

CHRISTIAN KAPPEL
BORN IN OHIO
1842

Born in Chillicothe, Ohio in 1842, he enlisted in the 15th Infantry Regiment, U.S.A. on August 28, 1861 in Chillicothe, Ohio. Records in the Dayton Ohio Soldier's Home indicate that he also served in the 42nd Indiana Vol. Inf., Co. B for nine months. ⁷

He went to Newport Barracks, KY ⁸ after enlisting in the 15th. In late September, the Regiment was formed into Companies A and B. He was assigned to Co A, and later served in Co F. ⁹

On Sept 20th, the two companies, designated as A and B were organized and sent by rail to Louisville, KY to help U.S. Gen. Robert Anderson defend

against the invasion by Confed. Gen. Buckner.¹⁰

On September 21, 1861 Co's. A & B marched to Camp Nevin¹¹ near Nolin's Station, Kentucky.

He participated in all the action of the regiment (see Appendix II) until he was discharged on August 29, 1864 because his three year enlistment had expired. This was after the seige of Atlanta. (July 22 - August 25, 1864).

He then joined the 42nd Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Co. B. as a substitute for Frederick Speaker in Columbus, Indiana on October 18, 1864. This unit's history is detailed in Appendix II under the 42nd VI Regimental history. After the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. May 24, 1865, the regiment moved to Louisville, KY and was mustered out. Some of his descendants

⁷Also found in The Roster of Union Soldiers, 1861-1865; Indiana, Hewett, Janet B, 2000, Vol 1, P 476;

⁸NEWPORT BARRACKS. Located at the juncture of the Ohio and Licking rivers, the post was formed in July 1803. In use until the flood of 1884, the site is now occupied by Newport City Park. Encyclopedia of Historic Forts, Robert B. Roberts 1988, p 318.

⁹Hewett, Janet B., The Roster of Union Soldiers, 1861-1865, Regular Army, 2000, Vol.II, p 52

¹⁰ Journal of the Military Service Institution, Nov. 1892, p1259.

¹¹ Camp Nevin is near the Nolin River bridge in southern Hardin County, Kentucky. It is nine miles south of Elizabethtown, where 31W crosses the Nolin River. <www.google.com>. Also Roberts, Robert, Encyclopedia of Historic Forts 1988, p 318. Nolin, KY is on K 1407, two miles east of its junction with U.S. 31W. It is reached by Exit 81 On I-65. Pick up 31W in Senora and head north, almost to the Nolin River.

live in Louisville now; perhaps including a grandson, Tommy Kappel, as well as others, listed in the telephone book as S., Wm. E., M.O., Cheryl, and M.

Lebanon Junction, Kentucky was listed as his home when he was admitted to the Soldiers Home at Dayton, Ohio on August 13, 1917. He died there January 17, 1918, and his body is buried in Row 1, Section 1, Grave 43 in the National Cemetery, Dayton.

A daughter, Kate Cattrick (or Gattrick) of Soft Pearl, Kentucky is given as his nearest relative. Also, a Kappel Funeral Home is now located in Lebanon Junction and Boston, Kentucky, with M. Kappel and W. respectively listed as contacts.

WILLIAM LEWIS KAPPEL
BORN IN OHIO
1843

He was born in Ohio in 1843, the third child of Christian and Caroline Kappel. He never married, and died without issue.

On August 30, 1861 he enlisted for a term of three years in the 15th Regiment of

Infantry, U.S.A. (Regulars) ¹² This was in Chillicothe, Ohio. Since he was eighteen years old, his father gave the necessary written consent. He was described as having black eyes, brown hair, a dark complexion and as being 5'3" tall. He affirmed that he voluntarily enlisted, would bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America, serve honestly and faithfully, obey the President, and so on.

As previously stated, the Regiment was assembled at Newport Barracks ¹³ in the fall of 1861.

On Sept 20th two companies, designated as A and B were organized and sent to Louisville, KY to help U.S. Gen. Robert Anderson defend against the invasion by Confed. Gen. Buckner. ¹⁴ Since he is listed as serving only in Co. C ¹⁵, we are not sure he left the Barracks until November, when Co C joined the regiment at Bacon Creek, KY. ¹⁶

¹² Hewett, Janet B., The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861-1865, Regular Army, 2000 Vol 2, p52

¹³ See footnote 8.

¹⁴ Journal of the Military Service Institution, Nov. 1892, p1259.

