William H. Lee, Sergeant, Co. E, 50 OH Infantry, U.S.

- 1840 Lee was born in Ohio to Edward and Sarah Lee.
- 1850 July 23: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in New Market, Highland County, OH showed ten-year-old William living with his parents and siblings. His father was a farmer.
- 1860 June 4: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in New Market, Highland County, OH showed twenty-year-old William living with his widowed mother and his siblings.
- July 8: Enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Sergeant and mustered into Co. E 50th OH Infantry.
- August: Lee's name was listed on the U.S. Civil War Draft Registration for New Market, Highland County, OH. He was listed as serving in the army and his occupation was stone cutter.
- 1864 August 22: His brother James P. Lee died while sick at home in Hillsboro, OH. James was a soldier in the 168th OH Infantry.

November 30: Captured at the Battle of Franklin and imprisoned at Andersonville. An account by Lt. L.H. Cook mentioned Lee.

I was in charge of a portion of the skirmish line at the time of the engagement, which left Serg't Lee in command of the Co. He is said to have fallen while bravely and nobly performing his duty, and was left upon the field.

December 15: An account in the local newspaper in his hometown reported that William was killed in action, making him the third son his mother had lost in one year.

¹ The Highland Weekly News, Hillsboro, OH, Thursday, 15 Dec 1864, pg. 2 (accessed newspapers.com) KF2015

SERG'T. WM H. LEE, of Co. E, 50th O. V. I., it is feared, was killed in the battle of Franklin. He was seen to fail while bravely leading his company, the command of which had devolved upon him, and one of his men who was near him is confident that he died instantly, the ball entering his head. He was left on the field in the hands of the enemy, as were all our dead and many of our wounded. Still there is a chance that Lis wound may not have been fatal, and we trust it may prove to be the case.

Sergeant Lee was a resident of this place, and was a young man highly esteemed by all who knew him. His widowed mother had three other sons in the army, two of whom died in the service during the present year, and now perhaps another is to be added to the list. Such are the sad incidents of war!

² The Highland Weekly News, Hillsboro, OH, Thursday, 15 Dec 1864, pg. 3 (accessed newspapers.com) KF2015