

Maxwell Baker, Private, Co. A, 35 Indiana Infantry, US

1847 February 13: Maxwell Baker was born in Brookville, IN to Oliver and Catherina Brown Baker.

1850 November 15: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Highland, Franklin County, IN showed three-year-old Maxwell living with his parents and siblings. His father, Oliver, was listed as a farmer.

“Maxwell Baker was reared on his father's farm in Brookville township. Oliver Baker, his father, was a farmer timber cutter and large land owner in Brookville township. He was an active worker in the Christian church as was his wife. Fourteen children were born to Oliver Baker and wife four boys and ten girls.”¹

1860 July 5: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Brookville, Franklin County showed thirteen-year-old Maxwell living with his parents and siblings.

1864 October 15: Enlisted in the U.S. Army as a substitute and mustered into Co. A of the 35 Indiana Infantry.

“He enlisted in September 1864 as a member of Company A Thirty fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war He engaged in the battles of Franklin and Nashville and after the close of the war returned to his home in this county.”²

1865 September 30: Mustered out of the U.S. Army.

“Baker bought a small farm after returning from the war upon which he lived for four years”³

1869 October 9: Married Anna Mary Minneman in Franklin, IN.

1870 July 1: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Brookville, Franklin County, IN showed the newly married Maxwell and Anna living next door to her parents Henry and Sophia and three of her siblings (including future wife, Margaret.)

¹ Reifel, August Jacob. History of Franklin County, Indiana: Her People, Industries, and Institutions : with Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and Genealogical Records of Old Families. United States, Windmill Publications, 1915.

² ditto

³ ditto

Wife, Anna, died at some point between 1870-1873, leaving two infant children.

- 1873 July 15: Married his sister-in-law Margaret Elizabeth Minneman in Franklin, IN. Five months later their first child, William, was born.
*“In 1873 he moved to Brookville and engaged in the mercantile business At different times he owned a dry goods store a grocery store and a clothing store remaining in mercantile pursuits until 1908 when he retired from active work.”*⁴
- 1880 June 3: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Brookville, Franklin County, TN showed Maxwell, a saloon keeper, and Margaret living with their three young children: William, Anna and Emmet.
- 1895 *“In 1895 Maxwell Baker was elected trustee of Brookville township and held this position until 1900 He has also very acceptably served as assessor of his township For four years he was in the United States revenue service serving in this capacity under Cleveland's first administration He is an active worker in the Christian church as is his wife and he is now a trustee of the denomination”*⁵
- 1899 May 10: Maxwell and Margaret’s daughter, Anna, (named after his first wife and her sister)...the following obit was in the newspaper.

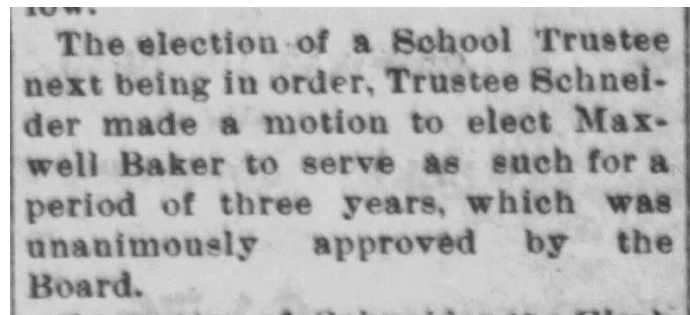
⁴ ditto

⁵ ditto



1900 June 13: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Brookville, Franklin County, IN showed Maxwell and Margaret living with a house full of their children, ages 4-21.

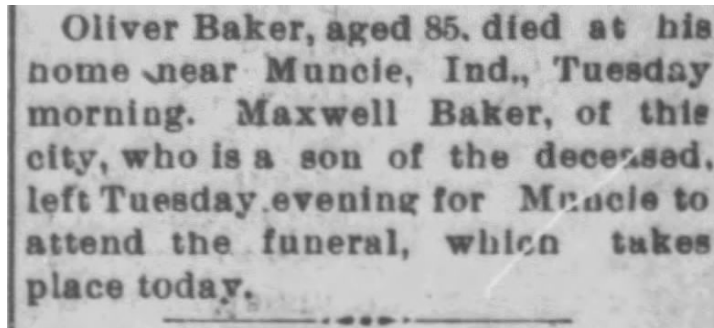
1904 Voted as a school trustee.



