

Our grandmother was Irene Mary Wrightstone, who married Edwin Charles Klinger. Irene's Wrightstone grandparents were Michael Wrightstone and his wife Eliza Kline. Michael was the son of John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart.

Irene was born in 1905, so it's unlikely she would have remembered Michael Wrightstone or his wife Eliza Kline.

John Wrightstone (1791 – 1856)

John Wrightstone was born 1791¹ in Pennsylvania to Jacob and Elizabeth Wrightstone. About 1820, John married Margaret Hart,² who was born about 1800 in Pennsylvania to Michael and Barbara Hart.

- Michael Hart was born about 1778 in York County Pennsylvania, and died on September 12th 1811 in York County Pennsylvania. Michael Hart's parents were Jacob Hart born about 1720 in Germany, and died about 1811 in York County Pennsylvania. Jacob married Catherine Landis.³

John was a farmer and laborer, who owned his own homes and other lands. Around 1820 John and Margaret lived in Fairview Township York County. Prior to 1840 the family moved to Newberry Township York County.

By 1844 the family moved to Conewago Township York County where Margaret died sometime between August 4th 1845 and January 15th 1846.⁴

John then married Leah,⁵ who may have been previously married to Joseph Sipe (Seip),⁶ who died about 1848.

- Based on research, this Leah is either Leah Sipe who after her husband Joseph Sipe died, married John, or Leah is the sister of John Wrightstone, who married Joseph Sipe.⁷ Sister or wife of Joseph, this Leah would have been born circa 1801, and we cannot locate her after 1860. A number of children show up on the 1850 and 1860 census record who I believe are children belonging to Leah and her first husband Joseph Sipe.⁸

There were civil charges of assault and battery brought against John, which happened after Margaret died.

- "...1851 November Court Session - County vs. John Wrightstone – Indictment assault and battery – true bill fined November 21st 1851. Tuesday defendant & Francis Werly as security \$200 for appearances of defendants at January Session 1/5/52 to answerJohn Baker, Wm Eichiltz, Susanna Seip – Tuesday November 4th 1851 – Each in \$100.00..." "... 1852 January Court Session - Tried January 8th 1852. The attached January 1852 Court Docket for the 8th shows Conewago, John Wrightstone..."⁹

Since 1821 Margaret and John were having children about every two years. The one exception is between when Samuel Wrightstone was born in 1838 and Margaret in 1843. From what I can tell Margaret was the last child born to John and Margaret, and Margaret may have died resulting from giving birth to another child in 1846.

When John died in 1856, his estate record indicated: "...decedent left a widow and eight children..." meaning those children still living in 1856. Using census records, we believe John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart had the following children. ¹⁰

- i. Elizabeth Wrightstone was born about 1821 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart in Fairview Township York County Pennsylvania. She married George Witmer (Whitmore or Witmyer) on September 26th 1844. ¹¹ Elizabeth was named after her father's mother or for her mother, ¹² and she died about 1874, near or after her son Ephraim Witmer was born.
- ii. Unknown male child in the 1830 census who was born between 1820 and 1825 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. I cannot locate another male Wrightstone, that isn't already accounted for. This child may have died prior to 1840.
- iii. Michael Wrightstone was born on October 3rd 1825 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. He married Eliza Jane Kline ¹³
- iv. Sarah Ann Wrightstone ¹⁴ was born August 30th 1827 ¹⁵ to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. In 1850 Sara Ann Richstone, age 23, lived in the household of John Becker, Conewago Township York County Pennsylvania. ¹⁶

Sarah Rightstone married Daniel S. Strine on August 18th 1853 in Conewago Township York County PA by F. Shetter J.P. ¹⁷ Daniel was born May 4th 1833 to John Strine and Catharine Schultz in Strinestown, York County Pennsylvania. ¹⁸

Daniel and Sarah lived in the Manchester area of York County. Daniel died February 12th 1886, and Sarah died December 1st 1909. They were both laid to rest in the Manchester Union Cemetery in Manchester York County Pennsylvania. ¹⁹

