

# MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES



## *Loyal Legion Vignettes*



***LT COL EDWARD GEORGE FAHNESTOCK  
MINNESOTA COMMANDERY, INSIGNIA 13871  
MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES***

By

**Karl Frederick Schaeffer**

**Past Commander, Ohio Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S.**

**7334 Shadyview Avenue, NW**

**Massillon, OH 44646-9081**

**[RSchae535@aol.com](mailto:RSchae535@aol.com)**

**(November 1999)**

Edward George Fahnestock was born in York Springs, Adams County, Pennsylvania, October 3, 1829, the son of Samuel Fahnestock and Susan E. Baugher Fahnestock. He married Maria Louisa Tate, March 11, 1856, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the daughter of John and Hannah Tate. Maria was born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on September 2, 1835.

The children of Edward and Maria were all born in Gettysburg: Carrie Louise, born May 8, 1857; John Charles, born August 16, 1858 and died January 13, 1859; Julia Tate, born June 24, 1860 and died February 11, 1862; Halleck Paige, born November 14, 1861; Edward George, born April 28, 1863; and, Lillie Baugher, born January 16, 1865.

Edward's father, Samuel Fahnestock was born March 10, 1796 in Bermudian, Pennsylvania, the son of Jacob Fahnestock and Salome Enders Fahnestock. His mother, Susan E. Baugher was born December 11, 1795. She was the daughter of John Christian Frederick Baugher and Catherine Ann Elizabeth Baugher.

Edward George Fahnestock graduated from Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg and then the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia with an M.D. Degree. He practiced medicine only one year due to poor health. He then joined his brothers in Fahnestock Brothers, General Merchants in Gettysburg.

Edward enlisted in the 2nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company E on April 20, 1861 at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The regiment left the next day by rail for Washington, but were halted at Cockeysville, Maryland as the railroad bridge at that point was

destroyed. The regiment was ordered back to York, Pennsylvania where it remained until June 1, when the command was ordered to Chambersburg. On June 16, the regiment was moved by rail to Hagerstown, Maryland and went into camp at the village of Funkstown. On the June 23, the regiment encamped about four miles from the Potomac. Under the command of Major General R. Patterson, they advanced to Martinsburg, Virginia on July 2 as the rebel forces were pushed back and entrenched at Winchester, Virginia. On July 15, the regiment engaged the enemy at Bunker Hill and drove General Johnston's forces from that area. The term of service had expired and the 2nd Regiment moved from Charlestown on July 23 to Harper's Ferry, where it was transported by rail to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and mustered out of service on July 26, 1861. Edward returned home with the rank of First Lieutenant.

Edward re-enlisted on December 16, 1862 as a Lt. Colonel in the 165th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment under the command of Col. Charles Henry Buehler, who married his cousin, Anne Salome Fahnestock. The regiment was organized at a camp near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The regiment was ordered to the front via Washington, Newport News to Suffolk, Virginia. The officer's and men were instructed and drilled in tactics, picket, guard, provost duty, and construction of defensive works. The regiment was brigaded with the 13th Indiana, 112th New York, and 6th Massachusetts and formed part of the First Division of the 7th Corps. The first active service of the regiment was an expedition towards Blackwater, which was undertaken as a diversion in favor of the column under General Ferry, moving into North Carolina. It then arched along the borders of the great dismal swamp. No enemy was met and on January 12, 1863, the regiment settled into camp. On January 29th, the rebel forces made his appearance at Deserted House. A brisk skirmish opened which lasted until daylight, when the enemy was routed. The only casualties were one severely and several slightly wounded. In early April, Lt. General Longstreet with a detachment of the rebel Army, estimated to number 40,000 men advanced upon Suffolk with the design of capturing it and re-opening the way to Portsmouth and Norfolk. On April 24, the 165th Regiment along with the 6th Massachusetts, 166th Pennsylvania and a section of Neil's Battery advanced against the enemy's intrenched position on the Somerton Road. The assault continued with much spirit until nightfall with light casualties. General Longstreet abandoned his position and withdrew from his elaborately constructed works and retreated in the direction of Petersburg. On May 13, the regiment engaged in the destruction of the Weldon Railroad. There was some skirmishing near the village of Carrsville, Virginia with the loss of eight wounded and on May 26th returned to Suffolk. On June 27, the regiment embarked upon transports and moved to White House on the Pamunky where it joined in a demonstration towards Richmond. The regiment then moved to Hanover Court House and broke up the railroads crossing and destroyed the bridges over the South Anna River. In the meantime, the term of service of the 165th Regiment had expired and returned to Gettysburg on July 28, 1863 and, along with Lt. Col. Fahnestock, was mustered out of service.

Edward George Fahnestock enlisted for the third time on August 14, 1863 with the rank of Major as the Paymaster of Volunteers in St. Louis, Missouri. He resigned on March 5, 1864 on account of his health and returned home to Gettysburg and the family business.

In 1881, Edward was employed by the federal government and he and Maria were sent to Watertown, Coddington County, South Dakota to look after the Sioux Indians in that state. They later moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota after 1894, where he organized and became Secretary of the Northwest Lumberman's Insurance Association, from which position he retired in 1906. Edward was a Past Master of his Masonic Lodge at Gettysburg, a member of the German Lutheran Church and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, Minnesota Commandery, Insignia number 13871. Edward died in Minneapolis, Minnesota on December 8, 1907. Maria passed away on August 12, 1916 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. They are buried side by side in Evergreen Cemetery, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

