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Name: Darius Nash Couch

Years: July 23, 1822 – February 12, 1897

Residence: Putnam County, NY; Norwalk, CT

Brief Biography:

Darius Nash Couch was born to Jonathan Couch, a farmer, and his wife whose name is unknown. He attended West Point from 1842 to 1846 when he graduated and served in the Mexican War. After that he served at several different posts and worked for the Smithsonian Institute collecting species in Northern Mexico, which he did from 1843-1854. At that time in 1854 he married Mary Caroline Crocker and left the Military in 1855 to work in her family's business. When the threat of war came he enlisted once again and was given the responsibility of leading several divisions some of which saw action, Couch also seeing action throughout the war. During the war Couch's rank and responsibilities rose, he was present for President Lincoln's Gettysburg address and was responsible for the ceremonies that took place. As the war ended, so did Couch's military service. After the war Couch tried a hand at politics but he ultimately failed and ended up in Norwalk as the adjutant general of the state, he died there in 1897.

Major Achievements:

Couch is well remembered for his skillful leadership of his divisions during the Civil War. He was a skillful, dependable, and liked leader which was reflected by his rank at the end of the war, but was never given the chance to take to the field where some thought he would be more skillful.

For More Information: *History of the Second Army Corps* by Francis A. Walker ; *Army of the Potomac: Mcllellan takes Command, September 1861- February 1862* by Russel Beatie

Resources: American National Biography Online