

# THE CIVIL WAR DIARY

Of

HENRY SOLOMON WHITE (1840 - 1931)



## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

Abstract, from a Diary maintained by Henry Solomon White (1840-1931) in the period between September 1861 and 1865.

### Foreword<sup>1</sup>

Henry Solomon White was mustered in as a soldier in Company N, Sixth Virginia Volunteer Infantry in the Army of the United States. The organization of this company was in part as follows:

Captain	John Kenney ( <b>Presumably George, see Orders at end of document</b> )
1st Lieutenant	Jackson Moore
2nd Lieutenant	Fitzhugh Parkerson
Orderly Sergeant	Daniel White
Second Sergeant	William O. Hennen
Third Sergeant	Vernon McClary ( <b>See Order dated 4.10.1865, at end of document</b> )
Fourth Sergeant	John A. Hoge
Fifth Sergeant	Lafayette A. Eagen
Corporals	John Bissett
	Jeptha S. Moore
	R. Linsy Moore
	Washington Moore
	William Neel
	Harvey Ulom
	Henry Solomon White
	Charles H. Woodruff

Some of the Company were from Jollytown, Greene County; West Warren, Monongalia County; Freeport, Greene County; Blacksville, Monongalia County. They included the following members of the White family:

Daniel White	(son of William)
Henry Solomon White	(son of Michael)
William Thomas White	(son of Michael)
John White <sup>2</sup>	(son of Thomas)
William O. Hennen	(who married Mary, daughter of Joseph White)
Wesley Gilmore	(who married Elizabeth White, of John White)
Jacob Kirkhart	(who married Eliza White, of James White)

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**September 24, 1861.** We met at Camp White and began to form ourselves into a Company for the purpose of guarding bridges on the B&O RR<sup>3</sup> for the term of three years or during the war if not sooner discharged. The men were drilled about an hour by Daniel White and then divided into squads and taken care of during the night by the benevolent people of Camp White.

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<sup>1</sup> This version of the Diary was typed by H. S. White's grandson, Charles R. Bourland, Jr. , whose footnotes have been added. It is presumed the data prior to the start of the Diary and some at the end were added by the original typist, discussed in a later footnote.

<sup>2</sup> John White died of typhoid fever at Bridgeport, 1862.

<sup>3</sup> Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

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**September 25, 1861.** Company met and elected temporary officers, including Daniel White, Orderly Sergeant. We have about 30 men in all today.

**September 26, 1861.** We met today at 7 o'clock and were escorted to Burton in wagons. We stopped at Warren and cheered the citizens for some time and then went on to Burton hollowing like wolves. We were a merry set of boys today sure. This afternoon we were sworn in to the service of the United States by Squire Church. About forty of us took the oath and then were dismissed until Monday noon.

**September 31, 1861.** Company met at 1 o'clock According to previous arrangement, were drilled two hours and then dismissed and taken to Mr. Levi Hoge's and Captain Kenney's for our grub until our rations came.

**October 2, 1861.** Company proceeded with election of permanent officers - same as above, and Daniel White, Orderly Sergeant. Met at 1 o'clock and sworn into service. Mustered into service of the United States by Adjutant Fish after being examined by that officer for the term of three years, or during the war if not sooner discharged. Captain went to Wheeling after our equipment with the Adjutant.

**October 7, 1861.** Captain returned with a part of our equipment, which we proceeded to draw. Today we drew knapsacks, shirts, drawers, socks, blanket, pantaloons, canteens, gun shawls, shoes and caps. Some of the boys were very well pleased with their new clothes. They thought they were tall soldiers. After we had drawn our accoutrements we were then drilled.

**October 9, 1861.** Company drew their blouses today and drilled 3 hours and a half. Our rations came and we must now go to our death on bread and flitch. The boys don't like the looks of our fare but must take it root hog or die. I think they will get over their dainty tastes.

**October 10, 1861.** Company drilled a short time and then the Captain called for 30 volunteers to go to Littleton to guard bridges there. The call was responded to immediately and the Littleton boys proceeded to gather up their equipment till the train came, which we were ready to mount for camp. Littleton - some of our boys had never been on a train before. You may bet they were pleased with their ride and arrived at Littleton in 1-1/2 o'clock, and then struck our tents. A part of a company of Ohio boys were here and we did not take command til Monday.

**October 14, 1861.** The boys were drilled by O. S. White (Orderly Sergeant) and a guard formed for the bridges.

**October 25, 1861.** Company in fine spirits. A squad of 8 men went out on a scout commanded by Corporal Moore. Their business was to spy out the country and find where the secesh (sic, secession) men stay.

**October 28, 1861.** We were divided into messes and took up our boarding at private houses. Mess No. 1 went to Freeman Hunt's. No. 2 to Armstrong Hostuttler. Each mess drew their rations and took them to their separate messes.

**October 31, 1861.** Squad was drilled by Sergeant White. We went down below Littleton 1-1/2 miles and drilled until noon and then went to our mess and feasted on scorched beans and blue potatoes, two nice dishes. Tomorrow we have pot-pie for dinner.

**November 3, 1861.** This morning a number of boys missed roll-call. They were marched to

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quarters by Corporal Moore and there kept until the officers came. We were then put in a circle and a guard placed over us until noon and then all put on extra duty that night.

**November 6, 1861.** Company all well with few exceptions, drilled and dismissed; then went to the woods to gather nuts.

**November 10, 1861.** There was considerable excitement in camp caused by a report that the guards brought in. They annoyed and excited until a late hour at night by the playing of a fife and beating of a drum in the direction of Rocky Run. A number of men were detailed and sent in search of the drum and fife and returned having had complete success.

**November 15, 1861.** Last night will be a notable night in the history of the Company. A guard was formed and Woodruff sent a corporal to relieve the guard. He shot at a man, as he thought, but which proved on examination to be nothing but a mile post badly wounded in the face.

**November 17, 1861.** This morning Orderly Sergeant White was annoyed by Taylor. He got up before day and put him in the guardhouse. Shortly after Wise Johnson and Hugh Snider found him. They don't seem to like that little box.

**November 19, 1861.** Last night our men became excited, caused by report that a whole company of our calvary were cut to pieces by the rebels near Parkersburg and that they were marching this way. The men were called into line and three rounds of cartridges given to each man and orders given for the men to sleep on their pieces loaded during the night. That night a very serious accident happened. Gilmore \*\*\*\* but next day the excitement wore off finally.

**November 22, 1861.** This morning 10 men were detailed to go to Squire White's<sup>4</sup> in Greene County to a meeting for the purpose of recruiting. They returned in the evening by way of Darby Shay's and by the time they got to camp some of them were pretty lousy. Gilmore was tight, or as some term it loose. The next day 10 men volunteered to go to Sam Riggs to a corn husking. They had a sweet time of it in the Spanish needles to their waist.

**November 25, 1861.** Today we have been in the service two months. Most of us are well satisfied, some are getting a little sick of a soldier's life.

**November 30, 1861.** A number of the Company have measles. I have them but am getting better. William<sup>5</sup> and a number of others are very bad with them. We have about 80 men in all at this time.

**December 1, 1861.** Company drilled under Lt. Moore. He is a fine officer and a good soldier and possesses very superior military qualities. Our Company may be classed as No 1 in reference to officers. We drew dress coats and haversacks. At the present time we have all drawn our quota of clothing except overcoats. But no cartridge boxes. After we receive them it is thought our Company will be moved to the Grafton or New Creek<sup>6</sup>.

### Regimental Officers of the 6th Regiment Virginia Infantry Volunteers:

Colonel	N. Wilkinson	Wheeling, VA
Lt. Colonel	Joseph Hoy	West Point, NY
Major	John H. Showalter	Fairmont, VA
Adjutant	John Fish	Maine
Adjutant	James F. Wilkinson	Wheeling, VA

<sup>4</sup> Probably Stephen White.

<sup>5</sup> His brother, William Thomas White.

<sup>6</sup> Keyser, WV.

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**December 25, 1861.** Christmas evening we began to prepare for Christmas spree at Armstrong Hostutler's. Fine lot of turkeys were furnished by Lt. Parkerson and the messes furnished such rations as were necessary for the dinner. Misses Hostutler and Misses Owen being the cooks furnished such vegetables as were needed and at half past three the dinner was ready. About 40 ate dinner and then prepared for a dance. Finally all passed off and the gentlemen brought in the ladies for a dance - a fine looking lot of ladies were present. Dance kept up till a late hour. A number of the Burton boys came down to participate in the dance. Everything moved off in perfect tranquility this evening, it being the first Christmas evening spent in camp by any of us.

