



2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

Almarin F. Bates

Almarin Franklin Bates was born on June 8, 1836, in Goshen, Massachusetts. He came to Minnesota and was credited to Harmony, Fillmore County, when he enlisted in the Second Battery on September 3rd, 1864. He enlisted for one year and received a bounty of \$100. He had blue eyes, dark hair and complexion. He stood 5' 3" tall.

Almarin served his year with the Battery as a private and it is known he was a member of the Battery's Bible class. Almarin returned to Minnesota when the Battery was mustered out in August of 1865.

One of the pioneers of Faribault County, Almarin first settled on a farm in Seely Township. During his first years there, he lived in a "frame shack" which was destroyed by fire during a "terrible blizzard." The newspaper reported that while Almarin went to a neighbor's for help, his wife and the children took shelter in a straw barn. Mrs. Bates froze to death, as did several of the children before Almarin was able to get back with help. Two children survived as they were lying close to the cattle in the barn.



Almarin moved to a new place near Wells after that and later remarried. He received a pension in his later years and was a member of the G.A.R. Post. He had a stroke, then a second stroke which ended his life on April 8th, 1909. The cause of death was noted as a cerebral hemorrhage. He was laid to rest in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Wells, Faribault County, Minnesota.

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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