

Denver - State Capitol's Soldiers' Monument

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The statue in 2011

[Wikimedia](#) | © [OpenStreetMap](#)

Artist Jack Howland

Year Dedicated July 24, 1909

Medium

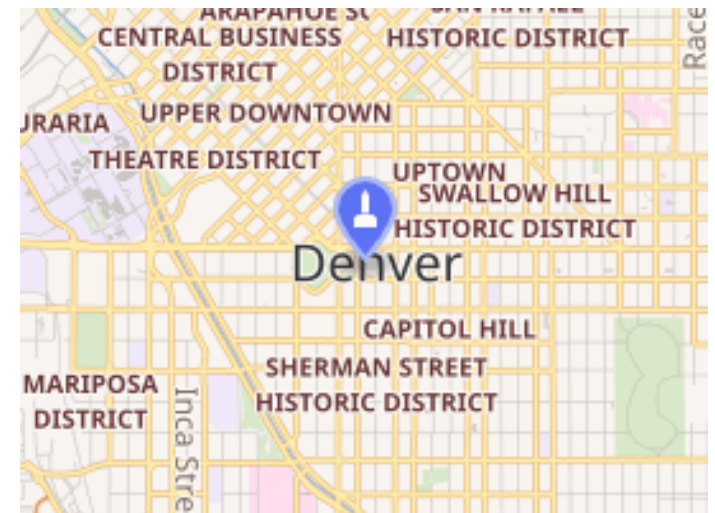
- [Bronze](#)
- granite

Location [Denver, Colorado, U.S.](#)

[39.739235°N 104.985642°W](#)**Coordinates:** [39.739235°N 104.985642°W](#)

The **Civil War Monument** was a statue of a Civil War cavalryman by Jack Howland, installed outside the [Colorado State Capitol](#) in [Denver](#). The memorial is also known as the **Civil War Memorial**, **Soldier's Monument**, and **Civil War Soldier**. The work was dedicated on July 24, 1909, after being cast by the [Bureau Brothers](#).

Description



The bronze sculpture depicts a Union Army soldier in raincoat, boots, spurs, and hat, holding a rifle and with a sheathed saber. It measures approximately 8 x 4 x 4 ft., and rests on a granite base measuring approximately 10 x 8 x 8 ft.

History

The statue atop the monument was toppled on June 25, 2020. The statue was quickly removed after vandalism and put into storage. The statue reappeared at the History Colorado Center on October 14, 2020. The display at the History Colorado Center is temporary and will only last until October 15, 2021. Its permanent fate is currently being debated with the statue possibly being redisplayed at nearby Lincoln Park which is already home to another war memorial

Description

Bronze figure of a Union Soldier facing west, on a stone base, with - on all four sides - on the top level the years 1861-1865 and below that:

ERECTED BY THE
STATE OF COLORADO

There are four tablets, each with the name COLORADO and the state seal. The one on the front has the text:

COLORADO TERRITORY ORGANIZED
february 28, 1861

COLORADO ADMITTED AS A STATE
august 1, 1876

CENSUS OF TERRITORY IN 1861 - 25,331

WAR GOVERNORS

WILLIAM GILPIN 1861 to 1862
richard ed. whitesitt, adjutant general

JOHN EVANS 1862 to 1865
david h. moffat jr. adjutant general

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CIVIL WAR
FIRST COLORADO INFANTRY
later first colorado cavalry

col. john p. slough col. john m. chivington
SECOND COLORADO INFANTRY
col. jesse h. leavenworth
THIRD COLORADO INFANTRY
later consolidated with second inf. to form second colo. cay.
col. james h. ford
THIRD COLORADO CAVALRY
col. geo. l. shoup
McLAIN'S INDEPENDENT BATTERY

VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS CREDITED to COLORADO – 4,903
highest average of any state or territory and with no draft or bounty

BATTLES AND ENGAGEMENTS

[list]

GOLD DISCOVERED
in western kansas territory, commonly called pike's peak, in 1858
by green russell, george a. jackson, j.h. gregory and others

The other three sides has the text:

to the memory of colorado soldiers
who died in the civil war, als follows:

Followed by lists of regiments and names. The one on the north side concludes with THE UNKNOWN DEAD in a laurel wreath.

There is a newer plaque on the stones surrounding the memorial that reads:

The controversy surrounding this Civil War Monument has become a symbol of Coloradans' struggle to understand and take responsibility for our past. On November 29, 1864. Colorado's First and Third Calvary, commanded by Colonel

John Chivington, attacked Chief Black Kettle's peaceful camp of Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians on the banks of Sand Creek, about 180 miles southeast of here. In the surprise attack, soldiers killed more than 150 of the villages 500 inhabitants. Most of the victims were elderly men, women and children.

Though some civilians and military personnel immediately denounced the attack as a massacre, others claimed the village was a legitimate target. This Civil War monument, paid for from funds by the Pioneers' Association and State, was erected on July 24, 1909, to honor all Colorado Soldiers who had fought in battles in the Civil War and elsewhere. By Designating Sand Creek a battle, the monument's designers mischaracterized the actual events. Protests led by some Sand Creek descendants and others throughout the twentieth century have led to the widespread recognition of the tragedy as the Sand Creek Massacre.

This plaque was authorized by Senate Joint Resolution 99-017.

Signature

J. Otto Schweizer / Philadelphia Pa
Bureau Bros / Philadelphia



Class E. 498

Book .4

.C6

Author _____

Title _____

Imprint _____

An Historical Narrative

Address of
MR. MILO H. SLATER
President of
The Colorado Veteran
Association

Delivered at the Institute of the Missouri
General by the State of Colorado
in the History of

Colorado Soldiers

Of the General Army Who (all)
Died in the War

October 9th, 1907

PUBLISHED BY
THE COLORADO VETERANS ASSOCIATION
PRICE 25 CENTS

22
3
6381

DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT
TO THE MEMORY
OF THE

COLORADO SOLDIERS

OF THE FEDERAL ARMY

WHO FELL
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

OCTOBER THE NINTH
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVEN

Address by
MR. MILO H. SLATER
President of the Colorado Veteran Association

Denver, Colorado
Wahlgreen Printing Company
1907

THE STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
Department of
Constitutional History
and
Irrigation Institutions

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Fort Collins, Colo., October 30, 1907.

