

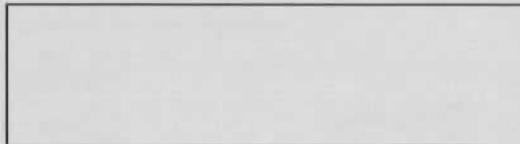
BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 16)

Henry C. Norton, b. 1835, N.Y. died May 29, 1862, while serving in Co. D. of Michigan 5th Infantry Regiment, commanded by 1st Lt. Erastus A. Pratt.

Of the men placed in Co. D. 102 were from Livingston County. The 15th Regiment was organized in the fall of 1861, with its rendezvous at Monroe, Michigan. Norton enlisted February 6, 1862.

March 27, 1862, Co. D. left for Pittsburg Landing, MS. arriving April 5, 1862. April 6, the battle began. Co. D. lost 33 killed, 64 wounded, seven missing. Corinth, MS was its next destination but by then Henry C. Norton was no longer with Co. D. He had died in the hospital on May 29, 1862.

Henry's parents were Charles S. and Electa Norton of MA. Charles S. died in 1858 at age 52. Electa lived until her 72nd year in 1889. With his parents and a presumed uncle and aunt, Henry C. lies buried at Old Village Cemetery.

From Bill Pless' writings we learn "Erastus A. Pratt Jr. was 26 when he came to Brighton with his father in 1844, where Erastus A. Pratt Sr. had a blacksmith shop in the middle of the block on the south side of E. North Street. There he worked at his trade for 22 years, and made most of the plow irons used in the surrounding country."

When the Michigan 15th Infantry Regiment was organized October 22, 1861, Erastus A. Pratt, Jr., was made 1st Lt. of Co. D. He was promoted to Captain October 1, 1862.

The 15th served through the siege of Corinth, MS, June 1863. It was ordered to Vicksburg, MS, participating in the siege of that city. October found it with the Army of the Cumberland. After veterans' furlough it took part in Sherman's Georgia campaign; and the 'march to the sea.'

Mustered out December 24, 1864, Erastus Jr. returned home to wife Minerva Worden (daughter of Truman Worden) and 16 year old daughter Florence. (She later married Leslie J. Stiles.) Erastus' brother Luther Corydon married Lucy C. Norton (whose brother was Henry C.).

Their daughter, Kate V., married B.T.O. Clark whose obituary states he "served in Co. E. 11th Michigan Infantry, mustered out at Detroit, 1865." All of the above named are buried in the Old Village Cemetery. Erastus had a sister, Mary, who taught in Brighton for a time then moved back to New York where she died, 1849.

After his return from service Erastus A. Jr. bought a farm in Green Oak township, Section 21 and 22 near Silver Lake.

Minerva died in 1884, Erastus in 1891.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from writings of Bill Pless; 1880 History of Livingston County; census records; transcription of Old Village Cemetery by John and Janice Field; Early Land Owners of Livingston County and obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau. Corrections/Additions, requested. 810-229-6402.)

Did you know-

The new "Brighton Area" pictorial history book that consists of 198 photos and 128 pages is available at the Brighton Farmers' market every Saturday from 8 am—1 pm. The Society's booth is located in front of Lynn's Café. The book cost is \$20.00. The book can also be purchased at the CoBACH Center, Lawrence Autobody, Parent Teacher Tech Center and by calling Jim Vichich at 810-250-7276.