

## Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society

218 W. Walnut St., Nevada, MO 64772

Email: [Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net](mailto:Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net)


Website: <https://vernon.mogenweb.org/> (new website)

### January 2024 Newsletter ©

#### Society Meeting: Wednesday, 17 Jan 2024.

The Cedar & Vernon Co MO Genealogical Society meeting will be held Wed, 17 Jan 2024, in the Nevada Library's Annex, 200 W. Walnut St, Nevada, MO. The doors will open at 9:30 a.m.; the meeting will begin at 10 a.m.


**Agee Coat of Arms**



**Researching the Agee Family**

10:00 a.m.  
Wed, 17 Jan 2024  
Nevada Library Annex  
200 West Walnut Street

Monthly genealogy meeting & program  
Cedar & Vernon Co MO Genealogical Society  
Email: [Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net](mailto:Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net)  
Website: <https://Vernon.MOGenWeb.org>



**Everyone Welcome !**

Calendar year 2024 Society Dues are \$10 per person (\$15 per couple in the same household), and can be mailed to:

Cedar & Vernon Co MO Gen Soc  
Attn: Membership  
218 W. Walnut St.  
Nevada, MO 64772

The monthly emailed newsletter and free personal family research lookups in the new cemetery database are benefits of membership.

Tentative program subjects have been outlined for calendar year 2024 and can be seen at the above link. If you have a program subject or a special speaker you would like to see included, please contact the Society.

**Vernon County, Missouri**



**A MOGenWeb Project**

The new Vernon County Missouri GenWeb Project website is "live" and the old website has only one page which directs researchers to the new site. An alphabetical list of subject resources and their links are at [Resources](#).

Do you recognize the three logo pictures? L to R: Andrew Jackson Longacre and wife Sarah Frances Caton Longacre; the Temple, Missouri Store and Post Office; and the Nevada Missouri Courthouse. The local genealogical society appreciates promotion of the society's meetings, programs, and projects on the Vernon MO GenWeb site.

**Free MO State Archives program**, live on Facebook: "The Jefferson City Civil Pilots: From Lincoln University to Tuskegee Airmen." Thursday, 18 Jan 2024, 7 p.m. by Michelle Brooks. Aviation captivated young men before World War II, regardless of their skin color. Lincoln University of Missouri and the old Jefferson Airfield offered the only program west of the Mississippi River exclusively for Black pilots. [www.facebook.com/missouristatearchives/live](http://www.facebook.com/missouristatearchives/live)

**1973 Missouri Death Certificates** are now available for volunteers to transcribe, according to an announcement by the Missouri State Archives.

To help with this fantastic project, please contact the volunteer coordinator and register at this link: <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/evolve/records/> All Missouri death certificates that are at least 50 years old are available online to research.

**Find A Grave Website.** Periodically, it is important to review some information which is often misunderstood about the Find A Grave website. The below is copied with permission from the Vernon.MOGenWeb website.

**“FindAGrave is owned by Ancestry.com.** Thousands of generous volunteers have posted cemetery information and gravestone pictures on the [Find A Grave](https://www.findagrave.com) website. As user-submitted information, some is correct and some is not correct (including cemeteries themselves or the cemetery in which a burial is located). Genealogical proof of a memorial on the Find A Grave website is limited to the engraving on the gravestone and copies of official documents which may have been posted on the memorial. Volunteer submitted information without proof documents should be researched to prove the information is correct. Let's work together to reduce incorrect information. *Many Vernon County burials are included, but no Vernon County cemetery's listing is 100% complete. The number of memorials for any cemetery on Find A Grave is only the number which volunteers have contributed and not the number of known burials in a cemetery.* Local cemetery directories are sale items for the organizations that work to help make resources available for one's personal research and should not be posted on Ancestry's Find A Grave website.”

Additionally, from the Find A Grave website: “Photo and GPS Percentages. These percentages indicate the number of Find a Grave memorials that have a grave photo or GPS coordinates. **We don't know the total number of burials in a cemetery,** so we cannot calculate a percentage of those with memorials, photos or GPS coordinates.” [Emphasis added.]