**January 1, 1862.** New Year's day finds the boys all happy and in good spirits. A squad started yesterday in search of a man who did not return to camp when ordered and have not returned yet. The Orderly Sergeant commands the squad. I suppose they will have a fine trip. Today each man carried on for himself under the impression that he is to spend this year in camp, if he lives the whole year.

**February 3, 1862.** Littleton. Today the Company were amused by having the privilege of signing the first pay roll since they entered the service. We have not seen one cent of Uncle Sam's money yet<sup>7</sup> but hope to and that very soon. The men have all been out of heart in reference to their money and I think myself we have been treated badly about our pay. Some of our men's families need their money very badly.

**February 6, 1862.** The news reached us today of the capture of Fort Henry on the Cumberland River. I think that we will have good news from that quarter every day until they capture Nashville. Anyhow, when they take that place secession is gone up in Tennessee - may it come soon, and may the time soon come when all the other secession states shall be brought back by the force of arms into this once glorious Union but now badly broken by fanatical leaders and political demagogues. The Company enjoys good health up to this time and there has not been an accident happened since the Company went into the service.

**February 10, 1862.** Company all on dress parade. Present quite a soldiery appearance. Men anxious \_\_\_\_\_ the appearance of a paymaster of this department.

**February 12, 1862.** The Company is quietly staying at Littleton and Burton, being satisfied that they have good times, while if they were out in the mountains of course they would see rough times. We are nearly all in good health at this time and hope the war will soon be over, but it may last for years yet.

**February 18, 1862.** Littleton. This morning our Company was wild with enthusiasm, having received the glorious intelligence of the capture of Fort Donolson and 15,000 prisoners, including General Johnson, Buckner and Pillow.

We expect our pay today but have not received it yet, but I suppose it will come tomorrow. We were drilled this afternoon by Captain Geo. Kenney about 2 1/2 hours and then dismissed and ordered not to leave camp without written permission from an officer. All well except a few cases of mumps.

**February 22, 1862.** This is Washington's birthday. The Company reverences the birthday of the Father of his country. The Company this afternoon drew a part of a suit of clothing, consisting of

<sup>7</sup> His wait for funds from the government remained a lifelong endeavor. In 1904 he was forced to delay his honeymoon trip to the World's Fair in St. Louis for several days as he waited for his government paycheck.

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pantaloons, socks and shoes. We will draw blouses in a few days. Some of our men have begun to get their clothes and money. There is something strange about our money or the reason our paymaster doesn't come around and pay us off. We have been in the service nearly five months and no pay yet. The Company generally well, up to this time.

**March 1, 1862.** Littleton. This morning, it being the first day of spring, the men are lively and cheerful. They want to move immediately but may not go for a month to come. Company met today and drilled three hours, longer than we had drilled for some time.

**March 8, 1862.** Littleton. This afternoon the Company drew their blouses which are very good quality, being lined through and through. All is right now but our money and that appears to continue to keep out of our sight. We have the promise now of getting it next week. I hope we may. I hope I see it.

**March 12, 1862.** Today we signed another payroll but the good Lord knows of what account it will be to us. The word now is that we will be paid on Saturday. We will wait and see anyhow.

**March 15, 1862.** The paymaster came at last and paid us off for five months and six days. He is a very fine looking man and I think will attend to his business better than that old crazy one. The boys are all in good spirits, anxious to move or do anything that they may be required to do. Yesterday Jacob Kirkhart<sup>8</sup> enlisted in the Company. It is nearly full at this time and the men all well except a few cases of mumps, which disease is very annoying at this season of the year.

**April 15, 1862.** Barracksville, VA. This morning the order came for us to move to Farmington and Barracksville on the B&O RR to guard bridges there. We are a merry set of boys today. The train came about half past 10 and we started for our destination. The boys were glad to leave Littleton and Burton and cheered the Union men along the line and when they arrived they began to look for quarters and in a short time we were well quartered in the best houses in town. The boys are well satisfied. There are plenty of secessionists up here. I think we will have some poker to play with them. The weather is fine today. Tomorrow we drill. There are but one or two Union men in Barracksville, the rest look sulky and sullen. The bushwhackers have begun their guerilla warfare in this country this spring. I hope they will meet with untimely graves. They must give over and quit their secession principles or their lives, either will do.

**April 22, 1862.** Barracksville. This evening the Company was called into ranks and proceeded to draw cartridge boxes, belts, bayonets, scabbards and gun straps. That finishes our accoutrements. The boys look more like soldiers now than ever. They are preparing for a grand scout tomorrow.

**April 23, 1862.** A part of Captain Showalter's company joined in with our boys today to help scout the old Righter neighborhood for bushwhackers or guerillas. I hope they may do some good and relieve the Union men in that settlement.

**April 25, 1862.** The scout have returned. They had a fine time. Killed nobody. Took nobody prisoner, not did they see a single bushwhacker in all their rounds. This evening the camp is in considerable excitement. There were some boys preparing to go from here to the southern Confederacy. They were arrested by Lt. Jackson Moore or by the order of that officer and brought to quarters and sworn to answer questions. One testified that he told his sister that he, Waitman T. Arnett, John McCray, James Toothman and David Ice were going on Sunday to the rebel army. He said that he was only in sport. The boys were released and agreed to report themselves to the camp until further orders. Joseph Gilmore had his arm put out of place this evening.

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<sup>8</sup> Husband of Eliza White Kirkhart.

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**May 1, 1862.** This morning Waitman T. Arnett and David Ice failed to report at quarters. They have gone to the southern army. The other boys have been taken up. One took the oath, the other, Jack McCray, did not and consequently was sent to Wheeling for safekeeping. The men are generally well at this time.

**May 5, 1862.** Barracksville. Early today Lt. Pierpoint of Company A, Sixth Virginia Volunteers came down from Fairmont for men to scout Monongalia, Greene and Fayette Counties for secessionists and Knights of the Golden Circle. They started about 4 o'clock p. m. Captain Kenney and Showalter and Lts. Pierpoint and Moore went with the scouts.

**May 9, 1862.** Barracksville. This morning an order came for us to move to Fairmont to guard the company bridge. The scouts have returned after four whole days marching. They went to Monongalia, Greene and Fayette Counties, marching at night and resting in the daytime. Nothing of interest transpired while they were gone more than the inhabitants were very much frightened at the approach of our men in that country. They found the rumor that there were Knights of the Golden Circle in that part a falsehood. While they were gone, we found a gun that Peter Boore had buried to keep the soldiers from getting it. He took the oath of allegiance and went home.

**May 12, 1862.** Fairmont. At midnight last night Captain Kenney got a dispatch from headquarters to arrest T. J. Lough and bring him to camp. The order was promptly executed and Lough will be sent to headquarters tomorrow. The Company are generally well and like Fairmont pretty well, with a few exceptions.

**May 27, 1862.** Fairmont. This evening Captain Kenney called out 20 men to go on a scout on the hunt of some bushwhackers. John Righter, a noted guerrilla, was supposed to be in the neighborhood of Booth's Creek but the boys could not find or hear anything of him. We kept a good lookout for the friends of Jeff Davis.

**May 28, 1862.** Fairmont. Our Company have an invitation today to help the citizens of Fairmont celebrate the day of their redemption from the secessionists despotism of one year ago. The program of the day is preaching in the morning and speaking in the afternoon by Professor W. R. White<sup>9</sup> of Fairmont, and Dr. Dorsey of New York. After the speaking the Company goes on dress parade while the boys of the town fire the cannon. The day passed off pleasantly.

**May 31, 1862.** Fairmont. This evening there was considerable excitement in the camp caused by the leaving of two of the worst rebel women in Fairmont. It is generally supposed that they have gone to Staunton to see their husbands, Alpheus Haymond and James Neeson. Lt. Moore has gone on the hunt of them and perhaps will capture them somewhere. He has 15 men with him and has gone in the direction of Boothsville.

**June 1, 1862.** Lt. Moore has returned with his scouts but did not find anything of the she-devils that left yesterday. They have gone to the southern army with clothes for their husbands. I hope they will get enough of the southern army before they get back.

**June 5, 1862.** Fairmont. This morning we captured a bushwhacker just below here. He pretends to be crazy and says that he is no guerrilla. We lodged him in the Fairmont jail to wait a few days and see if he is deranged. He gives his name David Murphy. I believe he ought to be shot.

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<sup>9</sup> Professor W.R. White was the first Superintendent of Schools of West Virginia, Principal of an academy at Fairmont, WV prior to the war and in 1888 was Methodist minister at Morgantown. He is no known relative of our family.

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**June 7, 1862.** Fairmont. This morning we finished signing the payrolls for March and April and expect to get our pay soon. We sent our prisoner over to Wheeling today and I suppose the authorities will deal with him justly. The men are generally well at this time of writing. We have four men in the hospital and one sick in camp.

