

## **Alfred Surraneous Eaton 1840-1932 Life and Military History**

Information gathered via documents collected by the Lounsbury family with military details from the National Park Service Civil War History database at [www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/regiments.cfm](http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/regiments.cfm). Lifetime and family data obtained from the US Census Bureau along with relational data from [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com). Wisconsin location and biographical information obtained from [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org). Details of Wisconsin civilian life from Clark county heritage library <http://wvls.lib.wi.us/ClarkCounty>, and the Branstiter Museum of Greenwood, WI.

## Alfred Surraneous Eaton 1840-1932 Life and Military History

### August 1840:

Alfred S. Eaton is born in Newberry NH to parents Ebenezer and Hannah. Alfred has 5 siblings. Ebenezer's trade is listed as "Laborer"  
\*From 1850 census.

### 1860:

19 year old Alfred grows to become a schoolteacher and farm laborer standing 5'11" with blue eyes and brown hair.  
\*From original document in the Lounsbury collection

### 1861: **Historical background leading to Civil War.**

**February 18, 1861** – Jefferson Davis inaugurated as President of the Confederacy. After taking the oath of office as the Vice President of the Confederacy, Alexander H. Stephens, a former Congressman from Georgia, stated that: "Our new government is founded on the opposite idea of the equality of the races . . . Its corner stone rests upon the great truth that the Negro is not equal to the white man. This (Confederate) government is the first in the history of the world, based on this great physical and moral truth."

**March 4, 1861** – Abraham Lincoln inaugurated as sixteenth President of the United States.

**April 12, 1861** – The Confederates fired upon Fort Sumter, South Carolina.

**April 15, 1861** – An announcement was made by President Abraham Lincoln that an insurrection was in progress and the call went out to loyal states to supply troops.

### 4/30/1861 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment:

Alfred S. Eaton enlists and joins the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Milford New Hampshire Company H Infantry to fight for the Union Army. – (This enlistment was not found in the US Civil war rosters but it is likely his military start as a 20 year-old Private).

May 31, 1861: 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment is organized at Portsmouth, NH (or possibly Portsmouth, VA).

June 20-23: Regiment moves to Washington, D. C.

\* Note: During the Civil War, most Regiment travel was done by foot with some horse support. A historian for the Regiments of Camp Randal Wisconsin (Madison), noted that Wisconsin enlisted walked as far as Pennsylvania and Virginia during their course of service.

**7/12/1861:**

Alfred Eaton is discharged, while in Portsmouth prior to reaching Washington DC. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment went on to fight the Battles of Bull Run (just 9 days later), Yorktown, Williamsburg, and eventually Gettysburg almost all of which were lost with heavy union casualties.

**July 1861 – August 1862:**

1 year void in data. After just 3 months in the 2<sup>nd</sup> regiment, there is no further record of his activities until August of 1862.

**8/9/1862 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment:**

21 year old Alfred Eaton re-enlists and is promoted to Corporal in the 10th Regiment New Hampshire Infantry under Captain Patrick Doyle. The 10th is made up of NH volunteers enrolled to serve 3 years.

September 4, 1862: 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment is organized at Manchester and mustered in.

September 22-25: Left New Hampshire and moved to Washington, D. C.

September 30: Moved to Frederick, Md.

October 4: Moved to Sandy Hook, Md.

October 6: Moved to Pleasant Valley.

October 27-November 19, 1862: Movement to Falmouth, Va.

Alfred reportedly meets and speaks with Abraham Lincoln while in Falmouth.

December 12-15: Battle of [Fredericksburg](#), Va.

**1/9/1863:**

Corp. Eaton is promoted to Sergeant in the 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment

January 20-24, 1863: Burnside's Second Campaign ("Mud March").

February 9: Moved to Newport News, Va.

March 14: Moved to Norfolk and Suffolk.

April 12-May 4: Siege of [Suffolk](#).

April 19: Battery Huger, Hill's Point.

May 4: Reconnaissance across Nansemond River.

May 13: Moved to Portsmouth, VA

**May 22 - The War Department establishes Colored Troops to handle the recruitment, organization, and service of the newly organized black regiments commanded by white officers.**

June 24-July 7: Moved to Yorktown, Va. Dix's Peninsula Campaign.

July 1-7: Expedition from White House to South Anna River.

July 8-14: Moved to Portsmouth.