To the Executive Committee of The Colorado Veteran Association:

Gentlemen—I have read with great interest and pleasure the address of Mr. Milo H. Slater, president of the Colorado Veterans' Association, at the recent dedication of the monument erected to the memory of the Colorado soldiers who fell during the war for the Union, and I wish cordially and heartily to endorse the suggestion that has been made that it be printed in pamphlet form and distributed among the libraries and the public schools of the state.

No more timely or valuable contribution has ever been made to the history of the commonwealth. It is a clear, concise, truthful presentation of the services of our pioneer soldiers to the republic and the nation, concerning which too little is known by the men and women of the Colorado of today. It illustrates and impresses, as no other recent document has done, the signal heroism and patriotism of the men who laid the foundations of Colorado upon the broad basis of devotion to the national Union.

The value of these services to the national cause is yet to be recognized and appreciated by the people of Colorado, as well as by the people of the whole country. To this end President Slater's address will contribute in no small degree. By all means give it a permanent form, and as wide a circulation as possible. I remain,

Very respectfully,

W. R. THOMAS,

Professor of Constitutional History.

I heartily approve the suggestion of Professor Thomas.

HENRY A. BUCHTEL,

Governor of Colorado.

1253 B7

12. 11/11/45



We, the undersigned, take great pleasure in giving emphatic endorsement to the sentiments so clearly set forth by Professor Thomas.

BARTON O. AYLESWORTH,
President Colorado Agricultural College.

KATHERINE L. CRAIG,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

WILLIAM H. GABBERT,
Justice Supreme Court.

LUTHER M. GODDARD,
Justice Supreme Court.

ROBERT W. STEELE,
Chief Justice Supreme Court.

MARGARET T. TRUE,
President Board of Education, City of Denver.

E. B. MORGAN,
President State Historical Society.

JAMES B. BELFORD,
Former Member of Congress from Colorado.

THOMAS TONGE,
HELEN L. GRENFELL,
Former State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

JOSEPH F. TUTTLE, JR.,

JOHN F. SHAFROTH,
Former Member of Congress from Colorado.

JESSE F. McDONALD,
Former Governor of Colorado.

T. M. PATTERSON,
Former United States Senator from Colorado.

CHARLES R. DUDLEY,
Librarian, Denver Public Library.

JAMES H. BAKER,
President University of Colorado.

JOHN D. FLEMING,
Secretary and Acting Dean of the University of
Colorado Law School.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
Boulder, Colorado

James H. Baker, A. M., LL. D.,
President

November 4, 1907.

Mr. Milo H. Slater, Denver, Colo.:

Dear Sir—I read your address at the dedication of the monument erected to the memory of Colorado Federal soldiers when it was first printed in the state press, and was much impressed with its aptness for the occasion and its value to the history of Colorado. I am glad indeed to learn that it is to be published in permanent form and distributed to educational institutions, libraries, and to citizens. I heartily endorse the action of those who have urged its publication. Very truly yours,

JAMES H. BAKER.

Denver, Colo., November 14, 1907.

Mr. Milo H. Slater,
City.

My Dear Sir—I thank you for sending me a copy of your exceedingly interesting address. I congratulate you upon having sketched a story of unsurpassed courage and patriotism which will last as long as Colorado has a name.

That address should be read to every graduating class in the schools of our state, with the hope that the heroism you have so vividly chronicled may inspire like sentiments of loyalty and devotion to their country.

Colorado should be as proud of the name of **GLORIETA** as Massachusetts is of the glory of **Bunker Hill**.

Again congratulating you and thanking you in behalf of the best citizenship of our grand state, I am,

Very truly, etc.,

THEO. C. HENRY.

Mr. Thomas Tonge is responsible for the following statement:

"For the information of the younger generation, Mr. T. C. Henry came to Colorado from Kansas in 1883, bringing with him a private fortune of \$500,000. Besides investing his own fortune in Colorado, he has interested eastern capital to the aggregate amount of \$10,000,000 in Colorado investments, more particularly in the building of irrigation enterprises, the effect of which has been incalculable in the development of the agricultural resources of the state. In the aggregate, at least 7,500 miles of the main irrigating canals and laterals of Colorado, representing a gross area of 600,000 acres thereby made highly productive, owe their existence to Mr. Henry's enterprise and loyalty to Colorado."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COLORADO VETERAN ASSOCIATION.



MILO H. SLATER,
President Colorado Veteran Association.

ADDRESS

In order to correct a misapprehension of the truth that has grown up in the community, it is proper that my remarks begin with a few words of explanation. It is proper for the reason that this misapprehension does a grave injustice to brave men—both living and dead.

A MATTER OF SLIGHT CONSEQUENCE.

In all of the printed notices that I have seen regarding this monument that we are assembled to dedicate, **just once** was it stated that it was to be a monument to the memory of "Colorado" soldiers—just once. (In that one notice, Colorado "sailors" and the "Grand Army" were included, thus betraying the feeble ignorance of the writer.) Uniformly, it has been referred to as "a soldier's monument"—that's all. Is that all that the inscription signifies to **you**?* In all of the printed notices that I have seen relating to this ceremony of dedication, **only a single one** referred to the fallen veterans, whose deeds it is designed to commemorate, as "Colorado" veterans. Is that all that it signifies to the Sons of Colorado? If so, the money is wasted. It has been announced, also, that some one would speak for "The Veteran Association." It was not intimated that there is such an organization in existence as "**The Colorado Veteran Association.**"

And herein lies the rank injustice, to which we object. To be more explicit, let me explain that there are scores of monuments erected to the memory of veterans of the Civil War, scattered all over the land, but each one is dedicated to the memory of a certain, specific, military organization; there are scores of "Veteran Associations" located in the various states; there is, however, only one "**Colorado Veteran Association.**" It was organized in the city of Pueblo twenty-four years ago yesterday; it is duly incorporated under the laws of the state, and its membership is composed only of the surviving Colorado soldiers who were mustered into the Federal army during the

*Mr. Slater subsequently made acknowledgments to the Denver Republican of an editorial that had escaped his attention.

Civil War. It is as the chief officer of that organization that I am here today; here as a matter of duty; here in the discharge of an obligation which I owe to my comrades—both living and dead—in token of the confidence which they have reposed in me. I am proud of that confidence, because it was heartily bestowed; that confidence was the cordial gift of men with whom I had associated, in the ranks, for four of the best years of my life, and if I am competent to discharge my duty to them now, I am going to do it.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE IT?

