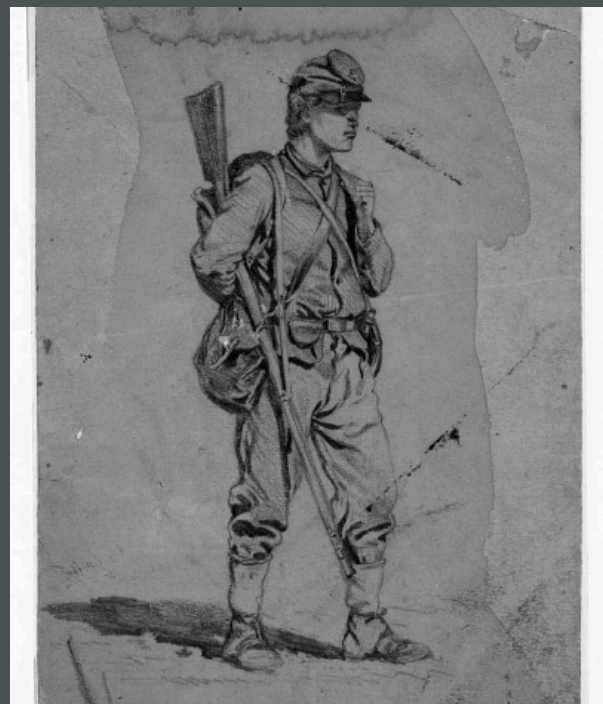
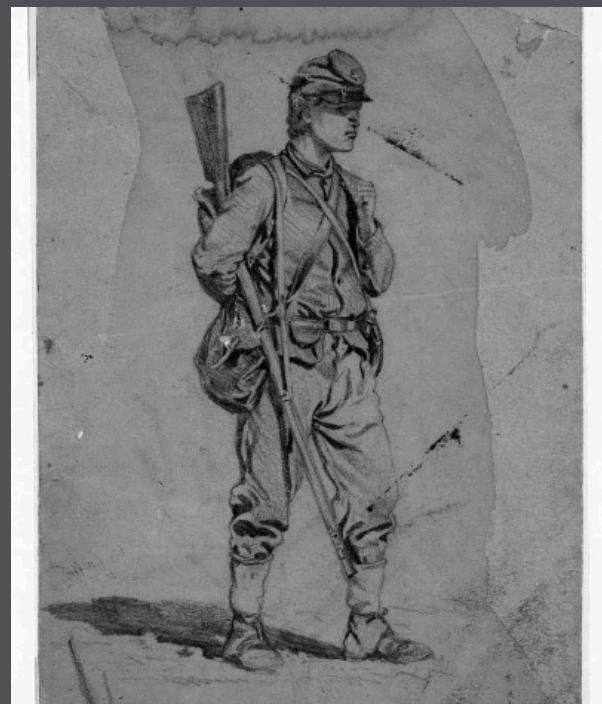
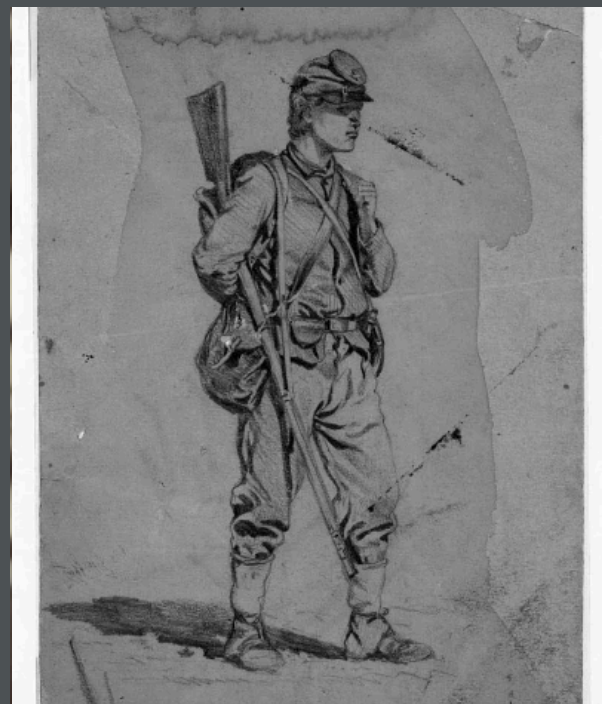
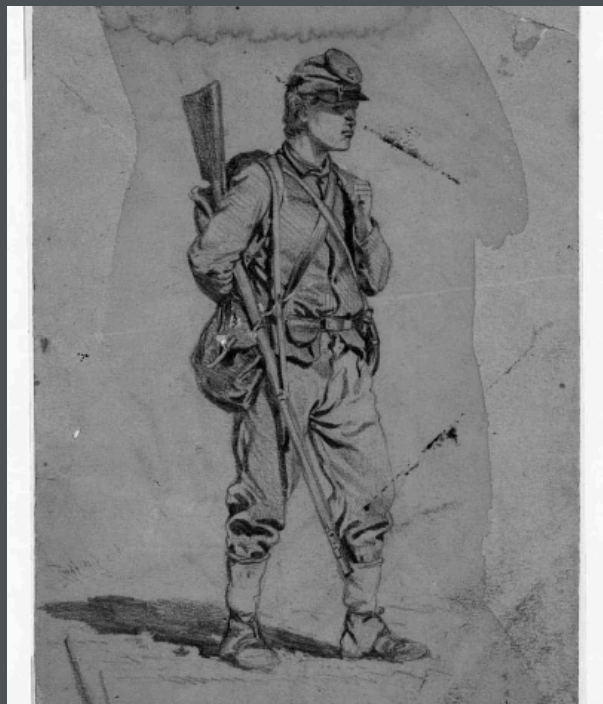
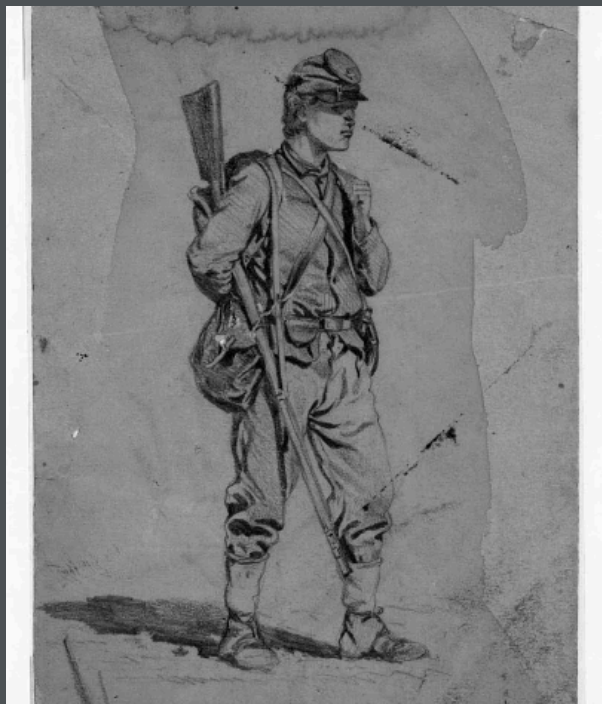
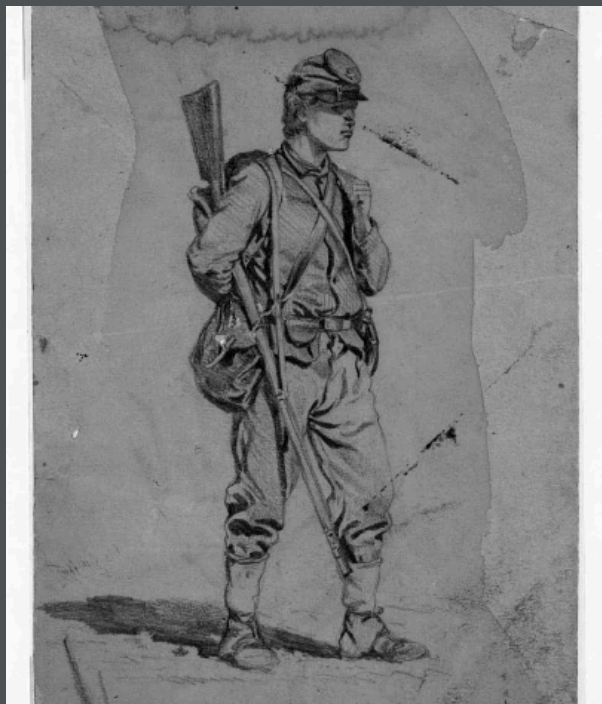


Patrick Henry Taylor was part of a large family, including a brother named Isaac, who would serve alongside him in the Civil War. Born in Massachusetts, the Taylors moved around a lot before settling in Illinois. When the war began, he was teaching in Minnesota and quickly volunteered to fight. He said: "The spirit of patriotism prompted me to volunteer to go and fight for my country." He was 23 years old, 5'10" tall, with blue eyes and dark hair. He was wounded at First Manassas in 1861, and then at Savage Station in 1862, and held as a prisoner of war for several months prior to the battle of Gettysburg. Upon his release, Patrick was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Sergeant Joseph Trevor



Little is known about Joseph G. Trevor, except that he was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania in 1834, and that he had migrated westward to Roseville, Minnesota, sometime prior to the start of the Civil War. There, he became a farmer. On April 29, 1861, the 27-year-old was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He must have been a good soldier and leader because he was later promoted to the rank of corporal and then to sergeant. Sergeants made sure the other soldiers were trained well, marched well and did all their duties.