¹⁵ See footnote 12.

¹⁶ In Bonnierville, KY there is a bridge for the Louisville and Nashville R.R. to cross over Bacon Creek. This bridge was hotly contested for much of the

Further details will be found in the regimental history in Appendix II.

December 30 found them bivouacking near the Nashville turnpike at Stone's River. At 9 a.m. the next day they joined in the Battle of Stone's River, with action in the "cedar brake".¹⁷

It was in this battle that William Lewis Kappel was killed on December 31 and buried. It seems to me that with two brothers in the regiment, his body should have been properly identified.

With the establishment of the National Cemetery, his body was interred in Section C, Grave No. 1170. There was some confusion as to his name. The original headstone was KEPPLE, but this was changed on March 31, 1999 to one reading KAPPEL.

The 15th Regiment continued in the Murfreesboro - Nashville area until mid summer 1863 with Christian and John still active.

Civil War. It is on US 31W about 8 miles north of Munfordville.

¹⁷The War of the Rebellion: Official Records, Series I-Volume XX, Part I - Reports. Washington: Government Printing Office 1887, pps.399 and 400.

JOHN KAPPEL
BORN IN OHIO
1844

Born September 21, 1844 in Ohio, on August 30, 1861 in Chillicothe, Ohio, he enlisted in the 15th Regiment of Infantry, U.S.A. (Regulars) He enlisted for a period of three years, and apparently reenlisted on January 28, 1864 at Chattanooga.

There are also listings for John Kappel in the 1st Inf Reg USA Co H (Microfilm 233-26, Oct 1857-58), 24th Inf, Reg, Co F & 15th Inf Reg, 2nd Bat, Co B (M 233-29, 1864-65); and John F. Kappel, 2nd Drag, 2nd Cl Music (Microfilm 233-27, 1859-63)¹⁸

John went to Newport Barracks with his brothers, and was assigned to Co. B¹⁹, which as previously stated left for Louisville on September 20, 1862.

The service of the 15th is found in Appendix II.

The details of his actions between November 28, 1863 (following Mission Ridge) and May of 1864 (the Atlanta, Georgia Campaign) have been reported as follows. After the

¹⁸Hewett, Janet B., The Roster of Union Soldiers, Regular Army, 2000, Vol. 2, p52.

¹⁹ Ibid.

first of the year 1864 a large portion of the regiment reenlisted and were given furloughs from Columbus, Ohio. About March 14, 1864 they reassembled in Camp Chase.²⁰ From there they moved south, with about 900 new recruits. They joined General Sherman's army in early May.²¹

Sometime in the Atlanta Campaign, (May 1 -September 8, 1864) John was wounded. The details of this are not known. The 15th Regiment stayed in the Atlanta area, participating in several engagements, and then moved to Chattanooga, ending up on Lookout Mountain in July 1865.

However John did meet Sarah Francis Boley, perhaps in the Shenandoah Valley and one report has it that she nursed him back to health.

He later married her, removed to Meigs County, Ohio,

²⁰Camp Chase, Located in what was then the outskirts of the city of Columbus, and first used as a training camp for Civil War recruits, it later became more important as a prison camp. Today the site of the camp and the Confederate cemetery are on Sullivan (Sullivant) Avenue west of Powell Avenue. Encyclopedia of Historic Forts, Roberts, Robin, 1988, p 638.

²¹Informal Material, Kapple, Keith; 107 Mission Rd., Marietta, OH 45750. He is John's great grandson.

and had eleven children. He died February 19, 1912, and his body was buried in the Burlingham Cemetery located between Athens and Pomeroy, Ohio.²²

Included in Appendix II are the following.

Copies of recruiting advertisement from the Scioto Gazette, August 20, 1861; enlistment papers of William Lewis Kappel and details of his life; photo of William's headstone; letter confirming the gravesite; Register of Enlistments containing William and Christian; history of the 15th Regiment Infantry U.S.A.

Regimental History of the 42nd Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Christian's enlistment, muster and muster-out papers in this regiment.

Modern photos of the locales of Newport Barracks, Camp Nevin, Bacon Creek Bridge, Ft. Donelson, Savannah, TN, Shiloh, Cornith, Chaplin Hills (Perrysville, KY), the Cedar Brake at Stone's River, and Camp Chase.

²² Ibid.