- v. John Wrightstone was born September 19th 1830 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. He married Eliza Wire. ²⁰ Elizabeth Wire is a family member of John's younger sister Barbara Ann, who married John F. Wire.
- vi. Unknown male child was listed in the 1840 census record for Newberry Township, who would have been born between 1830 and 1835; most likely about 1832 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. This child may have died before 1850 census record.
- vii. Jane Wrightstone was born 1835 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. Jane may have married John M. Wilt of Conewago Twp. These names appeared on the Estate records of John Wrightstone; John M. Wilt of Conewago Township, Joseph McCreary of Newberry Twp, John W. Witmer Esq. of York, Elijah Ganetson and Israel Garetson both of Spring Garden Twp.
- viii. Samuel Wrightstone ²¹ was born 1841 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. Samuel died of dysentery on August 29th 1864 at the Andersonville Prison. ²²
- ix. Margaret Ellen Wrightstone was born about 1843-44 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. In 1860 she was 17 years old working as a servant maid in the home of Squire George Bowers, age 73, and Eve Bowers age 67, Strinestown, Conewago Twp. York County Pennsylvania. ²³

- x. Barbara Ann Wrightstone was born May 27th 1849²⁴ John Wrightstone and Leah Sipe in Conewago Township York County Pennsylvania. When Barbara was 19 years old, she married 21 year old John F. Wire (Weir) on September 6th 1868 in Strinestown Conewago Township York County Pennsylvania.²⁵

John was born June 15th 1846 to David Wire and Elizabeth Fink, most likely in the Strinestown area of Conewago Township York County Pennsylvania. Before the start of the Civil war John stood at 5' 4" tall with black hair and brown eyes. He worked as a laborer in and around the Strinestown area.

On August 18th 1864, John Wire enlisted into federal service in Harrisburg Pennsylvania. On August 23rd in Harrisburg, he mustered in as a private with Co. B, 200th Pennsylvania Infantry. John was honorably discharged with his company May 3th 1865. At this time he moved to Lisburn in Fairview Township Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. It was here that he and Barbara would raise their family and live out their lives.²⁶

We aren't certain when Barbara died, but John died December 27th 1909 while living in Lisburn Fairview Township York County Pennsylvania. They were both laid to rest in the Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Cedar Point York County Pennsylvania.²⁷

John and Barbara had five children.

- a. Frank G. Wire was born October 10th 1868
- b. Charles Eli Wire was born October 18th 1870
- c. Elizabeth Ann "Lizzie" Wire was born October 16th 1872
- d. David F. Wire was born May 6th 1875
- e. Leroy Wire was born December 31st 1885.

Samuel Wrightstone (1841-1864)

Samuel Wrightstone was born 1841 to John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart. In 1850 he lived with the family in Conewago Township York County Pennsylvania. By 1860 Samuel would live about a mile from his brother's John and Michael, in the Monaghan Township, Lewisberry Area of York County. Samuel lived in the home of J. Myers and his wife Rachael, working as a farm laborer.

On September 10th 1862, a 21 year old Samuel Ritston (Wrightstone),²⁸ went to the 2nd ward in Harrisburg Dauphin County, and was enrolled into federal service by Captain Gowan. Samuel was assigned to Gowan's Calvary Company. On September 17th 1862, Samuel was mustered in for a 3 year term of service by Captain Norton, and assigned to Company E of the 18th Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry (163rd Volunteers).²⁹

After some brief training, Samuel and his 18th regiment where on duty at Bladensburg and Germantown Pennsylvania and in the Defenses of Washington till June 1863. The 18th was then quickly dispatched to Chantilly Virginia, and became involved in a number of skirmishes. The 18th continued duties throughout northern Virginia and Maryland, engaging in the campaigns known as the Battle of Antietam and the South the Battle of Sharpsburg.

During the Battle of Gettysburg, General Meade commanded the Union Army of the Potomac, his commanders deployed troops to protect Union flanks, and to look for Confederate activity. During this time the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry was attached to the 1st Brigade, 3rd Division Cavalry Corps. On June 30th 1863, about noon, the 18th were 13 miles east of Gettysburg, in Hanover, where they engaged Confederate forces of Major General Stuart's Cavalry and Horse Artillery.

After the Confederate forces were forced to withdraw from Hanover, the 18th moved north towards Hunterstown. In the early afternoon of July 2nd, the 18th arrived on the field of Gettysburg, and quickly moved over the road from Gettysburg to Abbottstown, where they were attacked at sundown near Hunterstown by Stuart's Cavalry which was driven from the field after an engagement of two hours.