Sergeant William Wakefield



William Wakefield was born in 1833 in Maine where he worked as a millwright. Millwrights were the mechanics at large mills or factories that produced things mechanically, before there was electricity. In short, he must have been smart and strong. He migrated west, all the way to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1854, at the age of 21. There, he worked as a millwright, a store owner, and lumberjack, until the outbreak of the Civil War in April 1861. William enlisted as a private in May 1861 at the age of 27, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant in December 1862.

Corporal Edwin Austin



Born in the state of New York in 1839, Edward Austin migrated westward to Minnesota and was living in St. Paul when the war began. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. He enlisted into the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry, on May 26, 1861, as a private but was promoted to the rank of corporal on December 7, 1861. Corporals basically assisted the sergeants in training and preparing the privates for the campaigns and battles.

Corporal Henry C. Bradley



Henry was born in Connecticut but later migrated westward to Minnesota and was working there as a carpenter when the war began. He volunteered to serve his country and on May 23, 1861, was mustered into service as a corporal in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 28 years old, stood 5'8" in height, had hazel eyes and black hair. Henry was shot through the thigh, wounded, and later captured at the Battle of Savage Station in June 1862. He was released from captivity and sent to a hospital in Philadelphia to recover from his injury but was back with the 1st Minnesota in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Corporal James S. Brower



Born in the state of Michigan in December 1839, James S. Brower moved with his family to Minnesota in the year 1860, one year before the Civil War began. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. When the war started, Brower decided to enlist and became a corporal in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry; corporals basically assisted the sergeants in training and preparing the privates for the campaigns and battles. He was 22 years old at the time.

Corporal John McKenzie

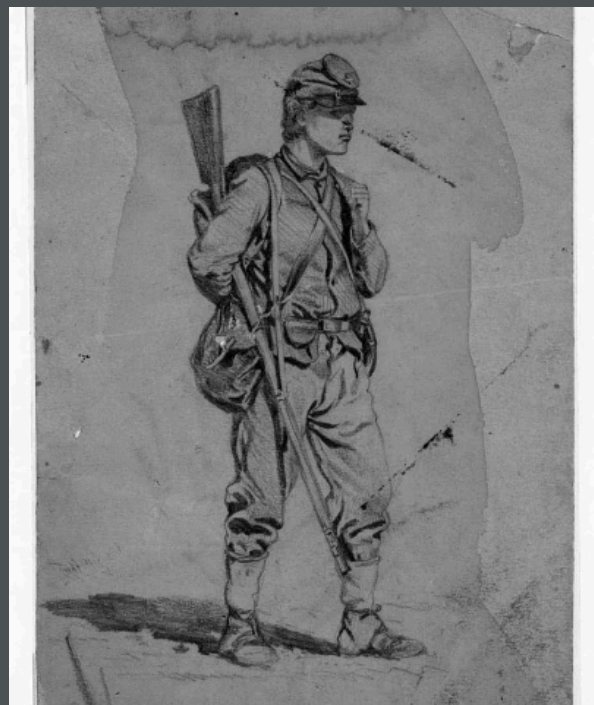
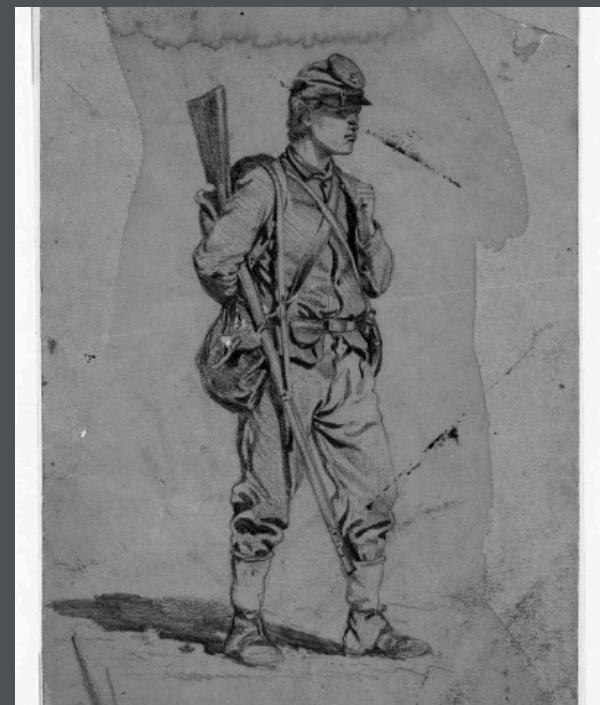
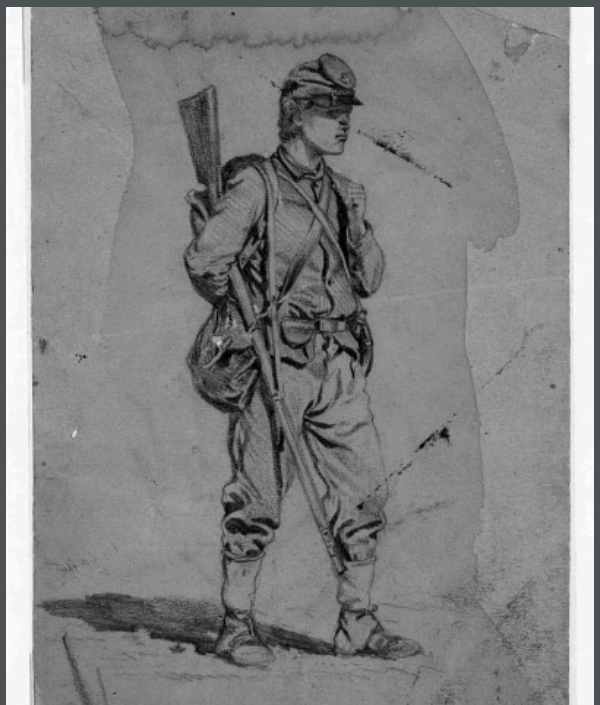
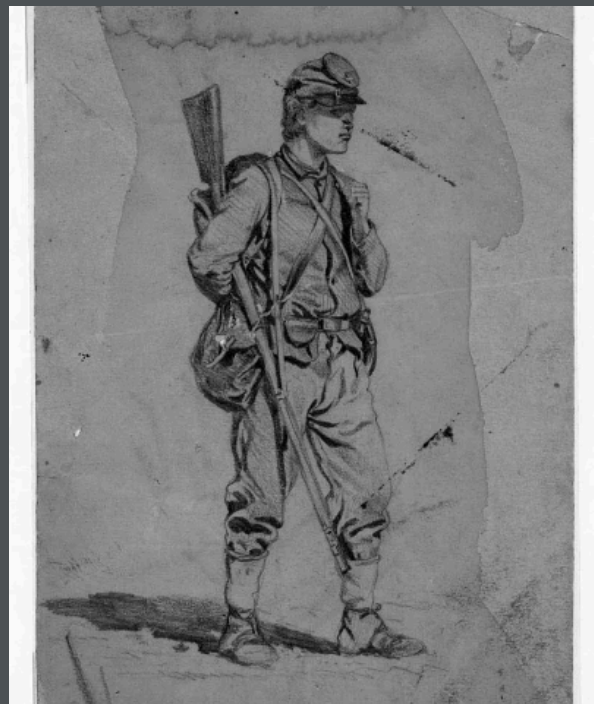
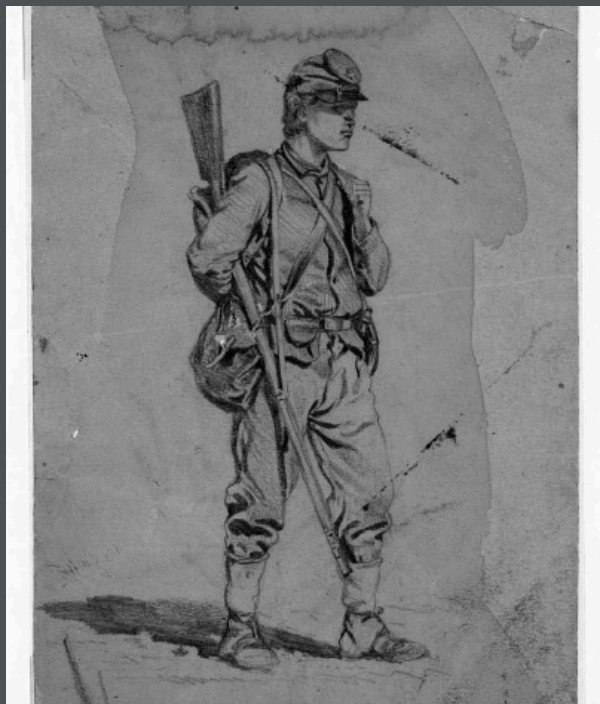
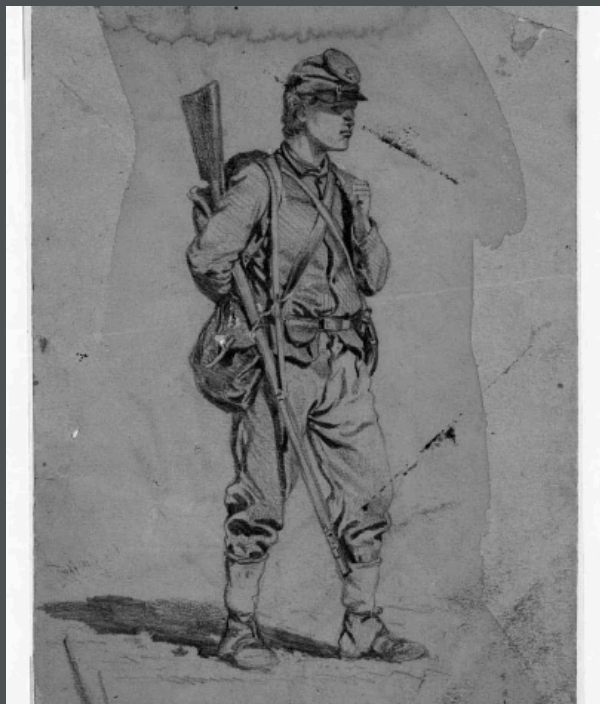


John McKenzie was born in Scotland but had immigrated to the United States sometime prior to the start of the Civil War, likely due to the lure of better opportunities in the expanding and industrialized United States. On May 23, 1861, he volunteered to fight for his new country and was mustered into service in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 5'4 1/2" tall, had hazel eyes, and dark brown hair. He was a good soldier and was promoted to the rank of corporal; corporals assisted the sergeants in training and preparing the privates for the campaigns and battles.

