

Civil War Veterans of Redlands

The Builders of Redlands

The Civil War's greatest impact on the West came after the fighting was over. President Lincoln signed three measures of the greatest significance in the coming decades; The Homestead Act granted 160 acres of unclaimed public land to any adult who worked the land for five years while making certain improvements, the Pacific Railway Act providing land and government loans to construct the first transcontinental rail line and the Morrill Act, which allotted public lands to states to finance colleges dedicated to agricultural education and research, an especially pressing need given the semi-arid West's great challenges to farmers of that day. For Redlands, the 1880's were important due to the arrival of the railroad and resulting land boom. The town prospered due to the talents of a civil engineer named Frank E. Brown and a stockbroker named E.G. Judson who brought water from the mountains and helped to lay out the city. People with money moved to Redlands and invested in its real estate. Worker's came to build the city and its infrastructure. The city grew rapidly and gained a reputation for its beauty and its citrus produce. Part of its foundation was established by veterans of the Civil War.

Francis Marion Winn

Tennessee was one of the most divided states in the country at the outset of the Civil War. Before the bombardment of Fort Sumter, Tennessee was staunchly pro-Union, though the western portion of the state contained a few secessionist hot beds. The situation changed when Fort Sumter was bombarded and Lincoln made the call for 75,000 volunteers to suppress the rebellion. Tennesseans saw this as a threat to their "southern brethren," and the only real pockets of pro-Unionism came from the eastern portion of the state. In fact, Tennessee would furnish more troops for the Union than any other Confederate state, combined. However, over three times that number volunteered for the Confederacy.

One of those who volunteered for the Confederacy was Francis Marion Winn of Sumner County. In February 1865 at the age of seventeen he left his father's farm and enlisted in the 21st Tennessee Cavalry. The 21st Tennessee Cavalry was a rag-tag regiment, organized in September 1864 and never officially numbered by the Adjutant General's office in Richmond. In early 1865, it was ordered to gather stock and scout the country in the direction of Shelbyville and Fayetteville. It was during this "Scout" that Francis Marion Winn joined Company D, 21st Tennessee Cavalry. The regiments companies were utilized separately as scouts and foraging parties. It was nominally under the command of Nathan Bedford Forrest. But by this time the war was progressing from bad to worse for the Confederate armies and when Winn enlisted Forrest ordered all the Tennessean cavalry regiments in his command to be merged into six regiments. The 21st Tennessee Cavalry was merged into the 22nd Tennessee Cavalry becoming the 21st/22nd Tennessee Cavalry. While the regiment was in Tennessee it was cut off from both Generals Hood and Forrest. The regiment was ordered to disperse and rendezvous at Iuka, Mississippi. When it reformed the regiment would muster only three companies. Winn's company was not one of those companies. The fragmented 22nd Tennessee Cavalry was spread out between Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia. The dispersed regiment continued to perform scouting and foraging details until the end of the war. Francis Marion Winn surrendered with the remnants of his company in Gainesville Alabama on May 11, 1865. He was still only seventeen years old.

Francis Marion Winn returned to his father's farm near Castalian Springs Tennessee and learned the carpentry trade. His mother had died before the war and father had died three months after his return, he was left with a step-mother and two younger siblings. He became a contractor and developed a substantial business while at the same time he farmed. In March 1866, he married Margaret Elizabeth Satterfield and together they had three children. Francis built many of the elegant public and private homes and buildings in Sumner County and surrounding counties. However, in 1875 Margaret died. Within two years he married Eliza Jane Patton and together they had six children. Francis's contractor business was very successful and he was the chief supervisor of the construction of the Trousdale County Courthouse. The courthouse is still used to this day. But again, in his second wife died in 1890. With a large family and a successful business and farm to operate, Francis Marion Winn was married a third time, to Susan Katherine Byrn and together they had five children.

In 1913 Francis Marion Winn moved to Redlands when he was sixty-six years old. Trousdale County was a small county, business was becoming harsh, but the business possibilities of California were large. In addition, an uncle who had made his fortune in California and left him a large legacy and the possibilities it offered made an impression on Francis. All his children (fourteen) and their families, husbands and children, all, moved to California with Francis. He purchased an orange grove and invested in real estate. His younger children attend school while his older children worked in Redlands as salespersons in local businesses or managed the orange grove. By 1920 Francis had divested himself of the orange grove and some of his children and their families moved to Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino. One son Harold A. Winn by his third wife, owned and operated the Winn's Drugstore / Pharmacy in Redlands for many years.

Francis Marion Winn died at home in Redlands on October 6, 1923 with all his family surrounding him. Beside the fourteen children he had by three wives he left behind twenty-three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The Confederate Veterans Magazine published his obituary state that in Redlands, "He was the only Confederate veteran residing in Redlands, but the G.A.R. has an organization here (Bear Valley Post) and because of his sterling traits of character he had so won their esteem and admiration that he was invited to participate in all their social activities, an exhibition of splendid spirit which resulted in much pleasure to all concerned. Outside his own family relations, the best friend he had in Redlands was an old Union soldier, who sate with him in Sunday school class every Sunday." His tombstone is marked U.C.V., "United Confederate Veterans".



