

Abraham G. Fast, Private, Co. D, 71 OH Infantry, U.S.

- 1843 April 9: Abraham Ginter Fast was born in Fairfield County, OH to Abraham and Mary McGinter Fast.
- 1850 September 3: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Auburn, Fairfield County, OH showed eight-year-old abraham living with his parents and siblings. His father was a farmer.
- 1852 The Fast family relocated from Fairfield to Mercer County, OH. “... *Fast was reared in Center township, and enjoyed only the educational advantages offered by the pioneer schools. From his youth up he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits.*”¹
- 1860 July 10: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Center Twshp, Mercer County, OH showed seventeen-year-old Abraham living with his parents and siblings. His father was a farmer.
- 1864 February 22: Fast enlisted in the U.S. Army and mustered into Co. D of the 71st OH Infantry.
*“On February 22, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil War, entering Co D, 71st Reg., Ohio Vol In and remained in the service almost two years. During this time served under Generals Sherman and THomas, and participated ina number of the great marches and battles which occurred in the closing years of the great struggle. He was present at the siege and taking Atlanta, and after his regiment was attached to the Fourth Army Corps he was engaged in the battle of Franklin, the Siege and battle of Nashville, and later was sent to Texas, where this army corps became a part of the Army of Observation. He was honorably discharged in November, 1865, at Columbus, Ohio, having been mustered out in Texas. He immediately returned to Mercer County, of which he has been resident ever since. Although he was subjected to many dangers, he escaped them all and has the record of a brave, cheerful, faithful soldier.”*²
- May 15: Fast’s brother, Andrew enlisted in the U.S. Army and mustered into Co. K, 156 Ohio Infantry.

¹ Scranton, S. S. and Biographical Publishing Company. History of Mercer County, Ohio. And Representative Citizens. Chicago, Ill.: Biographical Pub. Co., 1907., Pg 702-3

² ditto

November 30: Fast's regiment was with Wood's men the night of the Battle of Franklin. Many of these men were not actively engaged.

1865 November 30: Mustered out of the U.S. Army in San Antonio, Texas.

REGIMENTS TO BE MUSTERED OUT.—
The following are the regiments of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry assigned to be must be mustered out at Camp Chasé and Tod Barracks. The mustering out will take place as rapidly as possible after the arrival of the regiments:

The 4th, 15th, 20th, 23d, 25th, 26th, 27th 30th, 31st, 32d, 40th, 43d, 45th, 46th 51st, 58th, 60th, 62d, 64th, 65th, 66th, 71st, 73d, 76th, 78th, 80th, 81st, 90th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 102d, 1-10th, 113th, 114th, 122d, 126th, 173d, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 1-79th, 180th, 181st, 182d, 183d.

At Camp Dennison—The 39th and 54th veterans.

At Camp Cleveland — The 14th, 19th, 41st, 49th, 57th, 77th, 82d and 118th veterans.

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1867 On January 17, 1867, "Mr. Fast was married to Loverda Doty, who was born in Auglaize County, Ohio, June 3, 1850, and is a daughter of Thomas and Rhoda (Hinkle) Doty. The Doty family settled in Auglaize County in early times and when the mother of Mrs. Fast first came there the pres town of St. Marys had but a few log houses. Mr. and Mrs. Fast have had 13 children. All members of this family, including children and grandchildren are members of the Church of God."

1870 July 15: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Celina (Hopewell Township), Mercer County, OH showed Abraham, a farmer, and Louverta and their two infant sons: Henry, 3 and Thomas, 4 months.

1880 June 2: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Black Creek, Mercer County, OH

³ The Times-Democrat, Lima, OH, Wed, 31 May 1865, pg. 3 (accessed newspapers.com)

showed Abram G., a farmer, and Louverda living with their six children: Ethan H., 12 yrs, Thomas, 10, Mary, 8, Rhoda, 6, Netta, 3 and Dewalt, 3 months.

