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**Lyman B. Foster, 1st Lieutenant, Co. A, 26th OH Infantry, USA**

- 1827 Feb 17: Lyman Brackett Foster was born to parents Simeon and Polly Foster in Canterbury, NH.
- 1850 Sept 9: The US Federal Census enumerated in Norfolk County, MA listed Lyman B. Foster at twenty three years old, employed as a farmer. He was living in the household of Samuel C. Hill and Foster also had a sister named Malissa with him.
- 1861 June 10: Enlisted in the US Army and was mustered into Co. A, 26th OH Infantry.
- 1862 June 23: Promoted to 2nd Lieutenant, Co. A, 26th OH Infantry.
- 1863 December 31-January 2: Wounded at the Battle of Stones River.

A fellow soldier in the 26th OH mentioned Lt. Foster in a letter to the *Urbana Union* Detailing the battle. It was printed in February of 1863 in part reads:

*“As our troops advanced into the town the enemy’s fire was kept up from*

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<sup>1</sup> Findagrave.com/user/David M Morin

*the woods on the left. Going down to the left of our line I found Captain Ewing with his men and part of mine in the edge of a piece of woods. He said the woods just across the cleared field in front of us was full of the enemy, and as the regiment was still advancing and getting beyond us and exposing its left flank to the rebel cavalry in the woods and the enemy's force and position in the woods were too strong for us we fell back to the regiment and I started the Adjutant and Sergeant Major, both of whom were mounted, off to find the General and tell him about the rebel cavalry on our flank and that one battery in the rear could reach them. As Spence (the Sergeant major) galloped down the railroad he saw them himself and one of them shot at him. He found the General and told him where the cavalry was and he said he would have the battery open on them but did not for some reason, and they withdrew.*

*Meantime the line kept on advancing beyond the town. Soon after Captain Ewing and I rejoined the battalion we were again sent out but slightly after the regiment was relieved in from by the 100th Illinois and put in reserve for the rest of the afternoon and the skirmishers were recalled. I got the order of recall and so did part of Co. B under Lieutenant Renick, but the rest of my company under **Foster** and part of Co. B, under Captain Ewing did not get it and continued in the advance skirmishing all afternoon; and just before we camped performed the important service of putting out the bridge over Stewarts' Creek which the enemy had set fire to retard our advance. They also captured a few horses.”<sup>2</sup>*

Feb 12: Promoted to 1st Lieutenant, Co. A, 26th OH Infantry.

1864 November 30: 1st Lt. Lyman Foster fought at the Battle of Franklin. His regiment was positioned on the western edge of Gen. Wagner's advance line. They were forced from this position by the attacking Confederate soldiers under Gen. John Bell Hood. Lyman was wounded in action at the Battle of Franklin. He was shot in the groin and this wound would disable him for the rest of his life.

1865 May 15: Discharged from the 26th Ohio Infantry.

1866 February 27: Foster applied for and was granted a military pension for his disabilities incurred while fighting in the Civil War.

1870 July 8: The US Federal Census enumerated in Merrimack County, NH listed Lyman B. Foster at forty three years old in the household of his parents Simeon, 74, and Polly, 61. He was listed as a “disabled soldier.”

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<sup>2</sup> Urbana Union, Urbana, OH, Wednesday, 11 Feb 1863, pg. 1 (accessed newspapers.com)

1872 Oct 5:

—At Canterbury, N. H., lives **Lyman R. Foster** who was brought home at the close of the war on a lounge, from which he has not risen since. He was wounded in the left thigh; the ball remains there still, and he can neither sit up nor lie down, but reclines, as he has done through all these years, at an angle midway between the horizontal and perpendicular. He now busies himself by teaching classes who come to his room, and by this means and his pension supports himself well. He has also organized a literary society in the town, which is flourishing finely. He is continually cheerful, and says he does not regret going to the war.

3

1875 Oct 7: Foster married Jamie Turner, a British woman, in Pepperell, MA.

1880 June 19: The US Federal Census enumerated in Middlesex County, MA listed Lyman at fifty three years old employed as a teacher. The census also lists his wife Jamie and their two year old daughter Jennie. Lyman was listed as being out of work for the past year and under the "Sick" column, his stated "Caused by wound in army, spine affection."

1882 Jan 16: Lyman Brackett Foster died in Reading, Massachusetts at fifty four years Old. He was buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery there.

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<sup>3</sup> Vermont Chronicle, Bellows Falls, Vermont, Saturday, 05 Oct 1872, pg. 7 (accessed newspapers.com)



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<sup>4</sup> Findagrave.com/user/John Glassford