During the late afternoon of July 3rd, the 18th charged with the 1st brigade upon the Confederate's infantry's right and rear positions; behind the stone wall to the north on the outer edge of the woods of Bushman Hill towards Emmitsburg Road. ³⁰After the battle, the 18th moved into the town of Emmitsburg Maryland.

On November 18th 1863, while the Regiment where on duties at Germania Ford Virginia, Samuel was captured in an attack by Confederate forces. ³¹ He was taken as a prisoner of war, ³²and sent to the Andersonville Prison, also known as Camp Sumter. ³³

On August 29th 1864 Samuel died of dysentery, and is buried at the Andersonville National Cemetery, Plot: Section: E, Row: 7245. ³⁴

Bibliography

1. 18th Century Pennsylvania German Naming Customs & Patterns, August 18th 1995, Charles F. Kerchner Jr., 3765 Chris Drive, Emmaus PA, 18049-1544
2. 1830 William Wrightstone Census: Fairview, York, Pennsylvania, Page 269; NARA Roll: M19-160; Family History Film: 0020634, Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census, Original data: 1830 U.S. Census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M19, 201 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.
3. 1830 John Wrightstone Census: Fairview, York, Pennsylvania, Page 261; NARA Roll: M19-160; Family History Film: 0020634, Family History Film: 0020634, Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census, Original data: 1830 U.S. Census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M19, 201 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.
4. 1840 John Wrightstone Census: Newberry, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: 194; Page: 502; Image: 402; Family History Library Film: 0020561; 1840 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Sixth Census of the United States, 1840; (NARA microfilm publication M704, 580 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
5. 1850 John Wrightstone Census: Conewago, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M432_840; Page: 300B; Image: 382; 1850 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
6. 1860 Leah Wrightstone Census: Newberry, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M653_1201; Page: 613; Image: 156; Family History Library Film: 805201; 1860 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
7. 1860 Samuel Righstone (Wrightstone) Census: Monaghan, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M653_1201; Page: 573; Image: 116; Family History Library Film: 805201; 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
8. 1880 William Wrightstone Census: Fairview, York, Pennsylvania; Roll T9_1205, Family History Film: 1255205; Page: 175.3000; Enumeration District: 1, Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census, Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls), Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
9. John F. Wire Civil War Pension Index: National Archives and Records Administration. U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934 Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration; T288, 546 rolls.

10. 1890 John F. Wire Veteran Schedule Census: Lower Allen, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: 86; Page: 3; Enumeration District: 107; Special Schedules of the Eleventh Census (1890) Enumerating Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M123, 118 rolls); Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
11. Sural (Saml) Ritston (Samuel Wrightstone) Civil War Enlistment: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); Washington, D.C.; Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registration Records (Provost Marshal General's Bureau; Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865); Record Group: 110, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War); Collection Name: Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865 (Civil War Union Draft Records); ARC Identifier: 4213514; Archive Volume Number: 6 of 7.
12. Samuel Ritston (Wrightstone) Civil War PA 18th Calvary Regiment: National Park Service. U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007; National Park Service, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>.
13. Samuel Ritston (Wrightstone) Civil War PA 3rd Calvary Regiment: National Park Service. U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007; National Park Service, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>.
14. History of the Eighteenth Regiment of Calvary, Pennsylvania Volunteers, (163rd Regiment of the Line), 1862-1865, Illustrated, Compiled and Edited by the Publication Committee of the Regimental Association, New York, MDCCCCIX, Publication Committee; Theo F. Rodenbough, Henry C. Potter, William P. Seal, 1909.
15. Samuel Ritzston Prisoner of War: Historical Data Systems, comp. U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009; Data compiled by Historical Data Systems of Kingston, MA; Historical Data Systems, Inc.; PO Box 35, Duxbury, MA 02331.
16. Samuel Ritzson (Wrightstone) Prisoner of War: Andersonville Prisoners of War [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999; Original data: Andersonville, Georgia; Andersonville Prisoner of War Database. Andersonville, GA, USA: National Park Service, Andersonville National Historic Site.

