

# **FORSYTH SCOUT - BEECHER ISLAND**

## **Newsletter # 8, September 2008**

### **The Scouts Casualties**

Among the Forsyth Scouts and Officers in the battle at Beecher Island, six sustained wounds that were instantly mortal, or would prove to be mortal over the next few days, weeks or months. In the order that they may have died the casualties were William Wilson, George Washington Culver, Lt. Frederick Henry Beecher, Surgeon John Henry Mooers, Lewis Farley and Thomas O'Donnell. Some of these victims, much is known about them, and some almost nothing is known. Here is what I think is known about them

A quote attributed to Elijah Gilbert (also known as Louis McLaughlin) says "At this time Wilson and Culver were dead, Lieutenant Beecher and Surgeon Mooers were mortally wounded, the Colonel was shot through the thigh and the ankle. About seventeen of the men were wounded, some severely. Louis Farley was mortally wounded, and he died nine days later."



### **Scout William Wilson**

According to information found in Orvel Criqui's "Fifty Fearless Men", little is known about William Wilson. I found the same to be true in my research. "Fifty Fearless Men" states that he had earlier worked as a guide out of Waynesville, Missouri. He also signed on with the First Kansas Militia, but ten days later, signed on with the Scouts. Scout Jack Peate said that Wilson had served in the Confederate Army.

I believe that one source states that he was on guard duty when the attack started, and may have been the one that fired the first shot as a signal of alarm, but right now I cannot locate the source of this information.

I believe Scout Wilson was one of the first to fall, if not the very first.

He, along with the others killed, Lt. Beecher, Surgeon Mooers, Scouts Culver and Lewis Farley, was buried on the Island, during the or following the battle. In December of 1868, a detail returned to the Island to recover the bodies. The graves had been opened and Wilson, Beecher and Mooers' bodies were missing, and were never recovered.



## Scout George Washington Culver

Scout Culver was firing in the vicinity of where Scout William Henry Harrison McCall was at. Scouts McCall and Culver stood up to see where the Indians were located and a shot passed through McCall's shoulder, striking Scout Culver in the head, instantly killing him.

"Before entering upon the campaign in which he lost his life, Culver had requested that in case he should never return, his homestead claim on the Saline river should be given to his partner, a Mr. [John] Hotchkiss. This homestead, according to a comrade, was located "about a mile south of the present site of Tescott". I think this quote is from a Ottawa county history book (a really good reason to keep footnotes). It is further stated that Culver was the only man killed after the Scouts were entrenched.

Scout Culver had come to the plains from New York, He possibly spent time around Fort Leavenworth. During the Civil War, he served as a 2nd Lieutenant with Company E, Second Colorado Cavalry. Scout Peate called him Captain Culver, when discussing the fact that Wilson, allegedly a Confederate was buried in the same grave as Culver, a former Union officer.

Following the war, Culver spent time in Junction City, Kansas, following the trade of a watchmaker before he moved to what would become Ottawa County, Kansas. While living there in 1866 George Culver was elected or appointed the first Treasurer of Ottawa County. Another quote, source unknown, "On the south bank of the Saline River he built a house on his homestead. He helped organize Tripp School District west of the present location of (the town of) Culver". (The Tripp's were Scout George B. Clark's in-laws.)

He, along with the others killed, Lt. Beecher, Surgeon Mooers, Scouts Wilson and Lewis Farley, was buried on the Island, during the or following the battle. In December of 1868, a detail returned to the Island to recover the bodies. The graves had been opened and Wilson, Beecher and Mooers' bodies were missing and never recovered. Only Culver and Farley's bodies were recovered. They were then buried at the Fort Wallace Post Cemetery, until shortly after the Fort was abandoned, at which time they were again moved to Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery, where Scout Culver resides in grave C1935, next to his comrade, Scout Farley.

Scout George Washington Culver was the son of Ansel Culver and Rachel Calkins, being the youngest of their ten known children. A brief history of this family follows.