Corporal Henry D. O'Brien



Born in Maine in 1842, Henry was fifteen years old when he and his family moved to Minnesota in 1857. By the outbreak of the Civil War, he was working as a clerk there; clerks were responsible for managing accounts and other administrative duties in stores or businesses. He was nineteen years old when he was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 5'7" tall, with hazel eyes and dark hair. He was promoted to the rank of corporal on January 1, 1863, assisting the sergeants in training and preparing the men for battle.



Corporal Benjamin Staples



Born in Maine in 1836, Benjamin Staples and his family moved to Minnesota in 1854, when he was 18 years old. They were a farming family and Benjamin was working on the family farm when the Civil War began in 1861. He was quick to enlist and was mustered into service in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 25 years old and a good soldier, and was soon promoted to corporal, though he fell seriously ill twice in 1862. He was captured at the Battle of Antietam and was held as a prisoner of war for one month. He was back with the 1st Minnesota in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Corporal Matthew Taylor



Matthew Taylor was born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1837, but had immigrated to the United States sometime prior to the start of the Civil War. On April 29, 1861, Matthew volunteered to serve in the army and was mustered into service in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 24 years old, stood 5'9 1/2" in height, had hazel eyes and dark colored hair. He was not related to brothers Isaac and Patrick Taylor, who also served in Company E. Corporals assisted the sergeants in training and preparing the privates for the campaigns and battles.

Private George M. Adams



Born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1843, George Adams grew up in Maine but later moved west with his family and settled in Minnesota. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. On May 23, 1861, George was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. His older brother, Daniel Adams, also served in the same company; there were at least 4 other sets of brothers in this one company. Privates were the lowest rank in the army, but the primary fighting force of the army.

Private Daniel Adams



Daniel Adams was born in 1840 in New Brunswick, Canada, but he grew up in Maine. Some time prior to 1857, the Adams's moved to Minnesota, settling in Morrison County. On May 23, 1861, Daniel Adams enlisted as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 21 years old. His younger brother, George, also served in the same company. Daniel Adams fell seriously ill with typhoid fever in the fall of 1862 and spent some time recovering in a hospital in Philadelphia. He rejoined the regiment in time for the Battle of Gettysburg.

Private William H. Bassett

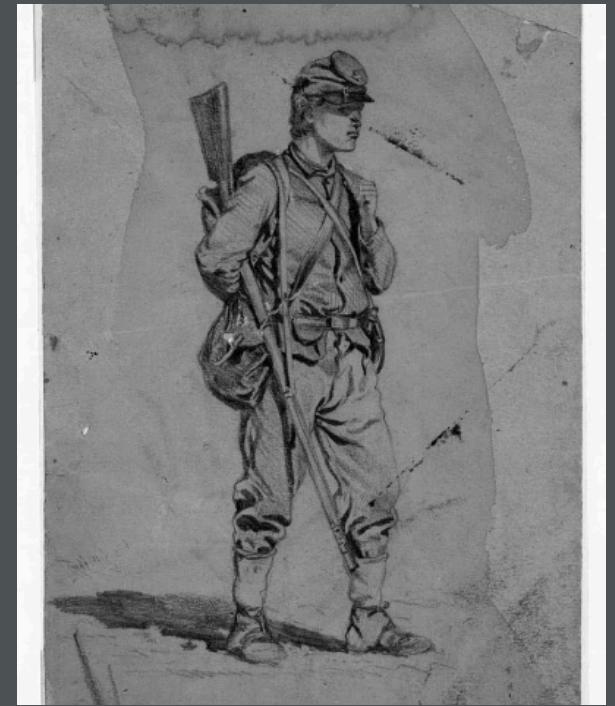
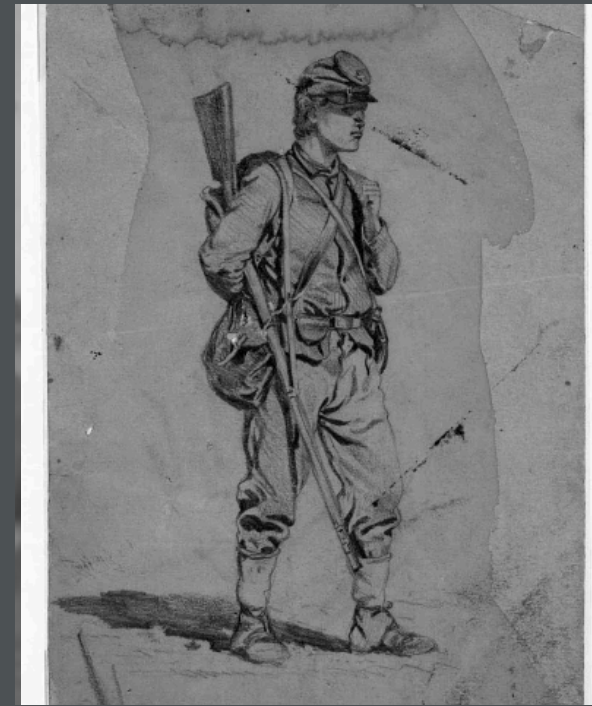
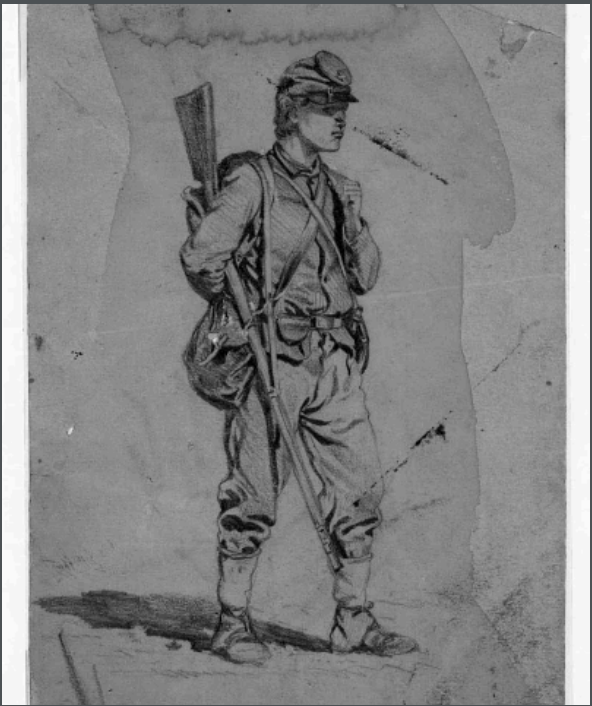
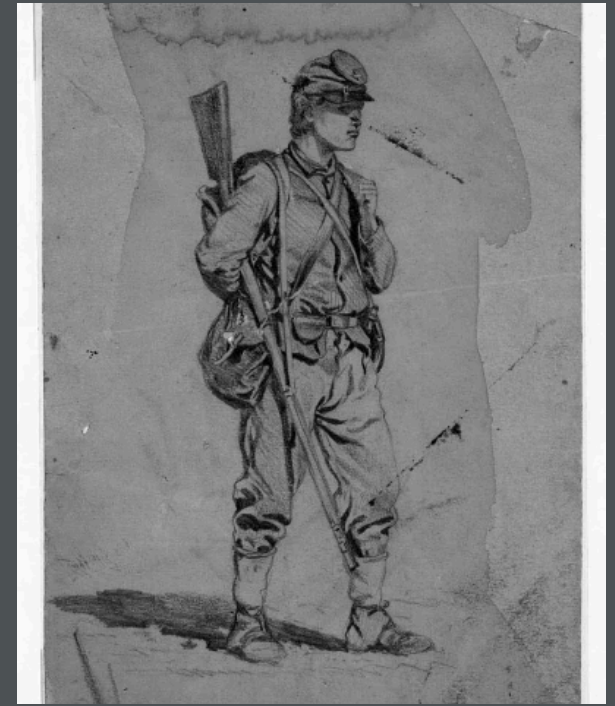
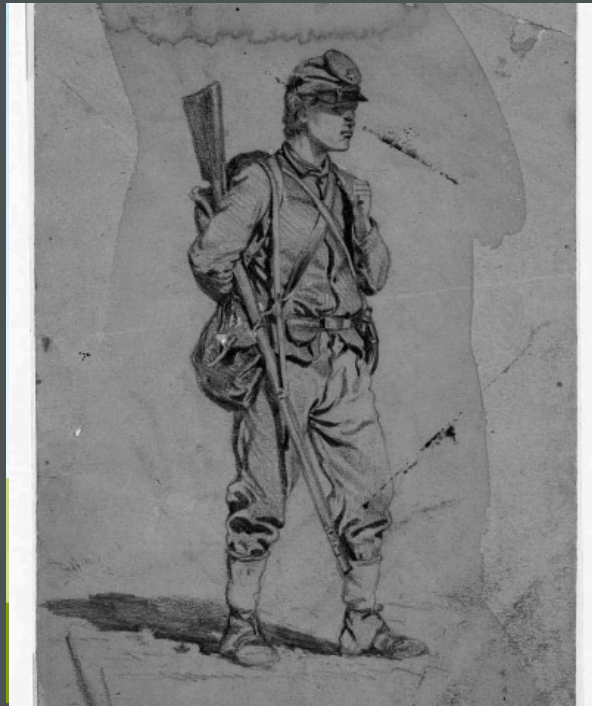
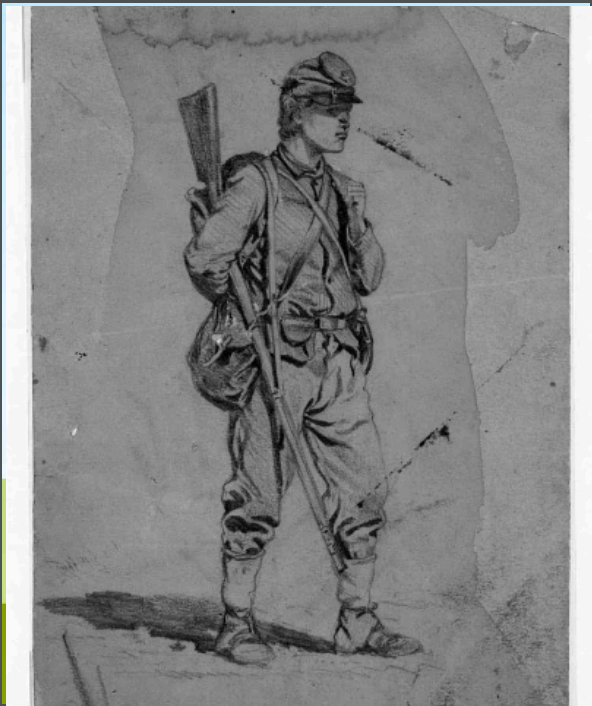


