

Stephen Grover Burnett 1794-1861

War of 1812 soldier.

Son of Justus Burnett and Lois Crane Burnett. He was a veteran of the War of 1812, an "artillerist", enlisted 23 June 1814. He was in Capt. Green's Company of Artillery, transferred to Capt. James R. Hanhams Co. Corps of Artillery July 6, 1814, transferred to Capt. Richard L. Howell's Co. May 1, 1815. I have a photostat of his army discharge. He was discharged in New York 12 May 1815, described on discharge paper as "about 21 years of age, five feet 8 inches high, ruddy complexion, blue eyes, dark hair." ("...Captain Callendar Irvine's Company of Artillerists and Engineers, organized on 27 April 1798. Later the unit fought courageously as Captain James R. Hanham's Company in the War of 1812 earning its first letter designation and campaign streamer as Company K, Corps of Artillery, Northern Division."

From his obituary, May 22, 1861, Terre Haute Courier, it read as follows:

An Old Soldier Gone To Rest: Stephen Grover Burnett, Senior, died 21 May 1861, in Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana. A well known to our older citizens, died yesterday, May 21st, 1861, at the home of his son, Linus, in this city, in the 67th year of his age. The funeral will take place from the Methodist Church, this afternoon at Three o'clock. Mr. Burnett was a native of Essex County, New York. In June 1814, he enlisted for war in the First Regiment of the U.S. Army. Peace was declared the following year, and it was his good fortune, to have been detailed as one of 25 to fire the National Salute from Castle William, near New York, in honor of the occasion. The period of his enlistment having expired, he returned to his trade, that of tanner and currier, about which time he was married to Miss Hannah Creal, at Greenfield, Saratoga County, New York. In 1814 {?} he moved to Canada and in the spring of 1820, he started on an exploring expedition, through the western country, visiting Pittsburg, Shawneetown, and Saint Louis and back through Vincennes, Terre Haute, Fort Wayne, and Fort Meigs to St. Davids, his original place of embarkation. During his return trip, at the crossing of Wild Cat, above what is now Lafayette, he and his companions, four in number, were surrounded by Indians of the Miama tribe and robbed of everything they had; Mr. Burnett losing 180 dollars of U.S. currency. On the 2nd of May 1821 Mr. Burnett, wife and child (Linus) with Anthony Creal, Thomas Lyons and Seward Stocking left London, on the River Thames, upper Canada, in a Pirouge made by himself and Mr. Lyons of white pine, which was their only conveyance to Terre Haute. They passed down the Thames to Lake St. Clair and across the lake to Detroit, then to Maumee Bay, up the Maumee River to Fort Meigs, thence to Fort Wayne. Here they hauled their pirouge across the land to Little River, a tributary of the Wabash, thence down to Terre Haute where they landed June 14, 1821. Mr. Burnett first settled in Otter Creek township then removed to Nevins, where he has since resided, respected by his neighbors and fellow citizens, holding the office of Magistrate among them for many years. He had been suffering with dropsy for the last 18 months. Death approached him slowly; he knew he could not last long, yet he never murmured; but was resigned and hopeful to the last, and the only regret he expressed was that he could not live to see the Rebellion crushed out and peace once more restored to his unhappy country., Ill.