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Hartland and the Civil War

An address by Claire Prechtel-Kluskens
at the Hartland Music Hall, Hartland, Livingston County, Michigan,
Sunday, May 29, 2005

Good Evening. I want to thank the Hartland Area Historical Society, the Hartland Area Community Council, Hartland Township, and The Farmstead Bed & Breakfast for their generous support of Hartland's history and heritage, and especially for their support of this lecture.

It is very exciting but also very humbling to stand here before you. When I look out at you I am know I am standing before an audience of experts on Hartland's history. You know the people, the buildings, the farms, the legends and stories of your community. You live Hartland's modern history every day.

One of the blessings of history—which is also a curse—is that there are so many stories to tell. And there are so many ways to tell each story. What I have chosen to do—and hope to succeed at—is to step back in time to look at your community through the eyes of one of its old 19th century residents.



Photo Courtesy of Dean Johnson

William M. Hayford

Dr. William McCullar Hayford came to Hartland, Michigan, in 1852, and remained until he died in 1899. His widow Mary, his third wife, remained until her death in 1923. In case you were wondering, Dr. Hayford was the elder brother of my great-great-grandfather, James Tackels Hayford, who stayed in Ohio.

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In order to know Dr. Hayford, I think you should meet his family first. The earliest Hayford ancestors were English and lived in Massachusetts from the 1600s to the 1780s. After the Revolutionary War, his grandfather and two great-grandfathers moved the family to Salem, Washington County, New York, and the Hayfords remained in upstate New York for 50 years until 1833.

Dr. Hayford's father, James Hayford, named both his sons for ancestors who had served in the Revolutionary War. There was a reason for this. The 1820's when his sons were born was a time of renewed interest in the Revolutionary War—this was the time of the 50th anniversary of the Revolution. It was a time when interest in American history was beginning, really for the first time.

Our subject, William McCullar Hayford, was named for his maternal grandfather William McCullar, who served 5 years during the American Revolution, and later became a Baptist minister. When William Hayford was 5 (the year was 1831) change came to his life. First, his grandfather died. Then, just two months later, his mother died. That left Dr. Hayford's father with a 5-year old and a 3-year old to care for. Within a year, his father remarried. Now William had a stepmother with the improbable but true name of Chloe Waste.

When William was 7 (the year was 1833) there was even more change in young William's life. After 50 years—4 generations—in the same place, his father and grandfather sold the family farm and moved to Geauga County, Ohio, near Cleveland. Settlement had been ongoing for 30 years, so it wasn't wilderness, but there was still plenty of good productive land available, and, in fact, the new Hayford family farm would be kept in the family for 50 years when the fourth generation was unwilling—or unable—to carry on.

So although young William grew up on a farm he must have shown greater aptitude or interest in academic matters. You began your learning in the local one-room schoolhouse. After that you and your family had to pay for further education in some kind of a private academy which could be considered a high school or even a college. Then you were ready for medical school.

Getting a medical education was a lot different in those days. You could do it two ways, or a combination of both ways. You could attend a course of study at a medical school. Medical school consisted of one year of study, normally beginning in the fall and ending the following spring. In other words, about 8 months long. Or, you could apprentice yourself to a doctor for perhaps \$100 per year for one or two or three years. There were pros and cons to both approaches. The medical school curriculum was supposedly a comprehensive study of the subjects involved, but had very little hands-on, clinical experience. The apprenticeship system had a less comprehensive and perhaps even haphazard approach to study, but greater clinical experience.

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William attended the Western Reserve Teachers Academy in neighboring Kirtland, Ohio, in 1846-47; and then Grand River Institute in Austinburg, Ohio, in 1847. Then he went to the Western Reserve College in Hudson, Ohio, in 1848-50, where he was considered a “medical student” under the preceptorship of Dr. Lyman. All of that was preparatory work for going to a real medical school. He next went to the “big city” of Cleveland, Ohio, to attend the Cleveland Medical College from the fall of 1851 to the spring of 1852.

