

History of the Department of New Mexico



Grand Army of the Republic

David A. Swanson

“We urge every comrade to exert his personal influence to carry out the cardinal principles of this Order; Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. Let not these words be to us but lifeless forms. Let our loyalty to our country be supplemented to every one, who, in common with us, helped to maintain its integrity.”

Francis Downs

Dep't. Commander

1888

Table of Contents

Introduction

List of Department Commanders

1868	1
1869	1
1870	4
1871	8
1872	9
1873	10
1874	12
1880	12
1881	13
1882	14
1883	17
1884	21
1885	24
1886	32
1887	33
1888	37
1889	39
1890	42
1891	45
1892	48
1893	51
1894	52
1895	57
1896	60
1897	64
1898	66
1899	69
1900	73
1901	75
1902	77
1903	79
1904	81
1905	83
1906	86
1907	87
1908	88
1909	93
1910	95
1911	97
1912	103
1913	104
1914	105
1915	107
1916	108
1917	109
1918	111
1919	112
1920	112

Table of Contents

1921113
1922115
1923116
1924119
1925119
1926121
1927122
1928124
1929124
1930126
1933127
1935127
List of Posts128
Appendices 130

- Orders relating to the 1883 Provisional Department
- Stephen Dorsey letter regarding the Kit Carson Monument
- 1872 Memorial Day Circular
- Charters for Slough Post & Post No. 11 at Mineral Park, AZ



Introduction

This is a history of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic. By its general nature, this is also a history of the territory and eventual state of New Mexico since many of the leaders were active in the Department and its Posts. Information was obtained from various sources such as *History of the Grand Army of the Republic* by Robert B. Beath published in 1889; yearly Grand Army of the Republic Encampment journals from 1869 to 1930; historical New Mexico newspapers, and records located in the New Mexico State Records Center & Archives, Santa Fe.

But first, what was the Grand Army of the Republic? Briefly, it was a fraternal organization in existence from 1866 to 1956 (its last Encampment was in 1949) with membership strictly limited to honorably discharged Union Civil War veterans who had served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service. Local posts were established in the states and territories which in turn composed state and territorial departments. Formal meetings or “Encampments” were conducted annually in these departments and on a national level—which oversaw the entire body through rules, regulations, ceremonies and rituals. The G.A.R. (also GAR) did not have “associate memberships” and as its veterans gradually passed on, the various posts and departments were consolidated or disbanded. (The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is the congressionally chartered successor organization to the GAR)

This history brings to light the actions of individual “Comrades” both during the Civil War and as members of the Department. Comrades such as Captain Smith H. Simpson of Taos (who worked with and for his friend and neighbor Kit Carson) and who with others, “in the spring of 1861, after the firing on Fort Sumter, raised the American flag in Taos plaza and nailed it to the flagstaff so that the Confederate sympathizers could not haul it down in the night-time and has kept it flying in Taos, by day and by night, ever since.”; Chaplain Thomas Harwood, who came to New Mexico in 1869 as a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church and was the Department Chaplain for thirty-three consecutive years—and G.A.R. Chaplain-in-Chief for one year; Ex-Senator and later Department Commander Stephen W. Dorsey who bore the bulk of the cost of the Kit Carson Monument in Santa Fe, and Department Commander Col. E. W. Wynkoop, “who left Colorado in February 1862, as Captain of Co. A, First Colorado Volunteers, and fought in the battles of Apache Canyon, Glorieta and Peralta.”

The Department was blessed with many fine commanders and G. A. R. stalwarts such as Henry M. Davis, E. S. Stover, John C. Bromagem, F. E. Olney, W. S. Fletcher, Edward Johnson, Lee H. Rudisille, T. W. Collier, John “Jack” Crawford, Smith H. Simpson, John McFie and a host of others.

Distinguished visitors attending the various Encampments included G.A.R. Past Commanders-in-Chief Gen. John A. Logan and Gen. Lucius Fairchild as well as Commanders-in-Chief James Tanner and Washington Gordon.

Distances between the various cities and towns in New Mexico, as well as economic issues, presented some obstacles to the Department and its control over the various Posts and their membership as the following reports to G. A. R. headquarters demonstrate: “I trust you will bear in mind one fact: The Department of New Mexico is larger in area than the New England and Middle States combined, hence our Posts and our comrades are widely scattered. We are weak in numbers, but we try to make up in noise what we lack otherwise”—W. S. Fletcher, 1894; “Owing to the stringency of the times and from the fact that a large number of members of the Posts in New Mexico are out of employment, there has been a large falling off in the role of membership. Notwithstanding all these reverses, there is no lack of enthusiasm among the old boys, and our meetings”—William M. Berger, 1896 and “The nearest Post to that of the Assistant Inspector-General [Lee Rudisille] is seventy miles and the farthest four hundred.”—Lee Rudisille, 1912.

But despite those obstacles, there was lots of enthusiasm in the Department as just indicated and it was noticeable, “I visited the Department Encampment of New Mexico on the 19th of April, and found ‘The Boys’ of that excellent little Department ‘wide awake’ and zealous in the ‘good cause.’” —J. C. Bigger, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, 1894.

One interesting report which was sent in 1899 by Valentine Herbert may have reflected a tongue-in-cheek snapshot regarding their feelings about the popularity of a whole new batch of veterans—those of the 1898 Spanish-American War, “General conditions of the Department, it is holding on by the teeth and toe nails, and

the comrades are trying to find out whether there ever was a War of the Rebellion, and whether that war occurred before the Mexican War, and the Spanish-Cuban War.”

The New Mexico Territory was in existence from 1850 to 1912 when it gained statehood. During that time there were two “Provisional” G.A.R. Departments until the official Department of New Mexico was chartered on July 14, 1883. Forty-six Encampments were held during its existence—the last was in Albuquerque on July 10, 1929, when only two Comrades were physically able to attend. This was the Department’s only Encampment where no business could be conducted for lack of a quorum. The Department charter was annulled during the 64th G. A. R. National Encampment (August 1930), with a recommendation that its last remaining (unnamed) post be assigned to the Department of Colorado & Wyoming.

Robert B. Beath, in his *History of the Grand Army of the Republic*, has a succinct description of the early days of the Department:

McRae Post No.1 was organized at Santa Fe, October 9, 1867, and on February 10, 1868, New Mexico was constituted a Provisional Department, with General H. H. Heath, Commander, and Eben Everett, Assistant Adjutant-General. General Gustavus A. Smith, formerly Colonel 35th Illinois Infantry, succeeded General Heath as Provisional Commander [in 1872].

In 1871, Wingate Post No. 2 was organized at Fort Union; Dodd Post No. 3 at Santa Fe, and McPherson Post No. 4 at Silver City. All of these posts were disbanded in 1873, and the Provisional Department was discontinued.

Reorganization

Through the efforts principally of Comrade J. C. Walkinshaw, Commander Department of Kansas, Thomas Post No.1 was organized at Las Vegas, May 30, 1882, [Memorial Day] and temporarily attached to the Department of Kansas. Later it was transferred to the Department of Colorado as Post 21.

In 1883, Sedgwick Post, Raton, and Carleton Post, Santa Fe were chartered as Post 37 and 39, Department of Colorado.

With these Posts re-numbered 1, 2 and 3, the Provisional Department of New Mexico was organized May 28, 1883, by Commander-in-Chief Van Der Voort, then returning from an official visit from the Pacific coast.

The officers of the Provisional Department were: Commander, Henry M. Atkinson, Santa Fe; Senior Vice- Commander J. J. Fitzgerrell, Las Vegas; Junior Vice-Commander, T. W. Collier, Raton; Assistant Adjutant-General, W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe; Assistant Quartermaster-General, D. B. Abrahams.

Soon after [other] Posts were established—No. 4, at Wallace; No. 5, Albuquerque, and No. 6, Socorro. With these the permanent organization was completed on July 14, 1883, when Commander Atkinson was elected Department Commander, and so served until February 22, 1884.

“Kit” Carson Monument

On Memorial Day, 1885, a monument erected at Santa Fe, in memory of Brevet Brigadier-General “Kit” Carson, Colonel 1st Regiment New Mexico Volunteer Cavalry was dedicated with imposing ceremonies.

The monument was built by contributions secured by the Department of New Mexico, but mainly through the liberality of Comrade S. W. Dorsey. Several “Kit” Carson Posts of other Departments also contributed.

Interestingly, McRae Post No.1 was simply named Post No.1 from its inception in 1867 until July 21, 1868, when Post Commander Henry M. Davis issued his General Order No. 2, renaming it: “The Post Commander . . . deeming it advisable to designate an appropriate name for this Post—It is hereby ordered that hereafter this Post shall be known as Kit Carson Encampment Post No. 1—Department of New Mexico” (the Post’s normal meetings were officially called “Encampments”). That name didn’t stick and soon thereafter it was still listed as Post No. 1 in its official documents. It wasn’t until, “January 7, 1870, at the regular Encampment of Post No. 1, Dept. of New Mexico G.A.R. that . . . an amendment to article 1st of the By Laws of the Post was introduced and upon the motion being seconded was put to the Encampment and was unanimously carried. By inserting

before the words Post No.1 the word McRae.” (Page 118, *Records of McRae Post 1870*—New Mexico State Records Center & Archives). From that point on it was McRae Post No. 1. In 1873, as previously noted, the Provisional Department and its Posts were disbanded; McRae Post No. 7 was eventually organized in Silver City.

During the Department’s history from twice being a “Provisional” Department until it was chartered, the number of its Posts varied (as just described). As a permanent Department from 1883 until its charter was annulled in 1930, there were 23 known Posts (including those that were reorganized). These were located throughout New Mexico—although not all simultaneously, in Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Raton, Wallace, Socorro, Silver City, Deming, Fort Bayard, White Oaks, Hillsboro, Kingston, Flora Vista, Las Cruces, Eddy, Aztec, Roswell, Alamogordo, Tularosa, and Tucumcari. There was also a short-lived Post in Mineral Park, Arizona.

With few exceptions, the annual Memorial Day events are not included in this history but the 1885 Memorial Day ceremonies along with the dedication and unveiling of the Kit Carson Monument (occurring on the same day) in Santa Fe are and in great detail. This was a major event in the life of the Department of New Mexico, as shown by extensive newspaper coverage.

Throughout its history, much credit had been given by the Department to the Women’s Relief Corps, whose members assisted the various posts and department encampments and, as noted in 1908: “one Woman’s Relief Corps at Albuquerque; one Woman’s Relief Corps at Santa Fe; one Woman’s Relief Corps at Tularosa; one Circle of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Albuquerque. Every post in our department should have a corps or circle to assist them in their work.”

Newspaper articles give pertinent—and in many instances otherwise unobtainable information—about specific department officers, activities, the people and the times. The G.A.R. was *the* organization and its comrades were *the* soldiers and sailors who saved the Union, but throughout the years as its membership declined by old age, infirmity and death, and when the nation became engaged in the 1898 Spanish-American War and World War I, its influence diminished but not the esteem held by the citizens of New Mexico.

The following information is laid out year by year. Each starts with the applicable information taken from the annual G.A.R. journals followed by newspaper articles obtained from Newspapers.com and “Chronicling America” by the Library of Congress (<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>). It concludes with a list of the Posts and appendices with copies of handwritten documents regarding the formation of the Department, the Kit Carson Monument, an 1872 Memorial Day “circular,” and two Post charters. Since this is a history of the Department, only some individual Post information is contained—especially from 1868 through the 1870s.

One final note: I included (as much as possible) the spelling, punctuation, and abbreviations contained in the original articles—much to the great annoyance of my computer’s spell-check program.

David A. Swanson,
Past Department Commander,
Department GAR Records Officer,
Department of the Southwest
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
2023

Department Commanders of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic

H. H. (Herman) Heath, 1868— Santa Fe
(Provisional Department)
G. A. (Gustavus) Smith— 1872— Santa Fe
(Provisional Department)¹
Henry M. Atkinson, 1883— Santa Fe
Edward W. Wynkoop, 1884— Santa Fe
J. J. Fitzgerrell, 1885— Las Vegas
E. S. (Elias) Stover, 1886— Albuquerque
John Y. Hewitt, 1887— White Oaks
Francis Downs, 1888— Santa Fe
John H. Mills, 1889— Socorro (Died in office)
Lee H. Rudisille, 1890— White Oaks²
Alex M. Whitcomb, 1890— Albuquerque
Albert J. Fountain, 1891— Las Cruces
Stephen W. Dorsey, 1892— Raton
W. H. Whiteman, 1893— Albuquerque
George W. Knaebel, 1894— Santa Fe
Thomas W. Collier, 1895— Raton
John C. Bromagem, 1896— East Las Vegas
Francis Downs, 1897— Santa Fe
Francis Downs, 1898— Santa Fe (Died in office)
Leverett Clarke, 1898— Albuquerque³
George W. Knaebel, 1899— Santa Fe
John R. McFie, 1900— Santa Fe
John R. McFie, 1901— Santa Fe
John W. Edwards, 1902— Albuquerque
John W. Edwards, 1903— Albuquerque
Theodore W. Heman, 1904— Tucumcarri
Jacob Weltmer, 1905— Santa Fe
W. B. Brunton, 1906— Shoemaker
W. W. McDonald, 1907— Albuquerque
John P. Victory, 1908— Santa Fe
John W. Long, 1909— Tularosa
H. B. Steward, 1910— Albuquerque
A. D. Higgins, 1911— East Las Vegas
J. G. Caldwell, 1912— Albuquerque
D. M. Sutherland, 1913— Alamagardo
John A. Ross, 1914— East Las Vegas
Z. H. (Zenas) Bliss, 1915— Albuquerque
F. E. Olney, 1916— Las Vegas
Jefferson Raynolds, 1917— East Las Vegas
John W. Terry, 1918— Socorro
O. L. Gregory, 1919— Las Vegas
William M. Berger, 1920— Belen
John Shank, 1921— Las Vegas
John Greenwald, 1922— Socorro (Died in office)
John C. Hull, 1922— Santa Fe⁴
B. A. Jones, 1923— Albuquerque
Z. H. (Zenas) Bliss, 1924— Albuquerque
M. C. Picken, 1925— Farmington
John R. McFie, 1926— Gallup
John R. McFie, 1927— Gallup
John W. Davis, 1928— Morarity⁵



1. The Provisional Department, organized in 1868, was disbanded in 1873 and the permanent Department of New Mexico was established on July 14, 1883.
2. Filled the vacancy caused by the death of John Mills who died in February 1890.
3. Filled the vacancy caused by the death of Francis Downs who died in June 1898, after being elected department commander (for the third time) during the May 1898 Encampment.
4. Filled the vacancy caused by the death of John Greenwald.
5. John W. Davis was the last Department Commander. During the Department of New Mexico's last Encampment on July 10, 1929, only two members were present and no business could be conducted.

The following contains information about the two Provisional Departments of New Mexico. Newspaper accounts also contain information specific to its early "Posts" and not necessarily to the Department.

~ 1868 ~

Proceedings of the Second National Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic 1868

There is no mention of New Mexico contained in this journal.

* * *

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

June 9, 1868

Note: This article was in the Spanish issue of the newspaper.

To The Late Heroes

Last Saturday a beautiful spectacle was observed in the square of this city. The monument is now being erected under the law of the last legislature, and has partially risen from the surrounding ground. At dawn that beautiful still unfinished monument garnished at its base with green was showing the glorious flag of the Union surrounding the tip of the pyramid. The admiration of the people was noticed and observed in many homes. But what was the meaning of all this? Who had done such a beautiful thing and for what end?

The wind was not blowing in the morning and the national emblem kept watch over the pyramid. Around ten o'clock, however, the breeze rose and soon the starry flag extended its folds to the breeze and removed any doubts that it was the work of the G.A.R. By order of the headquarters of the grand army of the republic, last Saturday, May 30, it was appointed to decorate the tombs and honor the memory of the brave men who died during the rebellion in the cause of the country and this is what it meant. The green at the base which surrounded this beautiful monument was to commemorate the noble dead of New Mexico, paying tribute to the men who gave their lives, and crepe covered the pole holding the flag under which they died, and for which they fought to defend. That flag still lives and still flies over one perpetual and perfect union, "the starry flag God grants them to wave over the country of the free and the brave." The memory of our deceased comrades will always remain in our hearts, an incentive to loyalty and an encouragement to true patriotism.

The members of the grand army in Santa Fe deserve a lot of credit for the beautiful and proper way in which they decorated the monument of the soldiers.

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

September 8, 1868

Kit Carson Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, met in its new hall last evening for the first time. It is in the new Delgado block, west side of the plaza.

Note: See the introduction in this book for information regarding the Kit Carson Post.

~ 1869 ~

Proceedings of the Third National Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic 1869

Report of Adjutant General N. P. Chipman

In addition, [to Chipman's list of permanent Departments] Departments with Provisional Commanders have been organized, which I will give according to date of establishment.

The Department of New Mexico was established February 12, 1868. One Post reported [McRae Post No.1., Santa Fe]. No report or dues paid to the National Encampment.

* * *

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)
March 9, 1869

Headquarters Post No. 1
Department of New Mexico, G. A. R.
Santa Fe, N. M., July 15, 1869

Circular
No. 1

All Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic are expected to be present at the Regular Meeting of the post, in the Sena building, this evening at 8 o'clock, as there is business of importance, with Muster &c., to transact.

By order of D. B. Stocking, Commanding
L. S. Fuller, Post Adjutant

The Santa Fe New Mexican
March 18, 1869

Attention G. A. R.!

The members of Post No. 1 G. A. R., are requested to assemble at their Hall this [Thursday] evening at half past seven o'clock.

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)
May 18, 1869

Anniversary of the G. A. R.

We today publish Circular No. [unreadable] Head Quarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued by order of Gen. H. H. Heath, Commander of the department, on the subject of decorating the graves of the Union soldiers who died and were killed in this territory during the late rebellion, on the 30th inst.

Last year, at the date named, the beautiful and appropriate ceremony of decorating the graves of loyal soldiers with flowers, was inaugurated, by the fraternity of the Grand Army throughout the United States, and we remember the handsome manner in which the uncompleted monument in the plaza of this city, was festooned on 30th May last, by the members of the G. A. R. here in Santa Fe. Wherever the grave of a Union soldier could be found, it received appropriate decoration. There are hundreds of such sacred spots in New Mexico, and we hope to see the recommendation of the Department commander faithfully carried out. No more graceful honor can be bestowed in the memory of the brave dead by their comrades who survive, than that of strewing over their graves the first pure flowers of spring.

(Circular.)
HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF N. M.
Grand Army of the Republic
Santa Fe, May 10th, 1869

Comrades of the G. A. R.

On the 30th of May 1868, was commenced a ceremony commemorative of the brave dead who died that their country might live; a ceremony which it is hoped will never be permitted to be obsolete, so long as the Union exists. This ceremony is nothing less than honoring our fallen comrades-in-arms who fell in defense of union and liberty in contra-distinction to disunion and slavery, during the late rebellion.

The 30th of May 1869, approaches. General Order No. 21, current series, recommends the re-decoration of the graves of the patriot dead of the war against rebellion, upon the recurrence of the anniversary named, together with such other public observances, as the comrades of the order may deem appropriate.

It is, therefore, recommended that in this Department such steps be taken by the comrades of the order to decorate the graves of the heroic dead, and by other means exhibiting our regard for their memory, as shall be

most appropriate, and best adopted to the circumstances of comrades in different localities; and further, that comrades of the order residing permanently or temporarily in sections of the department where no posts of the G. A. R. exist, they assume to themselves the solemn and graceful duty of decorating the graves of all soldiers in their vicinity, by which means, though a dead brother-in-arms may sleep in a comparatively unknown grave, this testimony to his life and service to his country, and to his sacrifices for her, withal shall indicate to the world that neither he nor they are forgotten by his former comrades-in-arms who still live.

By command of Gen. H. H. Heath, commander department of New Mexico, G. A. R.

Wm. Breeden,

Assistant Adjutant General.

Note: There is a further article indicating that Heath was then the acting governor of N.M.

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

June 1, 1869

Yesterday the sun dawned upon a [unreadable] and elegant adornment of the soldier's monument in the plaza by the members of the G. A. R., commemorative of those soldiers particularly of those who fell in battle during the late war. The base of the monument was draped in white and black, the national flag being interwoven; the shaft was entwined by evergreens, surmounted by the national flag bearing upon it the initial letters G. A. R. Wreaths of evergreens also clustered about the base and shaft of the monument, indicating doubtless that the crown of the ever-living green belongs to those who die for their country.

The monument looked very beautiful indeed, and the only criticism we are disposed to pass upon this worthy commemoration of the death of the soldier in his country's cause is that we think something more than a simple, silent demonstration of this sort was due to those who gallantly fell in defense of their flag and the union.

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

August 5, 1869

Headquarters Post No. 1
Department of New Mexico, G. A. R.
Santa Fe, N. M., August 5, 1869

Circular

No. 3

A Regular meeting of this Post will be held this Thursday evening at the hall in the Sena building. All comrades are requested to turn out promptly at the beat of the drum.

By order of Post Commander.

L. D. Fuller

Post Adjutant

The Santa Fe New Mexican

December 17, 1869

Attention!

Semi-annual election of Officers at the Encampment of Post No. 1, Dept. N. M. G. A. R. at 7 o'clock this (Friday) evening.

All members in good standing are expected, and transient comrades are invited, to be present.

❧ 1870 ❧

Proceedings of the Fourth National Convention of the Grand Army of the Republic 1870

The Encampment was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

The Committee on Credentials then reported the following as entitled to seats in the Encampment.

New Mexico—H. H. Heath, Provisional Commander.

Adjutant General's Report

There are now thirty-nine Departments of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Out of this number there are but three Departments, viz., Massachusetts, New Mexico, and the Potomac, the quarterly reports of which give the exact number of Comrades born upon the rolls of their Posts.

In all of the Departments, accepting those named, many Posts are in arrears for dues or reports.

* * *

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

January 7, 1870

Post No. 1 G. A. R. meets on the first and third Fridays of every month at their hall in Sena's building at 7 o'clock, p.m.

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

January 10, 1870

Installation of Officers of the G. A. R.

On Friday evening, December 31, "Grand Army Hall," better known as "Sena's Hall," in this city, was filled with an intelligent and appreciative audience to witness the installation of the officers of Post No. 1, Dept of N. M. G. A. R., elected at the regular encampment of the Post, held on Friday evening, Dec. 24th, 1869.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 o'clock, and after the invocation of the retiring Post Chaplain, Comrade T. A. Dolan, the opening Chorus (America) was sung in a pleasing manner, by Misses May Mallory and Attie Fields, and Messers. J. H. Stout, E. A. Wheeler, J. C. Hill and C. E. Martin.

Mr. D. B. Stocking, the retiring Post Commander, then addressed the audience in a few remarks upon the subject of the meeting, and introduced the orator for the occasion, General H. H. Heath, Commander of the Provisional Department of N. M. G. A. R.

The address of Gen. Heath was brief and appropriate to the occasion. It was a first of series to be delivered which are to become a part of the records of the Post, in conformity with recommendations from the General Grand Encampment of the United States, to Posts of the G. A. R., throughout the country: and which finally, it is supposed, will furnish historical facts and incidents of the war, never before elicited, but which will, at a future day, be made available in some general manner by the Order.

The speaker confined his remarks principally to the origin, objects and growth of the "Grand Army," with a brief history of the Provisional Department of the same of which he has been Commander ever since its organization.

At the conclusion of the General's speech, the following named officers were elected and installed with appropriate ceremonies.

Jos. LeGrand—P. C.

Thomas Richard—S. V. C.

Jno. A. Marvin—J. V. C.

M. A. Breeden—P. Adjt.

L. D. Fuller—P. Q. M.

Wm. Bolander—P. Surg.

J. C. Hill—P. Chap.

M. E. Cook—S. Maj.

Henry Schultz—Q. M. S.

The retiring Post Commander was ably assisted in the ceremonies in the installation by Comrades J. H. Stout, Past P. C. and John Ayers, A. O. D., and by the fine instrumental music contributed by Miss May Mallory.

Post Commander Mr. LeGrand, upon assuming the duties of his office, delivered the following very appropriate address, which was well received:

Ladies and Gentlemen.—The objects of our organization have been fully explained to you by our able Department Commander, who has also acquainted you with the history of this Post; and I need not, therefore, revert to them here.

There is one subject, however, on which I wish to say a few words. I refer to the difficulties, with which the order of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico, and this, the only Post therein, have had to contend, and our consequent inability, to accommodate as much as other Posts and Departments, surrounded by more favorable circumstances.

The principal difficulty then, one which has greatly retarded the growth of this Post and which proves a serious obstacle to the establishment of Posts in other parts of the Territory, lies in the fact, that a large majority, at least three fourths of the entire number of persons eligible to membership in our order, are of those who do not speak our language, and consequently do not understand the objects and works of this order, and are of a creed, which prohibits their joining any secret society. The first obstacle might be circumvented by establishing separate posts, in which the native language could altogether be used; but for the latter, by far the more formidable, I know of no remedy; I believe the necessity for observing secrecy in some measure of our proceedings, is so obvious that I need not stop to explain it.

Another difficulty in our way, one which only time and circumstances can remove, is to be found in the nomadic habits of a large portion of our American population, and their consequent unwillingness to unite themselves with any order, in the regular business of which they could take little or no part.

These and other difficulties have, so far, rendered it next to impossible to accomplish any of the sublime objects of our organization but we hope ere long to master some of those difficulties, and increase our strength and ability.

Permit, me here, to say a few words to members of this Post.

To you, my comrades, I return my sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me by investing me with the highest office in your gift, which is a mark of your esteem, is highly gratifying to me; and I shall use my best effort to prove myself worthy of your confidence.

As I have already promised in my obligation, I shall perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability, and shall in all of my official actions rigidly and impartially carry out the Rules and Regulations established for our government and trust, that I may be able to promote the interests of our order in some measure.

But let me here remind you, my comrades, and more especially you, my fellow officers, that your commander cannot hope to labor successfully in our cause, unless supported by a hearty co-operation on your part, which I trust you will cheerfully accord. There is a vast field of labor before us, where everyone can work, where everyone has a duty to perform. As I have said before, we have hitherto been impeded in our progress by circumstances, over which we have no control, and therefore have been unable to accomplish much, but our prospects are brightening, and by determined and preserving energy we will conquer them and gain our end.

Let us work then, let us unite our efforts, let us put our shoulder to the wheel with a hearty goodwill, and the Great Commander of all will bless our labor, and grant us success.

It is a source of gratification and pleasure to us, to see so many of our friends gathered here this evening to witness our installation, and it is especially pleasing to us, to see so many representatives of the fair sex present—and what more appropriate and just, than that now in the glorious time of peace, which has been secured by hard and unpatrolled struggle, our festivities should be participated in by the ladies who so cheerfully and readily participated in our toils and privations, who spurred the sluggard on to a performance of his duty to his country, who inspired the soldier to deeds of valor, which made him a hero; who with tender hands and tender hearts soothed the couch of pain of the wounded; who in short, so fully and abundantly contributed their share in the nation's struggle for liberty. We shall on a similar occasion gladly welcome them to our Hall. . . .

I conclude by wishing you all a happy new year.

At the conclusion of the address of the new Post Commander, Governor Pyle, who is a member of the order, was called out by the assemblage, and he responded in a brief speech of thrilling and eloquence and moving pathos—recalling vividly some of the most deeply interesting incidents of the heroic history of the late devastating war, eulogizing the gallant Lyon, the brilliant McPherson and other patriot soldiers who fell in the storm of battle, and paying a just tribute of admiration to the principles and purposes of the Grand Army. He evidently knew whereof he testified and the hearty applause, with which his remarks were received, could not have failed to assure him that his noble words had fallen upon the ears and reached the heart of these who could understand and appreciate them.

When the applause which followed the speech of the governor had subsided, calls for “Jones” arose from all parts of the hall, and it soon appeared that a pleasant little surprise had been prepared for the retiring Post Commander, by his Comrades, and foisted into the programme for the evening. It consisted of the presentation of a massive and beautiful ring of fine New Mexican gold, with the seal of the Grand Army engraved thereon, and the duty of presenting had been devolved upon that gentlemen. Promptly responding to the calls Mr., Jones performed that agreeable and delicate duty in the following admirable speech, which we have been permitted to copy:

When a general returns from a successful campaign against the enemies of his country, and he is met by the plaudits of his admiring countrymen, his heart swells within him, and the tear of joy comes unbidden to his eye as he meets the approving glances of those whose good opinion of him are more precious than rubies. But he thinks the very acme of his joy is reached when he kneels beneath the floral arch prepared by the thankful wives and daughters, and fair hands place upon his manly brow the laurel chaplet—Not because of any intrinsic value attached to the leaves of this mountain shrub but because the form of the wreath represents eternity, and because the evergreen leaves of the laurel symbols to him that the memory of his deeds will ever dwell fresh and green in the hearts of his grateful countrymen.

Such simple acts of gratitude when bestowed upon proper objects, bless not only the recipient of the favor, but like charity, extend a blessing alike to those who give and those who receive.

Nor are honors of this kind confined to military chieftains. The civil officer who guards well and faithfully, the trust committed to his keeping, on retiring from the discharge of his duties, is frequently made glad by the loud acclaim of his fellow citizens of “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

There is something in the composition of man which delights in honoring true manhood, wherever found; whether in the field or the council; on the bench or in the humbler walks of life, or even in the social circle, nor are societies and associations like this entirely free from this common feeling of man. The members of this Post, actuated by the same feelings which move other men, and desiring to show in a humble way their appreciation of their comrades, who has proven himself an officer of the Post, as a comrade and a gentlemen, to be entitled to the appellation of “the noblest work of God, an honest man,” have assigned to me the pleasing duty of conveying their sentiments, not in the form of a laurel wreath but in one equally significant—a golden circlet—emblematic, as the wreath, of eternity, and in the metal, of purity: Tried in the fire—pure gold!

It is with great pleasure I perform the duty assigned me, and now in the name of the comrades of Post No. 1 of the Department of New Mexico, I present this beautiful ring to your late Post Commander, Daniel B. Stocking. (Long continued applause.)

Take it, my comrade, with the best wishes of the members of this Post. And may your future life, like the metal of this ring, be pure and bright, without flaw or defect, and when trials and troubles of this life are over, may you receive a yet brighter circlet, one not made of perishable metal, but a chaplet of eternal glory, that shall shine brighter and brighter throughout the great circle of eternity. (Enthusiastic applause.)

The surprise was complete—as the bewilderment and incredulity depicted on the countenance of Mr. Stocking, as he examined first the Programme of Proceedings, of which he had some knowledge, and the ring upon his finger, of which he apparently had no knowledge, other than it was evidently the beautiful result of one of Comrade Jones’ numerous and successful jokes.

In response to the loud and prolonged calls from the audience, Mr. S. though thoroughly embarrassed, came forward with soldiery promptness, and in very appropriate terms gave expression to the feelings inspired by the very flattering action of his associates. He humorously reminded his comrades of the doubtful regard in which a soldier was usually held, who in the hour of duty and danger allowed himself to be surprised by the enemy. . . .

The members of the Post may well feel satisfied at the success of their first public entertainment. The programme was admirably arranged and well carried out; and the intrusion of the surprise, so well managed by chaplain T. A. Dolan only added to the excellence of the whole affair. . . .

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

June 18, 1870

Preamble and resolutions adopted by McRae, Post No.1, Dept. of N. M., G. A. R. at a stated encampment held on Friday evening, June 17th, 1870.

Whereas: McRae Post No. 1, Dept. of N.M. G. A. R. was favored with valuable assistance from others than members of the "Grand Army," in paying proper homage to the memory of our country's fallen defenders, on the 30th ultimo, therefore:

Resolved; that the sincere thanks of the members of this Post are due, and hereby tendered to the Military and Civil authorities, and to the Citizens of Santa Fe generally, for their generous encouragement and aid in performing this high and pleasant duty to the memory of our fallen comrades.

Resolved; that we are especially indebted to the lady friends who evinced a praiseworthy interest by taking an active part in the proceedings; to Major A. G. Robinson, Major William Clinton and Lieutenant F. B. Jones of the Military, and to Messers. J. M. Gough, A. P. Sullivan, D. A. Denny, and John Ritter for valuable services rendered.

Resolved; that copies of these resolutions to be furnished to the papers of New Mexico, and to the Grand Army Journal for publication.

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

July 12, 1870

From Tuesday's Daily, July 5th

Independence Day

The glorious Fourth, the 94th anniversary of the birth of our Republic, was celebrated in an appropriate manner.

Our citizens were startled from their slumbers, at an early hour this morning, by the firing of small arms, firecrackers, etc. At half past three a.m. a gentlemen whose sleep had been disturbed went into the plaza, and found Superintendent of fireworks, N. Brown, Esq., making a grand display of sky rockets, Roman candles, etc.

As per the prearranged programme, the procession headed by Perez's Brassband [sic] formed in front of the [Governors] Palace at ten a.m. [McRae] Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, marching at the head of the column, next to the band. . . .

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

July 16, 1870

At a regular meeting of the McRae Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic, held last evening, comrade Ira M. Bond was unanimously elected and duly installed as Post Chaplain for the ensuing six months.

❧ 1871 ❧

Proceedings of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1871
Report of the Adjutant General

The Department of New Mexico was organized February 12, 1868. The Department includes but two Posts, but these include nearly every honorably discharged soldier residing in the territory. Of this little band of comrades, it may be said that none are more devoted to the interests of our Order.

Report of the Acting Inspector General

During the year ending March, 31, 1871, the following appointments were made in this bureau, viz:

Comrade James [probably Joseph] [Le]Grand, of Fort Union, New Mexico, to be assistant Inspector General on the staff of the Commander of the Department of New Mexico, by Special Orders No. 8, dated August 23, 1870.

