

Daniel Bryant Brown was a prominent and permanent fixture in the town of Goshen, Vermont.

He was born on December 26, 1839, the third son of Francis and Mary Ann Brown.^[1] In 1850, Dan lived with his parents and five siblings on a farm in Goshen. He had two sisters (Mary, twenty-one and Caroline, nineteen) and three brothers (Edward, twenty; Andrew, seventeen and Frederick, nineteen). Dan's father farmed, with the help of his sons, a \$4000 operation. ^[2]

When the 1860 census year rolled around, twenty year old Daniel was still on the farm, along with his brothers, Edward, now thirty, and Andrew, twenty-six. The farm was doing well, having risen to nearly twice its value ten years earlier. One of the girls, Caroline, had married between 1850 and 1860. Her husband, George W. Haray, was working on the farm along with the three Brown brothers and their sixty-two year old father. ^[3] The farm had to be quite successful in order to support two families and four grown men.

Dan had delayed enlisting into the army until September, 1862 arrived. Then, the "very mild mannered man (who) didn't smoke, drink or swear" took pen in hand and signed his enlistment papers on September 8, 1862. He was twenty-two years old and had blue eyes, brown hair and a light complexion. He stood five feet seven inches tall. The Goshen farmer became Private Brown of Company I, Fourteenth Regiment Vermont Infantry. He was the army's for the next nine months. On October 21, 1862, in Brattleboro, Vermont Private Brown and the Fourteenth were mustered-in. ^[4]

The Fourteenth Vermont only existed for a short time (they were "Nine Months"men) but saw hard service during their enlistment. At first, the Regiment was attached to those units making up the defenses around Washington, D.C. After December 11, 1862, the Fourteenth was placed on guard duty in and around Fairfax Court House where it was engaged in the repulse of Jeb Stuart's cavalry raid. From March to June, 1863, the Vermonters were stationed at Wolf Run Shoals along with other Vermont troops to guard the vital river ford on the Occoquan River. On the 25th of June, the Fourteenth was attached to the Third Division of the First Corps and began its march northward towards

Gettysburg. It was a grueling march sometimes covering twenty miles a day for consecutive days at a time. Over two hundred of the Regiment were forced to drop out before every reaching Gettysburg because they could not keep up the pace. The Fourteenth arrived at Gettysburg too late to take part in the first day's action. It bivouacked in a wheat field to the left of Cemetery Ridge. Late on the second day, the Regiment was called into action to help the Thirteenth Vermont repel an attack by General A.P. Hill on the left center of the Union line. After the tremendous opening cannonade of July 3, during which several men of the Fourteenth were killed by an explosion of a battery caisson, the left flank of Pickett's long grey line could be seen advancing towards the concealed Vermonters. At less than one hundred yards distance from the enemy, the men of the Fourteenth rose at command and delivered a devastating volley into the Confederate columns. The Thirteenth and Sixteenth changed fronts and added their fire to that of the Fourteenth. The result was that Pickett's right wing was caught and crushed. After the main charge was halted and Pickett's divisions were streaming back towards Seminary Ridge, four companies of the Fourteenth, A, F, D, and I, captured most of Confederate General Wilcox's Brigade as prisoners. This independent action taken by the Vermont troops, including Daniel B. Brown, was credited by the Union high command as being crucial to the turning of Pickett's Charge. The Fourteenth was also part of the Union's pursuit of Lee's forces following the three day battle. It was during this pursuit that, on July 18, 1863, the Fourteenth was released and sent home. The Fourteenth was mustered-out on July 30, 1863.^[5]

Daniel was with the Fourteenth in the field for all of its exploits - especially Gettysburg. However, on July 12, 1863, shortly after the great battle, he was hospitalized complaining to the surgeons that he was suffering from diseases of the liver and heart. He described not only his serious symptoms, but related he had lost consciousness on at least one occasion. He was in the hospital at Fort Schuyler, New York - probably at the 2,000 bed MacDougal Hospital located on Throggs Neck on the southeastern tip of the Bronx where the East River meets Long Island Sound - until July 23, 1863. ^[6] Private Brown's service record also indicated that he had received aid from the New England Soldiers Relief Association while in New York. ^[7] The Fourteenth as a Regiment was sent home to Vermont to be mustered-out while they were still chasing General Lee's forces after

Gettysburg. Apparently Private Brown was sent along to Vermont also so that he could be mustered-out on July 30, 1863 with the rest of the Fourteenth. ^[8]

