

# The Far-Land Legacy

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FAIRFIELD County

FRIDAY

April 1, 2022

Vol. I | Issue: 14

\$5.00

## LOCAL SURVEYORS TO CONNECT CHILlicothe TO LANCASTER

### Joe McFarland

The Far-Land Legacy  
The Publishing Legacy Company

**LANCASTER** – From Litchfield, Connecticut and born sometime in 1773, Elnathan and Mary Scofield gave their newborn child the same name, Elnathan Scofield.

Elnathan married Druscilla Reid and together they had two daughters.

As a prominent citizen of Lancaster, Elnathan showed listed in the 1820 election as candidate for Senator along with David Lyle.

He also showed listed on a list of individuals who shared in the expense of a public dinner to be given in honor of Henry Clay on July 25, 1825, in Lancaster.

The Lancaster Lateral Canal Company organized the connection of Lancaster with the Ohio and Erie canals on February 8, 1826, at the intersection of Carroll, and employed Elnathan Scofield as its president.

Elnathan engaged in service as one of the first post masters in a general store before transferring to City Hall prior to 1910, alongside with Samuel Coates I and Samuel Coates II, Jacob D. Detrick, and others. When George Sanderson delivered mail by horseback, he served under Elnathan Scofield.

Elnathan shared in the partnership as a merchant with John Mathews and John Creed served them as their clerk.

Elnathan once owned the property where the Sherman House now stands. The plot, Lot 12, originally sold on December 17, 1800, by Noah and John Zane, Ebenezer's sons, to Jeremiah Conway, who during the Court of General Sessions, served on the Jury in January 1801. Elnathan obtained the property in 1802, and later sold it to Larkin Reynolds in 1807. Reynolds divided up the property in 1808 and let the west half of the property go, selling to Elijah B. Mervin, who turned around and sold it to William Sherman's father, Charles R. on February 24, 1816.

The court executed a plan to prepare a public road from early pioneer, Joseph Hunter's sawmill, and to intersect the "Great Road" which connected Chillicothe to Lancaster. Of those appointed to carry out the plan included Fairfield County surveyor Elnathan Scofield, David Reese, and Rudolph Pitcher. Scofield actively surveyed the township of Hocking in 1801 preparing it for the future inhabitants along with Thomas Worthington, Samuel Carpenter, and later William Hamilton.

See the Buckeye Lake Images on page 4



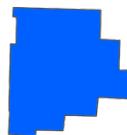
ELNATHAN SCOFIELD's Tombstone located in the Elmwood Cemetery in Lancaster, Ohio. Courtesy of FindAGrave.com



Be of good courage,  
and he shall strengthen  
your heart, all ye that  
hope in the LORD.

Psalm 31:24

DID YOU  
KNOW?



Buckeye Lake once was a swamp when surveyed originally by Christopher Grist in 1751. Elnathan Scofield surveyed the land later in 1803 and the pond originally was known as Buffalo Swamp. Buffalo and elk once roamed the shores of what is now known as the Buckeye Lake.

### CONNECT WITH US

Find out where you fit into the rich history of Fairfield County. Email us @:

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# SPOTLIGHT

**Joe McFarland**  
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**Dr. John Daniel Nourse, MD**  
30 NOV 1827 - 27 FEB 1897  
FOREST ROSE CEMETERY

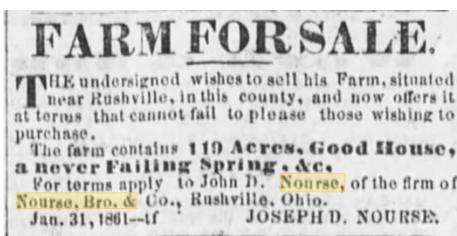
**RICHLAND TOWNSHIP** – Born to Charles and Susan (Cameron) Nourse on Friday, November 30, 1827, John Daniel grew up to become a doctor after moving with his father from Sharpsburg, Maryland in Washington County to Fairfield County in 1841 at thirteen years old. His mother’s remains stayed behind to rest in the Elmwood Cemetery in West Virginia as she died in the autumn of 1835 on October 10th.

