

WILLIAM H. ROLLISON FAMILY HISTORY

Written by  
William Bauman  
C & O Canal Association Volunteer

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## William H. Rollison Family History

### PREFACE

This family history was started because I noticed on a Map of Montgomery County, Md., dated 1865, that the lock keeper at Edward's Ferry was a W. Rollison, who I had never heard of. With additional research, "*The Forgotten Story of William Henry Rollison, Civil War Veteran and Ferryman,*" by Jon Wolz, printed in the *Monocacy Monocle*, January 22, 2021, p. 8, was found and the effort became a reformatting effort and adding the family statistics table.

Text within (parenthesis) was found in the original document. Text within [brackets] is something I added for clarity or because it was missing from the original, e.g., census report.

I have added some additional family information to help other researchers. My interest stops with their departure from the canal.

New information on the family would be welcome.

William Bauman  
wdbauman@visuallink.com  
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## William H. Rollison Family History

This family history starts with the marriage of William Rollison, age 22, to Henrietta D. Solomon, age 29, on Aug. 31, 1834 at a house on Broad Run, Loudoun County, Virginia. The Rollison family lived on a farm in an area known as “Stumptown,” near Lucketts, Va., on present-day U.S. 15, between Brunswick, Md. and Leesburg, Va.

The 1850 census listed William Rollison, age 33, with real estate valued at \$300, a carpenter working construction jobs, living in Loudoun County, Va.<sup>1</sup> Living with him were: Henrietta, age 45, wife; William, age 14, son; Frances, age 12, daughter; and John, age 9, son.

Apparently, Henrietta died after the census was taken. One record indicates 1855, in Loudoun County, Virginia. An obituary has not been found.

The 1860 census reported William Rollison, age 48, with a personal estate valued at \$60, working as a lock keeper, living in dwelling number 274.<sup>2</sup> Poolesville was his Post Office. Living with him were: William, age 24, son, working as a boatman; Frances, age 20, daughter; John C., age 16, son; and John H. France, age 20, relation not given, working as a laborer.

The 1860 census also reported Samuel C. Young, age 51, with real estate valued at \$16,000 and a personal estate valued at \$18,200, working as a farmer, living in dwelling number 275.<sup>3</sup> Living with him were: Eugenia, age 30, daughter; William Thomas, age 25, son; Benjamin, age 20, son; Mary, age 20, daughter; and M. Eliza, age 7, daughter. The census taker walked up the towpath from Lock 25 and the Rollison family to collect the information from the Young family, as shown on the 1865 Map of Montgomery County, Md.

The Civil War started on April 12, 1861.

On Aug. 1, 1862, at Edward’s Ferry, Va., William H. Rollison [Jr.], age 26, mustered in to Company E, 1<sup>st</sup> Potomac Home Brigade (13<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Maryland Infantry) as a private, for service for three years. Company E, F and H were recruited in Washington County, presumably William knew many of the enlistees. During the winter of 1861-62, the Brigade served with Gen. Banks and in the following spring marched with that commander up the Shenandoah Valley as far as Winchester, when it was assigned the duty of guarding the B. & O. Railroad line. General Banks was driven out of the Shenandoah Valley and repaired to Harper’s Ferry where he remained. While the second battle of Manassas was ongoing, Bank’s forces guarded the several fords and ferries near the Monocacy Aqueduct, then returned to Harper’s Ferry. Unfortunately, the entire garrison at Harper’s Ferry surrendered on Sept. 15, 1862; the men were paroled and prisoners exchanged. Bank’s men were returned to duty along the Potomac, until the Gettysburg campaign heated up. They were heavily involved in the second day of the battle at Gettysburg and pursued Lee’s Army as far as the Potomac River, afterwards. More guarding of the Potomac River until July 1864, when General Early invaded Maryland. The 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment fought under Gen. Wallace in the battle at Monocacy. Then it was assigned again to guard the B. & O. Railroad, between Martinsburg and Harper’s Ferry. William H. Rollison [Jr.] mustered out as a Fourth Sergeant on May 29, 1865, at Baltimore, Md.

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<sup>1</sup> 1850 Census, Virginia, Loudoun County, enumerated 9/9/1850, p. 320.

<sup>2</sup> 1860 Census, Maryland, Montgomery County, Medley District, enumerated 7/3/1860, p. 38.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

## William H. Rollison Family History

William H. Rollison [Sr., age 53] married Sarah Rebecca Criswell [age 34] on Jan. 2, 1865.

The Civil War ended on April 9, 1865. The 1865 Map of Montgomery County, Md. shows W. Rollison [Sr.] as the Lock keeper at Lock 25, Edward's Ferry. Thus, we perceive that he served throughout the war. Before the 1870 census, he moved the family back to Loudoun County, Va.

The 1870 census listed William Rollison, age 58, a laborer, with a personal estate valued at \$100 and real estate valued at \$600, living in Loudoun County, Va.<sup>4</sup> Living with him were: Rebecca, age 38, wife; William, age 28, son, a laborer; Frances, age 25, daughter; John C. Rollison, age 23, a boatman [all from his first marriage]; George, age 5, son; Grant, age 3, son; and Howard, age 1, son.

In 1871, Elijah V. White bought Conrad's Ferry and hired William [Jr.] as a ferryman, who remained on the job until his death in 1900.

