

# John Julius Marquette

By Quinten Marquette

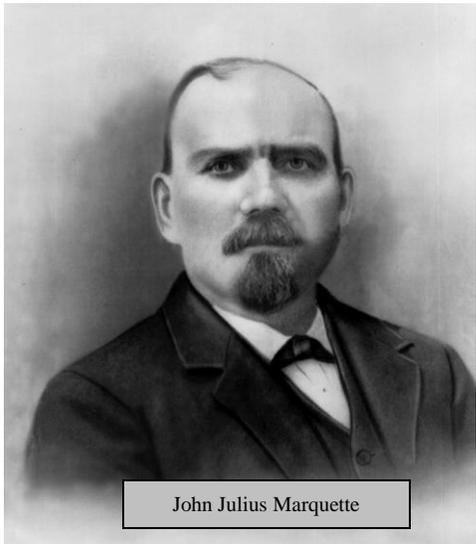
## Introduction

I have come to believe that “Roots” play a significant role in the molding of our character. Not because of genetics, but because our values and personal attributes are influenced by how we were raised by our parents and likewise, our parents’ values and personal attributes were influenced by how they were raised by their parents, and thus the cycle traces itself back through our ancestors. “Roots” were important to my father, Kenneth T. Marquette, who spent much of his latter years researching and writing about his and other families in Pendleton County, Kentucky. Kenneth was proud of his heritage and instilled that pride in his children. When I was growing up and faced with a situation that required courage and determination Kenneth would say, “Don’t forget you are a Marquette” or “Marquette’s don’t back away from a challenge.” The pride Kenneth felt in being a Marquette is the subject of a poem I found among his writings.

It came from your father  
It was all he had to give  
So it’s yours to use and cherish  
As long as you may live  
If you lose the watch he gave to you  
It can always be replaced  
But a black mark on your name son  
Can never be erased  
It was clean the day you took it  
A worthy name to bear  
When I got it from my father  
There was no dishonor there  
So make sure you guard it wisely  
After all is said and done  
You’ll be glad the name is spotless  
When you give it to your son

In this, my first attempt at examining my “Roots,” I have chosen my great grandfather, John Julius Marquette (“John J”). The information was gathered from numerous sources including Civil War, legislative and census records in Frankfort, Kentucky and Washington, D.C., genealogy records, ship passenger lists, court records in Pendleton County, Kentucky, writings by my father, personal accounts of immigrants and

Civil War soldiers, books and articles, a host of websites, Civil War enthusiasts and genealogists I met on the web, and information provided by my Marquette cousins, Terry Cummins, Ann Cummins Ammerman, Sue Browning Werner and John Marquette



John Julius Marquette

Browning, as well as other of John J’s ancestors. My father frequently told me stories about himself and our ancestors, and as I look back I realize he was not only entertaining me, but was instilling within me a sense of pride and belonging.

One note before I start. As I began my research I came to realize that the information available on John J furnished only an outline of my great grandfather’s life that only permitted me to view John J “from the outside looking in.” But that was not what I was looking for, as I wanted to view John J “from the inside looking out,” to in some small way think, feel and see what John J thought, felt and saw as he immigrated from

Germany in 1854 and during the 1,256 days he served in the Civil War with the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry. Even though first hand accounts were buried with John J and other of my ancestors with whom he may have shared his experiences, I quickly realized that I had other tools at my disposal to assist me as I pursued my objective.

I reexamined the values and personal attributes passed on by John J and his wife Nancy to my grandfather, by my grandfather and grandmother to my father, and by my father and mother to me as I endeavored to probe John J’s mind. I read accounts of crossings of the Atlantic by German immigrants in the 1850s and viewed photographs taken during the Civil War that traced John J’s path as I tried to visualize what John J’s eyes observed. I read letters written by Union and Confederate soldiers describing the events of the moment from the places the war took John J. I visited Civil War battlefields where I stood on ridges held by Union and Confederate



John J and Nancy

forces as they repelled the charges of their adversaries and walked through valleys where soldiers “fixed bayonets” and engaged in hand to hand combat. I stood on the patch of earth occupied by John J and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry the evening before the Battle of Chickamauga, and walked the earth where 34,000 young men just like John J would die

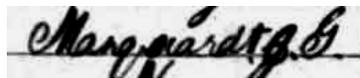
in battle over the next 36 hours. All of this, along with a vivid imagination, provided me with a glimpse of what John J was thinking, feeling and seeing as he crossed the Atlantic and traveled through Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and the District of Columbia with the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry during the War Between the States.

## The Name Marquette

My great grandfather's given name was either John Julius "Marquardt" or John Julius "Marquard", both being surnames of German immigrants who came to America in the 1850s. The correct spelling of John J's given name, like the spelling of the names of many others immigrating to America in the mid 1800's, is somewhat of a puzzle. This is primarily

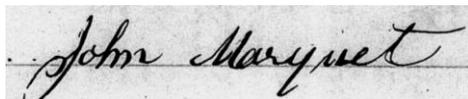


the result of the people responsible for recording names on documents such as ship passenger lists, military records, census forms and other governmental records (many of whom had limited education themselves) spelling names the way they sounded when

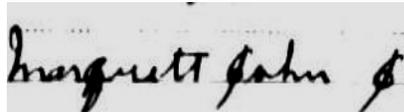


spoken by immigrants in their native tongue. Also adding to the problem is that many immigrants, like John J and his family, were unable to offer assistance because of their inability to read or write. The passenger list from the ship Adolphine on which John J sailed from Bremen, Germany lists his and his sister's last name as "Marquard." This same spelling appears for a young woman of 19 whom I believe to be John J's Sister Henrietta on the passenger list for the Sir Robert Peel that arrived in New York from Hamburg, Germany in 1857. The database of genealogy records maintained by the

Mormon Church list John J's last name as "Marquardt" and the 1880 U.S Census also uses

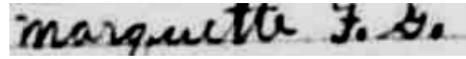


this spelling. Military records, including John J's Civil War Pension records at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., list the last name as "Marquet" up until 1910 when John J's wife Nancy applied for a Widow's Pension following John J's death. According to my grandfather, Frank G. Marquette, the spelling "Marquet" was adopted by John J after he returned from the Civil War and this spelling for John J and Nancy is recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census. "John Marquet" is the signature used by John J on all



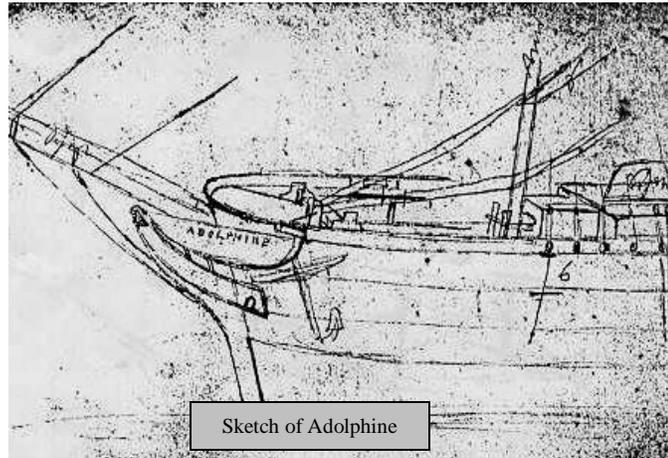
documents submitted between 1882 and 1906 in support of his claim for a Civil War Disability Pension. When Nancy applied for a Widow's Pension the Pendleton County Court Clerk submitted the record of the marriage of John J and Nancy on file at the Pendleton County Courthouse which listed the last name as "Marquett," which unfortunately did not match the spelling "Marquet" contained in John J's pension records. Nancy was subsequently required to submit her affidavit and the affidavit of a neighbor to verify that she was in fact the widow of "John Marquet". Deeds for different

tracts of land purchased by John J from 1870 through 1895 primarily use the spelling “Marquett” and “Marquet.” In the 1890 and 1900 U.S. Censuses, John J’s Will, and the records of the Short Creek Cemetery in Pendleton County, Kentucky where John J is buried, the spelling is “Marquett”. It seems the final “e” was added just after John J’s death as the spelling “Marquette” appears in the 1910 Census taken in May of that year for Nancy and sons Frank G, Lewis R. and Columbus. I have taken the liberty of adding the final “e” to John J’s name as a way to more closely link John J and Nancy to those of us who proudly share their heritage.