**June 10, 1862.** Fairmont. This evening at 9 o'clock we were paid off. The second time. This time we were paid for two months and there were some stoppages made on account of our pay this time, so some got more and some less. The boys are very well satisfied at this time. The Colonel is more prompt in having our pay than at first. We all like Fairmont very well.

**June 14, 1862.** The Captain started to Grafton today with the men that were sick in camp. Took them to hospital and today there were three men discharged in our Company - William Knight, Joseph Gilmore and James Kimbal were all discharged from the service of the United States and there are four others that will be discharged before long. The Company drills twice a day and I judge will not stay here long.

**June 18, 1862.** Today those men that were discharged on the 14th returned to camp from Grafton. This evening Captain Maulsby's men brought in four prisoners from the country. They are well guarded by our boys till sent to headquarters and on the 20th William Hennen<sup>10</sup> went with four others on a scout. The Orderly Sergeant went out also today in the direction of Farmington to quell a muss that the citizens have gotten into. I think they had good success and on the 21st Captain Kenney arrested a man near Worthington. He was in the secession army something like 10 months. I think we will send him over. On the 23rd the Captain went to Grafton after new guns. I hope he will get them. We expect to leave here soon. William McClellan, Jeremiah Murphy and Elijah Loafman returned from the hospital, having been discharged from the service. We have no more sick in the hospital at this time and the Company is generally well.

**June 26, 1862.** Fairmont. At 7 o'clock this evening a report came to town that there was a secession spy near Benton Ferry. Sergeant Hoge started in search of him with a squad of 10 men and arrested a man named Price near Worthington who is convicted of treason or as being one of the party that burnt those bridges near Mannington. The man that Captain Kenney took near Worthington on the 21st is also convicted of the same act. His name is Blackburn Davis. There is evidence against them in circuit court of the county. I think they are played out at present.

At 10 o'clock this evening Barnes came to camp very much excited, wanting a squad of soldiers to go out with him and arrest a man who says he broke prison at Chicago. Sergeant White started immediately with 10 men and went on the double quick some three miles but the man was gone. They deployed out and searched the woods around but could find nothing of Smith - that was his name. I suppose he suspicioned something and skedaddled. On the 27th Davis and Price were sent up to the jail to await further orders. I hope they may go up the spout.

R. C. Smith reported again this evening. Sergeant White started again in search of him. He has caused considerable excitement in the neighborhood of Benton's Ferry. The squad went on double quick and found Smith secreted in a secession house pretending to be a southern man. They treated him with great civility and our boys approached - they denied of anyone being there but their own family. The boys searched and found him and brought him to camp. He says now that he is a member of Company F, 65th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. We will keep him and see if he is a deserter from the regiment, and if so will send him to his regiment for punishment.

**July 2, 1862.** Company in fine spirits today. One month's rations came this morning and our new guns which have been looked for so long. They are Enfield rifles and the best quality, just from

<sup>10</sup> He married Mary White, daughter of Joseph White.

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the shop. The old muskets will be sent back. Some of the boys drew some clothing this time, such as pants, drawers, blouses, shoes, caps.

**July 4, 1862.** Fairmont. Today we are going to celebrate the anniversary of America's independence by joining the Sabbath Schools of Fairmont and marching around the streets and then repairing to the grove<sup>11</sup> for refreshment. The citizens of Fairmont of the Methodist Episcopal Church gave us a very fine dinner today - there being some prejudice in the other churches was the reason that they did not help. The day passed off pleasantly.

**July 6, 1862.** The Colonel was here yesterday and ordered the Captain to send part of the Company back to Barracksville; this evening Lt. Moore called for 16 volunteers for that purpose. The call was responded to immediately. They go tomorrow morning and take 5 days rations with them. Their business is to settle some secessionists that are getting too bold. On the **7th** Orderly White started in the direction of Blacksville to arrest two deserters from the Ninth Virginia Regiment. **July 8** - they found the deserters and took them to Grafton. Today Colonel Hoy came down from Grafton to get volunteers from our Company to go into the military company of Captain Maulsby. Seven of the boys went away with him - namely: Jacob Kirkhart, John Lally, G.H. Richardson, Dick Lemly, Jack Taylor, Hudson Stansbury, and 1st Lt. was ordered away but Colonel Williamson countermanded the order so Lt. Moore gets to stay with Company N. Our Company is generally well at this time, and there are none in the hospital but Lot Fox, who is nearly well.

**July 14, 1862.** Lt. Moore started to Morgantown with a wounded man by the name of Herrington of the Third Regiment of Virginia. He took 16 men with him. They carried him all the way on their shoulders. On the 15th they returned to camp after a very hard trip. Some gave out. Others came through safe.

**July 16, 1862.** The boys from Barracksville returned to camp after arresting about 15 secessionists and sweating them and making all the rebels hoist the American flag over their doors. They had a fine time I guess.

**July 24, 1862.** Today we signed the third payroll for our Company. The boys seem well satisfied when pay day draws nigh. We expect our pay next week. We get two months pay this time.

**August 5, 1862.** Sergeant Hennen to Mannington today to arrest some secessionists and take them to Wheeling. He caught four and sent them over.

**August 6, 1862.** Hennen returned to camp. On the **12th** a dispatch came from the deputy Marshall at Mannington to Captain Kenney that there were 200 rebels marching on Mannington. That night 20 men volunteered immediately to go so we walked 17 miles that evening and when we got there found the Marshall drunk and the report about the rebels all excitement. While we were there, we arrested two men and sent them over to Wheeling and from there they go to Camp Chase. **13th.** We came back to Fairmont on the way-train on the B&O RR. On the **16th** there was considerable excitement in town. A dispatch was received that the notorious John Righter was in the neighborhood of Worthington with 200 guerillas and that he was marching on toward Fairmont. Captain Kenney and Lt. Moore started with 56 men determined to check them if possible. They marched up to Worthington and there met Moore of the Sixth Virginia and a part of an Ohio regiment. Sure enough John Righter was there but had skedaddled, his guerilla band having deserted when our boys approached.

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<sup>11</sup> This location is in the vicinity of Butcher School, Benoni Avenue and 5th Street, facing Fairmont and Beverly Turnpike.

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**August 1862, Monday.** Righter was again reported to headquarters. The Captain started again with 25 men. We marched to Worthington and there pressed (impressed) horses and started in search of Righter's crew. We got their names and took nearly 30 of them prisoners. They were marched to Fairmont and put in jail. On the **20th** they were sent off to Camp Chase.

**August 21, 1862.** This morning an alarm was raised by the bridge guards firing their guns off. Dark as it was, the Company was in ranks in a few moments and went double quick to the bridge and found it to be nothing but imagination. There were some green guards sent to the bridge with Corporal Woodruff.

**August 23, 1862.** Last night we got a dispatch that they were fighting in the neighborhood of Boothsville. The whole Company was sent out divided in two squads, some on the bridge and some on both pikes. Lt. Parkerson fortified the Boothsville road with fence rails. We laid on our arms all night expecting to fight any minute. All of the home guard was out and I tell you that the excitement was intense but morning came at last and when the correct news reached us it was all a hoax.

**August 30, 1862.** Captain received a dispatch to send Lt. Moore and 40 men immediately on the train to Grafton. There were 40 volunteered and started to Grafton but when we got there the boys found that they had left home. There was a train waiting and it would take us to Clarksburg, where they expected the rebels to come in the night. We left Grafton and got to Clarksburg at midnight and marched right on to the court house, expecting to see some fighting before morning. The soldiers were coming in by the hundreds. We have serious news here.

**September 1, 1862.** Clarksburg, Virginia. Yesterday and today was spent blockading the Buckhannon road. We stayed all day on the pike expecting to see the rebels approach for a fight, but nary a one did we see.

**September 2, 1862.** This is evening. We marched to Camp Burns and tented in some \_\_\_\_\_ tents of the 86th Ohio (three months men) the whole Company is detailed for picket duty tomorrow, We stand 24 hours. Lt. Moore and Sergeant Hennen command the squad. We are living on pilot crackers and water. The boys are sorry that they have to live so hard but must do it. None of us like Clarksburg or any such a place.

**September 5, 1862.** Today we left Camp Burns for Camp Wilkinson. We took 7 large Selby tents having had one old one condemned by the inspector of government property. We are now beginning to live, getting more to eat and have more accommodations than when we first came. Last night our camp equipage and cooking utensils came from Fairmont.. Perhaps we may stay here now for a while.

**September 11, 1862.** All is quiet in camp today. General Kelley was in town last night. He left this morning on an extra train. His destination being unknown. Our boys are lying around being better satisfied than they were 10 days ago.

**September 12, 1862.** Bridgeport, Virginia. Northwestern Virginia Railroad. Lt. Moore received a dispatch for his command to move to Bridgeport and Webster in equal squads. We thought it a good omen to get to leave Clarksburg because none of us liked it.