End Notes

¹ John Wrightstone Birth, John Wrightstone Estate Records, Book BB, Page 50, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

² John Wrightstone and Margaret Hart Marriage: Michael Hart had a daughter Margaret, wife of John Rightstone, Michael Hart Estate records, Book 3Q Page 174, March 26th 1840, John Rankin, administrator of Michael Hart late of Fairview Township, yeoman, to Jacob Cocklin Jr. of Monaghan Township for \$245.30 21 acres 118 Perches in Monaghan Township; York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401.

³ Michael Hart Death and Jacob and Catherine Hart: Page 13, Miller-Hart Genealogical Family Tree, York County Heritage Trust Library and Archives, 250 East Market Street, York, PA. 17401

⁴ John and Margaret 1845 Residence and Margaret's Death: This information came from a number of York County Records, and the John and Margaret Wrightstone Estate, Deed, and Civil Records Timeline; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372. Two specific land transactions were used to determine Margaret's Death.

- 1st record dated August 4th 1845, selling land to Fredrick A. Parthemore listed the sellers as John and Margaret Wrightstone; York County Deeds, Book 3T, Page 183, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania 17401
- 2nd record dated January 15th 1846, selling land to Fredrick A. Parthemore listed only John Wrightstone as the seller (no Margaret Wrightstone was mentioned); York County Deeds, Book 3T, Page 326, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA

⁵ John Wrightstone 2nd Wife Leah: The name, Leah, appears with John in the 1850 Federal Census, and by herself in the 1860 Federal Census. (See bibliography #5 and #6.) Also used where:

- John's Estate Record, which indicated; "...decendent left a widow and eight children..."; John Rightstone, Estate Record, Book AA, Page 379, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.
- John and Margaret Wrightstone Estate, Deed, and Civil Records Timeline; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

⁶ Leah Marriage to Joseph Sipe: Descendants of Kraft Billet, 1751 immigrant, settled Hellam Twp., York Co., Pa (Compiled by Donald F. Billet, co-author of "Billet and Related Families of York, Lancaster and Dauphin Counties, Pennsylvania 1751-1997," Gateway Press, Inc., 1998, Baltimore.

⁷ Leah's Last Name; Is Leah a sister of John Wrightstone who married Joseph Sipe: The cause for this confusion; a researcher indicated that George Sipe was born to Joseph Sipe and Leah Wrightstone. The issue is how a researcher writes up, and properly cites, their findings. A marriage record between Joseph Sipe and Leah Wrightstone would clear this up.

- A Leah did marry a Joseph Sipe, who was born in 1801, and died circ 1848. This Joseph and Leah had a son, George Sipe, who was born 1837, and died 1903. We cite the following records.

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- a. Church Records, Family File 3073, Volume XIX, Page 37-81, Henry James Young Genealogical Reports, York County Heritage Trust • 250 East Market Street, York, PA .
 - b. Descendants of Kraft Billet, Compiled by Donald F. Billet, co-author of " Billet and Related Families of York, Lancaster, and Dauphin Counties, Pennsylvania 1751-1997," Gateway Press, Inc., 1998.
 - c. Book W Page 340, November 11th 1848 – Joseph Weir, legal heir of Joseph Sipe of Conewago Township who died intestate about two years since (Died circa 1846), complains that the decedent's son (Joseph Sipe Jr.), administrator, has neglected the estate.

⁸ Leah and Joseph Sipe Children: June 15th 1860 Federal Census, Page 25, Newberry Township, Newberry Post Office, York County PA, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.

- John Sipe who was born about 1838. Some researchers think this is a Wrightstone.
- George S. Sipe who was born May 5th 1837, and died April 8th 1907 while living in Conewago Township York County, Pennsylvania. George was a farmer and carpenter. George was buried April 10th 1907 at Bald Hill, near Newberrytown, York County. George married Catharine Billet who was born on December 25th 1838 to the parents of George Billet and Susan Palmer. Catherine died on October 6th 1925, probably in Jackson Township York County. She is buried at Bald Hill, Emey, Newberry Township, York County. Catherine's father George was born about 1814. Her mother Susan was born on May 25th 1813, and died on August 19th 1902. She is buried at the Ironville United Brethren Church Cemetery York County.
- Joseph Sipe who was born about 1842, but no Joseph Wrightstone can be located in any other record, except the 1860 census record.

