

take the ambulance out to the Ellen S. Gerry which we go north in. Much to my surprise find it is a freighter with no conveniences for us sick. Col. Clarke came on board and fetched my blanket, coat etc. I was so glad to get them. He presented the 21st Boys with a basket of Figs. There are about 15 or 16 of us 21st Boys on the boat going home aside from the officers Col. Maggee, Capts. Washburn and Rogers, Lts. Parkhurst and Williams." On later pages he wrote, "the Ellen S. Gerry freighter steamer went up the Pimlico Sound, Hatterass Inlet, North Carolina passed Fort Monroe, passed Annapolis reached Baltimore. March 9. Pilot came on board to pilot us up the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Canal to Delaware City. Landed at Philadelphia 5 p m. March 10. Unloaded the freight at 11:30 and took the cars for New York." When he did not recover his health, and as there seemed no prospect that he would be able to return to the army, he was given a discharge, September 29, 1862 for a disease which followed him all through his life. Though better at times, it grew worse as age advanced. Ethan was 30 years old at the time and eligible for a pension due to the poor health conditions contracted during his military service. After his discharge, he followed the progress of the war and the re-election of President Abraham Lincoln. He also remained an active member of the organization, "The Grand Army of the Republic, Post No. 12 of N. H. " " He was always sorry that he was obliged to leave the army, for he was a born patriot, with love and duty to his country," which was in his obituary in the Winchendon Courier, Thursday, July 2, 1908. " The flag was always in his thought and his comrades in arms with him were like brothers, and no occasion was so dear to him as the annual reunion of his regiment which he attended unless prevented by sickness." In 2005 Ethan's great grand-daughter, Ruth gave a 5 minute talk on Ethan's participation in the Battle of Roanoke to the Halifax Genealogical Society in which she was a member in Ormond Beach, Florida. Following the talk, one of the officers of the Society approached her and told her that his great grandfather was a Southern Confederate soldier in the fort at the mouth of the Roanoke River at the time of the siege during the Civil War. He said his great grandfather was a young farm boy, as were many of the Confederate soldiers manning the fort, and that they were not properly trained. They broke lines following the second assault by the Union units and fled the fort. In 1864, Ethan went to Titusville, Pennsylvania to invest in the oil business. While there he had musical groups and gave lessons. When the oil business failed he returned home to Templeton and moved his family to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire by 1866 where he bought a home and the last four children, Minnie Lincoln, Grace Gertrude, Thomas Mayhew and Joseph Bertice were born. He bought a quarry behind his home on the Royalston Road in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire on about 100 acres of land known as the Evans lot between the house and the railroad tracks, extending up over the hill in a westerly direction to that of Reuben Angier. For a number of years the amount of stone taken from this quarry was very large, and found its way over a wide extent of country. The granite in the beautiful library building at Natick, Massachusetts, was furnished by Ethan, and a considerable quantity was furnished for the State Capitol at Albany, New York. Ethan continued in the stone business until his health caused him to sell to his son William Ethan. At some time after he acquired the quarry, he ordered a custom built office desk chair that was made by the Heywood Bros. & Co. in Gardner, Massachusetts. The originally metal buttons on the 2 arms say the basic style of the chair was patented Jan. 7, 1873, but Ethan had the top of the back rest changed to include the capital letter B added in a separate piece of raised wood at the top. He used this chair at his desk in his office in his home for many years. After his death, his daughter, Grace Gertrude, used it at home while correcting papers, planning school lessons during the years she taught in the one room School House #10. It is a comfortable swivel, tip-back canned chair. Ethan's great grand-daughter, Ruth Blodgett Fisher Washburn acquired the chair and used it, but eventually decided to put it on-loan in the Fitzwilliam Historical Society Blake House Museum, until her daughters find they can use it or decide to give it to the Museum. The 1880 Census lists him as 47 and one who deals in granite. There were 5 of the children still at home. His first born, a son, William Ethan is listed as 25 year old quarryman, married and with a baby, living in the house he built next door. One of William Ethan's daughters, Nellie Mary, known as Maye, recalled sitting on the ground in the back yard while her grandfather, Ethan, told her tales of his war experiences. Another memory is when the two of them would wait for the family cow to answer his "Come, Bossy. Come Bossy," and they would lead her through the bars, down the path to the road and home. Years later, in 1968, Maye was thrilled to visit the spot on Roanoke Island where her grandfather had fought. After hearing stories about Ethan from Maye, in November 2000, Ethan's great-granddaughter, Ruth Blodgett Fisher Washburn, visited The Outer Banks History Center on Roanoke Island where a staff member's instructions guided her to the commemorative marker for the Battle of Roanoke Island. The Center was thrilled to talk to Ruth as they said she was the first descendant of either the northern or southern army that had come to the Center looking for information on their relative who participated in the Battle of Roanole Island. Ethan's youngest son, Joseph Bertice, was Ruth's grandfather.

Ethan was a life long member of the Fitzwilliam Congregational Church and was always ready to do his part, especially in music, and was the leader of many choirs. He was also a member of the Grange.

The 1900 Census indicates than Ethan and his wife, Mary, are still living in the family homestead with one of their 8 children, Grace Gertrude, age 32, a schoolteacher. No occupation is listed for Ethan, who died 8 years later, being survived by his wife and seven children, one child, Minnie Lincoln, whose middle name was in honor