When publishing content from the website, correct attribution/genealogical citation should be given and permission obtained from the memorial manager. Simply saying it is “from Find A Grave” is not adequate or sufficient if the information is being published for distribution. The Find A Grave

website provides a sample citation at the bottom of each memorial page. An example of this is:

“*Find a Grave, database and images* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44369409/isaac-h-jones>: accessed 9 January 2024), memorial page for Isaac H. Jones (18 Nov 1818–19 Mar 1849), Find a Grave Memorial ID [44369409](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44369409), citing Moore Cemetery, Nevada, Vernon County, Missouri, USA; Maintained by [47197580](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44369409/contributor/47197580) (contributor [47197580](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44369409/contributor/47197580)).” The words “and images” can be removed if the gravestone photo is not being published but other information from the memorial is. It is unethical to publish another's work without proper citation and permission simply because it is on the internet. The key word is “publish.” This editor obtains written permission (which is filed) when another person's work is published; and a point will be made to use more complete citations to allow others to access original documents themselves.

### **Midwest Genealogy Center's Spring Seminar: A Day With The Genetic Genealogist, Blaine Bettinger.**

16 Mar 2024, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tickets are \$50 and includes four presentations that link the use of DNA to genealogy research. Lunch will be provided.

<https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/events/spring-seminar> Car pooling available from Nevada, MO; email [Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net](mailto:Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net) for information.

### **SURNAMES ROSEBERRY AND WAYLAND A 1997 Genealogy Message Board Query**

Several years ago, researchers heavily relied on “message boards” to post questions about their family, hoping another researcher who was also researching a branch of the family would have information, a family Bible, or an interesting story passed down that they would share. Today, family history is conducted quite differently. We understand the need to see copies of actual documents which prove genealogical facts, and many documents can now be easily located online. But we also still need to learn from other researchers those word-of-mouth stories from an Auntie or what an elderly Grandma or Grandpa might remember from childhood or a story they were told many years earlier by a family member.

One of the more widely used message boards was the free RootsWeb board which had about any category in which you might be interested—

geographical locations, surnames, and a variety of genealogy-related subjects. Although the boards have been inactive since 2010, the messages were still accessible.

The message board for Vernon County, Missouri had several queries posted by researchers dating from October 1996 through April 2010. When transferring the MOVernon RootsWeb website to its new "home" at [Vernon.MOGenWeb.org](http://Vernon.MOGenWeb.org) this fall, it was determined that the old queries needed to also be moved to enable retaining them before they were converted to static, read-only items or possibly deleted sometime after the end of 2023 by Ancestry.com. The queries were actually the property of the person who had posted them. While moving the web pages, the following message board post caught this editor's eye because it was large and detailed, mentioned the Civil War, and offered to share copies of a Civil War era letter that had connections to Vernon County. The query reads:

**Surnames:** Roseberry Wayland  
**Submitter:** Richard Cormack (email)  
**Date:** Fri Oct 3, 1997

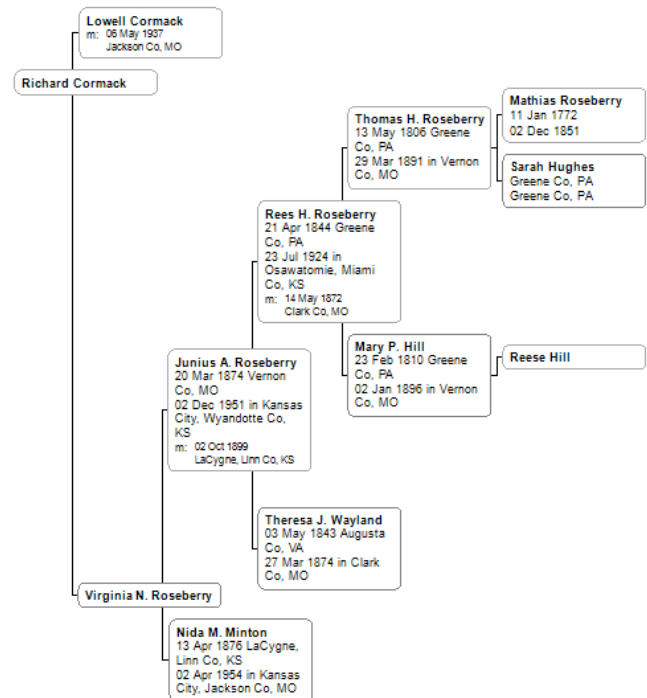
Mathias and Reese Roseberry were in the 21st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, which I have assumed was formed at least partially out of Vernon County because that is where their father Thomas Hughes Roseberry lived and died. Mathias was mortally wounded in action on April 9, 1865 during the siege on rebel Fort Blakeley, Alabama, only hours after Lee surrendered at Appomattox. His brother Reese was with him when he passed away early the next morning. Family lore has it that Reese married his older brother Mathias' sweetheart, Sue Wayland upon returning to Vernon County after the war. Reese was my great grandfather. I would love to find out about any trace information from Vernon county on the Roseberry or Wayland families. I have a copy of the original letter of condolence from Mathias' commander (Blackburn) to Thomas Hughes Roseberry. If you are interested in acquiring a copy of my copy, let me know. My sister still has Sue Wayland's silk wedding dress and dress gloves, in excellent condition too.

