



2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

David Carpenter

The draft rendezvous late in the summer of 1864 brought David Carpenter into the ranks of the Second Minnesota Battery of Light Artillery. He was mustered in on August 26th, his enlistment credited to the town of Traverse in Nicolet County, Minnesota. Officially, he stood 5' 7-1/2" tall, had gray eyes, brown hair and a dark complexion. His occupation was that of "laborer." David made his mark on the enlistment papers rather than signing his name. The enlistment was for one year. For his agreement to serve in the army, David received a bounty of \$33.33 with the promise of another \$66.67 to be paid later.

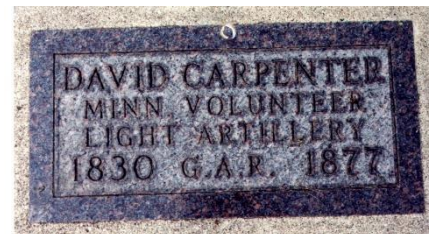
David had been born in "Lower Canada" in 1830, then came to Minnesota. Where he actually lived in Minnesota is not clear as many men who enlisted in St. Paul during the 1864 draft rendezvous were credited to areas not able to fill their draft quotas. David, though, may have been from Traverse as it was near to St. Peter, the location of the recruiting office he signed up at. It was also where he went after the war.

In Traverse, David worked as a teamster. He married Louisa and they had four sons. They lived on land that was described as "sandy or hilly, adjoining the Minnesota River" and considered to be of "little valuation."

David was a member of the St. Peter Grand Army of the Republic Post and he attended the Catholic church.

Death in the form of tuberculosis came for David on March 17, 1878. He left Louisa with their house, valued at \$100, some furniture and clothing worth \$50, 10 acres of land worth \$10 an acre, and \$100 in a team, farm wagon, and farm implements. Louisa eventually applied for a widow's pension as the farm was not able to support her. It took some time for the pension to be approved as the 1890 veteran's census described her as a "sickly and needy widow".

David was buried in the St. Peter Catholic Cemetery overlooking the town of St. Peter. What became of Louisa or the boys is unknown, but a flat granite veteran's stone was set for David many years after his death.



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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