

179th NY Infantry captured/missing at Poplar Springs Church on September 30, 1864 and wounded/killed

BAKER , CHARLES.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, August 30, 1864, at Vestal, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, Va . ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 21, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. **[applies for pension as invalid on January 13, 1873]**

BARBER, WILLIAM H.—Age, 23 years. Enlisted, September 2, 1864, at Candor, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; **missing, in action**, since September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, Va.; **no further record**. **[Mother applies for pension on September 27, 1865]**

BARTON, FRANCIS M.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, September 2, 1864, at Candor, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; absent, **missing in action** since September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, V a.; **no further record**. **[Correct name is BARTS. Mother applies for pension on May 16, 1891]**

BEDELL, NELSON.—Age, 37 years. Enlisted, August 27, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 2, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. **[attests to death of Bradford Hallett at Salisbury in April 1865, before County Clerk of Tompkins County, NY.]**

BUCKLAND , TIMOTHY W.—Age, 43 years. Enlisted, February 14, 1864, at Eagle, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A, April 5, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, April 1865, at Salisbury, N.C.** **[Widow applies for pension on April 15, 1865] [IN Brown as Buckland, S.W., Pvt., A, 179th NY, 11-11-64]**

CARTER, HENRY A —Age, 28 years. Enlisted, January 29, 1864, at Wayland, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A , April 5, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; exchanged, no date; **died of chronic diarrhea, March 29, 1865, at hospital, Baltimore, Md.** **[No pension application found, NPAF]**

CHAPMAN, THOMAS C—Age, 20 years. Enlisted, March 31, 1864, at Bradford, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. B, April 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, V a.; **died, January 12, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C.** **[NPAF][In Brown as Chapman, Thomas, Pvt., B, 179th NY, 2-9-65]**

COOK, JAMES.—Age, 21 years. Enlisted, August 30, 1864, at Danby, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va.; paroled; no date; mustered out, May 24, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. **[Dies April 4, 1919 at Auburn, NY]**

DRAKE, JOHN F.—Age, 39 years. Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured, in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, January 5, 1865, at Salisbury, N.C.** [NPAF] [**NOT found in Brown**]

GAY, JOHN L.—Age, 23 years. Enlisted, August 11, 1863, at Buffalo, to serve three years; mustered in as private, organization not stated; deserted, August, 1863; arrested, January 30, 1864, and assigned to Co. D, this regiment, May 11, 1864; **missing in action** since September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, Va. ; **no further record.** [NPAF]

HALLETT , BRADFORD C—Age, 23 years. Enlisted, August 31, 1864, at Danby, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864 captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va.; **died, January 11, 1865, at Salisbury, N.C.** [Widow and minor apply for pension on May 6, 1865] [**In Brown as Hallet, Bradford, Pvt., I, 179th NY, 1-17-65**]

HANNAN, JOHN.—Age, 21 years. Enlisted, March 11, 1864, at Otego, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. B, April 13, 1864; **missing in action**, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; **no further record.** [Father applies for pension on June 14, 1884]

HILL , ISAAC B.—Age, 27 years.- Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Sanford, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K , September 15, 1864; missing in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; no further record. **[Adjutant General reports that he died at Salisbury on January 16, 1865]** [**In Brown as Hill, Isaac B., Pvt., K, 179th NY, 1-16-65**]

JOHNSON, CHARLES W.—Age, 24 years. Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Union, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 19, 1865, at Elmira, N. Y . **[Died December 3, 1923 at Endicott, NY]**

JOHNSON, THOMAS A.—Age, 20 years. Enlisted, August 31, 1864, at Richford, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; **missing in action** since September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; **no further record.** [Widow collects pension but details are unclear on <http://www.Fold3.com>]

KENYON, JARVIS S.—Age, 33 years. Enlisted, March 27, 1864, at Alfred, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. B, April 13, 1864; promoted corporal, no date; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; returned to ranks, January 1, 1865; paroled, no date; mustered out, May 24, 1865, at Elmira, N. Y . **[Died January 12, 1904 at Alfred, NY]**

