

**Private Isaac Norval Baker**  
Company F – 18<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry

Norval was born October 8, 1844 in Hampshire County, Virginia. He was the son of Henry H. and Maria Ann Bywaters Baker.

He enlisted as a private on October 8, 1862.

He is shown present on the muster report of 2-28-1863. On July 4<sup>th</sup> as the cavalry was escorting the train of wounded southward after Gettysburg Norval wrote, “. . . *it rained all night, one thunder storm after another. The rain fell in sheets and vivid flashes of lightning . . . the roar of the waters and heavy bursting thunder, the cries of the wounded and dying soldiers made it awful.*”

On July 18<sup>th</sup> Company F was a mile south of the Potomac River. The campaign in Pennsylvania had badly abused their horses. Norval noted, *“Our horses backs were raw with ulcers one and two inches deep and full of maggots. The green flies had put up a big job on us, our blankets were full of maggots and rotten, our saddles had from a pint to a quart of maggots in them and we had to run them out with hot water and soap and it [will be] months before the horses backs [are] cured.”*

Records show Norval’s parole being issued on April 22, 1865 and he recorded this in his diary, “. . . *we decided to go in together and get our paroles. We met at Back Creek Tollgate & footed it to Winchester . . . we marched in by twos . . . ordered to halt . . . an officer came up to us & said, “Well, gentlemen & soldiers, we are glad to meet you in this way, much nicer than we have been meeting you the last four years.”*”

The parole papers indicated Norval was 5’ 7”, had hazel eyes, brown hair and a light complexion.

Postwar Norval was an Herb Doctor in Forestville, Virginia and later in Frederick County. He married Lucy Pauline Baker on February 6, 1879. She was born 2-28-1858 and will die 9-24-1928.

Norval died December 6, 1924 just a couple of months past his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Private Isaac Norval Baker rests in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Frederick Cty., Virginia. Lucy passed 4 years later and their names, birth and death dates are on the same stone.

*(18<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, Roger V. Delauter, Lynchburg, 1985, P. 56, p. 8, & p. 44; Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive, J. Toalson, Bloomington, 2012, p. 224; I. Norval Baker Diary, Brewer Library, UDC, Richmond, Virginia. U.S. Census Records, Ancestry.com, Provo, UT, 1920 – Roll T625-1952, p. 96B; 1910-Roll T624-1680, p. 8; 1870-Roll M593-1687, p. 529B; 1900- Roll 1709 p. 3B.)*