

Joseph Stockton, Colonel, Co. A., 72 IL Infantry US

1833 August 10: Stockton was born in Pittsburgh, PA to Robert and Martha Stockton.

1850 August 19: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Allegheny, Allegheny County, PA showed 17-year-old Joseph, worked in a bookstore, living with his parents and siblings. His father, Robert, was in the book business as well. The Stockton family was well known for book publishing for generations.

1862 July 23: Excerpt from Joseph Stockton's Journal.

"Books were opened on this evening for the formation of a new regiment, to be enlisted under the auspices of the Chicago Board of Trade. After several speeches and songs, enlistment rolls were produced, and George Heafford was the first to sign, and myself the second."

August 21: Mustered into service as an officer, Co. A, 72nd IL Infantry.

August 25: Excerpt from Joseph Stockton's Journal.

"Cairo, IL. Not being able to leave the camp my brother John and my sister came to the camp to bid me goodbye. I had no opportunity of seeing my friends who were kind enough to present me with a full uniform, sword, sash and belt. There was no opportunity for speech making, but I inwardly resolved I would not disgrace this friendship or dishonor the sword they were to kind to present me with. Marching orders came upon us suddenly, only two days after we were mustered in we received marching orders and embarked on board the Illinois Central train for Cairo...everything is confusion and we will from this time commence to realize a soldier's life, try to do a soldier's duty. God alone knows who will return, but I must not commence thinking of that, as it is a soldier's duty to die if need be."

November 27: Excerpt from Joseph Stockton's Journal.

"Moscow, TN: This is Thanksgiving Day as ordered by the President of the United States. Spent the day in the woods on picket duty. My dinner was hard tack and ham; day exceedingly pleasant. Thought of friends at home but do not regret being where I am."

November 29: Excerpt from Joseph Stockton's Journal.

"Lumpkins Mills, MS: I saw one of the grandest sights tonight. I had occasion to ride up on a high hill and in the valley below there were some 40 or 50 thousand troops encamped and going into the camp—the thousands of camp fires, the cheers of the men as they were going into camp, the tattoo of the regiments which had already gone into camp, some with bands of music, others with only the bugle, others with drums, all together made up a scene long to be

remembered. I would not have missed seeing it for hundreds of other scenes at home.”

1863 February 14: Promoted to Major.

July 7: Promoted to Lt. Colonel.

1864 November 30: Wounded at the Battle of Franklin.

December 4: Stockton's Journal.

“Two weeks ago today we heard that Forrest was advancing on Columbia with ten thousand men. We had about twenty-five hundred, so had to concentrate. On Tuesday Troops commenced to come in from the different posts, and in the course of a few days we must have had about fifteen thousand men at Columbia, under the command of General Schofield. Word came that Hood was advancing with thirty thousand men and was trying to cut us off from Nashville. The 72d had been brigaded with some other regiments under the command of Colonel Strickland, 3d Brigade, and assigned to General Ruger's Division, 2d Division of the 23d Corps. For two or three days we had hard skirmishing, and then in the night evacuated Columbia. The 72d was the last regiment to leave. On Tuesday, the 29th we were ordered to fall back from the railroad bridge across Duck River, which we had been guarding for three or four days. We burned the bridge. About noon we halted for half an hour, giving the men an opportunity of making their coffee. Orders came to move quickly forward, as the Rebs were in our advance. About four o'clock we formed line of battle, threw out skirmishers, and advanced that way for three or four miles. The skirmishing was hot and we had a few men wounded. Orders came to move back into the road, and in an hour or so back again into the fields by right flank where we ran into the Rebs. The 50th Ohio, in our advance, received their fire and lost some eight or ten killed and wounded. WE gave them a volley in return, and they fell back into the woods. WE followed them until we came to a very short distance from their line and halted. It was quite dark, and we lay perfectly quiet for an hour within a few hundred yards of the Rebs. Our pickets could hear them distinctly talking. The extreme darkness of the night was all that saved us from destruction. Orders came again to fall back into the road and march on Franklin, which place we reached about nine on the morning of November 30. We immediately commenced throwing up works, and about two o'clock the skirmishing commenced on our side. The Rebs did not throw out any skirmishers but came on in “line of battle” a mile and a half long and several lines deep. One of our brigades, thrown out in our immediate front was forced back in great disorder and came tumbling pell mell over our works, preventing us from firing until the rebels were right upon us. Our men fought hard but the rebels got close up to our works, and it was a hand-to-hand conflict. The regiment to our left flank gave way and left our left wing exposed; still the men fought on until many were killed, wounded or captured. We had been fighting a

