

Private Samuel Crabill Company D – 18th Virginia Cavalry

Samuel was born November 19, 1824. His wife Catherine was born June 25, 1829.

The 1860 census shows Samuel as a farmer in Shenandoah County, Virginia. He is age 36 and his wife is the former Catherine Balthis who is 31. He is a farmer with \$2880 dollar of real property (his farm) and \$520 of personal property. They have 6 children – David (13), Joseph (11), Frances (9), George (5), Jacob (2) and Samuel (1).

On June 18, 1861 Samuel enlists as a private in Company B of the 33rd Virginia Infantry. The 33rd was part of what would become the ‘Stonewall Brigade.’ Samuel was wounded at Manassas when he was “*shot through the wrist and arm.*” He was carried on the rolls of the regiment as “wounded at Manassas July 21, 1861.” He never returned to active service with the 33rd Virginia Infantry.

Samuel enlists in the 18th Virginia Cavalry at Berryville, Virginia, on September 24, 1862. He is shown present on the muster rolls at the end of March, 1863. He is “38 years old, stands 5’ 11”, and has brown hair and hazel eyes.”

He is captured in Shenandoah County on May 4, 1864. The cavalry forces of General Imboden are slowing the advance of General Siegel’s forces toward New Market. In an oddity of war, Samuel is captured in his home county while engaged in operations against Union forces. Samuel is sent to Atheneum prison camp in Wheeling, Virginia and then on to Camp Chase, Ohio, where he arrived on May 17, 1864.

Samuel is a prisoner at Camp Chase for the next 10 months.

Samuel is transferred to City Point, Virginia, for exchange on February 25, 1865. He is paroled in Winchester, Virginia, on April 17, 1865 and walks up the Valley to his farm near Woodstock and Edinburg.

The 1870 census shows Samuel (45), Catherine (41), George (14), Jacob (12), Sarah (8) and Joseph Jno. H. E. (3). His real estate is valued at \$2000 and his personal property \$150. Their older children – David, Joseph and Frances would all be over 19 and have apparently moved on. Samuel, Jr. (born 1859) did not survive till this census.

Samuel will die December 14, 1903 (79) and is buried in the churchyard of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Strasburg, Virginia. His wife Catherine passed away in 1900 (71).

(18th Virginia Cavalry, R. Delauter, Lynchburg, 1995, p. 63; U. S. Census Reports for 1860 and 1870, Ancestry.com, Provo, UT – 1860 Roll M653-1377, p. 835, Image 35 – 1870 Roll M593-1678, p. 794A, Image 355; family info provided by Ed Truslow.)