



2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

Andrew Jackson

Andrew joined Captain Clark's Company of Illinois Volunteers on June 14, 1861. This company became Company C of the 21st Illinois Infantry and how he managed to join it is questionable. Records show him to have been only 17 years old when he enlisted in his home town of Springfield, Illinois. The descriptive role showed him to be 5' 10" tall, with hazel eyes, light hair, and fair complexion. His birthplace was St. Joseph County, Michigan. He was working on a farm and only made his mark on the enlistment form. The enlisting officer signed Andrew's name.

Within two weeks, Andrew had managed to get himself into trouble with his commanding officers as the company muster roll for June 28 to August 31 of 1861 noted him as being "in arrest". He was back on duty for September and October, but under sentence of court martial in November. What Andrew might have done was not noted.

The year 1862 was a better year for Andrew. He was listed as present for duty during the entire year with only a single notation in August that he owed the sutler \$16.00. That was quite a bill for a young soldier to have run up and leads to speculation as to what he might have been buying.

On February 28, 1863, Andrew was sent on detached service to the Second Minnesota Battery of Light Artillery. Andrew worked as a teamster for the Battery until August 27, when he was arrested for "mutinous conduct and disobedience of orders". Whatever he had done, he probably had not acted alone as Private Nils Christopher was fined for something that same day. Nils was a regular member of the Battery. Andrew was sent back to the 21st Illinois Infantry on the first of September.

The Illinois Infantry was in Bridgeport, Alabama in January of 1864, when it was time to reenlist. Andrew chose to stay in another three years or the duration of the war. For his reenlisting, he was given \$55 in bounty money.

For awhile, things seemed to be going along fine for Andrew. He was on detached service with the Divisional Provost Guard in March and April, but he was absent without leave on the May/June muster roll. He was listed as a deserter on June 20, 1864, and he was accused of taking with him Army equipment. The equipment Andrew had included a complete rifled Enfield musket, one set of accouterments, and a tent shelter half. The total value of items was estimated to be \$27.50. Andrew's final muster sheet was dated December 16, 1865, from San Antonio, Texas. It stated Andrew had last been paid on February 4, 1864, and that he had been reinstated on the rolls. It further noted that he had deserted "Apl 1/64 left at Chattanooga, Tenn." It is the last record of Andrew.

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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