June 26: Fast applied for and was granted a pension for his service in the U.S. Army during the Civil War.

1891 Fast's pension was increased.⁴

1900 June 1: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Hopewell, Mercer County, OH showed Abraham G, a farmer, and Louverda living with their children: De Walter, 20, Myrtle, 17 and Isy B, 11. A nephew, Clyde Hitchner, age 14, was also living with the family.

1905 Fast Family Reunion held. Abraham and

THE FAST FAMILY
Will Hold a Reunion In Ash-
land County, June 8th.

There will be a reunion of the Fast family at "Spring Lake Grove," Ashland County, Ohio, June 8, 1905. The following excellent program has been arranged for the day:

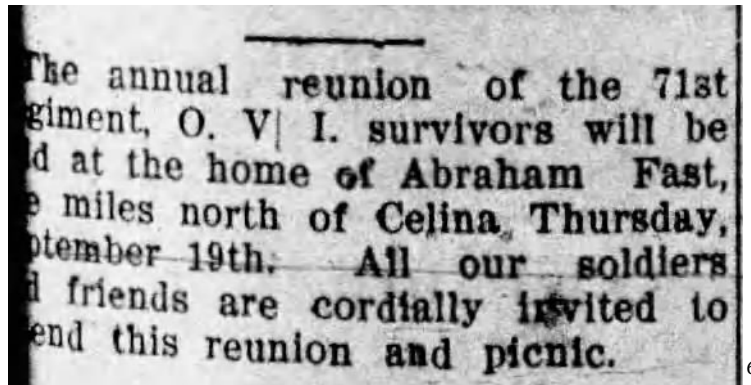
Call to order by chairman, Dr. L. R. Fast, Paulding, O.
Invocation by Philip Fast, Celina, O.
Address, Dr. E. R. Fast, St. Marys.
Music by Fast Drum Corps of Civil War. Abraham and Jacob Fast.

"This Drama of Life," Jacob Fast, Rockford, O.
"The Last Link; Does It Pay To Hunt It?" Dr. L. R. Fast, Paulding, O.
Music by Drum Corps.
Recitation by Fredonia Drury, St. Marys, O.
"Advantages to be Derived From Reunions," Lloyd Fast, Neptune, O.
Volunteer addresses. Music and a good social time.
Sung by all, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."
Benediction, A. J. Fast, Celina, O.
All Fasts are most cordially invited to come and spend the day.
DR. L. R. FAST Chairman.

⁴ The Bee, Toledo, OH, Fri, 18 Dec 1891, pg. 4 (accessed genealogybank.com)

⁵ The Times-Democrat, Lima, OH, Tue, 6 Jun 1905, pg 5 (accessed newspapers.com)

1907 September



The annual reunion of the 71st Regiment, O. V. I. survivors will be held at the home of Abraham Fast, 5 miles north of Celina, Thursday, September 19th. All our soldiers and friends are cordially invited to attend this reunion and picnic. 6

Biographical Sketch of Fast was included in a book about Mercer County, OH.

*“Mr. Fast has been very prominent in the development of this section, encouraging educational progress, moral movements and material improvements. He has served at various times on the School Board of Hopewell township. He is a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic post at St. Mary’s. Few men of this section are better or more favorably known.”*⁷

1909 Fash Family Drum Corp plays at Pioneer Days! *“..the Fast drum corps made up of Civil War veterans, all of whom went from one family to serve our country, furnished music for the program.”*⁸

⁶ The Democratic Advocate, Greenville, OH, Thu, 12 Sep 1907, pg 3 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁷ Scranton, S. S, and Biographical Publishing Company. History of Mercer County, Ohio. And Representative Citizens. Chicago, Ill.: Biographical Pub. Co., 1907., Pg 702-3

⁸ The Star Press, Muncie, IN, Sat, 7 Aug 1909, pg. 3 (accessed newspapers.com)

PIONEER DAY DRAWS LARGE ATTENDANCE

Largest Organization of Its
Kind in Mercer County
Holds Annual Reunion.