⁹ John Wrightstone Civil Charges: Because John's son John lived with Elizabeth Hart in 1851 Fairview Township York County, we believe this record must be of the father John; John and Margaret Wrightstone Estate, Deed, and Civil Records Timeline; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

- 1847 April Session – The Court vs. John Wrightstone – Indictment assault and battery, true bill for April 6 1847 - Settled by parties with Constable Court - Defendant to pay the costs – Tried R. J. Fisher Esq - John paid \$1.31 ½ cents. This could also be John's son, John, who would be 17 years old. York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401.
- 1851 November Session – County vs. John Wrightstone – Indictment assault and battery – true bill fined November 21st 1851. Tuesday defendant & Francis Werly as security \$200 for appearances of defendants at January Session 1/5/52 to answer ...John Baker, Wm Eichiltz, Susanna Seip – Tuesday November 4 1851 – Each in \$100.00. York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401.
- 1852 January Session - Tried January 8th 1852. The attached January 1852 Court Docket for the 8th shows Conewago, John Wrightstone. York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401.

¹⁰ Number of Children of John and Margaret Rightstone: "...decedent left a widow and eight children..."; John Rightstone, Estate Record, Book AA, Page 379, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17401.

¹¹ Elizabeth Wrightstone and George Whitmore Marriage: Newspaper Abstract, York County Heritage Trust Library and Archives, 250 East Market Street, York, PA, 17401.

¹² Who Elizabeth was Named After: This is an assumption, which is based on German naming traditions; 1st daughter after the father's mother or 1st daughter after the mother's mother. Margaret's mother's name was Barbara. This suggest Elizabeth was named after her father's mother.

¹³ Michael Wrightstone (1825-1903), Taylor ~ Graham Family Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

¹⁴ Sarah Wrightstone Name: We believe that Sarah may have been named after a Wrightstone family member; a grandmother or sister of John and William.

¹⁵ Sarah Wrightstone Birth Date: We used a birth date calculator, ProGenealogists, Inc., PO Box 900188, Sandy, UT 84090-0188, and her headstone inscription: Sarah A., Wife of Daniel S. Strine, Died Dec. 1, 1909, Aged 82 Yrs. 3 Mo. & 1 Day; Manchester Union Cemetery in Manchester York County Pennsylvania.

¹⁶ Sara Ann Richstone 1850 Residence: This information came from the Federal Census, December 12th 1850, Page 295, Conewago Township, York County Pennsylvania; Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

¹⁷ Sarah Rightstone and Daniel Strine Marriage: As Sarah's name was spelled, Calendar of Vital Records of the Counties of York and Adams, Register of Wills Office, York County Heritage Trust Library and Archives, 250 East Market Street, York, PA

¹⁸ Daniel Strine Birth Date and Parents: His birth date came from his headstone Inscription: Daniel S. Strine, Born May 4, 1833, Died Feb. 17, 1886, Aged 52 Yr 9 Mo 13 Dy. His parent's names came from the calculated relationship; Daniel was born May 4th 1833 to John Strine (1787 - 1840) and Catharine Schultz in Strinestown, York County Pennsylvania. He died February 17th 1886 in Manchester area of York County Pennsylvania. Both events where derived from the Manchester Union Cemetery in Manchester York County Pennsylvania.

¹⁹ Sarah Anne Wrightstone and Daniel Strine Death and Burial: From the headstone located at the Manchester Union Cemetery, Manchester Township, York County, Pennsylvania

²⁰ John Wrightstone Birth: John Wrightstone (1830-1905), Taylor ~ Graham Family Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

²¹ Samuel Wrightstone Last Name: Samuel Rightstone or Wrightstone was nowhere to be found after 1860. It was difficult to locate Samuel, but we eventually found him through Federal Census and Civil War records, which spelled his name in various ways: Rightstone, Righstone, and Ritson, Ritston, Ritzston and Ritzson in the Civil War records for the 18th Pennsylvania Calvary. See Bibliography 6 and 7, and 11 through 16.