⁶ The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, IN, Thursday, 18 May 1899, pg. 1 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁷ The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, IN, Thursday, 16 Jun 1904, pg. 1 (accessed newspapers.com)

1905 May 30: Baker's father, Oliver, died and he traveled to Muncie to attend the funeral.

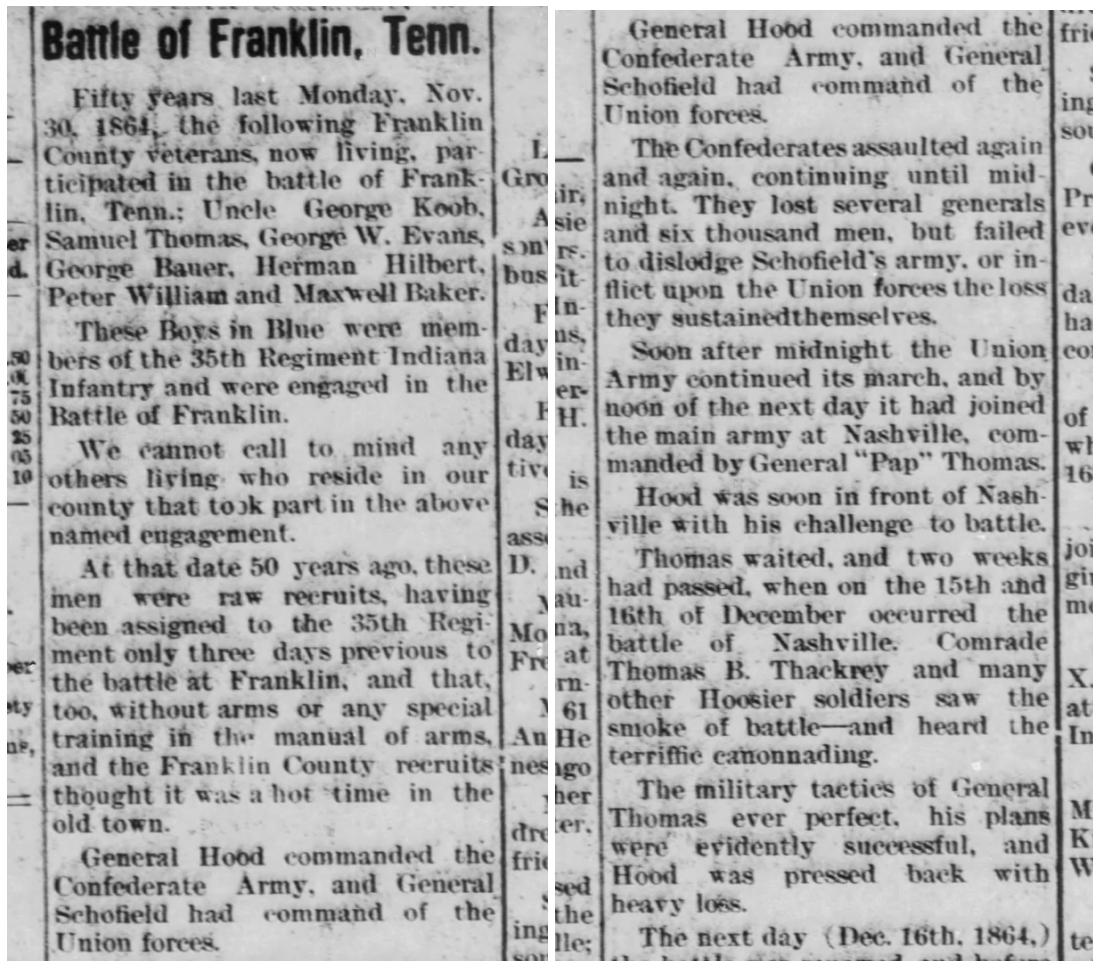


Oliver Baker, aged 85, died at his home near Muncie, Ind., Tuesday morning. Maxwell Baker, of this city, who is a son of the deceased, left Tuesday evening for Muncie to attend the funeral, which takes place today.