In order that my meaning may be better understood, let me for one minute address myself to the members of that splendid organization, the Sons of Colorado. Let us suppose that at your country's call you should turn out *en masse*, and freely give four years out of your young lives, in defense of the flag which you profess to honor, and then let us suppose that some scores or hundreds of your comrades—your own personal friends, by whose sides you had marched; men whose blankets and canteens, and hardtack and privations, whose jokes and good cheer you had shared; let us suppose that while fighting in fierce battle, shoulder to shoulder with you, these men had made their last sacrifice! And then suppose that you should gather their poor mangled bodies together, wrap their blankets around them and lay them in the trench; the war ended, you return to your homes in the state you love; for an entire generation you work and strive to secure the erection of a simple stone, in recognition of their services and in memory of their glorious heroism. How would you feel to see it regarded as of such trifling moment? "A soldier's monument"—that's all. And is this the way in which the American people inculcate patriotism in the breasts of their young men?

GENERAL IGNORANCE OF COLORADO'S PART IN THE CIVIL WAR.

In the present generation, living in these piping times of peace and prosperity, there are few people who seem to know that Colorado furnished any troops for the Federal army, or any other army, during the Civil War. At the same time, many of them would feel offended if told that they know little or nothing of the early history of the young commonwealth of which they are so proud. They say: "Oh, yes, we know that

you people raised nearly a whole regiment and went out here a few miles onto Sand creek and killed a lot of peaceable Indians; certainly, we know all about that." And, apparently, that is all they do know—and that is false. And it is this utter ignorance that begets the palpable indifference—which we are inclined to resent—regarding the purpose of this monument. Just "a soldier's monument"—that's all. Now, in the discharge of that duty of which I spoke, I am going to impart some information which may be of interest to those who stand in need of it:

A PIONEER MONUMENT.

This is not only a monument to "Colorado soldiers" belonging to the Federal army, who fell during the Civil War, but it is, also, a monument to "Colorado Pioneers." Every one of these Colorado soldiers, serving during the Civil War, was a Pioneer before he was a soldier. Nearly every one of them walked from the Missouri river to the Rocky mountains long years before so much as a rail was laid across the (then called) "Great American Desert." As the years pass, it becomes more and more the correct thing to speak in terms of commendation of "The Pioneers;" they are frequently credited with being possessed of quite a variety of good qualities; they are said to have been "hardy," "energetic," "enterprising" and "courageous," but who has ever accused them of being "patriotic?"

COLORADO'S QUOTA OF FEDERAL TROOPS.

Listen: During the Civil War no other state or territory in the American Union supplied to the Federal army so many soldiers, in proportion to its population, as did the territory of Colorado. In making this statement, I am uttering no idle boast, but merely speaking a significant truth, a truth which is of historical value. It is a truth which reveals another distinct feature in the composite character of Colorado pioneers.

HISTORICAL FACTS.

The bare historical facts upon which this statement is based are these: The Federal Congress passed an act creating the territory of Colorado, which act became a law on the 28th day of February, 1861—four days previous to Mr. Lincoln's inauguration. That act required that the United States marshal, who should be appointed for the territory, should proceed at once to take a census of its population. In the discharge

of that duty, Hon. Copeland Townsend, who had received that appointment, made, in the summer of 1861, a complete census of the territory, as required. It showed a total population, male and female, white and black, of all ages, of 25,331. The archives of the War Department show that out of this population **4,996** men were mustered into the United States service during the Civil War. **Twenty per cent.** of the entire population. To get a better idea of what this means, let us imagine the city of Denver, with its population of 200,000 souls, sending out an army of **40,000** men, to meet the requirements of any patriotic emergency; that is what it means. Is there, today, in the state of Colorado, or any other state, a village of 1,000 inhabitants, which, at the call of its country, would furnish a battalion of 200 volunteers, ready to give their services, or their lives, for the cause? Bear in mind, every one of these men was a volunteer; no "draft" was ever known in Colorado.

ONE-THIRD THE POPULATION SOUTHERNERS.

Still another significant fact should be kept in mind in this connection: Of that 25,000 population, fully **one-third** had but recently left their homes in the southern states. The principal gold discoveries in this "Pike's Peak country" had been made by those famous Georgians, the Russell boys, and John H. Gregory. As a matter of fact, too, from their point of view, these southerners were **just as patriotic as anybody**; our territory had no more highly respected citizens than they; naturally, their whole sympathies were with the Confederacy; and, as a further matter of course, **that** one-third of the population did not furnish any volunteers for the Federal army. How many they sent to their own army, so far as I know, there is no data to show. These are **some** of the reasons why justice demands that it be **known** that this stone is erected as a monument to Colorado soldiers who fell in the service of their common country during the Civil War. It points to the public view another phase in the pioneer character, hitherto overlooked, which is worthy of consideration. The modesty, which has so long submitted to this treatment, is badly overworked.

EASTERN IGNORANCE OF COLORADO'S ACHIEVEMENT.

Then, in the light of the facts just stated, listen to this conversation, occurring in a hotel drawing room, in an eastern city, between an intelligent and attractive lady and a Colorado pioneer:

“So you must have gone out into that country before the war. Of course, why certainly, you—you **must** have known that there was a war going on, didn’t you?”

The man said:

“Oh, yes, we—we heard something of it.”

And that sweet woman’s husband was a member of Congress from New Jersey. Her ideas on the subject were about as clear and intelligent as those of a large majority of the citizens of Colorado are today. Hence, the injustice to the pioneer soldiers of our state. The people should be informed.

THE THIRD COLORADO CAVALRY.

It is true that one regiment of those troops was enlisted for the sole purpose of fighting Indians—but they were far from being “peaceable” Indians. This regiment did fight them—and when they had finished the Indians realized that there had been a fight. In the camp at Sand creek at least one man was found who boasted of having served in the Confederate army; boasted that he had there learned to dig rifle pits around the camp—as had been done. I will not say that this band of Indians were exactly allies of the Confederates, but—well, draw your own inferences.

THE SECOND COLORADO CAVALRY.

The services of the Second Colorado Cavalry were famed throughout the whole country, west of the Mississippi, for its gallantry and its rare success, but as yet, so far as I know, no complete record of its campaigns has been compiled—except as found in the published records of the Rebellion. However, it is a well-known fact that the first engagement of the war, in which any Colorado troops were interested, was at Vlaverde. In that famous little fight, Captain Dodd’s company—subsequently Company A of the Second—did beautiful work. As a matter of fact, the record shows that splendid company as having lost more men, killed and wounded, than any other company—regular or volunteer—in that engagement.