LANE , ABRAM.—Age, 39 years. Enlisted, September 3, 1864, at Candor, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; missing in action since September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; no further record; also borne as Abram Lane. **[Physician files affidavit that Lane died on April 4, 1865 at his own home after a recent release from “Andersonville” and Camp Parole, MD]**

LEWIS, REUBEN.—Age, 36 years. Enlisted, March 10, 1864, at Smithtown, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. B, April 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 5, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. **[Dies by July 25, 1865, pension cert. # 72054 for \$8.00 per month]**

LEWIS, WILLIAM.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, September 2, 1864, at Candor, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; absent, wounded, at muster-out of company. **[NPAF] [In Brown as Lewis, Wm., Pvt., K, 179th NY, 12-29-64]**

McDONALD, THEODORE F.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, August 22, 1864, at Port Crane, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; promoted sergeant, no date; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out June 14, 1865, at Elmira, N. Y . **[Died October 20, 1915 at Los Angeles, CA]**

MILLER, HENRY—Age, 36 years. Enlisted, March 26, 1864, at German, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A, One Hundred and Eightieth Infantry, July 20, 1864; transferred to Co. G, this regiment, July 23, 1864; captured in action September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, December 8, 1864, at Salisbury, N.C. [NPAF] [In Brown as Miller, Henry, Pvt., G, 179th NY, 12-9-64]**

NEWMAN, WILLIAM B.—Age, 25 years. Enlisted, August 29, 1861, at Vestal, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1861; **missing in action** since September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; **no further record.****[Mother applies March 2, 1880]**

OSTRANDER, WILLIAM.—Age, 27 years. -Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Danby, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; paroled, no date; **died of remittent fever, April 24, 1865, at Camp Parole Hospital, Annapolis, Md.** [Widow applies August 3, 1865]

OVERTON, GEORGE.—Age, date, place, term, and muster-in as private, Co. E, not stated; **missing in action**, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **no further record.**[NPAF]

PATTERSON, WILLIAM.—Age, 42 years. Enlisted, September 2, 1864, at Le Roy, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. H , September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Pegram's farm, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 6, 1865, at hospital, York, Pa. [No pension application found]

PRENTICE, JOSEPH G.—Age, 20 years. Enlisted, August 21, 1864, at Binghamton, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 21, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. [Dies March 25, 1928 at Stevens Point, PA]

PRICE, JOHN H.—Age, 22 years. Enlisted, March 29, 1864, at Tyrone, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. C, April 23, 1864; promoted sergeant, no date; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va . ; paroled, no date; mustered out, June 7, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. [Dies around May 3, 1880]

REED, HURLBURT.—Age, 45 years. Enlisted, August 20, 1864, at Ithaca, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, February 1, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C.** [Widow applies for pension on April 17, 1865] [In Brown as Reed, H., Pvt., I, 149th NY, 2-11-65]

SMITH, ELIJAH.—Age, 22 years. Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Danby, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va.; paroled, no date; mustered out, May 27, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. [Unclear from pension records what happened to this man; see supporting documents]

STODDARD, IRA.—Age, 44 years. Enlisted at Caroline, to serve one year, and mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, December 18, 1864, at Salisbury, N.C.** [Widow applies for pension on May 18, 1865] [In Brown as Stoddard, Jno., Pvt., E, 179th NY, 12-19-64]

SWEET, JONAS.—Age, 24 years. Enlisted, August 31, 1864, at Owego, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; **missing in action**, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **no further record**. [**Widow and minor apply for pension on November 3, 1865**]

TOBIAS, ANTHONY.—Age, 40 years. Enlisted, March 15, 1864, at Buffalo, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A, April 5, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, April —, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C. [This man's actual death date was December 3, 1864 as later determined by the USAGO. Widow applies on October 2, 1866]**[Probably in **Brown** as Tobias, A., Pvt., A, 17th NY Art., 12-3-64]