July 30, 1863: Moved to Julien's Creek, VA (Near present day Norfolk) and served there until through March of 1864

**3/5/1864:**

Alfred leaves the 10<sup>th</sup> for promotion. The 10<sup>th</sup>, continued service until it was mustered out on June 21, 1865. Total losses for this regiment included 7 Officers and 54 Enlisted men killed. 1 Officer and 133 Enlisted men died of disease. Total 195.

<b>Alfred S. Eaton</b>
Regiment Name 10 New Hampshire Inf.
Side Union
Company H
Soldier's Rank_In Corp'l.
Soldier's Rank_Out Sgt.
Alternate Name
Notes
Film Number M549 roll 4

**3/7/1864 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment USCI:**

23 year old Sgt. Alfred Eaton is promoted to First Lieutenant with officer duties over the 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment United States Colored Infantry. It would be sometime here or after that he would have acquired the 1864 Infantry Model Ames Saber.



February 7 to March 7, 1864: The 32<sup>nd</sup> is organized at Camp William Penn, Philadelphia, Pa.

April 1864: Ordered to Hilton Head, S. C. arriving April 27

June 1864: Moved to Morris Island, S. C., and duty there operating against Charleston, S. C., till November.

November 8, 1864: President Lincoln re-elected

November 28-30: Expedition to Boyd's Neck.

November 30: Battle of [Honey Hill](#).

December 6-9: Demonstration on Charleston Camp; Savannah Railroad.

December 6: Devaux's Neck.

January 31 - Thirteenth Amendment passes the House of Representatives

February 14, 1865: James Island.

February 18: Occupation of Charleston.

April 5-25: Potter's Expedition.

April 9: Dingle's Mills.

April 9 - General Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant

April 14 - President Lincoln is shot and dies the next day. Andrew Johnson becomes President

April 15: Statesboro.

April 17, 1865: Occupation of Camden.

April 18: Boydkin's Mills.

April 19: Beach Creek near Statesburg and Denkin's Mills with continued Garrison duty at Charleston, Beaufort and Hilton Head, S. C., till August.

August 22, 1865: Mustered out.

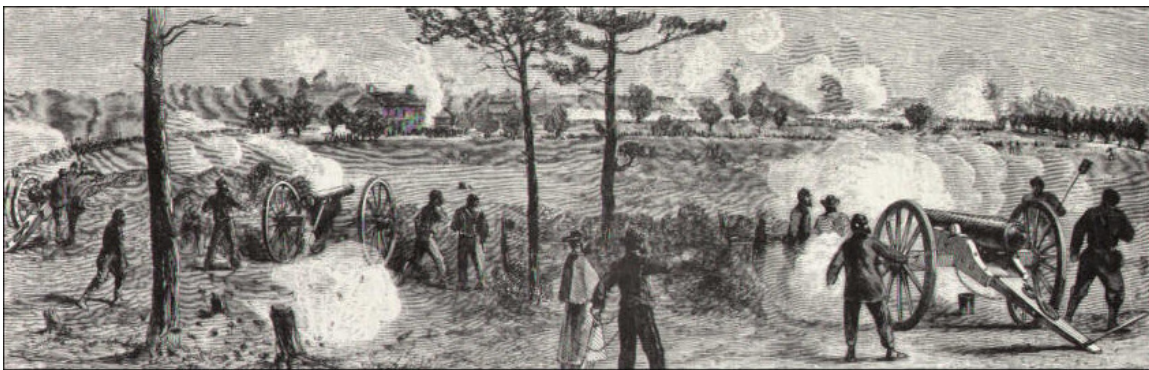
Losses for this regiment included 2 Officers and 35 enlisted killed. 113 enlisted men die of disease for a total of 150.

<b>Alfred S. Eaton</b>	<b>African American Civil War Memorial 32<sup>nd</sup> USCI</b>
Regiment Name 32 U. S. Col'd Infantry.	Displayed as: Alfred S. Eaton ★
Side Union	Plaque Number: B-48
Company H	Location: Washington D.C.
Soldier's Rank_In 1" Lieut.	
Soldier's Rank_Out 1" Lieut.	
Film Number M589 roll 26	

### 5/27/1864:

John A. Eaton, the older brother of Alfred dies from wounds while fighting the battle of Cold Harbor serving with Company H, 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment New Hampshire.

