

Hartley Family

Anthony Hartley came from England in 17--, and settled in Salem, New Jersey, where he married and raised a family. His son, Benjamin Hartley, was born, reared, and married in the same town.

John Dickey Hartley, son of Benjamin Hartley, was born in Salem, New Jersey, June 8, 1808. The family migrated to Mercer, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, where he met and married Miss Susanna Finley, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1812. She was a granddaughter of Anthony Hartley's sister.

John Dickey Hartley and Susanna Finley were married in Mercer, Pennsylvania, August 4, 1829. Their first five children were born in Mercer.

1. Samuel Lighton Hartley, born April 2, 1830, died in infancy.
2. Tamer Finley Hartley, born August 25, 1831, married a Smith, died Sept. 24, 1895.
3. Mary Elizabeth Hartley, born May 11, 1833, married a Smith, died Jan. 31, 1899.
4. Sarah Jane Hartley, born March 27, 1835, married an Allen, died March 27, 1909.
5. Drusilla Hartley, born Jan. 11, 1837, married a Barnes, died August 11, 1866.
6. John Wesley Hartley, born October 29, 1839, died February 25, 1930.
7. Joseph Hamilton Hartley, born July 11, 1841, no further information.
8. Hannah Mariah Hartley, born April 28, 1843, married a Gray, died Jan. 4, 1908.
9. Joshua Parker Hartley, born June 12, 1845, no further information.
10. Martha Ann Hartley, born March 16, 1848, married a Polen, died May 7, 1916.
11. James William Hartley, born March 28, 1850, died August 26, 1863.
12. Frances Esther Hartley, born Dec. 30, 1851, married an Allen, died Feb. 10, 1915.
13. Susan Emma Hartley, born Dec. 31, 1853, no further information.
14. Melvina Marina Melissa Hartley, born Dec. 26, 1855, no further information.

John Dickey Hartley died November 27, 1868, and Susanna Finley Hartley died Jan. 24, 1891.

John Wesley Hartley, born in New Philadelphia, Indiana, October 29, 1839, died February 25, 1930, buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham, Alabama. He served as a private in the Eighth Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Infantry, Union, in the Civil War, enlisting Dec. 1, 1861. The following remarks appear on the muster-out roll, dated November 28, 1865: "Joined company as a private at original organization at Moline, Illinois, December 1, 1861. Discharged by reason of expiration of term of service, December 6, 1864. Born in New Philadelphia, Indiana." At the time of his enlistment he was 23 years of age, had blue eyes, brown hair, florid complexion, was 5 feet 7 inches in height, and by occupation a farmer. Some of the muster rolls are available, of his service. The Company Muster Roll has this notation for November and December 1862: "On detached service as Pioneer in 9th Division since November 27, 1862. Sick in Reg't Hosp'l". On the January and February 1863 roll: "On Det. service as Pioneer in 20th Army Corps since November 27, 1862". In March and April 1863, he was in Murfreesboro, Tenn. On the September and October 1863 Muster Roll it is remarked that he was on "Detached service in Pioneer Brigade since November 27, 1862, by order of General Rosecrans", and another muster roll for those same months give his station as Bridgeport, Alabama. The Muster Rolls for 1864 are all headed "Pioneer Brigade, 2 Battalion, Army of the Cumberland", with an explanation printed on the bottom of the page: "This Brigade was organized by details of twenty men each from all Infantry regiments in the Army of the Cumberland, per G. O. No. 3, dated Department of the Cumberland, November 3, 1862, and instructions from Headquarters 14 A. C. of November 21, 1862. The Brigade was broken up and men having more than one year to serve were transferred to 1 Reg't U. S. Veteran Engineers and the remaining men sent back to their respective regiments by S. O. No. 231, dated A. G. O., July 8, 1864, and G. O. No. 132, dated Department of the Cumberland, September 1, 1864. --A.597-V.S.-1864." Colonel Daniel McCook was in command of the Second Brigade. In the Official Records of the Civil War there is this report from Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army, commanding Army of the Cumberland: La Vergne, Tenn., December 28, by messenger to Louisville, Ky., December 31, 1862--noon: "Our advance was delayed one day. The right wing, under McCook, drove Hardee's skirmishers 18 miles down the Nolensville pike, and gave Hardee time to escape toward Murfreesborough. Our left wing drove the enemy on the main Murfreesborough turnpike with heavy skirmishing, and seized all the bridges over Stewart's Creek last night, by dark. Our total loss on both lines does not exceed 20 killed, 100 wounded, and 10 missing. We have some 50 prisoners. Our center crossed from Nolensville yesterday and today, and now occupy the north side of Stewart's Creek, 10 miles from Murfreesborough--the right at Triune. Pursuing division went 7 miles toward Shelbyville, We have report from Murfreesborough to 10 o'clock yesterday. All his right wing, closed in, came toward Stewart's Creek. If, under Kentucky and Tennessee influence or orders, they fight as they propose, I think we are in position, by God's help, to win, and McCook will cut off their retreat." (Signed W. S. Rosecrans, Major-General)