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican

January 4, 1871

The following is a list of the officers of Wingate Post G. A. R. [Fort Union] elected for the ensuing year:

P. C.—Jos. LeGrand
S. V. C.—Maurice Geary
J. V. C.—F. C. Ingraham
Adjutant—T. D. Thierry
Qr. Mr.—Wm. Wagner
Surgeon—B. M. Brown
Chaplain—Ed. Schwartz
Sergt. Maj.—N. L. Rubie
Qr. Mr. Sergt.—G. A. Wright
O. D.—Frederick Brant
O. G.—G. Bradbury

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

May 29, 1871

The committee of arraignments have completed the preparations for the proper celebration of memorial day the 30th of May. The monument will be decorated. The exercises will commence at 4 o'clock and will consist of appropriate addresses, music, etc. Soldiers, citizens and in fact everybody are invited to be present.

The Daily New Mexican (Santa Fe)

May 31, 1871

Decoration Day

Decoration day was observed in our city yesterday by the usual ceremony of decorating the soldiers' monument with flags and evergreens in the morning and by a public meeting held in the plaza in the afternoon under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic Department of New Mexico.

The public meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Capt. Ira M. Bond, chairman of the committee on arrangements, who briefly explained the purposes of the meeting, and called upon Gen. G. A. Smith to preside. General Smith, upon taking the chair, addressed the audience in relation to the events which the day was designed to commemorate after which Gov. Pyle was called upon and spoke considerable length upon the issues and consequences of the late war, and the duty of the country toward those who risked everything to maintain the Union, and perpetuate the existence of republican institutions in our midst. Gov. Pyle was followed by M. A. Breeden and Capt. Ira M. Bond, who addressed the audience on the origin, progress and condition of the Grand

Army of the Republic at the present time, after which the meeting was brought to a close by a prayer from Rev. Dr. McFarland.

The proceedings throughout were enlivened by music from the military band, and everything passed off in an orderly and satisfactory manner.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

June 3, 1871

Memorial Day

Preamble and Resolutions adopted at a regular encampment of McRae Post No. 1, Dept. of New Mexico, G. A. R. held in Santa Fe, N. M., June 2, 1871.

Whereas, McRae Post, No. 1, G. A. R. was favored with valuable assistance from others than members of the Grand Army, in properly commemorating the noble deeds of our dead comrades, who fell in the struggle of freedom and union; Therefore,

Be it resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Post are due and hereby tendered to all who rendered us assistance.

Resolved, That the special thanks of this Post are tendered to the military of this district for the use of their band, and for other assistance rendered.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be furnished to the papers of this city, and to the Grand Army Journal, at Washington City, for publication.

~ 1872 ~

Proceedings of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1872
Provisional Departments

New Mexico: Prov. Commander, G. A. Smith

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico.—This Department comprises three Posts. At the beginning of the year it comprised two Posts and was without a commander. It is now as efficiently administered by the Prov. Commander and staff as any Department of the Grand Army.

Annual report of the Inspector-General Robert B. Beath

New Mexico

Comrade W. L. Warning, A. I. G., after an inspection of the Headquarters of this Prov. Department, reports that he found all the books, papers, and accounts in perfect order, and the Department well managed. He thinks a change in Section 7, Article 2, Chapter II, allowing an applicant six months to present himself for muster, instead of four months, would be beneficial in that Department.

The muster-in fees are \$5, and per capita tax averages \$1.25 for the Posts reported.

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican

May 9, 1872

Attention Comrades!!

Regular encampment of Dodd Post No. 3, Pro. Dept. of New Mexico, G. A. R. will take place tomorrow (Friday) evening at 8 o'clock.

All are expected to be promptly in attendance.

By order of the Post Commander

L. D. Fuller,

Adjutant

The Santa Fe New Mexican

May 28, 1872

Decoration day, the thirtieth of May, will be celebrated by the Grand Army of the Republic in this city in the following manner:

At 9 o'clock a.m. the procession will be found in the following order:

- 1st. U. S. Military Band
- 2d. McRae Post No. 1, G. A. R.
- 3d. Dodd Post No. 3, G. A. R.
- 4th. Officers and soldiers, U. S. A.
- 5th. Federal and Territorial Officers
- 6th. Citizens generally

The procession will march under the direction of Major D. W. Howland, Marshal of the Day, to the military burying ground, where services will be read by the chaplain after which the graves will be decorated; then to the Masonic ground where the soldiers in that place will be decorated. The procession will then return to the plaza and at the monument a brief oration will be delivered and a song "America," by the G. A. R. will conclude the ceremonies.

All members of the G. A. R. and all officers of the federal and territorial governments and the citizens generally are respectfully invited to attend and participate in the ceremonies.

By order of the committee on arraignments.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

June 28, 1872

HEADQUARTERS DODD POST No. 3
Pro. Dept. of New Mexico, G. A. R.
Santa Fe, N. M. June 28, 1872

A regular encampment of this Post will be held this (Friday) evening at 8 o'clock. As business of importance is to be transacted it is expected that comrades will be promptly in attendance at the hour designated. Comrades in general are respectfully invited to attend.

By order of the Post Commander.

L. D. Fuller,
Post Adjutant

The Santa Fe New Mexican

September 17, 1872

Special encampment of Dodd Post No.3, Pro. Dept. of New Mexico, G. A. R. will be held this Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock for muster in. By order

L. D. Fuller, P.A.

~ 1873 ~

Sometime in 1873 all three existing posts were disbanded and the Provisional Department was discontinued. There are no further newspaper articles or G.A.R. journals about the New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic until 1880 when the Thomas Post No. 1 of Las Vegas formed.

Proceedings of the Seventh Annual Meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic
1873

The following Provisional Departments are entitled to representation by their department officers: . . . New Mexico

Roll Call of the National Encampment
New Mexico (Prov.)

Commander G. A. Smith;* Senior Vice Commander, Louis Felsenthal* Junior Vice Commander, J. F. Seymour* (* absent).

Report of the Adjutant General

In my last report, the following Departments were reported as “disorganized or dormant” at the beginning of the year 1871 [nineteen departments are listed including New Mexico].

New Mexico—No Department is more efficiently administered than this. It has increased somewhat in membership, but of course the membership cannot become too large, because the Territory is thinly settled, and means of communication are slow and uncertain.

The result of two years’ worth of reorganization, if I may be allowed to include so long a period in this statement, is briefly this:

Departments disorganized and non-reporting at the beginning of the year 1871, and since reorganized, and now regularly reporting: [five including New Mexico].

Report of the Inspector General

New Mexico

Four Posts were reported to the Adjutant-General for the fourth quarter of 1872, but no inspection report of the Department has been received.

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican

January 3, 1873

G. A. R.

McRae Post meets to-night. All members and comrades are requested to appear. Installation of officers.

E. Zimmer, P. A.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

January 23, 1873

HEAD QRS. DODD POST No. 3

Pro. Dept. of N. M., G.A.R.

Santa Fe, N. M., Jan. 23, 1873

An encampment of this Post will take place this Thursday evening at 7 ½ o’clock at Grand Army Hall for the purpose of installing the officers elect for the present year. All comrades in good standing in their posts, who may be in the city, are respectfully invited to join with us in the ceremony.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

February 27, 1873

The following is a list of the officers and places of meeting of the Posts of the G. A. R. in this city.

G. A. Smith, department Commander;

L. D. Fuller, Asst. Adj. Gen.

McRae Post No. 1—M. A. Breeden, Commander; Chas. Trego, Adjutant. Meets in Grand Army Hall every first and third Friday evenings of each month at 7 ½ o’clock.

Dodd Post No. 3—J. C. McKenzie, Commander; J. Howe Watts, Adjutant. Meets in Grand Army Hall every 2d Friday evening in each month at 7 ½ o’clock.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

March 7, 1873

Dodd Post, G. A. R. meets to-night in their hall at 8 o’clock. All comrades in the city are invited to report themselves.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

April 22, 1873

McRae Post No. 1, G. A. R. meets the first Friday and every alternate Friday at Temperance Hall.

Dodd Post No. 3, G. A. R. meets on the second Friday and every alternate Friday at Temperance Hall.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

June 2, 1873

After the procession of the G. A. R. on Decoration Day, the various posts and members of the G. A. R., assembled at the hall and passed unanimously these resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of this order be tendered to Col. Willard, Adj. Gen. for the Dist. of New Mexico for the important assistance which he rendered us in celebrating the 30th of May; also

Resolved, That we are indebted to the military band for the excellent music furnished us and the untiring efforts of each member of it to make the parade a success.

~ 1874 ~

Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic
1874

The following Provisional Departments are entitled to representation by their Department officers. (New Mexico is not listed).

Report of the Adjutant-General

New Mexico. But one Post is in existence, and it does not appear that even that one held any meetings. The number of persons eligible for membership in the Grand Army of the Republic here must be small.

* * *

~ 1880 ~

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

May 30, 1880

G. A. R.

Members of the Grand Army of the Republic whether citizens or visitors, are requested to meet at the office of Breeden & Waldo this evening at eight o'clock sharp, to determine what shall be done on the 30th instant.

G. A. Smith,

late Department Commander of New Mexico

Weekly New Mexican (Santa Fe)

May 31, 1880

DECORATION DAY

How it is to be Observed in Santa Fe

To-day it will be observed quite generally in Santa Fe as a holiday, as well as throughout the United States. It may not be known to most people that Santa Fe was the first city in America in which on Decoration Day, those who had worn the blue as well as the wearers of the grey, marched in procession together to decorate the graves of the soldiers who had fought on both sides; and it was not until the year after that this custom was established in any other city.

The soldiers' monument in the plaza has been entwined with evergreens, festoons and wreaths, according to the annual custom; and there will be no lack of flowers for the decoration of the graves. The committee in

charge of the arrangements for the day have issued have issued the following order of exercises and announcement.

In view of Gen. Pope's order appointing Decoration Day for the 29th inst. that day will be celebrated in Santa Fe on the 29th of May instead of the 30th as arranged in public meeting.

Programme

Comrades of the Grand Army, late soldiers of the Army and the Navy, and Citizens, will assemble at the Pagoda in the Public Plaza on Saturday the 29th inst, at 2 o'clock p.m., where the following exercises will be had:

1. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Riggles
2. Music by the Ninth Cavalry Band
3. Poem by Capt. Jack Crawford (Poet Scout)
4. Music by the Ninth Cavalry Band
5. Address by Comrade H. H. Hall
6. Music by the Ninth Cavalry Band

The procession will then form under direction of Comrade Louis Felsenthal, Grand Marshal, and Aides.

Order of Marching

From the Plaza down San Francisco Street to the Military Cemetery, for the purpose of decorating the graves of our departed Comrades, after which the procession will return to the Plaza and be dismissed.

Post Commander Captain Bean and command, with all officers and soldiers of the army, are respectfully requested to join the exercises of the day.

Sol Spiegelberg

Chairman of the Committee on Decorations

Louis Felsenthal

Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements

Clarence A. Steadman

Chairman of the Committee on Music

G. A. Smith

Department Commander G. A. R.

❧ 1881 ❧

Through the efforts principally of Comrade J. C. Walkinshaw, Commander Department of Kansas, Thomas Post No. 1 was organized at Las Vegas, May 30, 1882, and temporarily attached to the Department of Kansas. Later it was transferred to the Department of Colorado as Post 21. Below is a brief road to the permanent Department of New Mexico.

Santa Fe New Mexican

May 25, 1881

Decoration Day

Last night at the appointed hour a number of gentlemen assembled at the office of Messrs. Breeden and Waldo for the purpose of taking some steps to secure a proper observance in Santa Fe of Decoration Day, which occurs on the thirtieth of this month. The meeting was held in obedience to a call from General G. A. Smith, late department commander, and Captain Louis Felsenthal, late A. A. General, and was presided over by General Smith.

The Las Vegas Gazette

December 21, 1881

A post of the Grand Army of the Republic will probably be organized in this city soon. J. J. Fitzgerrell has written to Gen. Logan for the necessary papers.

❧ 1882 ❧

*Proceedings of the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic
June 21, 1882*

Address of Geo. S. Merrill, Commander-in-Chief

The territory of New Mexico has been assigned to the Department of Kansas and Commander Walkinshaw has already organized a post at Las Vegas, with yet others at different points in progress of formation.

Adjutant General's Report

June 12, 1882

. . . Much interest is manifested among old soldiers in New Mexico, and that territory has been placed under the jurisdiction of Department Commander Walkinshaw of Kansas, who proposes soon to visit it and organize posts.

* * *

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 12, 1882

Grand Army of the Republic

All veteran soldiers of the Federal army are requested to meet at Billy Burton's saloon next Tuesday evening for the purpose of organizing a post.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 18, 1882

The meeting at Billy Burton's Tuesday night for the purpose of organizing a post of the Grand Army of the Republic, was adjourned until next Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, when several ex-soldiers will be in the from Hot Springs to assist.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 21, 1882

Billy Burton has received all necessary blanks and instructions for the purpose of organizing a post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The meeting of the soldiers is set for 2 o'clock this afternoon, and there will likely be a good turnout. This will be the first post in this territory.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 27, 1882

In the list of officers of the Grand Army of the Republic published yesterday, it should have appeared that John B. Means is quartermaster-sergeant and S. J. Peltier, officer of the day.

Note: after trying many different news sources, the May 26th edition could not be obtained.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 30, 1882

The Bivouac of the Dead

Decoration Day Will be Appropriately Celebrated in Las Vegas for The First Time

J. P. Theobald, post commander of the grand army of the republic, has handed us the following program of exercises for the day . . .

Order of procession, which will be under the direct supervision of the grand marshall of the day, Comrade Harry Franklin

Las Vegas Daily Gazette
June 1, 1882

DECORATION DAY

The Graves of Fallen Heroes Decked with Flowers

Today, the day set apart by the nation for the decoration of soldiers graves throughout a united union, was appropriately observed in Las Vegas for the first time. Business houses were closed, and the people generally kept it as a national holiday. A heavy rain, which set in about noon and lasted until 1:30, somewhat interfered with the meeting of the Grand Army and civic orders. At 2:30 the Odd Fellows, Grand Army and floral committee met at Odd Fellows' hall and awaited the Knights of Pythias from Castle Hall. At 3 o'clock the pageant took up its line of march in the following order:

Comrade Harry Franklin, Marshal of the day, mounted, and Past Grand Chancellor, K. of P., Sir G. W. Prichard, also mounted.

New Mexican Brass Band.

Eldorado Lodge, Knights of Pythias.

Las Vegas Lodge No. 4, I. O. O. F.,

Thomas Post, G. A. R.

Veteran Soldiers.

Floral Committee.

Citizens on Foot.

Citizens in Carriages.

The line of march was north on Sixth street to Maine, thence west on Maine and Bridge streets to the Plaza; thence north on the Hot Springs road to Col. Mills' residence and thence west to the Odd Fellows' and Masonic graveyards. At the graves prayer was offered and a short address delivered to the comrades by Commander Theobald. After which a salute was fired over the graves of Col. Frank P. Abreu, Dibble and others. Flowers were then strewn upon the graves and the exercises were over. After which the column took up its line of march for the plaza in reversed order. At the plaza the several orders and citizens formed a hollow square around the band stand and Comrade Ed. Freeman was introduced, who proceeded to deliver an eloquent and stirring address. Mr. Freeman is an accomplished speaker and his address vividly brought up the memories of 1862, when marshaled hosts were journeying southward and every day brought back the sad tidings of bloody work on the field of battle. His references to a union preserved and Decoration Day were especially touching. In substance he said: The south bears no malace [sic] to the union dead who are buried in that section. "In that sunny southland where so many of our brave boys are sleeping, where neither father, mother, sister, brother, or friend can stoop to drop the tear of sorrow or bear the gift of flowers, this afternoon, those whom we called our enemies are doing homage alike to the gray and the blue. Your father, mother, sister, brother, wife, whose dear one rests beneath the southern sky, behold at the silent grave to-day your place is taken by one you thought your foe, and your son, your brother, your husband, receives the generous homage of the southern heart in the tribute of affection you are not permitted to pay." The address was worthy of the occasion and showed that Las Vegas can boast of speakers of merit.

Col. G. W. Prichard made a short but animated address. Both speakers were frequently interrupted by applause.

We are sorry that lack of space prevents the publication of both addresses. Decoration day is one of the most appropriate of all of our national holidays and that should be most carefully observed. It is a day that marks an epoch in American history, and forever laid at rest dangerous questions.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

June 2, 1882

The veterans of Albuquerque are organizing a post [G. K. Warren Post] of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

June 8, 1882

A Card of Thanks

At a regular meeting of Thomas Post No. 1, G. A. R., held on Tuesday night, June 6th, the hearty thanks of the post was tendered the ladies comprising the floral committee, the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and all others who assisted them in the observance of decoration day and its exercises.

J. P. Theobald

Post Com.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

July 19, 1882

Thomas Post No. 1 of the Grand Army of the Republic, held a meeting last evening. They had a pleasant time and full attendance.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

August 2, 1882

Thomas Post No. 1, grand army of the republic, held a meeting last night in the Knights of Pythias hall. The post is considering the advisability of getting up a public entertainment. Such entertainment will naturally have reference to military scenes and incidents of the late war and of such a drama Billy Burton is the author. It is entitled "True to the Flag" and has had quite a run in the eastern cities and was very popular where acted.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

October 6, 1882

The celebration of the anniversary of Sheridan's ride by Thomas Post of the Grand Army of the Republic in this city, will be held in true old style. It will take place on the 19th of this month in the Wyman building. The supper will be the regulation soldier supper, and the program includes dancing, speaking, toasts, etc. Everybody is invited.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

October 17, 1882

Soldier's Reunion

The Thomas post of the Grand Army of the Republic will hold a reunion of the blue and the gray, on Thursday evening, the 19th inst., the anniversary of Sheridan's famous ride. There will be a regular old fashioned soldiers' camp fire upper, hard tack, beans and coffee interspersed with old camp fire army songs together with toasts and responses. The new Wyman building on the street railroad has been engaged for the occasion.

The following toasts will be given: "The blue and the gray," responded to by J. J. Fitzgerrell; "The Army and Navy," Col. T. B. Mills; "Our fallen comrades," Judge Lee; "Gen. Kit Carson and his campaigns," Judge Morrison; "Gen. Sherman and his famous ride down the Shenandoah," Ed. W. Freeman. Dancing will be indulged in by all who desire to dance. Good music will be in attendance. Admission \$2.00 per couple for the supper and ball. All are cordially invited to attend.

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)

October 19, 1882

“John A. Logan” is the name of the Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, for which a charter has been applied for in this camp and will be organized next week. (There is no record of the post name; Kearney Post No. 10 was eventually organized).

❧ 1883 ❧

*Proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic
Denver, Colorado, July 25th, 1883*

The Address of the Commander-in-Chief Paul Van Der Voort

I am happy to state that I have visited all [Departments] both permanent and provisional that were in existence June 23rd, 1882, except Florida.

I have visited the provisional Departments of Utah and Washington, and also in the course of my journey, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming . . .

During the year we have organized the following permanent Departments: West Virginia, Kentucky, Oregon, Dakota, Arkansas, and Washington and New Mexico.

Provisional Departments

New Mexico

Commander . . . H. M. Atkinson, Santa Fe*

Senior Vice Commander . . . J. J. Fitzgerald*

Junior Vice Commander . . . Geo. W. Fox

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe*

Representative

*T. W. Collier

(* Not present)

Adjutant General's Report

Growth of the Order

During the past year permanent Departments have been organized as follows, viz:

New Mexico organized July 14, 1883.

The following Comrades were elected members of the Council of Administration:

T. W. Collier, Raton.

General Orders Issued:

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic

Union Block, Fifteenth and Farnam Sts.,

Omaha, Nebraska

July 31, 1882 [emphasis added]

General Orders No. 3

III. The Department heretofore known as the Department of the Mountains, is hereby changed to the Department of Colorado, with headquarters at Denver. New Mexico and Wyoming Territories are added to this Department.

By command of Paul Van Der Voort

Commander-in-Chief

* * *

Las Vegas Gazette
January 23, 1883

Commander's Circular

An Address to the Honorably Discharged Soldiers of the Rebellion

Commander J. J. Fitzgerrell of Thomas post No. 1, of this city, has just issued a strong and urgent address to all honorably discharged soldiers throughout the territory, calling on them to meet and organize posts at once.

The ranks of the Grand Army of the Union have been rapidly thinned out during the last twenty years and at the end of the next twenty years there will be but comparatively few left. To soothe the pathway of the disabled and indigent comrades, their widows and orphans, is the grand object of this order, and it is hoped Commander Fitzgerrell's address will have the desired effect and result in much good. Strong posts should be organized at Raton, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Socorro, Deming, Silver City, San Marcial and other towns, by simply waking up and following the lead of the commander of Thomas Post. Following is the commander's address:

To the late comrades in arms and members of the Grand Army of the Republic in the Territory of New Mexico:

It is with much pleasure that I am able to announce the grand success in this city of the attempt to organize a post of the Grand Army of the Republic in this territory. It has been only eight months since the organization, the work of muster-in goes bravely on, it is expected by the end of one year our present numbers will be doubled.

Comrades, while the toils, trials, duties and dangers of our soldiers' life is over, their memories alone remain and to preserve those memories and ever-living influence for good in all our hearts is the great object of this association. Fraternity, charity and loyalty, without regard to former rank, is the foundation of our order. The widows and orphans of those comrades, who stood by you during your hour of trial and dangers, are now in many cases left to the cold charities of a heedless world. Who like a soldier can sympathize with disabled comrades or the families of those who stood shoulder to shoulder with us during the trying days of our nation's great need—the days that tried men's souls?

It is in this spirit I would respectfully call on all soldiers to come together again in every city, town and village throughout the territory, and organize grand army posts. You will in a spirit of fraternity, charity and loyalty, find in your midst worthy disabled comrades; heroes, who led the way to victory on many a hard-fought battlefield; who, in many cases, by their valor led to grand and momentous results; on whom the frowns of life's battle have fallen while pursuing their humble way, and whose days are fast being numbered together with their widows and orphans, who by their need mutely appeal to you for assistance. The objects of this association are noble and glorious—remembering eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. I earnestly hope that all honorably discharged soldiers will come together at once. Any assistance I can render you at any time, I am at your command.

I am your obedient servant,

J. J. FITZGERRELL,

Post Commander, Thomas Post No. 1.

Press throughout the territory please copy

LAS VEGAS, January 22

Las Vegas Gazette
January 27, 1883

HEADQUARTERS THOMAS POST No. 21

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Las Vegas, January 27 '83

Special order

No. 1

I. All members of the Thomas Post No. 21, who can assist without injury to their business vocations, assemble at post headquarters promptly at 1 o'clock p.m. railroad time, to act as an escort to the east bound train, of the remains of our late comrade, Atwood Crosby, of Waterville, Maine, who was on the staff of the commander of the department of Maine.

II. The officers of the post will provide themselves with side arms, and the comrades with muskets. By order of J. J. Fitzgerrell, Post Commander

Las Vegas Morning Gazette

May 31, 1883

Note: The original article included a very lengthy coverage of Memorial Day activities—this is just a portion of it covering the nighttime activities.

At Night

Long before the time set for beginning exercises at the opera house every seat was filled and standing room exhausted. The house was actually packed. Upon the stage were seated Governor Sheldon, Gen. John A. Logan, Captain Jack Crawford, Don Trinidad Romero, the members of Thomas Post No 21, and Mrs. Thomas Lundy. Don Trinidad Romero, president of the meeting, announced a song, "Marching through Georgia," which was followed by the presentation of an elegant silk banner to the post by the lady friends who had chosen Mrs. Thomas Lundy to speak in their behalf. Her remarks were well-chosen and enthusiastically received. Major Ed. W. Freeman responded on behalf of the members of the Grand Army in his usual felicitous manner.

"Tramp, tramp, tramp the boys are marching" was sung by everybody in the house. The orator of the evening,

GEN. JOHN A. LOGAN,

was then introduced. He spoke at some length and said that if he did not know that he was in Las Vegas he would imagine himself in some eastern city judging from the large audience before him. He expatiated upon the virtues of the soldier as shown in his friendship, his love and charity, and showed that there is such a thing as patriotism of lofty character as exhibited by those who went forth to the field of battle in the great war of the rebellion, was it not patriotism when the mother said to her son, "Go, and may God be with you"? When the young husband left his wife and kissed the baby in the cradle, to go to meet a foe of unknown strength, was it not patriotism?

It was not the thirteen dollars a month salary, and that worth thirty cents on the dollar that they went to earn. There is a patriotism which leads men on to extraordinary deeds, and cheers his heart as he moves against the enemies of his country, and such a country as this is. There was great distress in the late rebellion, more than was foreseen. Bitter were the sufferings, and the speaker was obliged to say that he had more respect for those who wore the blue than those who wore the grey. He took a pledge that was recorded on high when he went forth to fight for his country, and he kept it, as those who were sitting about him, who had registered their oaths in the stormy days of war.

The best thing that ever happened to Americans was the preservation of the union. He spoke of the confederates as rebels and said that he could call them that before them, as in the plaza at Santa Fe, erected to the memory of union soldiers, was a monument upon which is inscribed the name of rebels, and it is the only monument of the kind in the United States that tells the truth.

The reverses of war, the weary days, half victory, and half loss, the trickling blood of mortal wounds, the surgeons work, the ambulance, the dying and their hardships were vividly portrayed. Months turned into years and the tramp, tramp, tramp of the constant soldier continued, until in the closing of the contest, sword met sword, bayonet met bayonet and all was over. Three cheers were rung out for the grand old Union and the old flag was planted so high that the world could see it. Men hugged each other and there was such a hand shaking

as the world had never seen before. Sympathetic hearts beat for each other. The armies were disbanded, harmony restored, and the fragments being brought back, there was one harmonious whole.

History shows that a soldier's heart is brightest when his bayonet is bright, but when the service is over, the war almost forgotten, the deeds of heroism performed and the result accomplished, he drifts into obscurity, and often his home is a hovel. It is presumed that the government will take care of him. When he says "I was a soldier!" it strikes a chord in the hearer's heart which is not responsive. His past service is ignored, not intentionally, but it is, and it has been so in time past among all nations. An old soldier was found in France, by his commanding officer, breaking stone. When asked what he was doing he replied that he was trying to keep people from knowing that he ever was a soldier.

To render it impossible for veterans to be thus ignored and thus pushed about by misfortune is the purpose of the Grand Army of the Republic. To protect men who served honorably in an honorable cause, for themselves and for us, and to see to it that they do not know starvation or want in the shadowy days of old age, are among our objects as an organization. If there is a widow of a veteran in want in Las Vegas, the Thomas post No. 21 will relieve her. This same organization will see to it that the old flag is protected and it has today in the ranks, drilled soldiers who can whip the armies of England or France. They never want to try it but they could do it.

This organization, of which I was one of the founders, will succeed in keeping before the coming generation that before them went those who had a respect for their country so strong that they surrendered everything in this life to fight for it and to die.

Especial grateful remembrance toward the women of the war was expressed by the speaker.

This Memorial day, the 30th of May, has been set apart to commemorate the death of brave soldiers and not any particular battles.

It matters not how the confederates feel now toward the preservers of the union, future generations will raise up and bless the day when we became again one of the people, with one government, believers in progress, education, science, arts, and law and order. As others were proud to say "I am a Roman citizen," so we are proud to say that we are American citizens, the proudest title that any man can wear. This is a republic where any boy of the humblest ranks of life may rise up to be its chief magistrate. There is more liberty, power, justice and pride for the citizens of the United States than there is for citizens of any other portion of the world, and there always will be.

General Logan said his speech had been desultory but that kind from him had proven usually the best, because as his friends believe, he cannot write.

He said he did not feel as a stranger in New Mexico, and that if he should change his place of abode he would be likely to come here, but he would not want every body to ask him why he left the states. Three cheers were given for General Logan.

Captain Jack Crawford then recited his poem, written upon the receipt of Custer's death. It was well received, and on encore he recited again his "Commemoration day" poem, published elsewhere on this page.

The meeting was then adjourned by President Romero and the great throng moved to the train standing in readiness to go to the hot springs.

The New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)
September 27, 1883

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

The following roster of the officers of the Grand Army of the Republic for the Department of New Mexico is announced for the information of those interested in the order:

H. M. Atkinson, Santa Fe, Department Commander; J. H. Fitzgerrell, Las Vegas, Senior vice commander; George W. Fox, Socorro, Junior vice commander; C. C. McComas, Albuquerque, Judge advocate; Rev. N. H. Murphy, Las Vegas, Chaplain; W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe, Assistant adjutant general; D. B. Abrahams, Santa Fe, Assistant quartermaster general; T. W. Collier, Raton: member of the national council of administration.

Thomas Post no. 1, Las Vegas, F. J. Fitzgerrell, post commander; J. C. Bromagem, adjutant.
Sedgwick Post no. 2, Raton, F. W. Collier, post commander; Frank Olive, Adjutant.
Carleton Post no. 3, Santa Fe, New Wynkoop, post commander; Franklin Jordan, adjutant.
Sergeant Ben Hopper Post no. 4, Wallace, S. H. Bogardus, post commander; T. W. McIlvain, adjutant.
J. K. Warren Post no. 5, Albuquerque, E. S. Stover, post commander; W. F. Crane, adjutant.
Slough Post no. 6, Socorro, A. J. Bahney, Post commander; J. D. Emerson, adjutant.
McRae Post no. 7, [Silver City] J. M. Smith, Post commander, Sam O. Green, adjutant.

Las Vegas Morning Gazette

September 30, 1883

The G. A. R. post at Las Vegas has appointed a committee to draft resolutions of condemnation on the Farragut post of Denver for its unconstitutional election of ex-Senator Tabor. No doubt, the above named post deserves censure, but we hardly consider it within the province of the Thomas post to mix itself up in foreign affairs.—Silver City Evening Citizen.

❧ 1884 ❧

Journal of Eighteenth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1884

Roll of the National Encampment

New Mexico

Department Commander . . . E. W Wynkoop, Santa Fe

Senior Vice-Commander . . . S. W. Dorsey, Raton

Junior Vice-Commander . . . A. H. Bahney, Socorro

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe

Representative E. S. Stover, Albuquerque

Alternate . . . Stephen W. Dorsey, Raton

(* Not present)

Past Department Commander

Henry M. Atkinson, Santa Fe

Council of Administration

New Mexico. . . T. M. Collier, Raton

Resolutions

That the Quartermaster General be directed to pay to the Dakota delegation, for the benefit of this comrade, the sum of five hundred dollars. [This was a motion from a Comrade Tanner on behalf of a comrade who could not attend the encampment due to a severed limb, who was still in the hospital, and had a wife and three children]

Commander-in-Chief—I second our motion with very great cordiality and desire to say on behalf of the Ohio delegation that they take great pleasure in adding \$100. [Numerous Department delegations followed suit]

Comrade Fitzgerrell

Commander-in-Chief—In behalf of New Mexico, not represented on this floor, and as Aide-de-Camp on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, I have the pleasure of presenting the comrade a ten-dollar bill.

* * *

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

January 10, 1884

The annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, G. A. R., will be held in Las Vegas on Washington's birthday, February 22. It is the intention to give a ball in the evening at the opera house, which will be second to none in its magnificence.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette
February 18, 1884

Grand Army Talk

Col. J. A. Lockhart, from Deming post, will be here at the meeting of the G.A.R. encampment.

Col. George W. Fox, of Socorro, the junior vice-commander, will be with the Thomas post boys the 22d.

Miss Belle Teets will preside at the piano and lead in the musical and song program in the evening and song program the evening of the 22d.

Col. Blake, of the Socorro Sun, a member of the grand army of the republic, will be with the Thomas post boys on the 22d.

The delegates to the G. A. R. department encampment from all points south of Socorro will be here on the evening of Feb. 21.

"Marching Through Georgia," that grand old army song, will be sung at the meeting of the department encampment the evening of the 22d.

Gov. E. S. Stover, of Albuquerque, the past post commander of G. K. Warren post No. 5, will be with the G.A.R. on the 22d inst.

Col. S. H. Bogardus and Col. Moore, of Wallace will be with us at the G. A. R. encampment February 22d as delegates. Col. Bogardus will give the boys a gun talk.

The 22d of February will be a red letter day for the grand army boys of Las Vegas. The boys of Thomas post pose to entertain their old army comrades in a royal manner.

There will be a large delegation present from the G. A. R. posts at the meeting of the department encampment the 22d from White Oaks, Deming, Silver City, Fort Bayard, Socorro, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Wallace and Raton.

The department commander of the department of New Mexico and staff, Col. U. Woodruff, the commander of Carlton post No. 3, of Santa Fe, Gen. Stanly and staff, and Gen. Sheldon and staff, together with their wives, daughters have chartered a special car, and will arrive on the regular train from the south the morning of the 22d.

Thomas post held a regular meeting Saturday evening, the last one before the meeting of the department encampment on the 22d inst. James Laheay, formerly of company F, 1st Illinois light artillery, was admitted to membership. The different committees reported every arrangement perfected for a successful celebration on next Friday, and delegations are expected from every part of the territory. The post has assurance that Gen. D. S. Stanly and Gov. Sheldon would be present.

The New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)
May 1, 1884

GRAND ARMY GRIST Department of New Mexico

Commander E. W. Wynkoop has established his headquarters at room 5, Exchange hotel [Santa Fe], where the adjutant-general and the assistant quartermaster-general will have their offices. The Kit Carson monument committee will occupy the same quarters.

Mr. Jordan reports that subscriptions for the monument fund are coming in rapidly, and that he will hereafter publish weekly the lists of the amounts subscribed.

G. A. R. Personals

E. W. Wynkoop, department commander, left Colorado in February 1862, as Captain of Co. A, First Colorado Volunteers, and was subsequently made major of the regiment. He fought at the battles of Apache Canyon, Glorieta and Peralta. His record is too well known in New Mexico to make further allusion to the subject.