### **The Road to Pendleton County, Kentucky**

John J’s father (who was also named John) was born around 1807 in Berlin, Province of Brandenburg, Kingdom of Prussia, which became a part of unified Germany in 1871. John J’s mother, Christine Voss (also listed as Christina and Foss or Fass) was born somewhere north of Berlin on August 11, 1811. John Sr. and Christine were married around 1835 and she and John Sr. had four children, John J, born in 1844, Charles, born in 1836, Mary (also listed as Emilie), born in 1842, and Henrietta, born in 1838. Following the death of John Sr. in Prussia in 1846 Christine married Johann Frederick Klingner (also listed as Klingner and Clingner). Christine died on October 11, 1879 in Pendleton County, Kentucky.



The most likely date of birth for John J is July 8, 1844. It is possible that John J may have been born a year or two earlier as the ages listed on the passenger list for the Adolphine and U.S. Census records and the ages given by John J to military doctors in connection with his application for a Civil War Disability Pension place his year of birth anywhere between 1842 and 1844. To add to the confusion is a note from a military doctor who examined John J on July 3, 1906 at which time John J gave his age as 64 that reads, “He moves and acts like a man of 70.”

In 1854 John J, age 10, sister Emilie, age 14, mother Christine Klingner, age 41, stepfather Johann Frederick Klingner, age 34, and stepbrother Harmon Klingner, age 5, (who would later change the spelling to “Clingner”) sailed with 267 other passengers from Bremen, Germany bound for America aboard the ship Adolphine. John J’s older brother and sister, Charles and Henriette, remained behind in Germany. A Henrietta

“Marquard” whom I believe to be John J’s sister immigrated to America from Hamburg, Germany in 1857 aboard the ship Sir Robert Peel, arriving in New York City on September 16. Charles also immigrated to America but I have been unable to locate



records regarding the time and place of his arrival.

The Adolphine, originally named the “Napier,” was a three mast sailing vessel built in Baltimore, Maryland in 1833 and sailed under the Russian flag because of the war between Prussia and Denmark. She was 123 feet in length and 29 feet across at her widest point, with a depth of 14 ½ feet. The cost of the voyage was \$15-\$20 per passenger and the crossing of the Atlantic would take from 30 to 45 days. The arrangements on board ship were primitive and inadequate. Inside

the ship, eight feet below the top deck, was a second deck lined with two narrow rows of bunks from fore to aft. Conditions were crowded for the 273 passengers aboard the Adolphine who lived in a space of less than 3,600 square feet, and when weather permitted many of the passengers slept in the open on the top deck. Passengers provided their own food for the voyage and the fare consisted primarily of a smoked and salted meat, flat bread, and casks of sour milk. Emergency food supplies were locked away in the hold of the ship and were available for purchase by passengers. John J told his children that during the voyage his family was running low on food when he found a \$5 gold piece which the family used it to purchase food. There was no medical care and all passengers would come to the open deck on several occasions prior reaching the shores of America to pay their last respects to a fellow passenger before a burial at sea. Rare was a crossing that was free of violent storms and most on board would suffer from sea sickness the first



week of the voyage. At times despair overwhelmed the passengers but there was a faith in the future described by an immigrant as, “Be patient, this seems like Hell, but it will soon be like Heaven. Yes, Heaven is coming, coming down almost from above on yonder fringe of sea, for far away trails the low lying smoke of the pilot boat, and but a little farther off is land.” None but the immigrant knows the joy of the words which will

soon travel from lip to lip, “Land...Land...America.” John J was no doubt feeling the joy of starting a new life and the fear of a strange new land when the Adolphine arrived in the harbor of Baltimore, Maryland on May 6, 1854.

There were 2,814,261 Germans that immigrated to the United States between 1850 and 1860, more than one third of all immigrants coming to America during this period, with the largest single year total of 215,000 arriving in 1854, the same year John J reached the shores of America. In the late 1970s my father had a conversation with the granddaughter of John Klingner, Fannie Gulick who at the time was approaching 90 years of age, in which she said John Klingner was given the option of going to prison or leaving Germany following a physical altercation with his employer. German immigrants came to America during the 1850s for various reasons including a lack of affordable land in Germany, avoidance of service in the Prussian Army, and a general attitude among poor Germans that the “streets of America were lined with gold.”

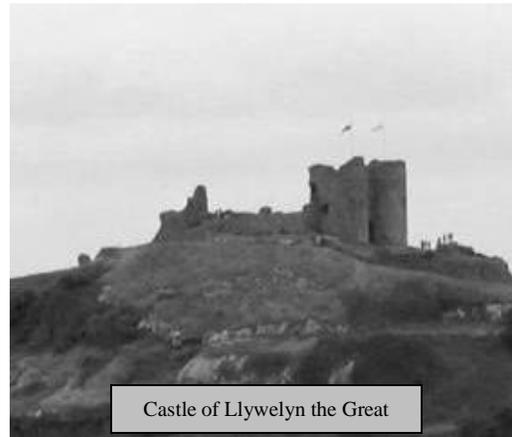


John J’s wife, Nancy Stephenson Marquette was born on October 14, 1848 in Pendleton County, Kentucky. Nancy’s Father, John Randolph Stephenson, was born in 1806 in Virginia and migrated to Kentucky with his family in the early 1800s. Her mother, Anna Marie Ball Stephenson, was born in Campbell County Kentucky in 1820. I was unable to learn any personal details about Nancy other than she was a religious woman who maintained a strict household. According to my father Nancy and John J began dating before he left for the Civil War and while John J was away Nancy worked and saved money for their future.

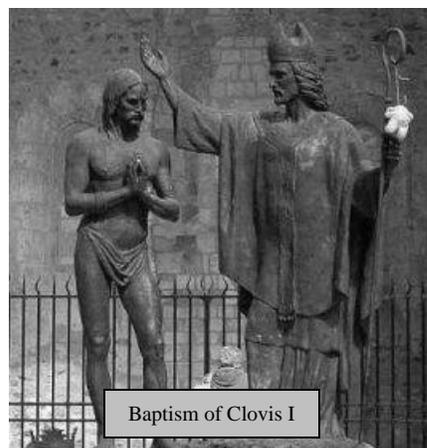
### **Nancy’s Ancestry**

While I was unable to trace John J’s ancestry back more than one generation, such was not the case with Nancy. I discovered two sources that trace Nancy’s ancestry through her mother, Anna Marie Ball Stephenson, with one going back to 1504 and the other covering more than 1,500 years and spanning more than 60 generations. Among those listed in direct lineage with Nancy is William Hancock, born in Devonshire, England in 1840 and a member of the Virginia Company of London that received a Charter from King James I in 1606. The Charter authorized the Virginia Company to colonize land between the 34<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> northern parallel and the first settlement was established at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. On September 16, 1619 William and 38 indentured servants left England aboard the ship “Margaret of Bristol” bound for the Berkley Hundred Plantation. The Berkley Hundred Plantation was located on north shore of the James River about halfway between present day Williamsburg and Richmond, Virginia,

where William arrived on December 4, 1619. The instructions from the London Company regarding the Berkley Hundred Plantation included, “We ordain that the day of our ships arrival at the place assigned for the plantation in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.” Thus in December of 1619 William Hancock and the settlers at Berkley Hundred Plantation celebrated the first Thanksgiving, two years before the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In the early morning hours of Good Friday on March 22, 1622, Powhatan Indians, some of which were sitting at the breakfast tables of their victims, launched simultaneous attacks on the settlements immediately outside of Jamestown killing William Hancock and 346 other men, women and children out of the approximately 1,200 settlers in the area. Jamestown was spared



Castle of Llywelyn the Great



Baptism of Clovis I

only because an Indian named Chanco, who was assigned to kill the family with whom he lived, warned of the attacks the morning they were to occur allowing the settlers to repel the attack on the fort.

