

**African American and American Indian Patients in Grace Church Branch,
Second Division General Hospital,
November 30, 1864 to April 29, 1865**



*Tintype photograph of Civil War-era Grace Episcopal Church.
William Francis Smith Collection, Alexandria Library Special Collections.*

In the mid 1850s, members of Alexandria's two existing Episcopal churches formed a new congregation. Although their new church edifice, in the 200 block of South Patrick Street, took several years to complete, services commenced in the unfinished basement by the end of the decade. Bishop John Johns consecrated the new house of worship on October 7, 1860. Less than eight months later, federal troops occupied the city, and the pastor, Rev. D.F. Spriggs, and many of his flock fled south, some to join the Confederate

army.¹ The congregation was able to meet only occasionally in the early days of the war, re-establishing regular services in May 1862, services terminated a month later when the property was seized by the U.S. Army for use as a hospital.²

Alexandria General Hospital opened in July 1861, apparently first located in the Mansion House Hotel and expanded into other buildings as needed. It was reorganized into three divisions in September 1862. These included several churches which offered large, open interior spaces. The Second Division General Hospital comprised Washington Hall and McVeigh Hospitals, the [First] Baptist Church Hospital and its ward in the Lyceum, and Grace Church Hospital. When L'Ouverture Hospital opened in 1864, largely to treat African American troops, it subsumed the Baptist Church and Grace Church branches.³ Grace Church treated only white soldiers until November 30, 1864, when those remaining were transferred to Sickel⁴ Barracks General Hospital, and the first 43 black soldiers were admitted. Grace Church Hospital closed April 29, 1865 at the end of the war—it, St. Paul's Episcopal, and the Baptist Church were the last houses of worship turned over to their congregations by the federal army—and its ill and wounded were transferred to L'Ouverture Hospital. Eighty-five men were carried to L'Ouverture, suggesting that Grace Church had been overcrowded; Miller later gave its capacity as only 75 beds.⁵

The following information on African American soldiers, one black civilian, and at least two American Indian troops (*) treated at Grace Church Hospital is taken from two patient registers (Volume 339 and 340) and morning reports (Volume 344) from the hospital retained in the National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Entry 544, Field Records of Hospitals, 1821-1912, Virginia. Most of the ill and wounded were admitted to the hospital on November 30 and December 6, 1864 and on March 6, 1865. This suggests that large numbers had arrived on transports, probably from City Point, on those dates. L'Ouverture Hospital had only a couple of admissions on the latter two dates, but 55 on November 30, 1864, only one fifth of whom were wounded or injured as opposed to ill. Of the 111 entries, 32 percent lack a diagnosis. Less than 12 percent were admitted for gunshot wounds.

Abbreviations

Co.	Company
Cpl	Corporal
MA Cav	Massachusetts Cavalry
Pvt	Private
Sgt	Sergeant
Sgt Maj	Sergeant Major
USCI	United States Colored Infantry

Name	Rank	Unit	Wound or Disease	Admitted	Release, Transfer or Death
Adams, Benjamin	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. I [or C]	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
*Andrews, John	Pvt	1 Michigan Sharpshooters, Co. K	gunshot wound right leg	12/6/64	Released 2/14/65
Arey, William	Cpl	43 USCI, Co. A	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Arthur, Edward	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. B	chronic ??	12/6/64	Released 2/1/65
Banner, James	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. I	frostbite	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Bass, John	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. G	scrotal hernia	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Black, Joseph	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. H	conjunctivitis	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Blaney, Samuel	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. G	rheumatism	11/30/64	Released 1/3/65
Boyer, John G.	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. A	chronic rheumatism	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Brent, Adam		civilian ("Contraband")	acute bronchitis	2/7/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 2/20/65
Brinkley, Thomas B.	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. G	rheumatic fever	11/30/64	Released 4/13/65
Brown, Joseph	Cpl	29 USCI, Co. B	amputation of 3 rd finger right hand for gunshot wound	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Brown, Lewis H.	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. E	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Brown, Samuel	Sgt	43 USCI, Co. B	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Brown, William	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. E	chronic bronchitis	11/30/64	Released 2/1/65
Brown, William	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. A	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Bruner, George	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. G	phthisis pulmonalis [tuberculosis of lungs]	11/30/64	Released 4/13/65
Burgess, John	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. B	carditis	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Camphor, Edward	Pvt	2 US Colored Cavalry	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Case/Keyes, Miles	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. D	amputation 3 rd and 4 th fingers right hand, gunshot wound	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Catton/Cotton, Henry	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. K	gunshot wound right knee	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Chambers, Daniel	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Chatham/Cheatem, Albert	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. K	chronic bronchitis	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Clayton, Samuel W.	Pvt	unassigned recruit	contusion of back	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Coleman, Thomas	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. F	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Released 2/21/65