The Santa Fe New Mexican
June 5, 1884

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

In compliance with instructions received from national headquarters, Captain Jack Crawford, inspector general for the department of New Mexico, has issued an order for the inspection of the several posts in the territory, and has appointed the following comrades as assistant inspectors, who have been requested to perform the duties assigned to them on or before the 10th inst.,

Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas, T. W. Collier
Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton, S. W. Dorsey
Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe, E. W. Wood
Sergt. Ben Hopper Post No. 3, Wallace, W. F. Crane
G. K. Warren Post No. 4, Albuquerque, S. A. Bogardus
Slough Post No. 6, Socorro, Fletcher A. Blake
McRae Post No. 7, Silver City, W. L. Chambers
Custer Post No. 8, Deming, J. A. Lockhart
E. G. Roys Post No. 9, Fort Bayard, Richard Hudson
Kearney Post No. 10, White Oaks, J. Y. Hewitt

Carleton Post soon hopes to have a drum corps which will be a credit to Santa Fe. The matter has been talked over informally and it is proposed to organize with the following members, Frank Andrews, Douglas and Phillip Harroun, James Clark, Frank Wynkoop and Cleve Campbell.

New posts in the department will soon be organized in Lincoln, Dona Ana and Sierra counties and at Mineral Park, Arizona.

The New Mexican (Santa Fe)
December 13, 1884

GRAND ARMY AFFAIRS

Recent Acts and Orders of General Local Interest

William P. Becker was buried at the National cemetery yesterday with Military honors by Carleton post.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather, the post turned out with full ranks.

Department commander Wynkoop accompanied by some members of his staff and other comrades will leave for Taos on the 26th to take part in the services of dedicating the Kit Carson tablet [which marks his grave in Taos] which is now being cut at Raton. Captain Smith H. Simpson has charge of the local arrangements at Taos, and he promises that the entire community will turn out to honor Kit.

Headquarters G. A. R.
Department of New Mexico
Santa Fe N. M., Dec. 12, 1884

General Orders No. 6

Comrade J. H. Burke of Carlton Post No. 3, is appointed assistant quartermaster general, Department of New Mexico, G. A. R., vice comrade Franklin Jordon resigned.

All monies and property now in the hands of Comrade Jordon as A. Q. M. G. will be turned over to Comrade Burke . . .

By command of E. W. Wynkoop
Department Commander
W. S. Fletcher, A. A. G.

❧ 1885 ❧

Journal of Nineteenth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1885

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *J. J. Fitzgerrell

New Mexico

Commander . . . *J. J. Fitzgerrell, Las Vegas

Senior Vice Commander . . . A. J. Bahney, Socorro

Junior Vice Commander . . . S. H. Bogardus, Wallace

Assistant Adjutant General . . . John C. Bromagem, Las Vegas

Representative

*J. W. Crawford, San Marcial

Alternate

W. N. Smith, Albuquerque

(* Not present)

New Mexico

Comrade George W. Hartman, Department Inspector, reports eight Posts with membership of 285. Amount expended for charity, \$350.00. The Inspector reports the Department in a prosperous condition, and predicts that in the near future it will wield a power that will be felt for good, in the advancement of the principles of the Grand Army.

* * *

The Morning Journal (Albuquerque)

February 28, 1885

THE OLD BOYS

SECOND ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO

On Thursday's trains and those of yesterday morning the delegates to the second annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic for the department of New Mexico, arrived in this city, and the encampment convened promptly at 11 a. m. yesterday in Grand Army hall. Col. Ed W. Wynkoop, of Santa Fe, department commander, presiding. On the calling of the roll the following named officers replied present: E. W. Wynkoop, department commander; A. M. Whitcomb, senior vice commander; A. J. Bahney, junior vice commander; S. Aubright, medical director; Thomas Harwood, chaplain; W. S. Fletcher, assistant adjutant general; J. H. Burke, acting quartermaster general; S. H. Bogardus, chief mustering officer; W. F. Crane of the department council of administration.

The department commander appointed a committee on credentials as follows: W. S. Fletcher, acting adjutant general, chairman; S. H. Bogardus, W. F. Crane, W. D. Lee and R. H. Morslander. On motion, the encampment then adjourned until 1:30 p m., in order to give the committee on credentials time to make out its report. Upon the reassembling of the delegates, in the afternoon the committee on credentials reported the following list of names as properly accredited delegates: E. W. Wynkoop, department commander; A. Whitcomb, senior vice commander; A. J. Bahney, junior vice commander; S. Aubright, medical director; Thos. Harwood, chaplain; W. S. Fletcher, assistant adjutant general; J. H. Burke, assistant quartermaster general; Erastus W. Wood, inspector general; George W. Fox, judge advocate; S. H. Bogardus, chief mustering officer; H. M. Atkinson, past department commander, J. A. Lockhart, W. F. Crane, G. W. Cook, John Hill, J. H. Purdy, council of administration.

Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas—J. C. Bromagem, post commander; J. J. Fitzgerrell, past post commander; Orlando Smith, past post commander; W. E. Lee, Clarence Pullen, Geo. W. Blue, delegates; J. M. Tafoya, G. W. Hartman, E. K. Caldwell, alternates.

Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton—D. Resden, post commander, T. W. Collier, past post commander; S. W. Dorsey, delegate.

Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe—Francis Downs, post commander; J. R. Hudson, J. H. Purdy, W. M. Berger, delegates; J. E. Gregg, Hiram Crampton, S. W. Crawford, alternates.

Sergeant Ben Hopper Post No. 4, Wallace—James L. Morris, post commander; S. H. Bogardus, past post commander; Warren H. Morris, delegate; T. W. McIlvain, alternate.

G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque—E. S. Codington, post commander; E. S. Stover, past post commander; W. N. Smith, past post commander; A. B. Whitcomb, delegate; O. S. Pillsbury, alternate.

Slough Post No. 9, Socorro—Samuel C. Meek, post commander; A. H. Binkey past post commander; E. W. Eaton, J. H. Mills, delegates. J. H. Meader, Joe Emerson, alternates.

Custer Post No. 8, Deming—Byron A. Knowles, post commander, P. A. Carr, delegate; Homer Kidder, alternate.

Kearney Post No. 10, White Oaks—J. Y. Hewitt, Post commander; Wm. Caffney, delegate.

The council of administration then made its report, the only portion of which that can be made public was the announcement that A. M. Whitcomb, of G. K. Warren Post, had been elected senior vice commander, and J. H. Purdy, of Carleton Post, to be a member of the council of administration, both to fill vacancies, at the meeting of the council in the forenoon.

The address of the department commander and the reports of the assistant adjutant general, inspector general and assistant quartermaster general, were then submitted, these reports showing that the gain for the past year by muster in the department was 115, by transfer 2, by reenlistment 9; total, 129. The loss for the same time being by death 4, honorable discharge 61, transfer 4, suspension 60, dishonorable discharge 1: total, 130.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this department hereby warmly acknowledges the services of the women's relief corps auxiliary to the posts of this department.

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment are due and that the same be tendered to the officers and comrades of G. K. Warren post of Albuquerque for the use of their hall at this annual encampment, and for courtesies extended to the officers and delegates; and especially for the compliment of the invitation received to attend a reception and ball to be given by that post this evening.

Resolved further, That the invitation be received and that members attend.

Whereas: The position of Department Commander of this department has been honorably and faithfully filled by Post Commander, E. W. Wynkoop, whose term of office expires this day, and

Whereas: At all times during his term of office he has labored earnestly and devotedly, for the best interests and needs of the department, in season and out of season, and in all his intercourse with the officers and comrades, he has acted toward them with courtesy, and at all times proved himself to be a true comrade and a gentleman.

Resolved : That we tender him our best wishes in his retirement from office, and express our hopes that he may live long and be an honored member of this department, to aid us by his counsel and long experience and services in the cause of our glorious and noble order of fraternity, charity and loyalty.

Offered by

J. J. FITZGERRELL

Department Commander Wynkoop submitted his report as chairman of the Kit Carson monument committee, and the committee was continued as formerly constituted. On motion of Comrade Stover, the assistant adjutant-general was instructed to prepare suitable resolutions thanking Comrade Stephen W. Dorsey for the donation of the monument, which will be dedicated at Santa Fe on next Memorial Day. The monument committee also reported that the tablet erected over the grave of Kit Carson at Taos was dedicated with proper ceremonies December 27th, 1884.

Comrade Jack Crawford was invited by the encampment to write and deliver the poem at the unveiling of the monument and notice was given that Col. R. G. Ingersoll has accepted the invitation to deliver the address on that occasion, if possible for him to be in New Mexico at the time of the dedication.

The committee on memorials submitted the following report:

“Our comrades dead shall we forget?
Or shall a distance ever sever?
They linger in our memories ever yet,
And in our hearts they live forever.”

Whereas, in the providence of God, during the past year, the following comrades have been removed from our midst by death, viz: J. T. Harriman, a member of Sergeant Ben Hopper Post, No. 4, Wallace, died January, 1884. He was formally a member of Company D, 6th Regiment, Massachusetts; M. A. Gold, of Carleton Post, No. 3, Santa Fe, died May 3, 1884, was a member of the 1st Regiment, New Mexico Volunteers; W. C. Stiver of Slough Post, No. 6, Socorro, died December, 1884, served during the war as ship carpenter on the United States Steamer "General Price;" W. P. Becker, a member of Carleton Post, No. 3, died at Santa Fe, December, 1884. He had been a member of Company D, 89 New York Volunteers, and O. K. Axtel, who had been a member of Thomas Post, No. 1. He enlisted during the late war in a New Jersey Regiment, came to New Mexico some ten years ago, and was killed by a runaway team, at Las Vegas, November 25, 1884.

Resolved, That we sincerely mourn the loss of these our departed comrades, but bow in humble submission to the mandate of Him of whom it is said, "He doeth all things well."

Resolved, We hereby bear to the different posts of which these deceased comrades were members, as well as to their friends at home and abroad, these our expressions of condolence.

Resolved, While we sincerely regret the loss from our midst of each of these our comrades, we are at the same time profoundly grateful to our Heavenly Father that out of a membership of 164 in this department so few have been removed by death.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be handed to the leading papers of the territory for publication.

Thomas Harwood,
W. M. Berger,
J. W. Crawford.

With wild and unanimous acclaim the encampment agreed that Gen. U. S. Grant should be placed upon the retired list, and a resolution was adopted to send a dispatch to that effect to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate at Washington, and to General Grant in New York. In pursuance of this resolution the following telegram was sent as directed:

Albuquerque, N. M., Feb. 27, 1885.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, now in session:

Resolved, That this encampment earnestly urge upon congress the bill placing upon the retired list of the army that brave leader and soldier of the union, Gen. U. S. Grant.

W. N. Wynkoop.

Department Commander.

The encampment then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: Department commander, J. J. Fitzgerrell, Thomas post No. 1; senior vice commander, A. J. Bahney, Slough post No. 6; junior vice commander, S. H. Bogardus of Sergeant Ben Hopper post No. 4; Thomas Harwood, Thomas post No. 1, chaplain; S. Aubright, G. K. Warren post No. 5, medical director, John C. Bromagem, assistant adjutant-general Thomas post No. 1.

Council of administration—W. D. Lee, Thomas post No. 1; W. H. Moores, Ben Hopper post No. 4; W. F. Crane, G. K. Warren post No. 5; E. R. Bonnell, Kearny post No. 10; J. H. Purdy, Carleton post No. 3.

Delegate to national encampment J. W. Crawford, Carleton post No. 3; alternate, W. N. Smith, G. K. Warren post No. 5.

Socorro was selected as the next place for holding the encampment.

The encampment then adjourned sine die.

The Weekly New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)
May 21 1885

MEMORIAL DAY

Commander Fitzgerrell's Order—Big Day in Santa Fe—Thanks

Department Commander Fitzgerrell, G. A. R., writes the REVIEW stating that he will use his upmost endeavors to make the celebration of Memorial day and the unveiling of the Kit Carson monument a great success at Santa Fe. He expressed his hopes that delegates will be present from every post in the department. Following has just been issued:

HEADQR'S DEPT. of N. M. G.A.R.
Office of A. A. General,
Las Vegas, N. M., May 11, 1885

General Order No. 2

I. In obedience to general order No. 15, from national headquarters, grand army of the republic, each post in the department will observe Memorial day, May 30th.

Let posts of the grand army everywhere assemble. Enlist all loyal hearts in observance of the day. Let women and children be invited. Let all who reverence the flag unite in the ministrations of loyalty and affection. The custom of inviting the clergy to hold memorial services on the Sunday preceding Memorial day is again commended, and comrades should feel it a duty and a privilege to attend.

Our comrades sleep well—no tear can disturb their profound slumber, no perfume of flowers make their rest more sweet. But whenever Memorial day is observed there rises a higher ideal of American valor, a holier care for men who saved the union.

Each post commander in addition to being charged with the duty of carrying out to the letter and spirit of the above order, will take steps to see that the grave of every soldier within the jurisdiction of each post be decorated. Let suitable details be made from each post to visit all the neighboring towns and villages there, in connection with the invited citizens, decorate the graves with such ceremonies as circumstances will permit.

Remember comrades, we are but few in number upon the frontier, but ours [is] the duty to mark every soldier's grave throughout the department, and where flowers cannot be had, let the flag which we love and triumphantly followed to a glorious victory mark their resting places, and thus teach our children and the people with whom we are associated, who were born under a foreign flag, to honor, love, reverence and maintain the flag of our country.

The post chaplains will make detailed reports to department chaplain Thomas Harwood, of Tiptonville, Mora county, N.M., of the observance of the day by their respective posts for the embodiment in his report to these headquarters.

KIT CARSON MONUMENT

II. In accordance with resolutions adopted by the department of New Mexico, at its last annual encampment, the monument to the memory of our honored comrade Kit Carson, will be unveiled with appropriate ceremonies at the city of Santa Fe the 30th inst., by the department of New Mexico under the auspices of Carlton Post No.3. The department officers and staff of the department commander will report to the assistant adjutant general at headquarters to be established at the Exchange hotel, in the city of Santa Fe, at 8 a.m. for assignment to duty. Let the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, honor itself by honoring the memory of that grand old pioneer and patriot, General Kit Carson, by the presence of as many comrades from the different posts throughout the department as possible. A cordial invitation is extended to the donors of the "Kit Carson Monument Fund," members of the Grand Army of the Republic, officers of the regular army, government officials and citizens throughout the country, to be present on that occasion.

The thanks of the department of New Mexico, through the department commander, are due and hereby tendered the various subscribers of the "Kit Carson Monument Fund" throughout the nation, and especially to Comrade Stephen W. Dorsey, by whose magnanimous generosity, the monument in all its magnificence, was built and shipped to its final resting place.

The Santa Fe New Mexican
June 1, 1885

GARLANDS OF GLORY

Five Hundred Bouquets strewn on the Graves of the Nation's Dead in Santa Fe

Five Thousand People Witness the Event and Solemnly Celebrate Memorial Day

Imposing Ceremonies Attending the Dedication of the Kit Carson Monument

History of the Splendid Column which Stands to His Memory on Lincoln Avenue

Sketch of the Pioneer's Life—Interviews with his Son and Comrades—The Orations

The Festivities Concluded by a Reception of the G.A.R. at the Governor's Home



The observance of Memorial and the unveiling and dedication of the Kit Carson monument in Santa Fe was indeed a memorable event. The solemn festivities were carried out in the most imposing manner, and in magnitude fully came up to the expectations of every visitor and citizen. Flags and bunting and evergreens were visible everywhere. The plaza, portals and principle streets constituted bowers of beauty and marital magnificence. The day was perfect, the rays of the bright warm sun being softened by a gentle breeze. Sun-rise salutes for the nation's dead were fired both at Fort Marcy and in the plaza. The city and its guests woke early, and when the celebration began at 2 p.m., 5,000 people thronged the principal thoroughfares. Chief Marshal E. W. Wynkoop and his aides, Col. W. S. Fletcher, Dr. J. H. Sloan, Sheriff Romulo Matinez [sic], Don Francisco Chavez and Mr. J. S. Barnum were engaged for forty minutes getting the parade in line, and promptly on time the bugle sounded and the procession started in the following order: [the entire list of participants is very lengthy and not listed here but some were]: Veterans of Kit Carson's Regiment, Carlton Post No. 3, G. A. R., including visiting members of the G. A. R., and Veterans of the War, Forty Children from the Santa Fe Indian Industrial school accompanied by ten Pueblo Chiefs, Department Commander J. J. Fitzgerrell, and Staff, on horseback, Governor L. A. Sheldon and Kit Carson's eldest son, Wm. Carson, in a carriage, the Governor's Staff, Flower wagons, Citizens in vehicles and horsemen.

The long roll of the snare drum, the dead march by the band, and the solemn mien and stately step of the magnitude rendered the scene one of thrilling interest as the order of "Forward" was given and the long line took up its march to the city of the dead.

At the National Cemetery

The 498 heroes whose dust rests beneath the green sward in the military burial ground never slept so sweetly under garlands of glory as on this occasion. The procession filed in and was called to a halt in such a manner as to leave the members of the Carleton post, the veterans and the pioneers occupying a position directly in the center of the enclosure. A brief address was made by Post Commander Downs, and Post Adjutant Hibbit repeated the customary service. Rev. Dr. Wm. E. Jones of the 1st Presbyterian church, delivered an eloquent prayer; the band played an impressive dirge and, the multitude complied with the post commander's order: "Comrades, salute the dead!" Then the thrilling notes of the bugle rang out with martial strains and the procession broke ranks for ten minutes.

One striking feature in the affair was the myriad of prettily dressed flower girls present, who aided by the ladies of the floral committee, plied their tiny baskets full of flowers and performed the duty of decorating the tombs. This is a beautiful phase of the day's festivities which is new, and should be encouraged, for it promotes lively interest in the observance of the now, universal custom among the mothers and children of the land which will tend toward perpetuating it for centuries to come. . . .

After every grave had been decorated the sound of the bugle brought the various divisions of the parade again into line and the chief marshal led the way to the foot of San Francisco street, thence up to the plaza, and thence to the head of Lincoln avenue.

The Kit Carson Monument

During the winter of 1883, Col. Wm. Craig, Capt. Smith Simpson and Col. W. S. Fletcher, while on a tour of inspection to the rich gold mines near Taos, owned by Col. Craig and others, had occasion to pass the lonely mounds where rests the dust of Kit Carson and his faithful spouse [Maria Josefa Jaramillo Carson], and the heroic deeds of the celebrated scout naturally became a subject for comment. Two grass covered mounds surrounded by a dilapidated, rudely constructed picket fence were all that marked the spot. A monument to the memory of the brave Kit was spoken of then for the first time, and upon return to Santa Fe the subject was broached to a few of the pioneer citizens and members of the G. A. R., the same being the first annual encampment of the order of the department of New Mexico, the then adjutant general, Col. W. S. Fletcher, introduced a resolution February 22, 1884, providing for the appointment of a committee to take steps for the erection of a monument in honor of Major General Kit Carson. Col. W. E. Wynkoop, who was at that encampment chosen the department commander, was made ex-officio chairman of this committee and a representative from each post in the territory was selected as members as follows: J. C. Bromagem, Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas; Daniel Ridsen, Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton; W. S. Fletcher, Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe; S. H. Bogardus, Sergt. Ben Hopper Post No. 4, Wallace; E. S. Stover, G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque; A. J. Bahney, Slough Post No. 6, Socorro; Richard Hudson, McRae Post No. 7, Silver City; B. A. Knowles, Custer Post No. 8, Deming; A. L. Vallet, E. G. Roys Post No. 9, Fort Bayard and H. C. Harrison, Kearney Post No. 10, White Oaks.

The original intention was to erect a plain column over the grave site at Taos, and twenty-five cent subscriptions were asked for to this end, G. A. R. posts west of the Missouri and those of Kentucky and Missouri, his birthplace and his home, being permitted to subscribe. A liberal response came and a considerable sum was thus realized, but as the affair grew in interest it grew in proportions, many of the comrades and admirers of the brave Kit, being quite unwilling that so little should be done to honor his memory. Finally it was agreed to place a tablet at the grave site of Carson and his wife, and erect to the same end a monument here in Santa Fe.

The general committee met at Albuquerque April 5, 1884, eight of the ten posts being represented, and an organization was perfected by the election of E. W. Wynkoop as chairman and W. S. Fletcher, secretary. It was agreed that, owing to the scattered location of the posts, the executive committee, consisting of chairman Wynkoop, Secretary Fletcher and Messrs. E. S. Stover, Daniel Ridsen, and J. C. Bromagem, should have entire charge of all matters connected with the erection and dedication of the monument. About this time Ex-Senator Stephen W. Dorsey, a member of Sedgwick post No. 2, at Raton, and, who from the very start, had taken a deep interest in the success of the enterprise, notified the committee that he would bear the bulk of the cost of this

projected monument and he proposed to have the column chiseled into shape on his own premises in Colfax county. This generous offer was accepted and Senator Dorsey immediately took steps to fulfill his part of the agreement. In the meantime the tablet was completed and forwarded to Taos, and there, on December 28, 1884, it was placed over the graves of Carson and his wife, the dedication being attended with much ceremony and witnessed by over 5,000 people. Six weeks ago the Santa Fe Board of Trade raised \$250 and expended it in constructing an enduring stone foundation for the monument on the site at the head of Lincoln avenue which had been selected by proper committees representing the G. A. R. and the Santa Fe Board of Trade. Ten days ago the monument was shipped from Senator Dorsey's ranch to Santa Fe, the A., T. & S. F. donating the freight charges; was safely transferred from the depot to the grounds by government teams supplied through the kindness of Gen. L. P. Bradley, and on Wednesday last it was put in place by Contractor R. D. Silver under the direction of a committee of the Board of Trade, of which Judge Spiegelberg, president of the Board of Trade, was chairman and having, as its members, Hon. Sol Spiegelberg, Gen. E. L. Bartlett and Col. Max Frost.

Dedication of the Column

Arriving on the government grounds at the head of Lincoln avenue, the procession broke ranks; the horsemen and the occupants of vehicles alighted, and a rush for grand points of observation and hearing ensued. The orators and officers of the day, members of the governor's and department commanders staff, ladies of the floral committee, and the pretty flower girls, were admitted to seats in the upper balcony of the speaker's stand, and the military band occupied the lower floor. After music and a prayer by Chaplain Harwood, Col. E. W. Wynkoop, as chairman of the Kit Carson Monument committee said: "Ladies, Gentlemen and Comrades—as chairman of the Kit Carson Monument committee, I desire to say our work is finished. There it stands; at present veiled by the flag he loved in whose memory that column is erected, it is a result of a resolution offered by Comrade Fletcher in the first annual encampment, G. A. R., department of New Mexico, and now, the labors of the committee having ceased, I deliver the monument to the department commander, Comrade Fitzgerrell, as well as the conduct of the ceremonies attending the dedication of the same to the memory of the pioneer pathfinder, and soldier."

At this time the beautifully bedecked column, its base resting on an embankment of flowers and evergreen, and the pedestal wrapped in the stars and stripes, was eagerly watched by every eye. A second later Territorial Secretary Sam'l A. Losch, ex-senator, vice department commander of Pennsylvania said:

"Through and by the authority of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, I do now dedicate and unveil this column to the memory of Brigadier General Kit Carson." The stars and stripes fell away and exposed the beautiful structure. The monument is of a fine grained brown stone from the Dorsey quarries, and bears the following inscriptions in neatly chiseled gold-faced letters:

South side
 KIT CARSON
 DIED MAY 23d, 1868
 AGE 59 YEARS

West side
 HE LED THE WAY

North side
 PIONEER
 PATHFINDER
 SOLDIER

East side
 ERECTED BY COMRADES OF THE G.A.R.

The Orations

In receiving the shaft from Chairman Wynkoop, Department Commander J. J. Fitzgerald expressed the deepest pleasure on behalf of the G. A. R. comrades of this department; thanked Senator Dorsey for the interest he had manifested in its completion; spoke briefly of the gallant members of Kit Carson's old regiment; said the column was erected by and among a patriotic loving people; touched tenderly upon the Grand Army of the Republic and its institutions; paid a tribute to Kit Carson's pioneer associates who were present; thanked the committee for its earnest work; consigned the column to the keeping of Carleton Post No. 3, of Santa Fe, and closed by giving the military record of the western pathfinder as follows:

The records of the adjutant general's office of the United States army, on file in the war department at Washington, show Gen. Kit Carson's military record to be as follows: Second lieutenant, United States mounted rifles, June 9, 1847 to January 28, 1848. He was mustered in as lieutenant-colonel of the First New Mexico cavalry, to date July 25, 1861, for three years. On the roll for September and October 1861 he is reported promoted colonel, September 20, 1861, by reason of the muster out and consolidation of the regiment. He was mustered in as lieutenant-colonel of the 1st battalion of New Mexico volunteers, October 8, 1866, and mustered out November 22, 1867, and brevetted brigadier-general of the United States volunteers, to date March 13, 1865, "for gallantry in the battle of Valverde and for distinguished services in New Mexico."

Governor Lionel A. Sheldon delivered the principal oration of the occasion. . . On the breaking out of the rebellion and as soon as it was apparent that New Mexico would be a theater of the war, Kit Carson was appointed colonel of the first regiment, of New Mexican volunteer infantry. He participated in the battle of Valverde with his usual gallantry and after the battle at Apache Canyon and the confederates had left the territory, Carson was assigned to special duty against the Indians under General Carleton. . .

Major Pedro Sanchez, the aggressive and esteemed Pueblo Indian agent followed with the Spanish oration of the day. He occupied the attention of the audience for about thirty minutes, speaking fluently and distinctly without notes or other references . . .

Note: Their extremely lengthy speeches praising Kit Carson, his life and service, were printed in the newspaper but not here because of a lack of space.

The Pioneers

It is pleasant to note the fact that so many of the pioneer associates of Kit Carson had the good fortune to be with us and take part in the ceremonies attending the unveiling of this shaft. . . . Beside those named elsewhere by Major Sanchez, there were present: Don Martin Quintana, who was lieutenant in Kit's regiment; Elias Brevoort, Esq., whose life Kit had saved in a battle with the Indians; Capt. Smith H. Simpson, his neighbor and old time friend; Judge Sam'l Ellison who had often entertained the celebrated scout at his "Percussion mess," the pioneer headquarters of which was in the building now occupied as Col. Griffin's home; Hon. Sol Spielberg who was quartermaster at Valverde; Mr. J. L. Johnson, the former merchant and personal friend of Kit; Col. E. W. Wynkoop, who had slept many a night in the same tent with the hero; Capt. Louis Felsenthal, also a side by side fighter with Kit, and Capt. John Ayers, his associate in fighting the rebels at Apache pass [Apache Canyon].

Kit's Son Talks

Mr. William Carson, a resident of Costilla county, Colo., and who for several years has held the responsible position of county sheriff, is Kit Carson's eldest son. Naturally he was one of the most conspicuous figures of the day, and many a warm clasp of the brawny right hand did he get for his own and his father's sake. Wm. Carson very considerably resembles his father; he has the same keen, deeply set eyes, quick-sited but slow of speech and his natural modesty is readily perceived. "I deeply appreciate the honor the G. A. R. of New Mexico has done my father on this day," said he to the REVIEW representative. "I do not know how to thank them; and my brothers and sisters commissioned me to say for them that this day's work will never be effaced from the tablets of their memory." This was all he said and those who knew him were surprised at even this, for they well knew his characteristic diffidence. . .

The G. A. R. Reception

About twilight the visiting members of the G. A. R. were invited to meet the members of Carleton post at their hall and, there a general reunion took place, brief addresses of congratulation being made by many of the

visitors. At 8 o'clock a message came to the effect that Gov. Sheldon would be pleased to entertain the members of the G. A. R. and their ladies, and a hearty welcome was given to the old boys in blue and their wives and sweethearts. A bountiful repast was served, and a season of unalloyed pleasure followed, lasting till after 10 o'clock. Thus closed the festivities of the day.

❧ 1886 ❧

Journal of Twentieth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1886

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *W. N. Smith, Albuquerque

Commander . . . *E. S. Stover, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander . . . J. A. Miller, Silver City

Junior Vice Commander . . . Dr. Grochenor, Socorro

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *A. M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque

Representative

*Stephen W. Dorsey, Raton

Alternate . . . *G. W. Hartman, Las Vegas

(* Not present)

Inspector General's Report

New Mexico

Comrade George W. Hartman, Department Inspector, prior to the close of his official term, forwarded his report to date of December 31, 1885, showing 11 Posts with 347 comrades.

* * *

Sierra County Advocate (Kingston)

January 23, 1886

Kingston News

Lake Valley Press:

The Grand Army of the Republic of Kingston, intends to hold a grand ball on the 30th of this month. We expect many of you Lake Valley people to attend with your ladies.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

February 2, 1886

A. M. Whitcomb, of Albuquerque, has resigned the position of Judge Advocate, in the G. A. R., department of New Mexico, and Harry Whitney has been appointed in his stead.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

February 5, 1886

George W. Hartman, the assistant inspector general, G. A. R., department of New Mexico, made his report for 1885 to department commander Fitzgerrell. During the year there were three new posts chartered, making eleven now in good standing, having a membership of 347 comrades. During the year but two died, leaving a net gain of eighty-three. The report shows activity and prosperity in the order.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

February 25, 1886

The Grand Army of the Republic of New Mexico elected E. S. Stover of Albuquerque, to be department commander at their recent encampment.

Sierra County Advocate (Kingston)

March 13, 1886

The posts mustered in are McRae Post No. 7, at Silver City which took its old name and number; U. S. Grant Post No. 11, at Hillsboro; and Veteran Post No. 12, at Kingston, the last two in Sierra county. These posts are in a flourishing condition and promise to become very efficient, in the point of numbers and discipline. The Posts throughout the department show marked efficiency and zeal, as seen by reference to the Inspector General's report. Every indication points to the fact that the department of New Mexico is on the high road to prosperity and usefulness in the cause of Friendship, Charity, and Loyalty.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

April 8, 1886

Card of Invitation

To the different churches, relief societies, and to the general public: The members of the Thomas Post Relief Woman's Corps, would respectfully invite you to be present at Grand Army hall on Friday evening, April 9th, at 7:30 p.m. sharp, to witness the installation of Mrs. Cassie Henderson as provisional department president of the department of New Mexico, auxiliary to the department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic. It is hoped that friends of relief work throughout the city will be present.

R. S. Tenney
President.

Mrs. Cassie Henderson, president of the Woman's Relief Corps, at Raton, and provisional president of the Department of New Mexico, came in on the delayed train last night. Mrs. Henderson will be installed into her new office tomorrow night, 7:30, at the Grand Army hall, by Commander J. J. Fitzgerrell.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

April 24, 1886

Thomas Post, Grand Army of the Republic, will kindle a camp fire tonight in their hall on Lincoln avenue, to which they invite all comrades who may be stopping in the city.

Las Vegas Daily Gazette

May 23, 1886

The Woman's Relief Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic give an ice cream festival at the Army hall on Wednesday night. This is the first time this institution has appeared before the public for patronage; and, as the object is a noble one, it is but right they should receive a large encouragement.

❧ 1887 ❧

Journal of Twenty-First Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1887

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . T. W. Collier, Santa Fe
New Mexico

Commander . . . *John Y. Hewitt, White Oakes

Senior Vice Commander . . . *George W. Hartman, Las Vegas

Junior Vice Commander . . . *J. D. Whitham, Kingston

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *Lee H. Rudisille

Representative

*William H. Whiteman (at large), Albuquerque

Alternate

L. C. Fort (at large), Las Vegas

(* Not present)

Inspector General's Report

New Mexico

Through Comrade Wm. Berger, Assistant Inspector General, Department Commander John Y. Hewitt, forwards the report for this Department and says:

“We regret very much our inability to make our report as full as it ought to be, owing to the imperfect manner in which inspections were carried out last year.”

My worthy predecessor informs us in his report that there was no report received from this Department as called for in General Orders No. 12, National Headquarters. Comrade Berger, A. I. G., filed his report, and it shows a slight gain in both Posts and members, since the report of December 31, 1885.

Comrade Berger says there are 12 Posts and 359 comrades in good standing; the Ritual is committed to memory and properly performed in everyone of the 12 Posts; officers and guards are properly uniformed in 10 Posts; and comrades are partially uniformed in all 12 Posts; officers and comrades are regular in attendance and exhibit an interest; records are complete and well kept; orders received regularly and read to Posts, and observed in every Post.

Now if Comrade Berger has not been misinformed as to all this information and I hope he has not, the Department of New Mexico, although small and the Posts scattered, is a model Department.

There are also in this Department four Woman's Relief Corps with 80 members.

* * *

Sierra County Advocate (Kingston)

January 22, 1887

Kingston still continues to improve—Veteran Post of the Grand Army are considering the feasibility of forming a stock company and building a two story brick, 80 feet deep.

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT
Headquarters Department of New Mexico
Grand Army of the Republic

Albuquerque, N. M., Jan. 12, '87

General Orders

No. 11

I. The Fourth Annual Encampment, of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, is hereby called to meet at Santa Fe, New Mexico, at 11:00 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, February 8, 1887, for the election of officers and council of administration for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may regularly come before it.

II. Representation in the encampment will be in compliance with chapter iii, article ii, of the rules and regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic. Posts in arrears of reports and dues will not be allowed representation, and no proxies will be admitted.

III. The council of administration will convene at 10:00 o'clock a.m. at the same place and date, and all members are expected to be present.

IV. Officers will make full reports, in writing, to the encampment, of the operations of their several respective departments.

V. Application has been made for reduced rates of transportation from different points in the department to the encampment, which will undoubtedly be secured, and the rate will be announced in general orders.

