

George James Mason

George James Mason was born Sept. 9, 1841 in the town of Conewango, to Charles and Ann Coates Mason and was Baptized August 6, 1846.

When he was seventeen he was sent to England to learn a trade, which ~~was~~ was blacksmithing and axel- tree trade, which he made good use of when he was farming.

He returned home and joined the Army. His mother had to sign as he was not quite 21. He was in the 154th New York Volunteers, where he served three years without coming home. He said he could not afford to. He saw much fighting. He was at the Battle of Gettysburg. He wrote home that he saw all the ~~fire-works~~ fire-works he ever wanted to see on the 4th of July. He wrote to his mother at once to tell her that he was safe.

He was at the battle of Lookout Mountain and had a place on the back of his head where a bullet had plowed a furrow and no hair would grow.

He was also with Sherman when he took Atlanta and in the march to the sea. He wrote from Atlanta that they had seen some hard fighting and expected to see more.

In his letters, he seemed to be more concerned about things at home than what was in the army. He had spells of the ague but otherwise was well. He got to be a 1st Sergeant. He was discharged on June 11, 1865.

When he got home he went back to school for awhile to take spelling and arithmetic.

He built a cheese factory at Rutledge and ran that for some time.

On July 2, 1872, he married Josephine Waity Cowan at Cherry Creek, N.Y. by a Rev. Cook. Mother told that on the way to Cherry Creek with a horse and buggy, the horse was frightened and started to run. After he had stopped the horse, it was found that his sleeve was ripped, he said, "Never mind, I'll soon have a wife to mend it."

He sold the cheese factory at Rutledge and built another at Clear Creek. He had a farm at Pope and at one time a hardware store in the village of Randolph. In 1884 he bought what was the Barber Farm on the Clear Creek Road. He lived and farmed there as long as he was able, then moved to Conewango, ~~where~~ where he died April 7, 1933, at the age of 91 years.

Mabel Mason Hadley  
(daughter)