*little time, when I suddenly fell forward on my face. I thought I had been knocked down by the force of a shell passing by, but feeling some blood trickling down my neck, I put my hand up and found that I had been hit by a side shot through the back of my head, making a painful but not dangerous wound. The wound was at the base of my skull, half an inch deep and clear across my head. I got up and walked a little distance, and kept growing weaker from loss of blood, when fortunately, I came across Dr. Bucher of our regiment who tied up the arteries and sent me to the rear. I found the field hospital of our division where I had my wound properly dressed and waited for further developments. I knew our men were holding their own from the fact that rebel prisoners were constantly passing me. About seven o'clock we were ordered to be put into ambulances and hurried to Nashville. The ride was a rough one, as there were some eighteen more wounded men with me, but I was only too glad to get safely inside our lines. The Christian Commission was on hand and did what they could for me, and wanted to write home for me, but I told them I thought I would be able to do so myself soon."*¹

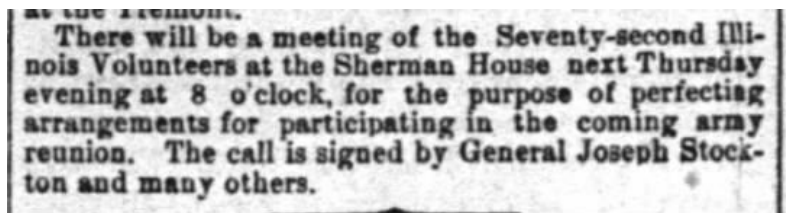
1865 February 8: Married Kate Ellen Denniston in Cook County, IL.

March 13: Promoted to Brevet Brigadier General.

August 7: Mustered out of the U.S. Army in Vicksburg, MS.

1870 July 8: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Lakeview, Cook County, IL showed a widowed Joseph, truck owner, living with his son and daughter: Jack, 4 yrs, and Josie 8 months.

1875 April 26:



1876 June 28: Married Annie Isabelle Brien in Cook County, IL.

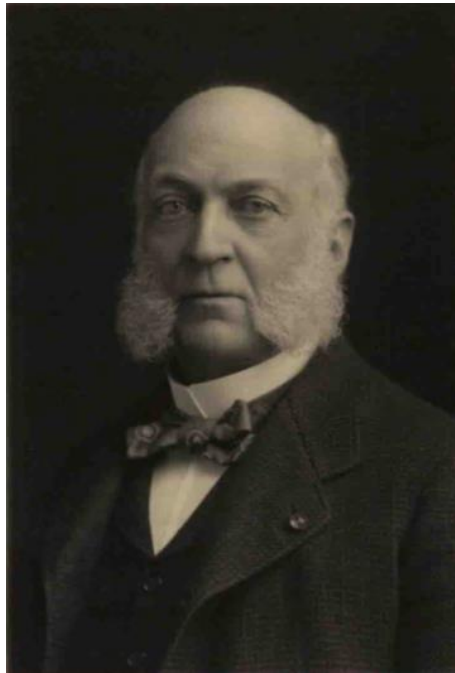
1880 June: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Cook County, IL showed Joseph, agent for the Empire Lines, and Annie living with his children John (Jack) and Josephine as well as their infant daughter, Annie. Multiple servants are living and working for the Stockton family.

¹ Stockton, Joseph. War Diary of Brevet Brigadier General Joseph Stockton, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel, 72d Regiment, Illinois Infantry Volunteers (First Board of Trade Regiment), Chicago, 1910, pg. 27-28

² The Inter Ocean, Chicago, IL, Monday 26 Apr 1875, pg. 3

1900 June 7: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Chicago, Cook County, IL showed a once again widowed Joseph living on his own with one servant.

1903 Image:



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1907 March 17: Stockton died in Chicago, IL. He was buried in Graceland Cemetery in Chicago, IL.