By command of E. S. Stover, Department Commander,
Wm. H. Whiteman, Asst. Ajt.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

February 2, 1887

The fourth annual encampment, G. A. R. department of New Mexico, will begin at Santa Fe in Catron's hall, Tuesday, February 8. At 8 o'clock in the evening there will be a musical and oratorical program presented, to be followed by a ball and banquet. Ticket admitting gentlemen and lady \$2. For sale at Weltmer's news stand and from members of Carleton Post.

The New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)

February 10, 1887

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Condensed Report of the G. A. R., Work in Hand To-day

The fourth annual encampment of the G. A. R., department of New Mexico is in session at Carleton Post hall to-day. There are thirty-one delegates present, representing every post in the territory, save three—those at Hillsboro, Silver City and Socorro. The council of administration went into session at 11 o'clock, Gov. E. S. Stover, department commander, presiding. Annual reports of officers were read and received and the committee on credentials also made its report. In his annual report, the department commander referred feelingly to the death of the Hon. John A. Logan and the late Henry M. Atkinson and made a number of recommendations looking to promote the good of the order.

The adjutant general's report shows a total membership of 365. During the year, 125 new members were mustered in; the net loss by death and transfers was 110 and the net gain was fifteen members. The quartermaster general's report showed the organization to be in a flourishing condition financially. At 2 o'clock the encampment opened, Department Commander Stover presiding. At this writing, the election for officers has not taken place.

The people of Santa Fe will tender the delegates in a hospitable reception at Catron's hall this evening. Beginning at 8 o'clock an entertaining musical and oratorical program will be presented and at its conclusion a ball and banquet will take place.

Sierra County Advocate (Kingston)

July 8, 1887

Capt. John P. Hyland, Adjutant of Post No. 12, [Veteran Post] G. A. R., starts Friday morning on a tour of inspection of the several posts of the Department of New Mexico.

The New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)

September 22, 1887

NEW MEXICO'S G. A. R.

Department Commander Hewitt's Order Relating to the National Encampment Cactus, Canes and Uniforms—
A Little Side Exhibit of the Resources of the Territory

Being the first to publish Commander Hewitt's official order relating to the attendance at the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the NEW MEXICAN, would urge specially from the members of this territory a hearty and full compliance with his suggestion that specimens of mineral, fruit, precious stones, coal and native grasses be taken to St. Louis with them and there exhibited in order to give the thousands of strangers at the east some idea of the natural resources of our great and growing territory. The following out of this suggestion will prove a great lever for permanent good; other states are doing likewise, and if each member from New Mexico takes a little pains he can thus contribute his mite toward attracting a great deal of attention to the industrial, agricultural and general business advantages of New Mexico. Following is the order:

Headq'rs Dept of New Mexico,
Grand Army of the Republic
White Oaks, N. M. Sept. 12 '87

General Orders No. 6

For the information of comrades of this department who wish to attend the 21st national encampment, to be held in the city of St. Louis, commencing September 27, the following instructions are given:

Rates have finally been secured over the A., T. & S. F. railroad for all points in New Mexico. Round trip tickets can be procured at all principal stations along the road at half the usual rates. Sales of tickets to begin the 22d of September and continue until the 25th. These tickets will be good for the return trip until October 25, with a probable extension to the 30th of same month.

Comrades who wish to procure sleeping car accommodations should apply at once to A. W. Reppy, the agent at East Las Vegas.

Department headquarters will be located during the encampment in parlor No 2 ½, Planters hotel, one of the most central points in the city.

The department commander wishes to see as many of the comrades as possible, so that New Mexico may move with the procession instead of simply being an appendage. Kearney Post No. 10, of White Oaks, will present the department with a magnificent banner to be carried at the head of the column at all occasions of parade. As a further distinctive mark, it is earnestly desired that each comrade provide himself with a cactus cane, to be carried while in attendance, and especially while on the line of march.

The uniform adopted by the department, is the regulation Grand Army uniform, not only because it is the most appropriate for a veteran soldier to wear, but because the price is in reach of any comrade, no matter how humble his circumstances. It is therefore sincerely hoped that each member who attends the encampment will appear in uniform.

Immediately after the close of the encampment, there will be an excursion over the Louisville and Nashville railroad to the city of Atlanta and intermediate points, giving an opportunity to visit many of the old battle fields. The fare from St. Louis to Nashville and return is fixed at \$7.50; to Chattanooga and return, \$10.00; to Atlanta and return \$12.75, with the option of returning to Cincinnati instead of St. Louis. (An inflation calculator puts those fares in 2022 dollars respectively as: \$250, \$334 and \$426.)

The attention of post commanders is called to the circular and blanks recently furnished for registering the names of the comrades and of their posts who will attend the encampment. It is necessary that these blanks be filled out at the very earliest possible moment and forwarded to the proper chairman of the committee in St. Louis, in order that the register be nearly completed as possible before the delegations begin to arrive, otherwise it will be impossible for the committee to furnish the work satisfactorily.

The records of Ben Hopper Post No. 4, are now in possession of these headquarters, all former members of that organization who were in good standing on its rolls at the time the charter was surrendered, can procure transfer cards on application through the proper channels.

While it is not proposed to make the headquarters of the department an exhibition, yet it is suggested that all members who attend the encampment, and who have unique or specially valuable specimens of mineral, or other of the peculiar products of New Mexico, should bring them to St. Louis. Such specimens would not only interest our comrades from the east, but would benefit our territory.

By order of
John Y. Hewitt
Department Commander,
Lee H. Rudisille,
Assistant Adjt, General

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)

October 29, 1887

The National Tribune, Organ of the G. A. R., says of our fellow townsman, all of which we, and the veteran soldiers of New Mexico heartily endorse: "The sequel to a California romance, was the appearance in St. Louis of a distinguished bridal party, of which the principals were Col. Lee H. Rudisille A. A. G. Department of New Mexico, and Maggie Monroe, Past Department Secretary of Iowa. A gallant soldier and a true gentleman has clasped hands with one of the fairest and noblest of American women, and the benedictions of the G. A. R. and the W. R. C. [Woman's Relief Corps] abide upon them now and forever.

❧ 1888 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Second Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1888

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *James H. Purdy, Santa Fe

New Mexico

Commander . . . *Francis Downs, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . Clarence T. Barr, Kingston

Junior Vice Commander . . . John C. Bromagem, Las Vegas

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *James H. Purdy, Santa Fe

Representatives

*E. G. Savage (at large), Raton

Alternate

A. J. Bahney (at large), Socorro

(* Not present)

* * *

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)

April 28, 1888

Headquarters Department of New Mexico

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

General Orders

No. 2

Santa Fe, N. M.,

April 20, '88

The following appointments are announced:

Judge Advocate, William H. Whiteman, Albuquerque.

Inspector John P. Hyland, of Kingston.

Chief Mustering Officer Wm. Caffrey, White Oaks.

2. Aides de Camp on staff of Department Commander—Jno. T. Forsha, Santa Fe ; C. B. Sargent, Raton; George O. Perrault, Hillsboro; Stephen Maxson, Las Vegas; W. H. Hugo, Fort Bayard.

3. By the Supreme Authority of our Order, "The Blue Book," compiled and written by Past Commander-in-chief, R. B. Beath has been endorsed as a standard and authoritative book of reference and constituted Grand Army Law.

It can be procured of the Assistant Quartermaster General. Each Post, should, without delay, obtain at least one copy.

4. All Posts in this Department are at liberty to select their own style of uniform. Until the Encampment adopts a uniform for members of this Department, it is recommended to the Posts that they adhere in the color of their uniform to the dark army blue.

5. We, as comrades, should remember that on the soil of New Mexico, in the early part of the late Rebellion, were fought the battles of Valverde, Peralta, and Glorieta in the defense of our common country. The importance of these battles, ending in the repulse of the rebel forces, under General Sibley, cannot be overestimated.

New Mexico furnished 6,561 volunteer soldiers during the civil war; but only a little over 300 have been enrolled in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic in this Department.

While most of the loyal states have enacted laws for the assistance of their volunteer soldiers, not a single act has been passed for the volunteer soldiers of New Mexico, except the erecting of a monument in honor of the dead at Santa Fe.

We urge every comrade to exert his personal influence to carry out the cardinal principles of this Order; Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. Let not these words be to us but lifeless forms. Let our loyalty to our country be supplemented to every one, who, in common with us, helped to maintain its integrity.

By order of
Francis Downs
Dep't. Commander
Jas. H. Purdy,
Ass't Adj't General

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)
May 19, 1888

Headquarters Dept. of N. M.
Grand Army of the Republic
Santa Fe, N. M., May 12, '88

General Orders No. 3

The attention of the comrades of this department is called to General Orders No. 7 of the Commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. in regard to the due observance of May, 30, 1888, as

MEMORIAL DAY

A strict observance of said order is urged on every comrade, as well as posts of the department.

The rules and regulations of our Order make it the imperative duty of the posts and comrades, without further direction, to observe Memorial Day.

As comrades let us with reverent spirit, pay this tribute of respect to the memory of our departed comrades, and thus preserve and perpetuate the memory of those who fought in defense of national unity. The bodies of thousands of our comrades now lie sleeping in almost every city, village, and hamlet in the land.

Although we no longer stand upon the bloody battle fields whence we saw many of their lifeless forms borne to the soldier's grave; yet wherever they may be found, let us at the appointed time, "gather around their sacred remains, and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of spring time."

2. The commander of this department concurs with the recommendation of the Commander-in-chief, "that wherever practicable posts are directed to attend divine worship in bodies on the Sabbath preceding Memorial Day."

A respectful request is made of the Clergy of this Department, that during the services at their various churches, on Sunday, May 27th, special reference be made to Memorial Day. Invite all classes of people to unite with you in honoring our heroic dead, that by the beautiful and solemn ceremonies of the day, the rising as well as the future generations may be taught to cherish a grateful remembrance of those who offered all in defense of our national integrity and honor, and thereby instill and nurture a patriotic devotion to our common country.

By command of
Francis Downs
Dep't. Commander
Jas. H. Purdy,
Ass't Adj't General

❧ 1889 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Third Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1889

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *James H. Purdy, Santa Fe

New Mexico

Commander . . . John H. Mills, Socorro

Senior Vice Commander . . . Lee H. Rudisille, Socorro

Junior Vice Commander . . . *Alex M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Francis Buchanan, Socorro

Representatives

Hiram Crampton (at large), Santa Fe

Alternate

*Wm. A. Rankin (at large), Albuquerque

(* Not present)

Report of Inspector General

New Mexico

No report from Department Inspector

Assistant Inspector General Andrew J. Bahney reports 11 Posts in good standing, with a membership of 342. The Posts are reported in good condition, and the business at Department Headquarters is properly conducted.

Report of the Adjutant-General

The following table shows the condition of the Departments Grand Army of the Republic, June 30, 1888-June 30, 1889.

New Mexico: June 30, 1888, 10 Posts, 302 members; June 30, 1889, 9 Posts, 314 members.

* * *

Western Liberal (Lordsburg)

February 22, 1889

Optic: The annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico was to have been held at Kingston, but in view of the fact that the order in that town met with a serious fire recently, Department Commander Downs has ordered that the encampment shall be held at Albuquerque, March 26th.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

March 28, 1889

THE GRAND ARMY

Home From the Encampment

Judge Francis Downs, Major J. H. Purdy, Col. Ned Wynkoop, Hiram Crampton, Capt. Smith H. Simpson, Gen. Meily, John T. Forsha, Col. Fletcher, Will C. Burton, Henry M. Davis and a whole host of genial comrades got home yesterday from Albuquerque, where they attended the 6th annual encampment of the G. A. R. All unite in saying they were most hospitably entertained down there. The next encampment will be held at Socorro. By the election of Capt. J. H. Mills, department commander, the headquarters will also go to Socorro. The encampment adopted resolutions thanking Judge Downs, Major Purdy, Capt. Davis and other retiring officers for their zeal in behalf of the organization during the past year.

The newly elected officers of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico have military records as follows, furnished by Major James H. Purdy, late A. A. G.:

John H. Mills, elected commander, was born in Ohio; entered the service September 5, 1862, as a private in Co. E, 11th Kansas Volunteers and was honorably discharged June 22, 1864, on account of wounds received in battle. He was mustered into the G. A. R. in Slough post No. 6, Socorro, and has held almost every position in the post. His leg was amputated some two years ago.

His assistant adjutant general, Francis Buchanan, of Socorro, was born in Indiana; enlisted December 6, 1863, as a private in Co. D, 130th Indiana Volunteers, and was discharged May 12, 1865, by reason of expiration of term of service. He was mustered into Kearney post No. 10, of White Oaks, July 19, 1886, and served as A. A. G. on the staff of Department Commander John Y. Hewitt, as well as filling other positions in his post.

Lee H. Rudisille, of White Oaks, elected senior vice department commander, was born in Ohio. Enlisted September 1, 1861, as a private in Co. H, 38th Ohio volunteers, was discharged from the service July 20, 1865, on account of the expiration of his term of service. He was mustered into Kearney post No. 10, of White Oaks, July 19, 1886, and served as A. A. G. on the staff of John Y. Hewitt, as well as filling other positions in the post.

A. M. Whitcomb, of Albuquerque, the newly elected department junior vice commander, was born in Canada, served in the band of the 3rd Vermont volunteers, of the old 6th army corps, but never hesitated to carry a gun when necessary. He has been one of the most active and energetic members of Warren post, of Albuquerque, and can be counted upon as one of New Mexico's delegates to the next national encampment, to be held in August next, at Milwaukee.

Rev. Thos. Harwood, of Socorro, who was re-elected chaplain, is too well known in the territory to need mention here. He enlisted as a private in Co. G, 25th Wisconsin Volunteers, and was discharged as a sergeant in March 1864. He first joined the G. A. R. in Thomas post of Las Vegas in 1883, and is now a member of the Socorro post.

Carleton post, of Santa Fe, is represented among the elective officers by Hiram Crampton, who goes to Milwaukee as the Department delegate. He served in the 79th Ohio volunteers during the war from August 1862 until June 1864 and was commissioned as an officer in the 44th U. S. Infantry. He has always been one of the best working officers and member of Carleton post, and is its present efficient commander.

Capt. Smith H. Simpson and Gen. L. M. Meily were elected members of the department council of administration.

Gen. Meily is a new member of the order, but he will be heard from in the future. He enlisted July 9, 1861, as a private in Co. I, 27th Ohio volunteers, and was discharged as captain, November 9, 1864, on expiration of time of service.

The reports of Department Commander Downs, A. A. G. Purdy and Q. M. Gen. Davis are models in their way, and the Santa Feans are proud of them as members of the order.

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)
March 30, 1889

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

The Sixth Annual Encampment, department of New Mexico, G. A. R., met at Albuquerque Tuesday, the 22th inst. Every preparation has been made to entertain the Veterans in a manner befitting the occasion. Arrangements have been made for the great camp fire at Union Hall and a pork and bean supper. This will be under the immediate charge of the Woman's Relief Corps. At Grant's Opera House, the Sons of Veterans will show their respects to the old soldiers, through the medium of a grand Ball.

We copy the following from the Albuquerque Democrat:

The following is the roster of the officers and representatives in attendance:

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Department Commander Francis Downs, Santa Fe,
Past department commanders, Edward W. Wynkoop, Santa Fe; J. H. Fitzgerald, Las Vegas; Elias S. Stover, Albuquerque; John Y. Hewitt, White Oaks.
Senior department vice commander, Clarence T. Barr, Kingston.
Junior vice department commander, J. C. Bromagem, Las Vegas.
Assistant adjutant general, James H. Purdy, Santa Fe.
Inspector, James H. Hyland, Kingston.

Judge advocate, William H. Whiteman, Albuquerque.

Chief mustering officer, Wm. Caffrey, White Oaks.

Medical director, Myron A. Robbins, Las Vegas.

Chaplain, Rev. Thomas Harwood, Socorro.

Council of administration, Eli Caldwell, Las Vegas; John Long, Raton; S. H. Simpson, Santa Fe; Alex H. Story, Kingston; Erastus W. Parker, White Oaks.

PAST POST COMMANDERS

Thos. W. Collier, Raton; Jas. L. Morris, Wallace; A. M. Whitcomb, C. L. Hubbs, Geo. Bowman, Albuquerque; R. H. Morselander, Sam'l C. Meek, John H. Mills, J. D. Emerson, Lindsay Henson, Socorro; Jas. M. Smith, Silver City; Byron A. Knowles, S. H. Pendleton and Homer H. Kidder, of Deming; John A. Brown, Ed R. Bonnell, White Oaks; Edward W. McDowell and David Dessinger, of Kingston.

REPRESENTATIVES

Geo. H. Hartman, Las Vegas; Lawrence Shields, Raton; John T. Forsha, Wm. H. Nesbitt, Wm. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe; A. Harsch, Albuquerque; Thos. J. Fleeman, Socorro; Richard Hudson, Silver City; John Galvin, Deming; Lee H. Rudisille, Wm. Simpson, White Oaks; Mandfl [sic] Benson, Hillsboro; John S. Crawford, Sam'l H. Stearns, Kingston; Chas. H. McHenry, Flora Vista.

Lee H. Rudisille, once of the Thirty-eight Ohio Infantry, now of White Oaks, New Mexico, is one the old soldiers who first followed the fife and drum under command of brave "Pap" Thomas. Since those long ago days Mr. Rudisille has stood at the case in the Toledo Ohio, Journal office; has seen Lincoln county emerge from a desert to the great cattle grazing farming district it now is; has seen White Oaks grow from a cabin to the bustling wide-awake town; has seen the Leader from the first day it appeared with his own name on its gonfalon to the present time, when it is absolutely too saucy to live with; has seen and felt and heard in all the good things that have come to New Mexico since '80, but most of all he rejoices in his good luck in securing through his membership to the G. A. R. , a helpmate who loves New Mexico and believes in its great future.

Maj. Caffrey, of the LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER, and one of the survivors of the famous Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, is in town looking after the G. A. R. old boys and his newspaper friends. The major is one of the most active of the order in the territory, and comes thoroughly prepared to enjoy everything eatable, drinkable and danceable that our hospitable people have to offer.

Mrs. Maggie Monroe Rudisille, president of the Woman's Relief Corps in New Mexico, arrived in the city at noon yesterday, and at once went to work looking after that part of the Corps living in Albuquerque. Mrs. Rudisille is an Ohio girl, who captured that old "camper" Lee Rudisille at one of the national encampments, and after mature deliberation, as became a soldier's daughter, pitched her tent alongside his, among the pinions and sagebrush of White Oaks. She is handsome, intellectual and an enthusiast over the W. R. C. and the prospects of Lincoln county.

At Tuesday's session Socorro was selected as the next for the convening of the G. A. R., and after the usual secret business was transacted the following resolutions were offered and adopted:

Whereas, The department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic appreciate the fealty, diligence and earnestness of the post department officers, it is

Resolved, That the thanks of this encampment are due and hereby tendered to the officers just retired, and that this preamble and resolutions be placed on record.

Resolved, that the thanks of the members of the encampment of the G. A. R. are hereby tendered to the Sons of Veterans of Albuquerque for the entertainments prepared for us.

Resolved, That this encampment is highly complimented by the interest manifested by the W. R. C. of New Mexico toward the G. A. R., and especially to Mrs. Lee H. Rudisille, for her untiring zeal and intelligent efforts to make that organization effective and respected.

The following officers were elected for the following year:

Department commander, John H. Mills, Socorro,

Adjutant, Francis Buchanan, Socorro,

Senior vice commander, Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks,

Junior vice commander, A. M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque,
Medical director, Myron W. Robbins,
Chaplain, Thomas Harwood, Socorro,
Council of administration, L. M. Meilley, Santa Fe; Smith H. Simpson, Taos; Stephen Moxon, Las Vegas;
John Long, Raton.

Delegate to National Encampment, Hiram Crampton, Santa Fe; alternate, Wm. A. Rankin, Albuquerque.

The report by Mrs. Maggie Monroe Rudisille, provisional department president of the W. R. C. in New Mexico, was read before the G. A. R. encampment on Mar. 26. It is a most comprehensive and able resume of the Corps under Mrs. Rudisille's supervision. She pays an eloquent tribute to the old soldiers and the women of the Relief Corps.

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)
April 13, 1889

HEADQUARTERS
Department of New Mexico
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
Socorro, N. M. March 30, 1889

General Orders No. 1

The following named officers are hereby appointed on the Staff of the Department Commander, and the officers named will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Comrade Francis Buchanan, of Socorro, A. A. General
Comrade Samuel C. Meek, of Socorro, A. Q. M. General
Comrade Jas. H. Purdy, of Santa Fe, Judge Advocate General
Comrade W. S. Fletcher, of Las Vegas, Chief Mustering Officer
Comrade Wm. Caffrey, White Oaks, Inspector General
Comrade Wm. C. Burton, Santa Fe, Aide de Camp
Comrade W. F. Crane, Albuquerque, Aide de Camp
By order of JOHN MILLS

Dep't Com
Official
Francis Buchanan
A. A. General

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)
November 23, 1889

G. A. R. Posts which have not made their reports the current year to the Inspector General are urged to do so forthwith, as without them he cannot make his to the Department. Address Wm. Caffrey, Inspector General, G. A. R., White Oaks, N. M.

—Papers friendly will please copy.

❧ 1890 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Fourth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1890

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *James H. Purdy, Santa Fe

New Mexico (Organized July 14, 1883)

Commander . . . A. M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander . . . J. L. Morris, Wallace

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *D. L. Sammis, Albuquerque

Representative

A. J. Bahney (at large), Socorro

Alternate

Phillip Mothersill (at large), Engle

(* Not present)

The following table shows the condition of the Departments Grand Army of the Republic, June 30, 1889-
June 30, 1890:

New Mexico, June 30, 1889, 9 Posts, 314 members; June 30, 1890, 12 Posts, 340 members.

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican

February 13, 1890

DEATH OF JOHN H. MILLS

Department Commander of the Grand Army and U.S. Registrar at Roswell

Capt. John H. Mills, register of the land office at Roswell, and also commander of the G. A. R. department of New Mexico, died at 4:30 yesterday morning, of pneumonia, at his home in Roswell.

Captain Mills had been ill for some weeks with a complication of stomach and liver troubles . . .

Las Cruces Sun-News

February 15, 1890

The sad news of the death of Capt. John H. Mills, registrar of the land office at Roswell, was received here Thursday. Capt Mills came to the Territory eleven years ago and was well known along the Rio Grande where he resided. He was only recently appointed to the position he was filling at the time of his death and spent several months at Las Cruces last Fall transcribing records for the new land district. He was the department commander of the Territory for the Grand Army of the Republic. His age was forty-eight and he leaves a family.

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)

March 29, 1890

G. A. R. Annual Encampment
Headquarters Department of N. M.
Grand Army of the Republic
Socorro, March 15 '90

General Orders No. 7

The Seventh Annual Encampment of this Department will assemble at Headquarters of Slough Post No. 6, in the city of Socorro, at 10 o'clock a. m., April 10, 1890. The Commander of Slough Post is instructed to detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of Guard, and two Comrades, who will report at Post Headquarters for duty at 9 o'clock on that day, subject to the orders of the Assistant Adjutant General of Department. Headquarters during the Encampment will be at the Windsor Hotel Parlors, where comrades and friends will find a soldier's welcome when off duty.

A meeting of the Council of Administration is called for 8 o'clock on the evening of the 9th, and it is earnestly desired that every member be present at time, as it will expedite business very much if the reports of officers and other important matters coming before that body, can be acted up on before the meeting of the Encampment. Post Commanders are instructed to have made a complete list of all comrades who have died within the past year, together with a sketch of the life of each, and to forward the same at once to Rev. Thos. Harwood, at Socorro, N M., Chaplain of the Department. It is imperative that this Department keep a more complete record of its comrades "Mustered Out."

Post Commanders see to it the quarterly reports of their respective Posts, together with the names of the delegates and others entitled to a vote in the Encampment, are promptly forwarded to these Headquarters on April 1st to enable the Assistant Adjutant General to make up his list.

Ample accommodations, reasonable rates are guaranteed all comrades attending the Encampment, and the comrades of Slough Post and citizens of Socorro do their most towards entertaining their guests.

The Acting Department Commander regrets to announce that the Railroad Co. has as yet failed to answer to whether special rates will be given to comrades wishing to attend the Encampment, but should an answer be received prior to April 10, Post Commanders will be notified.

By order of Lee H. Rudisille
Acting Department Commander
Official:
F. Buchanan
Ass't Adj't General

The Lincoln County Leader (White Oaks)
April 19, 1890

The G. A. R. Encampment

The 7th Annual Encampment of the N. M. G. A. R. met in K of P Hall, April 10, at 10 a. m., with 23 officers and delegates present.

At 9 a.m. the Council of Administration had a meeting which elected Dr. N. W. Lane of White Oaks Medical Director to fill the unexpired term of Dr. M. W. Robbins, having failed to present himself for installation. Lee H. Rudisille, Dept. S. V., acting commander, was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Department Commander John H. Mills. Department Commander Rudisille called the Encampment to order promptly at the hour. Prayer was offered by Dept. Chaplain Harwood, and the Encampment was opened for the transaction of business.

The committee of credentials A. A. Gen'l Buchanan reported the number of members present when the following committees were appointed:

Committee on mortuary
Committee on resolutions
Officer reports read and referenced.

The report of the A. A. Gen'l showed an increase in membership for the year and the order in a fairly prosperous condition.

The hour of noon having arrived the Encampment took a recess until 1:30 p.m. Promptly at the hour designated the Encampment was called to order and the reports of committees read and approved.

The place for the next meeting of the Encampment was chosen by ballot and Deming was selected.

The matter of the lost military records of New Mexico was taken up in keeping with the recommendation of the Dept. Commander in his report, and the following committee was appointed to act in the premises: Downs, of Santa Fe, Fountain, of Las Cruces, and Storey of Hillsboro.

The recommendation of the Department Commander to provide a suitable testimonial to be presented to the widow of our late Department Commander John H. Mills, was then brought up for action, when a collection of \$30 was raised with instructions to procure a Dept. Commander's badge, suitably inscribed, and a committee of three to procure it, the same to be presented through the Slough Post of Socorro.

Election of officers being declared in order, the following nominees were duly elected for the ensuing year:

A. M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque, Department Commander.

James L. Morris, Wallace, Senior Vice

Alex M. Storey, Hillsboro, Junior Vice

Dr. N. W. Lane, White Oaks, Medical Director

Thos. Harwood, Socorro, Chaplain

Council of Administration—Smith H. Simpson, Taos; Frank Buchanan, Socorro; A. J. Fountain, Las Cruces; D. L. Sammis, Albuquerque; S. H. Pendleton, Deming.

Delegate to the National Encampment, Andrew Jackson Bahney, of Socorro.

Alternate, Phillip Mothersill, Eagle.

The officers were then duly installed by Dept. Commander Rudisille.

After completing the routine business and approving the minutes of the session, the 7th Annual Encampment adjourned sine die.

The people of Socorro did all in their power to make everything pleasant and agreeable to the members of the Encampment. Slough Post is deserving of much credit for their many kindnesses.

Thursday evening an entertainment was given to the members of the Encampment at the Opera House, which was both enjoyable and creditable.

Mr. Brown, mine host of the Grand Central and Windsor hotels, will be gratefully remembered for his untiring efforts to entertain his guests.

The R. R. Co. made suitable reductions to the members of the Encampment for which it is deserving of great credit by the G. A. R.

Altogether the occasion was one of great interest, and we trust will result in giving an impetus to the interests of the G. A. R. in the Territory.

N. W. Lane

❧ 1891 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Fifth National Encampment Silver Anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic 1891

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . James H. Purdy, Santa Fe

New Mexico (Organized July 14, 1883)

Commander . . . *Albert J. Fountain, Las Cruces

Senior Vice Commander . . . Byron A. Knowles, Deming

Junior Vice Commander . . . Thomas Murphy, Hillsboro

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. A. Rankin, Albuquerque

Representative

* Phillip Mothersill (at large), Engle

Alternate

Richard Hudson (at large), Silver City

(* Not present)

Inspector General's Report

New Mexico

W. S. Fletcher, Assistant Adjutant-General, reports:

In accordance with the instructions contained in special orders No. 7, dated April 23. 1891, I have the honor to state that I have carefully inspected the Headquarters Department of New Mexico, and I find everything in splendid shape. I can safely say, that with perhaps the exception of one year, the books and records were never so open and ready for inspection as now. The books are neatly and correctly kept, and orders carefully filed. There is a complete file on Department proceedings, and in fact everything connected with the Department Headquarters is found in such systematic order, that I have no changes to suggest or recommendations to make.

Department Inspector Thomas Brannigan reports 14 Posts with 291 members. All inspected and found to be interested in building up and strengthening the organization in that Department.

* * *

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

March 28, 1891

COL. FOUNTAIN AS DEPARTMENT COMMANDER G. A. R.

In selecting as department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic for New Mexico, Col. Albert J. Fountain, of Las Cruces, the veterans of the war in this territory did the right and proper thing. Col. Fountain was a brave and successful soldier during the rebellion; he has served with honor since for many a year in the

militia of this territory; he has seen arduous and dangerous service during the war and since the war against hostile Indians, while an officer in the U. S. volunteer service and the militia service of New Mexico. He is a leading member of the bar in New Mexico and a man of great political prominence. The Grand Army of the Republic made a happy choice in selecting him for the office to which his comrades have elected him.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

May 2, 1891

Memorial Day

G. A. R. Department Commander A. J. Fountain has issued a general order respecting the observance of Memorial day, May 30, by all posts in New Mexico. The order is encircled by a broad black border, and among other things, says:

It is earnestly recommended that on the 30th of May, the several posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in this department, inviting the co-operation of all patriotic men and women, perform the solemn and impressive services of decorating the graves of our heroic dead, and, by exalting their memory and their deeds, inculcate a lesson of patriotism and heroism to those who are to take our places here when we are summoned to surrender to the only foe the soldier of the union has found invincible.

Las Vegas Daily Optic

March 28, 1891

The Grand Army Encampment

East Las Vegas, N. M., March 27

Your correspondent having just returned from the department encampment, as a delegate of Sherman post, would beg space in your valuable paper for a brief mention of the meeting of the G. A. R. boys at Deming.

The encampment convened on Tuesday, March 24th at 10 a.m., A. M. Whitcomb presiding, with about forty delegates in attendance. The proceedings throughout manifested a spirit of harmony. The address of the outgoing department commander, A. M. Whitcomb, was received with true pleasure, and it showed our order to be in better condition than at any time anterior to the present. After the completion of the installation of officers, in which impressive ceremony included comrade Francis Downs of Santa Fe, ably assisted, a few able and eloquent addresses were delivered, among which we especially mention that our newly chosen commander, comrade A. J. Fountain of Las Cruces, who assured the G. A. R. boys, so far as he was concerned, that his administration will not fall short of that of his predecessor, and asked the hearty co-operation of the G. A. R. boys throughout the department.

Col. Mothersill, general manager of the Detroit & Rio Grande land and cattle company, headquarters at Las Cruces, was chosen as delegate to the national encampment at Detroit this summer, and it is worthy of mention that Detroit is his old home, and that it was he who first proposed the name of Gen. Russell A. Alger for membership in the grand army. The grand army boys can feel proud of the fact that they have so able a representative.

I take pleasure in especially mentioning the names of Byron A. Knowles and Col. Jas. A. Lockhart for the admirable manner in which they superintended affairs of the encampment and contributed to the welfare of the visiting comrades to make their stay in this city of Deming one of greatest pleasure. Their efforts were ably seconded by the citizens in general.

The reception of Col. Jas. A. Lockwood, given at his palatial residence on Wednesday evening, was a grand affair, at which there were present about 300 guests, all of whom went away highly pleased at the royal manner in which they were banqueted.

In conclusion, I will state that it was the expression of all present that the eighth annual encampment will be a green spot in the memory of all the "old boys" who were so fortunate as to be in attendance on that occasion.

DELEGATE

Note: Colonel Fountain and his 9-year old son were murdered in 1896—see information contained under that year.

Santa Fe Weekly Sun
August 1, 1891

A NOBLE ORDER

Growth of the Grand Army—Annual Encampment—Account of the Organization in New Mexico

The twenty-fifth National encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at Detroit, Michigan commencing Tuesday, August 4th. [This goes on to give statistical information about the G. A. R. generally.]

The next report, which will be published in a few days, will show some wonderful changes. Nearly all of these departments will show a large increase in membership, principally owing to the migratory movements of the old veterans westward. New Mexico has not much to brag about yet, as far as its membership in the G. A. R. is concerned, but it can boast one other fact: It heads the list of some of the western states and territories in the number of good and loyal men sent into the Union army during the war as follows:

New Mexico . . . 6,561
Colorado 4,903
Nebraska 3,157
Oregon 1,810
Dakota 200

In this connection one fact must be borne in mind, New Mexico has an area larger than the six eastern and four middle states combined, and with its eleven posts scattered over such a vast territory, it cannot be expected that the old veterans should be called upon to go to the nearest post for muster. However, they are heart and soul with their comrades in all that their order calls for and that is simply this—a fraternity of fellowship, fraternity, charity, and loyalty. There is nothing in this order, which in any way will interfere with the religious views of any of its members. On one point the order is very sensitive, and this is loyalty to the flag. Every veteran and son of a veteran in the territory stands ready to-day to uphold the old banner, and he will meet with the cordial assistance of many a man who wore the grey.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO G. A. R.

This department was organized as a provisional department on June 11, 1883, with H. M. Atkinson as department commander. On July 14, 1883, it was made a permanent department with the same commander. He was succeeded by E. W. Wynkoop in 1884, J. J. Fitzgerrell in 1885, Governor E. S. Stover in 1886, John Y. Hewitt in 1887, Francis Downs in 1888, John H. Mills in 1889, Lee H. Rudisille in 1889 [1890], A. M. Whitcomb in 1890 and A. J. Fountain in 1891.

