



2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

Tennes Hanson



Tennes, called “Dennis” in some Army records and misspelled in others, was born on April 19, 1829, in Norway. In the late 1850’s, he took his wife and three children on a journey that would end in Iowa where they lived for two years. The 1860 census shows Tennes living with Anna J., his wife, in Rushford, Winona County, Minnesota. His personal estate was valued at \$30 and he had no real estate. By 1862, they had moved a little further, settling in Fillmore County where Tennes enlisted with the Second Minnesota Battery.

Tennes was mustered into the Battery on February 20, 1862, and he served as a private. He had blue eyes, light hair, and a light complexion. He stood 5’ 7” tall. At the battle of Perryville (October 7-8, 1862), Tennes was wounded when he was hit by a “minnie ball” from a musket in the right hip. He was taken to the hospital at New Albany, Indiana, where he remained until the end of December. Tennes

returned to the Battery just in time to participate in the battle at Stones River, Tennessee on December 31, 1862. His health suffered again in the spring of 1863 from a bout with severe diarrhea and was sent to the hospital near Tullahoma, Tennessee, for a few days. Tennes went back to the Battery after being discharged from the hospital and served until the end of his term of service. He chose not to reenlist and was mustered out on March 28, 1865.

After his return to Minnesota, Tennes moved his family to Yellow Medicine County and settled in Sandness Township. He farmed there until 1893 when he moved to the town of Hanley Falls, also in Yellow Medicine County.

When Tennes applied for his pension, he complained of deafness, stating, “That during the number of battles in which he took part he suffered considerable in his Ears from the report of the Cannons which caused some deafness and which deafness has increased all the time since and this last 10 or 12 years to such an extent as to be quite annoying and cannot hear common conversation.” He also said the wound in his hip made it hard for him to do more than a partial days’ work.

Anna and Tennes had ten children and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1902. Anna died on August 5, 1904.

Tennes died on January 20, 1920, at the age of almost 91 years from “asthma and angina pectoris”. He was laid to rest beside Anna in the Norwegian Cemetery in Hanley Falls.



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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