An email was immediately sent to Mr. Cormack, hoping almost beyond hope that his email address was still active. Because RootsWeb

previously had the option to update a user's email address (which he had done), the email did get through to him! Several emails were exchanged, and the following information and numerous pictures were shared from Richard Cormack and his sister for publication in this newsletter. Additional research on the Roseberry, Wayland, and Hiller families and their connections to Vernon County was conducted by this editor, and copies of the documents will be provided to the Cormack family.

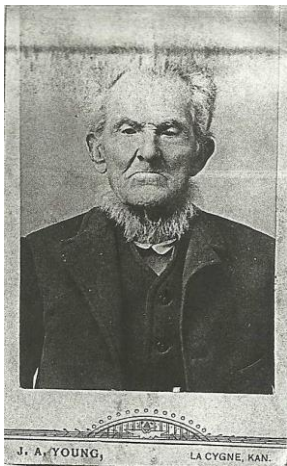
The research process included searching census, birth, death, marriage, court, military, and probate records; information from published history and cemetery books, and newspaper items which mentioned the Roseberry, Wayland, and Hiller families. User-submitted information such as online family trees, Find A Grave memorials, etc., were reviewed only for clues as to where other actual genealogical records and information might be found.

A family chart is provided to help understand the family lineage and connections.



Two additional children of Thomas H. Roseberry and Mary P. Hill are included in this article: Sarah Roseberry who married William Hiller and Mathias Roseberry.

Thomas Hughes Roseberry was born 13 May 1806 in Rogersville, Greene County, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Mathias Roseberry and Sarah Hughes. Greene County was predominantly a farming community, and Thomas Roseberry continued the family farming tradition, married Miss Mary Hill, and had several children. By 1850 Thomas Roseberry and his young family had moved westward from Pennsylvania to Clark County, Missouri, the most northeastern county in Missouri, bordering both Iowa and Illinois. Thomas Roseberry continued his farming vocation, and he and his wife remained in Clark County, Missouri until sometime between about 1875 and 1880 at which time 74-year-old Thomas Roseberry and his 70-year-old wife Mary are then living with their widowed son, Reese Roseberry, and his two small children in Linn County, Kansas. The Kansas State Census shows Thomas and Mary Roseberry also residing with Reese Roseberry and his two children in 1885. Specific dates are given in his obituary on page 5.



The names Thomas, Mathias, Hughes, and Reece/Rees were given to numerous descendants in this family.

The only photo of Thomas Hughes Roseberry which could be located looks to be a machine copy of a photograph that was taken by J. A. Young, photographer, La Cygne, KS.

Thomas H. Roseberry is enumerated in Moundville Township, Vernon County, Missouri at the time the 1890 Veterans Census was taken (House/Family 152) and was living in the home of his son-in-law William Hiller and daughter Sarah in Vernon County at the time of his death 29 Mar 1891.

Three of the children of Thomas and Mary Roseberry researched for this article include:

**Sarah Roseberry** was born 1838 in Greene County, Pennsylvania. **William Hiller**, was also born in Greene County, Pennsylvania. He moved with the Roseberry family to Clark County,

Missouri, and there married Sarah Roseberry in Sep 1857. After their marriage, they moved to Vernon County, Missouri in about 1858. Vernon County Deed Index Book B shows that William Hiller transacted land purchases as early as 1855 in Vernon County. The William Hiller biography published in the 1887 Vernon County Missouri History can be read at [https://vernon.mogenweb.org/bios/hiller\\_william.htm](https://vernon.mogenweb.org/bios/hiller_william.htm)

**Mathias Roseberry** was born 1840 in Greene County, Pennsylvania and was killed in 1865.

**Rees Roseberry** was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania in 1844 and married Theresa "Sue" Wayland 14 May 1872 in Clark County, Missouri. In September 1872 Rees Roseberry was appointed Postmaster at St. Francisville in Clark County, Missouri.

