

## Private Caleb Ross

Company H (The Virginia Rangers) – 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry

Caleb Ross was born in 1841 in Sussex County, Delaware to William H. & Elizabeth Ross. William H. was the Governor of Delaware from 1851-1855. Caleb is 19 when the 1860 census is taken and is the oldest of the 9 Ross children. His occupation is 'clerk.'

The two Southern counties of Delaware (Sussex and Kent) had significant Southern sentiment and had many slave holding landowners. William Ross owned over 1,000 acres of land and more than 200 negroes. There were no Delaware units in the Confederate service but a number of citizens enlisted in Confederate units.

Caleb enlisted in Company H of the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry at Ashland, Virginia, on June 28, 1861. His enlistment paperwork shows that he enlisted for one year. The August, 1861 muster report shows him owed monies from the date of enlistment and that he is 'sick in hospital.' On September 17, 1861 Caleb died of 'fever' at the Big Spring Hospital. Whether typhoid fever, intermittent fever, yellow fever or bilious fever remains an unknown.

A final October 10 document shows \$50 in pay and \$36 in gold being forwarded to his family. The \$36 in gold is also listed in the 'Personal effects – Property of deceased soldier' listing:

1 double cover gold watch	1 gold breast chain
1 old six shooter	1 powder flask
1 bowie knife	½ pound powder
2 pounds balls	1 box caps
2 pr boots	1 felt hat
2 shirts	1 forage cap
1 drawers	6 linen collars
4 pr socks	1 buckskin sabre belt
2 neckties	1 haversack
1 bridle	1 silver ring
1 leather purse	1 gold ring
1 pocket book	\$36 in gold
\$5 Wheeling [note]	\$2 note

Caleb's name is listed with 139 other names on the Confederate monument in Georgetown, Delaware. This is the only monument to Confederate soldiers in the state.

**(Microfilm Files – Combined Service Records Confederate, Brewer Library, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia; Micro Copy 324, Roll 97. Census Reports – Ancestry.com – 1850 M432-55, p.210; 1860 M653, 1438.)**