²² Samuel Ritzson-Ritston (Wrightstone) Andersonville Prison, Prisoner, and Date, Cause of Death and Burial: Code ID: 17245; Plot: Section: E, Row: 7245, Andersonville Prisoners of War , Andersonville, Georgia; Andersonville Prisoner of War Database. Andersonville, GA, USA: National Park Service, Andersonville National Historic Site; Union prisoners interned at Andersonville Prison, Sultana, and Cahaba Prison; <http://www.civilwarprisoners.com/search.php?database=andersonville>.

²³ Margaret Ellen Wrightstone 1860 Residence: This information came from the August 4th 1860 Federal Census, Page 15, Conewago Township, Strinestown Post Office, York County, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.

²⁴ Barbara Wrightstone Birth Date: The date came from her headstone inscription at the Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Cedar Point York County Pennsylvania. Cedar Point is located in Fairview Township, at the intersection of Rt 114 and Rt 382-Lewisberry Road.

²⁵ Barbara Wrightstone Marriage to John Wire and Date: This information came from Barbara's headstone inscription, Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Cedar Point York County Pennsylvania. Cedar Point is located in Fairview Township, at the intersection of Rt 114 and Rt 382-Lewisberry Road.

²⁶ John F. Wire Civil War Pension: Application Number: 917.974; Certificate Number: 697.880; National Archives and Records Administration. U.S., Civil War Pension Files, 1861-1934 Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.

²⁷ Barbara Wrightstone and John Wire Death and Burial: This information came from Barbara's headstone inscription, Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Cedar Point York County Pennsylvania. Cedar Point is located in Fairview Township, at the intersection of Rt 114 and Rt 382-Lewisberry Road.

²⁸ Samuel Ritston Name: This is our Samuel Wrightstone, whose last name was spelled as Rightstone, Righstone, and Ritson, Ritston, Ritzston and Ritzson in the Civil War records for the 18th Pennsylvania Calvary. See Bibliography 1 through 8.

²⁹ 18th Pennsylvania Calvary Organization: The 18th regiment was organized at Pittsburg and Harrisburg from October to December 1862. It was consolidated with 22nd Pennsylvania Cavalry on June 24th 1865 in order to form the 3rd Pennsylvania Provisional Cavalry. The 3rd Calvary was mustered out October 31st 1865.

³⁰ July 3rd 1863, 18th Pennsylvania Calvary Engagement: This area was the left flank of the Union Army's position during the battle of Gettysburg. In 2013 it is on South Confederate Avenue, known as Bushman Hill and Slyder Farm. The monument to the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment is south of Gettysburg on South Confederate Avenue.

³¹ Samuel Ritzston (Wrightstone) Civil War Capture: Page 225, Regimental Roster, History of the Eighteenth Regiment of Calvary, Pennsylvania Volunteers, (163rd Regiment of the Line), 1862-1865, Illustrated, Compiled and Edited by the Publication Committee of the Regimental Association, New York, MDCCCXIX, Publication Committee; Theo F. Rodenbough, Henry C. Potter, William P. Seal, 1909.

³² Samuel Ritson Civil War Union Regiment: Samuel was 1st identified as belonging to the New York Calvary or Infantry; which is on his headstone; however official records were later corrected because of his name and units captured at Germania Ford Virginia.

³³ Andersonville prison was the most well-known and notorious of all the Civil War prisons, north and south. It was in operation from February 1864 until May 1865, and during that time over 42,000 men were interned there confined in only 23 acres of space. The peak population in 1864 was nearly 33,000 men. More than 12,000 prisoners died at Andersonville and are buried in the National Cemetery on the grounds. It is still an active military cemetery. The site of the prison is now the Andersonville National Historic Site which is part of the U S. National Park Service. The Park's museum serves as a memorial to all American prisoners of war.

³⁴ Samuel Ritzson-Ritston (Wrightstone) Andersonville Prison, Prisoner, and Date, Cause of Death and Burial: Code ID: 17245; Plot: Section: E, Row: 7245, Andersonville Prisoners of War , Andersonville, Georgia; Andersonville Prisoner of War Database. Andersonville, GA, USA: National Park Service, Andersonville National Historic Site; Union prisoners interned at Andersonville Prison, Sultana, and Cahaba Prison; <http://www.civilwarprisoners.com/search.php?database=andersonville>.