Rees and Theresa Roseberry's son, Junius Abraham Roseberry, was born 20 Mar 1874. Sadly, Theresa, the wife and mother, died seven days later, 27 Mar 1874, in Clark County, Missouri and is buried there in Wolf Cemetery. Three years following the death of his first wife, Rees Roseberry married Emily Tinsman, Mar 1877, in Clark County, Missouri. A daughter was born to them in January 1878 in Kansas City, Missouri. Emily, the wife and mother, died sometime later in 1878 or in 1879; and she is buried in Linn County, Kansas. Following the death of his second wife, Reese Roseberry married Mary Wheeler in June 1886 at Mound City in Linn County, Kansas. Mary predeceased her husband in 1903 in Linn County. Rees Roseberry died in 1924 in Miami County, Kansas and was buried in the Prairie Home Cemetery in LaCygne, Kansas. Copies of these marriage records are [here](#).

Reese and Theresa Roseberry's son, Junius A.

Roseberry, married

Nida Minton in 1899 at the home of Nida's father near LaCygne, Kansas. This appears to be their 1899 wedding picture.



Children born to Junius and Nida Roseberry included Virginia Roseberry who married Lowell Cormack in May 1937 in Jackson County, Missouri.



Missouri. They are Richard Cormack's parents. This lovely photograph is their wedding picture.

Roseberry's in the Civil War

**Thomas H. Roseberry** was a Captain in Company G, 21<sup>st</sup> Regt Missouri Infantry which was organized out of Clark County, MO. He filed for a Civil War pension 25 May 1876, and Mary filed for a widow's pension 23 May 1892 from

NAME OF SOLDIER: <i>Roseberry, Thomas H.</i>				
NAME OF DEPENDENT: <i>Widow, Roseberry, Mary</i>				
SERVICE: <i>Co. G, 21st Mo. Inf.</i>				
DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
<i>17th May 76</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>219899</i>	<i>350533</i>	<i>Mo</i>
<i>19th May 92</i>	<i>Widow</i>	<i>550957</i>	<i>340850</i>	<i>Mo</i>
ATTORNEY:				
REMARKS:				

U.S. Civil War Pension Index; Roseberry, Thomas H., Ancestry.com. Accessed 4 Nov 2023.

Missouri following his death in March 1891. Capt. Thomas H. Roseberry is buried in National Cemetery #1 at Fort Scott, Kansas; and his wife, Mary, is buried beside him. Their obituaries follow.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

**Of Thomas Hughes Roseberry—Dead After Four Score and Ten Years of Honorable Life.**

Thomas Hughes Roseberry died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William Hiller of Harrison township, Vernon county, Missouri, on the 29th day of March, 1891, at 12 o'clock, of pneumonia.

Mr. Roseberry was born on the 15th of March, 1806, in Washington county, Pennsylvania. He married Miss Mary Hill, a daughter of Colonel Reese Hill, who served under General Harrison in the war of 1812, on the 19th of March, 1829.

Mr. Roseberry served many years as commissioner of Washington county, and was also captain of the "Washington Grays," which was held among the reserves during the Mexican war.

He moved from Pennsylvania in the fall of 1844, to Clark county, Missouri, where he lived until 1877, serving three terms as county judge.

Captain Roseberry commanded a company of home guards in north Missouri at the outbreak of the war, and was in the fights at Athens, Etna, Lancaster and Honeywell. A rebel flag displayed on the court house at Waterloo, Missouri, by order of Judge Richardson, was taken down by Captain Roseberry under very perilous circumstances.

Captain Roseberry was then mustered into the regular service in the winter of 1861-2 as captain of company G, 21st Missouri, being assigned to duty under General Bev. Prentice, and took part in the battle of Shiloh and in the Corinth campaign. On account of ill health he resigned in the fall of 1862 and returned to North Missouri. He moved to Linn county, Kansas, residing on his farm until the fall of 1890 when he sold out and came down to his daughter's in Vernon county, Missouri, to pass his remaining days, which ended at the ripe old age of 84 years, 10 months and 15 days. His family consisted of five sons and two daughters. The two elder sons were in California at the outbreak of the war. The three younger followed their father into the

service. Matthias was killed at the storming of Fort Blakely, April 9, 1865. Heath and Thomas still survive.

Captain Roseberry was a member of "R. B. Mitchell" Post No. 170, G. A. R. department of Kansas, at La Cygne.

He was buried in the National cemetery at Fort Scott, by William H. Lytle Post No. 32, March 30, 1891.

