

George W. Martin 1891

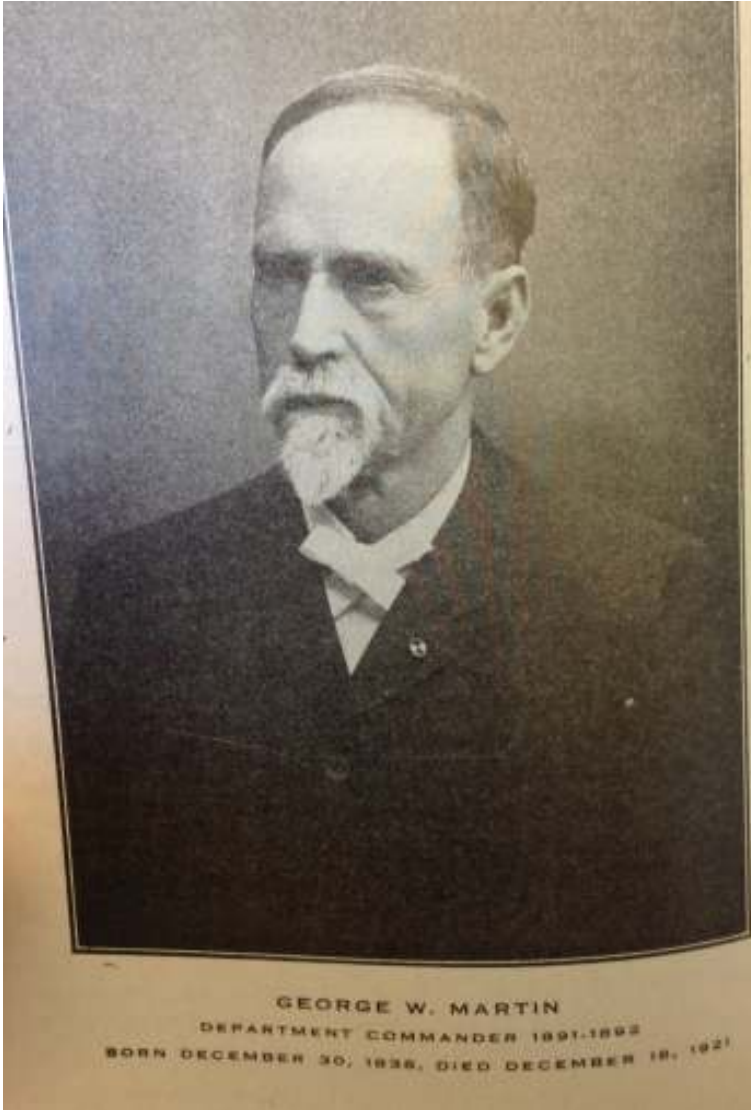
Born 30 December 1838 Sardis, Ohio. Brother of 1908 Department Commander Josiah Venham Martin.

George, a Civil War veteran and the editor of the Brookfield Gazette, son of Wilson Martin, fell down stairs and died immediately of a broken neck. He was born in Sardis, Ohio. Came to MO in 1856. He taught school three years in Montgomery and Lincoln Counties, then back to Ohio. Civil War, Co B 25th Vol Ohio Inf. Promoted Lieutenant in command of company at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg where lost right arm. After the war came to Brookfield, engaged in newspaper business and filled various county offices. Appointed postmaster of Brookfield 1911. More than 25 years in charge of the Gazette. He leaves three children, Mrs Georgia Shepherd, W.W. Martin and Charles Martin, Brookfield. His

wife, Sarah J. Martin preceded him in death. (Obit found in The Browning Leader-Record, issue 22 Dec 1921, Browning MO. Missouri death certificate #32914.)



History of Linn County, Missouri, 1912, page 328: COL. GEORGE W. MARTIN was born near Sardis, Ohio, Dec. 30, 1838. He is a son of Wilson and Rebecca (Venham) Martin. The mother was the daughter of Ray Venham. The Martins were pioneer settlers in the Ohio river valley. Capt. Absalom Martin, a great uncle of the Colonel, served with distinction in the



war of 1812. He was the founder of Martin's Ferry. The Colonel's great-grandfather, Reuben Martin, who was of Welsh descent. His great-grandmother was a native of Holland and was related to Martin Van Buren. The Colonel served during the Civil War. On October 24, 1865, Colonel Martin was married to Miss Sarah J. Wilson, of Wheeling, West Virginia. The three children born of their union are; Georgie, now Mrs. E.H. Shepherd; William W., Miss May Deane; and Charles H. Martin

Member: O.H. Wood Post 57,
Brookfield

Died 18 December 1921.
Buried Rose Hill Cemetery,
Brookfield, MO.