Also listed in Nancy’s lineage is Clovis I, born in 466, the first king of the Franks who expanded his empire to include what is roughly now know as France. Clovis I converted to Roman Catholic Christianity and upon his death in 511 was interred in Saint Denis Basilica in Paris, France. Others listed are Richard II who succeeded his father Richard the Fearless as Duke of Normandy in 996 and Llywelyn the Great, born in 1173, who ruled Wales for 40 years and was frequently at war with his father-in-law, King John of England.

### **Before the Civil War**

A story told by my great grandmother Nancy places John J in Baltimore at around 12 years of age when he sees a boy find a purse (wallet) and negotiates a trade for his pocket knife before the purse was opened. As the story goes, the purse contained \$25 which was used by John J and his family to migrate to Kentucky around 1856 (it appears John J had a knack for finding money). The family walked across a frozen Ohio River at Cincinnati, Ohio and proceeded south settling in Pendleton County, Kentucky. By 1860 Kentucky had 60,000 immigrants, most of whom were Germans that came to America in

the 1850s, congregating primarily in the cities of Louisville, Newport and Covington. John J told my grandfather, Frank G. Marquette, that a saloon was operating in the center of the frozen Ohio River as they crossed. When the family reached Pendleton County, young John J worked as a farm laborer earning as little as 12¢ a day.

My father never knew his grandfather as John J died the year in which my father was born. Though he had no memory of John J, my father had vivid memories of his



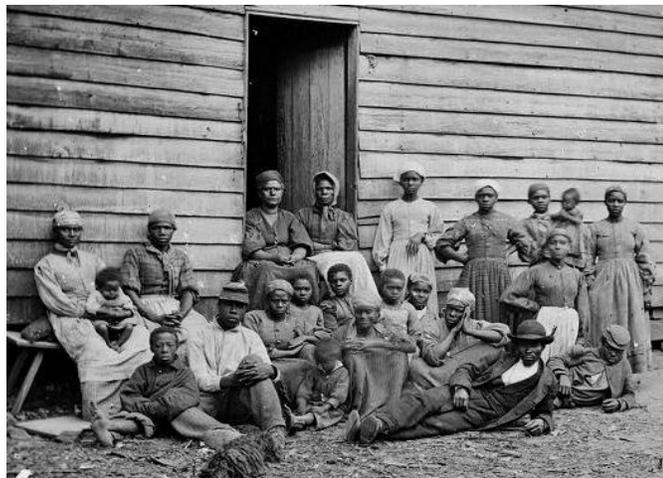
grandmother Nancy. Following the death of John J on April 15, 1910, my grandfather rented the homestead owned by John J and Nancy, adding a room to the house for my great grandmother. Nancy lived with my father and his family until 1917 when my grandfather purchased a farm nearby and moved his family there. My father remembered sitting with Nancy in the late afternoon, listening to stories while they waited for my grandfather to

return from the fields. Nancy died on September 1, 1917 and is buried in the Short Creek Cemetery in the Goforth Community in Pendleton County, Kentucky.

## The Times

It is the October of 1861 and we are in Pendleton County, Kentucky, population 10,433. Pendleton is a rural county located in the northern part of Kentucky whose economy is primarily agricultural. John Julius Marquette is 18 years of age and working as a farm laborer earning less than 25¢ a day.

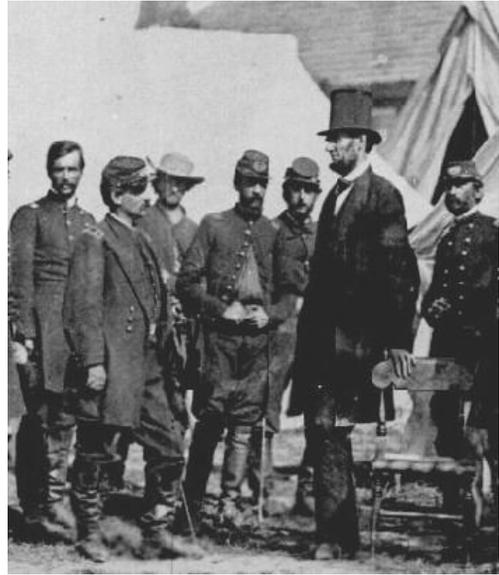
John J is unable to read or write and speaks with a German accent, having arrived in the United States from his native Germany only 5 years earlier. The southern states have succeeded from the Union and with the shelling of Fort Sumter at Charleston, South Carolina the great Civil War is underway. While slavery is more prevalent in Central and Western Kentucky,



Pendleton County is the home of 120 slave owners and 443 slaves. Of the southern states, only Georgia and Virginia have a larger slave population than Kentucky which has 226,000 slaves living within it borders out of a total population of 1,150,000. Citizens of

Pendleton County, like those throughout Kentucky, harbor strong sentiments on the divisive issues of slavery and states rights. Even though Kentucky seeks to maintain its neutrality, it will soon be plunged into a bloody war, a war that will pit friends against friends and brothers against brothers.

There are 31,000,000 people living in the United States and the slave population is 3,953,000. It has been 69 years since Kentucky was granted statehood in 1792 and 98 years will pass before Hawaii is admitted as the 50<sup>th</sup> state. Bourbon whiskey has flourished in Kentucky for 70 years and the first running of the Kentucky Derby is 14 years away. Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States 10 months ago but women will wait 59 years to cast a vote for the presidency. It has been 85 years since Lewis and Clark reached the Pacific Ocean and in 100 years Alan Shepherd will be the first American to journey into space. Travel is by horseback and horse drawn wagon, and the automobile will not appear in Pendleton County for 60 years. Houses are illuminated by candles and heat is furnished by wood burning fireplaces. Life expectancy is 41 years for women and 39 years for men.



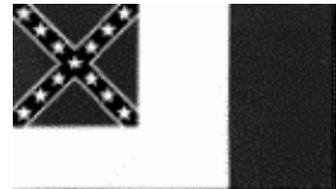
Abraham Lincoln received only 1,364 of the 146,126 votes cast by Kentuckians in the 1860 Presidential election. In April Kentucky Governor and Confederate sympathizer Beriah Magoffin abruptly responded to President Lincoln’s request for four regiments of Kentucky soldiers by proclaiming, “I say emphatically Kentucky will furnish no troops for the wicked purpose of subduing her sister Southern States”.

### **John Julius Marquette and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry**

On October 14, 1861 at 17 years of age John Julius Marquette (identified in military records as John “Marquet,” 5 feet 8 inches tall, dark complexion, brown eyes and dark hair) enlisted as a “Wagoner” in the Union Army at Falmouth, Kentucky at the rank



of Private. I do not know if John J’s decision to enter the army was prompted by an allegiance to the Union, a moral objection to slavery, a yearning for adventure,



or for financial reasons, as all were motivating factors for enlisting in the Union Army. I suspect economic factors played a part in John J’s decision as a bounty (bonus) of \$50 to

\$100 was common for new recruits, and soldiers earned \$11 a month plus a clothing allowance of \$36 a year, a handsome sum for a poor farm laborer. On February 8, 1862, John J mustered into “D” Company of the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry Regiment, composed of men from Pendleton County and commanded by Captain Abraham Wileman of Pendleton County, a physician in civilian life.