Once arriving to Fairfield County, John found work a store clerk while teaching at the local school for six years, starting while not yet achieving sixteen years of age himself.

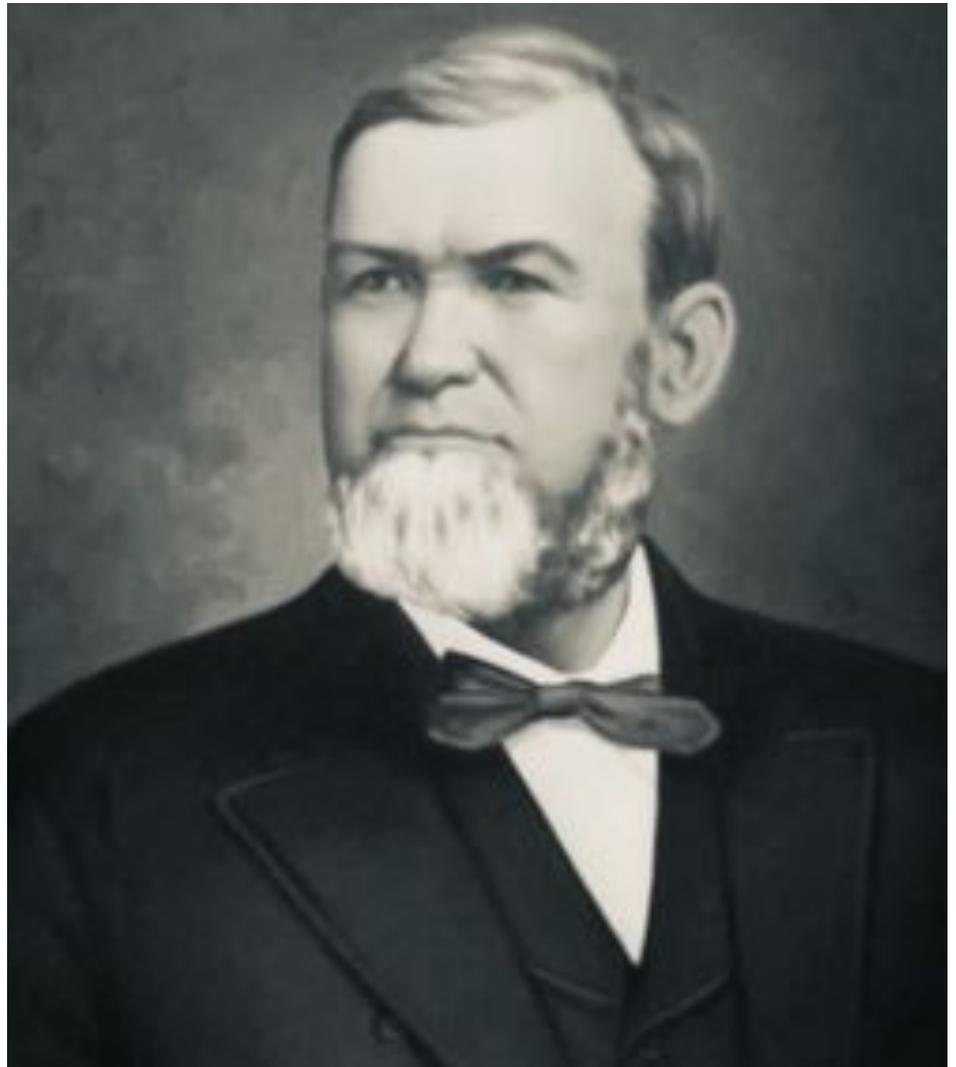
John Daniel left home to venture off to Alabama as a teacher during the 1847 and 1848 years. Upon his return home he chose to shift into the field of medicine and studied under Dr. Fisher of Baltimore, Ohio. By 1851, John graduated from the Cleveland Medical College and shortly began his own practice servicing the citizens of Baltimore, Rushville, and Reynoldsburg. The 1850 Census confirms Dr. Nourse’s residence in Baltimore.

