



## 2ND MINNESOTA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY

### James Stewart McKinney

James was recruited by Albert Woodbury, lieutenant of the Battery, and was mustered in on August 11, 1862. James was 28 years old, 5' 10 1/2" tall, had hazel eyes, dark hair and fair complexion. He was born on July 12, 1833, in Penobscott, Maine.

In 1860, James was living in a boarding house in Anoka Township, Anoka County. His occupation was listed as both a lumber man and farmer. He probably did as many men in Anoka County did in the 1860's--worked in the logging camps in the winter when he couldn't farm and farmed in the summer when he couldn't log. The census noted that James had no taxable value in real estate, but he did have \$200 of taxable personal estate. It is quite likely that James knew the man who recruited him as Woodbury also lived in the small village of Anoka and owned interest in the mills there.



James served as a private with the Battery until he was taken to the hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, on November 26, 1862. He died in the hospital on January 4, 1863, of "erysipelas," a disease caused by a bacterial infection that causes large, raised red patches on the skin with a fever and severe general illness.

James was buried in the Nashville National Cemetery, grave number 5932. His grave is in the same section near another Battery member, Melchoir Blesi.

*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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