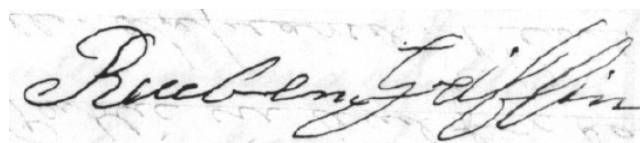
Now, in 1852, William was 26 years old. He had finished his medical education. William arrived in Hartland and began the practice of medicine. He was here on July 11, 1852, when he first became acquainted with John Wesly Andrews, who he saw frequently as his neighbor. In 1859, he lived in the house on Mill St. which is directly opposite George St. In 1862, he purchased four lots on Avon St. at the corner of Phelps. This picture is his house many years later when it was the Lemen Hotel.



Photo Courtesy of HARTLAND AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In the 1850s the national drumbeat of abolitionism led inevitably to the Civil War. War changed everything for families whose husbands, sons, brothers, went off to war.

Some soldiers died. Others returned with varying levels of chronic sickness. The sickest and poorest had the worst time of it. Chronic diarrhea was often the worst complaint. If you felt miserable and had to stay close to the outhouse, you couldn't get much work done.



Let me share with you the story of Reuben Griffin. He and his wife and children moved to Hartland from Washington County, New York, in 1860, but only stayed in Hartland until 1864 when they moved to Vernon in Shiawassee County. He returned from the war a sick and broken man from lung ailments as well as the chronic diarrhea. He was unable to support his family. His wife and children had to help.

Here are Reuben Griffin's own words:

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My wife took in sewing and when I was not down to the bed would go out sewing and take care of the sick and do all she could to keep our little ones together. She bought all our bread for over three years and corn for bread at that, at \$1.00-\$1.25 per bushel. We could not get wheat, it was too high and in that way she managed to keep the wolf from the door. We have eaten bran bread and have made out to keep our family together until they were old enough to care for themselves. Our oldest daughter helped us some. I remember of her working and buying corn for us. Our oldest son from the time he was 13 years until he was 24 gave all his wages to me.

Reuben Griffin's children shared in the deprivation of the household; only 3 of his 7 children lived a long life. Other health complaints endured by Civil War veterans included various problems brought about by exposure to the elements. Lack of heavy coats and living in mere tents caused a lot of "chills", pneumonia, and so forth, that resulted in weakened lungs, and overall debility.

In addition, doctors treated the normal civilian complaints. Fevers, tuberculosis, dysentery, inflammation of various body parts, typhoid, stroke (apoplexy), heart disease, and various childhood complaints that we don't worry about anymore due to childhood vaccinations. These were the kinds of things physicians had to deal with on the basis of poor overall medical knowledge of the body and disease. Medicines were more often than not little better than hocus pocus.

Let's meet a few of the physicians of Hartland and then after that we'll go with Dr. Hayford as he makes his rounds through the township.¹

Wells. B. Fox M.D.



Photo Courtesy of HARTLAND AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
This house, owned by Wells B. Fox in 1861, was the birthplace of John Robert Crouse, Sr. in 1874, and was purchased by Dr. John J. Boyd in 1892.

Dr. Wells B. Fox was the most well-known of Hartland's physicians, both within Livingston County, and beyond. Fox came to Parshallville in 1852. When the Civil War broke out he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the 22nd Michigan Infantry, In June 1863 he was promoted to Surgeon of the 8th Michigan Infantry. Fox was there in April or May of 1864 when General Grant reviewed the 9th Army Corp near Annapolis, Maryland. All the regiments were lined up in their

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proper places. As General Grant's party passed by 8th Michigan Infantry, one of the horses in Grant's party became unmanageable. Perhaps it was excited by the martial music played by the regimental band. So the horse plunged through the line, struck Wells B. Fox, threw him several yards, and caused some injury to his spine. Fox stayed in Parshallville about 18 months after the war, and afterwards spent most of his life in Bancroft, Shiawassee County. Robert W. Griswold, a young soldier of the war, lived in Dr. Fox's house the last few months of 1865. The Pension Office's special examiner, J. G. Evans, commented that Dr. Fox had made "some bitter enemies and many warm friends" in Bancroft. "In his day," Evans said, Fox had "been a physician & surgeon of more than ordinary skill, and his professional standing is good." The worst thing people had to say is that sometimes Dr. Fox drank too much. Dr. Fox was Dr. Hayford's partner for a little while after the war, and may have been his partner before the war.

