

BLAKENEY, THOMAS JOSEPH

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3. THOMAS JOSEPH BLAKENEY, son of Thomas and Catherine (Wildeberger) Blakeney, was born in New York City Jan. 12, 1796, near Trinity Church, and died in Brooklyn, N.Y., Nov. 7, 1877, at 271 South Fourth St., 15th Ward, of chronic bronchitis, which he had had for many years. He had been a resident of Brooklyn for twenty years and is buried in Greenwood, where a single stone marks the place of his burial and that of his wife. Unfortunately, the dates of both are in error—for those given in this article are taken from the records of the Department of Health in Brooklyn and from those of Greenwood. He was a gold pen manufacturer.

He married in Peekskill, N.Y., in 1818, Lydia Amelia, daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Seymour) Ferris. She died Dec. 5, 1875, aged 79 years in Peekskill, N.Y.

Their pictures tell their character better than their grandchildren can, for in their faces is reflected the kindness and upright living for which they were known.

Thomas Joseph Blakeney purchases five acres of land in Cortlandt Town on the Crumpond Road, from his father-in-law, Joseph Ferris, but in 1836, he, with his wife, sold it to James Brown. It was on the east side of the Ferris farm. After the death of her parents they went to live in the old Ferris homestead which later became the property of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. Issues:

William E.; Mary Catherine; Eliza B.; Anna Post; Sarah;
Thomas J.; Lydia Amelia; Benjamin F.; Emily F.

Regarding the son, Thomas J. Blakeney, the following
letter speaks for itself

WAR DEPARTMENT

The Adjutant General's Office

Washington, December 2, 1925

Dear Madam:

In reply to your letter, herewith returned, you are informed that the records show that Thomas J. Blakeney was enrolled June 1, 1861, at New York, N.Y., and was mustered into service June 26, 1861, at Fort Schuyler, N.Y., as 2nd lieutenant of Company A, 1st California Volunteer Infantry, to serve 3 years. He was honorably discharged to date from October 6, 1861, by reason of his promotion to 1st lieutenant. He was mustered into service October 7, 1861, and transferred to Company P of the 1st California Infantry which regiment in November of December, 1861 became the 71st Pennsylvania Infantry. In July 1862, Company P was broken up and Lieutenant Blakeney was transferred to Company D. of that regiment, and was honorably discharged April 18, 1863, on tender of resignation to accept promotion. He is considered by the War Department as commissioned to the grade of captain in Company D, 71st Pennsylvania Infantry, to take effect from February 19, 1863. He was mustered into service July 2, 1863, as major of the 1st California Volunteer Cavalry and was honorably mustered out November 18, 1864, at Las Cruces, New Mexico, as major.

Very Truly yours,

ROBERT C. DAVIS
Major-General,
The Adjutant-General,
By H.

Frost, Josephine

ancestors of Benjamin Ferris Blakeney and his
wife Stella Peronne Sabin

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(f) Thomas Joseph Blakeney, Jr., about 1854, went to California and was the first dentist of Sacramento. I lined to hear the family discussing the reports of his different early experiences, one being that he was about sampling an apple, and when told that it was one dollar the apple dropped instanter. Horseback rides after office hours was a healthful and favorite pastime for him. and it was said the many trophies collected gave evidence of the wild mountainous rides he enjoyed. In 1859 he became interested in politics and stumped the State of California in favor of Abraham Lincoln for President. In the year 1861, after the successful election of a Republican President, Thomas J., came east to witness the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln and to enjoy the glorious family reunion of the long absent son and brother.

When war was declared between the North and the South the First Regiment of California Volunteers, under Colonel Baker of California, was equipped for battlefield. Thomas J. changed his program of returning to California and joined the above regiment. After the battle of Bull Run and his personal friend, Colonel Baker, was killed, Thomas J. wanted to resign and returned with the body to California, but the resignation was not accepted and he was appointed on the staff of General Burns.

"Gen. Order:

Lieut. Thomas J. Blakeney of the 71st Pennsylvania Volunteers appointed Aide-de-Camp on the Staff of

Brigadier-General Burns, Nov. 1, 1861.

(Signed) Geo. A. Hicks, A.A.C.

Two horses shot under him; wounded at the battle of Savage Station, and returning to the same scenes while convalescing-- such was his record while on the above staff. From one of his wounds the ball was never extracted. It lay near the spinal column, and from this wound he suffered while he lived. In 1864 we find Major T.J. Blakeney, with the expedition of the Government --the Kit Carson--sent to help subdue the Indians of New Mexico and Texas. The war over, he returns to Brooklyn, and among his trophies were three Indian scalps and two buffalo robes. He was next appointed Internal Revenue Assessor of San Francisco, Cal. For many years prior to his decease, he was Supt. of the Life Saving Service of the Pacific Coast: The horrible earthquake of 1905 in San Francisco was his last experience.

Major T. Blakeney was born in Peekskill November or January 5, 1830, married Mary Miller, daughter of Banker Miller, of San Francisco, Cal. Issue: Mae, Henry, Benjamin and Ferris Blakeney who was drowned with the upsetting of a canoe in Chicago, Ill. Hope to obtain dates and particulars.

Frost, Catherine V.

Ancestors of Benjamin Ferris Blakeney and
his wife Stella Peronne Sabin

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No publisher given