OUTLINE OF CONDITIONS.

Now, if I can have your attention for a few minutes, I will undertake to give a skeleton outline of the conditions which obtained at that period of our history, and which operated to establish a direct connection between the pioneers of Colorado

and the great conflict then in progress between the North and the South:

The idea of the war between the states was not born in a day; the animosities out of which it grew had been smoldering for years and carefully laid plans were devised and matured months before the first gun was fired upon Sumter. It will be readily remembered that at the close of the Mexican War, in 1847, our government had acquired a vast strip of country, located on our Pacific coast; its coast line extended from the Mexican frontier to the British possessions, while inland it reached in an irregular line back in a southeasterly course to the state of Texas. Out of this new acquisition, and previous to the outbreak of the Civil War, were carved the states of California and Oregon, together with the territories of New Mexico, Utah, Washington and Colorado. What now constitutes the territory of Arizona was then a part of New Mexico, and the state of Nevada was a part of the territory of Utah.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN CALIFORNIA.

Gold had been discovered in California in the late '40s, to be immediately followed by the rush of emigration in '49. In the presidential campaign of 1856, when Gen. John C. Fremont, the first Republican candidate for the presidency, published the story of his explorations in the western part of the American continent, in 1843, he was called "The Pathfinder," and by reason of his prominence before the people, the book was widely read and made a valuable addition to the information found in the narratives written East by gold seekers and press correspondents.

The people of the East—meaning that section of country lying between the Missouri river and the Atlantic—began to get new ideas regarding the "Far West." To southern statesmen it seemed as though that strange land might be made an exceedingly valuable adjunct to the new republic they were designing to form, in the event of certain contingencies which, to them, seemed quite possible in the then near future.

In the campaign referred to Mr. Buchanan was elected to the presidency, and in his cabinet southern sentiment was well represented.

THE UTAH COLUMN.

On account of the Mormon disturbances in Utah, an army of some 3,000 men (called the "Utah Column") was sent to

Salt Lake City in 1857, under command of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston. This gentleman was a native of the state of Kentucky; he was possessed of a high order of intellect and a keen observation; another able officer attached to his command was Capt. (subsequently Major) Henry H. Sibley, a West Point graduate and a native of Louisiana. There was a method in the selection of these two men which, perhaps, did not appear on the surface. Do not think for a moment that these trusted officers failed to improve, to the utmost, every opportunity afforded them during those four years—immediately preceding the war—to collect a valuable fund of information relating to this marvellous empire of the Great Northwest. They studied the country and its resources from Portland to El Paso; they realized that the vast possibilities hidden in its future were beyond their comprehension.

THE CONFEDERACY'S OPPORTUNITY.

Of the results of these observations, southern leaders were fully advised. They attempted to realize, mentally, the vast importance of acquiring possession of this wonderful territory for the Confederacy. They dreamed of the marine advantages offered by that magnificent stretch of Pacific seaboard, with its rivers and harbors, backed by the untold wealth of the interior country; this once secured, and how long would they be in gaining the much-coveted recognition of European governments? And with such information as they were able to secure, it seemed quite within the range of reasonable probability that all this might be accomplished. Certainly it was worth the trial.

With this momentous object in view, plans were at once devised. From the information they had at hand, they knew that the population of the territory of Utah stood, practically, as a unit for revolt against the government; they knew that the southern states were, at least, well represented in the rush to the gold fields of California, and that a very large percentage of southerners had joined the more recent emigration to the "Pike's Peak Country," besides there being, at least, a very strong secession element in both Oregon and New Mexico.

PREPARATIONS IN ADVANCE.

Advance preparations were at once begun. Mr. John B. Floyd of Virginia, who was Mr. Buchanan's secretary of war,

had, early in 1860, found it expedient to remove a large number of army muskets (as I remember, considerably over 100,000), together with a large amount of artillery, from northern military posts to southern arsenals. With the development of the plans referred to, he discovered the necessity of sending an enormous quantity of provisions and army supplies into the Southwest, where the bulk of them were stored at Fort Union, New Mexico. These, understand, were very largely in excess of the requirements of the service then existing in that section. These were incidents preparatory to the formal declaration of secession. The anticipated contingency came with the election and inauguration of Mr. Lincoln.

ACTION OF ARMY OFFICERS IN THE WEST.

Almost immediately after the firing of the first gun, at Sumter, General Johnston resigned command of the Department of the Pacific, and with it his commission, going directly South to accept a command in the Confederate army; almost simultaneously, to-wit, on May 13, 1861, Major Sibley (who had but just received notice of his promotion), resigned his command in New Mexico, and went South. Early in June he wrote Col. W. W. Loring—then commanding the United States troops in New Mexico, with headquarters at Santa Fe—suggesting that his (Loring's) departure for the South be delayed for a short time in order to enable him to protect "the full supplies of subsistence and ammunition then stored at El Paso for the use of Texas cavalry," on their way north. Accordingly Colonel Loring postponed his own departure south until the last of that month. And still another: Maj. Isaac Lynde, in command at Fort Fillmore, made haste to expose his person to the ravages of the epidemic then prevailing among army officers in the Southwest; he cheerfully improved an opportunity, on July 27, to surrender his entire garrison of 500 men to Confederate Colonel Baylor—and that without firing a gun. Colonel Baylor felt encouraged; you couldn't blame him. Four days later he addressed himself, in writing, to the people of the "lower half" (note the gentleman's modesty) of the territory of New Mexico. In that historical state paper he, rather diffidently, "took possession" of that entire region "in the name and on behalf of the Confederate States of America." Upon reflection, however, he thought better of it, and extended his jurisdiction to include the remainder of the territory—with apologies for the apparent slight in the original document.

PROMPT ACTION.

Plans were rapidly giving place to action. Major Sibley hurried to Richmond, where a commission awaited him as brigadier general in the Confederate army. On the 8th of July he received his orders from the Confederate War Department; those orders charged him with "the duty of driving the Federal troops from New Mexico, and of securing therefrom all the arms, supplies and materials of war." In order to accomplish this task, he was instructed to proceed at once to the state of Texas, where all expedient haste should be used in raising and organizing a brigade of mounted troops.

