

Lynn Ware Spratling October 2, 2011

<http://www.warefamilies.org/2011/10/thomas-g-barnett-1838/>

The father of Grace Arrington Ware is Edward Rowell Ware. He is my 3rd great grandfather. During the Civil War Edward Rowell (due to his age) stayed home in Athens, GA. A group of men from Athens formed the Thunderbolts to guard the home front.

“They were not enlisted in the Confederate Service, were organized solely for home defense, refused to be sworn into service or be inspected by by staff officer sent for that purpose. As private Junius Hillyer fully explained in his protest to the oath, they were authorized by the laws of the the state. The Captain was Col. John Billups. Among the ranks and file were Col. W. L. Mitchell, Dr. E. R. Ware, Dr. Henry Hull, Judge Jenuis Hillyer, Col. Stevens Thomas, Judge Y. L. G. Harris.

The Thunderbolts were out in several occassions. Some six hundred Yankee prisoners were brought to Athens by Col. William Cabell, Preston Breckinridge, and corralled on the campus. The Thunderbolts were called out to guard the prisoners.” 1

History of Athens and Clarke County

” The prisoners were quartered for a time on the campus, under the guard by the Thunderbolts. When Dr. Edward R. Ware sat watch, the prisoners stretched out in the shade, silently for hours , forbidden to utter a sound.”2

These Men She Gave Civil War Diary of Athens Georgia John F Stegman.

Edward Rowell Ware had two sons that enlisted in the Troup Artillery in Athens: William J Ware (my 2nd great grandfather) and Edward Hull “Paddy” Ware. William J was injured and was discharged 1 Mar 1862 with his brother participating much longer.

Edward R. Ware’s Obit Atlanta Constitution

Athens, June 6, 1873

Edward R. Ware, one of our best and most worthy citizens, died this afternoon, after an illness of nine and a half weeks. He was one of the original stockholders and for many years the director of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company. He was 69 years of age.

Edward R. Ware was also the first mayor of Athens, serving at least two terms. He built the historic Ware-Lyndon House which is presently open for tours in Athens. He married Margaret Ann Elizaeth Bacon and they had five children:

Mary Elizabeth Ware

Grace Arrington Ware

William J “Bud” Ware

Lucy C. Ware

Edward Hull Ware.

He along with his wife are buried in Oconee Cemetery in Athens.