During the same year on May 1st, he married Catharine Minerva Berry in Fairfield County and together they had two children: Darlington Berry and John Homer Nourse. By September, Dr. Nourse, now of Liberty Township, gained the nomination for the Clerk of Courts by The Whig Central Committee which supported their decision by examining his qualifications for the post with the excellence in his character fully confident he held the ability to succeed Mr. Simmons of the role. The nominations published in the Lancaster Gazette on Thursday, September 25, 1851, on page 3.

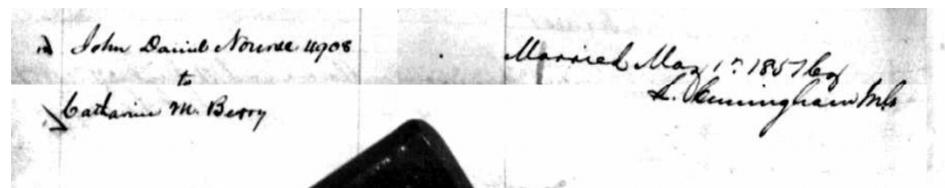
After being recorded in Rushville on the 1860 U.S. Census, Dr. Nourse placed his farm up for sale and advertised it in the Lancaster Gazette on Thursday, Feb-



An advertisement run in the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette notifying the locals Dr. Nourse placed his farm up for sale. Courtesy of Lancaster Eagle-Gazette



Portrait of DR. JOHN DANIEL NOURSE  
Courtesy of Ancestry.com



Marriage record for Dr. John Daniel Nourse and his bride, Catharine Minerva Berry. Courtesy of Ancestry.com

ruary 7 and 14, 1861 as follows:

### FARM FOR SALE

The undersigned wishes to sell his Farm, situated near Rushville, in this county, and now offers it at terms that cannot fail to please those wishing to purchase. The farm contains **119 Acres, Good House, a never-Failing Spring.** For terms apply to John D. Nourse, of the farm of Nourse, Bro. & Co., Rushville, Ohio. 31 JAN 1861 - tf. Joseph D. Nourse

By 1862, the citizens took the advice of the Whig Central Committee as the Lancaster Gazette reported in the

August 28 paper, “The following named gentlemen have been appointed a ‘Union Central Committee.’ Richland Township – J.D. Nourse.” By the evening of September 11, 1862, Dr. Nourse found himself in a War Meeting discussing “Freemen to the Rescue. There will be a meeting of all who favor a vigorous prosecution of the war for the suppressions of the rebellion and restoration of the Union addressed by Hon. Carey A. Trumble and Job E. Stevenson.”

On July 1, 1863, Dr. Nourse appeared on the United States Civil War Draft Registration Record reported to live in Richland Township and listed as a physician from Maryland, and later that year on September 3rd, shows up in the Lancaster Gazette on page 2 as

nominated for the Clerk of Court of Common Pleas.

In the Lancaster Gazette on Thursday, July 21, 1864, Dr. Nourse remains noted on page 3 for giving to the soldier's Gazette fund \$.50, which equals approximately \$9 today.

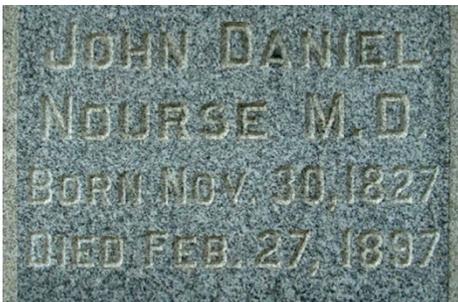
In 1863, Dr. Nourse spoke at a Union's Meeting in Millersport along with other speakers: Martin, Clarke, and Geiger, Thursday, October 8th.

After the 1870 Census confirmed Dr. Nourse resided in Reynoldsburg, he moved yet again.