Name	Rank	Unit	Wound or Disease	Admitted	Release, Transfer or Death
Collins, John H.	Cpl	27 USCI, Co. B	hemophthisis [anemia]	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Conyer, Benjamin	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. F	chronic diarrhea	12/6/64	Released?
Corns, Lorenzo D.	Pvt	unassigned recruit	epilepsy	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Cuff, Garrison	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. I	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Died 3/19/65
DeGroot, James	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. I	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Derricks, Richard	1 st Sgt	39 USCI, Co. D	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Released 2/7/65
Dixon/Dickson, Victor	Pvt	5 USCI, Co. B	acute diarrhea	11/30/64	Released 4/13/65
Dorsey, Edward	Pvt	unassigned recruit	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Dorsey, James	Cpl	39 USCI, Co. F	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Elliott, James	Pvt	10 USCI, Co. E	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Elliott, John N.	1 st Sgt	10 USCI, Co. F	chronic diarrhea	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
*Eskabog, George	Pvt	1 Michigan Sharpshooters, Co. K	contusion of head and eye	12/6/64	Released 2/14/65
Farley/Furley, John A.	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Fields, James	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Findley, Jefferson	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. B	phthisis pulmonalis [tuberculosis of lungs]	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Gardner, Benjamin	Cpl	23 USCI, Co. F	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Garrett, Edward	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. A	amputation of part of left arm or both arms	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Gilbert, Richard	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. E	diarrhea	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Grant, Mark	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. H	contusion of left knee	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Griffin/Griffith, Matthew	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. F	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Hall, Charles	Cpl	30 USCI, Co. G	phthisis pulmonalis [tuberculosis of lungs]	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Hamilton, Thomas	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. B	unknown	3/6/65	Died 3/16/65
Handy, Ephraim	Sgt	19 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Harris, Thornton	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. G [or C]	gangrene in both feet	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Harrison, John H.	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Harrison, Peter	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. D	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Harrison, William H.	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. D	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Hazel, George W.	1 st Cpl	31 USCI, Co. A	intermittent fever	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65

Name	Rank	Unit	Wound or Disease	Admitted	Release, Transfer or Death
Helmes, Bennett	Pvt	8 USCI, Co. K	consumption	12/7/64	Died 2/21/65
Hood, Joseph	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. D	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Hopkins, Thomas	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. G	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Jackson, Richard	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. C	ascites	11/30/64	Released 2/14/65
Johnson, George	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. A	gunshot wound right leg	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Johnson, Thomas	Pvt	122 USCI, Co. F	frostbite right foot	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Jones, Henry	Pvt	10 USCI, Co. K	unknown	3/6/65?	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Jones, Ransom	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. E	gunshot wound right arm	11/30/64	Furloughed 2/2/65-3/4/65
Ketter, Isaac	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. I	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Lattimore, Harrison	Pvt	116 USCI, Co. G	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Le(e)kins, David	Pvt	27 USCI, Co. A	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Lloyd, Robert	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. D	chronic rheumatism and diarrhea	12/6/64	Released 4/13/65
Lowe, Jessie L.T.	Pvt	5 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Mapp, Levi	Pvt	10 USCI, Co. B	chronic rheumatism and consumption [tuberculosis]	12/6/64	Died 1/28/65
Marshall, James S.	Pvt	33 USCI, Co. I	pneumonia	11/30/64	Died 1/9/65
Mason, Frank	Pvt	10 USCI, Co. I	gastrostymia?	11/30/64	Released 4/13/65
Mitchell, James	Pvt	19 USCI, Co. C	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Mitchell, Joseph T.	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. G	tumor in neck	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Murray, George	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. B	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Nelson, Thomas	Pvt	32 USCI, Co. ?	contusion of back	11/30/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Norman, William	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. E	hemorrhoids	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Palmer, Sidney	Sgt	28 USCI, Co. H	chronic diarrhea	11/30/64	Furloughed 2/2/65-3/4/65 and sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Peach, Joseph	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. E	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Porter, John	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. K	gunshot wound right hand	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Quall(s), James H.	Sgt	27 USCI, Co. H	gunshot wound right arm	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65