"General Orders. Hdqrs. Dept. of the Cumberland, in front of Murfreesborough, December 31, 1862. The general commanding desires to say to the soldiers of the Army of the Cumberland that he was well pleased with their conduct yesterday; it is all he could have wished for; he neither saw nor heard of any skulking; they behaved with the coolness and gallantry of veterans. He now feels perfectly confident, with God's grace and their help, of striking this day a blow for the country the most crushing, perhaps, which the rebellion has yet sustained.

Soldiers, the eyes of the whole nation are upon you; the very fate of the nation may be said to hang on the issue of this day's battle. Be true, then, to yourselves, true to your

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own manly character and soldierly reputation, true to the love of your dear ones at home, whose prayers ascend to God this day for your success.

Be cool! I need not ask you to be brave. Keep ranks. Do not throw away your fire. Fire slowly, deliberately; above all, fire low, and be always sure of your aim. Close steadily in upon the enemy, and, when you get within charging distance, rush on him with the bayonet. Do this, and the victory will certainly be yours. Recollect that there are hardly any troops in the world that will stand a bayonet charge, and that those who make it, therefore, are sure to win. By command of Maj. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans: (signed by J. P. Garesche, Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.)"

"Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 3, 1863. On December 26 we moved from Nashville in three columns. McCook's corps by Nolensville pike; Thomas' from its encampment on Franklin Pike. The left and center met with a strong resistance, such as the nature of the country permits--rolling or hilly routes, skirted by cedar thickets, farms, and intersected by small streams, with rocky bluff banks, forming serious obstacles. McCook drove Hardee's corps 1 1/2 miles from Nolensville, and occupied the place. Crittenden reached within 1 1/2 miles of La Vergne. Thomas reached the Wilson pike, meeting with no serious opposition. On the 27th, McCook drove Hardee from Nolensville, and pushed reconnoitering division 6 miles toward Shelbyville, and found Hardee had retreated toward Murfreesborough. Crittenden fought and drove the enemy before him, occupying the line of Stewart's Creek, capturing some prisoners, with slight loss. Thomas occupied the vicinity of Nolensville. On the 28th, McCook completed his reconnaissance on Hardee's movements. Crittenden remained, awaiting the result and bringing up trains. Thomas moved on the Stewart's Creek. On the 29th, McCook moved into Wilkinson's Cross-Roads, 7 miles from Murfreesborough, the end of a short pike, the road rough, through rolling country, skirted by bluffs, covered with dense cedar thickets, tops open timber. Crittenden pushed the enemy rapidly, saved all the bridges, and reached a point within 3 miles of Murfreesborough, occupying the extreme right of our line. The left stood fast; the center advanced slightly, and were engaged in cutting roads through an almost impenetrable growth of cedars, which separated them from our right, rendering communication with them exceedingly difficult. The combat and the roughness of the country had brought forward McCook's right division, so as to face strongly to the southeast, instead of being refused to face south, with the reserve division, between the center and right, and sufficiently from the rear to support, and, if necessary, to extend it, the grave consequences of which were developed the next day. The 31st found our left crossing Murfreesborough pike and railroad, one division front, one forming crotchet on Stone's River, and one in reserve. Center, Negley between left and right; Rousseau in reserve. The plan of the battle was to open on the right and engage enemy sufficiently to hold him firmly, and to cross the river with our left, consisting of three divisions, to oppose which they had but two divisions, the country being favorable to an attack from that part of the town. But the enemy attacked the whole front of our right wing, massing his forces on its right flank, which was partially surprised, thrown into confusion, and driven back. Sheridan's division repulsed the enemy four times, protected the flanks of the center, which not only held its own, but advanced until this untoward event compelled me to retain the left wing to support the right, until it should be rallied to assume a new position. January 1, the rebels opened by an attack on us, and were again repulsed. On the 2d, skirmishing along the front, with warm threats of attack, until about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Evening, advanced one small division thrown across Stone's River, to occupy commanding ground. While reconnoitering the ground occupied by this division, which had no artillery, I saw heavy forces emerging from the woods and advancing in line of battle, three lines deep. They drove our little division before them, after a sharp contest, in which we lost 70 or 80 killed, and 375 wounded; but they were repulsed by Morton's Pioneer Brigade, and fled far over the field and beyond their intrenchments, their officers rallying them with great difficulty. They lost heavily. We occupied the ground with the left wing last night. The lines were completed at 4 o'clock this morning. The 3d was spent in bringing up and distributing provisions and ammunition. It has been raining all day; ground very heavy. Tomorrow, being Sunday, we shall probably not fight, unless attacked. This whole country is a natural fortification, and worse than Corinth. No great battle can be fought without regular approaches. Our total loss in wounded, up to this date, is 4,500; killed, 700 or 800. Our communication with Nashville is open. We have provisions there to last to the 25th instant. Further report by letter as soon as I can get an opportunity." (Signed W. D. Rosecrans, Major-General, Commanding, and H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief.)

"Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 4, 1863. Following my dispatch of last evening, I have to announce that the enemy is in full retreat. They left last night. Rain having raised the river, and the bridge across it, between the left wing and center, being incomplete, I deemed it prudent to withdraw that wing during the night. This occupied my time until 4 o'clock, and fatigued the troops. The commencement of the retreat was known to me at 7 o'clock this morning. Our ammunition train arrived during the night. Today was occupied in distributing ammunition, bringing in the dead, and collecting arms from the field of battle. The pursuit was commenced by the center, the two leading brigades arriving at the west side of Stone's River this evening. The railroad bridge was saved, but in what condition is not known. We shall occupy the town and push the pursuit tomorrow with the center. Will not, probably, be prudent to advance the army very far until communication shall be open to Nashville. We labor under great disadvantages from the inferior number of our cavalry, necessitating large detachments of infantry to guard our trains. Our medical director estimates the wounded in hospital at short of 5,500 wounded, and our dead at 1,000. We have to deplore the loss of Lieutenant-Colonel Garesche, whose capacity and gentlemanly deportment had already endeared him to all the officers of this command, and whose gallantry on the field of battle excited their admiration." (Signed W. S. Rosecrans, Major-General, Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief.)

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"Murfreesborough, January 5, 1863--4:30 a.m. God has crowned our arms with victory. The enemy are badly beaten, and in full retreat. We shall press them as rapidly as our means of traveling and subsistence will permit. Will you please ask the President to have Captain Morton, engineer, made brigadier general? He has distinguished himself in the fortification and defense of Nashville, after our army left for Kentucky. He has organized a Pioneer Corps of 1,700 picked men, which he now commands, with the rank of captain, and behaved like a hero during the whole battle of Stone's River. He not only deserves the promotion, but it is absolutely necessary to the interest of the service that he should have the rank to command his brigade." (Signed W. S. Rosecrans, Major-General, Hon. E. M. Stanton, Sec. of War.)

"Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, Via Nashville, Tenn., January 5, 1863. We have fought one of the greatest battles of the war, and are victorious. Our entire success on the 31st was prevented by a surprise of the right flank; but have, nevertheless, beaten the enemy, after a three days' battle. They fled with great precipitancy on Saturday night. The last of their columns of cavalry left this morning. Their loss has been very heavy. Generals Rains and Hanson killed. Chalmers, Adams, and Breckinridge are wounded." (Signed W. S. Rosecrans; Major-General. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief.)

