

BARBARA ELLEN STEURER

Elkhorn, Wisconsin

Barbara is the Great Great Granddaughter of

AMOS BIGELOW **28th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. E**

Amos Bigelow was born in Nova Scotia on March 9, 1845 to James Bigelow and his wife Elizabeth Fowler Bigelow. Immigrating to America, the family settled in Walworth County, Wisconsin where Amos, a resident of Sugar Creek Township, enlisted as a private in the 28th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. E on August 15, 1862. A strapping lad of 6'1" with brown hair and grey eyes, Bigelow would stay with the 28th WI until he mustered out at Brownsville, TX August 23, 1865.

Bigelow's regiment organized at Milwaukee and after brief training left Wisconsin in December of 1862 for Columbus, KY. From there they moved on to Helena, AR seeing action in Little Rock and Pine Bluff during the years of 1863-1864 before moving on to New Orleans, LA and Mobile, AL in 1865. After the siege of Spanish Fort and the capture of Fort Blakely which was considered the last major battle of the Civil War and fought just hours after Lee surrendered, troops moved back to New Orleans before heading to Texas where they were mustered out of Union service at the conclusion of the war effort.

Returning to Walworth County, Wisconsin, Bigelow met and married Emily Smith on Christmas day in 1866. To that marriage three children were born, Carrie, George and Cora.

As family legend tells at the age of 37 Bigelow was purportedly murdered by his wife and succumbed to poisoning on January 24, 1883 in Hanson County, South Dakota. The body was returned to Wisconsin for burial. Bigelow is interred at the Millard Cemetery in Walworth County in the family plot. His decorative gravestone commemorates his Civil War service as a member of the 28th Wisconsin, Co. E.



Photo courtesy of Sherry Thurner