

## Seventh in a Series—Biographies of our Ancestors

# One Civil War Ancestral “Connection” for UK Brother Michael Hammerson

In a recent call for more ancestor biographies, I received the following e-mail response from one of our United Kingdom brethren. While I am uncertain as to how to refer to this ancestral relationship, Brother Hammerson's description made it too tempting to resist:

“Although “only” an English Associate Member, some family research has indicated that ***my paternal great-great-great grandfather's niece's husband's cousin*** served during the Civil War; I hope that qualifies for a mention!

His name was Samuel Proops. He was born in Aldgate, London, 25th March, 1845. He is shown as arriving at New York City from London on the ship Adriatic on 21st September, 1863, his trade given as a butcher. It is unclear whether he was thinking of emigrating permanently; he was shown as a butcher living at 4th Street, Cincinnati, when he enlisted on 10th Feb. 1865 as a Private, and was mustered on March 3, 1865 into Co. E, 187th Ohio Infantry. The regiment did railroad guard duty in Georgia, and he was mustered out on Jan. 20, 1866 at Macon, Ga.

He continued to live and work at Cincinnati, but by 1868 he was back in Spitalfields, London, trading as a butcher; by 1901 he was shown as a grocer and Chandler. He was member No. 133 of the London Branch of American Civil War Veterans, which existed from 1910 to 1933; I have done a considerable amount of research on it.

He was awarded a Federal War Pension on Feb. 18, 1910 (Certificate No. 1,160,722); he was then living in Dalston, London. His widow Hannah (who he married in 1867 and with whom he had eleven children) received one after his death on April 23, 1921, in London. He was buried in East Ham Cemetery, London, England, Section E, Row 2, plot 42. He has a good tombstone, though of course no mention of his civil war service; the cemetery have indicated that they would have no objection to a GAR marker.

In FC&L

Michael Hammerson”