

Benjamin Surprise was born in Canada about 1836. He enlisted in Plattsburgh to serve one year as a private with Company B. of the 118th New York Volunteers. According to a report filed in the Plattsburgh Republican from the 118th Headquarters at Chapin's Bluff on October 2, 1864, Benjamin was slightly wounded at Fort Harrison near Petersburg, VA, in one of the "most splendidly fought battles of the war".

He mustered out with his company and in 1880 he was living with his wife, **Julia A. Emmott**, and family in Lewis and was working as a "bloomer" in a mining operation there.

He continued an active life which included farming and in

1898 it's reported in the newspaper that he was building a new fence.

In 1913, he died in Lewis Center of acute Bright's disease. He is buried in Block 4 of Lewis Center Cemetery with his wife and two of his children who died before him, **William Surprise** and **Mary J. Surprise**. His wife died in the same year.



Private Benjamin Surprise

Surprise Benjamin	W	M	44		1	Bloomer
Surprise Julia	W	F	45	Wife	1	Keeping House
Surprise Eugene	W	M	18	Son	1	
Surprise Benjamin	W	M	15	Son	1	
Surprise Fannie	W	F	12	Daughter	1	
Surprise Edward	W	M	8	Son	1	
Marion Josephine	W	F	20	Daughter	1	

1880 Census - Lewis, NY