

## Ancestor Profile

My maternal great-grandfather, Thaddeus Nelson Hendrickson, was the 2<sup>nd</sup> son of a tobacco farmer in northern Kentucky. At the age of 15, he volunteered as a "civilian hostler" for the Union Army stationed across the Ohio River in Ohio. By 1864, Kentucky was firmly in Union hands and he lied about his age (17) and enlisted in the 4<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Regiment.



He was quickly promoted to Corporal due to his experience as a hostler. He served as orderly to his Company Commander for most of the rest of the war. His major engagements include: *Battle of Franklin*; *Battle of Nashville*; and *Wilson's Raid*.

Thaddeus was mustered-out in August 1865. He returned to Kentucky by way of St. Louis, Missouri. While in St. Louis, he was offered Sergeant's stripes to join the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry on the way west. He refused and returned to the life of a farmer and sometimes house painter in Trinity, Kentucky.

Thaddeus died in May 1924 and is buried in Ebenezer Cemetery, Cabin Creek, Kentucky.

**Cpl. Thaddeus Nelson Hendrickson - Company I, 4<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Mounted Infantry**

*Submitted by Camp Cmdr. James Hackett*