

May 2, 1995

## C. W. Smith Has Rare Relic Of Civil War Days

Mr. C. W. Smith of Oak Street, has in his possession a very unique relic of the Civil War. It is a brier pipe carved with a jack knife by his father Adam Smith, while in Andersonville Prison at Andersonville, Ga.,

One day, while strolling in the prison yard, Mr. Smith dug up a brier stump and from it carved the pipe. The relic bears the following inscription:

"Co. K. 154th N. Y. Vol., in Charleston, S. C. prison, Columbia, S. C. prison, Belle Isle, Va., Anderson, Ga., prison. Captured July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa."

A palmeeta tree and a pair of handcuffs are also carved on the pipe.

Mr. J. Adam Smith was born in Alsac-Lorraine, then under German control, in 1832. He came to this country with his family when fifteen years of age. They were on the ocean 48 days. Their object in coming to America was to escape enforced army service.

When the Civil War broke out, Mr. Smith enlisted in Jamestown, N. Y. He was a member of Co. K., 154th N. Y. Vol. Mr. Smith was captured July 1st, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa., and spent 21 months and nine days in Southern prisons. He gave many interesting accounts of prison life and how he kept up courage through all those months with no word from home and loved ones. He was determined to live and gladly accepted the offer of working on repairs about the prison. For this service he received double rations. Mr. Adam Smith was the last survivor of the eleven men who went from West Perrysburg. He passed away at his home in Cottage, September 25, 1913. A published article at that time says "The body was borne to the grave by four grandsons, and was wrapped in the flag he had suffered so much to save."

His son, Mr. C. W. Smith of Oak Street, Silver Creek, dearly prizes this rare keepsake.

Mark -

Just found this in a  
scrapbook + thought it  
might interest you.

Nichelle Henry

Chautauque Co. Hist. Soc.

S. C. News - Times Jan. 10, 1913.