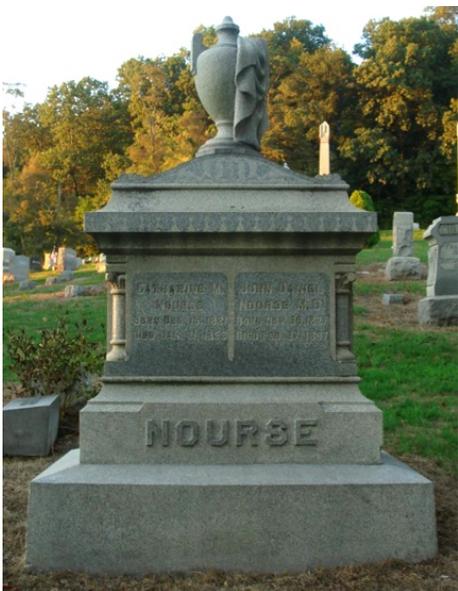
As time traveled, so did John's ambitions as he chose to separate from the three towns and focus his practice in Lancaster, using his talents as a physician up until his death in 1897.

Dr. Nourse's personal estate value by 1870 reached \$1,500, which in today's dollars equates to just over \$32,000. His real estate value climbed to \$6,000, translated to today as almost \$130,000.

A prime example of a self-made man, Dr. John Daniel Nourse was an achieved scholar and succeeded in his medical profession while practicing in Fairfield County before he passed away at 69 years old on Saturday, February 27, 1897. The large, prominent tombstone stands on the grounds of Forest Rose Cemetery requesting pause as one walks by to remember a great physician of Fairfield County.



Close up of Dr. NOURSE's vitals.  
Courtesy of FindAGrave.com



Dr. JOHN DANIEL NOURSE's tombstone stationed in the Forest Rose Cemetery.  
Courtesy of FindAGrave.com

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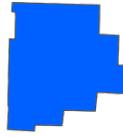
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The El Capitan, sentinel in Yosemite National Park, is said to be the largest single block of granite in the world. It is even larger than the rock of Gibraltar.

*Extracted from The Lancaster Eagle-Gazette - SAT 11 OCT 1975, p. 4*



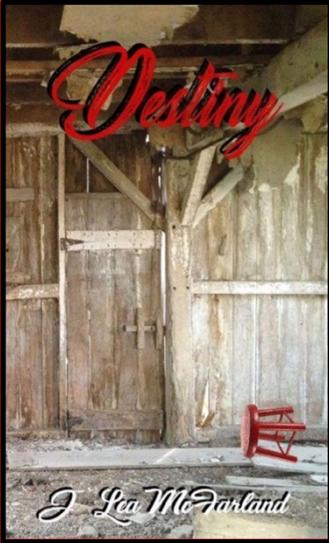
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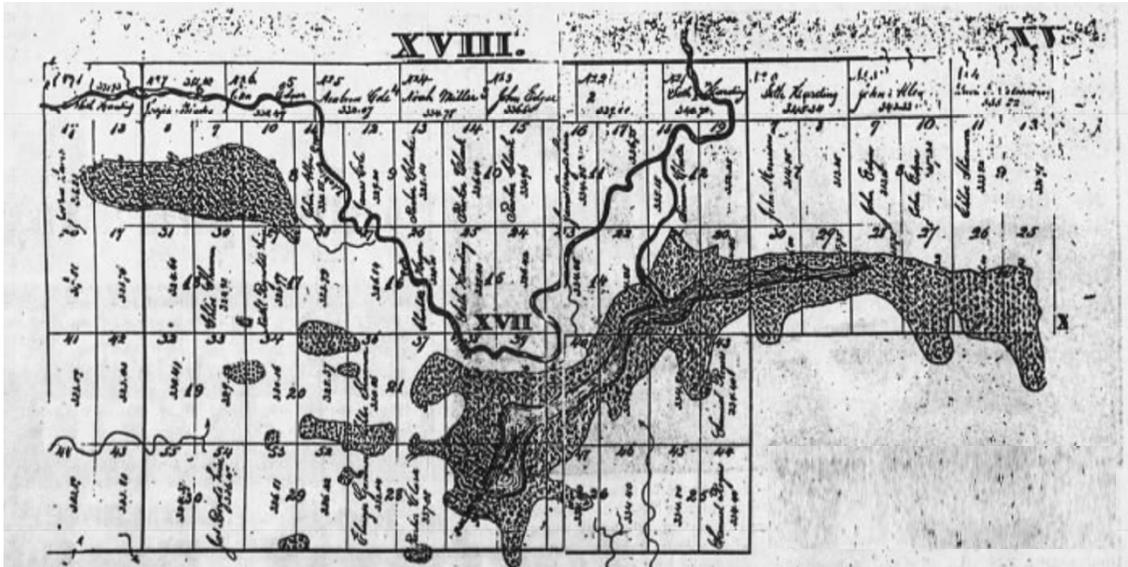


