

Henry C. Rodgers, Major, Company I (Staff)

Major Henry C. Rodgers was born in 1831 in Hanging Rock, Lawrence, Ohio, (68) died on 8 Oct 1866 in Hanging Rock, Lawrence, Ohio at age 35, and was buried on 11 Oct 1866 in Hanging Rock, Lawrence, Ohio. Henry married Mary F. Crawford on 9 Jan 1851 in Harmar, Washington, Ohio. Major Henry C. Rodgers attended the surrender of Nashville at the Fuller home. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=49505625> R.E. Rodgers wife Clara R. Allison, who moved to Cincinnati and then to Ithaca, New York to live with her daughters, wrote the following letter to family friend Edward W. Bixby in Ironton, which outlines the family history. It was published in The Ironton Register on April 25, 1907. HISTORY of Rodgers Family as Given by Mrs. Clara R. Rodgers. The following letter from Mrs. Clara R. Rodgers of Ithaca, N.Y. to Mr. E. W. Bixby of this city, in the regard to an old and respected family here and we feel that REGISTER readers will be greatly interested in it: James Rodgers went to Ohio from Monongahela County, Pa., as a pioneer. He was an engineer and furnace builder, and built, old steam furnace in Adams county, Ohio, the first steam furnace in the state and I believe in the country. He was connected in the furnace business with Thomas Means and others. He partly owned old Steam furnace, Union furnace, old Etna, and others. He was a member of the Ohio legislature in the forties I think and served it two terms. He was the first president of the Iron Bank of Ironton, which afterwards became the First National Bank, and continued to be the president until he died in 1860. His son, Robert Edwin, was the first teller of the bank. Also, one of the stockholders. His two sons, Henry and Edwin with his son-in-law, Wm. Parkison, built the old flourmill, which until recent years stood on Front Street below the old Palace Hotel in Ironton. A monument to the supposed future greatness of Ironton. It was built largely through the suggestions of John Campbell, John Peters and others interested in the growth of Ironton, but against the advice of their father, who thought it too pretentious for the times and location. Henry C. Rodgers and Robert Edwin Rodgers, his sons, enlisted as privates in the 18th Ohio Infantry. Col. William Boiles [sic: Boyles] commanded the regiment. They served gallantly at Gauley bridge and other places in Virginia. At the close of three months' service, they each formed a company and went out as Captains, for the four years' service during the war in the 4th Ohio Cavalry. They served for several years, Robert Edwin being promoted to Major of the regiment. He had to resign in 1864 because of illness contracted during the hard campaign of Stone river, Nashville, Chattanooga, Chickamauga and other places in the south. The regiment was so decimated through hard service that it has suggested that more special honors be granted the survivors for the bravery and efficiency of the 4th Ohio Cavalry, during the war. Robert Edwin acted as Colonel of the regiment for months before he was taken ill. James Rodgers had a large family of children. Of these who grew to manhood, Quincy was the eldest. A son of his now lives in Cincinnati I believe.

The next son was George who died in Cuba. The others were students at Marietta College, some graduating there. The second daughter, Matilda, married Wm. Parkinson of Monongehela city, Pa. Rosalie, Mrs. Robert Hamilton was the youngest daughter who grew to maturity. Henry Rodgers was a member of the legislature for two terms and died at Hanging Rock a few years after the war. His two sons, James and William have been associated in business in the Kansas City Hay Press Co. for several years. Robert Edwin Rogers died in Ironton in 1875 [sic: 1872]. His widow [the author, Clara Rodgers] and three children live in the east. His oldest son, Harry Oscar Rodgers is manager of the Atlantic Refining Company of Philadelphia, Va. His son, Clarence Frederick is a dentist living in Conneaut, Ohio. The two daughters live in Ithaca, N.Y. with their mother [the author, Clara Rodgers]. James Rodgers was a cousin of Admiral Rodgers, who was prominent in the navy during the war of the Revolution. He commanded the old Constitution and was the first to overpower our enemies on the high seas during the eventful period. For three generations since his sons or grandsons have been equally prominent in our navy, and several are now commanding or serving in the capacity of Admirals or Captains in our country's fleet. James Rodgers and the members of his family, who died, were removed from the old burial ground on the home place at Hanging Rock and their remains placed in the family lot in Spring Grove cemetery, Cincinnati, O. James Rodgers, oldest daughter, Mary Ann [sic: Elizabeth], married William Shiras, who was a prominent businessman of Cincinnati. He had several children who live in the West. Peter, the oldest son, for many years has been a banker of Alberta [sic: Ottawa], Kansas. James Oliver, the second son, is in New York. His sister, Mrs. Mary Jones lives in Denver Colorado, and her family is living in the western states. CLARA R. RODGERS﻿