James Bex, Private, Co. B 120 IN Infantry, U.S.

October 19: Bex was born to Achilles H. and Martha Williams Bex near Williams, Lawrence County, IN. James’ parents were both transplanted southerners.

August 15: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence County, IN showed 4-year-old James living with his parents and siblings. His father, Achilles, was a farmer.

August 7: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence County, IN showed 15-year-old James living with his siblings and parents. His father, Achilles “Killis,” was a farmer.

June 7: Father, Achilles, died in Lawrence County, IN and was buried at Port Williams Cemetery.

March 19: Bex and his brother Jesse enlisted in the U.S. Army and were mustered into Co. F 65 IN Infantry. They were then both transferred to 120 IN Infantry. James was in Co. B and Jesse in Co. H. James was 19 and Jesse was 18

July 11: Brother Achilles Bex, enlisted in the U.S. Army and was mustered into Co. F 112 IN Infantry. This was just a few days following the Battle of Gettysburg.

It is interesting to note that Martha Bex lost her husband in June of ’61 and by July of ’63, four of her sons had joined the U.S. Army.

November 30: James and two of his brothers, Jesse and John, fought at the Battle of Franklin. All three brother survived the battle.

January 8: James and Jesse Bex mustered out of the U.S. Army.

Married Martha Miller in Lawrence County, IN.
1870 The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence County, IN showed James, a farmer, living with Martha and their young daughter. His mother lives in the household next to him and his brother on the other side.

1880 June 23: The U.S. Federal census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence County, IN showed a widowed James living with his mother and daughters. Also living with them is an 18-year-old nephew. James was a farmer.

1881 May 28: Married Mary A. Carter in Martin County, IN.

1883 May 29: James applied for and was granted a pension for his military service.

1891 January 13: Mother Martha “Patsy” Bex died.

1899 December 6: Indiana State Journal, Indianapolis, IN reported James Bex’s veterans pension was increased from $12.00 to $17.00.

1900 June 14: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence County, IN showed James, a farmer, living with his wife Mary and several of their children.

1920 January 5: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Spice Valley, Lawrence, Indiana showed James living with his wife Mary and daughter Elsie. His occupation was listed as “Old Soldier.”

1933 June 8: The Indianapolis News, Indianapolis, IN. “Huron—Mr. and Mrs. James Bex have celebrated their fifty-second wedding anniversary.”
September 7:

Mary Bex applied for and was granted a widows pension for her husband's military service.

October 9: Mary Bex applied for and was granted a widows pension for her husband's military service.