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1906 Baker resigned as school trustee for the town of Brookville.

1910 April 24: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Brookville, Franklin, IN showed a retired Maxwell and Margaret living with four of their children.



Battle of Franklin, Tenn.

Fifty years last Monday, Nov. 30, 1864, the following Franklin County veterans, now living, participated in the battle of Franklin, Tenn.: Uncle George Koob, Samuel Thomas, George W. Evans, George Bauer, Herman Hilbert, Peter William and Maxwell Baker.

These Boys in Blue were members of the 35th Regiment Indiana Infantry and were engaged in the Battle of Franklin.

We cannot call to mind any others living who reside in our county that took part in the above named engagement.

At that date 50 years ago, these men were raw recruits, having been assigned to the 35th Regiment only three days previous to the battle at Franklin, and that, too, without arms or any special training in the manual of arms, and the Franklin County recruits thought it was a hot time in the old town.

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The Confederates assaulted again and again, continuing until midnight. They lost several generals and six thousand men, but failed to dislodge Schofield's army, or inflict upon the Union forces the loss they sustained themselves.

Soon after midnight the Union Army continued its march, and by noon of the next day it had joined the main army at Nashville, commanded by General "Pap" Thomas.

Hood was soon in front of Nashville with his challenge to battle.

Thomas waited, and two weeks had passed, when on the 15th and 16th of December occurred the battle of Nashville. Comrade Thomas B. Thackrey and many other Hoosier soldiers saw the smoke of battle—and heard the terrific cannonading.

The military tactics of General Thomas ever perfect, his plans were evidently successful, and Hood was pressed back with heavy loss.

The next day (Dec. 16th, 1864,) the battle was renewed, and before

⁸ The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, IN, Thursday, 1 Jun 1905, pg. 8 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁹ The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, IN, Thursday, 3 Dec 1914, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

1917 June 8: Maxwell Baker died and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Indiana.

Maxwell Baker.

Maxwell Baker, son of Oliver and Catherine (Brown) Baker, was born February 13, 1847, in Brookville Township, Franklin County, Indiana.

He attended the schools in his native township, and was a lad of fourteen years when the late rebellion cast its shadow over our fair land.

In September, 1864, he enlisted as a member of Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He engaged in the battles of Nashville and Franklin, and, after the war was over, returned to his home in the country. He was twice married, the first union being with Anna Minneman, a sister of his second wife. She died leaving two children who died in infancy. Later he married Margaret Minneman and to this second union eight children were born, two of whom have preceded him in death. On returning from the war Maxwell Baker bought a small farm upon

which he lived for two years. In 1873 he moved to Brookville and engaged in various mercantile pursuits until 1908 when he retired from active work. In 1895 Maxwell Baker was elected trustee of Brookville Township and held this position until 1900. He has also served as assessor of his township. For four years he was in the United States revenue service, serving in this capacity under Cleveland's first administration. He was an active worker in the Christian Church, of which he was a trustee at the time of his death.

On the evening of June 8, 1917, after having lived three score years and ten, he closed his eyes and, without a struggle, quietly yielded up his soul unto Him who gave it.

Mr. Baker is survived by his widow, four sons, two daughters, two granddaughters, one brother, seven sisters, and a host of relatives and friends.

CARD OF THANKS.

We sincerely desire to thank our friends for their words of sympathy and deeds of kindness during our late bereavement.

Mrs. Maxwell Baker and Family.

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¹⁰ The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, IN, Thursday, 21 Jun 1917, pg. 5 (accessed newspapers.com)