The Santa Fe New Mexican
October 8, 1891

In Memoriam

At last night's meeting of Carleton post, G. A. R., the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, On the 11th day of September 1891, our comrade Edward W. Wynkoop, former commander of this post, and afterward department commander of New Mexico, G. A. R., died after a lingering illness at his home in Santa Fe;

Resolved, That this post recognizes in the death of Comrade Wynkoop, the loss of one who as a friend, was ever faithful, honest and true; who as a soldier in the late war, successively as lieutenant, captain and major in the 1st Colorado cavalry, and brevetted colonel, served with gallantry; bearing conspicuous part in battle, for soldier ability and fearless daring, throughout the struggle, until we ended our first, and ever-to-be our last, civil war and folded our tattered banners forever.

Afterwards, when the savages of the plains rose against the defenseless settlers, Comrade Wynkoop with our soldiers hurried to the rescue, and first overcoming them by arms, then subdued them by kindness, till the Kiowas and Comanches alike joined in demand that Col. Wynkoop should be their agent before they would agree upon peace.

As a soldier, he was a warrior; as a civilian he was a peacemaker. In civil life also he held with credit many offices of honor and trust, as well under the United States as under the governments of Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico, everywhere winning troops of friends by devotion to them and to honor and truth.

In every sphere in life he occupied, whether as pioneer, miner, soldier or civilian, whether as husband, father or friend, Comrade Wynkoop's record was ever loyal, faithful and true.

We love, honor and cherish his memory. To his widow and children, our hearts go out in tenderest sympathy.

Albuquerque Journal

November 18, 1891

The law relative to the care and preservation of national cemeteries is wantonly unheeded in this territory by those in power, as seen by reference to the one in Santa Fe. The members of the G. A. R. posts throughout the territory should take steps in the matter, and bring their influence to bear upon the authorities at Washington to see that the national cemetery at Santa Fe receives the proper attention that it deserves.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

November 19, 1891

The Military Cemetery

The fact that Fort Marcy has again has been placed under the control of the war department, does not affect the status of the military cemetery; that institution was formerly a "national cemetery" but is not so now, although the dust of several hundred brave solders lies beneath its surface. That its national character should be recognized by the war department is but just. Carlton post, G. A. R., adopted the following:

Whereas, The national military cemetery at Santa Fe has heretofore been under the control and custody of the United States quarter master of the military post heretofore established here and,

Whereas, Said military post has been abandoned, leaving said national cemetery without any legal custodian, be it,

Resolved, That the commander of Carleton post, G. A. R., be requested to communicate these facts to the secretary of war, and on behalf of his comrades of the G. A. R., to request that said cemetery be re-established as a national cemetery, and that its care and custody be provide for in the manner required by the U. S. stature.

Be it further,

Resolved, That Hon. Antonio Joseph, delegate to congress from this territory, be requested to assist in presenting these facts to the secretary of war, and also to present to the congress of the United States such a bill as may be deemed necessary for the purpose of maintaining said national cemetery in Santa Fe.

❧ 1892 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1892

Roll of the National Encampment

New Mexico

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Phillip Mothersill, Eagle

Commander . . . Stephen W. Dorsey, Raton

Senior Vice Commander . . . *John W. Crawford, San Marcial

Junior Vice Commander . . . *John A. Ross, Las Vegas

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Thomas W. Collier, Raton

Representative

*H. J. Franklin (at large), Las Vegas

Alternate

William M. Berger (at large), Santa Fe

(* Not present)

Report of the Adjutant-General

The annexed table shows the condition of the Departments Grand Army of the Republic, December 31, 1891-June 30, 1892.

New Mexico: December 31, 1891, 10 Posts, 209 members; June 30, 1892, 10 Posts, 204 members.

* * *

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican
March 10, 1892

The Grand Army

The ninth annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, will be held at Las Vegas, April 5. Department Commander Albert J. Fountain has just issued general orders No. 4 and 5, respecting this gathering. The Council of Administration will meet on the evening of the 4th. H. J. Franklin and J. C. Bromagem are designated as officers of the day.

The department commander also notes that a fraternal invitation has been extended New Mexico veterans to meet at El Paso, on March 22, where the G. A. R. of Texas convenes there. An excursion to the City of Mexico is to follow, the fare being \$20 for the round trip, and Col. Fountain asks that all New Mexicans who expect to attend shall send their names at once to him in Las Cruces.

Las Vegas Free Press
March 31, 1892

G. A. R. Reading

The following general orders, No. 6, have been promulgated from the headquarters of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic:
Las Cruces, March 28.

I. In compliance with the request of many comrades, and to enable them to participate in the local elections to be held April 5th, the time for holding the eighth [ninth] annual encampment of this department has been changed to Thursday, April 7th, 1892.

II. A meeting of the council of administration will be held at the Plaza hotel, at Las Vegas, on Thursday, April 7th, at 10 o'clock a. m.

III. The department commander regrets to announce that application made to the railroad companies for a rate of one fare for the round trip for visitors to the encampment has been refused; a rate of one and one third fare for the round trip has been announced from all points in New Mexico and Texas.

IV. Department headquarters will leave Las Cruces at 3:15 p.m., April 6th; arriving at Rincon at 4:45 p.m. and be there joined by comrades of Custer Post 8, McRae Post 7, U. S. Grant Post 11 and Veteran Post 12; arriving at San Antonio at 8:40 p.m., and be there joined by comrades of Kearney Post 10; arriving at Socorro at 2 p.m., and be there joined by comrades of Slough Post 6; arriving at Albuquerque at 12:35, April 7th, and there be joined by comrades of G. K. Warren Post 5; arriving at Lamy Junction at 4:20 a.m., and there be joined by comrades of Carleton Post 3; arriving at Las Vegas at 7:45 a.m., and there be received by Sherman Post 1, and escorted to department headquarters at Plaza hotel.

V. The gavel will fall calling the encampment to order at 1 o'clock p.m., Thursday, April 7th, sharp.

The assistant adjutant general will act as a committee on credentials and will be prepared to verify the roll of members at the department headquarters, Plaza hotel, at 10 o'clock a.m. April 7th.

By order of
Albert J. Fountain,
Department Commander.
J. F. Bennett,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Las Vegas Free Press

April 1, 1892

G. A. R. PROGRAM

East Las Vegas, April 1 '92

By order of the officer of the day the following will be the program for the Ninth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be held on the 7th day of April, A. D., 1892, at Las Vegas, N.M.

1—The committee on reception from the Commercial Club and Sherman Post will meet the department commander and delegates at the depot on the arrival of the train No. 2 at 7:30 a. m., and escort them to the Plaza hotel, where the department headquarters will be established during the encampment.

2—At 1 p. m. parade will form on Plaza (old town) to escort department commander, delegates and visiting comrades to G. A. R. hall. Line will be formed as follows:

Cornet band.

Fire department in uniform.

Uniform rank K. of P.

Prince rifles.

G. A. R. drum corps.

Department commander and staff, mounted.

Delegates in line.

Sherman Post.

Governor and staff, mayor and council in carriages.

Citizens in carriages.

3—Line of march: Plaza, east on Bridge and Blanchard streets to Fifth; south on Fifth to Grand avenue; south on Grand avenue to Center street; north on Sixth street to Douglas avenue; west on Douglas avenue to G. A. R. Post hall when command will disburse.

Sherman Post No. 1 will assemble at the Plaza hotel at 12:30 p. m. and all old soldiers are respectfully solicited to fall in with the post.

THE CAMP FIRE AT THE OPERA HOUSE AT 8 P. M.

Prayer, by Rev. Harwood, department chaplain.

Song by quartette.

Master of ceremonies, Capt. L. C. Fort.

Welcoming address, by Mayor Cunningham.

Welcoming address, by Capt. Eads, on behalf of Sherman Post.

Opening address, by Gov. Bradford L. Prince.

"Blue and Grey," by Dr. Gould.

Poem, "Hood Children," by Capt. Jack Crawford; poet scout.

Song by quartette.

Address on "New Mexico G. A. R.," Col. A. J. Fountain, department commander.

Address on "National G. A. R." Gen. A. J. Sampson, U. S. Consul Juarez, Mex.; followed by Gen. A. G. Malloy, of Texas; Chief Justice O'Brien, of Las Vegas; Senator S. W. Dorsey, of Raton; ex-Gov. Stover, of Albuquerque; ex-Chief Justice E. V. Long, Las Vegas; U. S. Attorney Eugene A. Fisk, Santa Fe; Judge Francis Downs, Santa Fe, and other prominent speakers, interspersed by poem and essays by Capt. Jack Crawford, and song by quartette, closing with benediction by Rev. Hoffman.

The public in general are cordially invited to attend the camp fire at the opera house.

Admission, free.

H. J. Franklin,

Officer of the Day.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

April 22, 1892

W. S. Fletcher received his commission today as assistant inspector general on the staff of John Palmer, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

❧ 1893 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Seventh National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1893

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . W. M. Berger, Santa Fe
New Mexico

Commander . . . *W. H. Whiteman, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander . . . John A. Ross, Las Vegas

Junior Vice Commander . . . Smith H. Simpson, Taos

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *W. S. Burke, Albuquerque

Representative

*J. W. Crawford, San Marcial

Alternate

A. C. Nason, Raton

(* Not present)

Report of Inspector General

New Mexico

No report received. The following letter from Assistant Inspector General Downs tells it own “tale of woe.”

“The Department Encampment of New Mexico G. A. R. was held at this place on the 17th and 18th ult., neither the Department Commander or S. V. C. were present; the Department Inspector was present but made no report. He has not answered any of my letters for some time past, and I was in hopes that at the Encampment I would obtain some report from him.

“We succeeded in having a very successful Encampment and made quite a success in our public reception and camp-fire held at the time under the auspices of Carleton Post.

“Comrade William H. Whiteman, of Albuquerque, was elected and installed as Department Commander; I am in receipt within the last few days of his first general order in which the following staff appointments were announced:

W. S. Banks . . . Asst. Adjt. Gen. . . . Albuquerque

A. B. Stanton . . . Asst. Q. M. G. . . .

W. S. Fletcher . . . Inspector . . . Santa Fe

John R. McFie . . . Judge Advocate . . . Los Angeles

“The Department Inspector, W. S. Fletcher, is just now absent from Santa Fe. As soon as he returns, which will be in a day or so, I will see him and if possible obtain data to make report to you this month; I have written once or twice to every Assistant Inspector of this Department, and secured blanks to be sent them to make report. I am informed that not more than four or five Posts have as yet been reported on. With new Department officers I am in hopes that we may be able to get this Department in better business shape.”

Report of the Adjutant-General

Consolidated Reports

New Mexico: No report.

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican
 April 28, 1893

THE GRAND ARMY

The blue and the grey and the general public to the extent of packing the courthouse mingled pleasantly together in honor of the G. A. R. encampment last night. The stage was attractively decorated. Appropriate addresses were delivered by Judge Downs, Gov. Thornton, Judge Seeds and Hon. E. S. Stover, and there was instrumental music by the 10th infantry orchestra and vocal music by Mrs. Car Stowe, Messers. A. W. Butler, G. W. Knaebel, L. G. Reed and D. R. Todd. Mr. Joseph E. Morrison added to the entertainment by reciting the story of Meagher's brigade at Fredericksburg. Mrs. Knaebel presided at the piano and Revs. Smith and Mills gave the opening prayer and the benediction respectively.

THE ENCAMPMENT

Agreeable to adjournment yesterday the encampment met at 10 a.m.; and after hearing reports for the year and attending to routine business, elected and installed the following officers for the ensuing year:

Department Commander—William H. Whiteman, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander—John A. Ross, of East Las Vegas

Junior Vice Commander—Smith H. Simpson, of Taos

Medical Director—F. E. Olney, of East Las Vegas

Chaplain—Thomas Harwood, of Socorro

Delegate to National Encampment—J. W. Crawford, of San Marcial; alternate, A. C. Nason, of Raton.

Council of Administration—Daniel Risdon, of Raton; D. L. Sammis, of Albuquerque; J. R. Hudson, of Santa Fe; Edmund G. Ross, of Deming; John A. Brown, of White Oaks.

Resolutions were adopted commending the work of posts in promoting the erection of the flag over all public school houses.

The next annual encampment will be held at Albuquerque.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican
 November 29, 1893

GRAND ARMY MATTERS

Commander-in-Chief John G. B. Adams, of the Grand Army of the Republic, has issued general order No. 2, which has a particular interest just now in the department of New Mexico. The rules and regulations of the order have been amended as follows: "No installation shall be held at the first meeting in January until the post has been inspected. The installing officer shall ascertain whether or not the post has been inspected for the previous year; if it has not he shall proceed to the work of inspection, deferring installation of officers until its completion." It is understood that Department commander W. H. Whiteman, of Albuquerque, will, during the coming month, visit as many as possible of the different posts in the territory.

❧ 1894 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Eighth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1894

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Byron A. Knowles, Deming
 New Mexico

Commander . . . George W. Knaebel, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . Eli Caldwell, Las Vegas

Junior Vice Commander . . . John P. Hyland, Rincon

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Henry M. Davis, Santa Fe

(* Not present)

Report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

I visited the Department Encampment of New Mexico on the 19th of April, and found "The Boys" of that excellent little Department "wide awake" and zealous in the "good cause." The Encampment was an entire success, and the presence of Past Commander-in-Chief Lucius Fairchild contributed largely to the pleasure and enjoyment of the occasion.

Report of the Adjutant General

Department number of Posts and membership:

New Mexico: June 1893, 11 Posts, 253 members; December 31, 1893, 10 Posts, 193 members; June 30, 1894, 11 Posts, 202 members.

* * *

Albuquerque Weekly Citizen

April 21, 1894

Distinguished Veterans

Gen. Lucius Fairchild, one of the well known and most prominent members, of the Grand Army of the Republic, accompanied by Judge Francis Downs and Capt. S. H. Day, of Santa Fe, and Major Smith H. Simpson came down from the north last night and are registered at the San Felipe. They are here to attend the territorial encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, which convenes in this city to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. A number of other territorial veterans are expected from the north, south and west this evening and to-morrow morning.

Gen. Fairchild is an ex-governor of Wisconsin, past commander-in chief of the G. A. R. and present commander of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He is a grand old soldier, and the territorial veterans are to be congratulated upon having him with them at their eleventh annual encampment. This afternoon he was driven around the metropolis in company with Capt. Day, whom THE CITIZEN now considers an Albuquerquean since he is connected with the local Water Supply company.

Capt. Sam Meek, of Socorro, one of the old veterans south of the city, is here to attend the G. A. R. encampment. He is an old soldier THE CITIZEN delights to shake hand with.

Gen. Bigger, of Texas, junior vice commander of the Grand Army, will attend the encampment, arriving from the south this evening.

All the old soldiers in the city and vicinity, with their wives, are invited to attend the camp fire on Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock, at A. O. U. W. hall.

GRAND ARMY VETERANS

The Eleventh Annual Encampment in Session in This City

Council of Administration.

The council of administration met at the office of Department Commander Whiteman at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the commander.

The report of the assistant quartermaster general was presented and read.

The question of the matter of Slough Post No. 6 was brought up and considered. The Post had made no reports for two years, and had been in a dormant condition.

On motion of Comrade Ross, it was ordered that Slough Post be reinstated upon the payment of the per capita tax for one term, and Comrade Harwood, department chaplain, becoming responsible for the amount required, Slough Post was ordered to be reinstated.

The quartermaster's report was referred to an auditing committee, composed of Comrades Ross, Hudson and Sammis.

The committee, after an examination of the papers and vouchers, reported that the affairs of the

quartermaster general's office were found to be correct, and the report was approved by the council. No further business being presented, the council of administration was adjourned.

Wm. H. Whitman

Dep't. Com.

W. W. Burke

A. A. G.

MEETING OF THE ENCAMPMENT

Albuquerque, April 19, 1894

The Eleventh annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R. , met at Odd Fellows' hall in Albuquerque at 10:30 a.m., April 19, 1894, and was opened in due form by Department Commander Whiteman.

After prayer by Chaplain Harwood, the commander introduced Comrade Bigger, junior vice commander of the United States, who addressed the encampment for a short time, in a few appropriate and spirited remarks.

Comrade S. E. Snyder, inspector general of Montana, being present, was introduced, and thanked the department for its welcome.

A recess was then taken for a few minutes to enable the delegates in attendance to present their credentials.

On being called to order again, the assistant adjutant general presented a roll of those entitled to seats, as shown by the credentials presented.

Senior Vice Commander Ross was then called to the chair, and the commander read his annual report which reviewed the condition of the department in a careful and thoughtful manner, and contained many wise and timely suggestions.

The report was received by unanimous vote and ordered to be placed upon the records of the department.

The commander then resumed the chair, and Senior Vice Commander Ross presented his report.

The report was received and placed on file.

Junior Vice Commander Simpson reported by endorsing and corroborating the reports of the commander and junior vice.

The report of the Assistant Adjutant General W. S. Burke was presented and placed on file.

Department Chaplain Harwood then presented his report which was received and placed on file. Comrade Harwood has been chaplain of the department ever since its organization and the report is his eleventh annual report.

A report from Comrades Fletcher and Downs, of the committee on territorial muster rolls, was presented and read by Comrade Downs.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

On motion a recess was taken until 1:30 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The encampment was called to order by Commander Whiteman at 1:45 p.m.

Comrade Fairchild, past commander-in-chief of the United States, being present, was introduced by the commander in a few appropriate words.

Comrade Fairchild addressed the encampment for a short time, and his remarks were listened to with a great deal of interest, and received with most emphatic remarks of approbation.

At the close of Comrade Fairchild's remarks the Asst. Q. M. General was instructed to destroy all the old rituals, not now in use.

The matter of establishing a fixed list of prices of supplies was brought up by the A. Q. M. General, and on motion of Comrade Sammis was referred to the council of administration.

The commander also presented to the encampment on behalf of the people of Louisville, a gavel of oak, which grew on the farm upon which Abraham Lincoln was born.

The gavel was accepted and the assistant adjutant general instructed to convey the thanks of the department to the people of Louisville for their handsome present.

Commander Downs then presented the following preamble and resolutions which were adopted unanimously:

Whereas, The city of Louisville, through its mayor and general council, its Commercial club and its Grand Army posts, has extended to the Grand Army of the Republic, and especially to this department, a sincere and urgent invitation to hold the annual encampment of the organization for 1895 within her hospitable gates,

And, whereas it is the sense of this department that this generous invitation should be accepted in the same cordial spirit in which it was made,

Now, be it resolved,—That the past commander and delegates from this department be, and they hereby are, instructed to vote as a unit at the annual encampment of 1894, at Pittsburgh, in favor of the city of Louisville as the place for holding the annual encampment for 1895.

On motion of Commander Downs, the encampment then proceeded to the election of department officers for the ensuing year. The name of Comrade George W. Knaebel was presented and there being no opposition the assistant adjutant general cast the vote of the department for Comrade Knaebel, which was done, and the commander-elect then thanked the encampment for the honor conferred upon him, and pledged himself to the discharge of the duties of the position to the best to his ability.

Comrade J. A. Ross was then nominated for senior vice commander but declined.

Comrade Eli Caldwell was then nominated, and there being no other nominations, the A. A. G. was instructed to cast the vote of the department for Comrade Caldwell, which was done, and he was declared duly elected.

Comrade John Hyland was then nominated for junior vice commander, and there being no opposition, the A. A. G. was instructed to cast the vote of the department. This was done and Comrade Hyland was declared duly elected.

The election of chaplain being in order, the adjutant general was instructed to cast the vote of the department for Comrade Thomas Harwood, which being done, Comrade Harwood was for the twelfth time declared chaplain of the department of New Mexico.

For medical director, the A. A. G. was instructed to cast the vote of the department for Comrade F. E. Olney, which was done, and Comrade Olney was declared elected.

The following then named comrades were elected to the council of administration:

J. R. Hudson of Carleton Post; Lewis I. Marshall, of Custer; S. C. Meek, of Slough; J. M. Moore, of G. K. Warren; D. Y. Roberts, of Sedgwick.

The encampment is still in session as THE CITIZEN goes to press.

The following is a list of delegates to the territorial encampment, who answered to their names at roll call this morning:

Sherman post No. 1, Las Vegas—Eli Caldwell, John A. Ross

Sedgwick post No 2, Flora Vista—Daniel Y. Roberts

Carlton post No. 3, Santa Fe—Francis Downs, G. H. Knaebel

G. K. Warren post No. 5, Albuquerque—J. M. Moore, E. S. Stover, A. M. Whitcomb

Slough post No. 6, Socorro—S. C. Meek

Custer post No. 8, Deming—Byron A. Knowles

Veteran post No. 12, Kingman [Kingston]—J. P. Hyland

EX-OFFICIO

W. H. Whiteman, J. A. Ross, Smith Simpson, Thomas Harwood, W. S. Burke, A. B. Stanton, J. R. Hudson, D. L. Sammis, and E. G. Ross.

Col. W. S. Williams of Socorro and Capt. S. H. Day, of Santa Fe, are among the visitors.

A. M. Whitcomb is officiating as officer of the day, in place of H. C. Snow, who is sick, and Issac Jackson is at his post as officer of the guard.

A camp fire will be held at Medler's hall on Second street this evening.

Last evening, the Albuquerque Silver Coronet band, under Leader Fluke, marched to the San Filipe where they serenaded Gen. Fairchild and other visiting Grand Army veterans. The general was introduced to the band boys by Major Whiteman, after which he made a short address, thanking them for honoring him and his comrades with such fine music.

The American flag floats gayly at the top of the pole at the San Filipe hotel and Grant's opera house.

The Grand Army encampment continued in session, after the last report received by THE CITIZEN yesterday afternoon, Comrade Downs offered the following resolution:

That all the posts of this department are hereby advised and requested to make official efforts for the reinstatement of members who have been suspended for non-payment of dues, and that such comrades be reinstated upon the payment of such small sum as the post believes to be within his ability. Adopted unanimously.

Comrade Knaebel offered the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:

Whereas, This encampment has been credibly informed of the fact that applications for pension, having been duly examined as to their disabilities, by physicians at the place of the homes of such applicant, pursuant to orders from the Pension department, and, therefore, by orders from such department have been directed to go and be again examined as to their disabilities miles away from the homes of such applicants and without provision being made by such department for the railroad fare and other expenses of such applicants in going to and returning from the place of such re-examination;

And, whereas such applicants are, as a rule, sick and poor:

Now therefore, be it resolved that this encampment strongly condemns such action by the Pension department in requiring such applicants to be re-examined at other places far from their homes and protests against the same and respectfully requests the Pension department to speedily change the unjust customs complained of.

On motion of Comrade Stover, the matter of printing reports of the proceedings of this and the preceding session of the department encampment was referred to the council of administration, with power to act.

Comrade Downs moved that a committee of three be appointed by the department commander, to be known as the Pension committee, to have general charge of pension matters, and to bring before the Pension department, and if in their judgment it may be thought proper, to also bring before the next National encampment, such facts in connection with the general cause of pensions and the rights of pensioners, as in their judgment may be thought advisable.

On motion of Comrade Downs, the city of Santa Fe was selected as the next place for holding the next annual encampment of the department.

A recess was taken for fifteen minutes.

Upon re-assembling Commander Whiteman called upon Junior Vice Commander Bigger, to chair for the purpose of installing the officers of the department elected to serve for the ensuing year. The installations were carried out in proper form, the new commander, Commander Knaebel, was duly inducted into office, and upon taking the chair made a few remarks which were well received by the department.

On motion of Comrade Stover, it was ordered that the council of administration cause the name of "Lincoln" to be engraved upon the gavel presented to the department by the people of Louisville.

The 11th annual session of the territorial encampment of the department of New Mexico, was then closed in due form.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican
April 24, 1894

THE GRAND ARMY

Commander G. W. Knaebel Issues His First Order Naming Subordinate Officers
The newly elected department commander, G. A. R. issued the following yesterday afternoon.

Hdqrs. Dept. of N. M., G. A. R.,
Santa Fe, N. M., April 23, 1894

General Orders No. 1

1. At the eleventh annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic held at the city of Albuquerque, on the 19th day of April, 1894, the following comrades were elected for the ensuing year to the respective offices, designated as follows:

Department Commander—Comrade Geo. W. Knaebel, of Santa Fe,
Senior Vice-Department Commander—Comrade Eli Caldwell, of East Las Vegas,
Junior Vice-Department Commander—Comrade John P. Hyland, of Rincon,
Department Chaplain—Comrade Thos. Harwood, of Albuquerque,
Department Medical Director—Comrade F. E. Olney, of East Las Vegas,
Delegate to 26th Encampment, G. A. R. — Comrade J. W. Randall, of Albuquerque,
Alternate Comrade T. W. Collier, of Raton,
Department Council of Administration—Comrade James R. Hudson, of Santa Fe; Comrade Louis I. Marshall, of Deming; Comrade Samuel C. Meek, of Socorro; Comrade D. V. Roberts, of Raton, and Comrade J. M. Moore, of Albuquerque.

2. The following appointments upon the staff of the department commander are hereby announced:

Assistant Adjutant General—Comrade Henry M. Davis, of Santa Fe,
Assistant Quartermaster General—Comrade Edward H. Bergmann, of Santa Fe.
Further appointments upon the staff will be announced in subsequent orders.

3. The headquarters of this department are hereby established at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

4. The twelfth annual department encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, will be held at Santa Fe, pursuant to resolution adopted at said eleventh annual encampment and the date thereof will be hereafter duly announced.

Geo. W. Knaebel,
Department Commander
Official
H. M. Davis,
Assistant Adjutant General.

❧ 1895 ❧

Journal of Twenty-Ninth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1895

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Smith H. Simpson, Taos
New Mexico

*Commander . . . Thomas W. Collier, Raton
Senior Vice Commander . . . John A. Brown, White Oaks
Junior Vice Commander . . . C. H. McHenry, Farmington
*Assistant Adjutant General . . . Hiram Crampton, Raton

Representative

*Henry M. Davis (at large), Santa Fe

Alternate

Leverett Clark (at large) Albuquerque
(* Not present)

Report of the Adjutant General

Department number of Posts and membership

New Mexico: June 30, 1894, 11 Posts, 202 members; December 31, 1894, 11 Posts, 175 members; June 30, 1895, 12 Posts, 193 members.

Assistant Inspectors-General
New Mexico

Assistant Inspector General, Winfield S. Fletcher

I send you herewith a copy of my report made this day to George W. Knaebel, Commander of the Department of New Mexico. These inspections made by my assistants' date from November 22 to December 22, 1894. I trust you will bear in mind one fact: The Department of New Mexico is larger in area than the New England and Middle States combined, hence our Posts and our comrades are widely scattered. We are weak in numbers, but we try to make up in noise what we lack otherwise. In compliance with your instructions dated December 8, 1894, I have this day made a careful inspection of Department Headquarters, as required by section 3, article 5, chapter 5, of our Rules and Regulations, showing duties of Assistant Inspectors-General. I can safely report that, after an intimate acquaintance with this Department since its reorganization in 1883, its Headquarters have never been in a better condition than they are now. Every order received has been promptly promulgated, every letter received has been promptly answered, and every book in the office is posted to date. You can safely rely upon Commander Knaebel, and his faithful assistants, Comrades Henry M. Davis, Assistant Adjutant-General and Edward H. Bergman, Assistant Quartermaster-General, to aid National Headquarters in keeping our records as nearly perfect as they can be made. We have no Soldiers' or Soldiers' and Widows' Orphan Homes in New Mexico, hence no inspection on these points will be necessary.

* * *

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

April 4, 1895

The twelfth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico, to take place in Santa Fe next month, promises to be the most notable gathering in the history of this organization.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

May 4, 1895

GRIZZLED VETERANS

Closing Sessions of the 12th Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic
Fine Public Entertainment at the Courthouse Last Night—Patriotic Addresses and Stirring Songs—
A Love Feast

The closing session of the 12th annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, was held at Carleton post hall this forenoon. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year by acclamation: Thomas W. Collier, of Raton, department commander; John A. Brown, White Oaks, senior vice department commander; C. H. McHenry, of Farmington, junior vice commander; Dr. F. E. Olney, of East Las Vegas, medical director; Rev. Thomas Harwood, re-elected chaplain for the eleventh time; Capt. H. M. Davis unanimously elected delegate to the national encampment with Leverett Clark as alternate. G. W. Cook, of Raton, John C. Klepinger, of White Oaks, John C. Bromagem, East Las Vegas, E. W. Eaton, Socorro, council of administration.

Raton was selected as the place for holding the next encampment, and a vote of thanks was tendered to the people of Santa Fe for courtesies extended.

COMMANDER KNAEBEL'S ADDRESS

Department Commander Knaebel's annual address, delivered before the encampment yesterday afternoon, is generally commended by the comrades who were so fortunate as to hear it, and the New Mexican regrets its inability to print it in full. After extending an eloquent fraternal greeting to the comrades present, the speaker alluded in feeling language to the absent ones, particularly to those who had passed over the dark and silent river since the meeting of the last encampment, and congratulated the department that it was still intact. Then he spoke hopefully of the reinforcements that he confidently believed statehood would bring, adding:

"I state this because I believe New Mexico is on the eve of statehood and when she enters the Union I believe many of the old Soldiers, who, in their early days braved the storms of battle in conflict with a manly

foe, and since have struggled in the battles of life, yet have the old spirit left and the strong hope of finally meeting with some degree of success, will flock to the new state of New Mexico, and, therefore, I most earnestly recommend that all of the G. A. R. posts of this department hold manfully together, whatever the struggle may be, until the reinforcements come, and be ready to welcome them upon their arrival and gather them into the ranks. Our territory is, perhaps, larger than that of any other department of the G. A. R. and for this reason we should feel a peculiar pride in holding our posts together, for it is not improbable, in my opinion, that the day will come when our membership will begin rapidly to increase and then we can point with satisfaction to our present struggle. With statehood, many of the surviving members of the grand old army of the Union, are likely to come to New Mexico, and, if we brave the present condition of our posts and hold together, New Mexico will have prosperous G. A. R. posts when the older comrades that may remain in the eastern posts have gone to the eternal camping ground where we will all have to go finally." [New Mexico gained statehood on January 6, 1912]

Continuing the speaker urged upon the comrades the importance of preserving the practice of observing Memorial day; thanked the members of his staff for their zealous co-operation with his efforts to promote the interests of the department; spoke of the magnificent "object lesson" presented at the last national encampment and indicated his intention to attend the next one at Louisville; mentioned that the government should pursue a more liberal policy in passing upon the pension applications of veterans; mentioned that the United States soldiers' homes were full and overflowing and that the G. A. R. was doing all in its power to supplement the efforts of the government to relieve the distress of indigent and shattered old soldiers; urged that the United States should appropriate at least \$800 per annum to each G. A. R. post as a relief fund; closed with a hearty Godspeed to all old soldiers and sailors of the United States and also to the brave "boys in grey."

MEETING LAST NIGHT

The exercises at the public meeting of the encampment in the district court room, last night, were generally attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the capital city and proved both highly entertaining and instructive. Everyone came away feeling that he or she had been most pleasantly rewarded. The exclamation, "What a splendid meeting," was on every lip.

The judicial platform was occupied by Post Commander Downs, who presided at the request of Department Commander Knaebel, Generals Lawler and Jones, Chaplain Thomas Harwood, Gov. Thornton and Judge Laughlin. The seats inside of the railing were occupied by veterans who wore both the "blue" and the "grey," ladies and honored guests from away, and the main auditorium was well filled with interested spectators. The large sprinkling of ladies present was noticeable.

Chaplain Harwood opened the exercises with a brief invocation. The choir, consisting of Col. George W. Knaebel, F. P. Crichton, J. H. Crist, Mrs. Koch, Mrs. Day and Miss Morrison, with Mrs. Knaebel presiding at the organ, then beautifully sang "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground."

Judge Downs followed with a fitting opening address in which he briefly traced the history of the Grand Army from the close of the civil war; reminded his hearers that its objects were fraternal and charitable, not political; dwelt upon the fact that the passions incident to the "tempest and whirlwind of war" had long since faded away and that now the most kindly feelings existed between the brave men who earnestly opposed each other in the mighty conflict of 1861-1865. He made particular and complimentary allusion to Governor Thornton, who bravely wore the "grey" and fought for what he then thought was right, and said that such men were all respected by true union soldiers.

Parson S. E. Snider, of Fort Defiance A. T., [Arizona Territory] next sang with genuine pathos and stirring effect, "The Veteran's Last Song."

GOVERNOR THORNTON SPEAKS.

Gov. Thornton was next introduced amid general applause. After extending, in behalf of the people of New Mexico, a cordial welcome to Commander-in-Chief Lawler and Adjutant General Jones and a warm greeting to the other Grand Army men present, he touched with much feeling upon the modest part he took in the mighty conflict "on the other side;" said that he did then what he honestly thought was right; that "God moving in a mysterious way" seemed to have selected sectional strife as the means of wiping the stain of human slavery, a

heritage from our fathers from our otherwise fair escutcheon; that he was one of the overwhelming majority who "fought on the other side" who was now glad that the conflict resulted as it did; that human slavery on American soil was forever blotted out; that the question of state sovereignty had been settled in favor of nationality, and that our glorious union had been preserved intact. No bitterness or disappointment lingered in his heart. Among his best friends were men he had met at Wilson Creek and on other battle fields of the south, and he could as cordially grasp the hand of a union soldier as that of any man on earth. We are one nation, one great and harmonious people inspired by one common and noble purpose, and love one flag, the glorious stars and stripes.

After the applause that followed this eloquent address, the choir sang, "Tramp, tramp, the boys are marching."

GENERAL LAWLER INTRODUCED.

