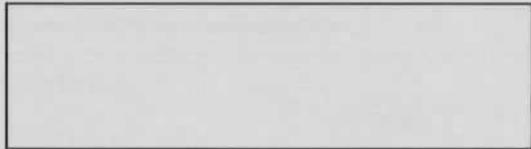


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## Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 21)

Civil War research has made us aware that George W. Rogers served as Capt. of Co.I., 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry. He died in 1876 and is buried in the Old Village Cemetery with brothers Henry and Francis D., also veterans, and his parents Horace and Harriet. Horace bought land in Brighton Township, Section 23, W 1/2 SE 1/4 in 1861: Buno Road 1/2 mile west of Kensington Road. No other information has come to light in our research. It appears he did not return to the area after serving, however is interred here.

This similar scenario appears to hold true also of William H.H. Russell of Green Oak Township in that he is buried with other family members in the Cemetery. One finds his brother, DeWitt C., who died in December 1861, serving as a private in Co. I, 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry. He died at age 24 from a disease contracted while serving in Washington shortly after enlisting four months earlier.

When Russell's parents came to Livingston County in 1838, they bought 168 acres in Green Oak Township, Section 3, NE 1/4. The family farmed land which straddled the Grand River Trail, east of Pleasant Valley Road. In 1874, William H.H. Russell is recorded as living in St. Louis MO, when he sells the land in Green Oak and is noted as the son of William S. Russell.

The Historical Society has photos of Memorial Day, 1920. In them we see N. West Street is a grassy knoll south of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at that time. Memories of the sacrifices made during the Civil War are still fresh. Veterans are attending services in the Village Cemetery. Local children, some likely grandchildren of the veterans, bring fresh flowers to place on graves on 'Decoration Day'. Today, at cemeteries all over the U.S.A.,

veterans of many wars are memorialized with flags placed by veterans' organizations and by other caring persons.

".....that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth"

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: Early Landowners of Livingston County by Milton Charboneau; Old Village Cemetery transcription by John and Janice Field; Historical Society Archives: President Abraham Lincoln. This concludes the series of research on Civil War veterans interred at Old Village Cemetery.)

Corrections/additions requested. 810-229-6402

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