"Executive Mansion, Washington, January 5, 1863. Maj. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tenn.: Your dispatch announcing retreat of enemy has just reached here. God bless you, and all with you! Please tender to all, and accept for yourself, the nation's gratitude for your and their skill, endurance, and dauntless courage." (Signed A. Lincoln.)

"Report of Capt. James St. Clair Morton, U. S. Engineers, commanding Pioneer Brigade. Hdqrs. Pioneer Brigade, Fourteenth Army Corps, Camp, 3 miles north of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863. Major: According to your order, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the late battle by my brigade, which is composed of three battalions of Pioneers and Stokes' (Chicago Board of Trade) battery: On the march hither from Nashville, my brigade constructed two bridges over Stewart's Creek between the hours of 4 p.m. and 4 a.m., December 29 and 30, arriving here on the 30th. On the morning of the 31st, the brigade was engaged in improving the fords of Stone's River, in which the right battalion sustained the fire of some rebel cavalry, when I was ordered to take position in the line of battle, and formed my brigade, by the orders of the commanding general in person, fronting toward the right, where the enemy appeared on a rise of ground in front of us, from which they had driven one of our batteries. I immediately opened fire with canister from Stokes' battery and drove them back. I then, by order of the commanding general in person, advanced to the said rise, and held it under the fire of three rebel batteries. I supported the battery by the First Battalion of Pioneers on the left, posted in a thicket, and by the Third Battalion on the right. The Second Battalion was placed in a wood still farther to the right. Shortly after I had formed my line, the enemy appeared across the field, preparing to charge upon some of our troops, who were retiring, but had been rallied by the commanding general. I opened fire upon these from Stokes' battery, which played over the head of the commanding general and our troops, and arrested their advance. My right battalion was soon after attacked, the object of the enemy being to penetrate through the line under cover of the woods. Said battalion changed front so as to obtain a flanking fire, and by a single volley repulsed the enemy, composed of the Eleventh and fourteenth Texas Regiments. In this the battalion was aided by the Seventy-ninth Indiana, which had rallied on its right. Toward sundown, the enemy appearing on my left, I brought two sections of Stokes' battery to the left of my First Battalion, and repulsed a brigade of the enemy which attacked that battalion in the thicket. They left their dead within 50 paces of my line. In this affair both the battalion and the battery behaved very creditably. The brigade slept on their arms the night of the 31st. Early on the 1st instant the enemy appeared on my left, apparently to advance through the gap between it and the pike. I changed my front and occupied the gap, and sustained and returned their volleys of musketry, playing upon them from the battery and preventing their advance beyond the edge of the woods. We held this position till after nightfall, when the brigade was relieved and formed in reserve. On the morning of the 2d, part of the Pioneers were engaged in making road crossings over the railroad, when the enemy opened a cannonade, which reached our camp. I brought out Stokes' battery and returned the fire. The battalions advanced, supporting it under a fire of solid shot and shell. The cannonade having ceased, I received orders to fall back to my assigned position in reserve, and remained till late in the afternoon, when the commanding general in person ordered me to the left as re-inforcement. I then marched my command at a double-quick and arrived on the line, occupying a gap in it under the fire of a rebel battery, which was, however, soon silenced by Stokes' battery, which was worked with exceeding vigor and skill. General Negley now approached me and requested me to

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9 enlisted men. Total, killed and wounded, 48. The force of the brigade actually engaged was 1,600 men, there being ten companies or 1,000 Pioneers employed on the fortifications between Gallatin and Nashville, and 200 detached guarding the implement train. Of the force above mentioned, 95 belong to Stokes' battery. During the engagement, the Pioneers behaved as well as could be wished, and when required, worked zealously by night and day, although insufficiently provided with rations, in spite of inclement weather, and under fire. The artillerymen displayed the highest discipline, and worked their guns with extreme rapidity and accuracy. As the commanding general was everywhere present on the field with his staff, he cannot but have remarked the good service done by Captain Stokes, who manifested the greatest zeal, and managed his battery with the utmost precision and success." (Part of the report of J. St. C. Morton, Captain of Engineers, U. S. Army, Chief Engineer Fourteenth Army Corps, Commanding Pioneer Brigade..)

