

Research Recommendations: *New Civil War Database from New Jersey State Archives*

by Michael J. Leclerc

The New Jersey State Archives recently launched a new Civil War Database on their website. Produced in conjunction with the New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association and funded by a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, the Civil War Treasury Vouchers, 1861–1865, includes almost 16,000 payment receipts for military expenditures and wartime purchases made by the State of New Jersey for the war effort.

The vast majority of these receipts deal with payments to soldiers, their widows, and families, for service. There are almost 114,000 index entries for the 15,770 documents in the collection. The database is searchable by any combination of first name, last name, regiment, county, and year. Name spelling variations are automatically searched, but a link is available to another database, created from William S. Stryker's *Record of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Civil War, 1861–1865*, if you wish to check manually. The Stryker database is hosted by the New Jersey State Library.

You can easily order a copy of any of the documents by clicking on the Select link. Once you have selected all of your records, print the order form and mail it with a check or money order to the archives, and they will send you copies of the documents.

Remember that your ancestor need not have lived in New Jersey to have been paid for services. Some individuals were credited for service to states in which they did not reside. In addition, individuals living on the borders of New Jersey in other states may have served for New Jersey. Check out this valuable new resource, and others on the website of the New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management at www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/archives.html.

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Edited by Michael J. Leclerc and Valerie Beaudrault

enews@nehgs.org