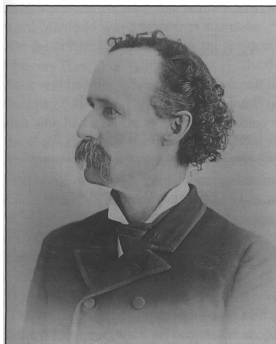


Photo Courtesy of HARTLAND AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Dr. John J. Boyd moved to Hartland in 1877.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John J. Boyd M.D." on a piece of aged, slightly textured paper.

Dr. John J. Boyd came to Hartland in 1877 and stayed until after 1900. In 1892 he purchased the house Wells B. Fox owned before the war on Avon at northeast corner of Maple.

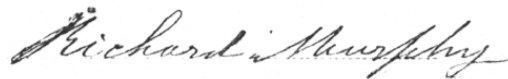


Photo Courtesy of Dean Johnson

Dr Orson W. Tock was Dr. Hayford's partner from about 1870 to 1876. Dr. Tock served in Company H, 22nd Michigan Infantry. One time during the war, it was May and June of 1864, he came home to his father's house on a furlough. He had a very bad cough. He grew rapidly worse and was confined to his bed. He received a 30 day extension of his furlough due to his illness, but he was still sick when he went back. After the war's end his lungs were still badly affected

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with inflammation and he also had rheumatism. Although he only lived in Hartland during the 1870s, it was an important time in Dr. Tock's life. He married Ella M. Crouse in Hartland on February 27, 1872.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Murphy". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Dr. Richard Murphy was Dr. Hayford's partner from about 1875 to 1877. Murphy graduated from the Michigan Medical College at Ann Arbor in 1875. After a couple years in Hartland he moved to Milford, Oakland County.

Now, finally, **Dr. Hayford**. What kind of a man was he? Postmaster Zabina E. Chambers, who happened to be his next door neighbor, called him "a physician of long standing." The physicians of this county were confident enough of Dr. Hayford's abilities that he was elected president of the Livingston County Medical Association in 1880. In 1888, Pension Office Special Examiner R. P. Fletcher in the case of Gideon Martin, said that "Dr. Hayford is not mentally as bright as Dr. Fox but from his long medical experience he is fairly well informed medically and undoubtedly honest...." On the other hand, just a few years earlier, in 1884, Pension Office Special Examiner Bert M. Stoddard felt Hayford's testimony in the case of John Andrews was "almost entirely worthless." Stoddard said that Dr. Hayford's general reputation was good but is old and [his] memory seems entirely gone." There is an explanation for that.

In those days, the business of medicine was also much different from today. Medical record keeping was related to who owed the doctor, and how much, not a record of what the patient's medical condition was. Also, medical partnerships were, perhaps, a bit more fluid and changing. Dr. Hayford said that from 1864 to 1876 he had three different partners. At the end of the third partnership (that was with Dr. Tock) the record books were given to Tock to try to collect what was owed them both. For that reason, Hayford often had no records of the dates on which he treated specific patients.

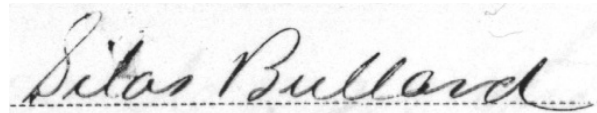
Patients did get second opinions in those days, just as today. Sometimes, the family would call in another doctor. Sometimes the family physician would call in another doctor for a consultation. Dr. J. G. Lindsley of Milford, Michigan, was a doctor who attended John W. Andrews "in consultation two or three times with Dr. Hayford."

Let's go with Dr. Hayford as he makes his rounds through the township. In those days, doctors did make house calls.¹ Since tomorrow is Memorial Day we'll focus on the effects the war had on these veterans and their families.

John J. Bradley was in Company E, 26th Michigan Infantry. John J. Bradley met the enemy without ever leaving Michigan. The enemy was not the Confederates, but the weather. In October 1862, Bradley was standing guard at Jackson, Michigan, during a severe rainstorm. He got wet and caught a severe cold that resulted in rheumatism and bronchitis. He was given two

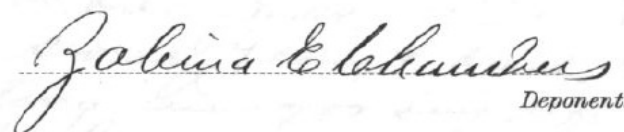
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30 day furloughs on account of his sickness. When he reported back to duty he was put in the military hospital in Detroit and kept there until April 1863 when he was discharged from service. So he was sick the entire 7 months he was in the army.

