

Joseph McLeon Reeder, Private, Battery B, 1 IL Light Artillery, US

1847 April 15: Born to Benjamin and Margaret Rigg Reeder in Pike County, IL.

1850 September 13: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Pike County, IL showed four-year-old Joseph living with his parents and siblings. His father, Benjamin, was a farmer.

Reeder's parents died when he was young and his mother's brother, Luther Rigg, took him in and raised him.

1863 July 13: Reeder was 16-years-old when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, giving his age as 18. He mustered into Battery B, 1st IL Infantry.

Descriptive Roll: Age 18, Height: 5'7, Complexion: Dark, Occupation: Farmer

1864 November 30: Fought at the Battle of Franklin. During the battle Reeder was knocked down and trampled by a horse.

1865 July 6: Mustered out of the U.S. Army.

1870 July 28: Married Amanda Troxell.



Joseph and Amanda Reeder

1880 June 10: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Wapella, DeWitt County, IL showed Joseph, a farmer, and Amanda living with their young children as well as Amanda's father.

1891 July 11: Reeder applied for and was awarded a military pension for his service during the Civil War.

¹ Photo Source/Ancestry.com/User/Patricia Plumberg

October 10: Reeder died and was buried at Crum Cemetery, DeWitt County, IL.



Joseph M. Reeder died on Saturday morning, at his residence in Long Point. Mr. Reeder was born in Pike County, this State, April 15, 1847, and at the time of his death he was forty-four years, five months and twenty-five days old. His parents died when he was a small boy, and his uncle, L. P. Rigg, gave him a home. He united with the Christian Church. In 1870 he was married to Miss Amanda Troxell. He leaves a wife and three children, two sons and one daughter (Mrs. Clarkson) to mourn for him. Joseph Reeder enlisted in Battery E, First Illinois Artillery, on the 13th of July, 1863, and was mustered into the service at Chicago on the 30th day of the same month. He served faithfully through the service up to the time the Battery was mustered out on the 8th day of July, 1865, at Chicago. He was in the battles of Resacca, Dallas, Kenasaw, Nashville, the Atlanta Campaign, and with Sherman in his famous march to the sea. In the battle of Franklin, Tenn., he was knocked down by a horse and tramped upon his side, of which he complained for years. About six or eight months ago his health began to fail. He consulted several doctors; some told him he had consumption others that he did not, but that he had bronchial trouble. Be that as it may the disease did its work, and death at last claimed its victim. It can be said of Mr. Reeder that he was an honest, upright man in all his dealings with his fellow men. He was a kind father to his children and a good companion to his wife. He was ready at all times when health would permit to lend a helping hand in all kinds of work and in caring for the sick in his neighborhood. He has answered his last roll call and entered that grand army where there are no more partings. His funeral was held on Sunday afternoon at his late residence, Eld. Shortridge officiating, after which his remains were conveyed to Crum Cemetery and laid to rest. It was one of the largest attended funerals that has been held in this part of the county for some time.

² Photo Source/Findagrave/User/Kathy and Norm Evans

³ The Clinton Public, Clinton, IL, Friday 16 Oct 1891, pg. 2