George W. Winlock - Last Soldier of Vanderburgh County Indiana

Some of the Information and Below Courtesy of Doretha Diefenbach-Hines



Winlock, George W: Born December 1845 in Logan Co. Kentucky, Height: 5'1 inch, scar on right hand, Negro, slave of Adam Winlock. In 1850 Adams Winlock owned the following slaves (all black) 1 female age 30, 1 male age 18, 1 male age 20, 1 male age 15, one female age 11, one female age 9, one male age 8, one male age 6, one female age 5, one male age 3 and one male age 6 months. At that time Adam Winlock had 6 children and no wife living in the home. His children were 17, 15, 13, 11, 9, and 7 years of age. Freedman Application March 8, 1866, also Taylor Winlock on the same day made application and lived in Russellville, Ky., and was in the same regiment as George Entry into U.S. Service: Corporal, Co. C. 115th U.S. Colored Infantry Discharge: Corp'l. Co. C. 115th U.S. Colored Infantry GAR Wagner Post No. 581 Charter member, Delegate, Junior Vice Commander, Chaplain, Quartermaster Died: June 10, 1939 at the age of 91 years 5 months 13 days from myocarditis, buried at Locust Hill Cemetery, Evansville, IN., Soldier Section 23 Northeast Row 5 Grave 12, HAS TOMBSTONE. Spouse: Mary Belle Loving was born in Kentucky Children: Louesther M. Winlock was born October 1881 in Kentucky and married Pinkney Thompson Miller (teacher and principal) August 19, 1914 Grandchildren: Marye A. Miller (Dr. James A. Jr.) Brown (born in July 6, 1915 and died July 16, 2000; Lincoln High dean of girls, counselor and taught for 51 years); Pinkney

Thompson Miller Jr. (born in November 3, 1916 in Evansville, Indiana; BS in education and Master degree, teacher for 30 years)

Great-grandchildren: Sandra Diane Brown (Allen Kesselschmidt) Bender of New York City, N.Y. and Virginia Beach, Virginia

Residence: Russelville, Ky. (Freedman's Bank, March 8, 1866)
Residence: 126 Upper Fifth, Evansville, Indiana, Occupation: Col. Laborer (1892 City Directory)
Residence: 100 U. 5th Evansville, Indiana (Mrs. Mary B.) (1896 City Directory)
Residence: 107 U. 10th Evansville, Indiana (Mrs. Mary B.) (1897 City Directory)
Residence: 718 N. 5th Evansville, Indiana (1916 City Directory)
Residence: 418 S.E. Fifth St. Evansville, Indiana

George W. Winlock was born into slavery in Logan County Kentucky on 26 December 1847. Before the war, he was owned by Adam Winlock of Logan County, Kentucky, and for the duration of his young life prior to the Civil War served as a house boy and farmer. He would leave his enslavers in August of 1864 to join the Union Army.

George Winlock enlisted in the 115th U.S. Colored Infantry on August 15, 1864, in Bowling Green, Kentucky, for a period of 3 years. At the time of his enlistment, George stood 5 feet, 7 1/4 inches tall, with a black complexion, hair, and eyes. He was mustered into Company C of the 115th USCT the same day, but he had to wait until October 21 for the regiment to be fully organized. The army attached the 115th USCT to the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division in the District of Kentucky. Private Winlock and the regiment performed garrison duty in Lexington until December. They were then ordered to Virginia in January 1865 to participate in the siege operations in and around Petersburg. After nearly 3 months on the siege line, the 115th USCT marched into Richmond on April 3 after Confederates abandoned the city. Private Winlock and his comrades remained in Virginia until May 20, 1865, when they sailed for Texas. Private George Winlock was promoted to Corporal on December 1, 1865. He served in the District of the Rio Grande for nearly 9 months, until the regiment was finally mustered out on February 20, 1866, in Indianola, Texas.

Following his military service, George Winlock returned to Russellville, Kentucky. In 1878 he married Mary Belle Loving. To this union they had a child Louesther Winlock born on October 3, 1881. He left Kentucky and moved his family to Evansville in 1884 and went to work for the John and Clem Reitz sawmill. Working there until 1900, he then left to work for Schmenke's Stove firm and finally as a repairman for the Thiele Stove Company until he retired.

George Winlock became a member of Colonel John F. Grill Post No. 541 of the Grand Army of the Republic in Evansville, Indiana. He served as the Post Quartermaster from 1897 until the Post disbanded in 1900. Winlock was instrumental in establishing a new Post that same year. He became a Charter member of the Fort Wagner Post No. 581 and would serve as the Chaplain, Delegate and Jr. Vice Commander. He would eventually become the last surviving member of the Post.