

Privates John M. Craig & Samuel J. Craig, Jr.

Company H & Company D – 56th Virginia Infantry

Both John and Samuel were the sons of Samuel & Margaret Craig of Albemarle County, Virginia. Samuel was born in 1833 and John was born in 1838.

John (age 24) enlisted in Company H on August 15, 1862 in Gordonsville.

He was captured at Gettysburg on July 5, 1863. Gettysburg Hospital records dated July 22nd note a gunshot wound in the thigh. He was forwarded to DeCamp Hospital, David's Island, New York, and paroled/exchanged from there in October arriving at the Charlottesville, Virginia, hospital on October 28th. John was returned to duty December 17, 1863.

Jan 25, 1864 he received pay from 9-1-63 to 12-31-63 plus clothing for a total of \$164.13. NFR

Samuel, Jr. (age 29) enlisted as a conscript in Company D "The Border Guards" on September 2, 1862, for 12 months service.

In November he was assigned as a teamster and in December he was detailed building winter quarters for the Company. He is shown present on the muster reports of 2/63 and 4/63. His military files show the following request from Lt. W. E. Norris who was commanding Co. D on February 2, 1864:

Private Craig was enlisted on Sept 2nd 1862. Since he has been with my Company he has been a first rate soldier, has always done his duty, and has never been absent without leave. I have forty two men present, lacking only three of making forty five which would entitle three men to be furloughed. If only two furloughs are granted there will be twelve men not represented. I therefore respectfully request that a furlough be granted to Private Craig.

Samuel received a 15 day furlough on March 9, 1864. The August, 1864 muster report shows Samuel detailed as the Company cook. He is shown present on the muster reports of 10/64, 12/64 and 2/65. NFR

Samuel will die in February, 1916, at the age of 83.

(Compiled Service Records Confederate, Brewer Library, UDC, Richmond, Va. Micro Copy 324, Roll 973; 46th Virginia Infantry, D. L. Collins, Lynchburg, 1992, p. 102. Additional family history provided by Doug Douglas.)