ADDENDUM

Late information from the National Archives reveals that John Kappel enlisted on September 2, 1861 rather than August 30. Also since he was only 16 years old (a few days short of 17) he was enlisted with his father's permission as a drummer in the 15th Inf. Reg. Regulars. He was unable to sign his name, so he signed :

his
John X Kappel
mark

This was appropriately witnessed and notarized.

The information confirms that he was discharged January 28, 1864 at Chattanooga. This was an early discharge and was apparently made possible by the fact that he immediately re enlisted for 3 years. He was still unable to write his name, and signed as above. The enlistment listed his occupation as soldier, so apparently he was graduated from drummer. He did receive a \$25.00 bounty for this.

There is no information as to his having been wounded, nor of his final discharge.

The official copies of this information were sent to Keith Kapple in Marietta, Ohio.

APPENDIX II

APPENDIX II

COPIES

Scioto Gazette recruiting advertisement, August 20, 1861
Enlistment papers of William Lewis Kappel (N.A.)

Details of the life of William Lewis Kappel

Photo of William's headstone & letter confirming the gravesite, 1999

Copy Register of Enlistments for William and Christian II (N.A.)

HISTORIES

15th Regiment Infantry U.S.A.

42nd Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry

COPIES from the National Archives (N.A.)

Enlistment papers, Christian II, 42nd Regiment IVI

Muster in papers, Christian II, 42nd Regiment IVI

Muster out papers, Christian II, 42nd Regiment IVI

PHOTOS, modern locales - 2001

Newport Barracks, KY

Camp Nevin, KY

Bacon Creek Bridge, KY

Ft. Donelson, TN

Savannah, TN

Shiloh, TN

Corinth, MS

Chapin Hills (Perrysville, KY)

Cedar Brake at Stones River, TN

Camp Chase, OH

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, William Kappel ^{son} declaring
 to ENLIST in the Army of the United States, for the term of five YEARS, Do declare, That I am
Eighteen years and _____ months of age; that I have
 neither wife nor child; that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of
 disability or by sentence of a court-martial, or by order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and
 I know of no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a soldier for five years.

Given at Chillicothe Ohio
 The 30th day of August 1861

Witness:

Mulleam Kappel

No.

William Kappel

Enlisted at Chillicothe, Ohio

August 30th 1861,

By Robert D. Siders, 1st Supt.

31st Regt of Infantry

U.S.A.

enlistment; last served in Company ()

Reg't of _____

Discharged _____ 18 _____

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CONSENT IN CASE OF MINOR.

I, Christian Kappel Do CERTIFY, That I am the
Father of William Kappel; that the
 said William Kappel is Eighteen years of age; and I
 do hereby freely give my consent to his enlisting as a SOLDIER in the ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES for the
 period of five YEARS.

Given at Chillicothe Ohio
 The 30th day of August 1861

Witness:

Alex Thomson

Quinn Russell

STATE OF

Ohio



TOWN OF

Chillicothe

I, *William Kappel* born in *Chillicothe*
 in the State of *Ohio* - - - - - aged *Eighteen* years,
 and by occupation a *Farmer* DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
 voluntarily enlisted this *Thirtieth* day of *August*
 18*61*, as a **Soldier** in the Army of the United States of America, for the
 period of *three* **FIVE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also
 agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, estab-
 lished by law. And I, *William Kappel* do solemnly swear,
 that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States of America**,
 and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or
 opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the orders of the President
 of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according
 to the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Chillicothe* } *William Kappel*
 this *30th* day of *August* 18*61*. }
 Before: *Chap. Brown* } *Notary Public for Ross County*

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above named Recruit, agreeably to
 the General Regulations of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and mental
 infirmity, which would, in any way, disqualify him from performing the duties of a soldier.

EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Recruit, *William Kappel*
 previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my
 judgment and belief, he is of lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties
 of an able-bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the Regulations which govern the recruiting service.
 This soldier has *black* eyes, *brun* hair, *Dark* complexion, is *five feet three inches & half*
 high.

Isaac D. Sculer
12th St. 15th May

RECRUITING OFFICER.

WILLIAM LEWIS KAPPEL

He was born in Ohio in 1843, the third child of Christian and Caroline Kappel. He never married, and died without issue.

His parents were both born in Europe, and emigrated from Olbronn, Wurttemberg, Germany in 1837, we believe. There is some uncertainty about the date. However, Christian stated in an affidavit that they were married on April 14, 1837 in Germany, and immediately left for the United States. George B. Bauer also supports this in an affidavit. These are in the Probate Court records of Ross County, January 31, 1873 and June 20, 1876 respectively.

