

John Nearon (1838-1868)

John A. Nearon was born 1838 in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

On March 25th 1858 John Nearon married Margaret Sarah Bennett at her mother's home in Penn Township, Cumberland County, by the Henry Acker, minister of the gospel.

Margaret went by the name Sarah. She was born was born June 11th 1838 to Margaret (Mary) Bennett. ¹

- In 1850 the family lived in Upper Dickinson, Cumberland County were Mary Bennett, who was 53 years old (b.1797); Anna, who was 27 (born 1823); Daniel, who was 23 (born 1827); Abraham, who was 17 (born 1833); Maria (Mary), who was 15 (born 1835); and Sarah, who was 9 years old (born 1841).
- Their neighbor was Samuel Coover, who would later witness the marriage between John and Sarah.
- Mary Vance and Abraham Bennett would later make an affidavit for Sarah's child, William A. Nearon claim to his father's Civil War Pension

On September 27th 1858 John and Sarah had their first child; William A. Nearon, who was born in Spring Mill, Cumberland County.

Sarah was 21 years, 1 month, and 26 days old when she died August 9th 1859 at Spring Mills, ⁱ Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Most likely resulting from a pregnancy.

In 1860 John lived, and worked as a laborer, in the post office area of Dickenson, Upper Dickenson Township, Cumberland County, and Mary Sophia Hildebrandt ² lived about 12 miles south in Shippensburg.

On October 20th 1861 John married Mary S. Hildebrandt in Centerville, ⁱⁱCumberland County, by Reverend A. L. Guss. John was 5' 8" tall, with dark hair, grey eyes, and fair complexion. He was a labored when he registered for Civil Ware Service. ³

ⁱ Huntsdale on Pine Road in Penn Township (created from Dickinson Township in in 1860.) was once named Milltown and Spring Mills, Elmira, and Huntsville. And for a brief time, its post office was called "Ernst."

ⁱⁱ Centerville is about 1.5 miles from Spring Mills where married his 1st wife.

On July 1st 1863, 25-year-old John Nearon registered for Civil War service. At the time he was married and living in Cumberland County. ⁴

John was 26 years old when he enlisted for a one-year service during the Civil war on August 24th 1864 in Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He served as a private in "C" Company of the 55th Pennsylvania Infantry

He was discharged from his service on June 13th 1865. In Richmond, Virginia. He received his last pay on December 31st 1864. ⁵ After his discharge from the Army hospital with chronic diarrhea, he returned home. There he was in constant care from Dr. W. W. Wanbaugh.

On March 31st 1865 Carrie Odessa Nearon was born to John and Mary in Centerville, Cumberland County. Then on March 2nd 1866 John died,

By February 1st 1867 John's son with Sarah, William A. Nearon, filed a Declaration for Minor Children for Pension, in the name of his father's civil war service. William J. Shearer was acting as the guardian for William.

By December 30th 1868 Mary S. Nearon also filed for a widow's pension for John's Civil War Service; Widow Application No. 169.692. For which she received a pension under Certificate No. 142.227. ⁶

By 1870 25-year-old Mary S. Nearon was living in the post office area of New Kingston, Middlesex Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Living with her was a 6-year-old (born 1864 in PA) daughter, Carrie Nearon.

- Mary was a housekeeper for 31-year-old John and 26-year-old Margaret D. Weary, and their 4-year-old (born 1866) daughter Florence Weary. Also, in the home was 20-year-old farm laborer, Josiah Cassey

On December 19th 1871 ⁱⁱⁱ Mary S. Nearon of Middlesex married Samuel B. R Culbertson of Middlesex, in New Kingston, Middlesex Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania by W. W. Wanbaugh. Witnessed by David H. Wanbaugh and John A. Linsdorf. ⁷⁻⁸

ⁱⁱⁱ The paper indicated inst. 16th, which means the month of January, but the date on the paper was Thursday, January 11th 1872. If it would have been ult., which means last month, The marriage would have been on December 16th 1871.

Bibliography

1. Mary S. Nearon-Graham Civil War Widow Pension for John Nearon, and Remarried Widow Application: The information came from the pension Widow affidavits filed by Mary S. Graham; General Index to Pension Files, Widow Application #169.692 and Certificate #142.227, dated December 30th 1868, and Minor affidavits filed by William A. Nearon; Application #207.482 and Certificate #163.788, dated January 16th 1873, 1861-1934. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. T288, 546 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, D.C., 20408-0001.

End Notes

¹ Margert Sarah Bennett name came from the Bibliography 1., and the date of birth came from a date calculated based on the date and age at time of death, as stated in the Bibliography, made by her brother Abraham Bennett and mother, Margaret Bennett, 1871 affidavit.

² Mary Sophia Hildebrandt Name and Life Events: The information came from the Mary Hildebrandt (1842-1921) Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, c/o Bob Graham, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

³ John Nearon Name, Physical Features, Residence, Age at Enrolment, and Civil War Service: The information came from the Pennsylvania (State). Civil War Muster Rolls and Related Records, 1861–1866. Records of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Record Group 19, Series 19.11 (153 cartons). Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Archives and History. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17102.

⁴ John Nearon Name, Marriage, and Civil War Registration: The information came from the Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865. NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. NAID: 4213514. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. The National Archives in Washington D.C.

⁵ John Nearon Name, and Civil War Service: The information came from the Pennsylvania (State). Civil War Muster Rolls and Related Records, 1861–1866. Records of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Record Group 19, Series 19.11 (153 cartons). Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

⁶ Mary S. Nearon-Graham Name, Civil War John Nearon Widow Pension and Remarried Widow Application: The information came from the General Index to Civil War and Later Pension Files, NAI Number: 563268; Record Group Title: Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 1773 - 2007; Record Group Number: 15; Series Title: U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934; Series Number: T288; Roll: 12, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, D.C., 20408-0001.

⁷ Samuel B. R Culbertson Marriage: The information came from the column, Married, The Star and Enterprise, Newville, Pennsylvania, Thursday, January 11, 1872, Ancestry, Newspapers.com, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

⁸ Mary S. Nearon-Gra and Samuel B. R. Culbertson Marriage, and Details: The information came from the Mar S. Nearon-Graham Civil War Widow Pension for John Nearon, and Remarried Widow Application #169.692 and Certificate #142.227, dated December 30th 1868, Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. T288, 546 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, D.C., 20408-0001.