

C 6 Cav Ky²
Confederate
C. G. COLYER
Pvt., Capt. M. B. Perkins' Company,
Grigsby's Reg't, Kentucky Cav.*
Appears on
Company Muster Roll
of the organization named above
for Nov. 1, 1862 to Feb 28 , 1863
Enlisted: Jan 24, 1863
Where: Beech Grove, Tenn.
By whom: Capt. Perkins
Period: Three years
Last Paid: Never Paid
Present or absent: Present
Remarks: Volunteered for the unexpired term of the
Company

*This company subsequently became Company C, 6th
Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry
The regiment was formed about February 1, 1863, by the
consolidation of Grigsby's and Bullitt's Battalions
Kentucky Cavalry.

PRISONERS OF WAR
C 6 Cav Ky
Confederate
C. J. COLYER
Appears on a register:
Dept of the Cumberland, Reg. No.1
(Hd. Qrs. Prov. Mar. General, Nashville, Tenn.)
To what point forwarded: Louisville, May 28

Received at Military Prison, Louisville, Ky., May 23,
1863, from penitentiary at Nashville, Tenn.
Roll dated May 23, 1863.

Where taken: Cripple Creek, Tenn., May 14, 1863
Remarks: Sent to Baltimore, May 25, 1863.
-Louisville, Ky., Register No.1; page 232-

Sent May 25, from Louisville, Ky., to Baltimore, Md.,
en route to be exchanged.

Paroled at Fort McHenry, Md., May 29, 1863
-Roll bears the following endorsement:
"Received City Point, Va., May 31, 1863, from Jno. E.
Mulford, Capt., 3d Infty. N. Y. V., Comdg. Flag of
Truce, One Hundred & thirty six (136) Confederate
prisoners of War paroled for exchange of 1 Surgeon - J.
B. Thompson, Capt. Comdg., Post City Point.

Roll of Company C, Sixth Regiment Cavalry^s
CONFEDERATE

This roll lists sixty members. There are twelve Colyers and three Earps from Pulaski County, Ky. Number 24 on the roll is C. J. Colyer (Charles Grenade Colyer). He was listed this way on several rolls.

"Roll dated Beech Grove, Tenn., Feb. 28, 1863. This company was organized in Pulaski County, Ky.; was engaged in constant picketing and scouting in Pulaski and Rockcastle Counties; went into camp at Beaufort, near Danville, Ky. Company participated in action at Murfreesboro, Tenn. Dec. 31, 1862. Note--The "Old Roster" 6th Kentucky Cavalry calls this Company "C" and rolls on file are marked Company "A". This company was mustered into service as Company "C" of 6th KY. Cavalry and was always recognized and known as such in regimental organization. In the first days of March 1863, General Buford was assigned to the Mississippi Dept. and the 6th Regiment Ky. Cavalry and the 5th Reg. Ky. Cavalry were then transferred to the command of Brigadier General John H. Morgan, with which it continued in service until nearly the whole regiment was captured during the last days of Morgan's Ohio raid."

Sam Colyer, further stated, that CHARLES GRENADE COLYER was in the battle of Chickamauga near Chattanooga, Tenn. He was in the Confederate Cavalry and every fourth man was to be a horse holder during the battle. Both C. G. COLYER and Morgan Colyer were fourth when they were numbered and were assigned to hold horses during the battle. C. G. COLYER placed his horses between him and the battle and Morgan, his brother, laid down face toward the battle. As the bullets and shells came around them, Morgan said "Oh Lord, Oh Lord". C. G. said "are you hit?". Morgan said "No, just scared." At Chickamauga the cavalry was told to hold the Union Army while the Confederate Army retreated across the river. They held long enough for the army to cross and then the General said, "every man for himself." Charles G. was going along the river when two Union soldiers saw him and chased him. They apparently were out of ammunition or their guns weren't loaded since they didn't fire. After a couple of miles Charles G. got to a large tree across the trail and decided to try to have his horse jump the tree. The horse jumped it, but the Union soldiers didn't jump it and Charles G. got away and was able to cross the river.

He had enlisted for a specific time and after the time expired and near the end of the war and it was known the cause was lost, he went to headquarters and was given an honorable discharge.