Harpers Pictorial History of the Civil War: *“Grant’s turning movement from the North Anna brought him, by a wide detour, to the Pamunkey River, formed by the junction of the North and South Anna, and this, uniting with the Mattapony, forms the York. At the head of this was the White House, where Grant’s base of supplies was to be established. Hitherto his great army had to be supplied from an ever-shifting base of wagons, over narrow roads through a densely wooded country. Now they could be brought by water close to his lines, wherever they should be posted. The Pamunkey was crossed, after several sharp skirmishes, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, and after three days Lee was found in his new position. The Union losses at the North Anna, and in the actions from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>, were 1607, of whom 827 were prisoners. John A. Eaton was among those mortally wounded, but his brother, Alfred S. Eaton, continued to fight on with Company H of the 10th New Hampshire Volunteers. The loss of the Confederates was much greater.”*



Cold Harbor, Virginia  
John A. Eaton fought his last battle here on May 27, 1864.

## 9/13/1865 97<sup>th</sup> Regiment USCI:

### 97th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry.

April 4, 1864: The 97<sup>th</sup> Organized from 3rd Corps de Afrique Engineers.

April 12: Built bridge over Red River at Grand Ecore.

April 13-19: Constructed rifle pits and Abatis about Grand Ecore.

April 19-20: Repair road from Grand Ecore to Cane River, and crossing over Cane River. April 22, 1864: Lower Crossing of Cane River.

April 25-May 13: At Alexandria constructing works and dam.

May 13-22: Retreat to Morganza.

May 16: Battle at [Marksville](#). Fatigue duty continues at Morganza till June 20.

May 17-20: Operations about Yellow Bayou.

June 20: Ordered to New Orleans, La.

August 20, 1864: Moved to Mobile Bay, Ala. with duty at Mobile Point and Dauphin Island.

February 1865: In District of Florida till March, 1865.

March 17-April 12: Campaign against Mobile and its Defenses.

March 26-April 9: Siege of [Spanish Fort](#) and [Fort Blakely](#) with continued duty in the Fortifications of Mobile and at various points in the Dept. of the Gulf till April, 1866.

April 6, 1866: Mustered out.

<b>Alfred S. Eaton</b>	<b>African American Civil War Memorial 97<sup>th</sup> USCI</b>
Regiment Name 97 U. S. Col'd Infantry.	Displayed as: Alfred S. Eaton ★
Side Union	Plaque Number: C-98
Company F	Location: Washington D.C.
Soldier's Rank_In Lt	
Soldier's Rank_Out Lt	
Film Number M589 roll 26	

## 4/6/1866:

Discharged from 97<sup>th</sup> US Colored Infantry concluding Alfred's military service at the age of 25. After the Civil War, jobs are hard to find along the east coast due to many out of work veterans.

Shortly after military discharge, Alfred moves to the town of Albion near Black River Falls, Wisconsin and becomes owner of a tin and hardware shop.

At some point after arrival in Albion, Alfred meets Emeline (Emma) A Brown. The spelling of Emma's name frequently shows incorrectly in the census records and may include Amelia, and Elmira among others.

**10/2/1868:**

Emeline and Alfred are married.

**1870:**

Census records show Alfred and Emma give birth to a daughter named Viola. The couple's tin and hardware store is flourishing with \$24,000 worth of stock. They have by now earned a personal equity of \$1000 worth of land and \$3000 in assets.

**1871:**

The Black River tin and hardware store burns resulting in a complete loss. The family moves to Greenwood, WI where they open a new hardware store and name it the "A.S. Eaton Hardware Store"

"Major Eaton" as Alfred was called, is a former State Commander of "The GAR" (Grand Army of the Republic and Kindred Societies of Wisconsin). Alfred founds and names a new chapter in Greenwood after his brother John. The original GAR records are reported to be contained at the Branstiter Museum in Greenwood.

Also around this time, 30 year old Alfred is instrumental in the formation of the new township of Eaton which encompasses Greenwood, WI and still retains the Eaton township name today (note the township sign 2 miles south of Greenwood).

Authors note: Another member of the GAR in Greenwood named John Hazen was the founder of Cashton, WI (named "Hazens Corners" at the time).

**12/13/1879:**

Alfred and Emma gave birth to their second daughter Freddie.

