Dallas County

Swift, Willis Harlan, (12 Sep 1844 - 21 Dec 1933). lived in Dallas County all his life. Served in Capt. Lemon's Co. C, Dallas County Home Guards, 24 Jun 1861 to 24 Sep 1861. Enlisted in 24th Missouri Infantry, Co. G, at Rolla, MO, on 14 Nov. 1861, mustered into service, 20 Nov, transferred to Co. B, 2 Dec, 1861. Pvt. Willis was never wounded or in the hospital for illness during the war, although briefly relieved from duty several times about 23 Dec, 1863. Therefore it is assumed that he fought in every skirmish and battle in which his unit was engaged for the duration of his service. He was transferred to Co. H, 2 Oct, 1864 and mustered out 28 Nov 1864 in St. Louis. Willis was Chaplain of the Gen. Frank J. Herron Post, No. 161, of the G.A.R. when it was organized in 1884, and attended G.A.R. reunions in Buffalo in 1904, 1905, and 1906. In occupation he was a farmer, wagonwright, Methodist minister and circuit rider, and Justice of the Peace. He married Eliza Jane Rakestraw in Buffalo on 25 may 1865. They had seven children, four of

whom survived him. Eliza passed away in 1929 and Willis died at age 89 on 21 Dec, 1933; they are buried together at Oak Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, MO