**MARSHAL OF EVERY
REPUBLICAN PARADE**

CHICAGO, March 18.—Gen. Joseph Stockton, one of this city's oldest settlers, died yesterday after an illness of several weeks. Gen. Stockton was born in Pittsburg, Pa., August 10, 1833, and came to Chicago in 1856.

In July, 1862, he enlisted in the Seventy-Second Illinois volunteers, known as the First Board of Trade regiment. After the fall of Vicksburg he assumed command of the regiment, and after the battle of Franklin, Tenn., in which he was wounded, he was breveted Colonel and Brigadier-General. Gen. Stockton had been chief marshal of every Republican procession in Chicago since the war.

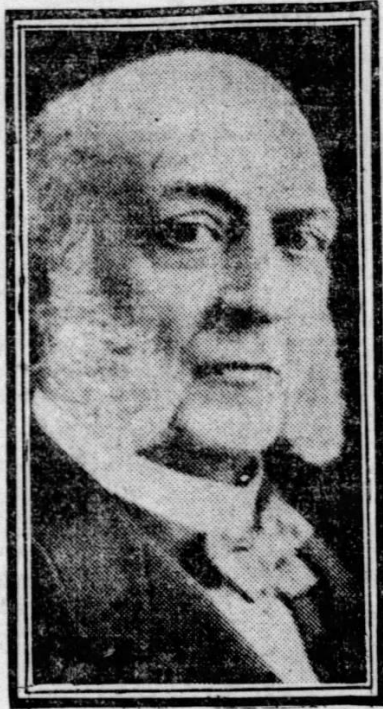


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³ Findagrave/user/MikeSerpa

⁴ Findagrave/user/ArtLoux

Death Ends Career of Chicago Veteran



GEN. JOS. STOCKTON

GEN. STOCKTON IS DEAD.

EXPIRES AT RESIDENCE AFTER ILLNESS OF SEVERAL WEEKS.

Military Title Gained in War of the Rebellion, Which He Entered as a Member of the First Board of Trade Regiment—Resident of Chicago for More than Half a Century—President of a Large Teaming Company.

Gen. Joseph Stockton, president of the Joseph Stockton company, and one of Chicago's old settlers, died early yesterday morning at his residence, 567 La Salle avenue, after an illness of several weeks.

He had been in failing health for some time and about three weeks ago he caught a severe cold, which with resulting complications was the cause of his death. He is survived by one son, John T. Stockton of Evanston, and two daughters, Miss Josephine Stockton of Evanston and Miss Annie Stockton of New York, who were with their father at the time of his death.

Gen. Stockton was born in Pittsburg, Pa., on Aug. 10, 1833, was educated in the public schools of that city, and came to Chicago in 1856. He was employed successively by the commission firm of George A. Gibbs & Co., the American Transportation company, and the Fort Wayne railroad company.

Title Gained in Civil War.

In July, 1862, he enlisted in the Seventy-second Illinois Volunteers, known as the First Board of Trade regiment, and became first lieutenant, captain, major, and lieutenant colonel. After the fall of Vicksburg he assumed command of the regiment and after the battle of Franklin, Tenn., in which he was wounded, he was breveted colonel and brigadier general.

In January, 1865, Gen. Stockton returned to Pittsburg, where he married Miss Kate E. Denniston on Feb. 5. He returned to Chicago and became agent of the Empire Transportation company in 1866. He was a member of the board of commissioners of Lincoln park from 1869 to 1893 and organized the efforts which culminated in the erection of the Grant monument. He was a member of the Loyal Legion, the G. A. R., and of the Union League club.

Active in Republican Politics.

Gen. Stockton was an active republican and had been chief marshal of every republican procession in Chicago since the war. He was chief marshal of the grand procession just preceding the election of McKinley, was chief of staff to Gen. Sheridan at the reception to Gen. Grant on his tour of the world, to Gen. Forsyth in the Garfield monument procession, to Gen. Miles at the unveiling of the Grant monument, and at the world's fair parade in October, 1892. He was chief marshal of the peace jubilee parade in 1898. He retired from active business several years ago.

The funeral services will be conducted under the direction of the Loyal Legion, G. A. R., at Graceland chapel at 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Bishop Samuel Fallows will deliver the address. Interment will be at Graceland cemetery.

⁵ Chicago Tribune, Chicago, IL, Monday 18 Mar 1907, pg. 4