\*From 1880 census



**1882:**

The advertisement to the right appeared in "The Neillsville Times" during 1882 and featured the Hardware Store of A. S. Eaton in Greenwood, Wisconsin. The note near the bottom of the ad says, "I will take Town Orders from any town in the county at their face in exchange for goods and guarantee my prices to be as good and my prices as low as the lowest. County orders also taken. I keep the Post Office in the same building and issue Money Orders on any Money Order Office in the United States."

Source:

<http://wvls.lib.wi.us/ClarkCounty/eaton/businesses/EatonHardware.htm>

The image below is of the A.S. Eaton Hardware store (tallest building in picture) in Greenwood. Many original buildings still exist in this town but uncertain of the address or if the hardware store still stands.



**Stand by the Flag!**



**A. S. EATON,**  
Greenwood, Wis.

We will rally around the Flag at A. S. Eaton's

**HARDWARE STORE,**  
where the most complete stock of HEAVY and SHELF HARDWARE can be found in this county.

**BUILDERS' MATERIAL,**  
In endless variety, including

**GLAZED SASH, DOORS**  
--AND--  
**BUILDING PAPER.**  
All kinds of

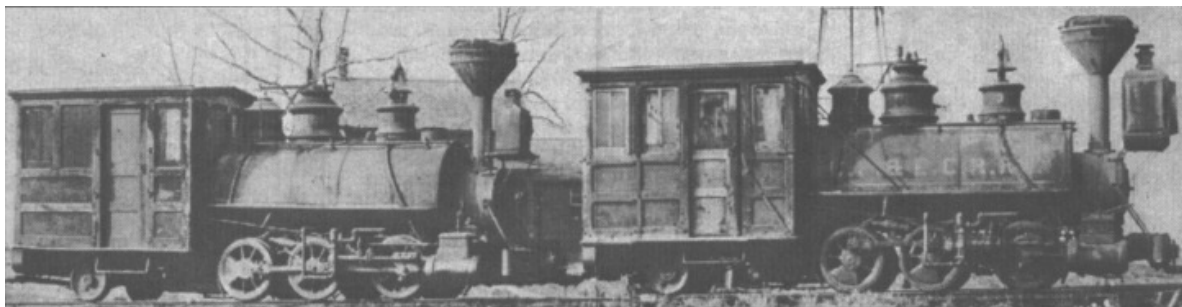
**American Steel and Iron**  
And STONE COAL for BLACKSMITHS.

The Celebrated  
**Minnesota Flour,**  
and a full line of  
**GROCERIES**  
ALWAYS IN STOCK.

**Cash Paid for Wool,**  
AT ITS FULLEST VALUE.

Conveyancing Done Upon Call

I will take Town Orders from any town in the county at their face, in exchange for goods and guarantee my prices to be as good and my prices as low as the lowest. County Orders also taken. I keep the Post Office in the same building and issue Money Orders on any Money Order Office in the United States.



**Greenwood entertainment:** Some Greenwood area residents long remembered "Willie the train" from the late 1800's and early 1900's. They would call upon "Big Bill" Foster, asking him to hitch "Willie" up to a freight car and haul several fans to watch an out-of-town baseball game on a Sunday afternoon.



**6/28/1882:**

### Freddie Helen Eaton Dies at the age of 3

*In Memoriam written by Alfred S Eaton:*

*Last Tuesday morning, at 4 o'clock just as the bright orb of day was ushering into this sad world of ours a flood of light and it came stealing over the hills into the window of her room, little Freddie Helen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Eaton, died. That golden sunshine from the morning sun, so pure and bright on other occasions, was an inky darkness compared with that little Sunshine, as we always called her, which had gone out of that household forever.*

*Little Freddie, aged three years, six months and fifteen days, with her great blue eyes, whose lovingness had kissed the blue vault of heaven, and from thence borrowed their color was a general favorite in the community, loved by all who knew her and idolized by her parents and sister. Her sister Viola had just done to Dakota to spend the summer, and after four days absence was summoned home by the news which went flashing over the wire, that little Freddie was dying; and ere she arrived, that little bud of promise, too pure and sweet for the gardens of earth, had been transplanted, in all her angelic beauty and loveliness, to the banks of that pure stream which flows by the throne of God.*