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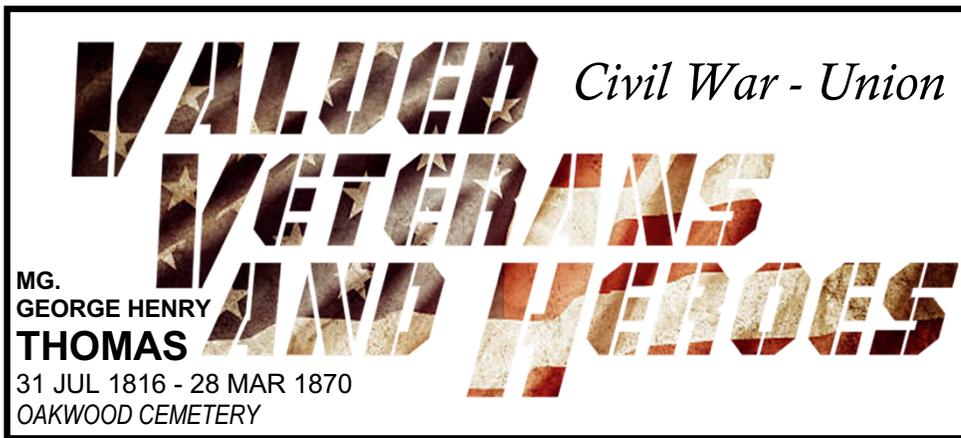


Map of Buckeye Lake | Courtesy of The Lancaster Eagle-Gazette | SAT 03 JUN 1950 - p. 358



Reproduction of a section of the Refugee Tract by Elnathan Scofield in 1803 shows the "Pond" before named Buckeye Lake.

Courtesy of The Lancaster Eagle-Gazette



**MAJ-GEN. GEORGE HENRY THOMAS**  
*Courtesy of Ancestry.com*

## ***THE FORGOTTEN GENERAL***

**VIRGINIA** – Born in Newsom’s Depot, to John and Elizabeth (Rochelle) Thomas, the last day of July in 1816, George Henry Thomas grew up, raised in Newsoms, Virginia, located in Southampton County just five miles from the North Carolina border, with three sisters and two brothers. After experiencing an upper-class plantation lifestyle his parents set up across 685 owned acres and owning twenty-four slaves, financial ruin funneled into the family after the death of George’s father, John, during the involvement in a farming accident. At thirteen, George witnessed his family forced to flee from their property, trading it for protection in the nearby woods as the slave rebellion swept through led by Nat Turner. During the uprising in 1831, at fifteen, his family endured, barely surviving.

When Thomas witnessed the violence the slaves took, it shifted his stance on slavery, however no record remains on his actual position on the subject. He, however, owned slaves throughout his life, yet contrary to Virginia law and his father, prohibiting such action, George taught approximately fifteen slaves how to read.

