

The Mystery of Charles Henry Pairo - born March 31 1842, Richmond, Virginia Husband of Mary Jennie Virginia Allen and grandfather of Daisy Sneyd-Kynnersley

There exists a reasonable quantity and quality of records regarding one (or more) Charles Henry Pairo aka Henry Pairo. The records cover the period from considerably before his birth (ca 1841-1842), to well past a possible death date of 1897. Unfortunately, the records present a serious discrepancy. The information is presented here, in two segments, with some sort of chronology. The first version is collected data relevant to the family history, which the author believes to be generally very accurate, and reports Charles Henry Pairo's death as ca 1865. The second version presents data that appears to be contrary to the first.

Version I

The first detailed information that I received about Charles H Pairo was from Lucy (Crane) Jones (Charles Pairo's great grand-daughter). It was a very impressive and extensive family history plus several letters that addressed the family's story. She stated that **Charles was b March 32 1842** and in one letter said he died in the battle of Richmond at the end of the Civil War. In another letter she said that he died in Baltimore, after the Civil War (**but not how long after the war**).

With the help of Mrs Jones' material, a detailed family history was documented up to the 1850 census and, from that point, is continued here, with the focus on Charles H Pairo. This focus is for two reasons; first, Charles' paternal role is a key part of this entire story; second, of all the eleven siblings, only Charles' record (as could be predicted) has proved to be so perverse and disconcerting.

The 1850 Census for Henrico VA lists **Charles H Pairo age 9** living with his parents.

The 1860 Census, same location, lists **Henry (Charles?) PAIRO age 19, clerk**, living with his parents.

18 July 1862 Richmond Dispatch - Marriage - at Union Station on the 15inst – **Lieut C H Pairo C S A** and Miss M Jennie Allen, both of this city (the bride was Mary Jennie Virginia Allen).

Confederate War Records (summary of about 70 pages) begin in May 1862 when Charles was elected 3rd Lt of Co D 10 Virginia Cavalry. A few of the records are unreadable and many relate to drawing feed etc for the horses. A couple of the records were for **H C Pairo**. In April 1863 there are notations re illness and absence. August 13 1863 began a series of notations – first that Charles had failed to return from Richmond after a 1 day leave to fetch company books. Same date – order 147 to proceed to Richmond and arrest 2nd Lt C H Pairo - (report) - found feeble and with no conveyance to bring him in, left him at home and filed a report. Aug 14 – report of ambulance being sent to Lt Pairo's home and his being removed to brigade hospital where he was reported to the surgeon in charge as being under arrest. Sept 27 1863 - letter from surgeon indicating erysipelas and a need for a 12 day treatment. This was followed by a notation from (Camp) Charles City dated 27 Nov 1863 record for C H Pairo – Dec 15 1863 Tenders his Resignation –unconditional (also a copy of his letter). No further military records were found.

Version II

This material starts shortly after the end of the Civil War and raises serious questions as to when the “real” Charles H Pairo died.

The 1870 Census, for Baltimore, lists **Henry C (Charles?) Pairo age 31, clerk**, living with his parents, his father listed as a grocer - see obit info below.

Charles’ father, Henry T Pairo died in 1893 and his obit in the 17 Jan 1893 Baltimore Sun stated that Henry, a banker had moved to Baltimore, after the war, and had become a grocer. His wife was deceased. The obit stated that his children **are C H**, Edwin, Robert M, and Oscar Pairo and Mrs Alice Marshall of Baltimore and John L Pairo of Danville.

Baltimore city Directories – Consecutive Directories, starting in 1867, list various members of the family. 1873 lists 4 brothers including **Charles** living at the same address – 313 Biddle St

1874 law suite - July 4 1874 Washington D C National Republican – May 23 – Henry T Pairo was suing Charles H Holmead (relative) and six of his eleven children. Cause not listed. One of the children was listed as **Henry Pairo and wife Virginia**

New York City Directories - 1882 Mary J Pairo wid (of) **Henry**; 1883 Mary J Pairo wid (of) **Henry**; 1884 Mary J Pairo wid (of) **Charles**; 1888 Mary J Pairo wid (of) **Charles**

14 Feb 1895 – Baltimore Sun – law suit – Pairo family siblings, including **Charles and Ida**, in a law suit against Mary and Richard Martin about a piece of real estate from the Pairo estate.

FindaGrave – Listing for a **Charles H Pairo b 31 March 1842, d 4 Nov 1897**, Buried Loudon Park Cem Baltimore note – wife **Ida C Pairo** – a call to the Loudon Park Cemetery reviled that there were three burials there – Charles H Pairo died 1897 age 55; Ida Dolorus Butsky infant age 1y 10m 2d burial permit dated 18 July 1905; Ida C Giardina who died in 1909 age 50.

Missing – While Charles’ death announcement has been found, an obituary has not.

No marriage record has been found for Charles and Ida.

The Baltimore Sun (2 Feb 1909) posted a notice that a will had been filed for Ida C Pairo – why Pairo and not Giardina? – no death announcement or obituary has been found.

The above entries would seem to present strong evidence that – Charles Henry Pairo was also known as Charles Pairo and Henry Pairo and that he survived the Civil war, had a second wife and died in 1897.