**September 14, 1862.** Yesterday evening there were various rumors in town creating intense excitement. We slept on our arms all night not knowing but that we might have to skedaddle before morning, but the excitement was all unfounded.

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**September 17, 1862.** Bridgeport. This morning the Ringgold Cavalry and Captain Maulsby's battery passed through town on their way to Clarksburg. There is considerable excitement in that direction but all is quiet here. Many of the citizens of Barbour and Lewis Counties are leaving, thinking there is going to be another raid into this part of the country. We think there is nothing serious going on.

**September 25, 1862.** Bridgeport. This is the anniversary of our enlistment. This day one year ago we left Camp White for Burton to be sworn into the service of the United States. Since then we have been moving about a great deal. We are now loath to leave the railroad department and join the regular service; but whether we will get to or not is unknown to us. We hope that we may never be divided into squads another year like we have been this year. At the present time we are divided into three squads; one at Fairmont, one at Webster and the other here. The Captain says that he must have his company together or he will quit soldiering - that is, he will resign. We don't like to hear him talk that way.

**September 29, 1862.** The payrolls came today and the boys signed them and this evening we get our pay.

**September 30, 1862.** Last night about 10 o'clock Major Pumphry, the paymaster, came and paid the boys off for four months. We liked to see our pay this time very well because it was kept back two months from some cause of which we know nothing. We drew \$52.00 this time, it being the third time we have been paid off since we enlisted. We hope now that our pay will come in regularly, more regularly next year than it has this. The boys are well and ready to march anywhere. General Milroy's brigade goes through here tomorrow, which is the 2nd of October.

**October 15, 1862.** Last night there was an alarm at the bridge. The boys skedaddled for camp and met Lt. Moore on the way to their relief. They went back but could not find a single rebel. They supposed that John Righter passed with his band of bushwhackers. Orderly White was after him six days and nights. They had quite a scout bordering on the secesh all of the time in the neighborhood of Worthington and Boothsville. They returned to camp having had full success.

**October 22, 1862.** Today General Cox's train of wagons, 200 in number, passed through here enroute to Clarksburg where his bridge intends to rendezvous for the present. The boys are all aple (sic) for their rations.

**November 3, 1862.** We are looking for our pay every week, probably may not get it until there is four months pay due us, which will keep us out of money until spring. The Captain brought seven more men here last week, which makes the duty easier than it was. We go on guard every three nights. We dislike Bridgeport very much.

**November 15, 1862.** Bridgeport. Today the boys are out after some deserters from the 10th Virginia. They have gone in the direction of Morgantown. They will be apprehended and brought to justice, I presume. We have two men in the hospital now and some others sick in camp with the jaundice though none very seriously. At present the Captain is very sick with rheumatism in the back.

**December 1, 1862.** Nothing much has occurred since the 10th of last month. Consequently, I have not written anything. The boys are all well now. We have been looking for our pay for some time but all in vain. We may get it next month but not in all probability until next spring.

**December 14, 1862.** There was some excitement at Clarksburg last night. The citizens thought that the rebel Imboden or Jenkins were coming in but the news was unfounded, therefore, the

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

people became more reconciled against morning.

Lt. Moore drew one month's rations today at Clarksburg. We have plenty of bread and Flich, which is very wholesome diet for soldiers. The boys are more lively than usual. Most of the citizens are drunk, especially those that can get whiskey. There is a restriction on whiskey now that causes a great many persons to get very dry. I hope that the restriction will be kept on, at least while we stay here.

**December 20, 1862.** We drew some articles of clothing today, such as pants, blouses, blankets, etc.

**December 25, 1862.** This is Christmas Day. We are trying to enjoy ourselves as best we can. This is the second Christmas we have spent in camp. Our only hope is that by next year the war may be over and that those who are now absent from their homes and families may return to their family and homes of felicity and untold happiness.

**January 1, 1863.** Bridgeport. As I predicted we have spent another year in the army, or in camp, rather, guarding bridges. Have seen some hard times during the last year and are fully convinced that we are bound for another year's rations of U.S. bread and Flich and some coffee. We have moved quite a number of times and expect to move as many more times this year. One-half of the Company is at Fairmont, the rest at Webster and Bridgeport.

Memo: Miss Emma Shay<sup>12</sup><sup>13</sup>, Morgantown

General E. C. Bunker

We are all happy and gay this being New Year's Day. There are more of us that would like to spend this year at home rather than in the army. We have now been in the service for 15 months and have seen soldiering played out considerably. Though we are willing to serve our time out like men and if need fight out or guard our way through all these old familiar bridges. We have excellent quarters and live like gentlemen. There are none of our men in the hospital at this time. We are all tolerably hale. The Captain commenced making out a new payroll today. I think we will be paid off by the 1st of February, if not sooner. There is four months pay due us now, besides back pay of last year which will make our pay nearer \$65.00<sup>14</sup> again, the same that it was last year at this time.

**January 15, 1863.** Bridgeport. Commenced drilling today and have orders to drill once a day if practicable. The men are amusing themselves hunting rabbits which are very numerous in these parts. I think we have killed 100 since we came here. We are hard up for our pay just now. We would like to make the paymaster's acquaintance very much just now. Hope we will have the pleasure of seeing him soon.

**February 1, 1863.** The Captain was here today with the pay rolls. We all signed them and expect our pay soon. We also received some clothing from Grafton, which was very acceptable as there were some who had worn their blouses for a long time. Our squad is well at this time.

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<sup>12</sup> Henry S. White's brother, Israel Charles White, married her.

<sup>14</sup> The growth of inflation is seen if one reads the autobiography of C. R. Bourland, who there annotates pay for the U. S. Army in the first World War.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

**February 8, 1863.** Last evening the paymaster went to Fairmont and took Lt. Moore with him and today the Captain brought us our money, which was very acceptable. We got four months pay this time and settled up our clothing bill to this time. The Company is in good spirits and anxious to be moved on. The Captain goes back to Fairmont tomorrow.

**February 26, 1863.** Got orders to send two men to Mannington to arrest some deserters from the Federal army. Most of our Company are well at this time and would be glad to move.

**March 2, 1863.** Bridgeport. This evening Captain Kenney received orders to move to Grafton, Virginia, immediately. The boys did not like the idea of leaving Fairmont for Grafton, after being at Fairmont 10 months but nevertheless they went as cheerfully as could be expected. The pay rolls came yesterday and we draw clothing tomorrow.

**April 5, 1863.** We received orders to send two non-commissioned officers and 8 privates to Farmington to watch the movements of some horse thieves and if possible kill and capture some of them. Sergeant Hennen and Captain Moore are in command of the squad.

Grafton, Taylor County, Virginia. The boys at Grafton are all out scouting for the thieves who are supposed to be trying to cross the Valley Fork River. We are now very much divided, being on five or six detachments. We are looking for our pay soon as all the boys in the army are to be paid up to March 1st. Company all well and in good spirits.

**April 8, 1863.** Detachment returned, having had poor success. They did not see a single rebel.

**April 16, 1863.** A discharged lieutenant reported some rebel soldiers near Pruntytown last night. This morning Lt. Moore detailed 12 men and went in search of them.

**April 17, 1863.** Scouting party returned, found nobody. The people were only frightened and excited at some horse thieves and imagined an army at hand.

**April 22, 1863.** Bridgeport. Lt. Moore was ordered to Cornwallis near Parkersburg this morning to superintend the building of a block house and Lt. Carrico, of Company F, was ordered there to build one also. Fifteen of Company P (Captain Over) were ordered to report there.

**April 23, 1863.** Fifteen of Company F have arrived. Also Lt. Carrico, they go to work tomorrow on the fort.

**April 24 and 25, 1863.** The implements necessary for the work on the fort arrived this morning. They have gone out to try their luck.

Midnight. Lt. Carrico received orders to move with his fatigue party to Clarksburg immediately, so we have to leave our fort alone some time yet. Fifteen of Company N went, leaving eleven, four of them in Clarksburg for duty, so we have to be on duty every night. Hard times come again. How long we will remain here I can not tell. Not long I hope. Linsy Moore has the fever very bad.

**April 26, 1863.** Fairmont, Virginia. Lt. Moore returned this morning and this evening Col. N. Wilkinson sent us a dispatch to burn the railroad bridges and fall back on Fairmont to meet the rebels that were coming in by way of Morgantown - we obeyed orders though rather reluctantly did we commence our first retreat, and that too without seeing a single rebel. We left the citizens in a complete panic; also we left Linsy Moore behind at the mercy of the Confederate soldiers if they come in, which they surely will do.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

**April 28, 1863.** Arrived at Fairmont at noon - found the town almost deserted of inhabitants and what were left much frightened, thinking that raiders would be in soon. We found the force to consist of two companies of the 106th New York; 25 of Company A, 6th Virginia Infantry; and one company of Home Guards - making with our ten, 234 men, all told. There were various rumors in town today. Sometimes the men were drawn up in line of battle - so many exaggerated reports reaching the commanding officer (Captain Chamberlaine of the 106th New York Volunteers) they had us thinking they were up on us every hour. We have orders to sleep on our arms tonight and be ready for any exigency or emergency. Also, we have reports that the rebels are in Morgantown 5,000 strong and that they are coming to this place tomorrow.