Citizen Daniel B. Brown returned to Goshen, to his parent's farm. Three years after his discharge, he married. At twenty-seven, Dan chose a twenty-three year old girl from Leicester, Vermont to be his bride. Her name was Eva Chamberlin and they were married in Goshen on April 18, 1866. ^[9] It was the first marriage for both of them. They set up housekeeping in Goshen so Dan could continue to work the family farm with his father and brothers. In 1870, Dan and Eva had their first child, Williard, age one at the time of the 1870 census. All three of them were living with Dan's parents and Dan's older brother, Edward who was not forty. All the men worked on the farm, which was now valued at \$15,000, while the women kept the house and raised the children. ^[10] Along about 1875, Dan and Eva were blessed with another child - a girl, Ella. ^[11]

Before 1880, Dan and Eva had moved into their own house in Goshen. The reason was that they needed more room for their expanding family. Williard (Frank) was now ten and was joined by three other siblings: Addie, 6; John (aka Solon), 4; and Flora, one month. Dan and Edward continued to work on the family farm, keeping it running for their seventy year old parents. ^[12] Even though Dan was laboring on the farm in 1890, he applied for, and was granted, an invalid pension. It might have been that his old service ailments were haunting him again. ^[13]

The U.S. Federal Census for 1900 reported that sixty year old Daniel Brown was farming in Goshen. So his disability could not have been too severe at the time. Solon, his son, had taken a bride on April 17, 1900. ^[14] Solon and his new wife lived in the parent's home and worked along side them. ^[15] Solon's new wife was named Lulu(aka Lola, Loula, Lolo) and was the daughter of Myron and Elsie (aka Elizabeth) Ayer. Elsie was the daughter of Ferrin and Antoinette Cross also of Goshen. ^[16]

In 1910, Daniel B. Brown was still farming the homestead in Goshen even though he was seventy years old. He wasn't, of course, doing it on his own. His son, Francis Williard lived next door to him. He had a farm located on South Hollon Street in Goshen. Dan owned the farm free and clear by now. January 17, 1910, Dan applied for an increase in his pension which he apparently received. ^[17] According to his descendant, John La

Flamme from Massachusetts, his pension amounted to \$22.56. ^[18] The last two years of Daniel's life were not very pleasant. He seemed to have had a stroke somewhere around 1914. When Daniel finally died on March 26, 1916 in Goshen, the attending physician wrote the cause of death as apoplexy. ^[19]

NOTES

1. Vermont in the Civil War/Cemeteries/Vermont/Goshen/Goshen Cemetery/Brown, Daniel Bryant/Vitals/Biographical Notes written by John La Flamme, descendant.
2. Ancestry.com, 1850 U.S. Federal Census under Dan Brown.
3. Ibid., 1860 U.S. Federal Census under Dan B. Brown.
4. Fold3.com, Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Vermont. pp. 3-4, images 312276279 and 312276281.
5. Ancestry.com, U.S. American Civil War Regiments, 1861-1866, 14th Infantry Regiment Vermont.
6. Vermont in the Civil War/Cemeteries/Vermont/Goshen/Goshen Cemetery/Brown, Daniel Bryant/biographical notes submitted by John La Flamme, descendant.
7. Fold3.com, Compiled Service Records..., p. 12, image 312276297.
8. Ibid., Compiled Service Records..., p. 10, image 312276293.
9. Ancestry.com, 1850 and 1870 U.S. Federal Census under Dan B. Brown; Ancestry.com, Vermont, Vital Records, 1720-1908 for Dan B. Brown.
10. Ibid., 1870 U.S. Federal Census under Dan B. Brown.
11. Op cit., 1900 U.S. Federal Census under Dan B. Brown.
12. Op cit., 1880 U.S. Federal Census under Daniel Brown.
13. Fold3.com, Compiled Service Records..., Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1900, image 25441780.
14. Ancestry.com, Brown/Rose Family Tree.
15. Ibid., 1900 U.S. Federal Census under Dan B. Brown.
16. Op cit. Vermont, Vital Records, 1720-1908 for Loula D. Ayer.
17. Op cit., 1910 U.S. Federal Census under Ian B Brown and Fold3.com, Compiled Service Records..., Organization Index to Pension Files..., image 25441780.
18. Vermont in the Civil War/Cemeteries/Vermont/Goshen/Goshen Cemetery/ Brown, Daniel Bryant/biographical notes written by John La Flamme, descendant.
19. Ancestry.com, Vermont, Death Records, 1909-2008 for Dan Bryant Brown.