William is first listed in the Ross County Census in 1850. This is on the Scioto Township Roll 725, p193. He is listed as age 7, male, and born in Ohio. He was not listed with his family in the 1860 census, nor were his brothers Christian (older) and John (younger); nor his sisters Caroline (older) or Christine (younger). I presume this means they were not living at home at that time.

At any rate, George B. Bauer in the affidavit cited above stated that William worked for him on his farm for the one and one half years prior to enlisting in the army. This means he started at age 16 1/2, continuing through his 17th year, until enlisting at age 18. Bauer also stated that the pay started at \$7.50 per month and later increased to \$15.00 per month, and that the wages were paid to the Mother! (But of course the Mother was aware of serfdom in Europe).

On Aug. 30, 1861, William Lewis Kappel enlisted for a term of three years in the 15th Regiment of Infantry, U.S.A. Since he was 18 years old, his father gave the required written consent. William also affirmed that he voluntarily enlisted, would bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America and serve honestly and faithfully, obey the President and so on. (Sworn to and notarized.) He was described as having black eyes, brown hair, a dark complexion, and was 5' 3" tall.

The 15th Regiment of Infantry was organized in response to President Lincoln's call for troops in the Regular Establishment. They were sent to Newport Barracks, near Cincinnati OH. He was apparently assigned to Co. C, and his brothers to Co's A & B.

On September 20, 1861 Co's A & B left by rail for Lexington, thence to Louisville thence to Camp Nevin near Nolin's Station, Kentucky. By November they were in Bonnieville, KY guarding the L & N RR bridge over Bacon Creek. Here they were joined by Major J.H.King and Co's C,D,E,&F. Later they were assigned to the 4th Brigade with Gen. A.B. McCook in comand. This was part of the Army of the Ohio with first Gen. Sherman, then Gen. Buell in command. They continued to train, and moved around a bit.

In Feb. 1862 they were ordered to the Battle of Ft. Donellson (Feb. 12, 1862), Since it had surrendered before their arrival, they moved on to Bowling Green, Ky. They were then ordered to Nashville, TN, and camped outside of the city.

On March 16, 1862 they left with the Army of the Ohio to join Gen. Grant at Savannah, Tennessee. On April 7 it was engaged at Shiloh, fighting from noon until the end of the battle at four P.M. There were 75 caualties, with 7 men killed, 1 officer and 7 men wounded, and 2 men missing.

Following this Union victory, the regiment advanced on and participated in the seige of Corinth, where it remained until June 10.

Then came a series of marches - advances, retreats, etc. Buell's campaign in north Alabama and middle Tennessee (June to August); March to Louisvsille in pursuit of Bragg (August - September): further pursuit of Bragg, ending in Nashville, TN in November; on duty there till December 26; and then proceeded toward Murfresboro and the Battle of Stone's River Dec. 30, 1862 to Jan. 3, 1863.

It was in this battle that William Lewis Kappel was killed on December 31 and buried. It seems to me that with two brothers in the regiment, his body should have been properly identified. With the establishment of the National Cemetery, his body was interred in Section C, Lot 1170.

However the headstone stated, "WM KEPPLÉ U.S.A. " There is no explanation for this. Extensive research revealed no such person. No records were found in the National Archives. There was a John Kipple, but he did not die at Stone's River.

After extended correspondence, the staff at Stone's River National Battlefield Park agreed, and a headstone with the proper name - WILLIAM KAPPEL U.S.A. - was installed March 31, 1999. This is most satisfying to the author of this vignette.

The 15th Regiment of Infantry continued on with Christian and John Kappel still fighting. (John was wounded, but recovered. He was apparently nursed by a woman from Virginia whom he later married.) The 15th participated in the Battle of Atlanta, Chickamauga, and Kennesaw Mountain, to name a few.

LEWIS WILLIAM COPPEL
Born Dec 31, 1923

Note - This is believed accurate - some facts have been personally verified, and some are from what I believe reliable sources. If new information requires changes, they will be made. December 13, 2001.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Hwy.

Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

A58

June 16, 1998

Lewis W. Coppel, M.D.
Wildwood
30 Bearce Road
Chillicothe, OH 45601

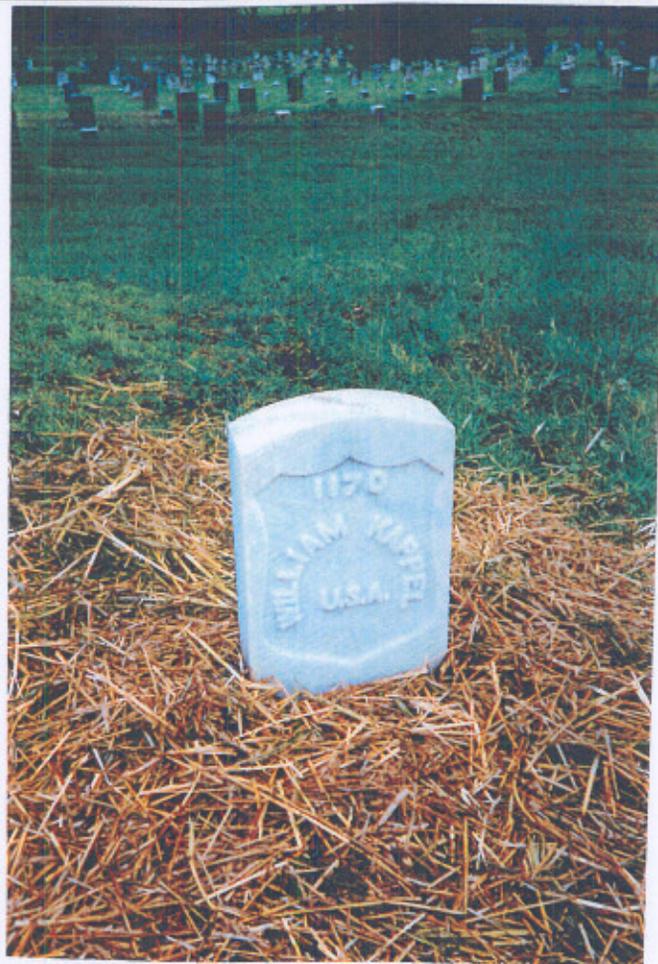
Dear Dr. Coppel:

I received your documentation regarding the inscription on the headstone in our cemetery for William Lewis Kappel. After researching the records it does appear that William Lewis Kepple and William Lewis Kappel are the same person.

I will request a replacement stone from the Veterans Administration. The production time for a new stone is 90-120 days. I will contact you again when the new stone is received and placed in our cemetery.

Sincerely,

Teresa E. Watson
Administrative Officer



CIVIL WAR
REGIMENTAL HISTORY
OF
15TH INFANTRY U.S.A.
(REGULARS)

This regiment is to be carefully distinguished from the 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. (15th INF USA, and 15th OVI.) Unfortunately, they are often confused. Since they were organized about the same time (Spring of 1861), both had men mainly from Ohio, and they had similar service records - often fighting in the same battles - this confusion is easily understood.

The 15th INF REG (REGULARS) was included in the recommendation of an advisory board for addition to the regular establishment.¹ President Lincoln approved this recommendation with some changes on the date of May 3, 1861² or May 4, 1861.³ This was confirmed by Act of Congress on July 29, 1861. General Orders No. 33, War Department, Adjutant-General's office, June 18, 1861 announced the names and lineal standing of the field officers and many of the company officers of the new regiments.

The headquarters of the Fifteen Infantry was established by this order at Wheeling, Virginia. On the 15th of July, it was removed to Cleveland, Ohio and "shortly thereafter, under further instructions it was established at Cincinnati, practically at Newport Barracks, where it remained until August, 1862, when it was transferred to Fort Adams, Rhode Island."^{4 & 5}

¹ Journal of the Military Service Institution , Governor's Island, N.Y.H. Nov, 1892, Capt. H.R.Brinkerhoff, p. 1257

² Ibid., p. 1257

³ Dyer, Frederick H., Compendium of the War of the Rebellion Vol. III, p. 1714, and repeated at <http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unreght/unrginf2.htm>

⁴ Journal of the Military Service Institution, Nov. 1892, Capt.H.R.Brinkerhoff, p1257.

⁵ The first arms on this site were installed in 1683 by William Brenton. It was more or less continually used until 1793, when Congress authorized a new fort. On July 4, 1799 it was named Fort Adams , for the second President. In 1861 it was transferred to the Department of the Navy for the use of the Naval Academy. National Archives records indicate that the fort was regarrisoned