So faithfully did he execute his commission that only five months later, to-wit, on December 14, 1861, he personally assumed command at Fort Bliss, adjacent to the city of El Paso. His available field force included three magnificent regiments of mounted infantry (the renowned "Texas Rangers"), five additional companies under Lieutenant Colonel Baylor, two batteries and three independent companies—a total of some 3,500 men. The historian says: "No volunteers more hardy, courageous and efficient ever entered the service of the Confederacy." One week later, on the 20th of the same month, this active officer, gracefully assuming the role of the conquering hero, addressed to the people of New Mexico a proclamation. In it he briefly stated that "by geographical position, by similarity of institutions, by commercial interests, and by future destinies," that territory "pertained" to the South. He declared that, by virtue of the power vested in him, he "abrogated the laws of the United States levying taxes upon the people," and under these alleged conditions he earnestly solicited their loyal co-operation. The paper closed with a touching appeal to his former comrades in arms; in the name of former deep friendships, he called to them to renounce allegiance to "the usurpers of their government and liberties," asserting: "I am empowered to receive you into the service of the Confederate States—the officers upon their commissions, and the men upon their enlistments."

THE OUTLOOK FROM A SOUTHERN POINT OF VIEW.

From a southern viewpoint, matters in "The Far West" were progressing beautifully. So inspiring was the outlook that on the 21st of January, 1862, the Confederate Congress passed

an act establishing the "Territory of Arizona" and naming its boundaries, at the same time authorizing President Davis to issue a proclamation to that effect, and to appoint the proper officers. The proclamation named was duly issued on the 14th of the following month, and that judicious officer, Lieut. Col. John R. Baylor of the Confederate army, was made its governor. The new governor was thus authorized to issue still another proclamation, in which, however, he was obliged to designate the thirty-fourth parallel of north latitude as the northern boundary of his territory; thus unfortunately restricting his "jurisdiction" (again) to an imaginary line extending east and west just below the present town of Socorro. (Subsequent incidents, however, indicated that even that line was too far north.)

That our general government at Washington had not the faintest conception of the scope of this daring enterprise and the grave menace to the Federal cause which it involved, will be seen presently. But the utter defeat of this magnificent program was effected by Colorado troops; of course, it is not claimed that they accomplished it unaided and alone, but, without them, it could not have been done.

THE OTHER SIDE.

The narrative thus far has consisted of a series of snap shots taken from a southerly point of view; let us now pull a few negatives from the other kodak: General Johnston and Major Sibley were not the only men who had seriously investigated the characteristic features of the Northwest country; there were three others—not more than that number—who were equally well informed, and whose investigations were equally intelligent. One of these was Alexander von Humboldt—but he was in Europe; another was Gen. John C. Fremont—as before intimated—and the third—and to us the most important—was William Gilpin.

Now, with these points in mind, please observe the significance of some that follow, in their regular sequence. Mr. Gilpin was appointed governor of Colorado on March 22, 1861. He was in Washington at the time, having been invited to be a member of that bodyguard of 100 men who accompanied Mr. Lincoln from his home in Springfield to the national capitol. He started West at once, but did not reach Denver until nearly five weeks later.

THE CONFLICT BEGINS.

On April 12, 1861, the first gun of the war was fired upon Fort Sumter.

On May 20 a young lawyer in Central City wrote Mr. Cameron, secretary of war, asking authority to raise, in Colorado, a regiment of troops for the Federal army. He was aware that the request was unusual, but relied upon the intimate personal relations which were enjoyed by members of his family with the secretary to secure for him fair consideration. The request was courteously declined, for the reason stated, that Colorado was too far from the scene of action. That letter is on file in the archives of the department now; the name signed is Henry M. Teller.

On May 29, 1861, Governor Gilpin reached Denver. His appointment to the position of governor of the territory was by no means his first experience in a position of trust, but certain features of that trust possessed a new flavor; he was in a position where he might render material service, not only to his country, but as well to his favorite people, the pioneers of the far frontier.

THE EMERGENCY AND THE MAN.

For more than twenty years this vast domain of the Great Northwest, spreading from the Missouri to the Pacific, and from Puget Sound to the Gulf, had been his especial study; he was the eager and appreciative student of Humboldt and the intelligent, tireless companion of Fremont, in his explorations—but when Fremont had finished, Gilpin had just begun. He was possessed of a rare and a peculiar intellect, carrying with it a breadth of vision and a keenness of penetration which enabled him to thoroughly grasp certain truths which few other men would perceive at all. It is true that at that time he knew very little of the details of those plans which, as we have seen, the officers of the Confederacy were already working out.

In the six long days of the coach ride from the Missouri river he had ample opportunity to go over the whole matter many times. More nearly than any other living man did he realize the incomputable value of the jewel that the American people possessed in this western empire; he felt that Mr. Lincoln had placed it in his charge—and he determined to be faithful to the trust.

There was no telegraph, but twice a day the coach would meet the pony express going East, and as often it passed them going West; fragments of news were gathered from this source. He learned that General Sumner had superseded Albert Sidney Johnston in command of the Department of the Pacific; he did not need to be told of Johnston's next move; he was listening to hear of Sibley's action—and learned of it after reaching Denver. He felt sure that if the Confederacy did not make an energetic effort to secure this treasure, it would be exceedingly strange. He was anxious to reach his post and look over the ground.

GOVERNOR GILPIN ARRIVES IN DENVER.

That he proceeded to do immediately upon his arrival; one of the first items of intelligence that greeted him was an account of the raising of a Confederate flag in Denver; he also learned that it was not exposed to the action of the atmosphere but a very few minutes. The incident reassured him; he had not been mistaken in his estimate of the pioneers. It was in them that he placed his reliance; he was anxious to see a lot of them in ranks and armed.

Immediately he sent in an application for authority to raise at least one regiment. How he longed for a telegraph; fully a month was required to receive an answer from the department; when it came, it was the courteous refusal again, similar to that received by Mr. Teller. How earnestly he longed to be able to make them understand the magnitude of the risk—but under the circumstances it was a hopeless prospect. Daily he saw scores of pioneers going East to enter the army. He said: "I have a duty to perform here; **some day** the people, and the government, will appreciate my position as I do now." What he lacked in authority he made up in nerve and assurance. "I will assume the responsibility," he said.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.