Francis Marion Winn Tombstone, Hillside Memorial Cemetery



Trousdale County Courthouse built under the supervision of Francis Marion Winn

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George Tilden Ordway

The 11th New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry began its organization in Concord New Hampshire on August 21, 1862. On the 2nd of September a young man, twenty years old, enlisted in Company D of the regiment. He was the last of four Ordway family members to enlist in the regiment. Two were brothers and the other two cousins of the brothers. George Tilden Ordway, the twenty-year old new recruit, was one of the cousins and by the end of the war the two brothers were dead and George Tilden Ordway would have been wounded at Spotsylvania Court House.

George Tilden Ordway was born in Merrimack County New Hampshire on the 15th of March 1842. His father was a common laborer who worked in one of Merrimack county factories. By the age of sixteen George had joined his father as a common laborer. The Ordway family had arrived from England in 1640 and settled in Massachusetts. By the beginning of the 19th Century the Ordway family was large and the extended family had spread throughout New England, many holding important positions in government and business. But the family of Ralph Ordway, the father of George, had not prospered. In 1860 the family consisted of his parents and a sister, age 12. His mother had inherited the house they lived in in the town of Warner. But by 1862 businesses in New England had entered a slump. The transition from peaceful business pursuits to providing material for the Union Army had been slow. Men were looking for work and when the Federal government called for 300,000 additional troops or the government would draft state militia members, New Hampshire responded with a bounty of \$50 for men to enlist. George Tilden Ordway responded by volunteering for three years for the \$50. The 11th New Hampshire left the state with 1,008 officers and men in the middle of September and joined the Army of the Potomac.

The 11th New Hampshire was to serve with the 9th Corps throughout its existence. It served with the Army of the Potomac, the Department of Ohio, the Army of the Tennessee, finally rejoining the Army of the Potomac. It would fight at Battle of Fredericksburg, the Siege of Vicksburg, the advance of Jackson Mississippi, the Siege of Knoxville, the Battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, the Battle of the Crater, the Siege of Petersburg, the Battle of Boydton Plank Road and the Battle of Hatcher's Run. George Tilden Ordway served with the regiment except for a short time after being wounded slightly in his side at Spotsylvania. At the end of the war he participated with the regiment in the Grand Review in Washington D.C. and was mustered out of the army on June 4th, 1865 at the age of twenty-three. The 11th New Hampshire was mustered out with a total of a little over 200 officers and men.

George Tilden Ordway returned home to Warner and in November 1866 married Nancy J. Caldron, age sixteen years. He and he wife moved to Plymouth in Grafton County New Hampshire. George learned the trade of stone mason. He and his wife had two sons with one dying in infancy. But the marriage didn't last and in 1886 he and Nancy were divorced with his wife claiming extreme cruelty. In 1887, he was married a second time to woman named Jennie. George then moved to Los Angeles California and in 1888 moved to Redlands where work for a stone mason was excellent with all the building happening in the new town. In 1893, he applied for and received a pension for his service during the war. When the Grand Army of the Republic Redlands Bear Valley post was formed he was one of the founding members. His work expanded to where he became an independent contractor specializing in stone masonry. Some of his work included work for the Smiley Brothers. In 1893 his second wife died and the

following year he remarried for the third time. Included in the Redlands Daily Factors was an article regarding his marriage.

Jan. 22, 1914

George T. Ordway weds Miss Elizabeth McCabe

When a man 71 years old marries a woman 67 years of age there is likely to be some sort of a romance in it. Such was the case when George T. Ordway and Miss Elizabeth Catherine McCabe were united in wedlock last night by Justice of the Peace McIver. It was just another case of where a man became seriously ill and a woman nursed him to recovery, only to find that he had fallen in love in the meantime and wanted her to become his wife.

Miss McCabe had lived across the street from Mr. Ordway for three years and was acquainted with him. When he became dangerously ill she volunteered her services as a nurse and brought him through the ordeal safely. Then came the proposal of marriage followed by the ceremony last night.

"It's never too late," Mr. Ordway said this morning at the Santa Fe railroad station as he left with his bride on their honeymoon trip.

George's son by his first wife and who had married in New Hampshire had followed him to California sometime after 1910 and worked in Orange County. But in February 1920 his son died unexpectedly from bronchial pneumonia. George's wife buried his son at Hillside Memorial but within three months George died from senility at the age of seventy-eight. He was buried with his second wife at Hillside Memorial Cemetery.



George Tilden and 2nd Wife Jennie Ordway Tombstone with Grand Army of the Republic marker.

NAME OF SOLDIER: <i>Ordway, George T.</i> (2-11-8)				
NAME OF DEPENDENT: <i>Widow,</i>				
<i>Minor,</i>				
SERVICE: <i>U. S. A. Inf.</i>				
DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
<i>1893 Feb. 11</i>	<i>Invalid,</i>	<i>1145 848</i>	<i>978 562</i>	<i>Cal.</i>
	<i>Widow,</i>			
	<i>Minor,</i>			
ATTORNEY: <i>G. M. Van Leuven Jr.</i>				
REMARKS: <i>af WHO</i>				

George T. Ordway Pension