

Grand Army of the Republic

WILLIAM CLINTON WHITE

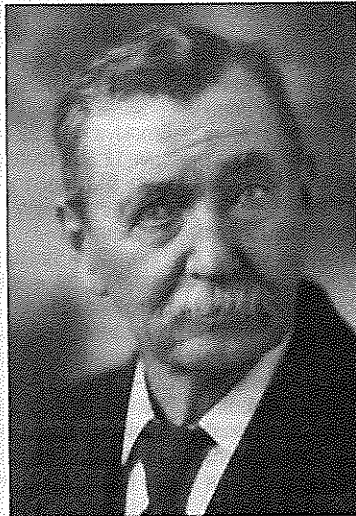
2015 will mark the 150th anniversary of the end of America's Civil War. Grinnell Historical Museum volunteers Karen Groves, Ann Igoe, Julie Young and Shana Estes have created biographies of men who were participants in a local project just after World War I to photograph Civil War veterans. The Nina Wayne Grau Studio photographed the Grinnell veterans in 1922. Over 200 Civil War veterans are buried in Hazelwood Cemetery, including most of the veterans photographed in 1922. Here is one of those portraits and biographies:

William Clinton White was born March 23, 1844, near Uniontown, Pa., the son of William S. and Annie Conaway White. He was one of a family of eight children. In 1855 the family moved by ox team to Ohio where William's father died two years later of typhoid fever.

William was 17 years old when he enlisted in Company I of the 170th Ohio Infantry on May 2, 1864, in Bellaire, Ohio. He was stationed in Washington, D.C., for garrison duty within 15 days of his enlistment. Washington was then being threatened by Confederates under the command of General Jubal Early. The Confederate threat was repulsed, and General Early later said that the firm front presented by these green troops made him think that General Grant's veterans were before him.

White's regiment was stationed in Washington till mid-July. The unit then moved up the Shenandoah Val-

ley to Snicker's Ford, Rocky Ford, Kernstown, Winchester, Martinsburg and finally to Frederick, Md. They then guarded supply trains at Harper's Ferry until being discharged on Sept. 10, 1864, at Camp Chase, Ohio. The regiment had four men mortally wounded in battle, and 20 died of disease.



The White family moved to a farm in Illinois in 1868 where William White had preceded them and gotten a cottage ready for them.

Some time before 1894 White moved to Grinnell and worked as a painter. On

Sept. 17, 1902, William White married Flora Emely Greene in Nevada. Two days later they started housekeeping at 711 Park St. in Grinnell where they made their home for 27 years.

White died on Jan. 23, 1930, at the age of 86. Nine days later his widow died. They were both buried at Hazelwood Cemetery.

Death Summons G.H. 1-24-1930 William C. White

William C. White, aged 85 years and ten months, passed away at his home at 711 Park street at about 7:45 o'clock yesterday morning.

Funeral services will be held from the home Saturday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. E. M. Vittum. Burial will be in Hazelwood.

Mr. White's brother, D. W. White, former mayor of Grinnell, has a little book in which he has jotted down salient facts about the members of his family. From this the following information was taken.

William C. White was born March 23, 1844, near Uniontown, Pa., the son of William S. and Annie Conaway White, one of a family of eight children. In 1855 the family moved by ox team to Ohio, where the husband and father died two years later of typhoid fever.

When William was only seventeen years old he volunteered in the 170th Ohio for service in the Union army during the Civil War. His regiment was at once rushed to the defense of Washington, which was then threatened by the Confederates under

Joel A. Early. The rebel threat was repulsed and General Early said later that the firm front presented by these green troops made him think that Grant's veterans were before him. He was honorably discharged and when the White family moved to Illinois in 1868, they found that Will had preceded them and had built a cottage on the farm.

"And," writes Mr. White, "for the first time since we were small children we were all at home except those who had passed over to the great beyond. Our joyous shout could be heard around that little cottage. They were the shouts of freedom."