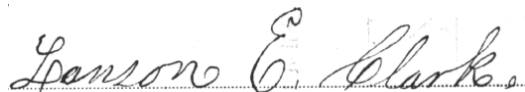
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Silas Bullard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Silas Bullard was a shoemaker. He learned his trade in Pontiac, Michigan from 1857 to 1860, then he went to Owosso, Michigan until 1862, when he enlisted in Co. I of the 4th Michigan Cavalry. In September of 1865, he came to Hartland and stayed for three years before moving to Milford, Michigan. During the war, his left shoulder was injured when his horse fell on him. Twenty years later, he told the Pension Office that the muscles in that shoulder and arm were shrinking, they were weak. "I am not a half a man at my trade. Very light work only I can do. My arm and shoulder is weak and tires, the strength leaving it whenever the least strain comes on it."

Pheroras P. Chambers was in Co. I, 3rd Michigan Cavalry. What a name he has. He was in Hartland from about 1857 to 1865, when he moved to Antrim in Shiawassee County. He was a carpenter. Like many others, he went into the war a "sound man" and came back able to do one-fourth of a day's work, if that. Dr. Hayford said that Pheroras P. Chambers arrived home from the army "a living skeleton." His weight had dropped from 167 pounds to 109 pounds and wasn't able to do any work at all for two years.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Zabina Chambers". Below the signature, the word "Deponent." is printed in a small, serif font.

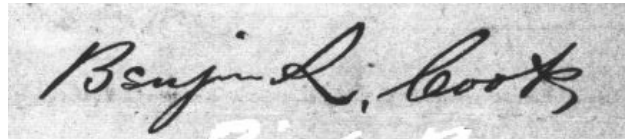
Zabina Chambers, who was Hartland's postmaster from 1881 to 1885, was a cousin of Pheroras P. Chambers and Dr. Hayford's next door neighbor. Zabina was a merchant, as his father had been. His father had often employed John W. Andrews to chop wood and do other work. John Wesley Andrews was "one of the strongest and best men for labor" but he, too, came back from the war—much emaciated and suffering from diarrhea. Chambers sold him cough medicines a few times in 1867 and 1868, according to his records.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lanson E. Clark". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Lanson E. Clark was in Co. E, 26th Michigan Infantry. He suffered a gunshot wound to the right side of his head which, the physicians thought, fractured his skull and caused compression of the brain. He suffered daily convulsions or spasms and had to be watched and cared for constantly by others day and night. Twice he fell upon the stove and was severely burned. After what one would think were 24 miserable years for himself and his family, he finally died in 1889.

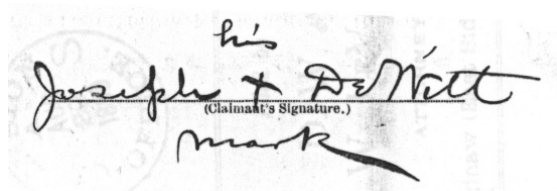
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Despite his problems, however, when he died in 1889 he left behind his wife and a two year old and a five year old child.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin L. Cook". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.

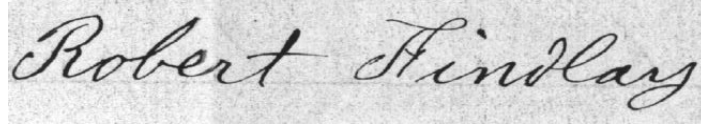
Benjamin L. Cook was in Company D, 16th Michigan Infantry. He enlisted March 30, 1865, and caught up with his regiment near Burksville, Virginia. This is about 3 weeks before Lee's surrender. About the beginning of May, while marching to Washington, he became sick and was unable to march any more. He was taken to a hospital and was so sick and delirious he did not know where he was. When he was discharged from the army on June 22, 1865, he could walk with a cane. Dr. Hayford was called to see him as soon as he came home from the army. He had an attack of typhoid fever and it got worse after he came home. He wasn't able to do anything for five or six months, and he ended up with lameness in his back. From then on, to the rest of his life, too much physical effort would cause him to have relapses. You know, feel good one day, and then do too much work, and wham, you can't get out of bed and your wife has to do all the chores on the farm. With the rheumatism and severe pain in his back he was hunched over, he said it was impossible to straighten up. He lived in Hartland until 1881 and then he moved to Birch Run in Saginaw County.