On November 5, 1861 following his enlistment but prior to being mustered into “D” Company of the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry, John J enlisted in a unit of the Kentucky Police Guard organized by Captain Wileman. I know no particulars of John J’s service in the Kentucky Police Guard other than the Kentucky Police Guard was protecting railroad and other facilities in Northern Kentucky and John J was probably involved in securing railroad facilities or other infrastructure. In any event, John J’s service in the Kentucky Police Guard was brief as he was mustered out on November 17, 1861.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry was headquartered at Falmouth, Kentucky until April 16, 1862, principally to guard the Kentucky Central Railroad Bridge across the Licking River, following which the headquarters moved to Lexington, Kentucky. On June 16, 1862 a detachment of the 18<sup>th</sup> under the command of Lieutenant Colonel John Landrum engaged John Hunt Morgan and Morgan’s Raiders at Cynthiana, Kentucky sustaining 2 casualties.

In July of 1862 John J suffered Sunstroke while marching from the Hickman Bridge near Nicholasville, Kentucky to Lexington and was unconscious when he was loaded into an ambulance and transported to the Regimental Hospital where he would remain for 2 to 3 months. The Sunstroke would leave John J with vertigo and frequent severe headaches, conditions that would remain with John J throughout his life and which would become disabling when John J was exposed to the heat of summer. According to the affidavit of Sergeant J.L. Dougherty of Company “D” of the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry submitted in 1877 in connection with John J’s application for a Civil War Disability Pension:

“We were on a forced march from Hickman Bridge to Lexington, Kentucky on a very hot day in July 1862 when said Marquet became over heated and fell and was sent to the hospital and remained away some time and ever afterwards complained of pains in his head. He was a good soldier but after this I kept him on light duty.”

John J remained on light duty for the remainder of the war. John J’s Civil War records indicate that he attained the rank of Corporal as a musician in the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky



Infantry Regimental Band. Union Regiments had a regimental band that played for parades, formations and evening concerts. According to my grandfather, John J also served as the “Bugler” for the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry. Both of these assignments are consistent with John J being on light duty because of the disabilities caused by Sunstroke. A Bugler was assigned to the regimental headquarters and was with the commander at the front, sounding different calls in camp, while on the march and in battle. Soldiers were quick to learn the calls of their Bugler who on a routine day would sound from 4 to 10



different bugle calls. Soldiers quickly became familiar with their regimental Bugler and could distinguish his calls from that of a Bugler for another regiment and could even determine where each regiment was camped by the sounds of the bugles being played.

While John J. was in the Regimental Hospital in Lexington, the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry moved to Mt. Sterling, Kentucky and from there was ordered to Richmond, Kentucky where the 18<sup>th</sup> was soundly defeated at the Battle of Richmond on August 29-30, with 52 soldiers killed, 115 wounded, and the majority of the Regiment taken prisoner and paroled (released) by the Confederates a few days later. Casualties at the battle of Richmond totaled 4,900 for the Union and 750 for the Confederacy. The remnant of the 18<sup>th</sup> retreated to Louisville and was dispatched to Covington, Kentucky where it arrived on September 28. From Covington the 18<sup>th</sup> from Kentucky traveled to Paris, Kentucky where John J rejoined Company “D” upon his release from the Regimental Hospital. On December 5 the Regiment was ordered to Lexington where it arrived on December 8 and remained until January 27, 1863, at which time it moved to Louisville and from there to Nashville, Tennessee arriving on February 2.

### **The Life of a Union Soldier**

The average Union soldier was a white protestant farmer between 18 and 29 who stood 5’ 8” tall. A soldier’s home was a rectangular piece of canvas buttoned to that of another soldier to form a two man tent or “dog tent” as they are called by soldiers who joked that only a dog is small enough to crawl in and stay dry from the rain. Sanitation was poor and the existence of germs and bacteria had not yet been discovered. Dysentery, diarrhea, typhoid and malaria were common, with more soldiers dying from sickness and disease than from battle wounds. A Union soldier carried a musket loading

rifle and wore a wool uniform and a belt on which there was a cartridge box, cap box, bayonet and scabbard. The gear included a haversack (backpack), canteen and knapsack (blanket roll), and inside the haversack was a change of socks, writing paper, stamps, envelopes, pen and ink, razor, toothbrush, comb and other personal items, with the soldier's gear weighing approximately 50 pounds.

A private's salary and clothing allowance amounted to \$14 per month. A food ration was intended to last three days while on an active campaign and consisted of the general staples of meat and bread. Meat came in the form of salted pork with fresh beef



available on rare occasions and the rations of pork or beef were boiled or roasted over open campfires. Army bread was a flour biscuit called "hardtack" that could be eaten plain, though most soldiers preferred to toast hardtack over an open fire and crumble it into soups or fry it with their pork and bacon fat.

Battles were often fought in the open in two ranks (rows), a tactic left over from the Revolutionary War. This allowed one rank to fire their rifles while the second rank

was reloading. A unit seeking to take a position held by its rival, which in many cases was a hill less than 100 yards away, would "fasten bayonets" and charge the enemy position, firing, reloading, and firing again until the enemy was forced to retreat or they themselves were driven back. During battles the air was filled with smoke and the smell of gunpowder, and chaos and confusion was common.



One in four soldiers would die during the course of the Civil War and burial would be far from home, more often than not in an unmarked grave. Historians estimate that 620,000 Americans died in the Civil War, more than

the combined total of American casualties in all other wars in which the United States has been engaged. The Union Army sustained 111,000 battle deaths, with another 250,000 soldiers perishing from sickness and disease. On the Confederate side, 95,000 died from wounds received in battle and another 164,000 succumbed to sickness and disease.

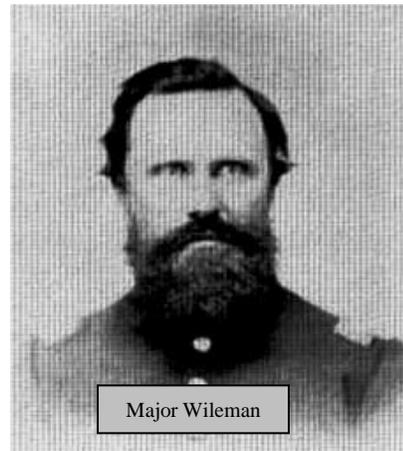
## Back to John J and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry

On June 18, 1863 the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry traveled with the Army of the Cumberland to Carthage, Murfreesboro and Tullahoma, Tennessee and was engaged in the battle of Hoover's Gap on June 24-25, suffering 2 casualties with 3 men wounded. The Regiment remained in middle Tennessee until August 16 at which time it moved eastward through the Cumberland Mountains and down the Tennessee River, arriving in north Georgia in early September. On September 19-20 John J and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky was fully engaged in one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, the Battle of Chickamauga, in which the Regiment suffered 8 casualties, had 40 wounded and 38 taken prisoner. The Battle of Chickamauga claimed 16,000 Union and 18,000 Confederate lives. From October 5 to November 23 the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry held the line of the Tennessee River near Chattanooga at a point known as "The Narrows" and at Brown's Ferry, where one member of the Regiment was killed and 5 were captured. The 18<sup>th</sup> remained in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area until January of 1864.