Born in Lowell, Maine, in 1840, William Bassett had twelve older siblings. At some time before the start of the Civil War, William moved to Minnesota where he worked in a mill; mills were mechanized factories creating textiles or grain before there was electricity. On April 29, 1861, he was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry; privates were the lowest rank in the army, but the primary fighting force of the army. William turned 21 one month later. He stood 6'0" in height, had hazel eyes, and dark hair.

Private Amos Berry



Amos Berry was born in Maine on February 23, 1834. At the age of 17, he migrated westward and settled in Minnesota, where he became a lumberjack. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land; lumberjacks cut down trees using hand tools and then used horses or oxen to transport the logs to sawmills, so Amos must have been strong. On May 23, 1861, he was mustered into service alongside his younger brother Charles in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry.



Private Charles Berry



Born in Maine, on April 4, 1842, Charles moved west to Minnesota sometime prior to the Civil War, where he worked as a logger and farmer. On April 29, 1861, he enlisted to serve with Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 19 years old, 5'7" tall, with blue eyes and dark hair. His brother Amos also served in Company E. Charles was wounded at the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, shot through the chest and left on the field; he was later captured and became a prisoner of war. He recovered, was released from prison, and returned to the unit in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Private David Carlton



David Carlton was born in Bath, Maine, on August 7, 1830, but in 1849, at the age of 19, he migrated westward and settled into a new life in the state of Minnesota. There, he worked as a lumberjack. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land; lumberjacks cut down trees using hand tools and then used horses or oxen to transport the logs to sawmills. On February 26, 1863, he joined Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 33 years of age, stood 5'7" in height, had blue eyes, and dark hair.

Private William E. Cundy



Born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1838, William attended school at a young age in Maine, where he also began to learn about the lumber business. The Cundy family moved to Minnesota in 1854 when William was a teenager. There, he worked in a number of sawmills. When the Civil War began, William volunteered to serve and became a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 23 years old, 5'9" tall, had blue eyes and light hair. Private Cundy was wounded and captured at the Battle of Antietam in September 1862 and was a prisoner of war for three months before being paroled. He returned to the regiment in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Private John Curry



Little is known about John Curry except that he was born in 1836 in Vermont and that on May 26, 1861, he was living in Little Falls, Minnesota, and working as a lumberman, when he enlisted to serve in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. Lumberman or lumberjacks cut and transported lumber and had to be very strong. John likely fought with the unit at the battles of First Manassas, Gaines' Mill, and Antietam before beginning the march north toward Pennsylvania in June 1863. As a private, John carried his musket-rifle along with 35 pounds of gear and belongings.

Private John W. Davis

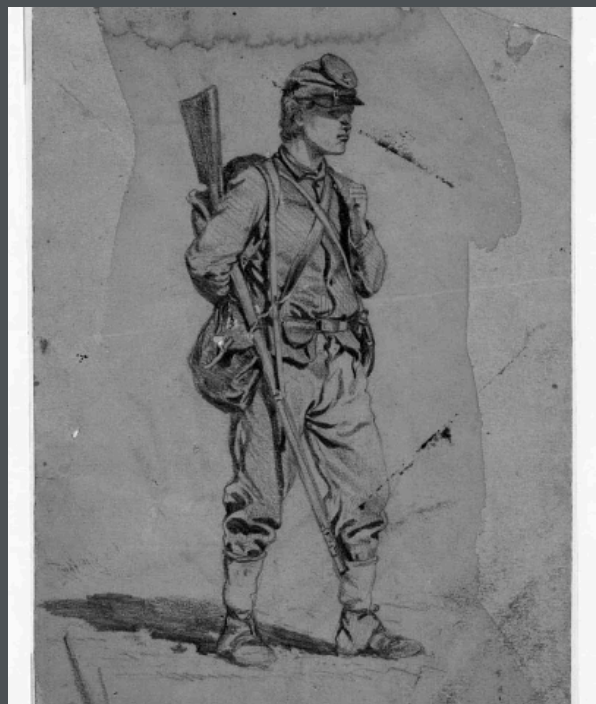
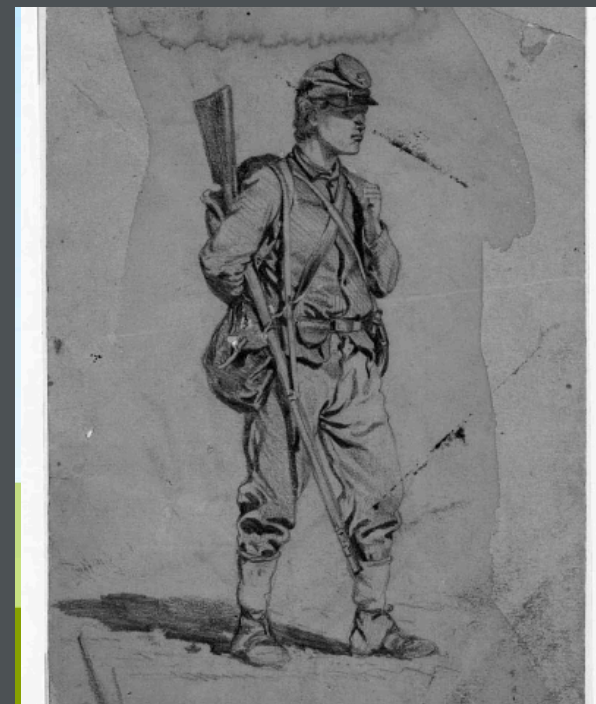
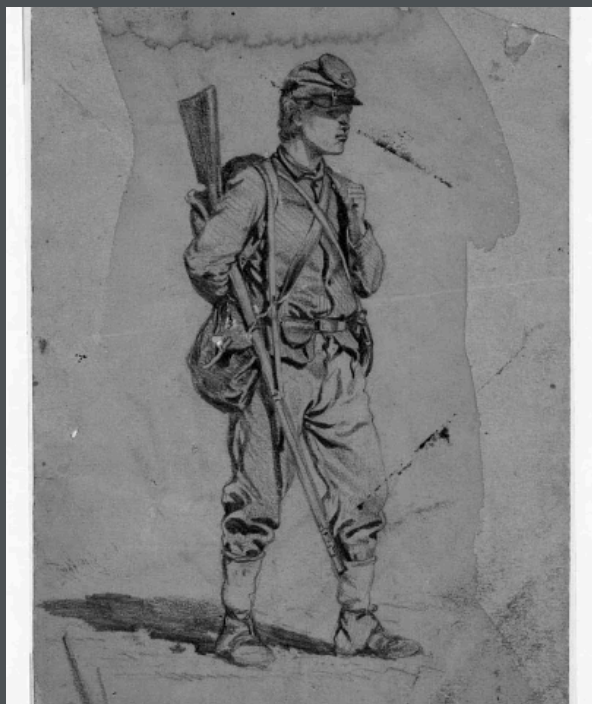
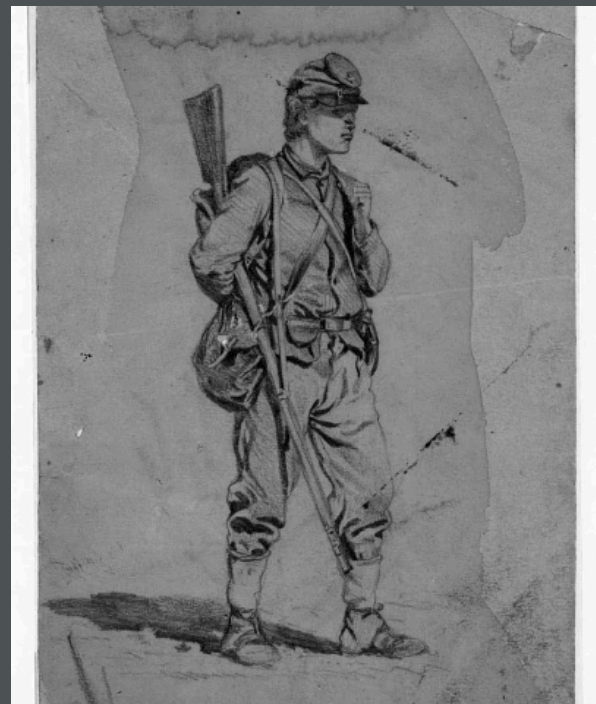
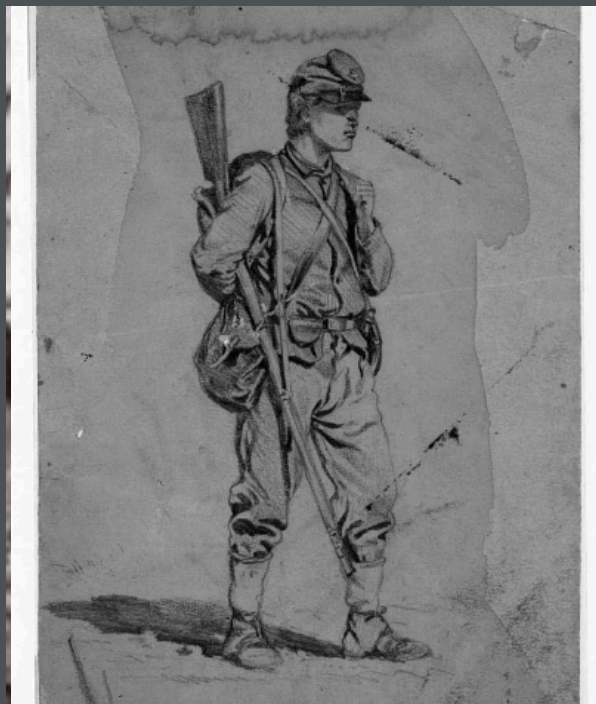
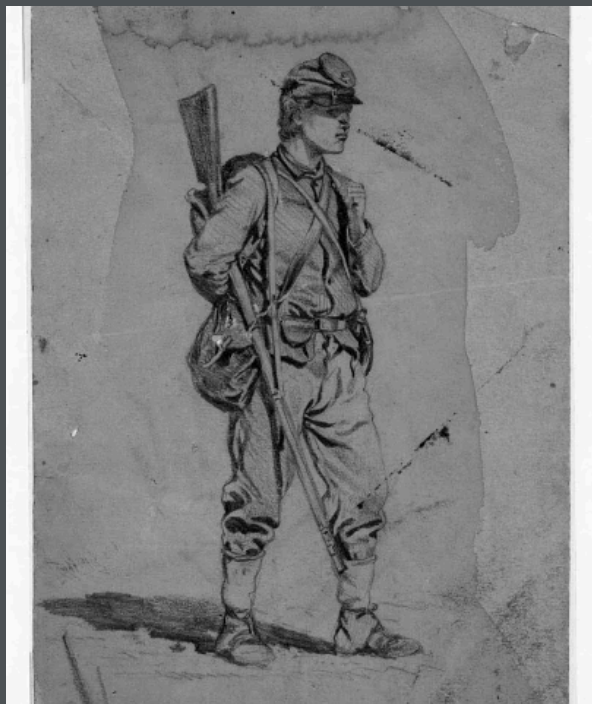


