

Hamilton Gillespie, Lt. Col, Co. B, 50 OH Infantry, US

1835 October 13: Hamilton Sawyer Gillespie was born in Warren County, OH to William and Mary Miskimmens Gillespie.

“Col. Hamilton S. Gillespie was born in Warren County in the year 1835. When three years of age he was brought by his parents to Washington Township. He is a son of Wm. Gillespie. Hamilton grew to manhood in this township.”¹

1850 October 5: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Shelby County, OH showed fourteen year old Hamilton living with his parents and siblings. His father was listed as a farmer.

“At the age of eighteen years he commenced teaching school, which he followed four years, then engaged in the mercantile trade in Lockington, but remained in business only one year: then engaged in buying and shipping grain at Lockington with his brother D.K. which he followed until 1862.”²

1860 July 4: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Shelby County, OH showed H. S. Gillespie, a merchant, living with another merchant named G.W. Holly.

In the 1860's G.W. Holly and Gillespie were both involved with laying out a business section called "Pontiac." *“The plat consisted of nine lots, four by eight rods. It is located on the D & M. R. R., six miles south of Sidney. The first building erected was by G.W. Holly in 1863. It was a small ware-house for the purchase of grain, but before commencing operations he sold to D.K. Gillespie, who enlarged the capacity and commenced having grain in 1864. The next place of business was a store built by H.S. Gillespie and Thomas McKee in 1866. Gillespie & McKee were succeeded by J.G. & Andrew Robinson. The town was originally called Pontiac, but owing to the fact that there was another town and post-office of the same name, it was changed to that of Kirkwood in 1879, in honor of D. Kirkwood Gillespie, the proprietor of the elevator at that place.”³*

1862 March 5: Gillespie's father, William, died.

¹ Sutton, R, Hstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 289-90 (accessed google.books.com)

²Sutton, R, Hstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 289-90 (accessed google.books.com)

³ Sutton, R, Hstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 187 (accessed google.books.com)

“In 1862, he received an order from Gov. Tod to recruit a company of volunteers, which he did, recruiting one hundred and one men all from his own county, and principally from his own neighborhood. This company were all first-class men, sons of farmers, and all respectable of standing in the county, and when mustered into the service made as fine an appearance as any company in the regiment. At the time his company was completed, apt. Gillespie was offered five hundred dollars each by two other parties from other counties for the appointment of second lieutenants position, which he promptly refused, and let his company elect their own officers. He took his company to Camp Dennison in Sept. 1862 and was assigned to the 50th O.V.I.”⁴

August 1: Enlisted in the U.S. Army and mustered into Co. B of the 50th OH Infantry. Ten days later his brother George enlisted and mustered into the 97th OH Infantry.

1863 July: Capt Gillespie took command of the company as a major



⁴ Sutton, R, Hlstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 289-90 (accessed google.books.com)

1864 August: Promoted to Colonel

November 30: At the Battle of Franklin the 50th OH was directly in the Carter Family Garden and along the Columbia Pike. The Confederates

December 31: Resigned from the U.S. Military.

He returned home and...

“He again engaged in buying grain, at which he has continued the most of the time since that date.”⁵

1865 December 27: Hamilton Gillespie married Mary McKnight in Miami, Oh.

“In 1865 he was married to Miss Mary M. McKnight. They have born to them six children, vix., George H., Robert W., John H.B., Hamilton S., Roy E., and David K.”⁶

1870 July 11: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Shelby County, OH showed Hamilton, a grain merchant, and Mary living with their three-year-old son, George. Also living with the family was a seventeen year old domestic servant named Barbara.

1880 June 10: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Shelby County, OH showed Ham, a clerk, and Mary living with five children ages 1 to thirteen.

1882 Gillespie was on a cemetery committee in Piqua, OH.

⁵ Sutton, R, Hlstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 289-90 (accessed google.books.com)

⁶ Sutton, R, Hlstory of Shelby County, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers, 1883, pg. 289-90 (accessed google.books.com)

Upper Piqua Cemetery Meeting.