William H. Cox was in Company E, 22nd Michigan Infantry. At the battle of Kennesaw Mountain, he was hit with a shell fragment on the right side of his head, which fractured the skull, and compressed or pushed down on the brain. He had frequent spasms. He would suddenly fall without any warning and then remain unconscious several minutes. His memory and reasoning ability were impaired. In other words, dementia. So he had to be under the constant care and watch of another adult. Since he never married, his sister, Mary Ann Stedman, the wife of F. A. Stedman had to care for him. The Stedman's lived on Mill Street across from Dr. Hayford. He was also a native of Ireland, coming from County Wexford.

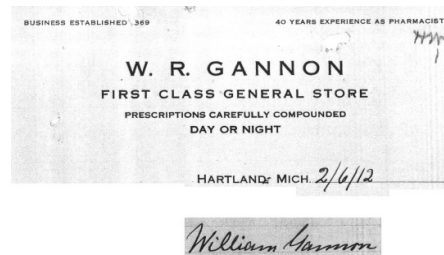
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph DeWitt". Above the signature is the word "his" and below it is the word "mark". In the center, below the signature, is the text "(Claimant's Signature.)". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Joseph DeWitt served in several infantry units, including Co. K, 9th Michigan Infantry and in the 11th U.S. Infantry. During the war, he lost the index finger on his right hand due to a gunshot. In the opinion of Dr. John J. Boyd, the lost finger caused the rest of the hand "nearly useless in performing different kinds of labor." His neighbors included Primrose W. Grubb and R. T. Kirk.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Findley". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

Robert Findley was in Co. E, 26th Michigan Infantry. Government records listed him as a deserter, so he was never able to collect a pension. In 1902, Findley claimed there was a legitimate reason he left service and never returned and this is it: The 26th Michigan Infantry was called to New York City to put down the draft riots in that city in 1863. Afterwards, at another town, "an unruly man" came into camp and Findley's sergeant asked Findley for help to get him out, and they did. But in the process the unruly man struck Findley with "steel knuckles" and he "bled at the lungs" for months. The military doctor offered to give him a discharge but Findley refused because he thought he would get better. So Findley claimed the doctor told him to "go home" so Findley went to Detroit for over two years. "Fatal mistake" Findley regretfully commented, if he had accepted the discharge he could have drawn a pension ever since.



William R. Gannon was born in County Kilkenny Ireland, in 1837 but became a longtime resident of Hartland. He owned a "First Class General Store" in which prescriptions were carefully compounded day or night, according to his store letterhead. During the winter of 1895 he was supposed to report to Howell for his annual physical examination by a physician selected by the pension office. The winter weather made it impossible for him to make his original appointment. The 12 mile trip isn't hard for you in your cars and SUVs on well-paved roads, so don't complain and remember that just a hundred years ago, things were much different. Let William Gannon tell you in his own words from February 1895:

Our Country roads is Impassable and is not Travled mutch in winter tim the Snow
Blow the roads full from each side and not been able to undertake the Journey of
12 miles... [to Howell]

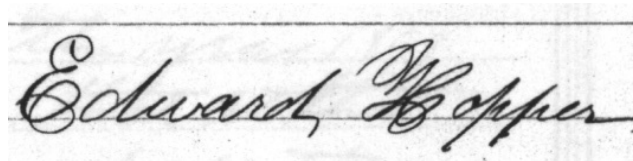
Gannon had enlisted in the Regular Army; he was in Company D, 10th U.S. Infantry. He was stationed out at Fort Kearney, Nebraska, when a building caught on fire. While he was helping to extinguish the fire he fell off the roof onto his back. That caused him a great deal of difficulty for years afterwards.

There were four families that gave several men to the war.