## The Death of Captain Wileman

After being wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga John J's commanding officer, Captain Wileman, now a Major, was furloughed home to recuperate. During the war Major Wileman had come to be described as a "fierce fighter, afraid of no one." When Major Wileman arrived in Pendleton County in late September feelings were running high over the execution of Jefferson McGraw, a former resident of Falmouth, and William Corbin of adjoining Campbell County. McGraw and Corbin had been captured in Pendleton County at DeMossville and convicted and sentenced to death by a Union Military Tribunal for recruiting for the Confederacy (this being the only execution during the Civil War for recruiting for the enemy). On October 5, 1863, Confederate Renegades led by Jim Keller, some of whom were former citizens of Pendleton County, arrived at the home of Major Wileman. After robbing two neighbors



visiting Major Wileman, Jim Keller and his men dragged Major Wileman from his home where he was executed. Most in Pendleton County were of the opinion that the murder of Major Wileman was in retaliation for the execution of McGraw and Corbin.

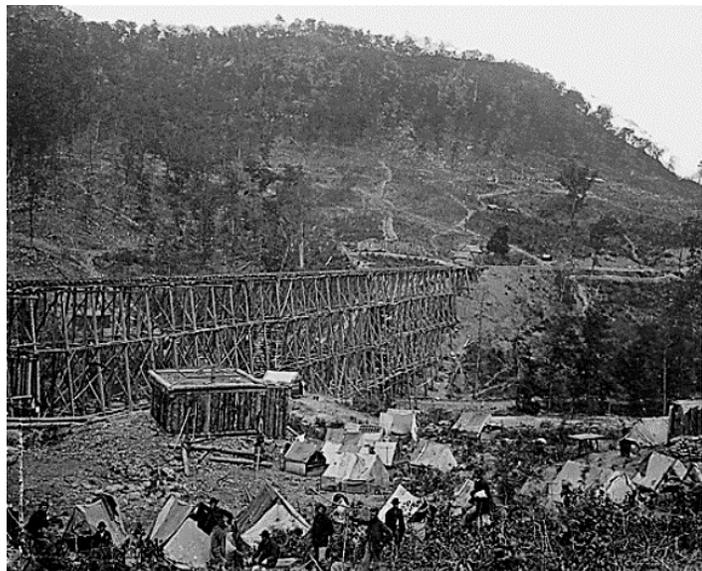
A few months later Jim Keller and five of his men were captured near Sharpsburg, Kentucky following the robbery of three men in Flat Rock. During the course of the robbery Keller told one of the men, W. Watkins, that he killed Major Wileman and had come to kill him but “as he was a pretty fellow he would not do it this time” and went on to tell Watkins that he would kill him “if he saw another Union Flag go up in Flat Rock”. But Watkins beat Keller to the punch. After his release by Keller, Watkins located a detachment of the 71<sup>st</sup> Indiana Mounted Infantry and assisted them in locating and capturing Keller and his men who were taken to Mt. Sterling the following day. While Keller was under guard in the Provost Marshall’s office, Watkins casually walked in and shot and killed Keller. Watkins was never arrested and no charges were filed in the death of Keller.

### **John J Reenlists**

During the Civil War enlisted men were not granted furloughs home for fear they would not return. The term of most enlistments was three years during which the only means of communication was the slow and unpredictable postal system, which was of little value to John J as he could neither read nor write.

In December of 1863 the War Department issued an order providing that Regiments volunteering to extend their enlistment would be granted an extended furlough to return home. This became known as a “veterans furlough” and 75% of a regiment had to reenlist to qualify. The 1870

Census showed a substantial increase in the birth rate in 1864, primarily attributed to the veterans furlough. Furloughed soldiers carried documents providing a detailed description of their physical appearance, departure and return dates, and unit designation. As desertions were common the furlough papers contained a warning to the soldier that if he did not rejoin his unit by the specified



date he would “be considered a deserter.” Also at the time of John J’s reenlistment was a bounty that could run as high as \$250. A reenlistment bounty, furlough home, increase in

wages (now \$16 a month), and a chance to escape the war would no doubt have been enticing to John J. On January 5, 1864, John J and 272 of the 300 men remaining with the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry (out of 927 at the beginning of the war) reenlisted and John J, after two years of war, returned to Pendleton County where he remained until March of 1964. Soldiers returning from a veterans furlough were referred to as “veterans,” a title of distinction.

At the expiration of the veterans furlough the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry rendezvoused at Paris, Kentucky and on March 12 traveled by rail to Nashville, Tennessee. On March 22 the 18<sup>th</sup> left Nashville destined for Ringgold, Georgia, a distance of some 200 miles, and in September traveled by rail to Atlanta. On October 3 the Regiment was dispatched northward to Gaylesville, Alabama, a distance of 150 miles, in pursuit of Confederate forces under the command of General John Bell Hood. The 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky broke camp at Gaylesville on October 29 and after stopping in Rome, Georgia to be paid, marched to Atlanta where it arrived on November 15, 1864.



In November and December of 1864 the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry marched with General William Tecumseh Sherman in his brutal campaign known as “Sherman’s March to the Sea,” reaching Savannah in late December. In January of 1865 the

Regiment left Savannah and crossed into South Carolina where it reached Columbia on February 5. The 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky next moved into North Carolina arriving in Fayetteville on March 11. From Fayetteville the Regiment moved to Bentonville where it was engaged in the Battle of Bentonville on March 19-20 and thereafter passed through Goldsboro as it advanced on Raleigh where the 18<sup>th</sup> sustained 2 casualties. The war was almost over and the 18<sup>th</sup> marched through Richmond, Virginia on April 29 en route to Washington D.C., a distance of some 360 miles, where John J and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry arrived on May 19. In Washington D.C. the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky may have been one of the regiments that marched down Pennsylvania Avenue to the applause of thousands of spectators in the Grand Review of the Union Army.



While in Washington D.C. John J noticed what he thought was a boil but thought little of it. By the time he returned to Louisville in late May or early June the place had developed into an open sore that was diagnosed as a Fistula (an open

channel in the skin caused by infection from bacteria). While today a Fistula can be easily corrected by surgery, such treatment was not available during John J's lifetime and thus this Fistula frequently became infected throughout the remainder of his life.

John J mustered out of service on July 18, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky. At wars end, 243 of the 927 men listed as serving in the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry had died, 90 from wounds sustained in battle and 153 from sickness and disease.

## After the War

When John J returned to Pendleton County following the war he was no doubt puzzled by the atmosphere surrounding the return of soldiers from the Union and Confederate Armies. During the course of the war many Kentuckians became outraged at the Union Army's interference with Kentucky civil courts and elections and the imprisonment and confiscation of the property of Confederate sympathizers without trial. This outrage was compounded immediately following the war when Union authorities treated Kentucky much like the defeated states of the Confederacy. Returning veterans who had worn the Confederate grey were viewed as heroes, while those who fought in

Falmouth Kentucky 1892



the Union blue were looked upon with suspicion. Union soldiers seeking political office remained silent as to their wartime service as it was a political liability and would remain that way in Kentucky until the 1890s.

John J returned to being a farm laborer and on October 29, 1866 married Nancy White Stephenson. Nancy taught John J to read and once he learned, he simply wouldn't stop. According to my grandfather, John J would sometimes read all night long and in the heat of summer when John J could not work because of the disabilities caused by Sunstroke, he would take a couple of books with him when he and his sons went to the fields where he would sit under a shade tree and read while the boys worked.