**Ansel Culver** was SEP-20-1796 in New York, (son of Joseph Culver and Rebecca Root).

On OCT-09-1819 in New York, he married Rachel Calkins, b. SEP-04-1796, and died MAY-10-1849 in Cayuga County, New York, (daughter of Benjamin Calkin and Ruth Jones).

Ansel died DEC-09-1870 in Scipio, Cayuga County, New York. Ansel and Rachel are buried in Scipio Rural Cemetery, Cayuga County, New York.

*Children: (Scout Culver's siblings)*

- i. Rebecca Culver, b. AUG-09-1820. She married Ebenezer H. Wood.

Rebecca died MAR-12-1844 and is buried in Scipio Rural Cemetery, Cayuga County, New York.

- ii. Ruth Culver b. MAR-19-1822. She married Isaac Jump, in 1844.

Ruth died in 1869 and is buried in Scipio Rural Cemetery, Cayuga County, New York.

- iii. Ephriam Culver b. FEB-05-1824.

He married (1) Helen M. Whitfield.

He married (2) Martha Jane Alexander.

Ephriam died MAR-18-1900 and is buried in Scipio Rural Cemetery, Cayuga County, New York.

- iv. Clarisa Culver, b. JUN-23-1827, and died in 1900.
- v. Luther Culver, b. MAR-29-1829, and died JUL-24-1830.
- vi. Anna Culver, b. MAY-07-1831 in Cayuga County, New York.

She married David Wright Thomas.

- vii. Francis M. Culver, b. NOV-04-1833, and died OCT-06-1912 in Bath, Steuben County, New York, buried in Fort Hill Cemetery, Auburn, New York.

- viii. Chauncey Culver, b. OCT-08-1835.

He married Frances T. Mendel.

Chauncey died NOV-19-1903.

- ix. **Scout George Washington Culver**, b. OCT-06-1837 in Scipio, Cayuga County, New York.

He died SEP-17-1868 at Beecher Island, in what is now Yuma County, Colorado. He was buried SEP-18-1868 at Beecher Island Battleground, Colorado Territory.

On DEC-28-1868 he was re-buried at Fort Wallace Post Cemetery, Wallace, Kansas.

In May of 1886 he was again re-buried at Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, Kansas.

Culver township, and the town of Culver in southern Ottawa County, Kansas, are named in honor of Scout George Washington Culver. Culver township adjoins Morton township, named for Scout Howard Morton. Among his other neighbors that were Scouts are Eutsler, Clark, Herington and Tucker. The Tozier brothers who were with Peate and the relief were also from his neighborhood.

*The Junction City Weekly  
Junction City, Kansas  
October 3, 1868*

*George W. Culver, who was a few years ago a watchmaker in this place, was killed in Forsyth's fight with the Indians. He was serving as a scout. Culver served through the war as a sergeant and Lieutenant in the Second Colorado, and about two years ago left this place and took a claim on the Saline river.*

Somewhere out there are most likely, still living descendants of Scout Culver by way of his siblings.



## **Lt. Frederick Henry Beecher**

The Portsmouth Herald  
Portsmouth New Hampshire  
September 21, 1900

### **BEECHER'S REMAINS FOUND**

#### **Recovered Thirty-Two Years After His Death In Battle**

Denver, September 20, - For 32 years the bones of Lieutenant Fred H. Beecher of Forsyth's scouts were buried in the sands of Arickaree. All that time has left has now been recovered and will be sent to Brooklyn relatives, for whom the search was made. Previous efforts to locate the last resting place of the officers who fell in that desperate encounter with Cheyenne Indians under Roman Nose were fruitless. A few years after the lieutenant's death an unsuccessful search was made under the direction of his uncle, Henry Ward Beecher.