*Little Freddie, although the dew drops of three and one half summers, only, had kissed her loving lips, had keen perceptions, quick wit and bright intellect far in advance of her years. The woof and web of life of the heart stricken parents was made up of the love and sunshine their two little girls bore them, the one is taken the other left. Little Freddie's hands, now folded in snowy whiteness across her peaceful breast, had a clear, unclouded mind up to the moment death released her from suffering. To show, for one so tender in years, how clear her mind was, how loving her heart, she voluntarily, a moment before death, lifted her little white arms and encircled the neck of her papa and mama and drew them to her, then took from her head a dearly prized and childish treasure, a little blue comb, and said give it to sister, who at that moment was flying to her as fast as the great railway engine could bring her. With her latest breath she left one kiss upon her mother's lips for sister Viola, and her spirit took wings and ascended to God who gave it.*

--- A. S. Eaton

**Greenwood newspaper Obituary:** *Eaton – Freddie Helen, youngest daughter of A. S. and Emeline Eaton, was born Dec. 13, 1879, and died June 28, 1882.*

*The subject of this notice was a beautiful child of more than ordinary intelligence. She instinctively drew all hearts toward her; she was the pet of the town and the idol of her parents. Mr. Eaton in conversation with the writer said that many times he has taken her upon his knee and related incidents of the war of the rebellion, especially the ever memorial 13th of Dec, 1862 – the great battle of Fredericksburg, in which he was a participants, when 20,000 Union Soldiers fell in defense of the stars and stripes, and that the child seemed to drink in the very spirit of the incidents thus narrated, and said that because papa fought for the flag she would always love it. But God claimed the gift a while bestowed, and on last Wednesday morning just as the sun arose, her pure spirit took its homeward flight. Just before she closed her eyes in death she put one arm around her mother and one around her father, as much as to say, "meet me in heaven".*

**July 1882:**

At 41 years old, Alfred and Emma give birth to their third daughter Genevieve.

\*From 1900 census

**1900:**

Alfred and Emma have by now moved to Superior, WI. Alfred's occupation is now listed as "Real Estate" and Genevieve is a "Student". The census at this time shows Genevieve as an only child. Daughter Viola from the 1880 census is not shown in any future documentation

\*From 1900 census.

**6/30/1908:**

Genevieve is married to William Cotton Lounsbury in Superior and they eventually move to Stoughton, WI (near Madison). William is a General Manager at Superior Water, Light and Power Co. while in Superior. William and Genevieve have 4 children together including Elizabeth R, Virginia C, William C, and Franklin Brown and also provide a home for their 23 yr old nephew James A Lounsbury (born in South Africa according to census).

\*From ancestry.com, 1920 census, and World War 1 Draft Card for William Cotton Lounsbury.

**1913:**

Alfred and Emma sell the Hardware store to John Schiller. It is not clear if this date is incorrect or if Alfred decided to hold ownership of the store well after he left Greenwood.

**11/22/1918:**

Alfred writes down his service record in his own pen on letterhead with a pressed logo "A.S. Eaton Real estate rentals and fire insurance, 905 Tower Avenue, Superior, WI." Also on the letterhead is a watermark of a sailing yacht with the title "Defender" presumably representing the America's cup winning Yacht of 1895 by the same name.

\*From original document in the Lounsbury collection.

\* This hand written note was the initial source of research for this document

**1930:**

Alfred is now 89 yrs old and still living in Superior, WI. His occupation is listed as "Pension Agent" in the census documents. This is presumably in reference to a pension payment of \$40 per month for Civil War duties.

\*From 1930 census and original document in the Lounsbury collection.

**2/10/1932:**

Alfred Surraneous Eaton dies in Superior, WI at the age of 92.

*Obituary: A. S. EATON DIES AT SUPERIOR*

*A. S. Eaton, a former Greenwood, Clark County Resident and merchant, died at Superior, Wis., Wednesday, Feb. 10th, 1932. He was one of Wisconsin's best known Civil War veterans. He had been ill for three weeks.*

*Deceased was born in Merrimac County, N. H., Aug. 13, 1840. When war broke out he enlisted in Co. H, 2nd N. H. Vol., was transferred to 10th N. H., and was mustered from service as captain in 1865.*

*He then went to Black River Falls, operating a tin and hardware shop, where he remained until 1871, when his stock burned. He then moved to Greenwood, where he had a hardware store in the building now owned by Schillers.*

*In 1868 he married Miss Emeline A. Bran of Black River Falls. At the time the family resided here they had two children, Viola and Freddie.*