Gen Lawler was then introduced amid hearty applause. Evidently much touched by the noble sentiments just expressed, Gen. Lawler introduced his eloquent and happy address with a glowing tribute to Gov. Thornton and all those who bravely fought "on the other side." They suffered the same hardships and privations, risked just as much, fought with as much courage and daring, were just as sure they were right as those who met them in battle from the north, and, while we were all glad that the conflict turned out as it did, federal and confederate soldiers cherished the highest respect for each other. Pointing to the stars and stripes, he said that the old flag was now just as dear to southern as northern people, that he had recently noticed it floating over the public school buildings of New Orleans, Atlanta and Richmond as well as over the confederate soldiers' homes of the sunny south. The general closed with a pleasant tribute to Santa Fe and New Mexico and forecast a great future for this territory when awarded the boon of statehood.

General Jones, when called upon, merely made a graceful acknowledgment of the compliment, but declined to speak.

The choir, the audience joining in the inspiring chorus, then sang "America," and, by special request, "We shall meet, but we shall miss him," and "The Star Spangled Banner" were rendered.

The meeting then closed and Generals Lawler and Jones were escorted to the train bound for Chicago.

❧ 1896 ❧

Journal of Thirtieth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1896

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . J. W. Crawford, New York City

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1895, 208

Commander . . . John C. Bromagem, E. Las Vegas

Senior Vice Commander . . . T. B. Thompson, Raton

Junior Vice Commander . . . Edward Miller, Santa Fe

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Eli Caldwell, Las Vegas

(* Not present)

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30, 1895, 12 Posts, 193 members; June 30, 1896, 8 Posts, 134 members.

Department Assistant Inspector General's Reports

New Mexico, W. S. Fletcher, A. I. G.

At the time of our Encampment at Raton, N. M., April 24, 1896, I thoroughly inspected the Department Headquarters, and found everything in fine order. The books have been neatly and accurately kept, and all orders promptly promulgated. I call your special attention to the matter of flags in public schools in New Mexico, and I think I can assure you that during the present year there will not be a school house in New Mexico that will not float "Old Glory." An extra effort will be made during the present year to encourage the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans in every manner possible.

Albuquerque Morning Democrat
February 6, 1896

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE

Colonel A. J. Fountain Either Murdered, Abducted or Voluntarily Absent

His Desert Buckboard Found Ten Miles From the Road—Cattle Thieves Charged With the Crime

The town of Las Cruces is in a fever of excitement over the report that Colonel A. J. Fountain, a prominent attorney and well known republican, had been waylaid and either kidnapped or murdered. Colonel Fountain had been at Lincoln attending court and was returning home with this 9-year old boy. Near Chalk Wells, forty miles from Las Cruces, his abandoned buckboard was found while around were the tracks of horsemen. . . . The news reached Las Cruces Monday and a posse was at once organized to search for Colonel Fountain. . . . The Republican extra also prints several short editorial squibs reflecting on Judge Bantz and making the direct charge that Colonel Fountain has been murdered and that his death is due to political matters.

Judge S. B. Newcomb of Las Cruces, who passed through here last evening, was seen by a DEMOCRAT reporter, and when asked of the affair, said that there was no question but what Fountain had been murdered by cattle thieves whom he had indicted at the Lincoln county court.

White Oaks Eagle
April 16, 1896

A [suspect] is in jail at Las Cruces who is believed to be the murderer of Col. Fountain and son. Sheriff P. F. Garrett has evidence which points very conclusively, though circumstantial, to the guilt of the man now under arrest.”

Note: Colonel Fountain was the Department Commander of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R. in 1891.

White Oaks Eagle
April 16, 1896

NEW MEXICO ENCAMPMENT G. A. R.
Headquarters Department of New Mexico
Grand Army of the Republic
Raton, N. M., March 3d, 1896

General Order No. 3

1. The thirteenth annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, is called to meet at the hall of Sedgwick post No. 2, Raton, New Mexico, on Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25, 1896.

II. A meeting of department council of administration will be held at department headquarters Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

III. Sedgwick post will make necessary details for officer of the day and officer of the guard, and will have charge of the arrangements for the encampment and for the entertainment of visiting comrades.

IV. Comrades intending attending the encampment will please notify these headquarters at their earliest convenience.

V. Application will be made and urged for a rate of one fare for the round trip on the railroads.

By command of T. W. COLLIER,

Department Commander,

D. RISDON

Assistant Adj't. Gen.

Las Vegas Daily Optic

April 28, 1896

GRAND ARMY

Report of Department Commander T. W. Collier to the Thirteenth Annual Encampment

By resolution, unanimously adopted at the thirteenth annual encampment, department of New Mexico, G. A. R. held at Raton, April 24th and 25th 1896, this report was ordered printed in the Raton Range, with the request that it be published in the other papers of the Territory.

Comrades: We are assembled at the thirteenth annual encampment, department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic. It is my pleasant privilege to welcome you to this meeting.

The past year has been a trying one with our patriotic organization. As we grow older, we are less able to fight life's battles with younger and more vigorous competitors and in consequence, the prosperity of our comrades has been limited during the general depression that has prevailed, and this state of affairs has had a telling effect on this department.

The pinching exactions of poverty has depleted some of our posts, but the comrades generally have made a commendable fight to maintain their organizations and standing in our beloved order. There is plenty of material within the boundaries of this department to increase the membership of existing posts, and a persistent effort should be made to secure their enrollment as members of the G. A. R.

At the last encampment, a resolution was adopted looking to the resuscitation of Phil Sheridan post, No 14, at Las Cruces. I endeavored to awaken some interest among the comrades of this former flourishing post, but my efforts dismally failed. I received answers to but two letters out of twenty-three and they were indifferent and unpromising of any good results.

I visited Sherman post, No. 1, at Las Vegas, upon invitation, and succeeded in enlisting sufficient interest to revive that post, which is now in a flourishing condition. I was accompanied by Assistant Adjutant General Comrade Risdon.

I attended the last national encampment at Louisville, Kentucky, where this department was represented by Past Department Commander Downs, Comrades Davis, Crampton, Hargrave and Crawford. Comrade Crampton, of Carleton post, acted as my assistant adjutant general during the encampment.

Since the returns have been made by the assistant adjutant general for the term in ending December 31st last, Isaac R. Hawkins Post No. 15, at Eddy, surrendered its charter on account of the members scattering to secure employment. I issued cards to the members of the Post, as they all desired to retain their membership in the G. A. R.

On the 16th of January I received the sad news of the death of Comrade F. Bartolona, post commander of G. K. Warren post No. 5. Proper mention will be made in the chaplain's report of this worthy comrade and suitable action will be taken by this encampment in reference to the departed comrades during the past year, who have joined the grand army in the great beyond.

One of the unaccountable and vexatious conditions that confronts the department commander is the lukewarmness and lack of interest taken in the advancement and prosperity of our organization manifested by some of the comrades who have enjoyed all the honors within the gift of the department.—This is not as it should be. Concerted effort and persistent work will increase our membership. This we should have from every comrade, especially those who have been honored by high positions, favors that are worthy the highest appreciation of any comrade.

I would recommend that if practicable, some effort be made to provide a fund for the expenses of the incoming commander to visit every post in the department with a view of arousing new interest and extending the membership. Also to visit towns, where no post now exists, but where there are enough comrades to form new posts. I am satisfied much effective work can be done in this way.

Memorial Day last year, owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather, although generally observed, the exercises were held under trying circumstances. This is an occasion that must be sacredly observed regardless of surroundings and so long as a comrade of the G. A. R. survives, it will be.

The comrades who were unjustly deprived of their pensions, so far as have been able to learn, have been restored. But there yet remains a large number of our comrades who deserve and are entitled to pensions who have never received any recognition in this direction. I would recommend the appointment of a strong committee which will advise and assist these comrades in securing their hardly earned and well merited pensions.

It is a lamentable condition that the Woman's relief corps in this department has been permitted to die out, There are enough loyal and patriotic women in New Mexico to maintain a vigorous, useful and effective organization, and if the proper effort was made by the grand army of the republic, I believe they would give us the inestimable benefits of a woman's relief corps. The project is at least worthy an effort.

The interest taken by the public schools of New Mexico in patriotic exercises and the expressed veneration for the Flag of our country by the rising generation is most commendable. A few years more and the last members of our order will have passed away, and the observance of Memorial day and the preservation of the record of the valorous deeds of the preservers of this nation will be in the keeping of the youth now being educated in our public schools. It is our duty to encourage every species of patriotic teachings that they may intelligently and faithfully discharge these duties.

I would recommend that this encampment give expression to its views on house resolution No. 7860, now before the lower house of congress making an appropriation for the erection of a monument to commemorate the services and achievements of the private soldiers and sailors of the United States in the late war of the rebellion.

And now comrades let us enter the coming year with renewed and increased interest. There is scarcely a locality in this Territory where there are not survivors of the late war who are eligible to membership in the G. A. R., who have never allied themselves with us to aid the objects of our order and benefit themselves and their deserving comrades. Let us endeavor to enroll them before another encampment.

I wish to express my gratification for the universal promptness and interest manifested by the staff and the kindness and courtesy extended by all comrades during the year it has been my privilege to command this Department.

With best wishes for the future welfare of this Department and the Grand Army of the Republic throughout our country and assurances of my humble efforts to promote the best interests of the organization, I submit this brief report.

T. W. Collier,
Department Commander.

White Oaks Eagle
May 7, 1896

13th ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO, G. A. R., HELD AT RATON, APRIL 24th AND 25th, 1896

Friday morning dawned bright and clear, giving the members of the Grand Army of the Republic for New Mexico perfect weather for their two days stay at Raton.

The Encampment was well attended and the business of the occasion was transacted on Friday to enable the patriotic citizens of Raton to show some attention to the visitors on Saturday, they wishing to return to their home that afternoon.

The business of the Encampment, that interested the public, was the election of the following officers for the ensuing year:

Department Commander, J. C. Bromagem, Las Vegas,
 Senior Vice Department Commander, T. B. Thompson, Raton,
 Junior Vice Department Commander, Edward Miller, Santa Fe,
 Medical Director, F. E. Olney, Las Vegas,
 Chaplain, Thos. Harwood,
 Council of Administration, S. H. Simpson, Orlando Smith, E. S. Stover, T. J. Bigford, G. W. Cook.
 Delegate, Hiram Crampton.
 Alternate, C. W. Rickard.

It was decided to hold the next Encampment at Las Vegas.

The officers were installed that afternoon.

In the evening all the visitors and a very large and appreciative audience assembled at the opera house to enjoy an elegant program. The meeting was presided over by Past Department Commander T. W. Collier.

The exercises opened by the singing of America and Hail Columbia by a chorus of fifty school children under the direction of Miss Effie Meadow.

Hon. Thomas Smith, chief justice of New Mexico, a most gallant confederate soldier, being at that time the youngest colonel in that army, delighted the large audience with an eloquent, well timed and happily received address.

Mrs. Wilson captivated her attentive audience with two solos in a most artistic manner.

Judge Francis Downs, one of New Mexico's able and influential lawyers, enjoying the record of a brilliant soldier in the Union army, made one of his best efforts, and as a speaker he always interests and instructs his hearers.

Mrs. J. H. Walker, Raton's sweet singer, perfectly rendered that ever popular ballad, "The Old Folks at Home."

Miss Allie Thomas followed in the recitation of "The Situation as it is To-day." She acquitted herself credibly and pleased the audience.

Hon. C. A. Voorhees, the son of a gallant officer in the Union army, delivered a handsome address, appropriately directed chiefly to the young men of the nation.

Mrs. D. Risdon beautifully rendered a solo that was most tentatively listened to and highly appreciated.

A brief but pleasant address was delivered by Rev. Thomas Harwood.

The exercises at the opera house closed by an interesting address from Prof. W. W. Storms, superintendent of Raton's public schools, on the subject of teaching patriotism in the public schools.

Hon. W. T. Thornton, governor of New Mexico, had made all his arrangements to attend the camp fire and outlined the address with which he was to favor a Raton audience, but a few hours before leaving for here he received a message that prevented his coming.—Raton Range.

~ 1897 ~

Journal of Thirty-First National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1897

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Hiram Crampton, Santa Fe

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1896, 150

*Commander . . . Francis Downs, Santa Fe

*Senior Vice Commander . . . Leverett Clarke . . . Albuquerque

Junior Vice Commander . . . T. B. Thompson, Raton

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe

(* Not present)

Representative

George W. Hartman (at large) Santa Fe

Alternate

*Jack Crawford, New York City, NY

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30, 1896, 8 Posts, 134 members; June 30, 1897, 9 Posts, 158 members.

Department Assistant Inspector General's Reports

William M. Berger, A. I. G

Owing to the stringency of the times and from the fact that a large number of members of the Posts in New Mexico are out of employment, there has been a large falling off in the role of membership, and many of the Posts have had a hard time to maintain their organizations, a large percentage has been dropped for non-payment of dues, many have removed from the Department to other states and territories. Notwithstanding all these reverses, there is no lack of enthusiasm among the old boys, and our meetings and camp-fires have been characterized by a degree of interest which it is a pleasure to contemplate.

In regard to the proposed change of date of inspections, I am of the opinion that with a change to October or November better results will follow. These months are generally cool and pleasant and meetings usually largely attended.

National or State Soldiers' Home.—The Territory of New Mexico has no Home for Soldiers' within its borders, nor is there a National Home within the territory. The extraordinary mild climate in Santa Fe and other portions of the territory presents the finest location for a National Soldiers' Home or sanitarium for veterans of the army and navy afflicted with consumption or any pulmonary complaint of any place in the United States.

There is located at Santa Fe a very fine cemetery for the internment of the remains of the soldiers and sailors of the United States, which is kept up in a very credible manner in charge of an able and efficient superintendent appointed by the War Department.

I have the great pleasure to report that through the efforts of the members of the several Grand Army Posts throughout the territory, "Old Glory" floats from the roof of every public and private school, college, seminary, and other institutions of learning in the territory.

There are several flourishing Woman's Relief Corps in good condition in the territory, and also Sons of Veterans, associations which lend their aid and influence to the Grand Army Posts to a very large extent.

New Mexico will also be found, though small in numbers, enthusiastic and patriotic in all affairs concerning the G. A. R.

* * *

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

May 13, 1897

At the Fourteenth annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, held at Las Vegas on the 7th day of May, 1897, the following named comrades were elected for the ensuing year to the respective offices designated, as follows:

Department commander, Francis Downs, of Santa Fe.

Senior vice commander, Leverett Clarke of Albuquerque.

Junior vice commander, T. B. Thompson of Raton.

Medical director, J. C. Klepinger of White Oaks.

Department chaplain, Thomas Harwood of Albuquerque.

Delegate to National encampment, G. W. Hartman of Las Vegas.

Alternate, J. W. Crawford of San Marcial.

Council of administration: S. H. Simpson of Taos, T. J. Bigford of Las Vegas, S. W. Bendie of Albuquerque, Francis Buchanan of Socorro, Daniel Risdon of Raton.

Albuquerque Journal
May 22, 1897

G. A. R.

The meeting at the G. A. R. hall last night was well attended by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps and the Sons of Veterans. It was decided to attend services at the Baptist church on the morning of May 30th . . .

The Santa Fe New Mexican
August 23, 1897

Leverett Clarke, vice department commander of the G. A. R. in New Mexico, has gone to attend the national encampment at Buffalo, N. Y. He was joined by several Arizona veterans and together they will journey, picking up other G. A. R. men enroute.

White Oaks Eagle
August 19, 1887

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Headquarters Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic
Santa Fe, New Mexico, Aug. 7, 1897

Circular No. 1

The thirty-first national encampment will be held in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., during the week commencing August 23.

It is expected that this meeting of comrades will be one of the most memorable in the history of the G. A. R.

Headquarters of the Departments of New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma will be established in the high school building, corner of Court and Franklin streets. . . .

Las Vegas Daily Optic
October 20, 1897

Judge Francis Downs, department commander, G. A. R., is very ill at St. Vincent sanitarium. His friends are giving him every kindly possible treatment. Capt. Smith Simpson, the horny-handed "bishop" of Taos, came down, yesterday, specially to see him, and his visit has been worth the attention of half a dozen sad-faced doctors.

❧ 1898 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1898

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Hiram Crampton, Santa Fe

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1897, 157

+Commander . . . Francis Downs, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . Leverett Clarke . . . Albuquerque

Junior Vice Commander . . . Francis Buchanan, Socorro

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. S. Fletcher, Santa Fe

(* Not present, + dead)

Representative

J. M. Moore, Albuquerque

Alternate

James L. Morris, Thornton

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1897, 9 Posts, 158 Members; June 30, 1898, 10 Posts, 157 members.

Department Assistant Inspector General's Reports

New Mexico—none.

* * *

Albuquerque Daily Citizen

April 20, 1898

GRAND ARMY VETERANS

THEIR NEXT ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT TO BE HELD IN THIS CITY

The fifteenth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, will be held at Albuquerque on Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, the session to be held in the Knights of Pythias hall, under the auspices of G. K. Warren post. Application has been made to the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe road for reduced fare, but the rate of one and a third fare for the round trip, providing that 100 have receipts showing that full fare has been paid one way, which has been granted, is not entirely satisfactory to the G. A. R. and those in charge hope that other arrangements can be made—New Mexican.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 3.

Headquarters Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic,
Santa Fe, N. M., April 16, 1898

This Fifteenth Annual Encampment will be held in Knights of Pythias hall, under the auspices of the G. K. Warren Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Albuquerque, N. M., on Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, 1898.

Department headquarters will be established at the Grand Central hotel in the Armijo building, room 35, where the Council of Administration will meet at 10 a.m., May 14, for the transaction of such business as may come before it.

At 2 o'clock p.m., of the same day, the encampment will convene.

FRANCIS DOWNS,

Department Commander.

W. S. Fletcher, A. A. G.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

May 12, 1898

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

The fifteenth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Now Mexico, to be held at Albuquerque on Friday and Saturday, will be represented from the Santa Fe post by: Francis Downs, department commander; W. S. Fletcher, assistant adjutant general; Jacob Weltmer, assistant quartermaster general; and past commanders Geo. E. Knaebel, J. L. Morris, T. W. Collier, Henry M. Davis and Captain J. R. Hudson; Smith H. Simpson, of the council of administration, and other veterans. The delegation left this afternoon.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

May 13, 1898

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Fifteenth Annual Gathering in Session at Albuquerque—Santa Fe Representatives—Early Members

The fifteenth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, is in session at Albuquerque, and will continue until tomorrow night. Carleton post of this city is represented by

Francis Downs, department commander, W. S. Fletcher, assistant adjutant general, Smith H. Simpson, member of the council of administration, Henry M. Davis and Edward Miller. A number of other members of the post had intended going, but business matters prevented.

This order is quite strong in the territory, there now being ten posts in active working order, with a membership of 74 [sic]. The posts are located at Raton, East Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Socorro, White Oaks, Hillsboro, Kingston and Farmington. Carleton post of this city having the largest membership, and G. K. Warren post at Albuquerque, standing second.

The Grand Army of the Republic was organized in New Mexico in the summer 1883 by Commander-in-Chief Paul Vandervoort and was made a permanent department by the action of the national encampment held in Denver the same year. Many citizens of national repute, whose names are inseparably linked with the early history of the southwest, have been identified with this organization in New Mexico. Among those are the late Colonel Ned Wynkoop, of the original famous 1st Colorado cavalry, who served as department commander in 1884. In 1886 this position was held by Hon. Elias S. Stover, of Albuquerque, formerly lieutenant governor of Kansas. Ex-Senator S. W. Dorsey was department commander in 1892 and Judge Francis Downs, of Santa Fe, is now serving his second term as department commander. Of the original 18 charter members of Carleton post, organized in 1883, Judge Downs and Colonel W. S. Fletcher, now serving as assistant adjutant general, are the only surviving members. The order is in a nourishing condition financially, as it has ever been, and its membership is composed of worthy citizens, who enjoy the respect of all the people of New Mexico.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

May 16, 1898

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Officers Elected—1899 Encampment to Be Held in Santa Fe—G. A. R. notes

At the fifteenth annual encampment of the New Mexico department of the G. A. R., held here Friday and Saturday, it was decided that the next encampment will be held at Santa Fe. Governor Stover installed the following officers for the ensuing year: Francis Downs, of Santa Fe, department commander; Leverett Clarke, Albuquerque, senior vice commander, re-elected; Francis Buchanan, of Socorro, junior vice commander; Rev. Thomas Harwood, re-elected for the 14th time chaplain of the department; medical director, A. M. Whitcomb, Albuquerque. Council of Administration: Smith H. Simpson, of Taos; H. W. Whitcomb, of Camp Whitcomb; J. Y. Hewitt, of White Oaks; W. S. Burke, of Albuquerque, and Edward Miller, of Santa Fe; J. M. Moore, Albuquerque, was selected delegate to the national encampment and J. L. Morris, of Thornton, alternate.

Judge Francis Downs, department commander, G. A. R. will remain in Albuquerque several days as the guest of Hon. H. L. Warren. Immediately upon his return to Santa Fe he will announce his staff, and issue an order for the proper observance of Memorial Day, which promises this year to be more impressive than usual all through the territory.

The New Mexican Review (Santa Fe)

July 7, 1898

G. A. R. Order

General Order No. 1

Owing to the sad death of my dear comrade, Francis Downs, department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, I am called upon to assume the office of commander. The headquarters of the department will be hereafter established at Albuquerque.

I announce members of my official staff: Winfield S. Fletcher, of Santa Fe, assistant adjutant general; Jacob Weltmer, of Santa Fe, assistant quartermaster general. Other appointments will be announced in future orders.

LEVERETT CLARKE, Commander

Albuquerque Citizen
August 6, 1898

Grand Army Orders
Headquarters, Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic
Albuquerque, N. M. July 28, 1898

Circular No. 1

The thirty-second annual encampment will be held in the city of Cincinnati, O., during the week commencing Sept. 5. . . .

Headquarters of the departments of New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma will be established in later orders. They will probably unite. . . .

❧ 1899 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Third National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1899

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Hiram Crampton, Santa Fe

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1898, 143

Commander . . . George W. Knaebel, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . George Carter, Raton

Junior Vice Commander . . . James L. Morris, Thornton

Assistant Adjutant General . . . William M. Berger, Santa Fe

(* Not present, + dead)

Representative

Thos. Harwood, (at large), Albuquerque

Alternate

Henry M. Davis, Albuquerque

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1898, 10 Posts, 157 members; June 30, 1899, 8 Posts, 144 members.

Assistant Department Inspector General Reports

New Mexico

Valentine Herbert, A. I. G.

I have the honor to report that from the reports of the Department Officers, this day made to National Headquarters, I find that there are in the Department ten Posts, eight of which are in good standing, and two have not forwarded their reports and have not taken the necessary steps to disband, such as the surrender of charters, and returning their papers to Department Headquarters. The membership of the Department is shown at 147 members, a loss during the last half year of ten members. The Department is larger in area than the New England and Middle States combined, and it is almost impossible to keep our membership united.

Our reports show that during the year our death rate has been larger and our list of suspensions smaller than in any year since the Department was organized fifteen years ago. Our Department Officers will make a strong effort between now and June 30 to make up our losses by restrictions from the suspended and dropped lists with an occasional new recruit added. In answer to your "Circular of Instructions," dated November 20, 1898, I have the honor to report as follows:

1. Department:

I have inspected the offices of the Assistant Adjutant-General and Assistant Quartermaster-General and find them in good condition. All Orders to December 31, 1898, duly received and promulgated. All dues paid to National Headquarters to date.

2. Memorial Day is very generally observed by all Posts, especially by Carleton Post of Santa Fe, which was the only National Cemetery in the Southwest to look after. It contains over eight hundred soldiers' graves. Every Post in the Department looks after the graves of soldier dead scattered all through New Mexico.

3. Owing to the large area to be covered as above referenced to, it is very difficult for Department Officers to visit Department Posts. They do occasionally.

4. Four Posts own burial lots.

5. No associated members reported.

6. General conditions of the Department, it is holding on by the teeth and toe nails, and the comrades are trying to find out whether there ever was a War of the Rebellion, and whether that war occurred before the Mexican War, and the Spanish-Cuban War.

Auxiliary Organizations

1. Sons of Veterans, None. 2. Woman's Relief Corps, 2. Ladies' G. A. R., None.

Homes

To all those questions I answer no.

Schools

1. The schools very generally participate in observance of Memorial Day. 2. On a large number of school houses *The Flag* floats. 3, 4. I answer not as much as they should. We hope, however, to have these matters very strongly urged upon the attention of our next encampment.

Public

1. I answer yes most emphatically, and 2—give the same answer to 2, that the public and moral support is good, and that Memorial Day is becoming every year in New Mexico a sacred and not a holiday.

* * *

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

March 14, 1899

G. A. R. ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

The 16th annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of New Mexico, will be held in Santa Fe, Thursday, April 13, 1899. Arraignments have been completed for the gathering of the old soldiers, and John Quinn has been appointed officer of the day, and Adolph Weiler, officer of the guard, to serve during the session of the encampment.

The ceremonies connected with dedication of the monument erected over the grave of Past Department Commander Francis Downs will be held under the auspices of Carleton post, on Friday, April 14.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

April 14, 1899

G. A. R. CAMP FIRE

The Old Soldiers Take Their Coffee and Beans with Music and Speaking SOLDIERS OF THREE ARMIES

Confederates, Federal Troopers and Cuban Volunteers Join in the Feast and Reunion

The G. A. R. veterans held one of the most enjoyable meetings in the history of the department, last night, and it was past 12 o'clock before it was thought the hour of 10 had arrived.

The first feature of the evening was the absorption of camp rations in a goodly variety, and the cooking was of the best. When the tables were cleared speaking was the order of the evening, and this proved very entertaining.

A choir composed of Messrs. F. P. Crichton, Roy Crichton, Geo. W. Knaebel, McCord Johnston and McBride, sang several selections and there was instrumental music from a mandolin and guitar orchestra. F. P. Crichton also sang a comic song that was entertaining. W. M. Berger, Esq., was toastmaster, and the speaking opened with a prayer from Rev. Thomas Harwood.

The first speaker was ex-Governor Prince, who replied to the toast "Comrade McKinley." The governor in his usual graceful style paid the chief executive a glowing tribute for nobility of character, and as being the head of the greatest nation on earth. In referring to the fact that there was now, no north, no south, he expressed the belief that this amalgamation was brought about by the Spanish war in which the men from the north and south fought side by side.

Colonel George W. Knaebel replied to the toast "Grand Army of the Republic." The colonel after paying just tributes to the federal troops, also complimented the confederate soldiers, who, he said, fought for a cause they considered just and honorable, and declared his satisfaction at the great fact that the lines between the two sections were wiped out forever.

"The New Mexico Volunteer" was the toast to which Adjutant Whiteman responded, and was well received. He showed that New Mexico has sent out 893 soldiers under the presidential call that it was New Mexico volunteers who were the first to reach Texas, the first to land in Cuba, the first to engage in battle, and the first to reach San Juan hill. The New Mexico volunteers were the first in the estimation of the country of all the volunteers who went into the Spanish war.

Hon. T. B. Catron made a fine address in response to the toast, "Our Army and Navy." He considered it a compliment to be called to speak before a G. A. R. meeting, as he had fought for the entire four years on the other side. He differed with a preceding speaker in the claim that the time of wiping out of all grievances between the two sections was when Spain was whipped. He held that it was rather at Appomattox court house. The speaker then traced the history of the spirit of liberty and genesis of patriotism as displayed through the achievements of the army and navy; illustrating by a eulogy of the spirit of patriotism as given by Washington, who handed his sword over to congress at the close of the revolutionary war, surrendering his right and power to civil liberty. Mr. Catron made forceful reference to the magnanimous attitude of this country in the war with Spain and the statesmanlike conduct of the president; also to Dewey's famous order, "D n the torpedoes; go ahead." The speaker closed by fine tributes to the heroes in the army and navy during the late war.

Judge A. L. Morrison responded to the toast, "The Flag of Our Country." The judge is always an orator, and this occasion was no exception to the rule. He opened with a poetical tribute to the national emblem, and detailed noted historical instances of devotion to it, including the famous Molly Pitcher episode; also, the stirring scenes attending Jackson's capture of New Orleans. And in referring to the war with Spain he claimed it was really over before it began. The judge's speech was appreciated.

Judge McFie made a pleasing address in response to calls, showing to the veterans present that the fight they had been engaged in was the greatest war in the world's history. He mentioned some of the greatest battles in history, citing Borodino, Waterloo and Gettysburg; also, the Franco-Prussian war, showing how closely allied they were in historical experience.

Major Fritz Muller made a spirited speech, showing that it was E troop of the rough riders that reached the top of San Juan hill first, and paying a deserved tribute to Corp. Ralph McFie, who lost no time in charging up that hill in the face of the leaden hall flying. The major also called down Colonel Roosevelt for his fairy stories in Scribner's magazine that made wrong history.

Other speakers were Rev. Thomas Harwood, William Breeden, Max Pracht and others.

THE DOWNS TABLET

It was Dedicated at the National Cemetery Today by Carleton: Post, G. A. R.

The weather threatened to force postponement of the dedication this afternoon of the Downs memorial tablet, but the procession started off at 2:30 from the northeast corner of the plaza. Grand Marshal S. S. Beaty led on horseback, and was assisted by these mounted aides: Messrs. W. M. Berger, J. T. Forsha, C. W. Dudrow and Evaristo Lucero. Had the weather been more propitious there would have been a larger turn out; but it was a good display as it was. Following the grand marshal, came the cavalry band, 16 pieces, playing a dead march; Grand Army veterans, 35 strong, with Levi Miller carrying the flag and Judge J. P. Victory in command;

Rough Riders and Territorials, 25 strong under Major Muller commanding, assisted by Lieutenants Griffin and Coleman. Arthur Griffin carried the flag for the Rough Riders and Richard Gutterman bore the colors of the Territorial regiment. Following were prominent citizens, members of the city and county government on foot, and after these came a dozen carriages containing disabled veterans, President of the Day and Post Commander, G. W. Knaebel, the speaker of the day. Judge McFie and invited guests.

The procession marched down San Francisco st., and thence to the cemetery, making an excellent appearance, and being witnessed by hundreds of citizens, ladies and children.

The ceremonies at the cemetery were, of an impressive nature, the beautiful ritual for such occasions being adhered to. The post lines were drawn up on either side of the invited guests and near the monument. After the singing of "Tenting on the Old Camp Grounds," Col. Geo. W. Knaebel, president of the day, spoke as follows:

"Commander of Carleton post, No. 3, department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, in behalf of the beloved aged mother of the deceased and also in behalf of his respected sisters, family and relatives, I request that this monument erected here in this beautiful national cemetery to the memory of our departed friend, Post Commander and Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic of this territory, be dedicated to the noble purpose for which it has been erected."

Commander John P. Victory accepted the monument with a few well chosen words and appointed as a guard of honor, S. H. Simpson, E. H. Bergmann, M. Davis, Jacob Weltmer, Edward Krumpegel, Edward Miller, Candelario Martinez and Charles Wagner. The flag was raised and an anchor placed against the monument as an emblem of the navy while those present sang "The Star Spangled Banner." A musket with a fixed bayonet, canteen and haversack hanging from it, knapsack leaning against the stock, was then set against the monument, opposite to the anchor, being the emblems of the army. A soldier in full uniform, armed with a musket with fixed bayonet stood guard. The entire guard of honor saluted and stood at salute until the commander closed with the words: "Comrades, salute the dead." "Nearer My God to Thee," was sung, after which the orator of the day, Judge John R. McFie, made an eloquent address, stating the object for which the comrades had assembled, to do honor to the memory of the deceased commander, Francis Downs. There were present, he said, a little band who had been comrades of the deceased, and also younger men who recently laid down their arms in another conflict of brilliant victories. The speaker then gave a biographical sketch, stating that deceased was born in London, Canada West, but spent most of his life up to manhood, at Madison, Wis. There he enlisted in the 1st Wisconsin battery of light artillery, and served as a private three years. He then helped to organize a new company which became the 49th Wisconsin infantry. He enlisted as a private, became second lieutenant and was promoted first lieutenant, serving altogether nearly four years. He graduated from the law school at Madison in 1869, removed to Kansas, where he practiced law and became probate Judge. In 1879 he removed to Santa Fe, and in 1883 when Carleton post G. A. R. was organized, was first junior vice commander, then senior and for four terms, until his death, was the post commander. He was department commander three terms ending with his death, June 26, 1898.

The speaker recited a number of instances of bravery in action by the deceased comrade, extolling incidentally the heroic achievements of United States soldiers in the war of the rebellion and in Cuba. The late commander lived 59 years and before his death witnessed the reunion of soldiers who had faced each other in combat. . . .

The ceremonies were brought to a close with the singing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee," after which the symbols were removed from the monument, the flag was lowered and the guard dismissed. Rev. Thomas Harwood, the department chaplain, pronounced the benediction.

The monument was designed by Miss Bessie E. Wells, a half sister of the late Col. Francis Downs. It is unique in design and differs from the general run of monuments of that nature. It consists of a highly polished granite tablet a foot thick, four feet wide and four feet high, mounted on a rough granite base. The inscription merely gives the name, date of birth, and date of death of Col. Downs, the whole surmounted by the emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Santa Fe Daily New Mexican
April 20, 1899

Keep the G. A. R. Active

In general orders issued by Commander Geo. W. Knaebel to the G. A. R., giving notice of the election of department officers the following appeal is made:

“All Comrades of this department of the Grand Army of the Republic and particularly the post commander and officers of the respective posts are most fraternally and urgently requested to keep alive our organization, which now has become the honored and, since the last war with Spain, has commanded more respect, if possible, than formerly; and which is held in affectionate regard by the valiant soldiers of the United States of America who had the distinguished honor of upholding and protecting our flag in that war.”

