

Milly “Little Milly” Cheers
18-abt 1869
Enslaved at the Rippa Villa

- 1808 (abt) Milly was born, most likely in North Carolina.
- 1833 (abt) Milly gave birth to daughter Ruth.
- 1836 (abt) Milly gave birth to daughter Angelina.
- 1840 (abt) Milly gave birth to son Joshua.
- 1842 (abt) Milly gave birth to daughter Minita Ann.
- 1843 (abt) Milly gave birth to son Philip.
- 1844 (abt) Milly gave birth to daughter Emily.
- 1846 October 6: Nathaniel Cheairs, Milly’s owner, died. Milly and her children were bequeathed to his son Nat Cheairs.
- 1863 August 2 & September 15: Two of Milly’s sons, Joshua and Philip enlisted in the U.S. Army in Elk River, TN. They mustered into Co. E, 12 U.S. Colored Troops and were garrisoned in Nashville for some time.
- 1864 October 31-November 1: Son Philip was shot by a citizen in Nashville for “attempting to steal chickens.”
- 1868 December 23: Milly applied for a pension for her son’s Philip’s military service. Unfortunately the pension application has little personal information, and Milly doesn’t receive the pension. She was not enumerated in the 1870 U.S. Census and her daughters, Angeline and Emily, later received all of Philip’s benefits, indicating Milly died before the application was processed.

NAME OF SOLDIER:		<i>Cheers Philip</i>			(3-E-3)
NAME OF DEPENDENT:		<i>Widow,</i>			
		<i>Minor,</i>			
		<i>Mother</i>	<i>Cheers Milly</i>		
SERVICE:		<i>E 12 U.S.C. Inf.</i>			
DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.	
	<i>Invalid,</i>				
	<i>Widow,</i>				
	<i>Minor,</i>				
<i>166 Dec. 23</i>	<i>Mother</i>	<i>16,9449</i>			
ATTORNEY:					
REMARKS:					
<i>[Signature]</i>					

¹ Cheers, Milly, U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934 (accessed ancestry.com)