Fort Scott Daily Monitor, Fort Scott, Kansas; Tuesday 31 Mar 1891, page 3. Accessed 4 Nov 2023. <https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/56890001>

From the two articles below, Mary Roseberry is the first woman buried beside her husband in the Fort Scott National Cemetery, having first been buried in a Vernon County, Missouri cemetery.

#### Obituary.

Mrs. Mary Roseberry of Vernon county, Missouri, peacefully passed away Thursday evening, January 2d, at 8 o'clock, at the home of her son-in-law Wm. Hiller of Harrison township.

She was the daughter of Col. Reese Hill of Winchester, Va., who served in the war of 1812 under General Harrison on the Lake Erie, and the widow of the late Captain Thomas H. Roseberry of the 21st Missouri infantry.

She was born in Green county, Penn., February 23, 1810. For 45 years she has been a consistent member of the Presbyterian church.

Four sons and three daughters survive to mourn the loss of a mother, who has ever lived to comfort and cheer her children and grand children, and speaks words of motherly wisdom.

The entire community sympathize with the bereaved in this their dark hour of affliction. M.

Fort Scott Daily Monitor, Fort Scott, Kansas; Saturday 4 Jan 1896, page 3. Accessed 4 Nov 2023. <https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/59401449>

## WAS BURIED HERE.

Mrs. Thomas Roseberry the Only Woman Buried in Our National Burying Ground.

There is but one woman interred in

the National cemetery. Her name was Mrs. Thomas Roseberry and her relatives came up from Pittsburg the other day to decorate the grave. The story of why the women's body was buried here is an interesting one. The Pittsburg Headlight says:

Mrs. Wm. Hiller, of Kansas City, is a visitor in the city the guest of her cousin, Mrs. T. L. Scott. Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Hiller will leave in the morning for Fort Scott to attend the Decoration day ceremonies and decorate the graves of Mrs. Hiller's parents in the National cemetery there. Her father, Thomas Roseberry, was a captain in the Twenty-first Missouri regiment at Fort Scott, and her mother is also buried at his side, and is said to be the only woman buried in a National cemetery in the United States. There is a long story regarding how her husband died and up to the time of her death she had always expressed a wish that she be buried by his side.

Influence was brought to bear by her friends with the government and the valiant services of Captain Roseberry had considerable to do with granting the request.

When the request was granted, which had been worked upon by her friends with an influential standing with the government under very discouraging circumstances at times, was told, she shed tears of joy. She did not live very long after that and when she died her life desires were carried out.

The Fort Scott Republican, Fort Scott, Kansas; Saturday 2 Jun 1906 page 1. Accessed 6 Jan 2024. <https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/519808419>

**Mathias Roseberry** was a Sergeant, Company G, 21<sup>st</sup> Regt Infantry Volunteers under Capt Blackburn in the Civil War. He enlisted 15 June 1861 at St. Francisville in Clark County, Missouri. He was wounded at Ft. Blakeley, Alabama, on 9 Apr 1865, and died the following morning. He was about 25 years old at the time of his death.



*Sergeant Mathias Roseberry of Co. G, 21st Missouri Infantry Regiment in uniform with rifle and knife. [United states, between 1861 and 1865] Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <[www.loc.gov/item/2020632367/](http://www.loc.gov/item/2020632367/)>. Accessed 11 Nov 2023.*

The above picture of Sgt Roseberry in uniform with rifle and knife is identified as a hand-colored tintype, and readers can see from the hinges on the left that it is in a case that closes. The original picture was one of more than 700 Civil War era photographs that were donated in 2020 to the Library of Congress as part of the private Liljenquist Family Collection of Civil War Photographs.

Two Find A Grave memorials were found for Mathias Roseberry. One indicated “Unknown burial location” and it did not have a gravestone picture. The second memorial was in Wolf Cemetery, Clark County, Missouri, and it did have a picture of the gravestone. An edit was submitted to merge the two memorials, and the

memorial that did not have the cemetery listed or a gravestone picture was immediately merged into the memorial in Wolf Cemetery. All of the family links, etc., were incorporated into the correct burial location. It is nice to know that information on this young man who lost his life during the Civil War now has details of his family and their connection to Vernon County recorded.



