

# RICHARD C. WHITLOCK

The American Civil War records can be extremely detailed and if you come across an ancestor who served in the War it is possible to follow their movements in some detail.

Bill King sent in material on Richard C. Whitlock (1835?-1863) the son of James & Rebecca Whitlock of Clinton Co., Illinois. Richard's discharge papers are detailed enough to get a mental picture of what this fellow looked like. He enlisted in the 30th Regiment of the Illinois, Infantry Volunteers at Keyesport, Illinois November 3, 1861. He was 28 years old, 5 feet 7 inches high with light complexion. His eyes were blue and his hair dark.

This document also tells us Richard was born in Wilks Co., North Carolina and he was a farmer. He enlisted for a term of three years.

Using information on the 30th Infantry, Illinois Volunteers from the book *Illinois at Vicksburg* we are able to follow the month by month movements of the 30th Infantry. "The 30th Infantry was mustered in at Springfield, Illinois, in Camp Butler on August 28, 1861. The men came mostly from the vicinities of Aledo, Loami, Sparta, Hutsonville, Chester, Marshall, Keithsburg, Nilwood, Trenton, Carlisle and Bond County. It moved to Cairo, Illinois, on September 1st. On October 22d it formed part of a scouting party to the vicinity of Columbus, Kentucky. On November 7th it participated in the battle of Belmont and captured Watson's New Orleans battery." The article follows the 30th's movements to Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Mississippi and Jackson, Tennessee. Each year is detailed in this manner.

"On May 5th [1864] it marched to Huntsville, Alabama, and on May 25th to Decatur and finally joined General Sherman's army at Ackworth, Georgia, on June 8th. On the 10th it moved to Big Shanty and on the 27th began skirmishing with the enemy and took part in the assault of Kenesaw. On July 5th it moved to Nickajack creek and on the 12th to Sweetwater creek. On July 7th it moved to Decatur, Georgia, via Marietta, crossing the Chattahoochie river at Roswell, and was engaged in the battle before Atlanta on July 21st:"

How much of this activity Richard Whitlock participated in is not known but we do know he did not live to see the assault on Atlanta. Richard C. Whitlock died of disease at Keokuk, Iowa November 11, 1863.

Source: R1634; R1635