On Oct. 3, 1872, William Henry Rollison [Jr.] married Harriet Clarkson in Loudoun County, Va. That union resulted in five sons. Their first son, Charles Edward Rollison, also worked on White's Ferry from 1890 until sometime in the early 1900's. Charles Edward Rollison lived in Ashburn, Va., which is on present-day VA-7, east of Leesburg. He worked in a stone quarry as a laborer and died on June 26, 1936, from a fractured skull due to a fall while at work in the quarry.<sup>5</sup> He was subsequently buried in Beallsville, Md. on June 29, 1936. But we are getting ahead of the story.

In June of 1890, William Rollison [Jr.] was living in Poolesville, Md. with his Post Office at White's Ferry.<sup>6</sup> He had a slight wound in the cheek from his service in the Civil War.

William Henry Rollison [Sr.] died on Nov. 1, 1893 and was subsequently buried in the Lovettsville Union Cemetery, Loudoun County, Virginia.

SGT William Henry Rollison [Jr.], died on Dec. 23, 1900 (aged 64). His obituary: "Rockville, Md., Dec. 28, [1900] – Mr. William Rollison, ferryman at White's Ferry, Montgomery County, died on Sunday last as the result of injuries received the preceding day. While ferrying a wagon loaded with coal across the river, one of the horses attached to the wagon became fractious. Mr. Rollison went to the assistance of the teamster and was knocked down by the frightened animal, and one of the wheels of the heavy wagon passed over his body. A second later the horses began backing and the wheel passed over him a second time. He was injured internally. A widow and several children survive him. he was 45 [*sic*. 64] years of age.

Charles Rollison took over his father's job and was the ferryman until 1918.

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<sup>4</sup> 1870 census, Virginia, Loudoun County, Northern Division, enumerated 7/7/1870, p. 77.

<sup>5</sup> Certificate of Death, Commonwealth of Virginia, 16156, Registered No. 48.

<sup>6</sup> Special Schedules of Eleventh Census (1890) Enumerating Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

William H. Rollison Family History

VITAL STATISTICS OF WILLIAM H. ROLLISON FAMILY

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
<b>John H. Rollison</b>	hus	1791	1/1/1810	
<b>Elizabeth Cullison</b>	wife	1794		1850
<i>William H. Rollison</i>	son	5/13/1812	twice	11/1/1893
<i>Julia Ann Rollison</i>	dau	1815		
<i>Francis Rollison</i>	dau	6/1/1818		10/30/1889
<b>William Solomon</b>	hus	1787		1850
<b>Henrietta D. Cullison</b>	wife	1793		1850
<i>Henrietta D. Solomon</i>	dau	1805	8/31/1834	-1850
<i>Mary Ann Solomon</i>	dau	1812		
<i>Elizabeth "Betsey" Solomon</i>	dau	1818		
<i>Fanny Solomon</i>	dau	1824		
<i>Susan Solomon</i>	dau	1826		
<i>James W. Solomon</i>	son	1828		
<i>George W. Solomon</i>	son	1831		
<i>Nancy Solomon</i>	dau	1834		
<i>Winiford F. Solomon</i>	dau	1836		1897
<b>James William Criswell</b>	hus	1784		1837
<b>Elizabeth Temperance</b>	wife	1785		1/15/1871
<i>George William Criswell</i>	son	1817		4/21/1869
<i>Elizabeth Ann Criswell</i>	dau	1819		1891
<i>Charles Criswell</i>	son	1824		
<i>James Criswell</i>	son	1828		5/1/1881
<i>Sarah Rebecca Criswell</i>	dau	2/12/1831	1/2/1865	3/16/1912
<i>Basil Edward Criswell</i>	son	1834		1911
<i>Mary Jane Criswell</i>	dau	1838		1900
<b>End of 1<sup>st</sup> Generation</b>				
<b>William Henry Rollison</b>	hus	5/13/1812	8/31/1834	11/1/1893
<b>Henrietta D. Solomon (1<sup>st</sup>)</b>	wife	1805		1855?
<i>William Henry Rollison [Jr.]</i>	son	6/6/1836	10/3/1872	12/23/1900
<i>Frances M. Rollison</i>	dau	1838		
<i>John Carter Rollison</i>	son	1844		7/15/1876
<b>William Henry Rollison</b>	hus	5/13/1812	1/2/1865	11/1/1893
<b>Sarah Rebecca Criswell (2<sup>nd</sup>)</b>	wife	2/12/1831		3/16/1912
<i>George Lee Rollison</i>	son	11/15/1865		9/20/1902
<i>Philip Grant Rollison</i>	son	7/1867		
<i>Howard Thomas Rollison</i>	son	1/30/1869		
<i>Clarence L. Rollison</i>	son	3/4/1872		
<i>Edgar Lawson Rollison</i>	son	4/7/1873		
<b>End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation</b>				

William H. Rollison Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
William Henry <b>Rollison</b> [Jr.]	hus	6/6/1836	10/3/1872	12/23/1900
Harriet E. <b>Clarkson</b>	wife			1911
<i>Charles Edward</i> <b>Rollison</b>	son	12/1873		6/26/1936
<i>John Carter</i> <b>Rollison</b>	son	3/27/1878	twice	3/25/1930
<i>William Henry</i> <b>Rollison</b>	son	1879		1939
<i>Thomas Henry</i> <b>Rollison</b>	son	1884		1961
<i>George Cleveland</i> <b>Rollison</b>	son	1887		1941
<b>End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation</b>				
Charles Edward <b>Rollison</b>	son	12/1873		6/26/1936
Laura	wife	1882		
John Carter <b>Rollison</b>	hus	3/27/1878	1/18/1922	3/25/1930
Edna Louise <b>Shoemaker</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	wife			
<i>Edna Louise</i> <b>Rollison</b>	dau		12/17/1963	