



2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

Christopher Anderson

Christopher was a Norwegian immigrant to Minnesota when he decided to enlist in the Union Army in the fall of 1864. His name was credited to the town of Spring Grove in Houston County for the draft and Christopher did live there after the War. At the time of his enlistment, he was 25 years old, had hazel eyes, brown hair, and a light complexion. He stood 5' 10" tall. He was a shoemaker by trade.

Though Christopher had enlisted to serve in the Second Battery, he was not with them very much during the first few months. He enlisted on September 2, and by the 17th, he was sent to the hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Battery was in garrison there for most of the last year of the war, so it was a short trip for him to rejoin his unit on Christmas Day. It may have been a case of leaving the hospital before he was ready as Christopher was sent back to the hospital just a few days later. This time, he stayed in the hospital until January 20th when he finally was able to take up his duties with the Battery. While no records tell of Christopher's exact duties, his knowledge of shoemaking would have been a good skill to use with all the leather goods the Battery maintained.

When the war was over, the Battery returned to Minnesota and Christopher was mustered out on August 16, 1865. He went back to Spring Grove and his shoemaking. By the time of the 1870 census, Christopher was still working as a shoemaker and had married a woman named Julia. She was also a Norwegian immigrant.

The census record of 1870 is the last known record of Christopher. By 1880, Julia was still living in Spring Grove, but she is living alone. No records have been found to tell what happened to Christopher, if he died, moved away, changed his name, or what else may have become of him.

Researched and compiled by the reenactors of the 2nd Minnesota Battery of Light Artillery. Visit our website at <http://www.2mnbattery.org> for more information about our soldiers and our organization.

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