*Find a Grave, database and gravestone photo (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/252024111/mathias-roseberry>: accessed 8 January 2024), memorial page for Mathias Roseberry (14 Dec 1840–11 Apr 1865), Find a Grave Memorial ID [252024111](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/252024111), citing Wolf Cemetery, Saint Francisville, Clark County, Missouri, USA; Maintained by Jimmy G (contributor [49627678](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/49627678)). Used with permission.*

From family member and researcher Richard Cormack, it was further learned that “Mathias was mortally wounded in action on April 9, 1865 during the siege on the rebel Fort Blakeley, Alabama, only hours after Lee surrendered at Appomattox. His brother Rees was with him when he passed away early the next morning. Family lore has it that Rees married his older brother Mathias' sweetheart, Sue Wayland, upon returning” home after the war. A copy of the original letter of condolence from Mathias' commander (Capt. Blackburn) to the father, Thomas H. Roseberry follows.

*In the Field near Fort Blakely, Ala.  
April 10<sup>th</sup> 1864.*

*Thomas H. Roseberry, Sr.*

*Dear Sir*

*It becomes my painful duty to inform you and your Family that your Son Matthias is no more. he was mortally wounded while with his company charging the Rebel Fort Blakely on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 o'clock P.M. and died the 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 o'clock A.M. his Brother Rees and Hughes stayed with him from the time he was wounded until his death. his private accts I will leave with his brother to settle up and forward as you may direct his Final Statements I will forward to Washington D.C. as soon as Possible he has pay due him from the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1864 also of \$240.00 vet Bounty. The action was short and bloody I lost Seven men in Killed and wounded Sergeant Woodruff and Chas B Lewis are both wounded. I remain with feelings of Sympathy for you in your loss.*

*Yours Respectfully  
Ed. K. Blackburn, Capt.  
Co. G. 21<sup>st</sup> Mo. Vet. Vols. I.*

Below is a transcription of the Captain Blackburn letter to Mathias Roseberry's father:

"In the Field near Fort Blakely, Ala.  
April 10<sup>th</sup> 1864.

Thomas H. Roseberry. Sr.  
Dear Sir

It becomes my painful duty to inform you and your Family that your Son Matthias is no more. he was mortally wounded while with his company charging the Rebel Fort Blakely on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 o'clock P.M. and died the 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 o'clock A.M. his Brother Rees and Hughes stayed with him from the time he was wounded until his death. his private accts I will leave with his brother to settle up and forward as you may direct his Final Statements I will forward to Washington D.C. as soon as Possible he has pay due him from the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1864 also \$240.00/100 vet Bounty. The action was short and bloody I lost Seven men in Killed and wounded Sergeant Woodruff and Chas B Lewis are both wounded. I remain with feelings of Sympathy for you in your loss.

Yours Respectfully  
Ed. K. Blackburn, Capt.  
Co "G" 21<sup>st</sup> Mo. Vet. Vols. I."

From the *LaCygne Journal*, LaCygne, Kansas; Saturday 3 Jan 1891, page 2. <https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/386859362>. Accessed 4 Nov 2023:

"R. H. Roseberry [Mathias' brother, Rees H. Roseberry], of Paris township, hands us an old soldier letter, requesting its publication, expressing the belief that it will interest the JOURNAL'S soldier readers. Mr. Roseberry, his father, and three brothers served in the Union army. The letter referred to was written by Matthias Roseberry, at the age of sixteen (sic) years, four days before he was killed at Fort Blakely, which fort the command in which he was, was endeavoring to take when he wrote the letter. He enlisted June 15, 1861, in Co. G. Twenty-first Missouri Infantry Volunteers, and served until 1863, when, as a sergant, (sic) he was killed. The letter, which was written to his mother, was sent to her at Saint Francisville, Mo., and was kept by her until lately, when she gave it to R. H. Roseberry. This is the letter:

CAMPED NEAR MOBILE, ALA }  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1865. }

Dear Mother: With pleasure I write you a few lines to inform you that Brother H. and I are well and hope when these few lines come home that they may find all well. Mother, we left New Orleans for Dorfine Island on the 22d of last month, and on the 24<sup>th</sup> we joined our command at what is called Fishing River, and on the 25<sup>th</sup> we struck our tents and took up the march in the direction of Mobile. The first day we met the Johnnies and drove them four miles, without much loss on our side; and on the 26<sup>th</sup> we skirmished with them all day and drove them nine miles; and on the 27<sup>th</sup> we drove them in their holes or ports, which you please call them; and since that time we have been fighting all the time. The Johnnies raise some two hundred pound shots on us, which makes a fellow feel rather squally, and when they hit a fellow it don't leave a grease spot of him. We are within two hundred yards of the fort with our main line and our skirmishers are within forty steps of them. I think we will take them in a week or so. The name of this fort is Spanish; if you can get a war map you can see where we are fighting. Our loss is pretty heavy, but none in our regiment yet, as we have been held in reserve, but there is no telling how soon we will be in front. Our regiment was all on fatigue yesterday making baskets to build forts with, and there are some on fatigue today. I guess they will put them up. Well, enough of war.