The story of the bravery of General Forsyth's little band of scouts has been told many times and the naming of the sandy isle at the mouth of the Arickaree after Lieutenant Beecher will always recall this fight, famous in Colorado history and almost parallel to that of the Little Big Horn. General Forsyth, Lieutenant Beecher and 47 men were surrounded in 1868 by nearly 1,000 Indians. They defended themselves as best they could at a place that has since been named Beecher Island. Two men, Charles Christy and Fletcher Vilott, got through the Indian lines and finally brought relief. Lieutenant Beecher was fatally wounded and died half an hour after being shot.

Christy and Vilott formed part of the burying squad. They were present at the dedication of a monument on Beecher Island on Monday and found the grave in which Beecher was buried.

Lieutenant Frederick Henry Beecher was a son of the Rev. Charles Beecher and a nephew the Reverend Henry Ward Beecher. Lieutenant Beecher was born at New Orleans, June 22, 1841. He was graduated at Bowdoin in 1862 and immediately enlisted as a private in the volunteer army. He was in all the battles of the army of the Potomac from Fredericksburg to Gettysburg, was twice severely wounded and was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. In 1861 he received a commission in the regular army and in July, 1866, became first lieutenant in the Third United States infantry.

General Horatio C. King of Brooklyn said that he thought that Lieutenant Beecher's body was removed by the soldiers at the time of his death.

Contrary to the above article, Lt. Beecher's remains are not known to have ever been recovered. Fletcher Vilott was one of the Saline Valley men recruited by J. J. Peate, and was in the battle, but he did not go for relief. Charles Christy was a scout on the frontier, but was not at the battle. In another article from 1900, Christy says he was with Carpenter and the relief, and Elijah Gilbert also known as, Louis McLaughlin seems to acknowledge this in a letter in the published article.

There were many religious and social leaders coming from the Beecher family. Several of Lt. Beecher's aunts and uncles, besides, Harriet Beecher Stowe, were involved in the Abolitionist movement. Some time before Lt. Beecher came to Kansas, the Beecher's had already made a mark in Kansas. In Wabaunsee, Kansas is the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, established in the 1850's during the turmoil of the border wars that preceded the Civil War. Each member of the church was issued a Holy Bible and Beecher Bible (a Sharps breach loading rifle). Lt. Beecher's uncle Henry Ward Beecher donated the first 25 Sharps rifles. An article about the Beecher's Bibles is on the Kansas State Historical Society site here: [http://www.kshs.org/portraits/beecher\\_bibles.htm](http://www.kshs.org/portraits/beecher_bibles.htm) .

## The Beecher Family

Reverend Lyman Beecher, b. OCT-02-1775 in New Haven, New Haven County, Connecticut, (son of David Beecher and Esther Hawley Lyman).

He married (1) Roxana Foote, SEP-19-1797, b. JAN-10-1775.

He married (2) Harriet Porter, OCT-29-1817 in Portland, Cumberland County, Maine, b. APR-23-1790, (daughter of Aaron Porter and Pauline King) d. JUL-07-1835 in Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio.

He married (3) Mrs. Lydia Jackson.

Lyman died JAN-10-1863 in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, buried in \_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery, New Haven, Connecticut.

*Children by Roxana Foote:*

- i. Catharine Esther Beecher, b. SEP-06-1800, d. MAY-12-1878.
- ii. William Henry Beecher, b. JAN-15-1802.

He married Catherine Edes.

- iii. William died JUN-23-1889 in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.  
Reverend Edward Beecher, b. AUG-27-1803 in Easthampton, Long Island, New York.

He married Isabella Porter Jones, OCT-27-1829 in Guilford, New Haven County, Connecticut, b. JUL-10-1807 in Biddeford, York County, Maine, d. NOV-14-1895 in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Edward died JUL-28-1895 in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

- iv. Edward and Isabella are buried in Harmony Cemetery, Georgetown, Massachusetts. They had 6 children.  
Mary Foote Beecher, b. JUL-19-1805 in Easthampton, Long Island, New York.