Unfortunately, little is known about the life of Private John W. Davis. We do know that on April 29, 1861, he volunteered to serve in the U.S. military and was mustered into service as a private, in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 23 years old. He was among the earliest volunteers for the war effort, and fought in the battle of First Manassas, during the Seven Days' Battles, and at Antietam in September of 1862. Privates were the lowest rank in the army, but the primary fighting force of the army.

Private Hiram Drake



Little is known about Hiram Drake. He may have been born in the state of Pennsylvania sometime around the year 1837. He settled in the state of Minnesota sometime prior to the start of the Civil War; Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. Volunteering to serve very soon after war was declared, Hiram was mustered into the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry, on May 18, 1861. He was about 24 years of age. As a private, he was the lowest rank in the army, but part of its primary fighting force.



Private Henry I. Fisher



Born in Baden, Germany, sometime around the year 1840, Henry I. Fischer (later changed to Fisher) immigrated to the United States and became a farmer near St. Cloud, Minnesota. Wheat and oats were the primary cash crops in Minnesota in the 1850s. When the American Civil War began, Henry volunteered to fight for his adopted country and became a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. Privates were the lowest rank in the army, but the primary fighting force of the army. He was about 21 years of age, stood 5'9" in height, had gray eyes and dark hair.

Private Lucius Ford



Born in April 1831, in Genesee County, New York, Lucius Ford was married to his wife, Melissa, and they had a young daughter named Ella, when they migrated west to the state of Minnesota sometime prior to the start of the Civil War. They lived near St. Cloud, Minnesota, and were farmers. When the war began, Lucius volunteered to serve, and became a soldier in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. For most of his time in uniform, Lucius served as a musician, both a fifer and a drummer. However, he did shoulder a musket at the Battle of Antietam, in September 1862.

Private Norman Fowler



Norman Fowler was born sometime around the year 1835 in Ohio. He migrated west, however, and settled in St. Anthony, Minnesota, prior to the start of the Civil War. On April 29, 1861, Fowler was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 26 years of age and was, by occupation, a laborer (a laborer was someone who performed manual labor for wages on farms, in mines or in factories). He was wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863 but was with the regiment at Gettysburg two months later.

Private William W. Goundry



Born on September 17, 1834, in Wood County, Ohio, William Goundry grew up in New York before he and his family moved west to Minnesota in 1856. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. He was 22 years old and became a lumberjack, cutting down trees using hand tools and then using horses or oxen to transport the logs to sawmills. William was living in Royalton when the Civil War began, and on May 23, 1861, he was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry.