Within the next five years George graduated from West Point in the same class as his friends and roommates: William Tecumseh Sherman and Stewart Van Vliet. Congressman John Y. Mason appointed him in 1836 and warned him no nominee from their district ever completed the education to successfully graduate. While attending, George was known by “Old Tom.” In 1840, he graduated 12th in his class out of 42 students. Once graduated, George reached the appointed 2nd Lieutenant in Company D, 3rd U.S. Artillery. His first involvement with the artillery regiment came at the end of 1840 in the battles against the Seminole Indians in Fort

Lauderdale, Florida. By November 6, 1841, he gained the rank advancement to Brevet First Lieutenant. Between 1842 and 1845, George found himself secured to posts at New Orleans, Fort Moultrie in Charleston Harbor, and Fort McHenry in Baltimore. His regiment then received orders to advance to Texas in June 1845 to engage in the Mexican-American War.

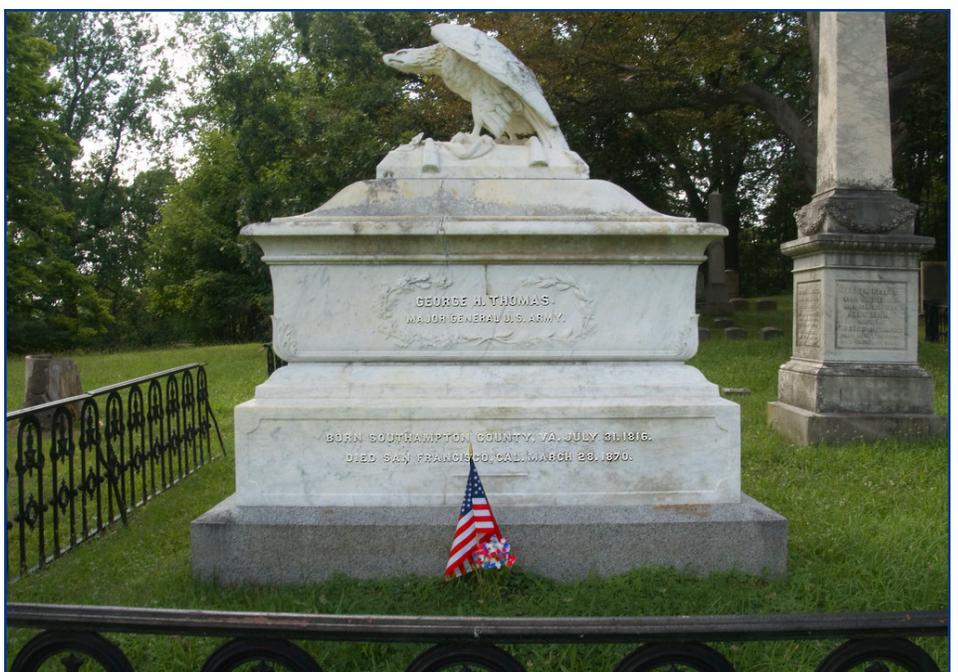
West Point met George Henry’s returned arrival as a cavalry and artillery instructor. While instructing the next generation of soldiers he gained a personal and professional relationship with Virginia officer, Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Lee, the superintendent of West Point. Upon his endorsement of two students, J.E.B. Stuart and Fitzhugh Lee, the Confederates welcomed them as cavalry generals. Another student, John Schofield, was expelled from the school based on the judgment of Thomas due to disciplinary reasons.

At 36, George married Frances Lucretia Kellogg on Saturday, November

20, 1852. Thomas was later appointed the captain promotion on Christmas Eve in 1853.

Three months later, in the spring of 1854, George Henry Thomas received orders to transport his artillery regiment to California where he led two companies into San Francisco ending an excruciating march to Fort Yuma. By May 12, 1855, Thomas received the appointed rank advancement to Major of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry by Jefferson Davis, secretary of war at the time before his infamous leadership in the South.

During his travels with Robert E. Lee on multiple military assignments a confrontation collided with a Comanche warrior leaving Thomas wounded as a result of an arrow penetrating his chest after passing through the flesh near his chin on August 26, 1860, at Clear Fork, Brazos River, Texas. Thomas endured the expedition after he pulled the arrow



**The tombstone of MAJ-GEN. GEORGE HENRY THOMAS located in the Oakwood Cemetery.**  
*Courtesy of Flickr*



**MAJ-GEN. GEORGE HENRY THOMAS**

*Courtesy of Ancestry.com*

out, his only battle wound, and had the surgeon dress the wound.

