Soldier History

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Soldier Report List

Cornelius Mathews

Residence Gibson County IN; Enlisted on 10/30/1861 as a Private.

On 10/30/1861 he mustered into "E" Co. IN 42nd Infantry He was transferred out on 1/1/1864 (Estimated date of transfer)

On 1/1/1864 he transferred into <u>Veteran Reserve Corps</u> He was discharged (date not stated)

Sources used by Historical Data Systems, Inc.:

- Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana (c) Historical Data Systems, Inc. @ www.civilwardata.com

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Note: the American Civil War Research Database is, in my experience, the most fundamental research site for Civil War participants, units, and engagements. Drawing on the primary source published by the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana, this page confirms that Cornelius Mathews of Gibson County IN served in the 42nd Indiana Infantry regiment from his enlistment on 30 Oct 1861 until 01 Jan 1864. From that date, he served in the Veteran Reserve Corps for an unknown period of time. Formed in early 1863, VRC utilized "veteran soldiers who had suffered wounds or contracted illnesses that rendered them unfit for active campaigning [but] could still perform limited duty... More than 60,000 men eventually joined this organization ... performed guard and provost marshal duty... served in hospitals ... garrisoned prisoner-of-war camps, and occasionally came under hostile fire. Their presence allowed thousands of able-bodied soldiers to be sent to more active theaters of the war." (David J. Coles, "Invalid Corps," Encyclopedia of the American Civil War: A Political, Social, and Military History. David S. and Jeanne T. Heidler. One volume edition, W. W. Norton & Company, New York, 2000, pp1035-1036.)