



Town of Southampton ~ Civil War Veterans

Richard Enoch

Hometown: Southampton

Enoch served in the Civil War in “Ellsworth’s Fire Zouaves.”

He enlisted on April 19, 1861, at the age of 21.

Enoch was wounded numerous times in battle and was honorably discharged from service August 13, 1864 with the rank of Captain.

He is buried in the Southampton Cemetery, Southampton.



1861~1865



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Richard Enoch Killed by Train

On Monday morning while returning to his home from an errand to the bakery, Richard Enoch, a well-known resident of the town, was struck at the Newtown lane crossing by the 6:52 New York express and almost instantly killed. Mr. Enoch had been to the bakery for some rolls for breakfast and was on his way home when his life was so quickly cut off. Just before the accident B. Z. Griffing met Mr. Enoch and they exchanged greetings with the usual "Good Morning." Mr. Enoch had almost crossed the track and it is said another step would have taken him clear of the locomotive which struck him. Being a man of wide reading and one in the habit of giving much thought and study to subjects which interested him, it is thought that he must have been deeply engrossed with some idea or thought as he approached the track and so failed to hear or see the on-coming train. Some one shouted when Mr. Enoch was on the track, and from the manner in which he was struck, it is thought that hearing the shout he halted and partially turned just as the pilot of the engine struck him. He was thrown to one side of the track, and lived but a few moments.

Coroner Cornwall of Riverhead held an inquest on Tuesday noon at the railroad station. The conductor and engineer of the train were called to give their testimony and two or three eye witnesses of the accident testified as to what they saw. The engineer said he blew his whistle for a milk wagon which was approaching the crossing and did not see the man who was killed. The coroner exonerated the engineer and conductor and said he would censure the Railroad company for maintaining such a dangerous crossing without protection.

Mr. Enoch was born July 13, 1840, at Doxley, Warwickshire, England, and came to America May 27, 1845. He enlisted for the war of the Rebellion April 19, 1861, and first went out with Ellsworth's Fire Zuaves. He participated in the Battle of Bull Run and was wounded during the siege of Port Hudson. He received wounds in four different engagements. Mr. Enoch was honorably discharged from the Army August 13, 1864, with the rank of Captain, having served the full four years of the war, and been in many heavy battles.

On one of his discharge papers appears the following: "Was present at the Siege of Port Hudson and conducted himself very good during the assault of the 27th of May and 14th of June. Character very good.—R. F. Wilkinson Capt. Co. 1, 128th N. Y.,"

March 31, 1873, the deceased married Ann Plumb, who died January 30, 1896 in Southampton. He leaves three daughters, Mrs. Truman H. Smith of Southampton, Mrs. George E. Smith of East Hampton, and Miss Winifred Enoch. He is also survived by one brother, R. W. Enoch of Southampton; two sisters, Mrs. R. E. Plum of Watervleit, N. Y., and Mrs. R. L. Griffiths of Brooklyn, and five grandchildren.

Mr. Enoch was formerly engaged in the building business in Southampton, came to East Hampton about ten years ago and has since lived with his daughter, Mrs. George E. Smith. During his residence here Mr. Enoch gained the respect of a wide circle of acquaintances and was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

The funeral was largely attended at the house on Tuesday afternoon, Revs. N. W. Harkness and O. F. R. Treder officiating. The pall bearers were T. Barns, Frank Stratton, S. A. Gregory, Hiram Sherrill and Felix Dominy. The remains were taken to Southampton for burial, the Revs. George Russell and O. F. R. Treder officiating at the grave.

Richard Enoch

Through many years of peace and war
He passed in honor, and many wounds he
bore

Gentle and kind, in his every act and deed
Honor and love, was always his creed.
Long years, with a hearty will, he worked,
No duty befell him, that he ever shirked
We'll always remember that friend of ours
With whom we passed many pleasant hours

Tales he'd relate of those times gone by,
Seen so clearly, through a smoke-laden sky,
And Gettysburg, though fifty years away
Was as fresh in his mind, as if yesterday.
Many and many a tale he would tell,
Of comrades around him, that in battle fell.
And yet he remained, with God's good-will.
To relate their brave deeds, remembered still

And now in a moment, by his Maker's will,
The old soldier leaves us, all quiet and still,
Snatched from our midst, in the early day
By a monster train, speeding on its way.
A death, no soldier deserves to bear,
But we see the will of God was there.
Buried with the flag he always did love,
May he find the peace, well earned above.

N. S.



Enoch, Richard

Southampton Cemetery, Southampton