After permission presented George with a one-year leave of absence in November 1860, his military career paused his distinguished experience, rare in all three areas of combat arms – infantry, cavalry, and artillery. As he began his leave to southern Virginia, he fell from a train platform while boarding, and severely injured his back subjecting him to back pain for the rest of his life.

George Henry Thomas rejected the opportunity to fight for the Confederate Army and remained loyal to the United States Army fighting for the freedom the Union fought to secure. According to his Northern wife, Frances (Kellogg) later, his decision to fight for the Union ended up agonizing George at his core as he found himself caught in the middle of an anomaly. It remains believed his wife helped encourage him to fight for the United States. His family disowned him due to his betrayal as they turned his pic-

ture against the wall, destroyed his letters, and severed all communication. His sisters also angrily refused the funds George sent to them after the war due to the downturn of the economy, stating they had no brother. The South marked him a traitor, and President Abraham Lincoln hindered his advancement through the military ranks lacking trust from one who served under the command of General Robert E. Lee prior to joining the Union at the start of the Civil War. The stain of his stand against the South and the suspicion surrounding him from the North forever plagued him until his death.

Despite the outcome, George Henry secured many great victories for the Union during the war. One distinguished demonstration of Northern success screamed from his men's determination to claim the victory in Kentucky when they forced the Confederate Army to recede across the Cumberland River and back across the

Tennessee border after being completely outnumbered.

Thomas found himself later leading the soldiers under General William Rosecrans when advancing to Stones River and Missionary Ridge during the Tennessee Campaign of Tullahoma. Historians stake the claim these battles became a pivotal point in turning the war into the Union's favor.

When the battle of Chickamauga Creek took a turn for the worse causing his commanding general, along with five other generals, to retreat, Thomas stayed with his men and safely secured them to refuge after nightfall. His action gave him the nickname, "Rock of Chickamauga." He later took command of the Army of Cumberland and held Chattanooga and Nashville, Tennessee, two important cities the side to win the war would need.

In 1864, in the Franklin-Nashville Campaign, he guaranteed the victory as he destroyed General John Bell

Hood, Confederate General, at the battle of Nashville. With a successful run throughout the Civil War the historical praise his comrades, Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman received, failed to leave such recognition to future generations of his plight. A reputation followed claiming George to decline advancements through the ranks when lacking justification. He failed to pen memoirs to advance his legacy and deemed it unnecessary to have an advocacy with Ulysses S. Grant, which hurt him later upon Grant's advancement through the ranks and becoming the President of the United States.

After the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theater, George remained in command of troops in Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi and received the offer from President Andrew Johnson to advance to the rank of Lieutenant General. At this point Thomas declined the promotion.

As one of the principal commanders of the Western Theater, George passed away on Monday, March 28, 1870, in San Francisco, California at 53 years old from a stroke. His remains were placed in the Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, New York. A massive tombstone marks where his story ends. Within the fence an eagle forever guards, perched above. His honor later materialized as his image appeared on the \$5 bank note and a statue erected in Washington's Thomas Circle.



### Overcoming Obstacles

*From Last Week's Issue*

CROSSWORD

**Down:**

1. Politician who gave up law.
3. Cemetery in Dumonville, Ohio.
7. John's last name who inspected railroad cars in Columbus.

**Across:**

2. The season the 40 Lancaster citizens left for California to sell horses.
4. Word Search theme.
5. World War I veteran who served as a nurse in multiple countries.
6. The month the first Fairfield County Fair was hosted in.



C P K P T J B O M V Q J A L Y A X B U  
 D N N A O I E R I E I W K H X Z W A D  
 A K D F W N Z R M W E V Z P A X P O  
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Kickapoo	Apache	Choctaw
Latin American Indian	Blackfeet	Dakota
Mohawk	Cheyenne	Erie
Navajo	Cherokee	Fremont
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