**April 29, 1863.** This morning we were ordered to form line of battle on the hill above the bridge, that they were coming in by way of Barracksville, which proved to be a sad reality. There were 4,500 of the rebel calvary, came in commanded by Brigadier General William E. Jones and attacked us after surrounding us entirely. We fought them 2 hours and 50 minutes manfully but surrendered just in time to save ourselves from a grand charge which they were making. We had 2 men killed and 6 wounded. Their loss must have been 16 killed and 20 wounded, certainly not less than that. We were all paroled and left within the lines of the Federal army, contrary to the cartel agreed upon not long since by General Dix of the Federal army and General Hill of the Confederate army; so our parole was not legal. After we were dismissed the rebels commenced plundering and stealing, from every citizen in town to a rate which beggars description. They stole all of the horses in the town and country around to the disgust of even their sympathizers. They left for Bridgeport about midnight to the entire satisfaction of all parties. They left quite a number of their wounded in Fairmont. I was also wounded and left in town at Mrs. W. D. Wilson's, whom I never will forget for her kindness.

(Memo: General Jones of the Confederate army had his headquarters on Palantine Knob. The Union forces were scattered along and east of what is now Fairmont Avenue. H.S. White (my father<sup>15</sup>) with John S. Barnes and Fontaine Smith were in a ravine about the present location of Ninth Street down toward the river. Father was engaged in the act of shooting and was shot through the right elbow, the bullet passing through the bones both above and below the elbow joint, slivering them. After being captured, he was taken to the basement of a building on the east side of Main and Quincy where Doctor Eyster, father-in-law of Joseph E. Sands, dressed his wound. Governor Pierpont's residence was diagonally across the street on the opposite corner and Father saw the Rebels carry his library, including his Bible, out into the street and burn all of it. Father said that Fontaine Smith was a civilian but loaded and shot a muzzle-loading squirrel rifle, he being a strong Union man and greatly outraged. John S. Barnes was shot in the forehead, the bullet following his skull from the top of the forehead to the base of the neck, in the rear - not a serious injury.)

**April 30, 1863.** Today Lt. Moore started for home with the other paroled prisoners. Captain Kenney was today ordered from Grafton to Webster with orders to hold the place at the point of the bayonet. The raiders have gone in that direction, possibly will pass out at Bridgeport. Their

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<sup>15</sup> Since it is not known who typed this document originally, the person referring to his/her "father" is likewise unknown. This document was passed out to the attendees at the 1965 White Family Reunion near Morgantown, WV by James and Lettie Watson. Later, a copy of the original diary was located at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection in Morgantown, WV. Mr. White was married three times, and the original diary was inherited by his first family, specifically Kemble White, an attorney from Clarksburg, WV. Since the parenthetical text implies to this writer a feminine overtone, it is thought to be either Alice or Iona White, sisters to Kemble White, who was the typist.

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visit into West Virginia<sup>16</sup> was not appreciated at all, they certainly took 1,500 horses and plunder to the amount of \$10,000 or more. We hope they may never visit us again. Before they came here they were at Kingwood and Morgantown And stole the good horses in their whole route.

**May 2, 1863.** The remainder of the Company were mounted on horses today to do picket duty on the Phillippi road. There is now a considerable force at Webster of both infantry and calvary. 87th Pennsylvania and 12th and 14th Pennsylvania Calvary with two or three companies of the 6th Volunteer Infantry. Yesterday the rebels passed out at Bridgeport. As I predicted, they gobbled up a few of the finest Virginia cavalry that were there on picket. General Roberts had 7,000 men in Clarksburg but had not the stamina to give them fight - all such men should be dismissed from the service. I think he will be superseded soon by General Averill.

**May 6, 1863.** Webster. There was a squad of men started on a scout in the Righter settlement, also to Fairmont to ascertain the amount of mischief done by the Rebels and if possible to pick up stragglers. They captured a Rebel Captain today on the Phillippi road. Company in good spirits at this time.

**May 10, 1863.** Captain Kenney received orders to be ready to march at any time. On the **12th** they were countermanded. On the **13th** today Lt. Moore received orders to report for duty with his command of paroled prisoners, 10 in number - namely: Sergeant Hennen, Corporal White, George Stiles, John White, David Lemly, Robinson Hostutler, William Himelrick, Noah I. Mersiner, Abraham Hostutler, Linsy Moore and Lt. Moore, who were captured at Fairmont, Virginia April 29, 1863 by forces under General W. E. Jones, of Staunton.

**May 20, 1863.** Lt. Moore made out a requisition for arms and accoutrements, the boys expect to be soldiers again soon. Some are rather loath to take arms again but the General commanding has ordered it, consequently it is a "military necessity".

**May 28, 1863.** Webster, West Virginia.<sup>17</sup> Lt. Moore was ordered to Cornwallis to complete his blockhouse, also 15 of our Company were detailed to return to Bridgeport and build one there. Our Company is again in three squads, many of the men are tired of railroad duty; would prefer regular service a while anyhow.

**June 3, 1863.** The paroled men have not taken up arms yet but I suppose will in due time - after an exchange is made. The Company is in usual health, men in fine spirits and anxious to see the "elephant".

**June 23, 1863.** Commission of Colonel Wilkinson came today with the arms for the paroled men and ordered them to each take a gun and not parley over an exchange any longer as it was illegal according to the cartels. The boys obeyed to a man, thinking it was all right as I supposed it was. The Company is now divided into four squads which is very disagreeable. We hope to be removed from here soon as it is a very irksome place for the railroad tribe. Many of our men are anxious to moved off the RR.

**July 10, 1863.** Webster. We were paid off today by Major Pumphrey for two months. The Company are in usual health, also very anxious to receive their money and more anxious to be moved from Webster to some other point if it is off of the RR Department.

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<sup>16</sup> The statehood of West Virginia was not official until June 20, 1863.

<sup>17</sup> Again, the statehood of West Virginia is not officially declared. This may be a typist oversight as Mr. White never mentions statehood directly.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

**July 20, 1863.** Nothing transpired worth writing. 6th Virginia on inactive but wish active service immediately. We have no duty to perform except captain guarding which puts the men on duty once in four weeks. We are enjoying excellent health under such light duty.

**August 24, 1863.** Men started on a scout after some horse thieves. **25th.** More men sent out in search of the thieves. After scouting for some time Orderly White and his scouts succeeded in taking three notorious horse thieves, together with four horses. They took them up to Buckhannon and lodged them in jail. They proved to be deserters from the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry. One of them they suppose will be shot if court-martialed, the rest delt with severely.

**August 20, 1863.** Webster, Taylor County, Virginia<sup>18</sup>. Received orders to send Lt. Jackson Moore to Phillippi, Virginia. with a detachment of 30 men with their knapsacks and three days rations with orders to guard the bridge and protect the Union citizens. The boys were quite jubilant over the idea of leaving the RR. The Company is now divided into 5 squads, the men are anxious to be called off where they can see some service. The pay rolls came today and in a few weeks the pay will come.

**August 27, 1863.** Today there was a wagon train captured by some bushwhackers six miles above Phillippi and Lt. Moore started with his men on a scout after them. There are various reports in town concerning the Rebels being on a raid into this part of the state. Nothing though considered reliable.

**September 16, 1863.** A dispatch came for Captain Kenney to send thirty men out to Worthington to help capture some thieves that had broken into a store and stole all of the valuable goods. Lt. J. E. Parkerson started immediately with some men and marched all night, arriving there next day.

**September 19, 1863.** The squad sent out under Lt. Parkerson to Worthington returned, having found nothing to excite their attention. They found where the Rebels had camped but found none but a sympathizer who they brought to camp a prisoner. The only execution made while gone was the killing of all the dogs in the Righter settlement belonging to Rebels. They allege as the cause for killing inoffensive dogs that they would bark and thereby give the alarm of the Yankee's approach. So hereafter the "war of dogs"<sup>19</sup> will cease in that part of the country.

