

I believe the following was written by my grandmother Florence B. Kidder. I have typed it as best I can decipher it and as much as possible as she wrote it. Benjamin F. Smith was her father and therefore my great grandfather. Max Foley 9/2/2002

Benjamin F Smith son of Wm C. & Catherine Smith was born in York Co Penn Feb 20, 1845, moved to Bettsville, Seneca Co, Ohio 1860, moved to farm in Seneca Co in 1861. Enlisted in Co E 49th Reg Vol Inf the 10th day of Sept 1862 for 3 years with parents consent, as I was only 17 yrs 5 mo old. I served to June 13, 1865 the end of the war. I fought in the battle of (Murfreesboro) Stones River the 31st of Dec. 1862. I was taken prisoner on that date and taken to Libby Prison. I was paroled and sent through the line Feb 4 1863. Was taken with smallpox 4 days before I left there, went to the Navy yard hospital Annapolis MD. Joined my regiment on June 8, 1863 at Murfreesboro Tenn. Went into the battle of Liberty Gap the 24th of June 1863. In the battle of Chickamauga Sept 19-20 1863, then into the battle of Missionary Ridge (South of Chattanooga.). Started on May 4, 64 on the Atlanta campaign which lasted until Sept 8, 64 and ended at Jonesboro, Ga.

I was discharged at Camp Harker, Nashville, Tenn., June 13, 65. Moved to Maple Rapids Clinton, Co (Mich.) in the fall of "66". Was married to Mary Root July 21 "72". To this union 3 children were born Florence B born in Ala. Ray O in North Star (Mich.) and Carl L in Ithaca, (Mich ) Moved to Walker Co Ala Mar "73" returned to Mich in 76" to North Star Gratiot Co (Mich) and farmed until 1883 when I moved to Ithaca. Worked at Carpenter work and was night police for 11 years. Moved to Harrietta Mich 1905. His wife passed away Sept 13, 1925 (and he passed away in 1930)

He is survived by two children Florence B Kidder of Fenton, Mi. and Carl L of Albuquerque New Mexico. Ray O passed away June 9, 1912.

He and his wife are buried in the Hillside Cemetery off W. 30th rd in Harrietta, Mich. We visited the site in August of 02. I sent the above info to Alice Sennerty, P.O Box 95, Boon, Mich 49618. She handles the records etc of the Cemetery and I understand will place a plaque with a flag indicating he was a veteran. Max