Name	Rank	Unit	Wound or Disease	Admitted	Release, Transfer or Death
Reddy/Reddick?, John	Pvt	37 USCI, Co. D	acute diarrhea	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Richardson, Robert R.S.	Sgt Maj	31 USCI	contusion of abdomen	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Russell, John	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. E	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Saxon/Saxton, William H.	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. E	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Scott, Robert	Pvt	recruit	chronic rheumatism	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Snowden, Henry	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. G	chronic rheumatism	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Spike, Sandy	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. ?	chronic rheumatism	12/7/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Stephens/Stevens, William	Pvt	23 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Strawder, Henry	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. C [or F?]	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Sullivan, Joseph	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. K	scrofula	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Tabor/Taybourn, Edward	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. F	scrofula	11/30/64	Released 4/13/65
Talbott, Henry H.	Pvt	43 USCI, Co. C	chronic rheumatism	unknown	Released 1/3/65
Tasker, Nathan	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. H	chronic diarrhea	unknown	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Thomas, Isaac	Pvt	32 USCI, Co. ?	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Thompson, John W.	Cpl	30 USCI, Co. I	gunshot wound right hand	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Thulkil, John	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. G	gunshot wound right leg	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Truett, Ebenezer	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. F	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Truit, Zadock H.	Pvt	19 USCI, Co. H [or F?]	phthisis pulmonalis [tuberculosis of lungs]	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Tubman, Alexander	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. A	anasarca [generalized swelling or massive edema]	11/30/64	Released 2/17/65
Usher, William	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. D	scrofula	11/30/64	Released 1/3/65
Warren, John	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. I	hemorrhoids	11/30/64	Released 2/1/65
Washington, John	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. B	unknown	3/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Watson, Daniel	Pvt	30 USCI, Co. F	gunshot wound right hand	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65

Name	Rank	Unit	Wound or Disease	Admitted	Release, Transfer or Death
Watson, Frank	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. D [or G]	phthisis pulmonalis [tuberculosis of lungs]	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Watson, George	Pvt	31 USCI, Co. I	hemophthisis [anemia]	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Watts, Emory	Pvt	39 USCI, unassigned recruit	chronic rheumatism	12/7/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Wheatley, Henry	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. H	unknown	3/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Williams, Elias	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. C	chronic rheumatism	11/30/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Wilson, Henry	Pvt	29 USCI, Co. C	whitlow [paronychia]	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Wilson, Joseph H.	??	5 Massachusetts (Colored) Cavalry	remittent fever	2/6/65	Died 3/22/65
Winder, Joseph	Pvt	10 USCI, Co. B	chronic rheumatism	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Wood, Treadwell/ Threadwell H.	Pvt	39 USCI, Co. K	unknown	3/6/65	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65
Woodfolk, Harrison	Pvt	28 USCI, Co. B	gunshot wound right arm	12/6/64	Sent to L'Ouverture Hospital 4/29/65

¹ *The Alexandria Gazette* October 9, 1860 and May 1, 1865.

² *The Local News* October 14, 1861 and October 29, 1861; *The Alexandria Gazette* May 24, 1862, May 26, 1862, June 2, 1862, June 23, 1862, and July 7, 1862.

³ National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 115, Records of the Surgeon General, Entry 219, Registers of Army Hospitals and Their Staffs; Record Group 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Entry 544, Field Records of Hospitals, 1821-1912, Virginia, Vols. 339, 340 and 344.

⁴ Or Sickel's, often written "Sickle," "Sickles" or "Sickels," but named for Colonel Horatio Gates Sickel, commander of the Third Pennsylvania Reserve Regiment for whom the barracks had been constructed.

⁵ *The Alexandria Gazette* May 1, 1865; Record Group 94, Entry 544, Virginia, Vols. 339, 340 and 344; Francis Trevelyan Miller, ed., *The Photographic History of the Civil War In Ten Volumes: Volume Seven, Prisons and Hospitals* (New York: The Review of Reviews Co., 1912), p. 234.