

Courtesy of Tim Swanson, Vancouver, Washington

Denzil J. Clark Civil War Record - 23 Sept 2007

**And Death Information from the same Civil War Records and
His wife Lydia M (Ross) Clark**

Denzil just appears (Report of the Adjutant-General, page 592 – I have not been able to find any earlier census or personal records of him) at age 17-18, born 12 Oct 1843-44 (depending on various records – see below), in New Albion, Cattaraugus County, New York when he enlists for the Civil War in Ellicottville, New York. Mustered in as a private for two years in 37th Regiment of Infantry, the "Irish Rifles," Co. H, 26 Oct. 1861: 37th

**Regiment NY Volunteer Infantry Regimental Color
58" hoist x 71 1/2" fly Civil War**



Reportedly received by the 37th New York Volunteer Infantry in February 1863 from the city of New York, and carried at Chancellorsville, Virginia, May 1-3, 1863, this green, silk regimental color features traditional Irish iconography painted on both sides. The flag also features painted battle honors commemorating the regiment's 1862 campaigns and the unit's distinction as "The first Regt. of Irish Volunteers in the Field." (1995.2021)

- ❖ **Regimental History of the 37th**: Cols., John H. McCunn, Samuel B. Hayman; Lieut. Cols, John Burke, Gilbert Riordan; Majors Dennis C. Minton, Gilbert Riordan, Patrick H. Jones and William DeLacy.

- ❖ The 37th, the “Irish Rifles,” was composed of seven companies from New York City, two from Cattaraugus County (Denzil’ home) and one from Pulaski County. They were mustered into the US service on June 6-7 1861 at New York City, for a two-year term. The 37th then left New York on June 23rd for Washington, DC camped at the foot of East Capitol street; participated in the first movement to Manassas in General McDowell’s reserves and went into winter quarter near Bailey’s Crossroads.
- ❖ After several temporary assignments the regiment finally became a part of the 3rd brigade, 1st division, 3rd corps on March 13, 1862,
- ❖ Companies H (Denzil) and Co. I (Pulaski) served detached from the regiment at Fort Washington, DC from Aug. 1861 to March 1862
- ❖ **Battles Fought:**
- ❖ Fought at Bailey’s Cross Roads, VA
- ❖ Fought on 28 Jan 1862 at Occoquan, VA
- ❖ Fought on 29 Jan 1862 at Masons Neck, VA
- ❖ Fought on 22 May
- ❖ Fought on 30 May 1862 at Fair Oaks, Glendale, Richmond and Seven Pines, VA,
- ❖ Fought on 31 May 1862 at the Seven Days’ Battles, and Seven Pines, VA
- ❖ Fought on 01 June 1862 at, Seven Springs, VA
- ❖ Fought on 27-28 June, 1862 at Glendale, VA
- ❖ Fought on 29 June 1862 at Harleysville, VA
- ❖ Fought and wounded (Denzil Clark) on 30 June 1862 at Charles City Cross Roads, VA. Shot with shot gun in RT Femur and LT Knee and left on the battlefield and captured by the Rebels and taken prisoner the night of 30 June 1862 for about 20 days and then exchanged. He says, “ The Rebel surgeon and the good Lord only know where he is, but probably in the lower regions.”
- ❖ A fellow 37th Infantrymen from Finney County, Kansas stated in support of this in an Affidavit, “I H. E. Wentworth, being first duly sworn do depose and say in relation to the claim for pension of Denzil J Clark a private in Co H 37th Reg. New York Volunteers Infantry that I was well and personally acquainted with the above named claimant during the War of 1861 to 1865. That we both were members of the 37th Reg. That I was present at the battle of Glendale or Charles City on 30 June 1862 and I saw the said claimant wounded in said battle. Said wounds being in the left knee and right femur by gun shot wounds and that the said claimant was left wounded upon the field when we retreated from said battle field that I have personal knowledge of the facts above stated being present at the time and observing the same myself.”
- ❖ **Mustered out** on 22 June 1863 in New York City
- ❖ **He reenlisted,** "...on 9 Sept. 1864 at age 21 + 10 months (Declaration of Recruit) in the (again as a private) in Company B, 154 Regiment New York at the town of Otto, New York by Capt. GW Palmer, and then mustered into the service of the US on 9 Sept 1864 at the town of

Dunkirk, NY for the period of one year." (War Department, Adjutant Generals Office, 18 May 1865)

Mustered In

Colonel Addison G. Rice, succeeded, September 25, 1862, by Col. Patrick H. Jones, received, August 19, 1862, authority to recruit the 154th in the then 32d Senatorial District of the State. It was organized at Jamestown, N.Y., and there mustered in the service of the United States for three years September 24 - 26 1862.

Locations the 154th was Principally Recruited From in New York State

When Denzil signed up again with the 154th there are some interesting facts:

- ❖ Signed up on 9 Sept 1864 in the town of Otto, New York at age 21 and 10 months with would mean he was born in 1843 not 1844.
- ❖ This same Volunteer Enlistment form states he was born in New Albion, New York
- ❖ He is examined by HH Gliebler, Examining Surgeon who states he is 5'9 ½ " with blue eyes, black hair, lighter complexion and is assigned Company B

B New Albion, Otto, Dayton, Perrysburg, Leon, Mansfield and Persia

1864 Actions of 154th Regiment New York

Occupation of Atlanta	Sept. 2 - Nov. 15
Expedition from Atlanta to Tuckum's Cross Roads	October 26-29
Near Atlanta	Nov. 9
March to the Sea	Nov. 15-Dec. 10
Siege of Savannah	Dec. 10-21

1865 Actions of 154th Regiment New York

Campaign of the Carolinas	Jan-April 1865
Averysboro, NC	March 16
Battle of Bentonville	March 19-21

Occupation of Goldsboro	March 24
Advance on Raleigh	April 9-13
Occupation of Raleigh	April 14
Bennett's House	April 26
Surrender of Johnston and his army	
March to Washington, DC via Richmond, VA	April 29-May 19
Grand Review	May 24

- ❖ **(DYER'S COMPENDIUM vol. 2 p. 1462, plus various other sources)**
- ❖ Mustered out June 11, 1865. Veterans and Recruits not to be mustered out with the regiment were transferred to the 102nd NY Infantry.
- ❖ This same record indicates he (Denzil J Clark) was admitted into Mc Dougall General Hospital on 4 May 1865) in Schuyler, NY. He was then mustered out on 30 May 1865 in Fort Schuyler, NY Harbor

This information was taken from the National Archives in Washington DC in June 2004 by Tim Swanson who has the documentation.

Death of Denzil Clark and Lydia M (Ross) Clark attempts to get his Pension Reinstated by the Army

- ❖ Date and place was taken from, Application for Accrued Pension dated 22 Oct. 1898 as sworn by Lydia M. (Ross) Clark in Sac City, Sac, Iowa. Denzil J Clark died on 21 Sept 1898 in same application Lydia states, "That they have lived in Sac City, Iowa for many years as husband and wife, that they have raised quite a family, that we have seen the marriage certificate of their marriage." Witnessed by Farnsworth D. Cobb and Ike Palmer, sworn 22 Oct 1898. Then on 16 April 1900, Lydia Clark signs another General Affidavit stating, "That she owns no property of any kind save her household goods, that she has no income of any kind except from the labor of her hands, that she supports herself and children and has ever since her husbands death by her daily labor. That her husband had a small tract of land about 4 or 5 acres at the time of his death but the same was mortgaged for nearly all it was worth for the purchase money of the same, that said mortgage has been foreclosed since the death of her husband and her Equities cut off. That no one is in any way legally bound to support her or her children."