POEM 100 YEARS OLD READ

The Average Ages Exceed
Three Score and Ten.

Celina, Aug 6—Pioneer day in Celina takes precedence over all other big days in the history of Mercer county. Organized a number of years ago, the association is the largest of any organization in the county and the annual reunion always held the first week in August is always a record breaker in point of attendance.

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Held at the fair grounds, the grove began to fill at an early hour with vehicles. The picnic was attended by families in which several generations were in evidence. The Stanley band from Geneva and the Fast drum corps made up of Civil war veterans, all of whom went from one family to serve the country, furnished music for the program. President Roebuck looked upon the largest crowd ever seen in the fair grounds when he called the meeting to order and he closed his address by giving a list of pioneers who had answered the last roll call within the year. He gave the names of sixty-seven and his figures showed the average length of life in Mercer county to exceed three score and ten years.

The annual election was held and the old officers were unanimously reelected as follows: A. H. Roebuck, president; H. B. Bennett, first vice president; Levi Robinson; second vice-president; R. H. Chapinan, secretary; C. E. Riley, treasurer.

Mrs. Eleanor Townsend read an old poem over 100 years old, found among her father's papers, and she also sang an old ballad in which the song was acted out in its tragic details.

The address of the day was delivered by the Hon. W. F. McDaniel, former pioneer educator and also secretary of the association, who came from Washington, D. C. to speak to his old friends, choosing for his theme, "A Comparison of the Past with the Present."

1910 April 15: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Hopewell, Mercer County, OH showed Abraham, a farmer, and Louverta living with their two youngest daughters Myrtle, 27 and Icy, 21.

1913 June 19: Fast attended a reunion for the 71st OH Infantry, he was president of the reunion group.

REUNION OF 71ST O.V.I. HELD

Forty-one members attended the 71st O. V. I. at Pleasant Hill, on Thursday. The sessions were held in the auditorium of the opera house. A special program was rendered of speeches and music. A dinner was

served by the ladies of the First Christian church. Seven deaths were reported for the past year. The next annual meeting will be held in 1915 in Celina. The following officers were elected:

President—Abraham Fast, Celina.
Secretary and Treasurer—George E. Lee, Piqua.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Lee, William Dalton and Mr and Mrs. W. R. Luce and daughter, of Piqua, attended.

⁹ The Piqua Daily Call, Piqua, OH, Fri, 19 Jun 1914, pg. 11 (accessed newspapers.com)



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1914



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1916 July 13: Abraham G. Fast died and was buried at Elm Grove Cemetery in Dublin, OH.

¹⁰ <https://thetroyhistoricalsociety.org/military/71stOVI.htm>

¹¹ The Celina Democrat, Celina, OH, Fri, 21 Aug 1914, pg. 8

GRAVES REGISTRATION CARD

Auglaize Co.
Name FAST, ABRAHAM G. St. Marys Twp.
Address Deblin Twp., Franklin Co., Ohio
Date of Death July 13, 1916 Place Home
Cause Peritonitis Date of Burial July 16, 1916
Date of Birth April 9, 1843 Place Ohio
Name of Cemetery Elm Grove Location St. Marys, Ohio
Lot No. 65 Section No. _____ Block No. L Grave No. _____
Marker: Flat _____ Upright X None _____
Next of Kin: Mrs. A.G. Fast Rockford, Ohio
(Name) (Address)

SERVICE RECORD

War Served In: Civil
Date Enlisted Feb. 22, 1864 Date Discharged Nov. 30, 1865 Serial No. _____
Branch of Service Army Rank Private
Company, Outfit or Ship Co. D. 71st Regt. O.V.I.

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¹² U.S., Ohio, Soldiers Grave Registrations (accessed fold3.com)