*While here Mr. Eaton also served as town treasurer, notary public and postmaster. The family left Greenwood some 40 years ago.*

*Major Eaton, as he was called, was a former State Commander of the G.A.R. and was active in Masonic circles. The funeral was held at Superior Friday afternoon with full military rites.*

**2/15/1932:**

Information requested from register of deeds William M McDougal of Douglas County WI. It is not clear why but this appears to be the source of the family document collection and may be related to the final arrangements after Alfred's death. Mr. McDougal certified, "The attached copy of discharge was accurate"

*\*From original document in the Lounsbury collection.*

**2/22/1932:**

Emmaline Ann Eaton dies in Superior, WI at the age of 84.

*Obituary: Mrs. Emeline Ann Eaton survived her husband, Major A. S. Eaton of Superior, by only twelve days. His death occurred Feb. 10, 1932, at St. Mary's Hospital, Superior, and Mrs. Eaton passed away Monday morning, Feb. 22, 1932 at the same hospital. She had undergone an operation for the relief of a stomach and bowel trouble but failed to recover. She was about eighty-four years of age.*

*Mrs. D. W. Jones, who was called to Superior a number of weeks ago on account of her father, the late Major Eaton, remained with her mother for the time being and was with her at the end. Mr. Jones went to Superior last evening to be present at the funeral, which is being held this afternoon, Wednesday.*

*Mrs. Eaton was at one time a resident here and also lived at Greenwood, Clark County. She often visited here and has many friends who will regret her passing. (Black River Falls Journal)*

## H.B. Harris Infantry Saber Etching:

- A scratching exists on the knuckle guard of the saber (in the current possession of Steven Lounsbury) with the initials "H.B. Harris".
- There are 641 known Civil War veterans on record with the initials H. Harris (the middle name is often not recorded).
- This was a Union saber used only by the Infantry and Cavalry, which narrows our search to 247 possibilities.
- By eliminating possibilities outside of Alfred Eaton's 4 Regiments, we narrow to only 1 soldier... Pvt. Henry Harris was a colored Infantryman in the 32<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry. Alfred Eaton was a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant leading this infantry during its full existence from 1864-1865.
- Pvt. Henry Harris started with the 32<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry at its inception on March 7, 1864. The saber was commissioned in 1864.
- Pvt. Henry Harris was an enlisted colored man not allowed officer status. The saber is the correct issue for a Pvt. in the Infantry (it is a non-officer sword).
- Officers were typically granted finely inscribed "display" saber however they often preferred to carry an infantry saber as well because it is "battle capable" which could not be said for the officer sabers. It would be possible that Lieut. Eaton would have carried both, or singularly chose this more stout saber if Pvt. Harris were to have de-enlisted or was killed in the line of duty.
- Pvt. Henry Harris is memorialized in the same African American Civil War Memorial as Lieut. Alfred Eaton.

<b>Henry Harris</b>	<b>African American Civil War Memorial</b>
<b>Regiment Name</b> 32 U.S. Col'd. Infantry	<b>Displayed as:</b> Henry Harris ★
<b>Side Union</b>	<b>Plaque Number:</b> B-48
<b>Company</b> E	
<b>Soldier's Rank_In</b> Prv.	
<b>Soldier's Rank_Out</b> Prv.	
<b>Film Number</b> M589 roll 37	

## History of the Light Infantry Saber



- Held by enlisted non-officer Infantrymen and Cavalrymen (officer swords were ceremonial and non-combat capable).
- End of scabbard is reinforced for “dragging” while walking.
- Blade = 35”
- Overall = 41”
- Grip is leather with twisted brass wire wrap
- Hilt and knuckle guard are brass
- Scabbard is steel

### Markings:

#### Blade:

- Side A
  - US (Country)
  - G.W.G. (probably inspector initials)
  - 1864 (Date put into use)
- Side B
  - Made by
  - Ames Mfc Co (Most common manufacturer for Civil War Swords)
  - Chicopee (Town in Massachusetts where company was headquartered)

#### Foot of hilt:

- G.K.C. (Unknown: others on ebay also have this marking)

#### Scabbard and Drag:

- No discernable markings

#### Knuckle guard:

- HB Harris (Appears to be roughly scratched in)

## **Ames Mfg. Co.**

The Ames Company started production of military contract swords in 1832 with the M1832 foot artillery sword, and ended with the M1906 cavalry saber in 1906. Ames produced more swords for the American military than any other company before or since, totaling over 200,000 swords in service by the end of the Civil War. In that time, at least ten different manufacturing marks were used on the swords. A little knowledge of the company history helps place a date range for when each stamp was used. When the company started producing swords, it was led by Nathan P. Ames and most marks reflected that fact. In 1847, Nathan died and left the company to his brother James. At this time, the markings on the blades were immediately changed from N.P. Ames to Ames Mfg. Co. In 1848, the manufacturing was consolidated to Chicopee, Massachusetts, and the marks were once again changed to reflect this.