- v. She married Thomas Clap Perkins, NOV-07-1827 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts. Mary died MAR-14-1900 in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut. They had one child.  
Harriet Beecher, b. JAN-11-1808, d. MAR-\_\_-1808.
- vi. George W. Beecher, b. MAY-06-1809, d. JUL-01-1843 in Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio.
- vii. **Harriet Elizabeth Beecher**, b. JUN-14-1811 in Litchfield,

Litchfield County, Connecticut.

She married Reverend Calvin Ellis **Stowe**, JAN-06-1836 in Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio, b. APR-06-1802 in Natick, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, d. AUG-22-1886 in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut.

Harriet died JUL-01-1896 in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut. They had a number of children. Yes, this is Harriet Beecher Stowe of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fame. An aunt of Lt. Beecher.

viii. Reverend Henry Ward Beecher, b. JUN-24-1813 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

He married Eunice Bullard, married AUG-03-1837 in Sutton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, b. AUG-26-1817 in Sutton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, d. MAR-08-1897 in Stamford, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Henry died MAR-08-1887 in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Henry and Eunice are buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York.

4. ix. **Charles Beecher** b. OCT-07-1815.

*Children by Harriet Porter:*

x. Frederick A. Beecher, b. SEP-11-1818 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut, d. JUL-28-1820 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

xi. Isabella Holmes Beecher, b. FEB-22-1822 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut. She married John Hooker, married \_\_\_-\_\_\_-1841, b. APR-09-1816.

Isabella died JAN-25-1907 in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut.

xii. Reverend Thomas Kennecutt Beecher, b. FEB-10-1824 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

He married Julia J. \_\_\_\_\_.

Thomas died MAR-14-1900 in Elmira, Chemung County, New York, buried in \_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery, Elmira, New York.

xiii. Reverend James Chaplin Beecher, b. JAN-08-1828 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, d. AUG-25-1886 in Elmira, Chemung County, New York, buried in \_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery, Elmira, New York.

## Generation Two

2. Reverend Charles Beecher, b. OCT-07-1815 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

He married Sarah Leland Coffin, married JUL-23-1840 in Jacksonville, Morgan County, Illinois, b. SEP-14-1815 in Wiscasset, Lincoln County, Maine, d. JAN-15-1897 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts.

Charles died APR-21-1900 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts. Charles and Sarah are buried in Harmony Cemetery, Georgetown, Massachusetts.

### *Children:*

- i. **Frederick Henry Beecher**, b. JUN-22-1841 in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, d. SEP-17-1868 in Beecher's I Island, Colorado Territory, buried at Beecher's Island Battleground, Colorado Territory. His Body was never recovered.
6. ii. Charles McCulloch Beecher b. AUG-10-1843.
- iii. Helen Louisa Beecher, b. SEP-23-1847 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, d. MAY-28-1901 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts, buried in Harmony Cemetery, Georgetown, Massachusetts.
7. iv. Mary Isabella Beecher b. NOV-07-1849.
- v. Esther Lyman Beecher, b. FEB-15-1852 in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, d. AUG-27-1867 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts, buried in Harmony Cemetery, Georgetown, Massachusetts.
- vi. Edith Harriet Beecher, b. JUN-05-1854 in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, d. AUG-27-1867 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts, buried in Harmony Cemetery, Georgetown, Massachusetts.

Esther and Edith and a cousin Albert Louis Beecher, died in a sailing accident.

## Generation Three

6. Charles McCulloch Beecher, b. AUG-10-1843 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.

He married Anna Melinda Clary Johnson, married DEC-18-1873 in Albany, Albany County, New York, b. JUL-05-1848 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, d. JAN-12-1911 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Charles died NOV-14-1906 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.



*Children:*

- i. Robert Livingston Beecher, b. OCT-06-1874 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut, d. NOV-15-1924.
- ii. Frederick Lyman Beecher, b. AUG-27-1876 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut, d. NOV-09-1965 in Oak Bay, British Columbia, Canada.
- iii. Richard King Beecher, b. OCT-10-1880 in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut, d. FEB-28-1884.