In 1862 Congress passed a Civil War Pension Act that provided benefits for soldiers who had incurred a disability "as a direct consequence of . . . military duty" or which developed after combat "from causes which can be directly traced to injuries received or disease contacted while in military service." In 1883 John J filed an application for a Civil War Disability Pension as a result of the war. The affidavit given by John J before R. H. Elliston, the County Court Clerk for Grant County, Kentucky states:

That while in said service and in the line of his duty, between Hickman Bridge and Lexington, Kentucky while on March he became over heat (sic) which affected his head and badly disabled him. That a short time before his discharge while on the campaign in the state of Kentucky at Louisville he incurred a Fistula. He says as to the last named disease he cannot give the exact date of it occurrence as it came on him gradually. He says by reason of both of said disabilities he is greatly disabled from doing manual labor and makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the Pension Rolls of the United States.

As John J's disability was not an obvious injury, his claim would linger for 7 years during which the U.S. Pension Bureau had John J examined by military doctors and obtained military records and affidavits from members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry. Also during this period John J tracked down people with whom he had served to present affidavits verifying his description of the events and his disabilities. Joseph Feltman,

[Here insert the reason of the soldier's discharge, if known; if not known, so state; or, if he died, so state.]

That the said John Marquet Affidavit of Sergeant J.L. Dougherty  
 on the March in the State of ky did, on or  
 about the July day of July, 1862 become disabled in the following manner, viz:  
[Here state the time and place and manner in which the wound or other injury was received. Describe the wound or injury, the part of the body wounded or injured, and all the circumstances attending it. If sickness, state time and place when contracted, what caused the name of the sickness, and how it affected him.]  
We were on a forced march from Hickman bridge to Lexington ky on a very hot day in July 1862 when said marquet - became over heated and fell and was sent to the hospital and remained away some time and ever after word complained of pains in his head he was a good soldier but after this I kept him on light duty  
That the facts stated are personally known to the affiant by reason of the being present  
[Here state whether affiant was with the command at the time the claimant contracted his disability, or whether his knowledge was otherwise obtained. All the facts known to affiant relative to the soldier's medical treatment for his disability while in the service should be stated, giving time and place, if possible.]  
as orderly sergeant - and after word  
2nd & 1st Lieut - and Capt of said  
company and served therein up to Sept  
20 1864.

Surgeon for the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry, states in his affidavit that his records had been destroyed and he could not “recollect anything distinctly about Mr. Marquet’s ailments”

but that he remembered John J “was at the Regimental Hospital sometime in the spring or summer of 1862” and that he remembered John J “frequently being at sick call.” Dr. Faltman went on to state, “I remember the Claimant to have been a good and believable soldier and I consider his statements worthy of credence.” Jason Mitts, a nurse at the Regimental Hospital when John J was patient there in 1862, states in his affidavit that John J was treated for what the doctor said was “Sunstroke” and that John J “was complaining of great misery in his head.” Jason Mitts went on to state he remained with the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry until his discharge on July 18, 1865 and “during this time I frequently filled prescriptions for him by the doctor for the same disease.”

Finally, in 1890, John J received a 50% disability rating and was awarded a pension of \$6 a month effective retroactively to August 16, 1882 and received back disability payments of \$536 (less a \$25 fee paid to his attorney, Francis M. Griffith). Over the ensuing years John J would continue to apply for a 100% disability rating and undergo many examinations by military doctors. On May 25, 1906 he was awarded a disability rating of 67% and his pension was raised to \$8 per month and on February 18, 1907 he was found to be 100% disabled and awarded \$12 a month.

In January of 1870 John J and Nancy purchased a farm in Pendleton County containing 143 ½ acres for a purchase price of \$2,975. Over the ensuing years John J

would purchase additional land to become one of the largest landowners in the Pendleton County owning over 500 acres. John J and Nancy had 14 children: Fannie Elizabeth (1867), Julia Ann (1869), Christina Bell (1871), Lina Mariah, (1873), Charles Randolph, (1875), Minnie Alice (1876), John William (1878), Mamie Ethel (1880), Louis Ransom



(1882), Thomas B. (stillborn in 1883), my grandfather, Frank Gilbert, (1885), Howard Filmore (1887), Randall Harrison (1889) and Columbus (1892), eleven of which were living at the time of John J’s death. John J also had a son, John Lewis, born out of wedlock.

John J acknowledged John Lewis as his son and John Lewis resided with John J, Nancy and their children for extended periods of time. While John J acknowledged and accepted John Lewis as one of his children, John Lewis never became “legitimate” in the eyes of the law, as John J and John Lewis’ mother were never married and John J never legally adopted John Lewis. My father remembered as a small boy going to a house where my grandfather introduced John Lewis as his brother. There is, however, one

unanswered question concerning John Lewis. The birth date listed in family records for John Lewis is September 24, 1865 but military records have the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry in north Georgia at the time John Lewis would have been conceived. While I did not locate any military records specifically placing John J with the 18<sup>th</sup> at that time, military records indicate he was with the Regiment as it moved from Atlanta with Sherman in late 1864



and the history given by John J to military doctors place him in Washington DC in May of 1865 at the time he first noticed the Fistula developing. Thus either John Lewis birth date is September 24, 1864 as opposed to 1865, as John J would have been in Pendleton County in early January of 1864 on veterans furlough or John J received a personal leave in late December of 1864 or early January 1865 that is not recorded in military records, and rejoined

the 18<sup>th</sup> in the campaign with Sherman in late winter in 1865.

Around 1874 John J sought custody of John Lewis in the Pendleton County Court. The following notation (written in pencil and crossed out in ink) appears on the back of a court document in a separate case that was pending before the Pendleton County Court in 1874:

John Marquet

Pendleton County Court

v.

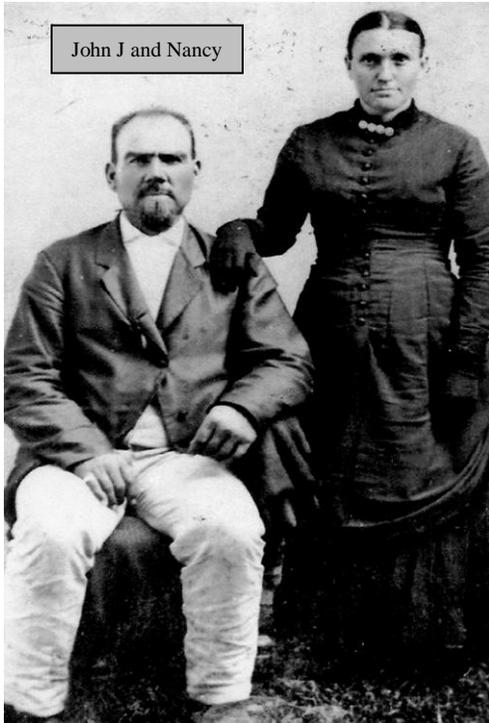
Response

Anna Nunnemaker

“The Defendant, Anna Nunnemaker in response to the rule against her says that the child sought to be bound out in the proceedings is her child, that the plaintiff is its illegitimate father, that it is eight years of age and wholly dependent upon her, it is in her custody and she is entitled thereto. She is raising it in a moral respectable manner and furnishing it all the comforts to one in her walk of life, and she asks that the.”

No other documents regarding the proceedings were located in court records. The Judge may have issued an oral decision, or John J and Anna may have reached an agreement as to how and where John Lewis would be raised prior to the Judge handing down a final decision. The fact that John J openly acknowledged John Lewis as his son and included him in his family in an era where children born out of wedlock were looked upon as second class citizens speaks highly of the character of John J.