The 1840 models of cavalry, NCO, light artillery, and musician swords tend to have identical styles of marks for corresponding years. This trend continues when the 1860 models of cutlass and cavalry saber are introduced. The 1840 models' were originally marked with N.P. Ames/Cabotville/date in the 1840s, followed by Ames Mfg. Co. /Cabotville/date around 1847, then by Ames Mfg. Co./Chicopee/Mass in the 1850s. The latter mark was also used through the Civil war on some cavalry sabers. Sometime in the late 1850s (the earliest seen was 1859), Ames started using a new mark on all enlisted models that was carried through the Civil War. The words Made by/Ames Mfg. Co./Chicopee/Mass are enclosed within an unraveled scroll, and initials/US/date is stamped on the opposite side of the blade. This scroll mark is usually very weak, and often has been partially worn down by the scabbard—this is a feature that helps in authenticating the sword. I have also seen one other Ames mark, which I've seen repeatedly, but only on M1860 cavalry sabers dated 1864. The mark is shaped like an arc with the words Ames Mfg. Co./Chicopee./Mass.



## Major Battles Fought During Military Service of Alfred S. Eaton.

(Alfred's presence in these battles is based upon the military record of regiment battle attendance which was cross referenced with the dates of Eaton's service records with these regiments).

### Fredericksburg I

**Other Names:** Marye's Heights

**Location:** Spotsylvania County and Fredericksburg

**Campaign:** Fredericksburg Campaign (November-December 1862)

**Date(s):** December 11-15, 1862

**Principal Commanders:** Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside [US]; Gen. Robert E. Lee [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** 172,504 total (US 100,007; CS 72,497)

**Estimated Casualties:** 17,929 total (US 13,353; CS 4,576)

**Description:** On November 14, Burnside, now in command of the Army of the Potomac, sent a corps to occupy the vicinity of Falmouth near Fredericksburg. The rest of the army soon followed. Lee reacted by entrenching his army on the heights behind the town. On December 11, Union engineers laid five pontoon bridges across the Rappahannock under fire. On the 12th, the Federal army crossed over, and on December 13, Burnside mounted a series of futile frontal assaults on Prospect Hill and Marye's Heights that resulted in staggering casualties. Meade's division, on the Union left flank, briefly penetrated Jackson's line but was driven back by a counterattack. Union generals C. Feger Jackson and George Bayard, and Confederate generals Thomas R.R. Cobb and Maxey Gregg were killed. On December 15, Burnside called off the offensive and recrossed the river, ending the campaign. Burnside initiated a new offensive in January 1863, which quickly bogged down in the winter mud. The abortive "Mud March" and other failures led to Burnside's replacement by Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker in January 1863.

**Result(s):** Confederate victory

### Suffolk

**Other Names:** Fort Huger, Hill's Point

**Location:** Suffolk

**Campaign:** Longstreet's Tidewater Operations (February-May 1863)

**Date(s):** April 11-May 4, 1863

**Principal Commanders:** Brig. Gen. John Peck [US]; Lt. Gen. James Longstreet [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** Divisions (45,000 total)

**Estimated Casualties:** 152 total (1,160 for entire siege)

**Description:** On April 19, a Union infantry force landed on Hill's Point at the confluence of the forks of the Nansemond River. This amphibious force assaulted Fort Huger from the rear, quickly capturing its garrison, thus reopening the river to Union shipping. On April 24, Brig. Gen. Michael Corcoran's Union division mounted a reconnaissance-in-force from Fort Dix against Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett's extreme right flank. The Federals approached cautiously and were easily repulsed. On April 29, Gen. Robert E. Lee directed Longstreet to disengage from Suffolk and rejoin the Army of Northern Virginia at Fredericksburg. By May 4, the last of Longstreet's command had crossed the Blackwater River en route to Richmond.