Private Elvin Gil Hill

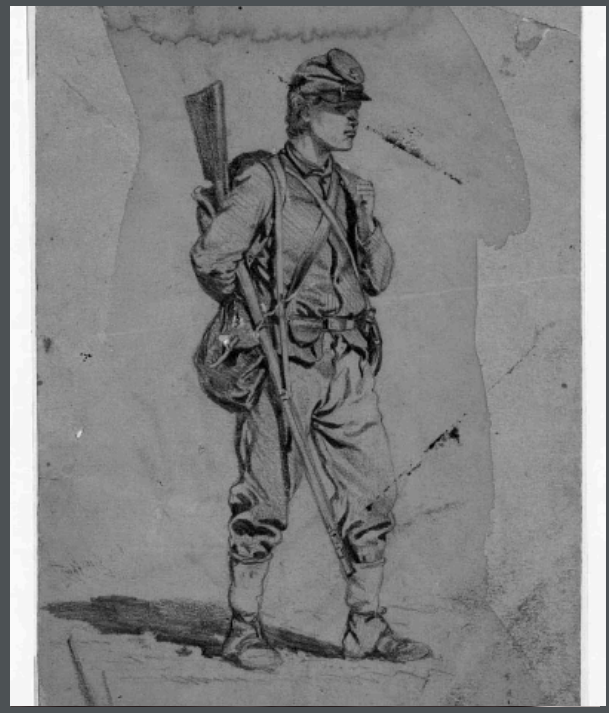
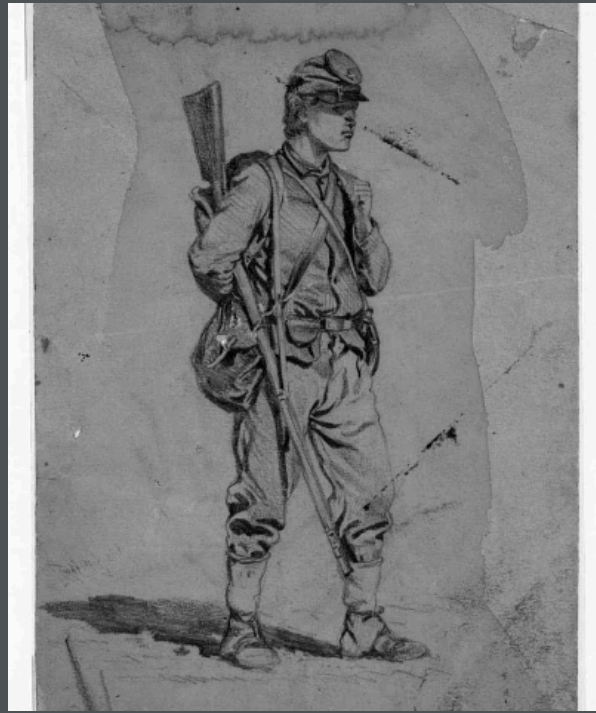
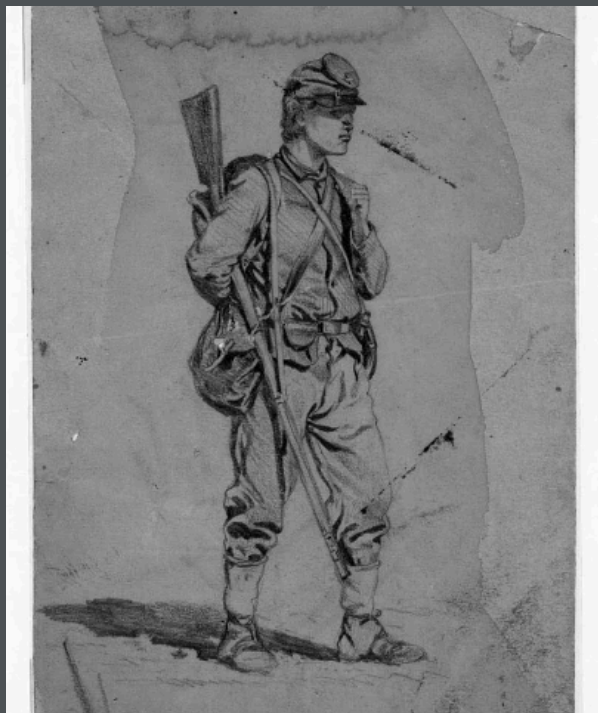
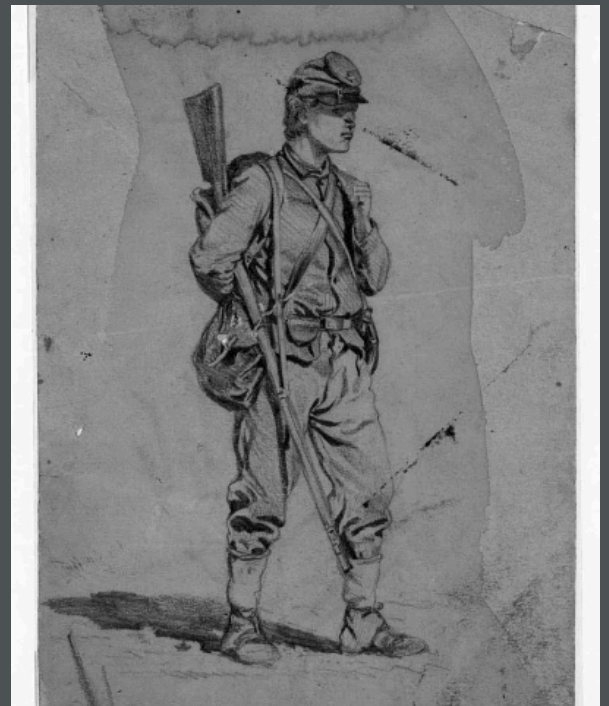
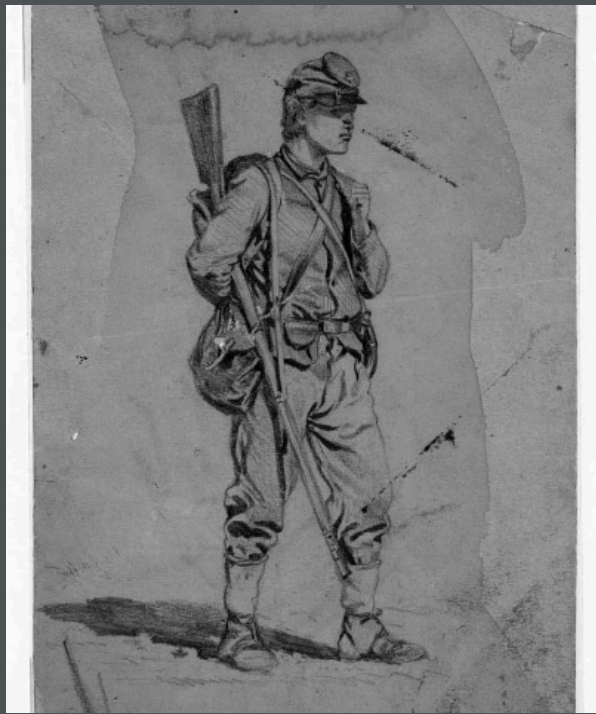
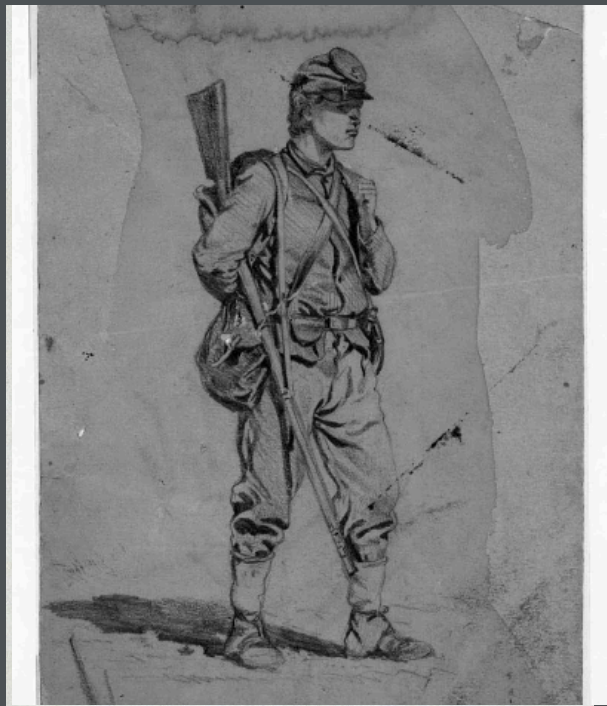


Born in 1833 in New Brunswick, Canada, Elvin G. Hill moved with his family to Maine and then after a few years to Minnesota. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with promises of good jobs to clear and build the land. Elvin was a lumberjack before the war. Then on May 23, 1861, he volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army, and was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 28 years old, 5'11" tall, with gray eyes and light colored hair. His brother, Jonas Hill, would later enlist and serve alongside Elvin in Company E.

Private Jonas Hill



Jonas Hill was born in New Brunswick, Canada, but moved with his family first to Maine and then to the state of Minnesota. He worked there as a lumberjack prior to the Civil War, cutting down trees using hand tools and then using horses or oxen to transport the logs to sawmills. Several months after war began, Jonas enlisted into the army. He was 30 years old at the time, stood 5'7" in height, had blue eyes and light colored hair. His brother, Elvin Gil Hill, served in the same company with him, along with at least four other sets of brothers.



Private



William W. Holden

William Holden was born in the state of New York but had migrated westward to Minnesota sometime prior to the Civil War. He was working on a steamboat. He did not enlist when the war began but in February 1863, he volunteered and entered the ranks as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry, likely due to the losses in the ranks of the regiment from battles like Antietam in 1862. He stood 5'8" in height, had blue eyes and light colored hair. As a private, William was the lowest rank in the army, but comprised its main fighting force.

Private



Israel Jackins

Born in Maine in 1844, Israel Jackins was six years old when his family migrated westward to Minnesota in 1850. There, Israel's father helped to establish the town of Minneapolis. As he grew older, Israel worked on his family's farm but on April 29, 1861, at the age of 17, he enlisted into the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. At that young age, he would have either lied about his age to join, or his parents would have signed his enlistment papers. Either way, Israel likely fought in the battle of First Manassas in 1861, and Antietam in 1862. In June 1863, he moved with the army toward Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Private
Ernest Jefferson



Born in Illinois in 1844, Ernest moved with his family to Minnesota in 1851 when he was only seven years old. The Jeffersons settled on a farm near St. Anthony and Ernest worked as a farm laborer prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. On May 23, 1861, 17-year-old Ernest Jefferson enlisted in the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota. He may have lied about his age since you had to be at least 18 to serve. His brother, Rufus, served with him in Company E until the end of September 1862 when, after the Battle of Antietam, Rufus was transferred to a cavalry regiment.

Private



William H. Losee

Born in New York in 1836, William Losee traveled west sometime prior to the Civil War and settled in St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he worked as a brickmaker. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, offering good jobs to clear and build the land. Brickmaking was a multi-step process involving clay and kiln-firing that must have been sought after for new buildings in St. Anthony. On May 23, 1861, he was mustered into service as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 25 years of age, stood 5'10" in height, and had gray eyes and black hair.