Even though John Lewis was treated as an equal in John J and Nancy's household, such was not the case after their deaths. John J's Will bequeathed all of his property to Nancy for her life and after a specific bequest to his disabled son Columbus, the Will provided "To the rest of my children, the remainder of my property, less three hundred dollars (\$300.00), which is to be used to purchase a monument for myself and wife, both personal and real is to be divided equally among them after the deduction of any indebtedness they may owe me." The Executors of John J's Estate asserted that under the law the phrase "my children" did not include John Lewis. After Nancy's death



John Lewis filed suit in the Pendleton Circuit Court seeking an equal portion of John J's Estate which, according to court records, "consisted of \$6,455.19 and several tracts of land, none of which had been divided or sold at the time of the filing of the lawsuit." In the litigation the Executors of John J's Estate and John Lewis' half brothers and sisters acknowledged that John Lewis was John J's son, however, under the law as it existed at the time the Judge could not consider this evidence unless the Will itself was ambiguous as to what John J meant by "my children".

The Pendleton Circuit Court ruled against John Lewis and the decision was appealed to the Kentucky's highest court in 1921. In its Opinion, the Kentucky Court of Appeals stated, "the primary, usual, ordinary, and legal significance of the word "children" as used in a will is "legitimate children," and it will not include illegitimate children "unless the testator's intention to include them is clear, whether by express designation or necessary implication." In affirming the decision of the Pendleton Circuit Court denying John Lewis a share of John J's Estate, the Kentucky Court of Appeals held that since John J used the term "children" without employing any other expression in his Will to indicate he meant to include persons other than those primarily included within the usual and ordinarily accepted meaning of the term "children", no ambiguity existed. While the decision of the Pendleton Circuit Court and the Kentucky Court of Appeals followed the law as it existed at the time, the law today would dictate that a different result be reached. The complete text of the decision of the Kentucky Court of Appeals can be found in the case of *Marquette v Marquette's Executors, et al.* 190 Kentucky Reports 182, 227 S.W. 2d 157 (Ky. 1921).

John J became a naturalized citizen sometime in the 1870s. His constant reading led to his becoming interested in politics and in 1897, at age 54, John J was elected to the Kentucky Legislature representing Pendleton, Grant and Bracken Counties from 1898 to 1900. In the 44 years since John J landed in Baltimore aboard the Adolphine, the 10 year old farm worker that could neither read nor write had transformed into a successful farmer and respected member of the community, and had been elected by the voters of three Kentucky counties to serve in the Kentucky Legislature, a truly remarkable accomplishment.

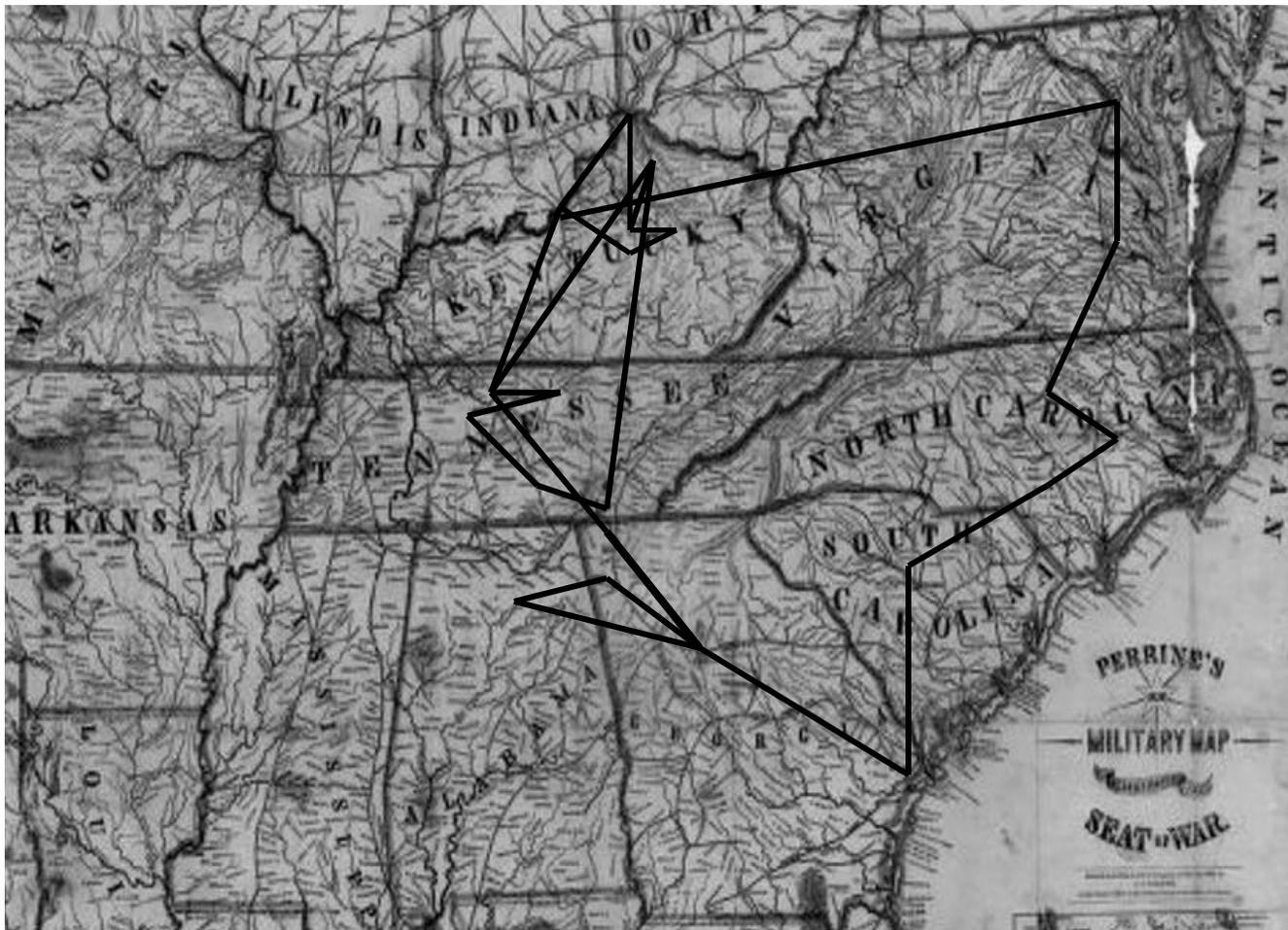


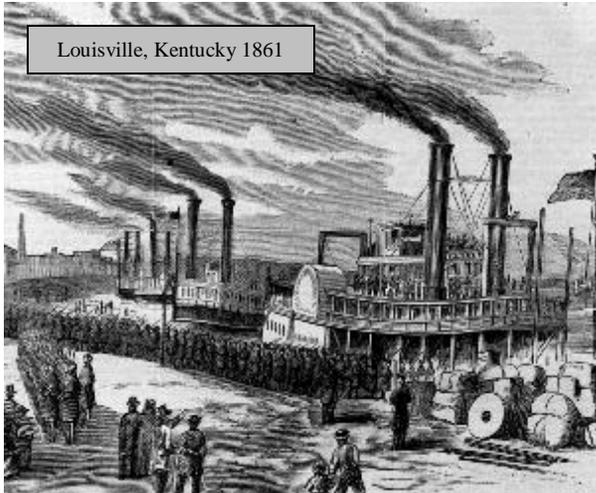
With no formal education and against long odds, John Julius Marquette made his mark in his adopted country. In “Marquette and Related Families,” written by my father in 1979, Kenneth says of John J, “Hard work, honesty, leadership and integrity were his trademarks.” I suspect this is true as I knew John J’s son, my grandfather Frank G. Marquette, and John J’s grandson, my father Kenneth T. Marquette, and this accurately describes the men they were.

## **Epilog**

When I started this project little did I know that I was embarking upon a journey that would consume as many hours as I would allow and take me in as many directions as I was willing to go. Each time I thought I had come to a dead end I would discover an additional bit of information, a new beginning, and off I would go in a different direction. During my quest to learn more about John J and my other ancestors I came to appreciate that genealogy is more than the names, dates of birth and dates of death of my ancestors, it is about the times in which they lived, the hardships they endured, the trails they blazed. I freely admit that some of the information contained herein may be incorrect or incomplete and invite anyone who may read this to provide information that corrects or adds to what I have written. My email address is [qmarquette@insightbb.com](mailto:qmarquette@insightbb.com) and my mailing address is 1404 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42104.