John Wesley Hartley was one of the men in the Pioneer Corp in this battle of Stone's River. He was also in the battle called "The Battle Above the Clouds" on Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863. Years later, he loved to entertain his grandchildren with the songs the soldiers sang, and stories of the long marches, but never mentioned the fighting. He had been in Indian battles, but the stories he told his grandchildren were of the colorful dress and dances of the Indians, and the beauty of the country where his father had settled in the west. He knew all the old poems children were taught to memorize for the school entertainments, and would recite them to his grandchildren and teach them Indian dances. He was a very handsome man, not very tall, with bright blue eyes and rosy cheeks, and loved to play with his grandchildren, making up little "poems" for each one. He knew, or at least his grandchildren thought he knew, all about the stars, the names of all the trees and flowers, wrote with a beautiful clear handwriting and insisted that all the grandchildren learn to speak with "good English", and write legibly, telling them that they were impolite if they did not speak so they could be understood, and that it was an insult to the receiver of the letter if it was not legible. He had a genius for "fixing things", and his wife probably had one of the first "built-in" kitchens in Nashville, with cabinets and shelves built to fit her height, which was short. His second wife, Dora, was a small, brown-eyed woman, who was always very busy making quilts, tatting, embroidering, canning from her garden, and won prizes for her cooking and other handiwork at the county fairs. They loved to sing together and in the evening would sit on their front porch and softly sing, in harmony and without accompaniment, songs from the Civil War, "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground", "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", and hymns, "Beulah Land", "Trust and Obey", and romantic songs, "Juanita", "My Old Kentucky Home", "Sleep, Kentucky Babe", and others.

John Wesley Hartley, born October 29, 1839, in New Philadelphia, Indiana, died February 25, 1930, married on October 5, 1864, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Mary Whalen. Their children:
1. Effie Drusilla Hartley, born July 21, 1870.
2. May Elizabeth Hartley, born January 28, 1873.
3. George Wesley Hartley, born September 28, 1873, died at Little Sioux, Iowa, September 5, 1875. He is buried at Onawa, Iowa.
Mary (Whalen) Hartley, died at Onawa, Iowa, May 14, 1874, age 22 years.

~~John Wesley Hartley and Susan Ann Dora Waggener~~ were married at Modale, Iowa, June 10, 1875, by the Rev. Jacob Hammer. She was born December 15, 1855, and died February 27, 1926, in Birmingham, Alabama. They are buried in Elmwood Cemetery. Their children:
1. Mary Susan Ione Hartley, born April 4, 1876, married Andrew T. Sensabaugh.
2. Sarah Winnie Hartley, born April 26, 1878, died September 26, 1879.
3. Lillian Melissa Hartley, born March 3, 1880, died March 29, 1880.
4. Nettie Eldora Hartley, born July 25, 1881, in Little Sioux, Iowa, died in Cairo, Illinois, May 15, 1921, married in Nashville, Tennessee, December 24, 1903, William (Will) Millard Fillmore McAnally.
5. Alda Hartley, dead at birth, November 28, 1883.
6. Ulie Grant Hartley, born July 14, 1885, died August 11, 1970, married (1) John Zillmon Warden, December 18, 1901, and (2) _____ Haulsey. She was named for Ulysses Grant, but changed her name to Eula Grace.
7. Arthur Blaine Hartley, born December 22, 1887, married three times, (1) Gertrude Wharton, (2) Mary Alice Lane, and (3) Katherine Zigler. Date of death not known.
8. Myrtle Frances Hartley, born April 19, 1890, died March 25, 1970, married (1) William Jacob Leech, May 6, 1906, and (2) William H. Anson, March 8, 1952. She adopted her sister's child, Johnnie Grace McAnally, who was born the day before her sister's death.
9. Rhoda Jane Hartley, born July 16, 1892, married (1) James Oscar Moore, September 2, 1908, and (2) Andrew Curtis Waldron, August 5, 1929.

The John Wesley Hartley family lived in Nashville, Tennessee many years. In his later years he was an assistant superintendant of the National Cemetery at Nashville, later being transferred to the National Cemetery at Arlington. After his retirement he moved to Birmingham, Alabama, with his wife, to be near his daughters, Eula, Myrtle and Rhoda, who lived there.