☞ 1900 ☞

Journal of Thirty-Fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1900

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Leverett Clarke, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1899, 148

*Commander . . . John R. McFie, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . Theodore W. Hemen, White Oaks

Junior Vice Commander . . . Thomas W. Collier, Raton

Assistant Adjutant General . . . F. P. Crichton, Santa Fe

(* Not present, + dead)

Representative

Wm. M. Berger (at large), Santa Fe

Alternate

Henry M. Davis, Santa Fe

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1899, 8 Posts, 144 members; June 30, 1900, 9 Posts, 170

* * *

The Chieftain (Socorro)

March 17, 1900

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

The New Mexico Members of the G. A. R. will Assemble in Santa Fe April 11

Headquarters Department of New Mexico,

Grand Army of the Republic

Santa Fe N. M., March 8, 1900

General Orders

No. 3

1. The Seventeenth Annual Encampment of this department will be held at the City of Santa Fe, N. M., on Wednesday and Thursday, April 11th and 12th, 1900, at the Post Hall of Carleton Post No. 3. Department Headquarters will be established at the offices of Department Commander, on the northeast corner of Washington and Palace Avenues, where the Council of Administration will meet at 10 o'clock a.m., April 11th, for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it. At two o'clock p.m. on the same day the Encampment will convene.

2. The Commander of Carleton Post will detail one comrade for Officer of the Day, one for Officer of the Guard, and two for general duty; all of whom will report to the Assistant Adjutant General at Headquarters at 10 o'clock a.m., April 11th, 1900, and said Post has fraternally agreed to and will make all necessary and suitable

arrangements for the Encampment, and for a camp fire on the evening of April 12th, and for the reception of visiting comrades and friends.

3. All Department Officers and those on the staff of the Department Commander will prepare full reports of their proceedings during the year, and submit the same to the Department Commander at as early a day as possible before the meeting of the Council of Administration.

4. Application has been made to the railroads for reduced fare for those attending the Encampment, and due notice of such reduction will be given in ample time.

By command of

Geo. W. Knaebel

Department Commander.

Official:

Wm. M. Berger,

Ass't Adjutant General.

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 11, 1900

JUDGE M'FIE ELECTED

He Was Chosen G. A. R. Commander of the Department of New Mexico

The first feature of the seventeenth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, for the Department of New Mexico, which opened in the capital city today, was the meeting of the council of administration at the office of Department Commander George W. Knaebel this morning at 10 o'clock. Col. Knaebel presided and a quorum was present. The reports and accounts of the several staff officers were examined and approved.

This afternoon a salute was fired in honor of Department Commander Knaebel and his staff. Immediately thereafter the encampment was formally opened by the department commander in post hall, on the Fort Marcy reservation, for the transaction of the regular routine business and the election of officers for the ensuing year. Owing to various causes the attendance from outside was not as large as expected, but a strong quorum was present, and the annual reports all showed that the affairs of the department were in a flourishing condition.

The election of officers follows: Department Commander, Judge John R. McFie, of Santa Fe; senior vice commander, Theodore W. Heman, of White Oaks; junior vice commander, T. W. Collier, of Raton; medical director, S. H. Simpson, of Taos. Council of administration—Pedro Sanchez of Taos; J. T. Forsha, of Santa Fe; Lee H. Rudisille, of White Oaks; John C. Bromagem, of Las Vegas; W. H. Whiteman, of Albuquerque.

Delegate to national encampment—W. M. Berger, of Santa Fe; alternate, Henry M. Davis, of Santa Fe.

The encampment then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

A salute was fired at 4 o'clock this afternoon in honor of the new department commander and his staff.

The annual campfire will take place at post hall this evening at 8 o'clock and promises to be a most enjoyable affair. Elaborate preparations have been made for the entertainment of the comrades and many invited guests.

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 27, 1900

MANY OLD SOLDIERS

Judge McFie Speaks Well of the People of San Juan County

Judge [John R.] McFie, department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic for the department of New Mexico, met many old soldiers while he was away attending the recent term of the District Court in San Juan county, and reports that posts of the order are to be established at both Aztec and Farmington in the near

future. As there are fully 125 veterans in the county eligible to membership, he is confident that both posts will flourish. Many old soldiers who have lately come into the county from the east will sever their connection with posts at their former homes and join one of those in San Juan county. The judge is enthusiastic in his praises in the intelligence and enterprise of the people he met at Aztec and Farmington, and says it is a pleasure to hold court in such a locality.

❧ 1901 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Fifth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1901

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Smith H. Simpson, Taos

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1900, 167

Commander . . . *John R. McFie, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Commander . . . J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Commander . . . J. F. Chaves, Santa Fe

Assistant Adjutant General . . . F. P. Crichton, Santa Fe

Representative

Rev. Thos. Harwood (at large), Albuquerque

Alternate

Smith H. Simpson, Taos

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1900, 9 Posts, 170 members; June 30, 1900 [sic], 9 Posts, 167 members

(* present) [Asterisk now indicates present]

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 4, 1901

COMMANDER RASSIEUR CANNOT COME

An Invitation Has Been Sent to the Commander of Colorado and Wyoming

Judge McFie this forenoon received the following dispatch from Gen. Leo Rassieur, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic: "I regret exceedingly that my wife's illness will prevent my keeping of the promise to attend the annual encampment of the G.A.R. of New Mexico."

An invitation has been sent to Col. Harper M. Orahod, commander of the department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 9, 1901

THE G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

The Election of Officers Will Probably Take Place Later This Afternoon

To-day the annual encampment of the department of New Mexico of the Grand Army of the Republic met in the hall of Carleton Post, G. A. R., on the Fort Marcy military reservation. The post hall and entrance were decorated with greens and patriotic colors, and the various local committees were busy putting the finishing touches to the arrangements. The council of administration met this forenoon and approved the accounts of the quarter master general. The encampment was called to order this afternoon, after 2 o'clock by Department Commander John R. McFie.

Most of the visiting delegates arrived on the belated afternoon train, but owing to the distances in New Mexico and the age of many of the veterans, the outside attendance was not very large. It is understood that the annual election of officers will, probably take place late this afternoon.

This evening the annual campfire and bean bake will be held at the post hall, one of the features of which will be an address by Mrs. Mary L. Carr, national president of the Woman's Relief Corps.

It is requested that all those holding invitations to the bean bake of the G. A. R., to take place at the post hall this evening, be present at 7:30 o'clock sharp, as it is understood that Mrs. Mary L. Carr, national president of the Woman's Relief Corps, will make the first address of the evening, being obliged to leave Santa Fe this evening on the 8:45 train for Pueblo.

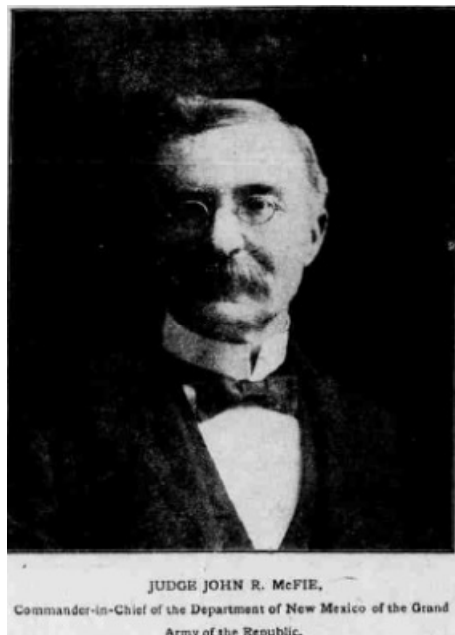
Santa Fe New Mexican
April 10, 1901

THE GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT

Department Commander John R. McFie Was Honored With Re-election at the Session Yesterday Afternoon
CHAPLAIN FOR 18 SUCCESSIVE YEARS

The annual G. A. R. encampment of the department of New Mexico adjourned this afternoon after being in session two days. The session yesterday afternoon, was devoted to the transaction of routine business and the election of officers which resulted as follows: Department commander, John R. McFie; senior vice commander, J. W. Edwards; junior vice commander, J. Francisco Chaves; chaplain, Rev. Thomas Harwood; medical director Smith H. Simpson; delegate to the national encampment, Rev. Thomas Harwood; alternate, Smith H. Simpson; council of administration, J. T. Forsha, J. M. Moore, Lee Rudisille, E. W. Eaton and Daniel Risdon. Rev. Thomas Harwood has been chaplain of the department for eighteen years and an effort will be made to have him elected national chaplain of the Grand Army of the Republic. Judge John R. McFie was re-elected department commander, having served the past year faithfully and energetically in that position.

The camp fire and bean bake last evening was a most enjoyable event. The post hall was crowded with veterans, their families and guests of honor. Col. George W. Knaebel presided in the absence of Post commander J. P. Victory. Mrs. Mary L. Carr, national president of the Women's Relief Corps, made a patriotic address and was followed with a rousing speech by Department Commander McFie, General E. F. Hobart, Adjutant General W. H. Whiteman, Judge A. L. Morrison, Hon. I. B. Hanna, R. C. McClure, W. M. H. Woodward and others. The baked beans and other refreshments that were served were excellent. Old songs were sung and anecdotes told of the days of the war. A jovial and patriotic spirit prevailed and the event will remain a pleasant memory for many years to come to those who participated.



Judge McFie was born on October 9, 1848, in Washington county, Ill., of Scotch ancestry, his parents being John and Elizabeth McFie. While still a child his parents removed to Randolph county, in the same state, and there Judge McFie received private instruction from his father who was a man of finished education, and also received a liberal education in the schools of his state until the war came on.

Judge John R. McFie, commander of the department of New Mexico of the Grand Army of the Republic during the past year, is one of the best known men in public life in New Mexico, and wherever he is known he is respected, honored and beloved. Judge McFie's military record is unique and honorable. During the civil war he enlisted in every company that was organized in Randolph county, Ill., but being a mere boy his father, who was an invalid, refused to give his consent to the boy going to the front. In August, 1863, the father died, and although the boy's brother had been in the army since 1861 his mother consented to his enlistment, and he was thereupon enlisted in November, 1863 as a recruit in company E, 30th regiment of the Illinois volunteer infantry. The regiment, being on furlough, Judge McFie was not mustered in until February, 1864, at Fort Butler. He accompanied his regiment on Sherman's march to the sea, and was honorably discharged in June, 1865.

Upon his return from the war, Judge McFie entered the mercantile business. He clerked for two years, and then was a partner in the business for three years more, when he sold out and began the study of law under Gen. J. Blackburn, one of the leading practitioners of Randolph county, Ill. Judge McFie was admitted to the bar in 1871, and practiced in his home and adjacent counties until 1878, when he was elected to the house of the thirty-first Illinois legislative assembly, which elected Gen. John A. Logan to the United States [Senate], Judge McFie being chosen to second his nomination of the floor of the house of the legislature. He resumed his practice of law until 1882, when he was elected a member of the thirty-third Illinois legislature, which elected Gov. Shelby M. Collom to the United States Senate.

Judge McFie was appointed register of the land office at Las Cruces by President Arthur, and took charge in March 1884, retiring from the office in December 1885. He then formed a law partnership with Judge S. B. Newcomb at Las Cruces, and engaged in the practice of law until 1889, when he was appointed associate justice of the territorial supreme court by President Harrison. He served four years and two months, and upon his retirement, resumed the practice of law at Las Cruces. In June, 1898 he was appointed associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico, and judge of the first judicial district by President McKinley, and has resided in Santa Fe since then, although he owns a beautiful home at Las Cruces.

Judge McFie was married at St. Louis on October 9, 1876, Mrs. McFie being a school teacher at the time. Mrs. McFie has been president of the Woman's Relief Corps of the G. A. R. at Las Cruces, provisional department president of New Mexico, and is a present president of the Woman's Relief Corps No. 2 of Carlton post G. A. R. Judge and Mrs. McFie have a charming family circle. One of the sons, Ralph, fought with distinction with the rough riders in Cuba, and is at present in the government service in the Philippines. As department commander, Judge McFie has been very energetic, new posts and relief corps having been organized under his regime, and new life infused into the existing posts and corps. As a judge, he has earned fame for his thorough impartiality, and his efforts to expedite the business of the courts with the greatest economy to tax payers. Few of his decisions are ever appealed from, and fewer yet are ever reversed by the higher tribunals.

❧ 1902 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1902

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *John R. McFie, Santa Fe

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1901, 106

Commander . . . *J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander . . . Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe

Junior Vice Commander . . . J. C. Klepinger, White Oaks

Assistant Adjutant General . . . W. C. McDonald, Albuquerque

Representative

*John M. Moore, Albuquerque

Alternate

*J. W. Randall, Boston, Mass

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1901, 9 Posts, 167 members; June 30, 1902, 5 Posts, 121 members (* present)

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 12, 1902

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC ENCAMPMENT

The Civil War Veterans of New Mexico Met on Thursday and Yesterday at the Duke City to Elect Officers and Transact Other Business.

There were 22 delegates in attendance at the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, held at Albuquerque on Thursday and yesterday. On Thursday morning the council of administration held a business session. At 2:30 o'clock on Thursday afternoon Department Commander McFie called the encampment to order.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Department commander, J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque; senior vice commander, Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe; junior vice commander, J. C. Kleppinger, White Oaks; chaplain, Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque; medical director, Smith Simpson of Taos; delegate to National Encampment, J. M. Moore of Albuquerque; alternate, J. W. Randall of Albuquerque; Commander Edwards appointed W. W. McDonald adjutant and A. Harsh quartermaster.

On Thursday evening, the old veterans paraded, escorted by a squad of Spanish war veterans and the National Guard band. The officers were publicly installed in the evening. Department Commander-Elect Edwards made an address of welcome, to which Judge McFie responded touchingly. A banquet was served under the auspices of the Woman's Relief Corps. Department Commander Edwards sat at the place of honor, with Judge Benjamin S. Baker and Judge John R. McFie on either side. Toasts were responded to by E. S. Stover, John R. McFie, Mrs. E. C. Whitson, J. E. Elder, W. H. Whiteman, John Borrodaile, Benjamin S. Baker, M. E. Hickey and Lee Rudisille.

Albuquerque Weekly Citizen

April 12, 1902

VETERANS HERE

Nineteenth Annual Encampment in Session

Perfect weather greeted the veterans for the nineteenth annual encampment which opened here this morning and will close tomorrow. The White Oaks delegation came in after a three days' trip overland.

The department of New Mexico was organized at Santa Fe, July 14, 1883. Department commander McFie and other department officers are here. The delegates and alternates are:

J. R. McFie, department commander, company E, Thirtieth Illinois Infantry,
J. W. Edwards, senior department commander, commander G. K. Warren post, company F, Fourteenth Iowa,
Col. J. Franco Chaves, junior vice department commander,
F. P. Crichton, assistant adjutant general, first lieutenant company M, Sixth Iowa Infantry,
Jacob Weltmer, assistant department quartermaster general,
Col. L. H. Rudisille, council of administration, company H, Thirty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry,
J. M. Moore, council of administration, past commander,
Rev. Thomas Harwood, department chaplain, company G, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Infantry, chaplain of regiment, also chaplain G. K. Warren post,
T. W. Hemen, Kearney post, lieutenant colonel Forty-eighth Missouri State, White Oaks,

G. W. Bowman, company G, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, past post commander, delegate,
A. B. Stanton, G. K. Warren post, Albuquerque, N. M., company B, First Colorado Infantry,
J. L. Morris, Thornton, N. M., company C and B, First United States Cavalry and Eighth United States Cavalry,

A. M. Whitcomb, regimental band, Third Vermont volunteers,
John R. Patton, company K, One Hundred and Ninth Pennsylvania volunteers, White Oaks,
Smith H. Simpson, First Infantry, New Mexico volunteers, Carleton post, Santa Fe; residence Taos, N. M.,
H. R. Whiting, captain, Twenty-fourth Michigan volunteers and brevet major, Albuquerque,
Aaron Peffly, troop D, Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, G. K. Warren post, Albuquerque,
M. C. Castillo, company A, Thirty-fifth Indiana volunteer infantry, G. K. Warren post,
Valentine Herbert, company H, Second Michigan Infantry, company C, Nineteenth United States army volunteers, company C, Thirty-seventh United States army infantry,
J. C. Klepinger, company F, Ninety-ninth Indiana volunteer infantry, White Oaks,
Major Whiteman, Santa Fe.

This morning at 10 o'clock the council of administration met at Grant hall and checked over the accounts. The first session of the encampment was held at the same place this afternoon when the reports were submitted.

It was 2:20 when Department Commander McFie rapped to order; Department Chaplain Harwood offered prayer. After the roll of officers was called the report of the committee of credentials was received. Department Commander McFie made his report and annual address. The report of the assistant quartermaster general, assistant adjutant general, of the council of administration and of the chaplain were read and approved. A telegram of greeting was sent to President Roosevelt and committees were appointed for the next encampment.

This evening the camp fire and banquet will be held at Grant hall. The parade will form at 7 and move at 7:30. While 8 o'clock is the hour set for the exercises, it will probably be 8:30 before the program is commenced.

Governor Otero will not be present and has sent the following letter of regret:

Santa Fe, April 8, 1902

Dear Sir.—I am in receipt of your very kind letter of the 5th inst.; extending an invitation to myself, staff, and ladies to attend the campfire of the nineteenth annual encampment of the G. A. R. to be held at Albuquerque on April 10. I regret to say that my official duties will prevent me from being present on that occasion. I will, however, communicate with Adjutant General Whiteman and endeavor to have him and as many of my staff present as can attend.

Thanking you for the very kind invitation, believe me to be as always, very sincerely yours,

MIQUEL OTERO

❧ 1903 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Seventh National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1903

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . *John R. McFie, Santa Fe

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1901, 106

Commander . . . J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Commander . . . Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe

Junior Vice Commander . . . J. C. Klepinger, White Oaks

Assistant Adjutant General . . . *W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

Representative

John M. Moore, Albuquerque

Alternate

J. W. Randall, Boston, Mass

(* present)

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico—Number of members June 30 1901, 9 Posts, 167 members; June 30, 1902, 5 Posts, 121 members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 7, 1903

COMMANDER J. W. EDWARDS

Again Elected to Head of New Mexico G. A. R.—A Deserved Compliment

HARWOOD RE-ELECTED

The twentieth annual encampment of the department of New Mexico G. A. R. is over and goes into history as one of the most successful ever held in the territory. The old soldiers who have been renewing memories of the days of the sixties are scattering to their homes in various parts of the territory. Most of the Santa Fe delegation went up last night.

The encampment has been in every way a most enjoyable, enthusiastic and successful reunion and the old soldiers all had the best kind of good time.

A delightful banquet ably presided over by the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps last night was the crowning event of the encampment. The Knights of Pythias hall was crowded last night when the newly elected officers came forward to be formally installed in office. The Woman's Relief Corps was present in force and veterans from every part of New Mexico occupied seats in the forward part of the hall.

Commander J. W. Edwards called on the following gentlemen, who responded with short and appropriate speeches, in which reminiscences of war times predominated. Comrades Hewitt and Brown of White Oaks; Steward of Springer; Smith Thompson of Taos; Col. Heman of Tucumcari; Mrs. Whitson, president of the W. R. C., and Judge Adams of Albuquerque, chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias of New Mexico. All the speakers were greeted with laughter and applause. After speaking all sat down to a tempting repast by the W. R. C., the following committee being in charge of refreshments: Mrs. Harsch, chairman; Mrs. Whitcomb, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Shoemaker.

Yesterday morning the department met for the second day's session at 9 o'clock. After the opening exercises Commander J. W. Edwards gave his annual report and address, which was eagerly listened to by the Grand Army men. It was a masterly address, comprehensive and eloquent, and showed that the department of New Mexico was in fine condition and that its commander had fulfilled most faithfully and efficiently his duties during the past year. Among other things he said:

"Thirty-eight years ago you marched back from the sanguinary fields of the 'great war,' modest in your great victory in behalf of equal rights and justice, you laid down your arms, doffed your faded uniforms and adopted once more your civilian dress and assumed its duties and cares. As soldiers you have given this nation a marital fame that challenges the admiration of the world, bequeathing to generations to come a heritage rich in its lessons of love and loyalty and unselfish sacrifices. If your ranks in the days of fraternal strife furnished the captains, majors, colonels and generals, in days of peace, they have furnished our governors, judges and presidents. No walk in life but bears the footprints of him who marched and fought for home and country in 1861 to 1865.

"That noble organization and our auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, our helpmate, have always been ready to help the Grand Army of the Republic in this territory, wherever there is an organization. I am sorry that each post in this department has not one with them as has Carleton and G. K. Warren posts, the latter having some eighty members; they made the astonishing increase during 1902, of three hundred and eighty percent.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Department Commander—J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque.

Senior Vice Commander—T. W. Heman, Tucumcari.

Junior Vice Commander—Smith Simpson, Taos.

Chaplain—Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque.

Delegate to National Encampment—Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe.

Alternate—S. C. Meek, Socorro.

Council of Administration for Department—J. A. Brown, White Oaks; S. S. Beaty, Santa Fe; Leverett Clarke, Albuquerque; David Denham, Albuquerque; Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks.

The encampment adjourned a little past noon and later in the afternoon the comrades attended in a body the funeral of Mrs. Kemmerer at the Presbyterian church.

Commander Edwards is receiving many congratulations on his well deserved re-election as head of the New Mexico G. A. R. and all his comrades are well satisfied that no better officer could possibly be found. He has done much for the Grand Army in this territory and they all appreciate his faithful efforts. Rev. Thos. Harwood was re-elected for the twentieth-time to the office of chaplain.

Comrade Thompson, of Raton, was made medical director and comrade J. McCoy of Aztec is the new inspector general. The other staff officers will be appointed later.

Santa Fe New Mexican

May 7, 1903

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Members of the Grand Army in Session at Albuquerque

The 20th annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, which was in session yesterday at Albuquerque, was a great success. The encampment met in Knights of Pythias hall and was presided over by Department Commander J. W. Edwards of Albuquerque. In his annual report, Commander Edwards referred to the services rendered the country by the members of the Grand Army. He spoke of the passage of the bill by the last legislative assembly providing that indigent soldiers should be buried at public expense and paid a high tribute to the work of the Woman's Relief Corps. In reporting his official visits and inspections during the year, he stated that Carleton Post of this city is a live and energetic organization.

After the reports of the other department officers were read, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Department Commander—J. W. Edwards, Albuquerque.

Senior Vice Commander—T. W. Heman, Tucumcari.

Junior Vice Commander—Smith Simpson, Taos.

Chaplain—Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque.

Delegate to National Encampment—Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe.

Alternate—S. C. Meek, Socorro.

Council of Administration for Department—J. A. Brown, White Oaks; S. S. Beaty, Santa Fe; Leverett Clarke, Albuquerque; David Denham, Albuquerque; Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks.

The re-election of Department Commander Edwards was a deserved compliment as was the re-election of Thomas Harwood as chaplain. This will make the 21st year in which the latter has served as chaplain. The newly elected officers were installed last evening by Past Department Commander E. S. Stover, after which a banquet was served by the Woman's Relief Corps. Those present from this city were Colonel George W. Knaebel, John P. Victory, S. S. Beaty, Valentine Herbert and D. P. Demarest.

❧ 1904 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Eighth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1904

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . John R. McFie, Santa Fe
New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1903, 169

*Commander . . . Theodore W. Heman, Tukumcari
Senior Vice Commander . . . Smith Simpson, Taos
Junior Vice Commander . . . J. V. Consaul, Las Vegas
Assistant Adjutant General . . . John M. Moore, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of the Adjutant General

New Mexico

Number of members June 30 1903, 144 members; June 30, 1904, 192 members

Valentine Herbert, A. I. G.

This Department has six posts, two Relief Corps and one Circle. No general inspection of Posts was ordered. There is no Soldiers' Home in the territory and no legislation has been had for their benefit.

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican

May 12, 1904

SOLDIERS ELECT OFFICERS

Theodore W. Heman of Kearney Post to Serve as Department Commander

The twenty-first annual encampment of the New Mexico division of the Grand Army of the Republic which has been held in Albuquerque the past few days came to an end yesterday. Before adjournment the following officers were elected for the coming year: Department Commander Theodore W. Heman of Kearney Post No. 10, of White Oaks, whose residence is at Tukumcari; senior vice commander, Smith H. Simpson, of Carleton Post No 5, whose residence is at Taos; junior vice commander, J. V. Consaul of Sherman Post No. 1, Las Vegas; department chaplain, Rev. Thomas Harwood of G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque.

Council of administration: David Benham, Albuquerque; Dillard H. Clark, Roswell; David Risdon, Raton; W. B. Brunton, Las Vegas, and D. P. Demorest, Santa Fe.

For delegate to the thirty-eighth national encampment of the G. A. R., to be held at Boston on August 15th, 1904, J. M. Moore, Albuquerque; alternate. J. M. Randall, Boston, who is a member of the Albuquerque post.

J. M. Moore was also appointed assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general of the department, with headquarters in Albuquerque.

General W. H. Whiteman of Santa Fe was appointed judge advocate, Lee H. Rudisille of White Oaks, inspector general and Leverett Clarke of G. K. Warren Post, medical director.

Colonel Heman has decided to make Albuquerque his headquarters, there being no post at Tukumcari. The head quarters had previously been maintained in that city by Past Commander Edwards of Warren Post.

Las Vegas Optic

May 13, 1904

He's a Real Colonel

Colonel Theodore W. Heman, just unanimously elected to the position of Commander of the G. A. R. at the encampment at Albuquerque, was born in St. Louis, Mo., March 1st, 1842, was nineteen years old when the civil war commenced. His first military service was in the famous "Halleck Guard," named in the "Crisis" by General Churchill, which company did much service in the state of Missouri. The company being Company B of the Seventh regiment, National guard, who were sworn into United States service at a very early date, and which company finally became a part of the Fifteenth Infantry Volunteers of Missouri. Colonel Heman was appointed Lieutenant colonel of the Forty-eighth Missouri state militia; also in the United States service.

At an early date of the organization he became a member of the G. A. R. in St. Louis, and during the year 1867 while General Carl Schurz was Grand Commander of Department of Missouri of the G. A. R., he was

appointed assistant adjutant general of Missouri and organized seventeen posts through the southwestern part of that state.

In 1881 he came to New Mexico and has resided here since, being a member of Kearney Post of White Oaks, N. M., although he resides at present in the town of Tucumcari, Quay county, N.M. Colonel Heman has been a very active member of the order since his residence in New Mexico and will take much interest in the order and improve the order during his term of office, no doubt.

Smith H. Simpson, senior vice commander, has resided in Taos, N. M. for forty-four years. He served as a volunteer in the Ute and Apache war in 1855; served in the Apache war as captain in Arizona from 1863 until 1866; a tenderfoot of fifty-one years' residence in N.M. and a visitor at every G. A. R. encampment since the formation of the New Mexico department. For twenty-one years he has represented Carlton Post No. 3 of Santa Fe, of which he is an active member. He was elected at this encampment senior vice commander.

Albuquerque Journal
September 19, 1904

TERRITORIAL GRAND ARMY INCREASING
COL. HEMAN SAYS THERE ARE NEARLY 250 MEMBERS IN NEW MEXICO

Colonel Theodore W. Heman, of Tucumcari, commander of the department of New Mexico of the Grand Army of the Republic, who was in attendance at the republican territorial convention in Albuquerque, is an enthusiastic G. A. R. man. In speaking of the condition of this department of the G. A. R., Mr. Heman said:

"We are constantly increasing the enrollment of this department. Since May, we have added thirty-eight new members from New Mexico. The reason for this increase is the large number of eastern people who are taking up their residence in this territory.

"Inasmuch as most of those who served from New Mexico in the war now live in far away portions of the territory, most of our active members are comparative strangers to this country. The natives who did such noble work during the war of the rebellion from New Mexico are somewhat prejudiced against joining any organization. These men were fighters and showed their ability to such an extent during the war that it shall be my main labor in the future to endeavor to have as many of them become members of the G. A. R. as possible.

"The present enrollment of the G. A. R. in New Mexico is 230. This number is increasing daily and we expect soon equal the number of members in the larger cities. When it is remembered that New Mexico sent as many men to the war as any other state or territory, in proportion, you can readily see that we are not too optimistic in our prediction of an increased membership.

"When the national encampment is held in Denver next year, we expect to flood Denver with delegates from this territory. There were only seven or eight of us in Boston. Everyone showed his inclination to honor the New Mexico delegation and I am safe in saying that it is the sentiment over the entire country."

❧ 1905 ❧

Journal of Thirty-Ninth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1905

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . * E. S. Stover, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1904, 159

*Department Commander . . . Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . J. V. Consaul, Las Vegas

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . J. P. Victory, Santa Fe

(* indicates present)

* * *

Albuquerque Journal
May 7, 1905

REV. THOMAS HARWOOD FOR CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS WELL KNOWN MINISTER FOR OFFICE IN NATIONAL G. A. R.

Mention was made in the Journal yesterday of the fact that Rev. Thomas Harwood, Spanish and American missionary of the Methodist Episcopal church in New Mexico, was selected at the encampment just closed for the twenty-second time, Chaplain of the Department of New Mexico G. A. R. In recognition of Chaplain Harwood's almost quarter century of service to the organization and also of his record in the civil war a movement has been inaugurated to make Mr. Harwood chaplain-in-chief of the national organization. The following resolutions were adopted by the territorial encampment:

Resolved, That this department encampment, recognizing the fidelity and faithful services of Chaplain Thomas Harwood, who is just entering upon his twenty-second term as chaplain of our organization, most earnestly recommend him to the members of the national encampment for the position of chaplain-in-chief, and will use our best endeavors to secure his election to this honorable position at the coming national encampment to be held in the city of Denver in September.

The incoming administration of the New Mexico department was instructed to secure a concise sketch of Chaplain Harwood's eminent services in the army and in civil life, have it printed in the form of a circular and to send the same to the headquarters of each department.

Santa Fe New Mexican
May 25, 1905

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

Issued by Jacob Weltmer, Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic

The following order, designated General Order No. 1, has just been issued by Department Commander Jacob Weltmer, of the New Mexico Grand, Army of the Republic:

1. At the 22nd Annual Encampment of the Department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic, held at Albuquerque, May 5th and 6th, the following officers were elected:

Department Commander, Jacob Weltmer, of Santa Fe.

Senior Vice Commander, W. W. McDonald, of Albuquerque.

Junior Vice Commander, J. V. Consaul, of Las Vegas.

Chaplain, Thomas Harwood, of Albuquerque.

Medical Director, W. S. Burke, of Albuquerque.

Delegate to National Encampment, Thomas Harwood, of Albuquerque.

Alternate, Elmer A. Chaffee, of Las Cruces.

Council of Administration.

Smith H. Simpson—Carleton Post No. 3, P. O. Taos, N. M.

John A. Koss—Sherman Post No. 1, Las Vegas.

Elmer A. Chaffee—Phil Sheridan Post No. 15, Las Cruces.

David Denham—G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque, N. M.

Lee H. Rudisille—Kearney Post No. 10, White Oaks, N. M.

H. C. King—Lincoln Post No. 13, Farmington, N. M.

Ava B. Page—Henry E. Lawton Post No. 16, Roswell, N. M.

2. The Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, elected on May 5, 1905, for the Department of New Mexico, hereby assumes command, with Headquarters at Santa Fe, N. M.

3. The Following appointments are announced:

Official Staff.

J. P. Victory—Asst. Adj. and Asst. Q. M. General, Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe, N. M.

Ava B. Page—Judge Advocate, Henry W. Lawton Post No. 16, Roswell N. M.

Elmer A. Chaffee—Chief Mustering Officer, Phil Sheridan Post No. 1, Las Cruces N. M.

C. H. McHenry—Inspector General, Lincoln Post No. 13, Farmington, N. M.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Other appointments will be announced in future orders.

By command of JACOB WELTMER,

Department Commander. Official: J. P. VICTORY, Assistant Adjutant General.

Albuquerque Journal

September 7, 1905

NEW MEXICO VETS AT G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

The big daily papers of Denver, where the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic is in session . . . Here are a few clippings of local interest.

KIT CARSON'S OLD MEN COME TO ENCAMPMENT

Six of the remaining twelve of Captain Kit Carson's men arrived in Denver last night to attend the encampment. They have attended every one of the encampments held during the last twenty-five years. Five of the veterans are from Santa Fe, New Mexico, and one is from Costilla county, Colorado.

Among the party is Captain Candelario Martinez, who was appointed by Colonel Carson just after the distinguished western officer went into the United States service. The others are Joe Garcia, Trinidad; Urieste Simon Virgil [sic], Saberiano Riveria and Robert Allen. They will have prominent position in the parade tomorrow.—Times.

NEW MEXICO DELEGATES ELECT OFFICERS

Headquarters of the New Mexico delegation have been established on the second floor of the courthouse, and the regular business meeting and election of officers will be held in the rooms there. Judge John R. McFie, one of the best known of New Mexico's jurists, and for many years a resident of Santa Fe, will in all probability be chosen as state commander.

The members of the New Mexico department are advancing Rev. Thomas Harwood, twenty-two years chaplain of the department of New Mexico, as national chaplain. Dr. Harwood has a magnificent record, beginning in the war as sergeant of Company G, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin, and as a personal friend of Jerry Rusk, commander of that regiment, and was later appointed chaplain for bravery on the field of battle.

NEW MEXICO TO PRESENT CANDIDATE FOR CHAPLAIN

Rev. Thomas Harwood of Albuquerque, N. M. who, for twenty-two years has been chaplain of the New Mexico commandery of the G. A. R., is a candidate for chaplain of the national organization, and is said by his comrades to have an excellent chance of election.

His nomination is to be made by Jacob Weltmer, and will be seconded by A. H. De Groff, past department commander of Wisconsin, and the entire Wisconsin delegation, it is said, will support him.

Rev. Harwood saved the life of Mr. De Groff on the battlefield.

The New Mexico delegation held a meeting in the headquarters at the courthouse yesterday and decided on Dr. Harwood as their choice for chaplain. This will be the only national office that will be asked for by the departments of the southwest and the New Mexicans believe that they will be able to place their man.