7. Mary Isabella Beecher, b. NOV-07-1849 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.

She married George Warren Noyes, \_\_\_-\_\_\_-1870, b. OCT-02-1842 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts, d. FEB-24-1927.

Mary died JUN-17-1928 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts.

*Children:*

- i. Esther Beecher Noyes, b. APR-26-1871 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts.

She married Octavius Weld, b. OCT-12-1861 in Delaware, Ontario, Canada, d. SEP-11-1922. Esther died JUL-31-1955. *Reader James Shaw descends from this branch.*

- ii. George Harold Noyes, b. OCT-12-1875 in Georgetown, Essex County, Massachusetts.

She married Frances Louise Fugate, b. OCT-04-1874, d. OCT-08-1953. George died APR-11-1955 in Montclair, Essex County, Massachusetts.



## Surgeon John Henry Mooers

John Henry Mooers was born and raised in or near Plattsburgh, New York. He and his wife's families were from long established families in the area. His wife's Platt family was among the founders of Plattsburgh. His mother was also a Platt.

Dr. Mooers ancestors had fought in both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and quite possibly, the earlier Indian wars. He had a brother killed in the Civil War.

By 1850 he was a pharmacist at Plattsburgh. By 1860 he was a physician and was married and had a son. He enlisted as a surgeon on August 15, 1862 at the age of 34 and was commissioned in company S, 118th Infantry "Adirondack Regiment", on September 10, 1862. He received a disability discharge on April 4, 1864,

Dr. Mooers had spent some time in Kansas before signing on with Forsyth at Fort Hays. He may have spent time at Fort Leavenworth, as his wife's brother-in-law was known to have been there. Below is a little of the ancestry of Dr. Mooers.

There are statements that Dr. Mooers wanted to see a "real live wild Indian". This probably part of what brought him west and eventually to his signing on with the Forsyth expedition.

Early on in the battle Dr. Mooers received a gun shot wound to the head. One source says he was "armed with a Henry rifle and did splendid service early in the battle." Following his wound, Dr. Mooers was immediately incapacitated, but lingered, babbling incoherently part of the time, for three days, before finally succumbing to his wound. Below is a period article.

Plattsburg Sentinel  
Plattsburgh, NY  
Friday, December 3, 1869

*Excerpt from a longer article about Dr. Mooers' father.*

His second son, John H. Mooers, studied medicine and graduated at one of the medical schools, in the city of New York. On the breaking out of the rebellion in 1861, he was commissioned Assistant Surgeon of the 16th Reg., N . Y. Vols., and served two years, he was afterwards surgeon of the 118th Reg., N . Y. Vols., but was discharged before the close of the war, in consequence of ill health. He was chosen delegate to the New York State Medical Society, and attended its sessions in 1866. He went to Kansas and commenced the practice of medicine in that state in 1868, where he was induced by Col. Forsyth to join the expedition that went out from Fort Wallace, in pursuit of a party of Indians, which they overtook some fifty miles from the Fort, and in a battle with the Indians, Col. Forsyth was wounded, and Dr. Mooers, while in the act of dressing the Colonel's wounds, was shot in the head by the Indians, and expired on the field, and was buried there, it being impossible to bring the body back to the Fort.

### **Dr. Mooers' Ancestry**

Benjamin John Mooers, b. SEP-11-1787 in Haverhill, Essex County, Mass, (son of John Mooers).

He married Mary Platt, DEC-30-1813 in Clinton County, New York, b. JUL-15-1796 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, (daughter of William Pitt Platt and Hannah Kent) d. APR-08-1869 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

Benjamin died MAY-20-1869 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.  
Benjamin and Mary are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

*Children:*

- i. Eliza Mooers, b. JUL-24-1815 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

She married Amherst Douglas Fouquet

- ii. Susan Mooers, b. \_\_\_-\_\_-1818, d. \_\_\_-\_\_-1882.
- iii. Hannah Maria Mooers, b. NOV-28-1821.