Mother there are great revivals of religion going on in the Army now. I was at meeting last night and saw some three or four go to the mourners' bench, and there have been hundreds of men that have experienced religion in the last month; some might pretend to say that these men were scared into this, but I know better than this and it is no use to say that men who have been in the Army for three years and have been in as many battles as the 16<sup>th</sup> Army Corps have been that they can be scared at this late hour. No, I think these men have experienced true religion, and I only hope it may extent throughout the 16<sup>th</sup> A. C., and not stop here but extend throughout the whole Army. There is meeting ever night and there will be meeting tomorrow if nothing happens more than at this time. Some may want to know how we can hold meetings and fight; it is very easy done here for we have the Johnnies in their holes, and we can hold them in there and have our meetings in the rear at the same time.

Cousin Hughes is well. Cousin James' heath is very well. Brother H. is very fleshy. My health is better now than it has been for years. I am very fleshy; my weight is one hundred and sixty-five pounds.

Mother, this country is very different from any we have ever been in. The timber is principally pine, and very open. There is scarcely any underbrush. There is plenty of good water; it is as clear as crystal, and all spring water.

April 5<sup>th</sup>.

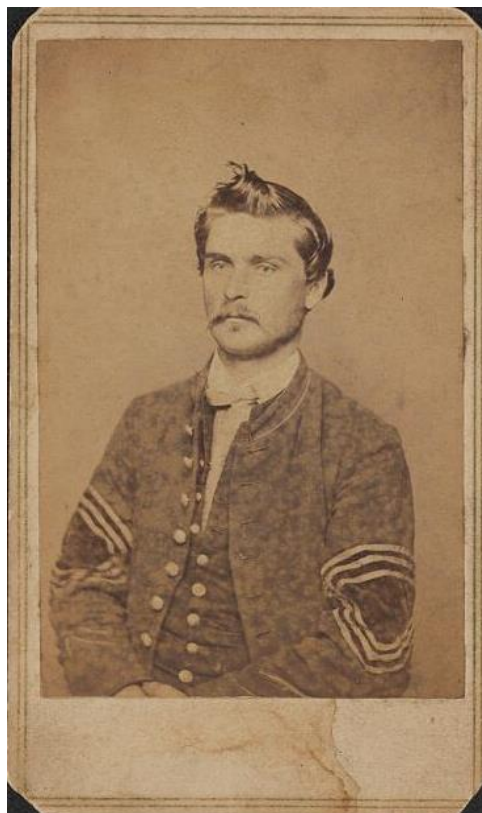
As I did not get to finish my letter on the 1<sup>st</sup>, I thought I would finish it today. Mother, I have been on duty for the last two days, and night before last I was on a different kind of duty that I never was on before. Our company went at the dead hour of midnight and crawled up near the rebel skirmishers and built rifle pits for our skirmishers. It was warm work but Company G never hesitates to do duty under any circumstances, whatever. We were complimented by our commander very highly. Our loss so far is four men wounded in our regiment, one in Co. J, slightly, one in Co. F, one in Co. I, and one in Co. H; the name of the man wounded in our Co. is Jacob Glesener; father and brother Thomas both know him; he is not wounded very bad and I think he will be able to do duty all the time. Mother, we will have very hard

service this summer, I think, or part of the summer. I don't think it will take all summer to take Mobile, but till we do take that place we will have fighting all the time.

As Brother H wishes to write some I will close by saying if you wish to hear from me anyways soon you will have to send me some postage stamps for I can't get any in this country, even if I had money, and we are out of money and postage stamps both. We have not been paid for five months, and I don't care whether we ever get any more while I am in the Army, for a soldier is just as well off without money as with for the Government furnishes everything that is necessary for a soldier to have while he is in the field, except postage stamps. You needn't look for a letter from me till you send me some stamps. You can use my own money to buy them. Give kindest regards to Sisters Sade and Amanda; tell them all to write. Brother Thomas might write to me often if he would. I am in the best of spirits and my health is better now than it has ever been. Write soon. From your most affectionate son,  
Matthias Roseberry.

*To his Father and Mother."*

**Rees Roseberry** was a Private, Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> N.E. Missouri Home Guards under Capt.



