

**ABSTRACT OF THE PENSION RECORDS OF NELSON SPARKS,
SQ pps 3426-27:**

NELSON SPARKS, son of Levi and Sarah (Lyon) Sparks, was born about 1819 in North Carolina. He died on October 11, 1874, in Carter County, Kentucky. He married Margaret Mauk on March 16, 1843. He served in Company H, 22nd Regiment Kentucky Infantry. File Designation: WidCert. No. 292,410.

"On August 8, 1890, Margaret Sparks, 70 years of age, and a resident of Gimlet, Elliott County, Kentucky, made an application for a Widow's pension. She stated that her husband, Nelson Sparks, had enlisted as a private in Company H, 22nd Regiment Kentucky Infantry Volunteers on October 22, 1861, at Grayson, Kentucky, and was discharged in 1864. He died on October 11, 1874. She said she was married to Sparks under her maiden name of Margaret Mauk on March 16, 1843, in Carter County, Kentucky, by Daniel Carroll. She had not remarried since the death of her husband, nor did she have any children under the age of sixteen years. She appointed H. D. Phillips of Washington, D.C. , as her attorney. Elizabeth Sparks and Ida E. Sparks witnessed her make her mark.

"Margaret Sparks supported her claim by sending the Bureau of Pensions her husband's Certificate of Discharge which had been given to him on May 18, 1864, by Col. George W. Monroe. Sparks had enrolled in company H, 22nd Regiment Kentucky Infantry Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Stephen Nethercutt, on October 16, 1861, to serve for three years, and he was discharged at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, by reason of disability. At the time the certificate was issued, he was 45 years of age. He had been born in North Carolina; he was 5 feet, 11 inches tall; he had a fair complexion, black eyes, and dark hair; and he was a farmer by occupation. His mustering-out pay had been \$228.05 . Margaret Sparks also had the Clerk of Carter County, J. W. Thornton, send a copy of her marriage record to the Bureau of Pensions.

"On January 15, 1891, William Rose, age 45, and James McFarland, age 31, both residents of Gimlet, Kentucky, made an affidavit that, being close neighbors of Nelson Sparks, they knew that when he died, he left two children under the age of sixteen, namely, Martha F. Sparks and George W. Sparks. F. M. Mauk and Jacob McDowell witnessed their signatures, and the affidavit was sworn to before J. E. Sparks, a notary public of Elliott County.

"On January 21, 1891, Dr. J. H. Steele of Olive Hill, Carter County, Kentucky, made a physician's affidavit. He said that he had practiced medicine for 35 years and had been well acquainted with Nelson Sparks since 1856, and he knew that he was shot and killed on October 11, 1874, for he was present at his death. The affidavit was sworn to before C. M. Erwin, a notary public of Carter County.

"The War Department confirmed the military service of Nelson Sparks on February 16, 1891, and the Bureau of Pensions issued Widow's Certificate No.

292,410 on May 21, 1891, to Margaret Sparks entitling her to a pension of \$8.00 per month, retroactive to August 28, 1890. She continued to receive the pension until her death on January 14, 1897.

Submitted by David Tucker

“Found this on the web. It is from the Sparks Quarterly.”