**Result(s):** Inconclusive

## Honey Hill

**Location:** Jasper County

**Campaign:** Savannah Campaign (1864)

**Date(s):** November 30, 1864

**Principal Commanders:** Maj. Gen. John Hatch [US]; Col. Charles Colcock [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** 6,400 total (US 5,000; CS 1,400)

**Estimated Casualties:** 796 total (US 746; CS 50)

**Description:** Leaving Hilton Head on November 28, a Union expeditionary force under Maj. Gen. John P. Hatch steamed up the Broad River in transports to cut the Charleston & Savannah Railroad near Pocotaligo. Hatch disembarked at Boyd's Landing and marched inland. On November 30, Hatch encountered a Confederate force of regulars and militia under Col. Charles J. Colcock at Honey Hill. Determined attacks by U.S. Colored Troops (including the 54th Massachusetts) failed to capture the Confederate entrenchments or cut the railroad. Hatch retired after dark, withdrawing to his transports at Boyd's Neck.

**Result(s):** Confederate victory

## Mansura

**Other Names:** Smith's Place, Marksville

**Location:** Avoyelles Parish

**Campaign:** Red River Campaign (1864)

**Date(s):** May 16, 1864

**Principal Commanders:** Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks [US]; Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** Banks's Red River Expeditionary Force [US]; District of West Louisiana [CS]

**Estimated Casualties:** Unknown

**Description:** As Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks's Red River Expeditionary Force retreated down Red River, Confederate forces under Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor attempted to slow the Union troops' movements and, if possible, deplete their numbers or, better yet, destroy them. The Union forces passed Fort DeRussy, reached Marksville, and then continued east. At Mansura, Taylor massed his forces in an open prairie that controlled access to the three roads traversing the area, where he hoped his artillery could cause many casualties. Early on the morning of May 16, the Union forces approached, and skirmishing quickly ensued. After a four-hour fight (principally an artillery duel), a large Union force massed for a flank attack, inducing the Rebels to fall back. The Union troops marched to Simmsport. Taylor's force could harass the enemy's retrograde but was unable to halt it.

**Result(s):** Union victory

## Spanish Fort

**Location:** Baldwin County

**Campaign:** Mobile Campaign (1865)

**Date(s):** March 27-April 8, 1865

**Principal Commanders:** Maj. Gen. E.R.S. Canby [US]; Brig. Gen. Randall L. Gibson [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** XVI and XIII Corps [US]; Spanish Fort Garrison [CS]

**Estimated Casualties:** 1,401 (US 657; CS 744)

**Description:** Maj. Gen. E.R.S. Canby's XIII and XVI corps moved along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay forcing the Confederates back into their defenses. Union forces then concentrated on Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. On March 27, 1865, Canby's forces rendezvoused at Danley's Ferry and immediately undertook a siege of Spanish Fort. The Union had enveloped the fort by April 1, and on April 8 captured it. Most of the Confederate forces, under the command of Brig. Gen. Randall L. Gibson, escaped and fled to Mobile, but Spanish Fort was no longer a threat.

**Result(s):** Union victory

## Fort Blakely

**Location:** Baldwin County

**Campaign:** Mobile Campaign (1865)

**Date(s):** April 2-9, 1865

**Principal Commanders:** Maj. Gen. E.R.S. Canby [US]; Brig. Gen. St. John R. Liddell [CS]

**Forces Engaged:** XIII and XVI Corps [US]; Fort Blakely Garrison [CS]

**Estimated Casualties:** Total 4,475. April 9 only 3,529 (US 629; CS 2,900)

**Description:** E.R.S. Canby's forces, the XVI and XIII corps, moved along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, forcing the Confederates back into their defenses. Union forces then concentrated on Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. By April 1, Union forces had enveloped Spanish Fort, thereby releasing more troops to focus on Fort Blakely. Brig. Gen. St. John R. Liddell, with about 4,000 men, held out against the much larger Union force until Spanish Fort fell on April 8, allowing Canby to concentrate 16,000 men for the attack on April 9. Sheer numbers breached the Confederate earthworks compelling the Confederates to capitulate. The siege and capture of Fort Blakely was basically the last combined-force battle of the war. African-American forces played a major role in the successful Union assault.

**Result(s):** Union victory (Fort Blakely surrendered.)