Roseberry, his father. He enlisted 15 Jun 1861 at St. Francisville in Clark County, Missouri, and the unit disbanded 15 Aug 1861. Reese then enlisted 31 Mar 1864 as a Private, Company G, 21<sup>st</sup> Regt Infantry Volunteers under Capt. Blackburn. He mustered out 19 April 1866 at Ft. Morgan, Alabama. Reese Roseberry was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic Osawatomie Post 322. He died 23 Jul 1924 at Osawatomie, Kansas and is buried in the Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, Kansas.



Rees Roseberry at a military reunion c. 1920.

Richard Cormack's sister has the silk wedding dress and dress gloves, still in excellent condition, which Theresa Wayland wore when she married Reese Roseberry in 1872. The following picture is of Richard's mother, Virginia Roseberry Cormack, wearing her grandmother's lovely silk wedding dress.

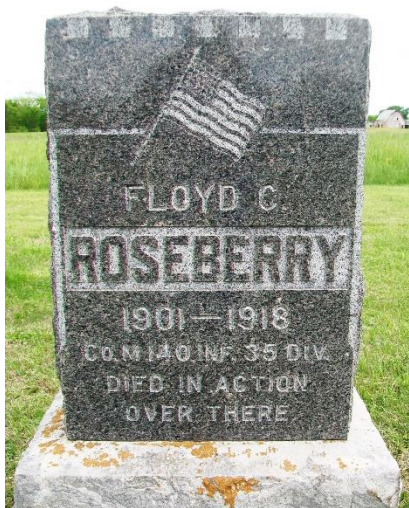


Virginia (Roseberry) Cormack's obituary is at this link and includes some interesting family history. [https://www.chaputbuoy.com/?action=obituaries.obit\\_view&o\\_id=1266689&fh\\_id=11017](https://www.chaputbuoy.com/?action=obituaries.obit_view&o_id=1266689&fh_id=11017)

Perhaps various members of the Roseberry family were in and out of Vernon County at different times from both Clark County, Missouri and Linn County, Kansas. The [1876, 1886, and 1903 maps of Harrison Township, Vernon County, Missouri](#), at this link show land that was owned by William Hiller and descendants in Harrison Township. Land in this area was originally given under Military Bounty Land Grants for service during the War of 1812, and generally, then purchased by land speculators who bought up large amounts to sell to people moving into the county. Thomas H. Roseberry was not listed as a land owner in the 1876 Vernon County map index. The elderly Roseberrys most likely lived with the Hiller family once they moved to Vernon County.

Did this article answer all of the questions asked in the original query? Probably not. But it does clarify some information and provides some information and documents not previously known. There is always more research which could be done. Over 12 Roseberry burials are listed in the

Vernon County Cemetery Database, with most being in Welborn Cemetery. One of note is Floyd C. Roseberry 1901 – 1918 who died in action during World War I in France, Company M, 140<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 25<sup>th</sup> Division.



Find a Grave, gravestone image (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/83908472/floyd-c-roseberry>): accessed 4 January 2024, memorial page for Floyd C Roseberry (1901–1918), Find a Grave Memorial ID [83908472](#), citing Welborn Cemetery, Moundville, Vernon County, Missouri, USA; Gravestone photo by William Fischer, Jr. (contributor [47039399](#).) Photo used with permission.

Floyd's parents are Frank Miles Roseberry and Margaret Sturgeon Roseberry. Frank M. Roseberry descends from John H. Roseberry who was a brother of Thomas Hughes Roseberry.

From this editor's Oct 22, 2023 email: ***"I'm still in shock that 21 years ago (!!)*** you posted a query, I stumbled upon it earlier today, and you still have the same email address. That in itself is a story."

**Acknowledgments:** Many thanks to both Richard Cormack and his sister who generously provided pictures and stories which had been passed down in their family. My thanks also to both William Fischer, Jr., and Jimmy G. for granting permission to publish their Roseberry gravestone pictures in the newsletter. And lastly, thanks also to Society member Marty for helping proofread the newsletter.

**Who Are YOU Researching?** Would you like to share some of your family history research with society members and have it recorded for posterity? Members are invited to submit articles about their research for publication in the newsletter.

If you have an **Historic or Family Picture and Story** that you would like to share in a future newsletter, please email them to the society at the above email address or bring to a meeting to be scanned. We welcome member research in each newsletter.

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This newsletter is published by the Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society, a 501(c)(3) organization. 2024 Officers of the Society are  
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***Thank You for your membership in support  
of the work of the Genealogical Society***