

Captain Aaron Smith Bayne

Two Centuries in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky

Daniel E, McClure, Jr.

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Aaron Smith Bayne was born November 22, 1833 in Hardin County, Kentucky. As Captain of Company F of the Fifteenth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry he was killed in action at the Battle of Stone's River (Murfreesboro, Tennessee) December 31, 1862, according to Perrin's History of Kentucky. The Baynes lived in that part of Hardin County which was later formed into LaRue County in 1843. His parents were Thomas Bayne and Amanda Smith Bayne. Aaron Bayne was a merchant and postmaster at Centerpoint, KY.(sic) At that time there were no banks in the country and he is said to have brought money to Louisville for safe keeping, traveling over the turnpike that ran from Nashville to Louisville by way of Glasgow, Hodgenville and Bardstown. Captain Aaron Bayne is buried at Magnolia, Kentucky.

Thomas Bayne and his wife, Amanda, were parents of several children: Aaron, Thomas, Joshia, Alfred, several girls, and possibly a son named Judson, as one Judson Bayne was a First Lieutenant in Company F of the same regiment in which Aaron Bayne was chosen Captain when the Fifteenth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Pope in the fall of 1861. Camp Pope was located near New Haven, Kentucky and several regiments were organized and trained there during the Civil War.

The Fifteenth Infantry was to see as much fighting as any Kentucky regiment during the war and its losses and killed and wounded were great. It was the first command of Colonel Curran Pope, who died of wounds received at the battle of Chaplin Hills October 8, 1862, part of the Battle of Perryville. James B. Forman followed as Colonel. He was killed at Stone's River December 31, 1862. George P. Jouette, Lieutenant – Colonel of the regiment met death at Chaplin Hills, as did Major William P. Campbell and Lieutenants Joseph L. McClure and James A. T. McGrath. The regiment during its service lost a total of nine officers and 128 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded and one officer and 113 enlisted men by disease. Captain Bayne was injured at Perryville.

Aaron Smith Bayne married Margaret Nancy Lasley, born 1828, died September 4, 1866, She had survived her soldier husband's death but a few years. Margaret Lasley was a sister of Manoah Lasley, and Mary Lasley, wife of John Burch, of LaRue County, with whom the three orphan Bayne daughters went to live at Cecilia. The Burches were living at Cecilia in 1871, where he was an engineer in the building of the Elizabethtown and Paducah railroad.

The Bayne girls has attended St. Catherine's Academy at New Haven before coming to live with their aunt and uncle at Cecilia. They were all to attend Bethlehem Academy in Hardin County. Of the three girls, Lura, Gertrude and Anna Smith, Lura, born October 20, 1858, on October 3, 1876 married Charles Zachary Aud, who had come to Cecilia in 1871, where he began his duties as a railway surgeon on April 4th of that year. (See Aud family sketch.)

Camp Andrew Johnson Dec(sic) 22 1862

[illegible] Bonnie

Dear wife I am not very well but I am going about I have taken coold(sic) that has seatled(sic) in my left side. I am trying to gett(sic) a furlo(sic). If I gett(sic) it I will be at home in five or six days if I fail in procuring a furlo(sic) I intend to tender my resignation for it is not worth my while to try to serve my country as a soldier even my health will not permit of my doing so. Lueint(sic) Carroll was promoted to first Lieint(sic). Josh to Second on To the 9th Inty.(sic). They rec'd(sic) there commissions yesterday evening. [illegible] Carol has [illegible] recovered from his [illegible] and has returned to duty. Give my [illegible] Your husband AS Bayne