**September 21, 1863.** Received orders to go on a scout to Worthington and if possible find out who was prowling around and annoying the loyal men and also find who broke open the store of McAlester and stole most of the goods. So we started there, with 10 men commanded by Lt. Parkerson about 5 o'clock in the evening and marched all night., making near 35 miles without rest, recaptured one thousand dollars worth of the stolen goods that were secreted at a Mrs. Coon's house. Searched more than a dozen of houses, but found nothing else. We arrived at Worthington at 6 in the morning, took breakfast and then scouted the country around for Rebels. Arrested some citizens on suspicion but finally released them and in the evening we marched to Barracksville where we stayed all night, partaking of the hospitality of Davy Prichard. In the morning we pressed horses and started for West Warren, where disloyalty reigned supreme, to find out some evidence against some men that once took the oath of allegiance but have violated their oaths. We got to Warren early in the evening and dispersed into squads for supper. About 8 o'clock we started back for Farmington, where we searched some houses but found nothing of any import.

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<sup>18</sup> Again, the word may not have circulated to the field of the statehood of West Virginia or the typist could have created the error.

<sup>19</sup> Perhaps the family can lay a claim on Shakespeare or at least Frederick Forsythe (author of "The Dogs of War").

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

We here took a small nap, and left for Barracksville, where we turned over our horses to the owners and took the train for Webster. Considering all things, we had a fine time while gone, though we were nearly exhausted when we came home. Most of the men's feet were very sore but they will be all right in a few days as the paymaster will soon be around.

**September 26, 1863.** Today we were paid off for two months by Major\_\_\_\_\_, who superseded Major Pumphrey. There were a number of the boys who had never been mustered into the regiment. They drew no pay this time, nor won't until they are mustered in. Some of them didn't like it so very much but have to be contented without money for some time yet. This morning Sergeant Hennen brought two prisoners into camp who were taken the night before last at Claysville, charged with being south.

**July 22, 1864**<sup>20</sup>. "Oh! Sally come up. Oh! Sally come down."

(Major) John H. Showalter, Commanding, Railroad Department.  
Company N 6th Regiment Virginia Volunteers. Captain George P. Kenney.  
Stephen Stiles, Jr., Monongalia County  
Cordelia Bodley, Wheeling, WV  
Brev. Major General Crooks and staff  
Harmon Sinsel. Lucy Sinsel, Webster, WV  
S. Stalnaker of Wheeling. Lloyd Stalnaker.  
H. S. White, Webster WV  
Martha Moore  
Molly Michaels, Grafton WV  
Nancy Stone  
Campbell Drabell  
Nancy Marie Fluharty, Cameron WV  
Nancy Jane Stone. Belle Stone.

Special Order No. 95, Grafton WV, **July 21, 1864.**

Sergeant V. McBary will proceed to Burton per next train and thence to Greene County and deliver subpoenas to persons residing there to attend a court martial in session at Cumberland, MD and return to these headquarters without unnecessary delay, by order of Major John H. Showalter, commanding 6th Regiment, West Virginia Infantry Volunteers.

A. F. Lang is acting adjutant.

General Order No. 37. Headquarters Department of West Virginia, **July 27, 1864.** This is to certify that Lt. John Frost of 17th Regiment West Virginia Infantry is hereby dismissed from his command and ordered to report to these headquarters for duty as a staff officer.

Finally I will say no more. **August 13, 1864.**

James P. Wilkinson, Acting Assistant Adjutant General.  
Lt. Colonel John F. Hay.

**June 18, 1865**<sup>21</sup>. The war is now over. We have seen our country saved.

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<sup>20</sup> That which follows is the way the original typing appeared. It is presumed these were lists of people/places/matters he wished to remember, and or copies of some documents filed in the back of the diary.

<sup>21</sup> This sounds as though it was an actual diary entry. The entries on the following page would appear to be a continuation of the people/places/matters lists.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

Michael White, Esq.<sup>22</sup>

Mary Price, Blacksville

June 18, 1865 - Happy Day.

James G. White.

Land saved once more.

Wheeling - H.S. White

Loviah Kemble<sup>23</sup>, Bridgeport WV

Brigadier General E.C. Bunker

M. M. Dent, Esq., Morgantown WV

Home June 20, 1865. All guards and pickets, W. T. White and I to cut thistles until further orders.

Israel White, Billie T. White, Burton

Henry S. White reenlisted in the U.S. Service on February 26, 1864. Was furloughed June 15, 1864 and returned to duty July 16, 1864. July 25th was sent to Greene County, PA to summon witnesses to attend a court martial in session at Cumberland, Maryland, and took the fever while at home and remained there four weeks and then returned to duty at Grafton, WV.

Jollytown, August 20, 1864.

January 26, 1865, Aaron Moore, James Stiles<sup>24</sup> and Thomas Monroe.

Joshua Rice, 7th Regiment of WV Volunteers

James Bodley, Wheeling, WV infantry

Josephus Rice

B. Bodley, Lydia Bodley

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Notes by typist and grandson C. R. Bourland, Jr.:

Henry Solomon White was born July 12, 1840 in White Creek, Monongalia County, (West) Virginia. He died January 14, 1931 in Grace Hospital, Welch, McDowell County, West Virginia. He married (1) Loviah Fields Kemble on July 11, 1865; (2) Lizzie L. Finn on June 5, 1877; and (3) Mary Lang on May 31, 1904. He sired 10 children.

He headed a West Virginia Commission in 1922 which built and erected in the Vicksburg Military Park a monument to soldiers in the Civil War from West Virginia. Mrs. Mary Lang White, his wife, was the official Secretary for the Commission. Henry Solomon White, Jr., his son age 6, unveiled the monument. See later a picture taken at the presentation of the West Virginia monument to the Vicksburg National Military Park on November 14, 1922.

There is available a Diary of his son, Henry Solomon White, Jr., maintained during World War II. H. S. White, Jr. and Chuck Yeager were the only two World War "Aces" from West Virginia; that is, they shot down five or more enemy aircraft.

There follow two more documents which have been described as speeches made by H. S. White. To the degree that are somewhat similar, it may be he delivered them to different audiences. It may also be he had them improved by his children.

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<sup>22</sup> His father, but not a lawyer.

<sup>23</sup> H. S. White's soon-to-be first wife.

<sup>24</sup> He is the grandfather of James Stiles Watson. The Watson and White families intermarried.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

**Patriotic Address:** This diary included a copy of a patriotic address delivered by Corporal H.S. White, age 25, at a celebration on the 4th of July, 1865 at a grove about one mile west of Jollytown, Greene County, Pennsylvania. To wit:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your honorable committee have insisted on me to address you today. As a matter of course you will not expect much from me, and I promise you that you shall not be disappointed. Your presence here today foretells an object, a great and glorious object, the keeping in sacred remembrance the day of our national Independence. The youth of this assemblage have come here to have impressions made on their youthfull minds which will be as lasting as time itself. They have come here to have views of republicanism, of freedom and liberty instilled into their minds, while they are susceptible of and recollect, and never forget that energy and perseverance are the watchwords, that they will carry you through.

Any or all of scholars and teachers to be successful in your undertakings in life, it is absolutely essential that you practice Energy. Show me an energetic man and I will show you one who has been very successful in business, but on the other hand, the idle, lazy and indolent man is truly an object of duty, you all know his end, - avoid imulating his example.

Sabbath School teachers, you have an important duty to perform. It is in your power to mould in a great measure, the characters of your scholars and children, their minds will now receive impressions that will be more permanently fixed in the deep recesses of their hearts than in any time in after life. And if you fail to make the necessary impressions on these youthfull and untarnished minds you sin against high heaven and our common humanity.

Your presence here today foretells an object, yes, a great and glorious object - the observance and keeping in sacred memory the day of our national independence. The adults of this respectable audience came here, fully appreciating the importance of this occasion, at least the majority of them. The youth - the Sabbath School scholars - came here to have ideas of liberty and freedom instilled into their youthful minds, to have the inherest principle of republicanism (which reigns more or less in every true American's breast) strengthened and encouraged, while their minds are yet susceptible of noble and deep impressions.

Sabbath School scholars, you are now forming characters, or outlines of character which will remain with you through all coming time, at least to a very great extent this being the case. It is very necessary that you gain right conceptions of what true character consists and what is the most stable and permanent foundation on which to erect a character that will be an exemplary one.

I would counsel morality, virtue and trust. Be temperate, modest and industrious. Strive to be studious, meditative and progressive. Learn to be diligent, attentive and persevering. Practice prudence, moderation and justice. And to be successful in practicing and following out the preceding virtues you must add another one to the list, one which if you would be successful in your undertakings you must practice. It is the secret of every man's success, and should be commended by every teacher and instructor of the youth, all over the lands. The virtue is Energy; Energy; to which is added prudence and perseverance.

I say, young man and young lady, Sabbath School not strive to cultivate, to improve and to strengthen by precept and example the intellects of those scholars, who are to be the future.

