

Dr. John Beach, Surgeon, 40th Ohio Infantry, USA

- 1829 January 29: John Noble Beach was born to Uri and Hannah Noble Beach near Amity, Madison County, OH.
- 1832 January 11: Beach's father, Uri, died in Amity. Uri was a manufacturer, he owned a saw-mill and a woolen manufactory.
- 1837 December 7: Beach's mother remarried a man named Clement Twiford. He was a farmer, teacher and methodist preacher.¹
- 1850 Graduated from Starling Medical College in Columbus, Ohio.



STARLING MEDICAL COMPANY, STATE AND SIXTH STREET.

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September 7: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Darby, Union County, OH showed a newly graduated John was already a practicing physician.

- 1858 June 1: Married Eliza Jane Snider in Champaign, OH.

¹ North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000, "History and Genealogy of the Family of Thomas Noble, of Westfield, Massachusetts: With Genealogical.." (accessed ancestry.com)

² remarkableohio.org

1860 August 2: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Jefferson, Madison County, OH showed John, a physician, and Eliza living with their infant daughter Harriet.

1862 April 1: Enlisted in the U.S. Army as a surgeon and was attached to the 40th OH Infantry.

1863 Spring: The 40th Ohio Infantry was garrisoned in Franklin, Tenn.
"During our stay in Franklin the duty was very heavy..."³

September 29: Dr. Beach wrote a letter home to the Editors of the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune listing the casualties from the 40th OH Infantry and 84th IN Infantry after the Battle of Chickamauga.

Casualties at the Battle of Chickamauga.

**FIELD HOSPITAL, NEAR CHATTANOOGA, }
September 29, 1863. }**

Eds. Com — Inclosed is a list of killed and wounded of the 40th Ohio and 84th Indiana. The list is made up from various sources, from company officers, &c., and embraces all that are wounded, with the nature of the wounds, as nearly as they can be obtained now, so much are our wounded scattered. I send this to you, hoping you will give it place in your paper, and thus place the facts before the friends of our regiments above-mentioned.

**Respectfully, J. N. BEACH,
Surgeon 40th Ohio.**

1864 Spring: "Upon the opening of the Atlanta campaign...in addition to his staff duties, he was assigned as one of the three operating surgeons in the hospital of First Division, Fourth Army Corps, a position he retained until after the fall of Atlanta."⁵

November 30: Dr. Beach was attached to the Whitaker's Brigade, Kimball's Division.

Beach remembered about Franklin:

³ Beach, J.N., History of the Fortieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry..1884

⁴ Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, Cincinnati, OH, Tuesday, 13 Oct 1863, pg. 1 (accessed genealogybank.com)

⁵The History of Madison of County, Ohio, v.2 (accessed googlebooks.com)

“It was not General Schofield’s wish to fight at Franklin. He was straining every nerve to get his trains across the Harpeth, and was less apprehensive of an attack there than he was of the enemy crossing above or below and getting on his flank or rear. In fact, up to 4 P.M. it was not believed that the enemy would attack. From our position, comparatively unexposed, we had a fine view of the first steps of the assault, and it was worth a year of one’s lifetime to witness the marshaling and advance of the rebel line of battle. Emerging from the woods in the most perfect order, two corps in front and one in reserve, nothing could be more suggestive of strength and discipline, and resistless power than was this long line of gray advancing over the plain. Massing on the Columbia pike, the great wave came rolling on....The loss of life at Franklin was probably greater than in any battle of the war, considering the number engaged and the small spot of ground fought over.”⁶

December 6: Discharged from the U.S. Army in Nashville, TN. Dr. Beach returned home to Madison County and continued practicing medicine.



⁶ Beach, 1884

⁷Cring, Henr, *Caldwell’s Atlas of Madison Co., Ohio, 1875* pg. 58 (accessed googlebooks)

Dr. Beach was an active Republican in the State of Ohio for many years after the war, attending conventions and representing his district as a delegate and as a representative for Ohio.

1875 Beach taught pathology at the newly opened Columbus Medical College.



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1878 February 7: “*Dr. J.N. Beach has been appointed surgeon of the 14th O.N.G. [Ohio National Guard] by Colonel Freeman.*”⁹

1880 June 2: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated West Jefferson, Madison County, OH showed John, a doctor, and Eliza living with their two daughters.

1881 July 8: “*The Central Ohio Medical Society elected as officers for the coming year, President, Dr. J.N. Beach...Drs. Beach, Follett and Coble reported cases which were discussed.*”¹⁰

1884 Dr. J.N. Beach published “History of the Fortieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.”

⁸ library.osu.edu

⁹ Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, OH, Thursday, Feb 1881, pg. 4 (accessed columbuslibrary.org/newsbank)

¹⁰ Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, OH, Friday, 8 Jul 1881, pg. 4 (accessed columbuslibrary.org/newsbank)

June 26: 40th Ohio Reunion.

DR. J. N. BEACH states that the next reunion of the 40th Ohio Regiment will be held at the Magnetic Springs, Unionville, at a time during the present summer yet to be decided upon by the committee of arrangements. The design is to hold the reunion at the personal expense of those attending, and not in any way call upon the community in which is to be held for aid in the matter. Notice of the time will be given as soon as decided upon.

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1897 April: Throughout the 1880's and 90's Dr. Beach and his wife often visited their daughters who married and moved to Tennessee. On one visit he suffered a severe stroke.

Dr. J. N. Beach, ex-representative of this county, who recently went to Look-out mountain for his health, suffered a stroke of paralysis last week and his recovery is doubtful.

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July 17: Dr. John Noble Beach died at his daughter's home in Chattanooga, TN.



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¹¹ The Union County Journal, Marysville, OH, Thursday, 26 Jun 1884,pg.3 (accessed newspapers.com)

¹² Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, OH, Saturday, 10 Apr 1897, pg. 14 (accessed genealogybank.com)

¹³ findagrave.com/user/Dave M

A telegram was received here this week announcing the death at Chatanooga, Tenn., of Dr. John N. Beach, the well-known physician of West Jefferson. He had been ill for some months and went to Chatanooga to be with two daughters who reside there. In 1862 he was commissioned surgeon of the 40th O. V. I. and was well known by a number of Xenians, several of whom were members of the regiment of which he was the surgeon. Among the number were Joshua and Wm. Yeo, Probate Judge Dean, Robert S. Spahr and Samuel Quigley. Dr. Beach was one of the best known and best beloved men in Madison county, and the loss will be keenly felt by the members of his profession and the community at large. The remains were brought back to West Jefferson, where the funeral was held on Tuesday.

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¹⁴ Xenia Daily Gazette, Xenia, OH, Wednesday, 21 Jul 1897, pg 7 (accessed newspapers.com)