Private



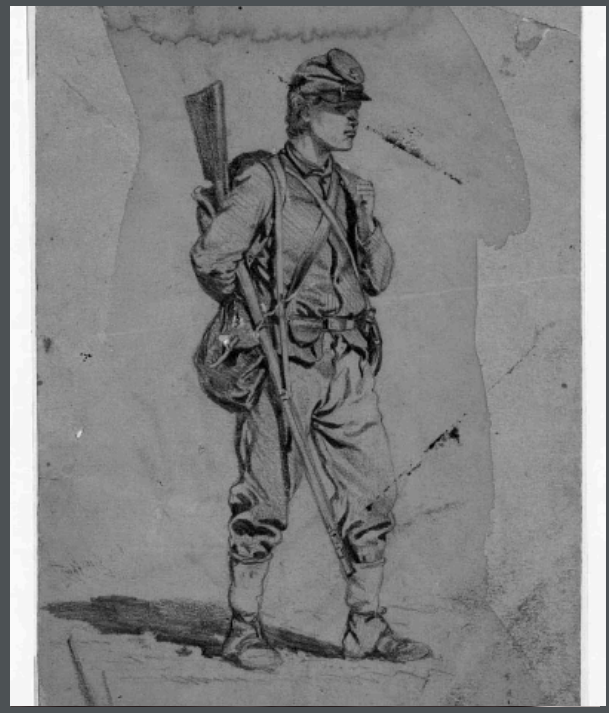
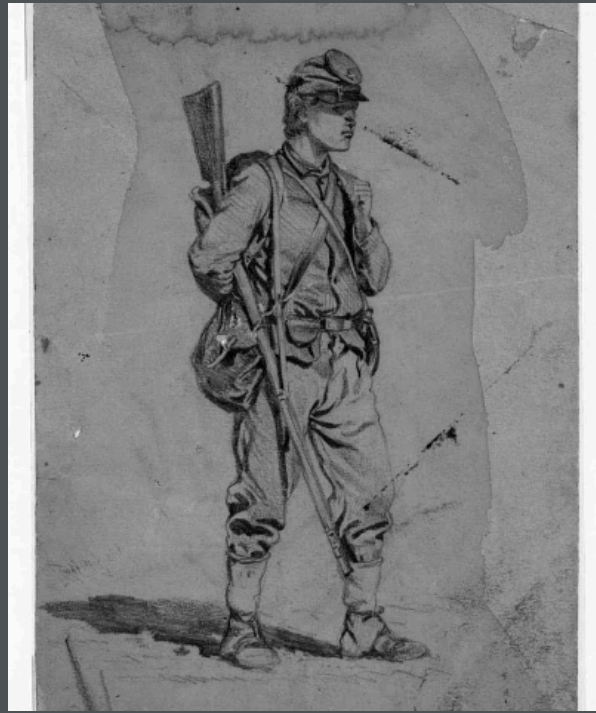
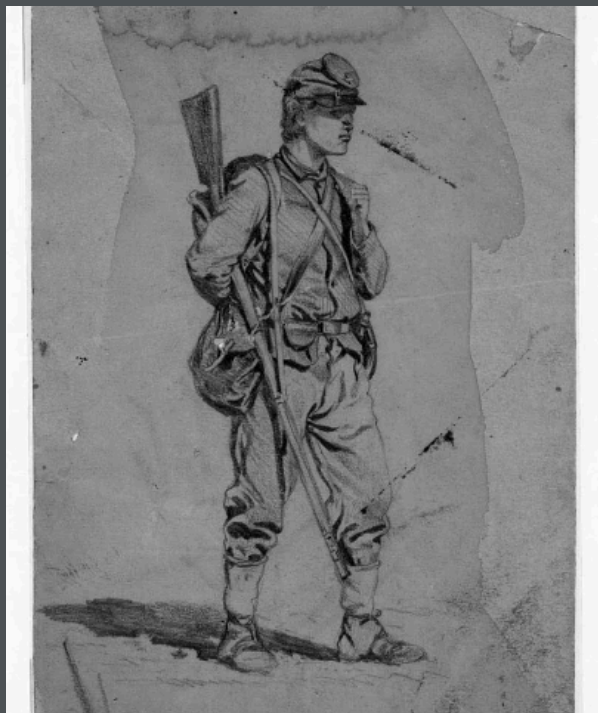
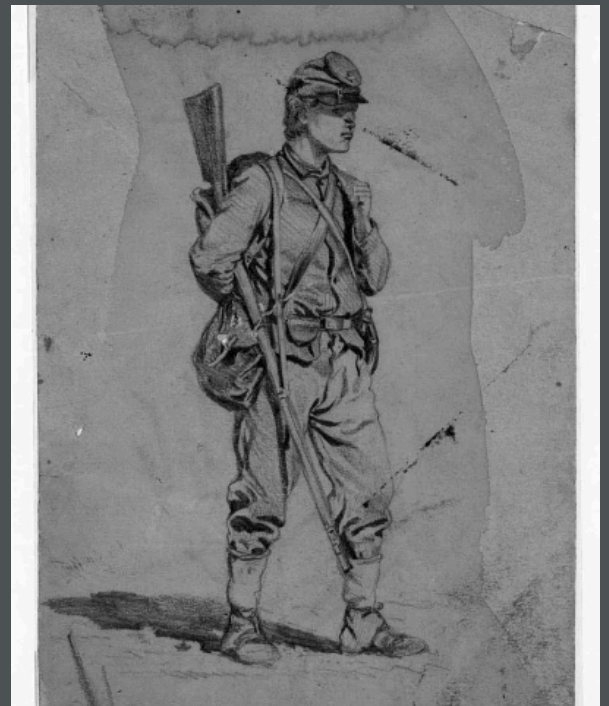
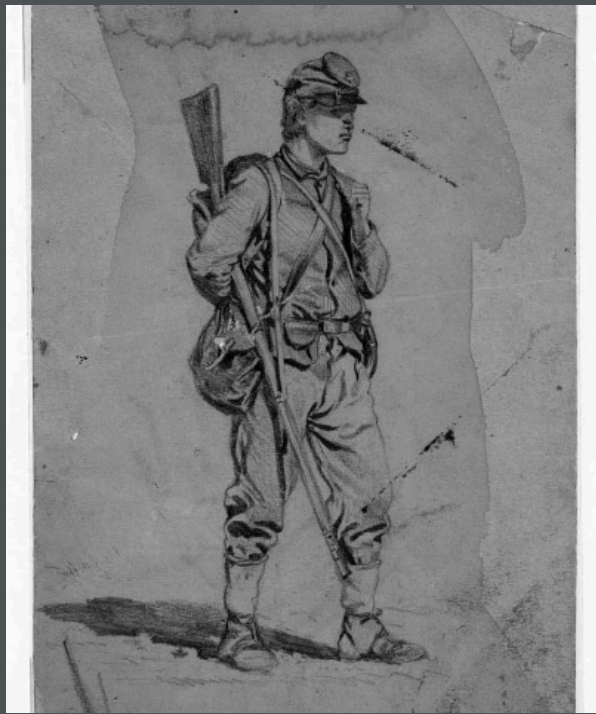
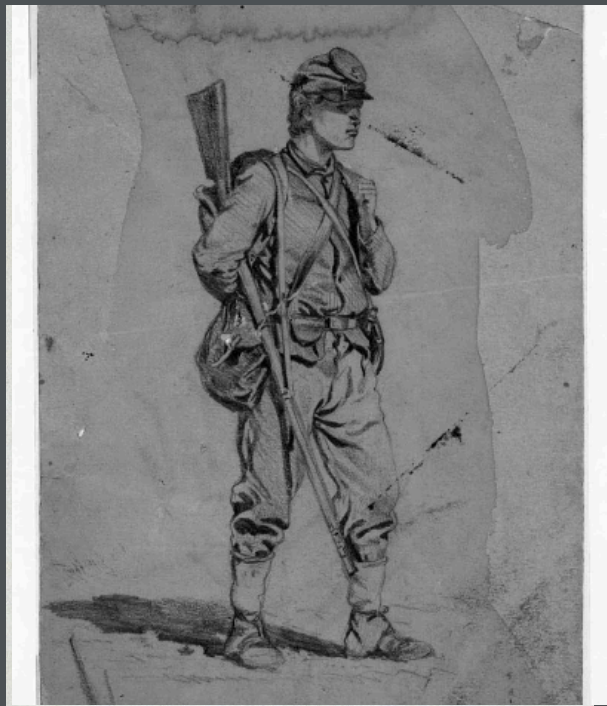
Vincent Middlestad

Vincent Middlestad was born sometime around the year 1841 in Prussia (modern-day Germany) but had immigrated to the United States prior to the start of the American Civil War. On May 24, 1861, Middlestad volunteered to serve his adopted country and became a soldier in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. Private Middlestad was captured on September 17, 1862, at the Battle of Antietam and was held as a prisoner of war for three months before he was released and paroled. He returned to the regiment in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Private
Francis Ray



Frank Ray was born in Ireland in the early 1830s but at some time prior to the Civil War, he immigrated to the United States presumably to escape the potato famine, a time of great poverty in that country. He settled in St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he worked as an iron forger. Iron forgers, also known as blacksmiths, were skilled tradesmen, creating things like wagon parts, tools, and farm equipment, necessary in the frontier communities of Minnesota. Upon the outbreak of war, he volunteered to fight for his adopted country, and was quickly mustered into service as a private.



Private Oscar W. Sears



Oscar Wilson Sears was born in 1840 in the state of Indiana. Migrating northward to Minnesota, Oscar volunteered to serve in the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry on April 29, 1861. He was twenty years of age. As a private, Oscar was the lowest rank in the army, but comprised its main fighting force. He was captured at the battle of First Manassas in July 1861 and, while in captivity, he helped to take care of some of the wounded men imprisoned with him. He was described as "a young man of excellent character."

Private Thomas Stealson



Little is known about the life of Private Thomas Stealson, except that he was born in the country of Norway and had immigrated to the United States sometime prior to the start of the American Civil War. Likely due to a broken economy and overpopulation in Norway, hundreds of thousands of Norwegians fled to what was Minnesota Territory and then the state. He enlisted on April 29, 1861, volunteering to fight for his adopted country. He was 23 years of age when the war began. As a private, Thomas was the lowest rank in the army, but comprised its main fighting force.

Private Adam C. Stites



The son of Martin and Margaret Stites, Adam C. Stites was born in Illinois sometime around 1843-1844. He had seven brothers and sisters. While in Illinois, he worked in his father's stable. Sometime prior to the Civil War, however, Adam moved to Minnesota and was living there when the war began. He enlisted on September 28, 1861, and entered the ranks as a private in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He stood 5'9" in height, had hazel eyes and auburn colored hair. His brother, Samuel Stites, also served in the same company, along with at least four other sets of brothers.

Private Steven B. Sutton



Although born in the state of Pennsylvania sometime around 1826, Steven Sutton migrated westward to Minnesota sometime prior to the start of the Civil War; Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, offering good jobs to clear and build the land. Steven was working as a clerk for a lumber company in St. Anthony, Minnesota, when the war broke out. Clerking required an organized mind, handling the orders, accounts and other paperwork. Yet when the war broke out, he quickly enlisted to serve in Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry and left clerking behind.