He issued a call, first, for two companies; it was answered so promptly that he issued another call for a regiment. **Fourteen hundred men** responded. Singly, and in twos and threes they came; from every mining camp and prospector's cabin, and over every mountain trail they came. They were a hardy lot; men inured to hardship, accustomed to privation and familiar with danger. Each man acted upon his own motion.

The environment was altogether different from that surrounding the young patriots residing in the middle and eastern states; there a company might be raised in a single town, and every man in the company had, perhaps, known every other man in the company from childhood; where the enthusiasm of a few would carry the many; where each mother or sister or sweetheart realized that her own especial dear one was going along with the friends and associates of a lifetime, and thus was sure of the best possible care. There was none of that; each man knew that his mother, his sister and his sweetheart was hundreds of miles distant; this matter was one that he must decide for himself. We know the result.

"GILPIN DRAFTS."

The regiment was raised early in the autumn—and two or three companies extra. Barracks were built near the present location of Lake Archer, and called Camp Weld, in honor of the territorial secretary. The troops were partially armed with remnants, found at neighboring military posts, clothed from the stocks of various merchants in the city, and provisioned from the establishments of sundry dealers—all of whom were obliged to be content with Governor Gilpin's drafts on the United States treasury—but that is another story; suffice it to remark that the drafts were finally paid. (To clear the record, let it be said in this connection: Governor Gilpin's integrity was never questioned, but his business methods were severely criticized—by men of a much smaller caliber.) Two of the extra companies were sent direct to New Mexico; one to Fort Union, and the other, via Santa Fe, to Fort Craig, to report to General Canby.

A CALL FOR HELP.

About the middle of February came a special messenger from Fort Union, in the person of Colonel Watts, a paymaster of the regular army, pleading for assistance. "Sibley's Brigade" was coming and "sweeping the country as it came." (Sibley had, himself, superintended the building of Fort Union and was considered thoroughly competent to wipe it off the map, if it should be deemed expedient.) Almost simultaneously came the following from Maj. Gen. David Hunter, commanding the Department of Kansas:

“Fort Leavenworth, Kansas,

“February 10, 1862.

“To His Excellency, Acting Governor of Colorado,

“Denver City, Colo.:

“Send all available forces you can possibly spare to reinforce Colonel Canby, commanding Department of New Mexico, and to keep open his communication through Fort Wise. Act promptly and with all the discretion of your latest information as to what may be necessary and where the troops of Colorado can do most service.”

THE TROOPS MARCH.

On Washington's birthday the First Regiment of Colorado Volunteer Infantry moved. The story of that march would be out of place here, no matter how interesting it might be to “the boys.” Hardship and privation didn't count; they were in the contract. A few days later—when going into camp, just over the summit of the Raton Pass, below the present site of the city of Trinidad—another courier from Fort Union was announced

“Come faster if possible; Canby has been licked, Albuquerque and Santa Fe are both in possession of the Texans, and they are headed for Fort Union.”

It was at the close of a hard day's march; it was thirty-six miles further to Maxwell's ranch, on the Cimarron. “Let's go there for camp”—and they did, leaving everything but arms and blankets behind—but it took all night.

THE MEETING.

A day and a half later Fort Union was reached; the troops got three or four days' rest; each man got a new suit of blue raiment and a Springfield musket. They were then appointed to act as a reception committee to go and greet General Sibley and his friends. They were accompanied by the company of Colorado troops which had preceded them to the fort, as before related (subsequently Company B of the Second Regiment) and three or four companies of regular troops; all told, 1,342 men.

On the 26th day of March the advance guard—consisting of parts of four companies (260 men) of the First, and something over 100 regulars—met the Texan advance in Apache canon. The engagement was brief, but satisfactory—to our men; they brought in about eighty prisoners. The Federal

loss was only five killed and seven wounded—but, singularly, all of these men belonged to the Colorado troops. The Texan loss was enough greater that they found it expedient to send in a flag of truce, asking twenty-four hours in which to bury their dead and care for their wounded.

“GLORIETA.”

On the morning of the 28th the exercises were resumed—but on a somewhat larger scale. It was a hard fight, from 9 a. m. until dark, and neither side found anything funny in the whole transaction. The loss of this Colorado regiment was forty-eight killed and sixty-five disabled by wounds, besides many more slightly wounded. We always believed the Texan loss to be considerably more than our own, but it is not probable that we will ever know its details—beyond the material fact that we destroyed their entire supply train, and put the Texan army onto a parched corn diet for a long time. The train consisted of some ninety wagons, each drawn by six mules, and all were heavily loaded.

THE RESULT.

General Sibley's army was utterly discouraged and fully realized that the entire expedition was a dreary failure. Their dream of empire “by the sundown sea” faded swiftly from their view. They started on their return to Texas, down-hearted and dejected, and at Peralta, on April 15, the Colorado troops—with regular reinforcements—overtook and bade them a civil farewell—and lost four or five men in the transaction. They escaped across the river, and, during the night following, quit us entirely. One result was the freely-spoken mutual respect that existed between the Texan Rangers and the Colorado troops. “Baylor's Babes” often referred to Gilpin's “Pet Lambs” as “**Them demons from Pike's Peak.**” It requires only a glance of the eye and a grip of the right hand to transform the epithet into a term of endearment, and the war was scarcely ended until the “Babes” and the “Lambs” would—and will yet—fight for each other as eagerly as they once took each other's blood. The Colorado men always remembered that if they had not nipped that supply train at “Glorieta,” their task might not have been so easily finished.

A RUINED PICTURE.

Men prominent in Sibley's command (and prominent since, in civil life) have, since then, freely discussed the purpose of

their expedition and frankly stated what their intentions were "had it not been for the impertinent interference of the Pike's Peakers." They intended only to make Fort Union a temporary base of supplies; they were sure of at least doubling their numbers by recruits from Utah, Colorado, Arizona, California and Oregon, besides the reinforcements which would have followed from the South; the fortification of all the principal passes across the mountains would have been an easy matter; all the Indians on the plains were their allies; an army of 50,000 to 100,000 men would have been required to dislodge them, and that army would have been compelled to cross the plains on foot; concerted action by the Indians would have speedily dismounted any cavalry that might have been sent, for what they could not accomplish by fighting, they could by stampeding horses. **What would it have cost the Federal government?** In the meantime, foreign recognition of the Confederacy would have been assured.

RECOGNITION AND PROMOTION.

