

# Bucklesberry, Back in the Day

## Lillian Sutton Perry (Part 3)

Lillian Sutton Perry (1864-1946) was reared by her mother, Bettie Gray Sutton (1842-1904) and stepfather-uncle, Edward L. Sutton, Sr. (1847-1908). The household included six other children born to Bettie and Edward: Clyde and Minnie (twin girls); Bettie; Bruce; Ora; and Edward, Jr. Also in the home was Lillian's older brother, William Franklin Sutton (1862-1913) from her mother's first marriage to Noah Henry Sutton (1838-1965).

Lillian never knew her father, Noah. She was only ten months of age when he died. Noah bravely served in the Civil War and was one of many unfortunate casualties of that terrible national tragedy.

He enlisted as a Private in the 41st Regiment of the North Carolina Troops (3rd North Carolina Cavalry) in 1862. Organized at Kinston in the fall of that year, the 41st Regiment included soldiers from the eastern region of the State:

"Its members were raised in the counties of New Hanover, Onslow, Caswell, Harnett, Lenoir, Burke, Halifax, Wake, Martin, and Washington. The unit was assigned to the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia and saw action at White Hall, Goldsboro, Greenville, Drewry's Bluff, and in the Petersburg area. It was then transferred to Barringer's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, and fought south of the James River and in the Appomattox Campaign. This regiment was organized with 1,095 men, totalled [sic.] 284 in February, 1864, and surrendered 1 at Appomattox. The field officers were Colonel John A. Baker, Lieutenant Colonels Roger Moore and A.M. Waddell, and Major Charles W. McClammy, Jr." (National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior)

In a 1901 written account of his own participation in the War, Orderly Sergeant Joshua B. Hill of Company K indicated the 41st Regiment was comprised of ten companies: Company A, 'Rebel Rangers' from New Hanover County; Company B, 'Gatlin Dragoons' from Onslow County; Company C, 'Caswell Rangers' from Caswell County; Company D, 'Highland Rangers' from Harnett County; Company E, 'Macon Mounted Guards' chiefly from Lenoir and Craven Counties, and some from Pitt and Chatham Counties; Company F, 'Davis Dragoons' from Burke County; Company G, 'Scotland Neck Mounted Riflemen' from Halifax County; Company H, 'Humphrey Troops' from Onslow County; Company I, 'Wake Rangers' from Wake County; and Company K, 'Clark Skirmishers' from Martin and Washington Counties.

Noah was a member of Company E and served alongside 63 other Privates and 14 officers. Sergeant Hill eulogized the 41st Regiment as,

"remarkable for the high spirit and mental and physical strength, no less than for the moral worth and patriotic devotion to duty which characterized it. How many of the names on its official roster and the muster-rolls of the privates in the ranks were honored for bravery in the service during the dark years of the war, or have risen to distinction among those of their fellow-citizens in various sections of the State?" (April 9, 1901, [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com))

Sadly, Noah never had the opportunity to rise to distinction, nor live out his life in-full. On February 3, 1865, he was admitted to the Pettigrew General Hospital No. 11, one of three large Confederate hospitals in the Raleigh area. There he was diagnosed with febris typhoid (typhoid fever) that he undoubtedly contracted on the battle field.

Fully two-thirds of the 660,000 deaths from the Confederacy and Union camps were attributed to infectious disease, including typhoid. On February 13, 1865, less than two weeks after entering the hospital, Noah died at the young age of 27.