

Edward Johnston of Plymouth, Richland County, OH Soldier in the American Civil War



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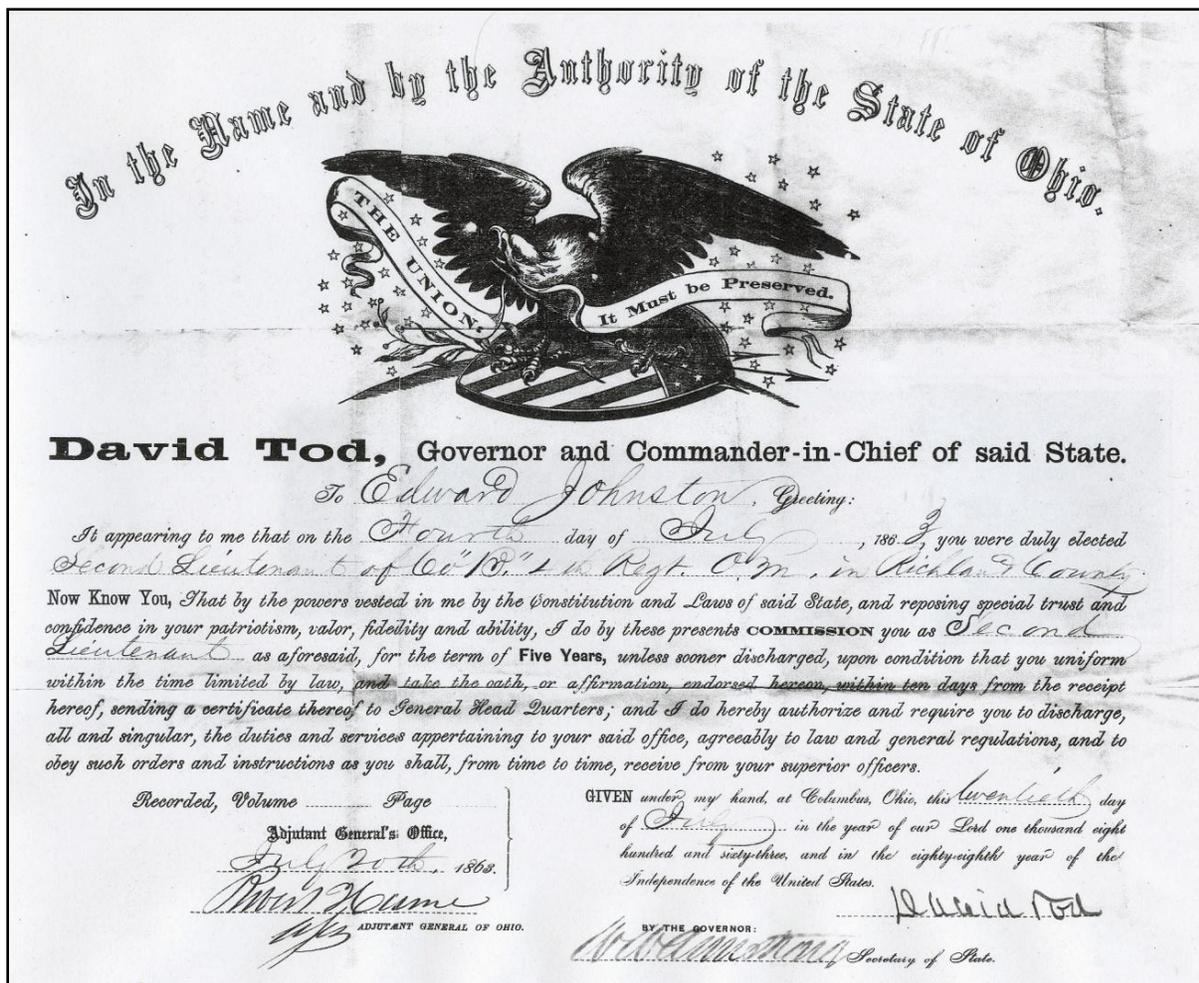
On July 4th, 1863, Edward Johnston, a twenty-seven-year-old farmer from Plymouth, Ohio received his commission as a Second Lieutenant with Company B, 4th Regiment of the Ohio Militia in Richland County, Ohio. Edward was the son of John and Mary Johnston who had emigrated from Ireland and settled in the town of Plymouth in Richland County in 1830. Edward had been married to Hannah Kuhn, the daughter of John Kuhn and Elizabeth Reymer, for six years. Their first child would be born the following year, in 1864.

Nothing more is known about Edward's service during the Civil War. We don't know where he served or for how long he served.

After the war, Edward returned to his farm outside of Shelby, Ohio. Edward and Hanna raised four children: Elbert E., Minor K., Lottie Blanch, and Edward Reymer. The Civil War veteran died on March 18, 1901 at the age of 65. With the exception of his time in the Ohio Militia, Edward spent his life engaged in farming in the community in which he was born. Edward and his family are listed in the U.S. Census records of 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900 for Plymouth, Richland Co. Ohio. The farm was eventually sold by Edward's sons Minor and Edward about 1935.

Nearly 320,000 Ohioans served in the Union army. Only New York and Pennsylvania had more men in military service. In addition, out of all of the states, Ohio had the highest percentage of its population enlisted in the military. Edward was fortunate in that he returned home. Many of his fellow Ohioans died on the battlefield or in the camps. Many others had their lives shortened by the injuries and sicknesses that they had suffered as a soldier.

The sword Edward Johnston received at his commission had special significance for the family. Edward passed it to his son Edward Reymer, who, in turn, passed it on to his son Edward Weber Johnston, who was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1935. Edward Weber Johnston served in the Second World War and in the Korean Conflict, eventually achieving the rank of Colonel.



Edward Johnston's Commission as Second Lieutenant in July of 1863
 Document was among the papers of Edward's grandson, Edward Weber Johnston.

No. 224

comprises all persons subject to do military duty between the ages of twenty and thirty-five years, and all unmarried persons subject to do military duty above the age of thirty-five years and under the age of forty-five. Class II comprises all other persons subject to do military duty.

SCHEDULE I—CONSOLIDATED LIST of all persons of CLASS I, subject to do military duty in the Eighth Congressional District, consisting of the Counties of Richland Monroe Delaware and Union State of Ohio, enumerated during the month of June, 1863, under direction of William Shank, Provost Marshal.

RESIDENCE	NAME	DESCRIPTION			PLACE OF BIRTH (Naming the State, Territory, or County)	FORMER MILITARY SERVICE	REMARKS
		Age 1st July 1863	WHITE OR COLORED.	PROFESSION, OCCUPATION, OR TRADE.			
Richland County	1 Johnston John Jm	29	White	Farmer	Monroe Ohio		1
Richland County	2 Johnston Robert	30	White	Farmer	Monroe Ohio		2
Richland County	3 Johnston Edward	27	White	Farmer	Monroe Ohio		3
Richland County	4 James David	25	White	Farmer	Monroe Ohio		4
	5						

Source: U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations Records – 1863-65, downloaded from Ancestry.com on November 22, 2014;
 Edward is listed here, along with his brothers John and Robert.