Every energy should be put forth to cultivate, improve and strengthen, by precept and example the intellect that is to be the future hope of the country. Upon you Sabbath School scholars will

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

devolve the responsibilities of this great nation. It is then highly important that their minds be deeply impressed, after the importance of cultivated intellect, of high moral character, and a thorough understanding of our republican and free institutions. Upon them depends the future glory of the church, honor of the State, and hope of the Country.

The future of this country promises to be a bright and glorious one. We have just emerged from a dark cloud which has overhung our political horizon, threatening eminent danger for the last four years. The sanguinary war through which we have just passed and in which we have so nobly sustained the American name and character is without a precedent. History has nothing on record which equals it. Why, I tell you that the American nation is the theme of continual comment and eulogy by every nation of the earth. We have brightened the page of our history with illustrious, undying and enviable fame. We have made impressions abroad, in foreign nations, that will be inherited by future generations. Nearly all Europe have looked upon our government as a weak, imbecile theory that would not bear long practice; as a political adventure that would collapse with the first appearance of internal difficulty. We have proven to these nations, by withstanding a shock that would have submerged and buried their monarchial regimes in deep oblivion, that such ideas are all fallacies.

We have proved to them that we are to be and will be respected despite conspiracies, internal eruptions, intervention of foreign allies, conceding of belligerent rights and the combined anti-American spirit that has seemed to pervade part of the northern mind during the last four years. Foreign nations stand in awe, in a kind of reverential fear, at the successful, triumphant and glorious termination of our war for the union and freedom.

I tell you that they have been made to believe that republican government is a reality and that we people who live under such a glorious form of government are able to perpetuate and maintain it and hand it down from one generation to another unimpaired and in its essential parts unchanged.

That flag today floats over every foot of the American continent, and under its graceful folds the oppressed and downtrodden of every clime and condition can find refuge and protection. Children, you should learn to honor and revere that emblem of American greatness and human freedom.

## The Civil War Diary of Henry Solomon White

**Patriotic Address:** This diary included a copy of a patriotic address delivered by Corporal H.S. White, age 25, at a celebration on the 4th of July, 1865 at a grove about one mile west of Jollytown, Greene County, Pennsylvania. To wit:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your presence here today foretells an object, yes a great and a glorious object, the - observance and the keeping in sacred memory, the day, the great day of our national Independence. What an infinitude of meaning there is in the word independence. Many of this respectable audience came here, fully appreciating the importance of celebrating this anniversary of our national independence in an extraordinary manner. This is the day on which was declared eighty-nine years ago our political and religious salvation. The youth, the Sabbath School Scholars to come here today to have the spirit, the purpose and the object of independence and republican form of government, instilled and infused, into their youthful minds - to have the inherent principles of republicanism (which lies more or less in every true American breast) strengthened and encouraged, and to receive impressions in reference to the formation of character, while their minds are yet susceptible, pure, and deep impressions. You are now forming characters, or outlines of character, that will remain with you through all coming time - will be a true index to your future lives, at least to a very great extent.

This being the case, it is very necessary that you form right conceptions of what true character consists, and what would be the most stable and permanent foundation on which to erect character that would stand the test - that would be an exemplary one. In the formation of character, I would recommend and insist that you practice morality, virtue and truth - that you use every exertion to be studious, industrious and economical; be determined and make it a rule and guide through life, if you wish to be loved, honored and respected, great and good, to be just, honest and temperate, never, never I say touch the flowing bowl. Strive to be diligent, prudent and progressive, for this is a fast age of the world; and make it your study to be moderate, aspiring and unassuming.

To be successful in practicing and following out the virtues just named, you must add energy, patience and perseverance. I tell you, Ladies and Gentlemen, that these virtues are the secret of our success in life, and should be commended to those who are under your charge, should be deeply impressed upon the minds of every youth of the land. If you, Sabbath School Scholars, wish to be successful in any great enterprise, you must put forth the nerve, you must exercise energy, patience and perseverance and every thing that is possible will succumb to your power. Teachers and parents impress this upon the minds of your pupils and children, because it is absolutely essential to their success in any enterprise or undertaking in life.

Teachers, you have an important duty to perform; you, in connection with parents have, I say, a high and responsible duty resting upon you. It is in your power to mould in a great measure, the characters of your scholars and children. Their minds are now untarnished and prepared to receive impressions which will be more permanently established in the deep recesses of their hearts than in any time in after life. See to it then that every exertion be put forth to improve, cultivate and strengthen by precept and example the intelligent mind on which so much depends. Upon you depends and devolves in a very few years the duties and responsibilities of teachers, of magistrates, lawyers, doctors, poets, statesmen and divines. They are to be the future guardians and defenders of that good old flag, the future leaders and arbiters of this great nation. Then impress upon the minds of the youth of this country the importance of cultivated intellect, of high moral character and a thorough knowledge of our republican and free institutions. Why? Because upon them depends the future advancement of society, glory of the church, honor of the state and hope of the country. Parents and teachers, if you fail to perform the high duties resting upon you towards these children, towards these beings on whom so much depends and devolves; if you fail to make your precept

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and example good; if you fail to make the necessary impressions upon their youthful minds; that will insure a worthy and an exemplary character, one that will be an honor to society, the church and the state, you will sin against the high behests of high heaven and our common humanity.

A bright and glorious destiny awaits the youth of this land of ours, a glorious future is in store for them. The country has just emerged from a dark cloud that has overhung our political horizon for the last four years, threatening us with eminent danger at every step. That victorious old flag during that time was trailed in the dust and many thousands of the best men of the country have been sacrificed in its defense. That flag is today re-established and floats triumphantly in the breeze over all of the late strongholds of treason, arson and murder and is respected on land and sea all over the civilized world.

The sanguinary war through which we have just passed and in which we have so nobly sustained the American name and character is without a precedent. History has nothing on record that will compare with it, in fierceness, malice or power. Will the rising generations protect and defend that flag and their country in the future, as their noble sires have done in the four years just passed? Give them the necessary education and they will.

We have crushed out and brought to a successful and victorious termination despite the damnable heresies taught by Vallardigham and the Chicago anti-war, anti-American, peace at any price party of one of the most formidable rebellions that ever existed in any government, which proves the stability of republican government and the capability of the people to govern. We as a generation have brightened the page of American history, with illustrious, undying and enviable fame. Foreign nations stand in awe at our power, our strength and our unswerving tenacity to the fundamental principles of free government and while we have been sacrificing the best blood of the land in defense of our republican institutions, we have also been erasing a foul blot from our statute books, which has been a stigma on our American name for many years.