**Civil War Route of John J Marquette and the 18<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry  
February 5, 1862 to July 18, 1865**

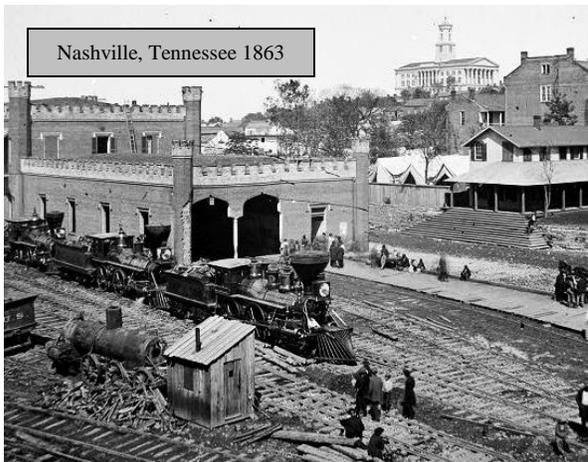




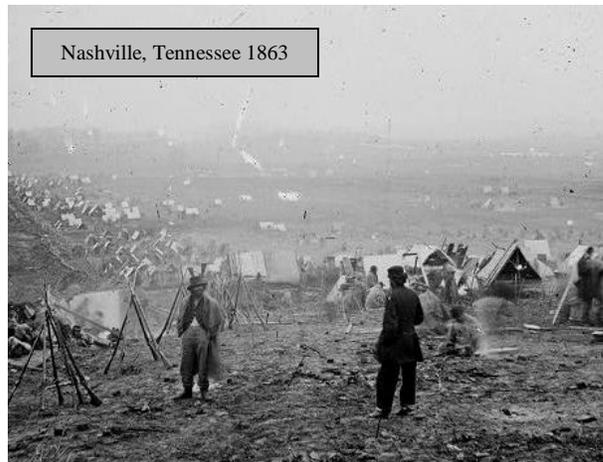
Louisville, Kentucky 1861



Covington, Kentucky 1862



Nashville, Tennessee 1863



Nashville, Tennessee 1863



Chattanooga, Tennessee 1863

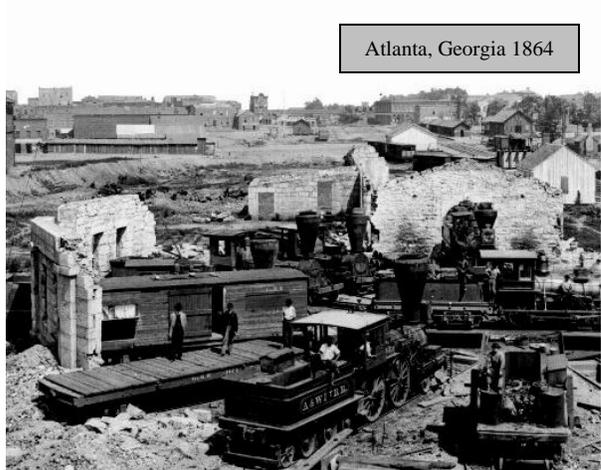


Chattanooga, Tennessee 1863



Chickamauga, Georgia 1863

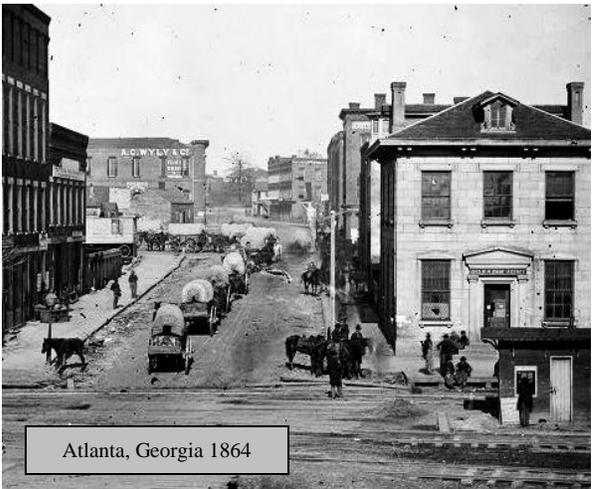
Atlanta, Georgia 1864



Atlanta, Georgia 1864



Atlanta, Georgia 1864 (General Sherman)



Atlanta, Georgia 1864



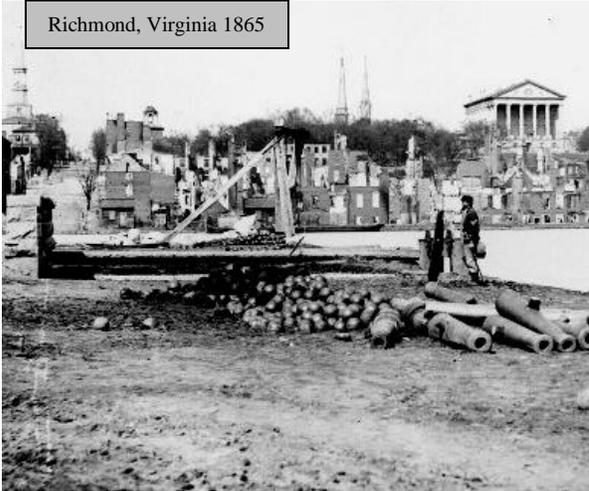
Savannah, Georgia 1865



Columbia, South Carolina 1865



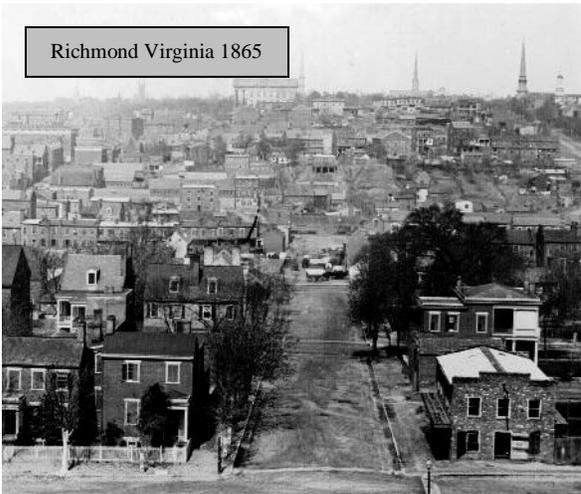
Raleigh, North Carolina 1865



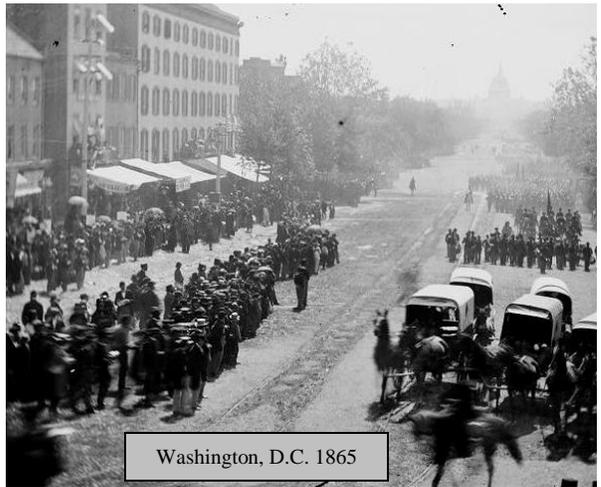
Richmond, Virginia 1865



Richmond, Virginia 1865



Richmond Virginia 1865



Washington, D.C. 1865