WILLIAMS, JAMES.—Age, 25 years. Enlisted, May 4, 1864, at Phelps, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A, One Hundred and Eightieth Infantry, July 20, 1864; transferred to Co. G, this regiment, July 28, 1864; missing, in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church; returned from missing, April 4, 1865; mustered out with company, June 8, 1865, near Alexandria, Va. [**No pension application found**]

WOOLVERTON, GEORGE.—Age, date, place, term, mustered in as private, Co. E, not stated; **missing in action**, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **no further record**. [**NPAF**]

WORDEN, ALFRED.—Age, 20 years. Enlisted, August 27, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; captured in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died, December 30, 1864, at Salisbury, N.C. [Father applies on August 4, 1888—does not seem to have been granted]** [IN **Brown** list as Alfred Borden, died 12-31-64]

Wounded:

BENNETT, ABRAM.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, August 30, 1864, at Union, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Petersburg, Va. ; mustered out with company, June 8, 1864, near Alexandria, Va., as Benett.

BOWKER, JAMES B.—Age, 25 years. Enrolled at Big Flats, to serve three years, and mustered in as private, Co. B, March 28, 1864; as **second lieutenant**, April 22, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Pegrams Farm, Va. ; **died of his wounds, October 27, 1864**, at Armory Square Hospital, Washington, D. C. ; prior service, as second lieutenant, Co. F, Twenty-third Infantry.

Commissioned second lieutenant, June 28, 1864, with rank from April 8, 1864, original. [Widow applies on December 2, 1864]

FISHER, JOHN B.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, August 31, 1864, at Barker, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; **died of his wounds, November 3, 1864, at hospital, Beverly, N . J .** [Widow applies on August 12, 1868]

GILBERT, NATHAN W.—Age, 22 years. Enlisted, August 31, 1864, at Colesville, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va . ; mustered out with company, June 8, 1865, near Alexandria, Va . [Died April 11, 1927 at Port Crane, NY]

HIGBEE, EDWARD.—Age, 34 years. Enlisted, August 29, 1864, at Union, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va . ; mustered out with company, June 8, 1865, near Alexandria, Va . [NPAF]

JONES, NICOLL F.—Age, 28 years. Enlisted, August 30', 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; promoted, corporal, same date; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; absent, wounded, at muster-out of company; no further record. [**Died April 2, 1919 at Enfield, NY**]

LEWIS, WILLIAM.—Age, 19 years. Enlisted, September 2, 1864, at Candor, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. K, September 15, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1861, at Poplar Springs Church, Va . ; absent, wounded, at muster-out of company.

LINKLETTER, ELIHU.—Age, 18 years. Enlisted, February 29, 1864, at Hornellsville, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. A, April 5, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; discharged for wounds, December 16, 1864, at hospital, Fairfax Seminary, Va. [Died June 24, 1931 at Benzonia, MI]

McDANIELS, HIRAM.—Age, -18 years. Enlisted, August 16, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Springs Church, Va. ; mustered out May 25, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. [Appears to have died between 1866 and 1889]

OWEN, JACOB M.—Age, 18 years. Enlisted, August 20, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; died of his wounds, November 1, 1864, at Carver Hospital, Washington, D. C. [Father applies for a pension on May 28, 1891]

RUSSELL, JEROME.—Age, 18 years. Enlisted, August 16, 1864, at Newfield, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; wounded in action, September 30, 1864, at Poplar Spring Church, Va. ; discharged, December 5, 1864. Died June 17, 1913 at Enfield, NY]

Killed:

MOSHER, AARON.—Age, 35 years'. Enlisted, August 30, 1864, at Groton, to serve one year; mustered in, as private, Co. I, September 13, 1864; killed in action, September 30, 1864, at Pegrams Farm, Va. [Widow/minor apply on February 18, 1865]

**179th Regiment
Battles and Casualties
Civil War
New York**

The following is taken from *New York in the War of the Rebellion*, 3rd ed. Frederick Phisterer. Albany: J. B. Lyon Company, 1912.