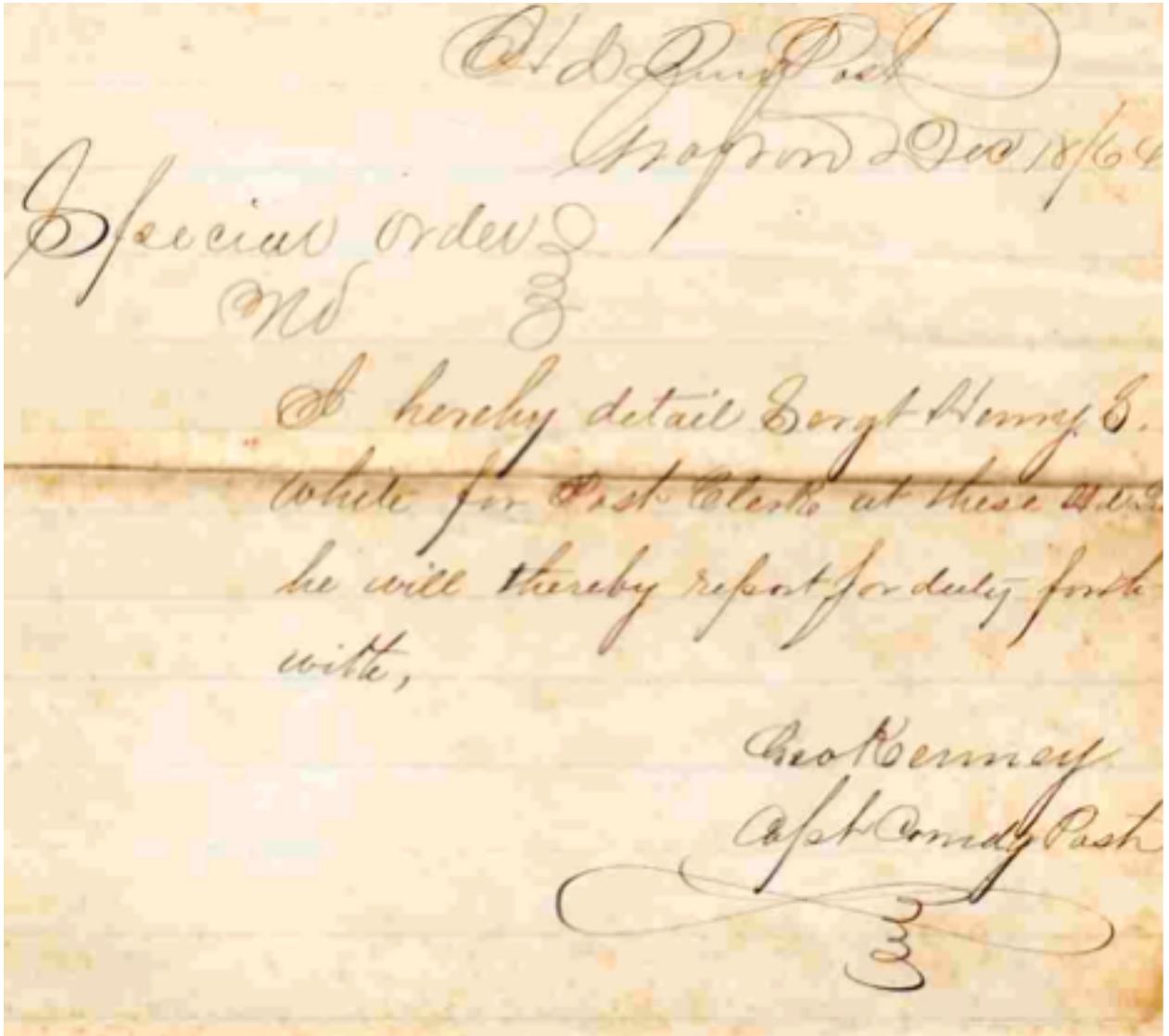
I mean African slavery. Thank God that accursed institution is numbered among the things that were, it is gone with the confederacy - to the Devil. many of the foreign nations have looked upon self government as an adventure, as a weak, imbecile theory that would not bear long practice; but would collapse with the first appearance of internal strife or difficulty. They have decided Americans, for their adherence to self-government, but that time has passed, our name today is the theme of eulogy and admiration all over the civilized world. We have withstood a shock that would have submerged and buried in deep oblivion any of the governments or monarchies of the old world. We have proven to the old world that self government is a reality and that we stand pre-eminent among the nations of the earth in point of moral power, military strength and that glorious boon, civil liberty. And all this, despite their indirect alliance, their conceding belligerent rights, and their individual intervention in the late slave holders' rebellion. Jeff Davis, who was the head and heart of that rebellion, is now a prisoner, incarcerated in Fort Monroe, awaiting a trial for his life, and an indignant and outraged people calls, and calls loudly, for his public execution.

But now that peace has spread her balmy wings all over this broad land of ours, we as a nation and a free people will move forward with increased energy, prosperity and happiness toward our final destiny, as a great, free and independent people.

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### Military Orders

Next follow two orders, W260 and W261, which are dated 12.18.1864 and 4.10.1865 which were retained over time by his daughter Lydia White Hansbarger.



A handwritten military order on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive ink. At the top, it reads "At Camp" followed by a large flourish. Below that, the date "November 18/64" is written. The main body of the text reads "Special order" followed by a flourish, then "I hereby detail Sergt Henry S. White for Post Clerk at these [unclear] he will thereby report for duty forth with,". The order is signed "Geo Kenney" and "Capt Comd Post" followed by a large flourish.

At Camp  
November 18/64  
Special order  
I hereby detail Sergt Henry S.  
White for Post Clerk at these [unclear]  
he will thereby report for duty forth  
with,  
Geo Kenney  
Capt Comd Post

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Head Qrs, 6<sup>th</sup> W Va. Infy.  
Grafton, W Va. April 11<sup>th</sup> 1865.  
Special Orders  
No 37

Sergt. H. S. White Co. C.  
6<sup>th</sup> W Va. Infy. is hereby appointed  
Commissary Sergt of the Regt, (sic  
W. J. Staley promoted 1st Sergt) and  
will report for duty without delay.  
Capt George Kinnear Co. C. 6<sup>th</sup> W Va. Infy.  
will drop from his rolls the name of  
H. S. White from and after this date  
and will send his Description list, account  
of Pay & Clothing &c. to these H. Qrs.  
By order

Lieut Col Comdg Regt.  
(Signed) V. W. Clary  
Lieut and Adj

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### References Within:

106th New York 12  
106th New York Volunteers 12  
12th and 14th Pennsylvania Calvary 13  
14th Pennsylvania Cavalry 14  
17th Regiment West Virginia Infantry 15  
6th Virginia 14  
6th Volunteer Infantry 13  
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87th Pennsylvania 13  
A. F. Lang 15  
Aaron Moore 16  
Abraham Hostutler 13  
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Benoni Avenue and 5th Street 7  
Benton Ferry 7  
Benton's Ferry 7  
Beverly Turnpike 7  
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Bissett 1  
Blackburn Davis 7  
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Butcher School 7  
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Camp Wilkinson 9  
Campbell Drabell 15  
Captain Chamberlaine 12  
**Captain Geo. Kenney 4** (See Orders dated 12.18.1864 and 4.10.1865 above)  
**Captain George P. Kenney 15** (See Orders dated 12.18.1864 and 4.10.1865 above)  
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Col. N. Wilkinson 12  
Colonel Hoy 8  
Colonel Wilkinson 14  
Colonel Williamson 8  
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Company A, Sixth Virginia Volunteers 5  
Company F 12  
Company F, 65th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers 7  
Company N 8, 12  
Company N 6th Regiment Virginia Volunteers 15  
Company N, Sixth Virginia Volunteer Infantry 1  
Company P (Captain Over) 12  
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Cornwallis 12, 13  
Corporal H.S. White 16  
Corporal Moore 2  
Corporal White 13  
Corporal Woodruff 8  
Cumberland 16  
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Darby Shay 3  
David Ice 5  
David Lemly 13  
David Murphy 6  
Davis 7  
Davy Prichard 15  
Dick Lemly 8  
Doctor Eyster 13  
Dr. Dorsey of New York 6  
Elijah Loafman 7  
Emma Shaw 11  
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Farmington 5, 7, 11, 15  
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Fontaine Smith 13  
Fort Donolson 4  
Fort Henry 4  
Freeman Hunt 2  
Freeport 1  
G.H. Richardson 8  
General Averill 13  
General Buckner 4  
General Cox 10  
General Dix 12  
General E. C. Bunker 11  
General Hill 12  
General Johnson 4  
General Jones 13  
General Kelley 9

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General Pillow 4  
General Roberts 13  
General W. E. Jones 13  
George Stiles 13  
Gilmore 3  
Governor Pierpont 13  
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Harmon Sinsel 15  
Harvey Ulom 1  
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Henry Solomon White 1  
Herrington 8  
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Hudson Stansbury 8  
Hugh Snider 3  
Imboden 10  
Israel White 16  
Jack McCray 5  
Jack Taylor 8  
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James G. White 16  
James Kimbal 7  
James Neeson 6  
James P. Wilkinson 16  
James Stiles 16  
James Toothman 5  
Jeff Davis 6  
Jenkins 10  
Jeptha S. Moore 1  
Jeremiah Murphy 7  
John A. Hoge 1  
John H. Showalter 15  
John Lally 8  
John McCray 5  
John Righter 6, 8, 10  
John S. Barnes 13  
John White 1, 13  
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Lot Fox 8  
Loviah Kemble 16  
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Lt. Carrico 12  
Lt. Colonel John F. Hay 16  
Lt. J. E. Parkerson 14  
Lt. Jackson Moore 5, 14  
Lt. John Frost 15  
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Lt. Pierpoint 5  
Lts. Pierpoint and Moore 5  
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Lydia Bodley 16  
M. M. Dent, 16  
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Mary Price 16  
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Molly Michaels 15  
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Mrs. W. D. Wilson 13  
Nancy Jane Stone 15  
Nancy Marie Fluharty 15  
Nancy Stone 15  
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Noah I. Mersiner 13  
Orderly Sergeant White 3  
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Sergeant V. McBary 15  
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Squire White 3  
Staunton 6  
Stephen Stiles, Jr 15  
T. J. Lough 6  
Taylor 3  
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Valley Fork River 11  
**Vernon McClary 1 (See Order dated 4.10.1865)**  
W. T. White 16  
Waitman T. Arnett 5  
Warren 2, 15  
Washington Moore 1  
Webster 9, 11, 13, 14, 15  
Wesley Gilmore 1  
West Warren 1, 15  
Wheeling 2, 5, 6, 8  
Wilkinson 3  
William Hennen 7  
William Himelrick 13  
William Knight 6  
William McClellan 7  
William Neel 1  
William O. Hennen 1  
William Thomas White 1  
Wise Johnson 3  
Wm Thomas White 3  
Woodruff 3  
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