CHARLES GRENADE COLYER could not return home since there were so many Yankee supporters who would shoot returning "Rebs". He stayed in Nashville about two years and ran a hotel. A neighbor named Gilmore, harassed his wife, mother and his small son, because C. G. had been in the Confederate Army. Gilmore killed their chickens and the pets and told them that C. G. had been killed. LOUISA JANE, his wife, told him she did not believe it. Finally Charles G. returned home and vowed to kill Gilmore. C. G. was

splitting wood when he first saw Gilmore coming across the field. He ran for his gun and Gilmore saw him and was gone when he returned. It was some time before Gilmore returned to the neighborhood and the feeling had subsided by then. Gilmores family had been in the Union forces.

CHARLES GRENADE COLYER had evening prayers and the entire family would come in and kneel for prayers.

CHARLES GRENADE and his wife LOUISA JANE had eleven children. All taught school at some time after they grew up. He was a school trustee.

The 1870 and 1880 Pulaski County Census show CHARLES G. COLYER listed as a farmer, born in Kentucky and his parents born in Tennessee, and LOUISA JANE COLYER as his wife, born in Kentucky and her parents both born in Kentucky.

CHARLES G. COLYER died at his home on Pitman Creek April 11, 1910 and his wife LOUISA JANE COLYER died January 13, 1931, in Pulaski County, Kentucky. She had received a Confederate Widows pension for his service. Naomi Sears Moser and Ray Colyer, both grandchildren, recall LOUISA JANE, as a small lady, about 5'1" tall, slender, with coal black hair throughout her life.

Obituary of CHARLES GRANAID COLYER, printed in the Somerset, Kentucky newspaper in April, 1910

CHARLES GRANAID COLYER, who resided about three miles south-east of town, died last Monday, after several months of feeble health due to age and a general wearing out of the vital organs.

His father was JOHN COLYER, who lived and reared a large family of 19 sons and daughters, and died on the old homestead now known as the Warren farm at the bridge of Pitman creek and the Sublimity road, about six and one half miles from this town, and his mother was LYDIA Purvis, who was the old gentlemen's second wife and the mother of fourteen of his children and his first wife was a Miss Sinclair, who was the mother of five of the older children.

I first became intimately acquainted with the family of JOHN COLYER Sr. in 1856, when my father removed to the farm adjoining theirs on the opposite side of Pitman creek, now the Allen farm, and from the first moment was convinced that there never was a more gallant, neighborly or hospitable family in the world. To the young man's mind their home was a model place to get good treatment and have a joyous Happy time. It was better than a circus to be with those old big boys at the corn huskings or hoeing; threshings or stacking; the log cutting or rollings, and to have to do hard and heavy work, when four or five of them were on hand and helping at the labor, it was the best kind of entertainment, and we want to tell you that no laddie was ever imposed upon in that good company, for they stood over those in need of a defender on every occasion.

I knew nearly all of the family well but ten of the younger ones were best known to me and GRANAID was one of them. All of the Colyer s differed from me in religious name and also in political as well, but they were always my friends, even in old war times when we were in battle array for the right, each as we saw it, and in our personal associations none of us ever dared to attempt to muzzle the other or make one too dumb to speak his honest sentiment.

GRANAID COLYER was the last one of that large family to pass from the earth to the Great Beyond and my faith in God's promises and my knowledge of his manner of life leads me to say to his good wife and other loved ones that it is all well with him for he surely has the righteous man's reward.

His brother, J. Perry Colyer, died only a few months ago. The first set of children of John Colyer's were Bluford, John Alex, William and Mrs. Dickie Smith.

His full brothers and sisters were Lindsey, Cy, Jehu, Sinclair, Martin, Wesley, Perry, GRANAID, Samuel, Nathaniel, and Mrs. Harriet Black, Mrs. Menerva Richardson, Mrs. Lizzie Eastman, and one other.

Their old father died over half a century ago and their mother over a third of a century, and this writer made obituary notices of most of them as they passed away, a sad duty that we have performed faithfully.

To his last afflicted wife and her noble children, we extend sincerest condolences, as their long-time friend.

¹. Confederate Pension Records, #1585 to 1652; Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, Kentucky.

². Confederate Records, The National Archives, Washington, D. C.

³. Kentucky Adjutant General's Report, Confederate States Army, Sixth Regiment Cavalry.