PLACE.	Date.	Killed.		Wounded.				Missing.		Aggregate.
		Officers.	Enlisted men.	Died.		Recov'd.		Officers.	Enlisted men.	
				Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.			
Cold Harbor, Va.....	1864. June 11-12									
Before Petersburg, Va.....	June 16- April 2,									
Assault of Petersburg, Va.....	1865 June 16-19		2		6		51	1	2	62
Mine Explosion, Va.....	July 30	2	20	1	10	3	57		10	91
Weldon Road, Va.....	Aug. 18-21				2	1	16		26	56
Poplar Spring Church, Va.....	Sept. 29- Oct. 2								4	4
Hatcher's Run, Va.....	Oct. 27-28		8	1	3		20		26	58
Fort Stedman, Va.....	1865. March 25									
Appomattox Campaign, Va.....	March 28- April 8									
Fall of Petersburg.....	April 2		9	1	9	8	25		8	60
Total loss.....		4	36	3	30	12	170	1	77	333

“First to detect the danger was the 179th New York, whose position down the slope of the ravine of the lower fork enabled it to see under the foliage, which blocked the view eastward of most of the second line. Spotting the legs of an onrushing battle line greatly disquieted the New Yorkers---all the more so because most of the regiment was unarmed. As soon as they came under fire, one of their number cried out, “Let’s get out of here!” His comrades harkened to his call, and the whole outfit abandoned their stacked knapsacks and fled southward without resisting.”

Sommers, Richard J., Richmond Redeemed, The Siege at Petersburg (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1981, Page 282. He quotes from a letter written from William Lamont to his sister on October 2, 1864, Lamont Papers, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

LAMONT, WILLIAM.—Age, 22 years. Enlisted at Dryden, to serve one year; mustered in as private, Co. B, September 3, 1864; mustered out, June 20, 1865, at Washington, D. C.[Died July 14, 1888 at Jackson, MN]

Some observations:

Note: No wounded seem to have been taken prisoner....This also occurred with the 170th NY soldiers captured at Ream’s Station, August 25. Thousands had been taken prisoner there and at Weldon Rail Road earlier that month. Since Andersonville Prison was busy worrying about General Sherman’s possible arrival, the Yankees captured around Richmond in August and September primarily went to Salisbury, NC. The 179th men listed here had the misfortune of arriving late at Salisbury after the crowds preceding them but not so much later that they might have benefitted by having to endure one month or six weeks less of winter exposure and starvation. That is, these were healthy men, not worn by long service, who died within six months for the most part.

Of those 15 wounded or captured from Company K, many of the soldiers had been in service barely over two weeks and all had enlisted for only one year. Company I statistics are not much better---12 men wounded or captured. It seems almost criminal to put men into battle after two or three weeks in service... Especially bad when most are unarmed.

The number of missing in action (9 of the 34 names here) about matches the number who survived captivity (9 or 10 men). In my experience, “ Missing in action” combined with “No further record” usually means men who were left behind on the field of battle, killed or dying of wounds. Not always, but usually. That is to imply that those captured are generally known after time and well-documented.

At Salisbury Prison, 10 men died between December and April, while 2 died in hospitals after exchange and 3 survived to make it to their homes only to die there shortly thereafter. Six months at Salisbury, in the Winter of 1864-65, was deadlier than any battle. Only James Williams, listed as missing/returned April 14, 1865, got the privilege to muster out with his company on June 8 near Alexandria, VA. Viewed

in this way, “the battle of Salisbury” produced a casualty rate approaching 100%. The death rate was very close to 60%.

*****Compiled by Ed Worman from NYSAG report and additional pension info available at www.footnote.com. And Louis Brown list of New Yorkers who died at Salisbury. All comments, corrections, and additions are welcome. ednamrow@yahoo.com

Last revised on December 10, 2014