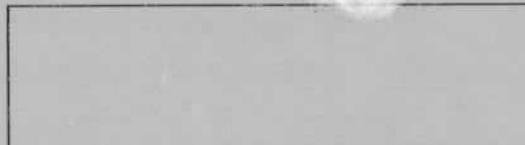


RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 10)

Aaron A. Newman was born September 5, 1832, in Plymouth, Michigan. By the 1860 census, he is the owner of 200 acres in Brighton Township, Sections 5, 6 and 7 (the Hunter, Hyne, McClements Road area, west of Old 23).

Newman was a farmer. He was also a patriotic man who served in the Civil War. His parents, Joel (born 1788 in New York) and Hannah (née Lyon, born 1794 in Massachusetts) apparently came to Wayne County, Michigan with son Almon, also born in New York in 1824. Aaron's brother, Hiram, was also born in Michigan in 1834.

About 1855, Aaron married Louisa (born 1834 in New York). The 1860 Census records children Ida Jane (born 1856) and son, Merritta (born 1859). Sadly, the son died in 1860.

Enlisting in John Gilluly's Co. I of Michigan's "Fighting 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry on September 6, 1861, Aaron served as a wagoner until the end of his three year enlistment.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry Regiment, consisting of Companies A, F, and I, a total of about 900 officers and enlisted men, reported to Fort Wayne. After receiving the regimental flag in Detroit, September 11, they embarked for Cleveland finally reaching Washington, D.C. Co. I had its "... first duty in front of the enemy" on September 22.

Various earthworks and forts were built in which to pass the winter; floating down the Potomac to Yorktown, VA, in the spring. After a month's siege in April, the Confederates left for Richmond, VA, with Union soldiers in pursuit.

Rain made the roads difficult to move artillery, cavalry and army wagons. As a wagoner Aaron struggled through the mud and rain toward the fighting at Williamsburg in May. "This was the regiment's first battle and a wild initiation it was. It went in with about 500 men and out of this force its loss was one hundred fifty-three in killed and wounded."

The Regiment participated in the Battle of Gettysburg in July, 1863. By mid-September the Regiment again joined the Army of the Potomac. Brandywine Station became winter quarters in 1863-64. The fierce battle at Orange Courthouse in early May, 1864, was followed with more of the same at Spotsylvania and continued on to Cold Harbor and Petersburg. Aaron was mustered out on September 6, 1864.

Fortunate to have returned from battle, he was anxious to return to his occupation as a farmer in north Brighton Township. Apparently separated from Louise, Janette is recorded as his wife. Two children are born to this union; a son, Arthur (born 1867) and daughter Clara B. (born 1871). However, Ida Jane is not noted in the 1870 census. Arthur married Margaret Campbell; both are buried in Howell's Lakeview Cemetery. Clara married neighbor George Taylor. As often occurred, Clara died in childbirth in 1891 and her son, Vernon, in 1892. Clara, George and Vernon are buried at Old Village Cemetery, as is mother Jenette who died on January 15, 1887.

Aaron died on March 5, 1900. His obituary states he had six children. Present research reveals only five. By 1900, a son, Chester, is "... in the west" and Arthur lives in Howell. A widow is also noted in the obituary. Research indicates she was Margaret Leach, whom he married in 1888. She died in New York.

The youngest brother Hiram, married Rachael. Two children were born. Hiram (died July 19, 1920) and Rachael (died October 23, 1909) in Monmouth, Oregon. Another son, Charles H. was living there.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; Old Village Cemetery transcription by John & Janice Field; Fairview and Lakeview Cemetery transcription and obituary records by Milton Charboneau and online assistance of Judy Bair.*