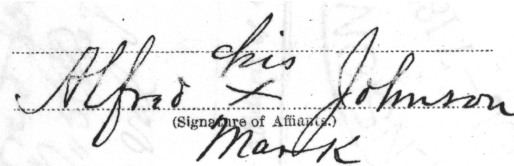
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The **Graham** family gave three men to the war. There was John Graham, Robert Graham, and Thomas Graham.

The **Griswold** family gave five men to the Civil War. There was Elisha Griswold, Frederick S. Griswold, George Griswold, McDowell Griswold, and Robert W. Griswold. To make the family tree more complicated, George Griswold of Hartland married Nancy Griswold of Oceola.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Hopper". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

Edward Hopper lived in Hartland from about 1860 to 1873 when he moved to Tyrone and then later in 1875 to Chisaning in Saginaw County. Hopper was in Company D, 16th Michigan Infantry. In May 1865, after the war's end, Hopper was marching with his regiment from Richmond to Washington, DC, in the dark. They were marching in the dark over a corduroy road. You know what corduroy cloth is. Well, a corduroy road is a road made of logs laid down into the dirt. Bumpy, just like corduroy pants. Well, the logs had been badly broken up by heavy wagon trains riding over them and Hopper, marching in the dark, fell into a hole in the road and struck one of his hips. Being young, he didn't think he had hurt himself and kept on going with his regiment. Well, whatever he had done to his hip, it kept on getting worse, and more and more painful. Hopper was a farmer. At one time, he owned a share in a grain thresher and made contracts with other farmers for threshing their grain, collecting from those farmers for whom the work done. He was able to keep the belts in order, but due to his hip injury he was not able to actually run the machine himself.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alfred Johnson". Below the signature, there is a small, faint stamp that says "(Signed as of Affiant)".

Alfred Johnson lived in Hartland from the 1870s to the 1890s. In 1865, after returning from the war, Alfred Johnson hired himself out to Burrill Curtis of Genoa Township. Johnson had such a terrible cough that he had to sleep in a different room than the other hired man, whose name was Lorin Herrington. Johnson had such a bad cough he had to stop working after 6 or 7 weeks. The cough was so bad that Herrington thought Johnson would "die very soon" but the prediction proved wrong. Johnson lived for many years afterwards.

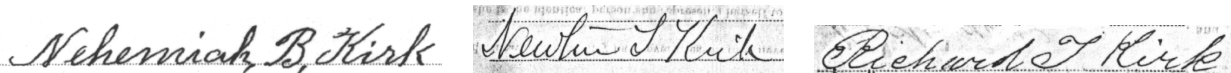
Edward W. Johnson went to California in 1852, leaving his wife and children in Livingston County to support themselves as best they could. Edward W. Johnson was last seen in California in 1858, and never returned home. His son, Warren E. Johnson enlisted in Company I, 6th Michigan Cavalry and died of a gunshot wound while on picket duty at Seneca Creek Maryland in

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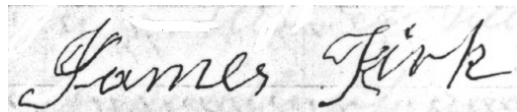
June 1863. Warren supported his mother, sending her \$10 per month of his army wages, according to affidavits by Lovil C. Chambers and James Cimmer.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Kesler". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

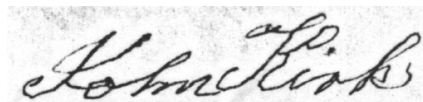
Peter Kesler was a blacksmith who had two sons and two daughters. Peter Kesler was said to be quite poor and he was nearly blind due to granulated eyelids. Peter Kesler's son Willard H. Kesler was an industrious young man who contributed to his family's support. Young Willard Kesler served in the war two years before dying at Fentonville of inflammation of the lungs brought about by his military service.

Three handwritten signatures in cursive script are shown side-by-side. From left to right, they read "Nehemiah B. Kirk", "Newton T. Kirk", and "Richard T. Kirk". Each signature is written on a separate line of paper.