She married (1) Theodore Platt Cady.

She married (2) DeWitt Clinton Boynton.

- iv. William Pitt Platt Mooers, b. JAN-09-1824 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

He married Marian Catherine Boynton, JAN-27-1846

- v. Mary Mooers, b. JUL-11-1825 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

She married Arnold Stukeley Stoddard, married JUN-01-1842

- 2. vi. **John Henry Mooers** b. NOV-27-1827.
- vii. Renmain Mooers,
- viii. Sophia Whitside Mooers, b. JUL-26-1829 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

She married William Denning Morgan, in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, b. 1822 in New York, d. NOV-29-1892 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

Sophia died JAN-16-1873 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

- ix. Moss Kent Mooers, b. \_\_\_-\_\_-1834 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, d. MAR-26-1835 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

- x. Benjamin J. Mooers, b. \_\_\_-\_\_-1835 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, d. SEP-30-1838 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

- 6. xi. Robert Platt Mooers, b. NOV-\_\_-1837 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

He married Phebe Edwards.

Robert died OCT-03-1862 in Corinth, Alcorn County,

Mississippi, buried: in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

*Next Generation*

2. **Dr. John Henry Mooers**, b. NOV-27-1827 near Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

He married Helen M. Boynton, \_\_\_-\_\_-185\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, Clinton County, New York, b. DEC-15-1827 in \_\_\_\_\_, Clinton County, New York, (daughter of John Boynton and Rebecca Smith) d. MAR-10-1872 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

John died SEP-20-1868 in Beecher's Island, Colorado Territory and was buried at Beecher's Island Battleground, Colorado Territory. His body was never recovered.

There is a large Mooers marker in the Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York and on one side of the monument is of the monument is this inscription,

***John H. MOOERS, M.D.  
Son of  
Benj. & Mary P. MOOERS,  
Born  
Nov. 27th 1827,  
Died  
Sept. 20th 1868  
He was killed by Indians on the Western  
Plains, while acting as Surgeon  
in the army of the United States".***

*Child:*

i. John Boynton Mooers, b. FEB-09-1857 in Saranac, Clinton County, New York.

He married Adaline T. "Adda" Banker, APR-21-1900 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York, b. DEC-\_\_-1867 in Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York, (daughter of John Banker and Lydia Allen) d. NOV-16-1948 in \_\_\_\_\_, Clinton County, New York.

John died JAN-17-1925 in Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York. John and Adda are buried in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburgh, New York.

John B. Mooers farmed and later worked as a parole officer

at the state prison at Danemora, New York, now the Clinton Correctional facility. He was a witness to some of the early executions in "Old Sparky" the electric chair.

John Boynton Mooers had no known descendants.

## Trivia, Corrections and other Things

### The Mystery picture in the last edition?

So, who was the mystery man in the last newsletter? I am told that this is Scout Howard Morton. It must be pre-Beecher Island, as he lost an eye in the battle. Later in life he is distinguished by his long white beard.





Photo used by permission of BYU, Lee Library

Left to Right:

This photo was taken during the September 16 - 19, 1909 (08?) reunion.

The Scouts are thought to be:

- George Green
- Allison Pliley
- Howard Morton
- Tom Ranahan
- James Peate
- Elijah Gilbert, also know as Louis McLaughin

Reader James Jester, a great great grandson of Scout Pliley recently sent some photos that had dates and names included. I couldn't identify some of these earlier. Thank you for the help Jim. You solved a mystery for me.



**Worthless trivia to clutter your mind.**

Scout Howard Morton had a brother-in-law, Mason Carter, who was also on the plains and fought Indians, including the battle of Bear Claw, where he was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions. Morton and Carter married Wellington sisters.

All for this month.  
Happy Trails.  
Mike