



## 2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

### Gilbert Gaslin

Gilbert was just 21 years old in March of 1862 when he volunteered to serve in the Second Battery of Light Artillery. He probably knew the lieutenant who was doing the recruiting--Albert Woodbury--as Albert owned the water rights on the Rum River in St. Francis, the nearby community where Gilbert's family lived. It may have been the friendship between the two men that prompted Gilbert to join the Army.

The descriptive roll showed Gilbert to be 5' 9" tall, with blue eyes, brown hair and a light complexion. He was living on the farm his mother owned and worked the land for her. Gilbert had two older brothers and several younger siblings. Still, Gilbert had his own land with an estimated value of \$200 and a personal estate also valued at \$200.



Gilbert went South with the Battery and served through the summer and fall of 1862, participated in the battle at Perryville, Kentucky, and the return march into Tennessee. The day after Christmas, Gilbert was sent to the convalescent camp at Nashville where he remained when the Battery marched toward Murfreesboro. Gilbert never returned to the Battery. He died in the General Hospital in Nashville on February 22, 1863. The cause of death was noted as, "erysiplas", probably a misspelling of erysipelas, a severe skin infection.

Gilbert's body was not returned to Minnesota. He was laid to rest in the Nashville National Cemetery in section B. This section has a cannon monument at its center and a clear view of the Minnesota Monument in the next section.

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*Researched and compiled by the reenactors of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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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