



Biography of a CIVIL WAR SOLDIER



(Editor's note: This is the twenty-second of a series of "Biographies of Civil War Soldiers," one of several accounts of the services of a number of Boone County men in the War Between the States, as given in the second book of a two-volume work published in 1899, by the H.H. Hardesty Company of New York, under the title of "Presidents, Soldiers and Statesmen." The biographies are being published in Boone Magazine as they appeared in the original work with the exception that the sketches are broken into paragraphs.)

Joseph Cavin
38th IND. CO. H.

William and Jane Gullion-Cavin, were the parents of our subject, Joseph Cavin, who was born April 12, 1839, in Boone Co., Indiana. When the president issued his call for troops Comrade Cavin was engaged in farming, he entered the ranks of the blue, Sept. 23, 1861, at New Albany, Ind., being enrolled as a private in Co. H. 38th Ind. Regt. 1st Brig., 1st Div., 14th A.C., Dept. of the Cumberland. He was sick for some time and was confined in the hospital at Shelbyville, Tenn., about two months in the spring of 1862, and again in the summer of 1862, at Battle Creek, Tenn., field hospital for a short time but he never regained his former strength, having contracted chronic diarrhea, rheumatism and heart trouble. He took active part in the battles of Perryville, Chattanooga, with Gen. Mitchell in 1862, and the Buell retreat and the advance again as far as Nashville.

He was at Mumfordsville, in the winter of 1862, as teamster for about two-months and again in the Q. M., Dept., and so continued until discharged, which took place Dec. 19, 1862, at Nashville, on surgeons certificate of disability. April 5, 1863, in Boone Co., was the date of a memorable wedding, Mary McPherson Tandy, daughter of Mark and Nellie Gullion-Tandy, was united in marriage to our comrade.

She was born in Kentucky in 1833, and was a relative of Gen. McPherson. They have had four children, Grace dec., Lucy Bell, Nannie and Calvin dec. Father, William Cavin served in the war of 1812-14 and was with Gen. Jackson at N.O.

Grandfather, Jerry Gullion served in the 1776 war and his brother was wounded in battle in 1780.


Two brothers of our comrade, Jerry Cavin served in Co. F, 40th Ind. Regt., and Elijah in Co. A, 10th Ind. Regt. Father, Mark Tandy was in the war of 1812-14 and through the Indian war. Mrs. Cavin also had three brothers in the Civil War: Anthony Co. F. 17th Regt. and 20th Art., Wm. Co. L, 10th, 116th & 150th Ind., John, Co. H, 38th Ind., whose history is given elsewhere in this volume. Comrade Joseph Cavin and his wife have been active members of the U. B. church in Lebanon, Ind., for many years, he being one of the trustees. They are active in all church work; he is now living a retired life at Lebanon, Ind.





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