From the 1922 Missouri Department
Encampment Booklet:

In Memory of Comrade George W. Martin.

“Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in its season.”

George W. Martin answered the last roll call Sunday, December 18, 1922. The funeral services were held at the family residence in Brookfield, Missouri, by the Rev. Charles J. English, D.D. Comrade Martin was a valiant soldier of the Union during the Civil War and bore in the sight of all who met him the mark of his service and devotion to the cause which he espoused by the empty sleeve he wore as a result of the terrible carnage at Gettysburg. Comrade Martin was born December 30th, 1838, near Sardis, Ohio, a village in Monroe County, on the Ohio River, forty miles below Wheeling, West Virginia. He was educated in the public schools, and at a private school in Woodsfield, in his native

county. He began teaching school at the age of sixteen and continued teaching for two years. In 1856 he came to Missouri and during the next year taught in Lincoln and Montgomery Counties, at the end of that time he returned to Ohio and there he again engaged in teaching, remaining steadfast until the beginning of the Civil War. When the terrible storm cloud of dissention and disaster broke upon our unhappy Country, he enlisted in Company B, Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, one of the first three-year regiments raised in Ohio. He was mustered out of service October 26th, 1863, on account of disability from wounds. He took part with his regiment in the Battles of Greenbriar, Allegheny Summit, McDowell, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. It was in the Battle of Gettysburg that he lost his right arm. He showed great capacity and fidelity in the army and received rapid promotions and at the Battle of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg was in command of his company. In the Spring of 1865 he returned to Missouri and engaged for a time in mercantile business in Brookfield. He served as Department Commander of the Department of Missouri, Grand Army of the Republic in 1891 and 1892, and represented Linn County in the General Assembly of the State in 1907. Another field of effort in which he did a large amount of good was that of journalism. For a number of years he owned and edited the Brookfield Gazette. He wielded a fluent and graceful pen, which was burnished gold and cheering good fellowship when there was no cause for it to be otherwise, but could be tempered steel when occasion demanded, he was a strong and able writer at all times and his name stands high in editorial work and in the domain of journalism all over the State. On October 24th, 1865, Comrade Martin was married to Miss Sarah J. Wilson, of Wheeling, West Virginia. Mrs. Martin, who died April 3rd, 1900, was a woman of unusual ability and superior accomplishments. She served two years as Department President of the Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of Missouri, and one year as National President of the organization. To this union were born three children – Georgie, now Mrs. E.H. Sheppard; William W., and Charles H. The following tender words are the utterances of his brother, Comrade J.V. Martin, of Brookfield:

“Yes, we miss him; his chair is vacant’ our brother is gone. For fifty-two years we have been in close touch with each other, part of the time as inmate of his home, for eight years his assistant in the County Clerk’s office, since 1905 associated with him in the publication of the Gazette. He was brother, comrade, friend in all which these relations imply. Yes, he is gone, but his good deeds and influence still live. We cherish his memory.”

The worth of character of our departed Comrade is beautifully and truthfully described in the tender tribute of Past Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, Ell [Eli] Torrence, who said:

“I cannot permit the old year to become a part of the eternity of the past without paying tribute to one of the noblest men I ever knew. For more than half a century I knew George W. Martin and enjoyed the full measure of his friendship. I knew him in the prime of his young manhood when he was a home builder and happy in the love of a devoted wife and dutiful children. I knew him in public life, always distinguished for his ability and integrity. I knew him in time of trial and bereavement and always found him

to be the same brave, tender and dependable soul. His personality was most winning and his smile like sunshine in cloudy weather. He had a strong character and Brookfield never had a better citizen than George W. Martin. He was always on the side of good morals and good government, and loved his Country with an undivided affection. The United States of America is better because he lived and richer because of the sacrifices he made for freedom and right. As long as he lived I felt that I had one friend who would cordially welcome me back to my Brookfield home, but now that he has gone the last tie is severed and only happy memories remain.”

GEORGE HALL,
JOHN M. WILLIAMS,
T.D. KIMBALL,
Committee.