When our troops returned to Fort Union the government decided that they were worthy of recognition as real soldiers, and consequently they were then—and not till then—mustered into the Federal service. Subsequently it dawned upon the War Department what that service in New Mexico really amounted to, and in further recognition of what was denominated "gallant services," the First Regiment of Colorado Infantry was ordered promoted to the cavalry service; the quartermaster general was instructed to furnish arms and equipments and to order the purchase of 1,200 of the best cavalry horses that could be procured in the state of Missouri, and that troops should be supplied to safely escort those arms, equipments and horses across the plains. It was done, and the horses and outfit met the regiment on the Fountain, between Pueblo and Colorado City, when on the return from New Mexico.

A TARDY RECOGNITION AT HOME.

And now comes the unpleasant reflection that although the general government saw fit to make this public and substantial recognition of these services, and quite promptly, too; while forty years have elapsed since the territory of New Mexico erected a beautiful monument, in the plaza at Santa Fe,

to the memory of these men (to the dedication of which Colorado sent a commission, the chairman of which was Hon. John Evans, the second governor of our territory), yet it has required our constant effort, during those forty years, to secure this simple token from our own people, here at home. And in this connection, it is right for me to add that had it not been for the very efficient and altogether untiring work of one of our own number—Hon. William A. Smith—whom we succeeded in electing to the Legislature, there is not the slightest probability that it would have been accomplished even now. It is, therefore, with a sense of grateful appreciation that our organization today tenders its hearty acknowledgments to Mr. Smith. A combination of a patriot and a politician can sometimes do strange things.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

It also affords us a real pleasure to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge our obligations to the State Historical Society, through its honorable board of directors and its efficient curator, Hon. William C. Ferril, for the publication of that very creditable volume, "The New Mexican Campaign in 1862." It was written by the late Rev. William Clarke Whitford, D. D., president of Milton College, Wisconsin. It is with deep regret that we reflect that we were unable to make a proper acknowledgment of his able and altogether disinterested work during his lifetime. We desire to cordially commend to the public the splendid work in which the State Historical Society is engaged and to bespeak for that excellent organization that cordial encouragement to which it is so richly entitled.

SONS OF COLORADO AND SONS OF VETERANS.

And now I have another word to say to the Sons of Colorado: At the meeting of our own organization, which will be held immediately after the close of these exercises, I purpose making a suggestion: That is, that hereafter we shall hold an annual meeting, here in the capitol building, on the 30th day of May, on which occasion we may celebrate the annual memorial by decorating this monument with flowers. I shall suggest, too, that a cordial invitation be extended to the Sons of Colorado to unite with the Sons of Veterans and assist us in that beautiful ceremony. My design will be readily apparent:

One by one the Colorado Veterans are dropping out of the ranks. These two young organizations will live to see the time when it will be their privilege to meet here for that annual ceremony, without a single one of us being present. In that case, it is upon you—representing the state, as we do, while the Sons of Veterans represent the nation, as does the Grand Army—that would devolve the sacred duty of keeping alive the memories of our comrades, those magnificent specimens of American manhood, who gave up their noble lives in order that your organization might be enabled to exist here at the foot of the Rocky mountains and under the folds of the American flag. Will you accept the trust?

Finally, to the disembodied spirits of those brave men whom we are met to honor—wherever they may be, and whatever may be their environment—we salute them with our tears.



The Colorado Veteran Association

Minutes of the called meeting, held in the Appellate Court room, in the State Capitol building, October 9, 1907, immediately after the close of the dedication ceremonies of the monument to the memory of Colorado soldiers who fell in the Civil War.

The session was called to order, President Milo H. Slater presiding; Secretary William R. Beatty at the desk. In opening, the president said:

My comrades, unfortunately for us, the hour selected for the beginning of the dedication ceremonies was so late that the remaining time required for our exercises here is necessarily short; for that reason such business as we may transact must be done promptly, and even then some things that should be attended to now, must be either neglected or postponed.

Since our last meeting two years have elapsed. Our roster shows the effect of the lapse of these two years. Its pages show the footprints of "the Reaper." The report of the secretary will give the names (so far as known) of the veterans of our organization who have been gathered in since we assembled last.

Of those who remain, we know and we hear only what is good. I am proud to be able to say—and say truthfully—that there is not, to our knowledge, a single member of our organization whom any other member might not be glad to meet and publicly acknowledge as his comrade and friend. That is the kind of goods they are made of. But the lack of time forbids the throwing of many bouquets at present.

We have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the number present on this occasion—and it is safe to say that everyone is glad that he came. Many are here from a distance, whom, considering the brevity of the notice given, we scarcely expected or hoped to see. We can only regret that there are any absentees at all. But it is a pleasure to hear on every hand the earnest inquiry after the welfare of everyone of them. For the last five minutes—while we have been assembling here—I have picked up many interesting bits of conversation. Listen: 'When 'd ye see Tom last?' "What 'd ye hear

from Jim?" "They tell me 't Cap is gettin' younger every day—gad! but I'd like to see 'im." "Bob's holdin' down his contract all right, then, is he?" "White, clean through, that feller." "Yes, heard from Al. and Joe, both; both of 'em prosperous an' happy." "Bully! How I wish I could see the pair of 'em." "Well, I should say—'lixir o' life—you bet; eighty-one past, an' good f'r—say, lemme tell ye somethin'—buzz-buzz-buzz—sure! Nothin' like it." "I'd give the worl' if Hank 'd only come—wrote me 'e 'd be here, spite o' 'ellandhigh-water." "Yep, same blankets, ye know." "Now, I know that, of my own personal knowledge." "Do ye? Say, George, I'm y'r friend, but as a matter o' fact, y're too careless; get y'r lies kind o' mixed sometimes; be more careful; some feller might call ye down." "'Member that time down in Arkansas w'n we was entertainin' Pap Price——?" "B'longed to the battery, didn't 'e?" "Sure! McLane thought the world of 'im." "Well, 'e's doin' bully; big family, girls married, all well fixed." These are just samples, you know. It is a pity that these absentees couldn't realize how they are abused when they stay away from these occasional gatherings; they are not too frequent, at best, and for those who are fortunate enough to attend, they are really **worth while**.