The **Kirk families** gave four men to the war. There was James C. Kirk, Nehemiah B. Kirk, Newton T. Kirk, and Richard T. Kirk.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Kirk". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

James Kirk was in two different New York Infantry regiments, and lived in Brooklyn, NY, after the war. He came to Hartland in 1875. He was troubled with a very bad ankle on his right leg, which was caused by a shell wound received at the Battle of Malvern Hill. Since 1875 or before he had been troubled with diseased eyes so that by 1887 he was nearly blind so he could not see to read or get around after dark without help.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Kirk". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

John Kirk of Hartland was his brother, and there is a memorial stained glass window with John Kirk's name in the Hartland United Methodist Church.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nehemiah B. Kirk". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

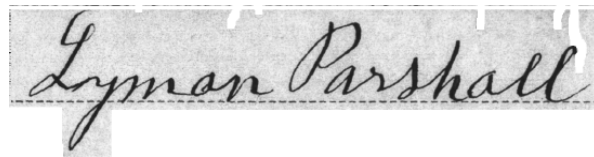
Nehemiah B. Kirk lived in Hartland until 1870 and then later in Howell. About 1885 he fell from an apple tree and hit his head. He had a good deal of headache ever afterwards. In 1890 he accidentally cut his right foot with an axe. In 1894 the pension office's examining board at Howell considered Kirk to be poorly nourished, but of sound mind and general intelligence.

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Orley D. Knapp was in Co. H, 5th Michigan Cavalry. He was killed in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in September 1864, and his comrades buried him on the battlefield. Orley left two young children at his death. In those days midwives and other womenfolk of the family often still took care of all aspects of the birthing process. Sometimes physicians were called, however, and Dr. Hayford was present at the birth of Floyd E. Knapp on January 2, 1860.

William J. May lived in Hartland before 1864. Robert W. Griswold recalled many years later, in 1894, that May was the blacksmith for in the 1st Michigan Light Artillery. Griswold said that May was a “hard working man and shod a good many horses for our Battery and don his work extry good.”

The **Parshall** family gave four men to the war: Asa Parshall, Chancy Parshall, Lyman Parshall, and Richard E. Parshall.

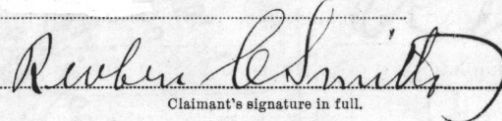
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyman Parshall". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background that appears to be a piece of paper or a card. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent 'L' at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail on the 'l' at the end.

Lyman Parshall was in Co. D, 19th New York Cavalry. He came out of the war with several chronic problems. Hugh Cullin, who owned a store in Hartland, said that Lyman Parshall frequently called at Cullin's store and bought patent medicine for back pain and stomach pain. In 1886, Cullin lived near from Parshall recalled that during the winter of 1883-84 Lyman Parshall was so sick he had to stop working. A. D. Hildebrant was employed in a Drug Store, probably Cullin's store, from April 1883 to April 1887, and Hildebrant likewise remembered Parshall frequently buying medicines for his aches and pains.

John O. Rossetter was in Company I, 9th Michigan Infantry. After his 3 years of service he came home with the usual chronic diarrhea as well as heart disease. He died in 1887. For many years it was unsafe to leave him alone or a moment. Any excitement or walking quickly would cause him to fall down as if he were dead. Then his heart would beat very hard and then seem to stop beating entirely before the spell would pass. After he came home from the war he slept sitting up in bed. The night he died he woke up at 3 a.m. He complained to his wife that the room was warm. He gasped. His wife lit the lamp—they had kerosene lamps in those days—and found him dead.

Addison D. Skinner was in Company E of the 8th Michigan Infantry. He was married in 1852 and had six children. The births of the first four children to his wife Minerva were attended by different women as nurse-midwives: Typhronia Skinner, Mrs. Perkins, Grace S. Stevens and Lucinda Myers. The birth of the fifth child was attended by Dr. Wells B. Fox, and that child, a boy was apparently named Wells A. Skinner for him. The birth of the sixth child, a girl, was attended by Dr. Hayford.

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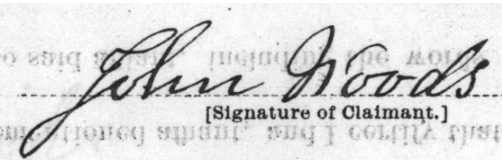
Claimant's signature in full.

