



Iola Cemetery - Iola, KS

**Joel P. Hayes** was one of the early settlers west of the Neosho River in Iola Township, KS. Hayes, a farmer, settled in Allen County, IL, in 1870. Before that he tried farming in a couple of locations in Illinois always looking for a better site. Each time he moved, he was looking for a place where a homestead could be more easily carved from the wilderness. Hayes was born and raised in Clinton County. He was born on March 6, 1840, and his education was in the country schools near his father's farm. **Asa Hayes**, from Massachusetts, was a veteran of the War of 1812 and fought in the Battle of Plattsburgh. He married **Laura Larkins** who died in 1841. Asa

died in 1867 at the age of seventy-five. Their children were: **Hiram Hayes**, who lived in Whitewater, WI; **Loyal Hayes**, of Vermont; **Christiana**, who was the wife of **Luther Robinson**, of Clinton County; **Harriet E.**, married **Levi Stafford**, also of Clinton County; **Loren** and **Enoch**, who died before 1900; **Mary**, wife of **Stephen Alford**, of Illinois; **Charles**, of Indiana; **John Hayes**, who stayed on the old homestead in New York, and **Joel P.** the Civil War veteran.

At the age of twenty-two years Hayes enlisted in Company H, 118<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry. His colonels were, first **Richard Keys** and then **George Nichols**. The regiment was ordered to Fortress Monroe and was engaged at the Battle of Bermuda Hundred. Hayes was in the heavy fighting at Cold Harbor and around Petersburg and with the Army of the Potomac to the end at Appomattox. Everyday of the time from June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1864 to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1865, he was in some engagement or skirmish and was in front of the mine at Petersburg when it was exploded, with so little advantage to the Union forces. From January 1, to April 9, 1865, Hayes was on detail at General Gibbons' Headquarters. He was discharged at Richmond, VA, and was mustered out at Plattsburgh in July after the surrender.

+With a small sum of money Hayes went to McLean County, IL and found a degree of prosperity there on the farm till 1870. He was married in McLean County in February, 1867, to **Hannah J. Crabb**, a daughter of **Henderson Crabb** and **Mary (Beech) Crabb**. Their children were **Luel**, **Herbert O.** and **Arza Clayton**.

Joel and Hannah were members of the Methodist congregation in Piqua, KS. He was converted in early life and found consolation in executing the will of the God. He was a firm believer in Providential Control and his supervision of the lives and destinies of men. He believed that there were three times during the Civil War that he might have lost his life especially at Petersburg. Joel's parents were devout Wesleyans and they were outspoken in matters of religion. They believed in a government, local or general, being honestly administered by its patriotic citizens. Joel was a staunch Republican and believed in its tenets and declarations for the future.

**HAYES, JOEL P.** Age, 22. Enlisted, July 28, '62, at Plattsburgh; private, Co. H, July 29, '62; sergeant, Aug. 30, '62; returned to ranks, no date; mustered out with company.