According to previous notice a meeting was held in the City Hall of Piqua, O., Oct. 14th, 1882, in the interest of the Upper Piqua Cemetery. The house being called to order, Geo. W. Mowrey, Esq., was chosen President and H. S. Gillespie Secretary of the meeting. The President stated the object of the meeting was to adopt measures for the improvement of said Cemetery and elect a sexton to superintend said improvements, and have them kept in good order, which, on motion, was adopted, and Wm. Patterson was chosen to fill said office. It was then moved that as the legal right of Trustees to deed and convey lots in said Cemetery had been called in question by some designing persons, that the Trustees be now called upon to report as to the legality of said grounds, which was adopted, whereupon, they made the following report: "The Township Board of Education in about the year 1870 (having abandoned the said grounds for schoolhouse purposes) employed Attorney Stephen Johnston, of Piqua, to thoroughly investigate the legal title to said grounds, which he did, and delivered to said Board his

written legal opinion, stating that the Board of Education was the legal owner of said grounds which could be used only for schoolhouse and cemetery purposes. At a regular meeting of the Board of Education held April 15th, 1882, they appointed three trustees, D. K. Gillespie, Wesley Hataway, and Jos. W. Hunter, to whom they conveyed said grounds, to them and their successors in office, to be used for cemetery purposes, only, and the proceeds of lots sold should be expended on said grounds for the improvement and embellishment of same.

Trustees further reported that they have bought additional lands of Robert Blackwood and added to said Cemetery, which they paid for, and got a warrant deed, as the Records of Miami county, O., will show.

On motion meeting adjourned.

GEO. H. MOWREY, Prest.
H. S. GILLESPIE, Sec'y.

1883 Gillespie wants the railroad!

Col. H. S. Gillespie, of Lockington, being next called out, said that they were tired of wagoning their grain two and a half miles to Pontiac, the canal was too slow, especially when empty or full of ice, and they wanted the line. They wanted it, too, to come past Lockington, that being the cheapest and best line. It had but few bridges or culverts, go-

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1884

⁷ The Miami Helmet, Piqua, OH, Thu, 26 Oct 1882, pg. 6 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁸ The Miami Helmet, Piqua, OH, Thu, 22 Feb 1883, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

ened outside of the church.
Col. H. S. Gillespie is going to move near Columbus in the spring. Lockington will lose one of her best citizens, and many will regret his departure.
Lesner Buxton is preparing to build

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1887 December 28: Hamilton applied for a military pension for his Civil War service and was granted his pension.

1890 The Veterans Schedule enumerated in Union County, OH showed Hamilton S. Gillespie of the 50th OH as a veteran residing in the county.

1892

Your correspondent is just in receipt of a most welcome letter from our old friend and neighbor, Col. H. S. Gillespie, now of Omaha. He spoke of the General M. E. Conference now in session there with seventeen bishops and about 500 ministers. The Col. thinks that chickens will demand their weight in gold after the adjournment of the meeting.

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1894 Visited Ohio.

McVay.
Col. H. S. Gillespie, of Omaha, Nebraska, who left this county some fifteen years ago, was the guests of friends here yesterday.

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⁹ The Sidney Journal, Sidney, OH, Fri, 18 Jan 1884, pg. 8 (accessed newspapers.com)

¹⁰ The Union County Journal, Marysville, OH, Thu, 12 May 1892, pg. 6 (accessed newspapers.com)

¹¹ Sidney Daily News, Sidney, OH, Wed, 14 Feb 1894, pg. 3 (accessed newspapers.com)

1895 Mary visited Ohio.

Mrs Col. H S Gillespie, after a pleasant visit with her relatives, started for her home, in Omaha, Neb, the first of last week.

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1900 June 4: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Douglas County, NB showed Hamilton, a book publisher, living with Mary.

1904

Back Home After Twenty-Three Years.
Col. H. S. Gillespie, of Omaha, Nebraska, who will be well remembered by many as residing about Lockington, over a score of years ago, is visiting in this county with his wife. Though partially paralyzed some years since, the Colonel is able to attend to business a little, their six sons are capable business men, and all things go well with them. Mrs. Dick, the only sister left, is here from her home in Indiana. They held a family reunion last Saturday at the home of the oldest brother, D. K. Gillespie, at Lockington.

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1910 April 18: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Douglas County, NB showed Hamilton, a grain merchant, and Mary living with various children and grandchildren.