Reuben C. Smith was born in Hartland on November 13, 1843, the son of Charles and Susan Ann Smith. He first married Eliza A. Harrison and after they were divorced, he married another divorcee, Alice Caster Sergeant, former wife of Jerome Sergeant. Reuben Smith was in Company I of the 22nd Michigan Infantry from 1862 until 1865. He was taken prisoner at Chickamauga, Georgia, September 20, 1863, and remained a prisoner until 1865. Smith came back from the war with inflammatory rheumatism, which “laid him up” about 3 months and required treatment occasionally from Dr. Hayford and Dr. Boyd until Smith moved in 1881 from Hartland to Holly, Oakland County, Michigan. John Grierson remembered that he knew Reuben Smith since 1859. Grierson’s father was a blacksmith with a shop near Milford in Oakland County, and Reuben Smith’s father used to bring his horses to Mr. Grierson’s shop to have them shod as well as to have other blacksmithing work done.



A tragic story—one of many tragic stories—is that of **Martin Van Buren Stewart** (or Stewart as it is sometimes given). Martin Van Buren Stewart married Harriet Elizabeth Pittenger in August 1859, and they had a daughter, Helen Medora Stewart, born the following June. Just over a year later, in October 1861, he enlisted in Company I of the 3rd Michigan Cavalry. He was killed in action near Corinth, Mississippi, in September 1862. His widow died just two years later, leaving their 3 1/2 year old daughter to be raised by grandparents, Samuel and Mary Pittenger, who lived on Phelps Street across from Dr. Hayford.

Philip Welsh or Welch or Walsh was also from County Kilkenny, Ireland. The name is given all three ways. He married his wife Julia in 1832 in the County of Kilkenny. Philip had a short and tragic tour of military duty. He never even left Michigan. Philip was an old enlistee—age 43—when he entered the service in 1864. He was said to be healthy when he was mustered in on January 21, 1864. Just like John J. Bradley who we met awhile ago, the only military duty that Philip Welsh saw was at the military post at Grand Rapids. After being there only 9 days he was sick enough to be admitted to the hospital with inflammation of the lungs. He died just two weeks later on February 13, 1864.



[Signature of Claimant.]

John Woods was another young man who came back very weak. Jerome Bussey said that John Woods “was fetched out of the Hospital of Detroit by his Folks in September 1865 and he was a very sick man when he got Home. He was a perfect wreck. I did not think he could live a week.”

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Bussey lived near him the first two years after the war. Brothers Major H. Lemen and George W. Lemen related that John Woods had worked on their father's farm before the war, and worked for Major H. Lemen during 1881. William Flaherty in 1892 said that he worked with Cal Maxfield who kept the hotel in Hartland. John Woods worked for Maxfield for \$5 a month, and when Flaherty asked Woods why he worked so cheap, Woods told him it was due to his medical problems. (catarrh)

Now your visit to some of your neighbors in long ago Hartland is coming to an end. No matter how good the medical knowledge or treatment, there comes a final end, and it is time to go pay our respects to them. In those days the funeral home had not yet been invented. Funerals were done from the home. My own grandmother died in 1932 the day after Christmas, and when her cousins came to take down the Christmas tree, my mother, who was just 11, didn't understand why. The Christmas tree had to go so the casket could come into the home. My grandfather Tom Ives later said that taking the funeral out of the home was one of the best ideas people had come up with. In case you were wondering what funerals cost long ago, I have a few figures for you (not including the gravestone):

The 1915 burial of Julia E. Beebe cost \$138. The casket was the biggest expense at \$75. The 1921 funeral of Elmer E. Murdock cost \$157 of which \$75 was for the casket. The 1924 funeral of Lucius Cleveland cost \$211 of which \$125 was for the casket. The 1925 funeral for John Woods cost \$185 for the burial casket, embalming, motor hearse, and other services.

And now, now it is time to go pay our respects to the veterans of Hartland, and also to remember all those men and women of long ago Hartland who paved the way for you today. Each one of them is a thread in the tapestry of Hartland's history. Your history. I hope that these few remarks have taken you back in time. Thank you for your kind attention and invitation to be here today.

ENDNOTES

1. Some of the Hartland soldiers or families mentioned herein were patients of Dr. Hayford; others may not have been.