Private Isaac L. Taylor

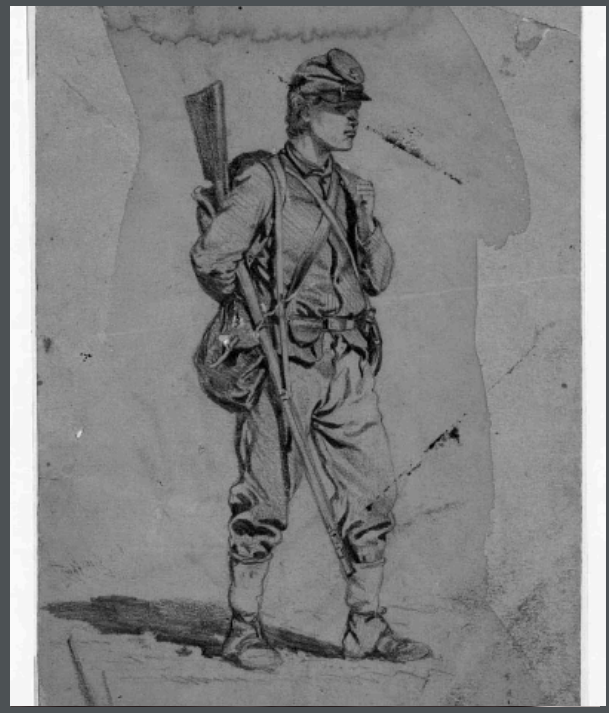
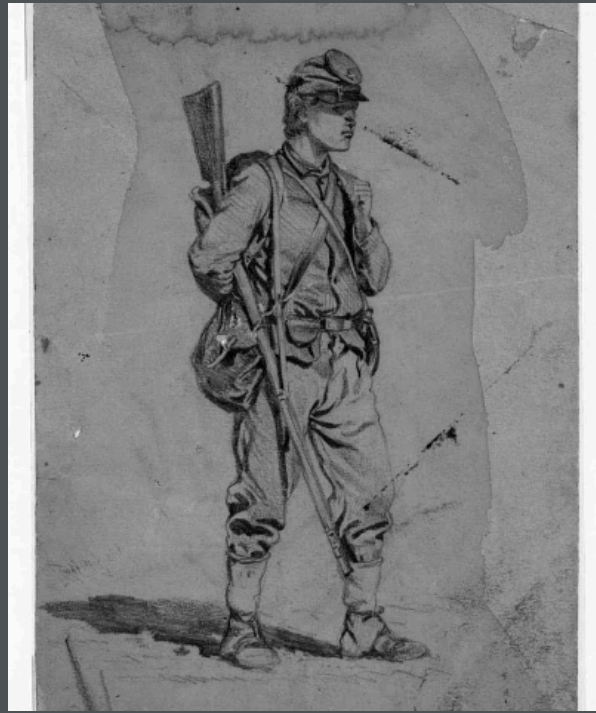
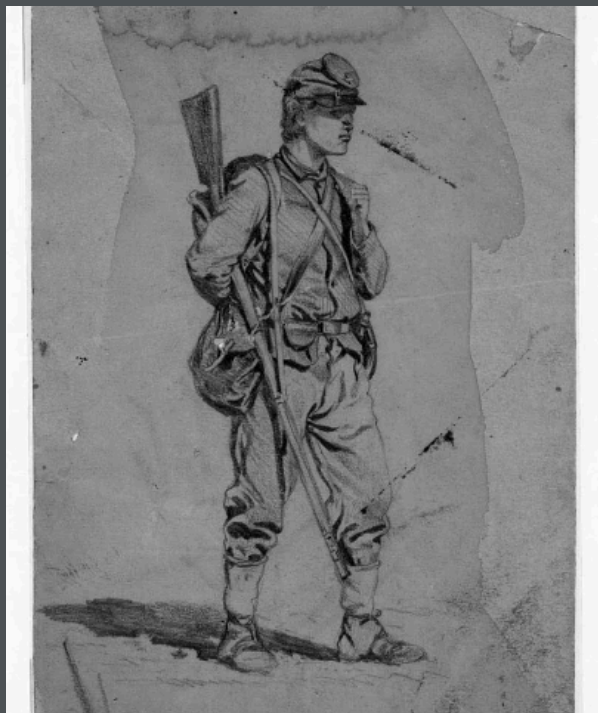
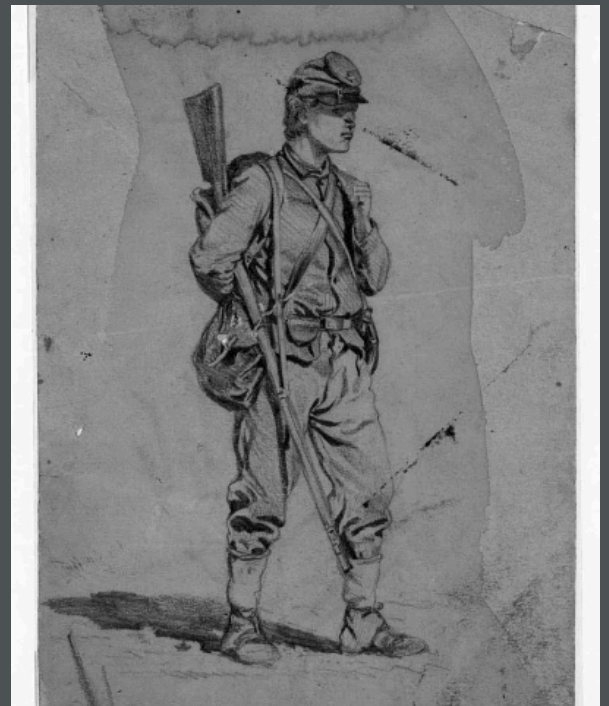
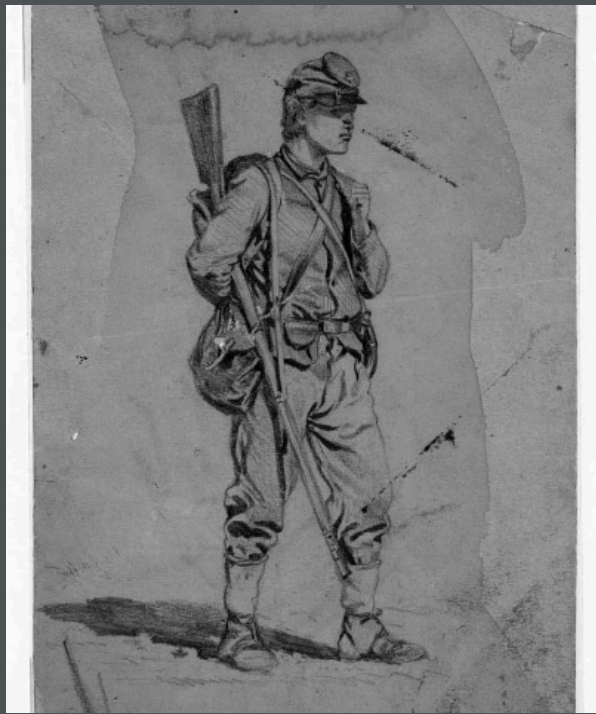
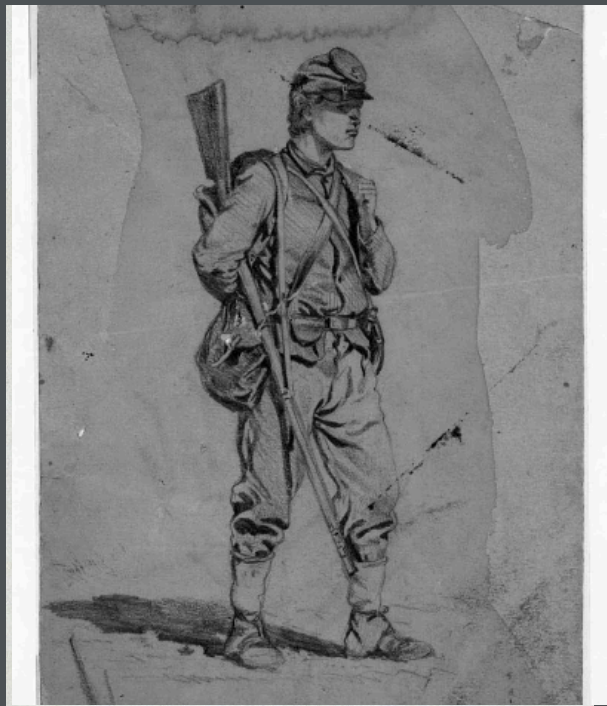


Isaac Taylor was born in Illinois in 1837. Always demonstrating a great interest in learning and science, especially geology, he found work as a teacher. He ventured to Minnesota in August 1861 and enlisted into the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry at the age of 24. His brother, Patrick, had enlisted earlier in the year and now, the brothers fought side-by-side. While in the army, Isaac kept a detailed diary of his experiences. During the Seven Days' Battles near Richmond, Virginia, in 1862, Isaac and Patrick Taylor were captured, spending several months as prisoners of war before they were released. Both returned to the unit in time to fight at Gettysburg.

Private Daniel Wait



Born in 1837, in the state of New York, Daniel Wait migrated westward to Minnesota at the age of 20, in 1857. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, Daniel volunteered to serve and was mustered into the ranks of Co. E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was 24 years of age, stood 5'9" in height, had blue eyes and was a stone mason by occupation. He was captured at the Battle of Antietam in September 1862 but was released from a prisoner of war camp and returned to the regiment. From February through May 1863, Wait worked as the cook in the 1st Minnesota's regimental hospital.



Private Elijah Weaver



Elijah Weaver was born on March 19, 1829, in New Brunswick, Canada. Sometime prior to the Civil War, Elijah immigrated to the United States, settling in St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he worked as a farmer. Minnesota was a new state and considered the frontier, with opportunities to clear and build the land. On May 23, 1861, the 32-year-old Elijah enlisted into the ranks of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. The average age of Civil War soldiers was 25, so Elijah was likely one of the oldest soldiers in the company.

Private Peter Welin



Peter Welin was born in Sweden in 1831 but sometime prior to the Civil War, he immigrated to the United States, settling in the state of Minnesota. In the 19th century over a million Sweedes migrated to the United States. On May 23, 1861, 30-year-old Peter volunteered to fight for his adopted country and became a member of Company E, 1st Minnesota Infantry. He was appointed a Pioneer, someone who cut down trees and cleared roads for the soldiers, but also participated in the battles in which his regiment was engaged.