¹² The Piqua Daily Call, Piqua, OH, Thu, 23 May 1895, pg. 8 (accessed newspapers.com)

¹³ The Shelby County Democrat, Sidney, OH, Fri, 17 Jun 1904, pg. 5 (accessed newspapers.com)

1915 December 27: Gillespie and wife celebrated their 50 year wedding anniversary.

FIVE SONS WILL HELP FORMER OMAHA PAIR CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING DAY

Five sons and their families, numbering in all twenty-two persons, will help Colonel and Mrs. H. S. Gillespie of Mapleton, Ia., formerly of Omaha, celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary Monday.

The sons and their families will attend a dinner given in honor of the day.

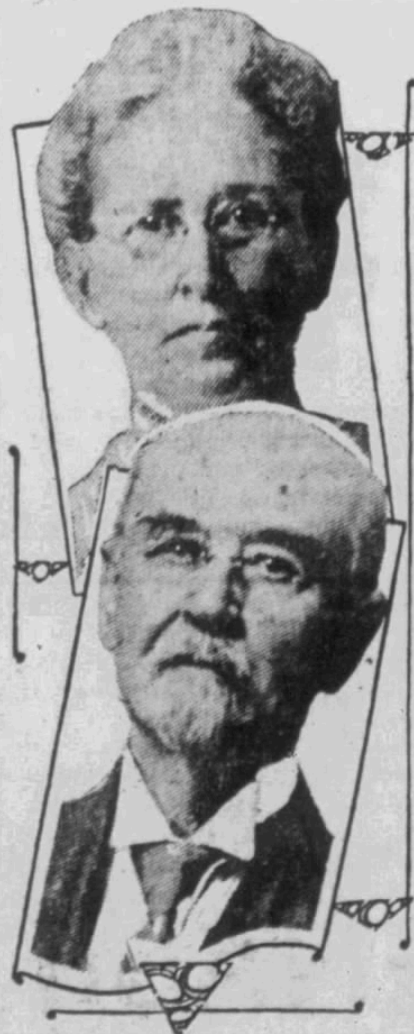
Colonel Gillespie was 80 years of age last October and Mrs. Gillespie is 57. The colonel is a civil war veteran. He enlisted as a private in company B of the Fiftieth Ohio volunteers and served three and one-half years, being mustered out with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He belongs to U. S. Grant post of Omaha.

Colonel and Mrs. Gillespie were married in Ohio and came to Omaha twenty-five years ago. They lived here until three years ago, when they went to Mapleton, where one son, Dr. H. S. Gillespie, lives.

At the golden wedding anniversary dinner Monday in Mapleton covers will be laid for George H. Gillespie, John H. Gillespie and D. K. Gillespie and their families and LeRoy Gillespie, all of Omaha; Dr. H. S. Gillespie and family of Mapleton, and Mrs. Chamberlain, a sister of Mrs. H. S. Gillespie Sr.

DR. P. L. HALL WILL NOT RUN FOR GOVERNOR

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 25.—Dr. P. L. Hall's five days in which he might have accepted the filing of his name for governor by Saunders county friends expired Saturday night without his acceptance. Dr. Hall still insisted Saturday night he would not be a candidate for governor.



COL & MRS. H. S. GILLESPIE

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¹⁴ The Omaha Daily News, Omaha, NB, Sun, 26 Dec 1915, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

1920 September 8: New grandbaby born!

**Little Miss, Just Arrived, Has
Two Sets of Great-Grandparents**



Front row, left to right: Mrs. H. S. Gillespie, Mrs. Leslie Spencer, and daughter, Mary Jane, and Colonel Gillespie.
Back T. F. Hamblett, Mrs. Hamblett and John H. Gillespie.

Two sets of great-grandparents, both living in Omaha, welcomed the advent of Mary Jane Spencer, now 2-week-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Spencer, pictured in the center of the picture above.

One set of great-grandparents is Colonel and Mrs. H. S. Gillespie, 85 and 71 years old respectively, who live with their son, Leroy, at 5112 Capitol avenue. The colonel is a civil war veteran.

The other great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Hamblett, 78 and 76 years old, who are residents at the Old People's home.

Mary Jane's grandfather is John H. Gillespie, 47 years old, but her grandmother died when Mary Jane's mother was a little girl. Mrs. Spencer is 20.

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1921 October 11: Hamilton Sawyer Gillespie died in Omaha, NB.

1922 January 19: Mary Gillespie applied for and was granted a widow's pension for her husband's military service during the Civil War.

¹⁵ Evening World-Herald, Omaha, NB, Wed, 8 Sep 1920, pg. 16 (accessed newspapers.com)