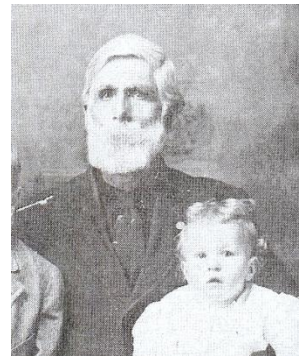


Private William M. Steere

William McKendrie Steere, the son of William Milhouse and Elizabeth (Beal) Steere was born September 21, 1847 in Rollin Township, Lenawee County, Michigan. In 1855 his family moved to Palo, Ronald Township, Ionia County, Michigan. On September 3, 1864 at Grand Rapids William enlisted for one year in Company A of the 21st Infantry. He was 16 and became a drummer boy. He was mustered out at Washington D.C. on June 8, 1865.

After the war William became a teacher which is how he met his wife, Emma Ursula Tone. She was also a teacher. Emma was the daughter of John and Electa (Hubbard) Tone of Bergen, Monroe County, New York. After her father and mother died, Emma moved to Michigan to join her sister. William M. Steere and Emma U. Tone were married at William's father's home in Palo on May 6, 1874. They bought a farm in Crystal Township, Montcalm County, MI and raised four boys and four girls. They also owned property in Evergreen Township, Montcalm County. William was a Republican and was "looked upon as one of Montcalm county's most substantial citizens." William and Emma were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Crystal. For a brief time they lived in Pittsford, Washtenaw County, Michigan (around 1890). William applied for and received a pension.



William McKendrie Steere died March 30, 1927 at Crystal, Montcalm County, Michigan. Emma U. (Tone) Steere died April 29, 1927 in Wayne County, Michigan. She went there to live with her daughter after William died. They are buried in Crystal Cemetery, Crystal, Montcalm County, Michigan.

Grand Army of the Republic

William B. Stewart Post #324 - Crystal, Montcalm County, Michigan



William M. Steere is the one with the small drum.



