

# Matthias John Bovee

1844-1905

Matthias J Bovee was born January 17, 1844 in Amsterdam, New York to Benedict A and Catherine Bovee. He was the grandson of Matthias Jacob Bovee, one of the early pioneers who settled in the Town of Eagle Wisconsin in 1843. Benedict A Bovee moved his wife and child, Matthias, to Wisconsin in 1844 and farmed his father's land in the Town of Eagle.

Matthias worked the farm with his father until August of 1862 when he enlisted in the 24<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry along with twelve other young men from Eagle to fight for the Union in the American Civil War. He was wounded in the leg in May 1864 in skirmishes with Confederates at Dallas, Georgia. Matthias was mustered out of service after the war in 1865, returned to Eagle and continued farming. In 1869, he married Mary Perkins from Mukwonago and continued farming until the mid-1870's when Matthias and Mary moved to Beloit, Kansas where his wife's relatives ran a hotel business. By 1880, he was proprietor of a bowling alley and saloon there, but his war injury gave him trouble so he filed for disability with the Veterans Association.

He later moved back to Eagle and is listed as a hotel keeper in the 1900 census. Matthias was admitted to Veteran's Home in Milwaukee 1900 with a bad leg, varicose veins, and sciatica where he received a \$12 monthly disability check. He died on August 6, 1905 and is buried at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Eagle Wisconsin.

Linda Young-Greffenius originally shared this on 22 Mar 2013