We have notes of regret from quite a number: Hon. R. F. Harper, Company F, First, now presiding judge of the Bates County Court, Missouri; Hon. M. G. Ham, Company K, Second, now probate judge, Hiawatha, Brown county, Kansas; Hank Sargent, Company H, First, living at Hot Springs, S. D.; Frank M. Gordon, Company D, Second, now a contractor and builder at Acton, Ind.; Albert T. Randall, Company H, First, now a merchant at Channahon, Will county, Ill.; George Simpson, Company B, Second, now living at Wamego, Kan.; Samuel H. Erb, Company G, First, deputy city marshal, St. Louis, Mo.; Jack Goldsby, Company H, First, now a fruit grower at White-water, Colo.; Eugene Weston, Company G, Third, now living at Canon City, Colo., and James Dempsey, Company L, First, living here in the city, but in poor health. I deeply regret that the lack of time prevents my reading to you these letters at length; you must, however, be content with my assurance that the sincerity of their tone can not be questioned. And then, we have the verbal regrets, delivered in person, of a number of others (and I have tried to remember each one), and prominent among them was Sam C. Dorsey, the first president of our

organization, who has worked so faithfully for its success; unfortunately, he was called East on business; Maj. John C. Anderson—ever since the war connected with the First National Bank of this city—came to my office to earnestly express his honest regrets that his duties at the bank—in the absence of others—would prevent his attendance, and wished to be remembered in the kindest of terms to every member of the organization—present or absent; Maj. Jacob Downing of the First (as you learned from his excellent wife this afternoon) is ill at his home near by. As the years collect around him the major appears to grow more and more fond of “the boys,” especially those with whom he was associated at the front in the days when we all formed these friendships; his generous offer to the Grand Army of a block of ground, located adjacent to the City Park, for a site for the State Soldiers’ Home, and later, for the same purpose, the offer of forty acres of splendid land, located within five miles of the postoffice, will always endear him to all old soldiers. All of these messages of regret convey tidings of most cordial remembrance to every member of our association, wherever he may be.

I had intended speaking, in some detail, of a lot of our individual members, and remarking upon the way they have “made good” in civil life since the war, and had prepared some memoranda for that purpose, but for the lack of time, it must be deferred—but the subject is a pleasant one.

By reason of an absolutely empty treasury, your officers have been unable to accomplish much for the good of the organization since the last meeting. Through the courtesy of Senator Teller—upon which we can always depend—they have been able to secure an entire set (some 150 volumes) of the official records of the Federal and Confederate armies during the Civil War; to these our State Historical Association has added a copy of “The New Mexico Campaign in 1862.” These serve as a fair nucleus for a soldier’s reference library, and we have made our efficient treasurer, Sam C. Dorsey, ex officio librarian. Then, the kindness of Hon. William G. Evans (easily the son of his late father, Governor John Evans, in his lifetime so cordially esteemed by every Colorado veteran) supplied us a good room in which to arrange the books.

Our organization has been duly incorporated under the laws of the state, so that it now enjoys a legal existence; this step—too long neglected—was found expedient in order that we might be able to protect our rights, as occasion may require.

The faithful efforts of our competent and generous secretary to secure treasury funds by the collection of dues has resulted in more work than money. It is to be hoped that some means may be devised by which that matter may be remedied in the near future.

The next order of business is the election of officers.

Lieutenant Chase nominated for president the present incumbent, Mr. Milo H. Slater. There were no other nominations. The secretary put the question and Mr. Slater was unanimously re-elected. Thanks. No speech—no time.

William A. Smith, first vice president; William R. Beatty, secretary; Sam C. Dorsey, treasurer; and George Dane, color bearer, were all re-elected by acclamation.

Robert S. Roe, Second Colorado Cavalry, unanimously elected second vice president, vice William Wise, deceased.

On motion of Lieutenant Stanton, the by-laws were so amended as to provide for the election of one vice president for each of the four military organizations composing the association.

On motion of J. D. Howland, Capt. Harper M. Orahod, Third Colorado Cavalry, was unanimously elected third vice president, and Hugh P. Scott, Colorado Battery, was also unanimously elected fourth vice president.

Lieutenant Roe moved a vote of thanks to John D. Howland for faithful services on the monument commission. Carried.

Lieutenant Chase moved that the address of the president, in the dedication exercises, possessing value as a statement of historical facts, be ordered printed in pamphlet form, by the association, and that a subscription for that purpose be raised. Carried.

On motion of Lieutenant Stanton it was ordered that the officers of the organization be constituted an executive committee, with full authority to direct all measures for the welfare of the association.

On motion, the session adjourned, to meet at the call of the proper officers.

WILLIAM R. BEATTY, Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the Officers and Members of the Colorado Veteran Association:

Gentlemen—Immediately after the last meeting of our association, September 7, 1905, an earnest effort was made to locate every member of the organization, collect his dues and secure his co-operation in working for the interests of the whole. I have not had time to prepare a detailed report of the results of that effort, hence I will ask you to be content with the statement that this office collected a total of \$57.50 in dues, and expended a total of \$59.75 in postage and printing.

It is still our earnest desire to complete that work, and to that end we urge every member, not only to send in his dues—if he is able to do so—but also to send the names and addresses of living members of the First, Second and Third Colorado Cavalry and the Colorado Battery, who were regularly mustered into the Federal army during the Civil War. Don't neglect this. One member living at Hot Springs, S. D., tells of five of these men being located in the Soldiers' Home at that point, but fails to give a single name; it is hard to accomplish much in the face of such neglect as this.

It is our purpose, at the earliest feasible date, to publish a roster of the surviving members of our organization, giving the address of each, and we want to make it as complete as possible, and then place a copy in the hands of every one of them, and we earnestly ask your hearty co-operation in this work.

Since our last meeting the organization has lost by death thirteen members, namely:

Capt. George West, Company F, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Capt. William Wise, Company D, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Lieut. James Olney, Company A, First Colorado Cavalry.

Surgeon D. W. King, Third Colorado Cavalry.

Serg. C. C. Aldrich, Company H, First Colorado Cavalry.

Private C. J. Ballou, Company C, First Colorado Cavalry.

Private David J. Cook, Company C, First Colorado Cavalry.

Private William W. Carr, Company H, First Colorado Cavalry.

Private Charles B. Horton, Company K, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Private Thomas R. Cox, Company D, First Colorado Cavalry.

Private James U. Marlowe, Company —, Third Colorado Cavalry.

Private A. G. Rhoades, Company M, Third Colorado Cavalry.

Private Charles L. Richardson, Company —, Third Colorado Cavalry.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. BEATTY, Secretary.



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