GRATEFUL FOR AID FROM OLDER MEN IN THE WAR

"Nothing was too good for the kids during the war," said Judge John R. McFie, of Santa Fe, N. M., who is prominent among the younger veterans at the encampment.

Note: Harwood was not elected. The Department tried for five years and he was finally elected in 1910 for the following year.

❧ 1906 ❧

Journal of Fortieth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1906

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . * John Y. Hewitt, White Oaks

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1905, 208

*Department Commander . . . W. B. Brunton, Shoemaker

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Thomas Brannigan, Las Cruces

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . A. D. Higgins, Las Vegas

(* indicates present)

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 7, 1906

GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT

The general order for the Grand Army Encampment, Department of New Mexico, has just been received by Department Commander Jacob Weltmer. The Santa Fe Railroad from points in New Mexico, Trinidad, Colorado, and El Paso, Texas will give a rate of one fare for the roundtrip. Following is the order for the encampment:

Headquarters Department of New Mexico,
Grand Army of the Republic,
Santa Fe, April 2d, 1906
(General order No. 3)

The twenty-third annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, will convene at Las Cruces, New Mexico, May 2d and 3d, 1906.

General James Tanner, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and staff will be with us on this occasion.

It is hoped that all comrades will make an earnest effort to attend this encampment and meet our chief, that this re-union may be worthy of our great organization.

The council of administration will meet at department headquarters at 9 o'clock a.m. on May 2d.

All elected officers and those appointed on the staff of the department commander are requested to prepare full reports of their work during the year for information of the encampment.

The commander of Phil Sheridan Post No. 17 will appoint an officer of the day and an officer of the guard, to serve during the sessions of the encampment.

For information of the comrades in reference to special railroad rates a copy is herewith inscribed.

By command of,

JACOB WELTMER

Department Commander

Official:

J. P. Victory

Assistant Adjutant General

Santa Fe New Mexican

May 4, 1906

GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT

Past Department Commander Jacob Weltmer and the Santa Fe members of the Grand Army of the Republic, who attended the twenty-third annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, at Las Cruces, Wednesday and Thursday, returned home at noon today. The encampment was largely attended and the program was excellent. The Santa Fe members report a splendid time, and that they enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

The encampment convened Wednesday morning. After the invocation by Chaplain Harwood, Isidoro Armijo, probate clerk and ex-officio recorder of Dona Ana County, welcomed the visitors to Las Cruces in an eloquent and well received address. Department Commander Jacob Weltmer of this city, then made an address of welcome to General James Tanner commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, who was an attendee. In response General Tanner made an address which will go down in the annals of the Grand Army of the Republic as the greatest in any of its encampments.

At 7 o'clock in the evening the parade formed near the Loretto convent and marched down Main Street, the standard bearer and the drum and fife corps leading. As the old soldiers passed the Commercial building, where they were reviewed by General Tanner, they seemed to possess renewed vigor and marched as in days of old. The parade went to the rink, where a camp fire, which was one of the enjoyable features of the encampment, was held. During the evening an address was made by General Tanner to Company A, First Regiment of Infantry, New Mexico National Guard, which is situated at Las Cruces.

During yesterday's session the following department officers were elected: Commander, W. B. Brunton, Las Vegas; Senior Vice Commander, W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque; Junior Vice Commander, Thomas Brannigan, Las Cruces; Chaplain, Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque; Medical Inspector, Smith H. Simpson, Taos.

It was decided that the next encampment should be held at Las Vegas, the time to be determined by Department Commander Brunton.

❧ 1907 ❧

Journal of Forty-First National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1907

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1906, 222

*Department Commander . . . W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Daniel Risdien, Paton

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Adin H. Whitmore, East Las Vegas

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Representatives: Jefferson Raynolds (at large), Alternate: *J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Adjutant General's Report

New Mexico:

On January 9th, 1907, the Department of New Mexico filed its original report, showing 9 Posts and 213

Members in good standing on that day.

Inspector General's Report

(No report from New Mexico)

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican

May 17, 1907

DUKE CITY MAN LEADS OLD VETERANS

W. W. McDonald Elected Department Commander of New Mexico Department of G. A. R.

Las Vegas, N. M., May 17.—After being in session here two days, the twenty-fourth annual encampment of the New Mexico Department of the Grand Army of the Republic was brought to a brilliant close last night with a public reception at the Duncan opera house which was attended by over 500 people. Judge E. V. Long delivered the welcoming address to the old veterans and the response was delivered by Colonel T. W. Heman, of Tucumcari. Excellent music, both instrumental and vocal made up the balance of the program.. The hall was elaborately decorated in red, white and blue bunting, flags and cut flowers.

At a business meeting in the hall of Sherman Post yesterday afternoon the following department officers were elected for the ensuing year: "W. W. McDonald, of G. K. Warren Post at Albuquerque, department commander; Daniel Risdon of John A. Logan Post at Raton, senior vice commander; Adin H. Whitmore, of Sherman Post, this city, junior vice commander; Rev. Thomas Harwood of G. K. Warren Post, Albuquerque, was re-elected chaplain for the twenty-third consecutive time; Smith H. Simpson of Taos, member of Carleton Post at Santa Fe, medical director, and Jefferson Raynolds of Sherman Post, this city, was elected delegate to the national encampment to be held this year at Saratoga, N. Y., beginning September 9.

The veterans from a distance who attended the encampment were as follows:

W. B. Brunton, retiring department commander, of Shoemaker; W. W. McDonald, of Albuquerque; Rev. Thomas Harwood, of Albuquerque; Smith H. Simpson, of Taos; S. Armstrong, of Las Cruces; Daniel Risdon, of Raton; T. B. Thompson, of Raton; Edward Johnson, of Albuquerque; J. G. Caldwell, of Albuquerque; T. W. Heman, of Tucumcari; E. A. Littrell, of Raton; H. W. Turner, of Albuquerque; G. W. Steward, of Albuquerque; and George L. Anderson of the department of Oklahoma, a visitor.

Commander McDonald named the following officers on his staff: Assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general, J. G. Caldwell, of Albuquerque; assistant adjutant general, Edward Johnson, of Albuquerque; inspector general, S. Armstrong of Phil Sheridan Post 17, Las Cruces. Albuquerque was chosen as the next meeting place of the encampment which will be held some time in May of next year.

~ 1908 ~

Journal of Forty-Second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1908

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . John A. Ross, Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1907, 237

Department Commander . . . John P. Victory, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . J. W. Long, Tularosa

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . H. W. Turner, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe

Representatives: Thomas A. Carr (at large), Alternate: William M. Berger, Belen

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 1, 1907, 10 Posts, 224 members; December 31, 1907, 11 Posts, 237 Members

Inspector General

Department of New Mexico,

W. W. McDonald, D. C.

I received your letter with Department Inspection blank enclosed. I have noted the many good suggestions it contains, especially the one in regard to recruiting and persuading those who are eligible to membership in our noble Order, to become members. I have done some very successful work here in this respect, and I find just as essential to the welfare of our Order that we make every effort possible to hold those who are members. I believe that nearly every Post in the Grand Army loses from one to many Comrades every year from causes that could be avoided by a little watchfulness and tact on the part of Post Officers. More of us should study the full meaning of the three words so full of the true spirit that should control our conduct towards every Comrade: Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. I am fully convinced that Posts that are blessed by the aid and help of Woman's Relief Corps, or Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, are the most successful. I have thought that some good might be accomplished if the Commander-in-Chief would request each Department Commander to request each Post Commander of his Department to make a determined effort to organize a Woman's Relief Corps, or Circle of Ladies of the G. A. R., and if each Corps or Circle would furnish their Post with a fund with which to

pay the dues of Comrades unable to keep up their dues, I believe this would help some in keeping many on our rosters that are continually dropping out of the ranks.

I appointed Comrade Edward Johnson for Department Patriotic Instructor. He is Post Commander of G. K. Warren Post No. 5, located here in Albuquerque. I made no mistake, for he is surely doing good work here and elsewhere in our Department. He is drilling a company of High School scholars in the Manual of Arms, and has made many addresses before the schools, on the Flag and other patriotic subjects, and has received many compliments for his work.

I appointed Samuel Armstrong, of Phil Sheridan Post No. 17, Las Cruces, New Mexico, as Department Inspector. He has taken some interest in the work, and sent inspection blanks to all Posts in the Department, requiring inspection. How many Posts have responded I have not heard, but will have him make out his report, and I will help him out on some points that he would be unable to obtain from any other source, and endeavor to have it mailed to you in time. In complying with your request for a name for Assistant Inspector General for this Department, I take pleasure in naming George H. Bendle, of G. K. Warren Post No. 5. He served in Co. A, 5th California Vol. Infantry. He expects to attend the National Encampment at Toledo, Ohio, next fall.

Trusting this will not weary you to read, and that at least some portion may meet with your approval, and wishing you success in your official duties, I am yours truly in F. C. & L.

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

May 7, 1908

HOW THE GRAND ARMY IS TEACHING YOUNG AMERICA LESSONS OF PATRIOTISM

Interesting Report of Patriotic Instructor of New Mexico G. A. R.; Busy Day Spent by Territorial Veterans in first Session of Twenty-Fifth Annual Encampment in This City Yesterday
[The printed report of Patriotic Instructor Edward Johnson's speech is just too long to be printed, but the remainder of the article, which in itself is quite lengthy, follows]:

CAMPFIRE LAST NIGHT INTERESTING OCCASION

Grand Army veterans from all parts of New Mexico are in the city to attend the twenty-fifth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The encampment lasts but two days this year, but the old soldiers are enjoying every moment of the time. The encampment was called to order at Odd Fellows' hall, at 10 o'clock yesterday morning by Department Commander W. W. McDonald. This meeting was occupied with the reading of the reports of the various officers and routine business. At the conclusion of the business session, the veterans marched in a body to the Elks' banquet room where the ladies of John A. Logan circle had prepared an elegant banquet. One hundred and sixty-five plates were set and every seat at the tables was taken. The menu was excellent and the veterans did full justice to the spread. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the business session was resumed in Elks' hall. The afternoon was taken up with the reading of the annual address of Department Commander W. W. McDonald and other encampment business.

The Campfire

The event of the day, however, took place last night when a campfire was held, attended by the veterans, their wives, children and grandchildren. The Odd Fellows' hall was tastefully decorated with flags, bunting and other patriotic decorations. The meeting was called to order by General John P. Victory, of Santa Fe, who acted as master of ceremonies throughout the evening. The first number on the program was the singing of "America" by the audience. There were present old soldiers who had fought the battles of the country when history was in the making; veterans who had fought with Grant and Sherman, swooped yarns with those who had fought under Sheridan and McClellan. Nearly every state from Maine to California was represented in the gathering. General Victory called on a number of comrades for reminiscences of the time when "war was hell." One of the most interesting talks was made by Colonel Smith Simpson, of Taos, N. M. Mr. Simpson has been a resident of New Mexico for over half a century. In 1855 he was comrade-in-arms with Kit Carson and accompanied him on

many expeditions into hostile Indian country. A number of interesting recitals of days gone by were given by other veterans. At the conclusion of the campfire the John A. Logan circle served a buffet lunch. This morning at 9 o'clock the election of officers to serve during the ensuing term will be held. It is probable General John P. Victory, the attorney and land commissioner of Santa Fe, will be elected department commander. The installation of officers will be held after the ceremonies incident to the laying of the armory corner stone have been concluded. A banquet will be served today noon by the Woman's Relief Corps, at which the veterans will be guests.

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

The annual address delivered yesterday morning by W. W. McDonald, department commander of New Mexico, was as follows:

Comrades: One year ago in annual encampment at Las Vegas, you elected me department commander, and I assure you I have tried to appreciate the honor conferred, and I hope you are at least in part satisfied with the results of the year's work. I have had very efficient and willing aid and help from the officers associated with me, and our intercourse personal or through correspondence has been fraternal, and I believe we have all, members and officers, stood upon the great underlying principles of our order, fraternity, charity and loyalty, which induce us to be so sociable, charitable, and it goes without saying, loyal. May we here resolve that we will each one do some kind act, make some sacrifice or contribute something to the good of our order during the next year. Comrades, don't expect the officers of your department to do all that is necessary for its welfare and existence. We can encourage our comrades to stay in the ranks; we can induce many that are not members to join us. We must do this if we expect our department to long endure its depletion by the grim reaper, by suspension, or by being dropped. The first is inevitable. The latter two neither essential or necessary and often unkind. Comrades, we should rejoice and be glad that we are Americans and doubly so that we are members of the grandest order that ever was or ever will be. Then let us endeavor this coming year to make further effort and sacrifice for the good of our fellow comrades, our country and our flag. Let the words recruit and charity be ever uppermost in our minds and hearts.

We have reason to be proud of the increase in membership in our department, while in many of the other departments the loss exceeds the gain. We have added one new post of fifteen members to the department this year; Rapier Post No.—[19], of Tularosa.

Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General Caldwell's reports will give you full facts and figures in relation to our membership and finances.

Our department has four allied organizations: one Woman's Relief Corps at Albuquerque; one Woman's Relief Corps at Santa Fe; one Woman's Relief Corps at Tularosa; one Circle of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Albuquerque. Every post in our department should have a corps or circle to assist them in their work. The age pension bill known as the McCumber bill, for the veterans and the widows' pension bill has been a boon to many veterans and the wives of deceased veterans. Our government is very generous to her defenders. It must be very gratifying to all members of the Grand Army of the Republic to note the increasing interest in schools and other institutions of learning and industry in regard to patriotic instruction. Many approve of its being taught in the schools that strongly opposed it a short time ago. I appointed Edward Johnson, commander of G. K. Warren Post No. 5, patriotic instructor for our department, and he seems to be particularly adapted to this kind of work. His interesting report will be both a surprise and pleasure to you when read. He surely has been very successful and is entitled to your praise and thanks.

Those who attended the encampment at Saratoga Springs from our department were: Past Department Commander E. S. Stover, Past Department Commander Theodore W. Heman, Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General J. G. Caldwell, Z. H. Bliss, and Thomas Carr and your commander. The encampment was voted a success. Its sessions were held in convention hall with ample seating capacity for all who attended. Harmony prevailed at every meeting. The first three days it rained, the rest of the week was fair. Our department resolution, asking congress to set aside the Glorieta battle grounds for a national park was passed by the national encampment. The unpublished proceedings of some our past department encampments and department roster will require the attention of this encampment.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of one of our best department commanders, comrade Theodore W. Heman, of Tucumcari. He was always at our national encampments and his absence today is keenly felt. Memorial day is approaching and will be observed in accordance with general orders to be issued later.

I would be unmindful of my duty if I failed to assure the Woman's Relief Corps and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, of my hearty appreciation of their co-operation with us and the helpful assistance so cheerfully accorded at all times.

And now I wish to tender my thanks to each and every one of my staff officers and all department officers for their interest in the department work the past year. Each one has done his work well and deserves praise for the faithful discharge of his duty. I desire especially to thank Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General J. G. Caldwell for his efficient services in filling both offices. He has been faithful and untiring in his efforts for success which I think you will agree he has attained.

With the closing of this encampment ends a year of my life that I shall ever cherish because of your esteem and your support, and look back upon with a feeling of gratification because of the harmony prevailing throughout the department. It has been a most pleasant privilege to serve you, the defenders of our country and our flag.

W. W. McDonald
Department Commander

CORNER STONE OF ARMORY TO BE LAID TODAY

CHIEF EVENT OF SECOND DAY OF ENCAMPMENT

Mayor Proclaims Half Holiday And Cities Most Prominent Men Will Participate in the Ceremonies

At 3 o'clock this afternoon with impressive exercises and under the auspices of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, will be laid the corner stone of the National Guard armory and convention hall, on South Fifth street.

A parade will form at 2:30 at the Odd Fellows hall, South Second Street, and march to the armory in the following order:

First Division—Second battalion of First regiment of infantry, New Mexico national guard, and regimental band,

Second Division—Central High school cadet corps and Leonard & Lindermann band,

Third Division—G. K. Warren Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and affiliated organizations,

Fourth Division—Cadets from United States Indian school, accompanied by Indian school band.

The line of march will be north on Second street to Central avenue, west on Central avenue to Fifth street, thence south to the armory site, just south of the Elks' theater building.

At the armory where the massive corner stone will be in place ready to be sealed up, the following will be the program:

Reading of order of Governor George Curry, by J. G. Caldwell, adjutant, G. K. Warren Post,

Address, Mayor Felix H. Lester,

Hymn "America," sung by the High School Glee club, Miss Caroline A. Strong, directress,

Address by Hon. H. B. Ferguson,

The reading of the Grand Army ritual and address by W. W. McDonald, commanding the department of New Mexico,

Song, "Star Spangled Banner," by High School Glee club,

Address by Colonel Moses H. Stern of the governor's staff,
Song, "Battle Hymn of the Republic," High School Glee club,
Short addresses by George S. Klock, O. N. Marron, Colonel W. S. Hopewell and Colonel Ralph E. Twitchell, chairman and secretary of the board of control of the Sixteenth National Irrigation congress.
After the exercises the old soldiers will be escorted back to the hall by the National Guard and band.
The adjutant and quartermaster and Chaplain Thomas Harwood, of the G. A. R., will stand at the side of the department commander during the ceremonies. A guard of honor will step forward with the national flag, which will be formally saluted.

In the corner stone will be placed a list of the veterans in attendance at the encampment with the regiment and the residence of each.

All societies or organizations wishing to have articles placed in the corner stone are requested to hand them to Commander McDonald or some other member of the G. A. R. before noon today.

Mayor Lester issued a proclamation yesterday declaring this afternoon to be a holiday. The banks will close at 2 o'clock and the public schools at 2:30. The following is the mayor's proclamation:

Mayor's Proclamation

Whereas, Thursday, May 7th, is the day set apart for the laying of the corner stone of the territorial armory building for company G of the national guards in the city of Albuquerque, it is but fitting that we should show our appreciation of the edifice and the men through whose instrumentalities it has been secured, and that we should give the matter the proper consideration consistent with the duties of good citizenship,

And whereas, this building is one of which our city should indeed be proud.

Now, therefore, in order that a proper recognition of the exercises connected with the laying of this corner stone should be had, I declare and proclaim the afternoon of May holiday, and would respectfully request that all place of business be closed and that citizens, as far as possible, assist in the proper observance of this event.

FELIX H. LESTER, Mayor

Santa Fe New Mexican
May 8, 1908

JOHN P. VICTORY CHOSEN AS COMMANDER

Albuquerque, N. M., May 8.—The twenty-fifth annual encampment of the New Mexico department of the Grand Army of the Republic was brought to a close in this city last night. Alamogordo was unanimously chosen as the place of holding the annual encampment next year. Retiring Department Commander W. W. McDonald of this city was presented with a handsome gold headed cane as a token of appreciation for the manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the organization during his term of office.

Resolutions were also adopted thanking Delegate W. H. Andrews for services rendered the old soldiers; G. K. Warren, Post No. 5, for courtesies extended the delegates to the encampment; the press of the city for the way in which it assisted in making the encampment this year a success; the Commercial club for its courtesy in offering the delegates to the encampment the hospitality of the club; the Women's Relief Corps and John A. Loan Circle for entertainment and banquets; and thanking the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway for its kindness in granting a one-fare roundtrip for the encampment. A resolution was also adopted endorsing Rev. Thomas Harwood for chaplain-in-chief of the national encampment.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:

- Department commander, John P. Victory, Santa Fe.
- Senior vice commander, J. W. Long, Tularosa.
- Junior vice commander, H. W. Turner, of Albuquerque.
- Chaplain, Thomas Harwood, of Albuquerque.
- Medical director, Smith H. Simpson, Taos.
- Assistant adjutant and quartermaster master general, Jacob Weltmer, Santa Fe.
- Delegate to national encampment, Thomas A. Carr, Deming; alternate, W. M. Berger, Belen.

Advisory board, J. N. Ross, Las Vegas; Severino Ribera, Santa Fe; H. B. Steward, Albuquerque; G. W. Mossman, Las Cruces; J. C. Dunn, Alamogordo; Thomas Shields, Tularosa.

Albuquerque Citizen
December 14, 1908

WANT BATTLEFIELD MADE INTO PARK

Veterans Ask Congress to Set Aside Glorieta Field as a National Reserve

If the wishes of the old soldiers of New Mexico are complied with by the Congress of the United States, a national park will be made of the battlefield at Glorieta. A bill has been introduced in Congress to that end, and every pressure possible to pass it will be brought to bear.

The bill was introduced a year ago by Delegate Andrews at the request of the territorial encampment of 1907, held in this city, but no action was taken on it at the time. That encampment of 1907 also appointed a committee of Joshua S. Reynolds, of Las Vegas, Governor E. S. Stover, of this city and S. H. Simpson of Santa Fe, these three to press the request. This committee will ask the New Mexico legislature, when it meets on January 21, to adopt a resolution asking Congress to pass the bill.

Governor Stover said this morning that he wrote last night to Delegate Andrews, asking him to find out the status of the bill. He said he believed that the legislature would comply with the wishes of the old soldiers in the matter and he could see no reason why the battlefield should not be made into a national park in memory of the veterans who fell there.

The Glorieta battlefield is near the Glorieta Pass. The Santa Fe railroad cuts through one corner of it. About 2,500 troops were engaged in the battle. The federal troops were Colorado and New Mexico, and the southern troops from Texas.

❧ 1909 ❧

Journal of Forty-Third National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1909

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Smith H. Simpson, Taos

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1907, 237

Department Commander . . . J. W. Long, Tularosa

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . H. B. Steward, Albuquerque

*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . G. W. Mossman, Las Cruces

Assistant Adjutant General . . . D. M. Sutherland, Alamogordo

Representatives: *Thomas Harwood (at large), Albuquerque, Alternate; B. N. Knowles, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30 1908, 11 Posts, 243 members; December 31, 1908, 10 Posts, 224 Members

Patriotic Instructor Reports

New Mexico

Comrade Edward Johnson, Department Patriotic Instructor of New Mexico, reports:

“I think there should probably be some changes made in the work of the Patriotic Instructors—that we should work in a more systematic way than we do. We should have more patriotic literature to distribute among the schools; we should visit our schools more; examine the histories that are used in them. Now, all this takes some money, which the poor Patriot Instructor has not got of his own to spend. I ought to furnish him with stationary, stamps and some money to purchase literature to distribute. Now, if we distribute any, we have to pay the expense out of our own pockets, which has been done by myself and others who could ill afford to do it. I hope that my work will be sanctioned and appreciated by the National Patriotic Instructor.”

The work of Comrade Johnson is heartily appreciated and his suggestion earnestly recommended.

Comrade Johnson further says:

“How often has the question, ‘How can we teach patriotism to the children?’ been asked. I know of no set rule but one, and that is the man or woman who would teach patriotism must in fact be patriotic. He who would be successful in any subject must be full of the subject, so that when he comes before a class he may present it in such a way that all may understand. The would-be teacher who comes before his class lacking this qualification will fail; for there is no class of people more apt in detecting a hypocrite than a class of children. Instinctively they look behind the mask and see the real character of the teacher. Let them once begin to doubt the sincerity of the teacher and the effect of that teacher is disastrous. It is for this reason that a teacher of patriotism must be filled with the subject. Let him be otherwise and his failure is assured.”

* * *

The Estancia News
May 14, 1909

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT
Headquarters Department of New Mexico
Grand Army of the Republic
Santa Fe, New Mex.
May 5th 1909

The 26th Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, will convene at Alamogordo, New Mexico, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8 and 9th, 1909. The Council of Administration will assemble at 10 o'clock a.m. on June 8th, for the transaction of such business as may come before it. At 2 o'clock p.m. the same day, the Encampment will convene.

Commander of J. H. Blazer Post No.18, Alamogordo, will detail one Comrade for Officer of the Day, one for Officer of the Guard and one for general duty, who will report to the Assistant Adjutant General at headquarters at 10 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, June 8th.

All Department Officers and those on the staff of the Department Commander will have prepared reports of the past year to be submitted at the Encampment.

The A.T. & S. F., New Mexico Central, El Paso South-eastern and Denver and Rio Grande railways have granted one way fare for the roundtrip to Alamogordo, return tickets good until Jun 11th.

Alamogordo is one of the progressive and attractive towns of New Mexico. Its citizens and Blazer Post are manifesting a hearty interest in preparations to make the Encampment a success, and the Department Commander hopes for a large attendance.

By Command of
John P. Victory
Department Commander
Official:
Jacob Weltmer
Assistant Adjutant General

Albuquerque Citizen
May 14, 1909

VETERANS MEET DURING JUNE

The following circular letter has been issued to all G. A. R. Veterans by the Department Commander:

To all members of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, and soldiers and sailors of the Civil War. Greeting.

The twenty-sixth annual encampment of New Mexico will be held at Alamogordo June 8 and 9. J. H. Blazer and H. H. Rapier posts, the ladies of the Relief Corps of these posts, extend a welcome to every soldier and

sailor of the Civil War, and their wives, all members of the Relief Corps, and all ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, to this encampment, for which they are preparing banquets, entertainments, a rousing camp fire, and the citizens will give a loyal hearty welcome and freedom of the city.

There will be an excursion up the mountain on the cars, above the clouds, where you can hear the angels sing, over the most beautiful scenic route in the world.

Governor Curry and staff will attend and we expect the national commander to be with us. This invitation is extended to every citizen of New Mexico, who may wish to enjoy this delightful outing with us.

DR. J. W. LONG

Senior Vice Commander, Department of New Mexico

Santa Fe New Mexican

June 9, 1909

Grand Army Encampment—Governor Curry arrived last night at Alamogordo to attend the encampment of Department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic. He addressed the veterans today. Yesterday afternoon the visitors enjoyed an automobile ride to the White Sands. Tucumcari will be chosen for the next encampment.

Santa Fe New Mexican

June 10, 1909

GRAND ARMY ELECTS OFFICERS

New Mexico Department Encampment Adjourned and Today Vets Spent at Cloudcroft.

Today the veterans who attended the New Mexico Encampment of the Grand Army at Alamogordo, which adjourned yesterday, are enjoying a picnic at Cloudcroft. Before adjourning yesterday the following officers were elected: J. W. Long of Tularosa, commander; H. B. Steward of Albuquerque, senior vice commander; G. W. Mossman of Las Cruces, junior vice commander; D. M. Sutherland of Alamogordo, assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general. No place was designated for next year's encampment. On Wednesday evening a smoker was given by the businessmen of Alamogordo in honor of Governor Curry and the old veterans.

The Albuquerque Morning Journal

June 9, 1909

TUCUMCARI MAY BE CHOSEN FOR NEXT THE MEET

Over Two Hundred Veterans in Attendance at Encampment of the Grand Army at Alamogordo

Alamogordo, N. M., June 8.—The annual encampment of the department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic opened here today with the annual territorial gathering of the Woman's Relief Corps in connection. About two hundred representatives of the fast thinning ranks of the veterans of the civil war were in attendance at the encampment. The sessions will last for two days. The full program, which is unusually interesting one, includes a camp fire, barbecues, bean soup drills, speeches and the regular order of business of the department. It looks now as if Tucumcari would be chosen as the site for the next annual encampment.

This afternoon the delegates to the encampment were treated to an automobile excursion to the White Sands, after which they were taken for a ride over the city. In the evening the old soldiers were entertained at the Business Men's club with a smoker and musicale.

Governor Curry is expected tonight and tomorrow he delivers an address at the barbecue.

The encampment will wind up Thursday with an excursion by special train to Cloudcroft.

~ 1910 ~

Journal of Forty-Fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1910

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . H. B. Steward, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1909, 196

*Department Commander . . . H. B. Steward, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . William M. Berger, Belero

*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . T. B. Thompson, Raton

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Representatives: *John A. Ross, Las Vegas, Alternate: J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30 1908, 10 Posts, 224 members; December 31, 1909, 9 Posts, 196 Members

Patriotic Instructor Reports

New Mexico

Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Do not know number of school buildings. As far as I know they are all supplied with flags. Private schools, sixteen parochial and six colleges. Do not know the number of pupils in the schools. Pupils generally are interested in raising and lowering the flag at the opening and closing of school sessions. The native children, who are large in majority, are very patriotic. There is a state law making it obligatory to fly the flag on schools while school is in session, but there is no penalty for neglect to do so. The salute to the Flag is given daily in some public schools and occasionally in all. Two schools give military instruction, and one has a retired army officer as instructor. Patriotic days are observed in the schools, but not as often as they should be. A majority of the teachers show a lively interest in patriotic observances. The Grand Army, Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Sons and Daughters of the Revolution have co-operated. The schools are not in session on Memorial Day, so we have no exercises particularly for the children, but the little ones usually scatter flowers on the graves of our comrades. Cannot tell how many flags have been supplied to schools. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has not generally been placed in schools. Memorial Sunday was generally observed in the churches. The governor did recognize Flag Day by proclamation. Cannot tell the cost of carrying on work this year. Most of it is done by patriotic persons, as myself. The State Superintendent of Public Education has not been requested to furnish Flags and Manuals of Patriotism to the schools, but I will do so in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Johnson

Department Patriotic Instructor

* * *

The Deming Headlight

May 5, 1910

Old Boys to Celebrate

G. A. R. Encampment This Year To Be Fully Up To Standard

Headquarters department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic

General Order No. 5

Tularosa, N. M.

April 28, 1910

To all members of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R. All Soldiers and Sailors of the Civil War:

1. The Twenty-seventh Annual Encampment of New Mexico will be held at Las Vegas, June 8 and 9.
2. Sherman Post No. 1, the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps and the citizens of Las Vegas extend a welcome to every comrade, soldier and sailor of the Civil War, their wives and all members of the Woman's Relief Corps, the ladies of the G. A. R. to this encampment, for which they are preparing a hearty welcome to all comrades and their friends.

3. You will be shown places of interest around the city and over the scenic route, and the building of the large reservoir, etc. [Elephant Butte Dam].

4. The people of Las Vegas will demonstrate how heartily the comrades and friends are welcome, and how much they consider it an honor to have the privilege of honoring the survivors of the great armies that saved the nation from destruction.

5. Our Commander in Chief, Samuel R. Van Sant, or some of the national officers will meet with us.

6. Railroad rates have been applied for and you will be notified as soon as received.

By order of John W. Long,

Department Commander

D. M. Sutherland

Asst. Adjt. and Quartermaster General

Deming Graphic

June 17, 1910

The twenty-seventh annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R., was held at Las Vegas last week, and the veterans all speak well of the royal entertainment accorded them. H. B. Steward, of Albuquerque was elected department commander.

The Albuquerque Morning Journal

July 26, 1910

G. A. R. PICTURES AT THE CRYSTAL

A splendid patriotic moving picture film is to be exhibited at the Crystal theater today and tomorrow entitled "Colonel Truman's War Story." The Colonel, a grizzled veteran of the sixties, takes part in a gay Memorial day parade and makes a stirring speech at the G. A. R. banquet, telling the thrilling story of how he lost his left arm fighting for the Union. The picture is a remarkably vivid thing and will be enjoyed by every G. A. R. man and army veteran who sees it.

~ 1911 ~

Journal of Forty-Fifth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1911

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Orlando Smith, Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1910, 200; Posts 11

*Department Commander . . . A. D. Higgins, East Las Vegas

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Hugh J. Ryan, Las Vegas

Representatives: Wm. Berger, Belen; Alternate: J. L. Thompson, Berino

(* indicates present)

Thursday—Morning Session

The Encampment was opened in due form by the Commander-in-Chief. The Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. Thomas Harwood invoked the divine blessing. . .

Commander-in-Chief Report

The Vanishing Army

An analysis of the Adjutant-General's report shows that only the expected has happened. Our ranks are fewer by 10,491 than they were at the last annual report. Of these 9,151 have exchanged a checkered mortality for a blessed immortality. . . . Our whole membership on December 31, 1910, was 203,410, the death rate being but .0428 per cent. I predict that the Grand Army will exist as an organization for at least a quarter of a century.

Report of the Chaplain-in-Chief
Albuquerque, N. M., July 20, 1911

E. B. Stillings, Adjutant-General, G. A. R.

Dear Comrade: I have the honor to submit to you, and through you to the Forty-fifth National Encampment, my report as Chaplain-in-Chief. And now, dear comrade, if my report should not express at least something of the gratitude of my heart to my kind heavenly Father for His tender and loving care over us through the past year, it would lack in an important feature.

And if my report should not express thanks to my comrades for thus honoring me a year ago in electing me your Chaplain-in-Chief, it would show an important and almost unpardonable lack of appreciation on my part.

And when I recall the fact that my comrades singled me out of a Department so far remote from the general mass of our comrades; and a territory, almost forgotten at times, by our general government; and out of a Department of less than two hundred comrades, and gave me the unanimous support of such Departments as New York with 23,414, Pennsylvania with 21,265, Ohio with 22,295 or Massachusetts with 13,493, and others, it humbles me and makes me think of the Psalmist, where he says, speaking of the knowledge of the Infinite One, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, it is high, I cannot attain unto it." I can only say, such honors are too wonderful for me; they are high,—I cannot comprehend them. No other organization in the world will reach out its hand *so far to find* and to honor its worthy comrades.

The past year has been one of the most eventful and pleasant of my life, and marked with many pleasant episodes. One is my election, by acclamation, at Atlantic City to the Chaplaincy-in-Chief of your noble Order; another, my visit to the South, just after the adjournment of the National Encampment, and to see peace and prosperity everywhere. The third was my visit to Vicksburg and to participate in the dedication of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Monument, and to shake hands with my Wisconsin comrades after so many years of absence; and to meet so many of the old Confederates on their ground and give them a brother's hand and to receive a brother's welcome. And last, but not least, is my late voyage on the sea of matrimony. This last, important and pleasant as it is, I would not name, only the good lady wishes to correct a hasty telegram, that put her age at seventy-five instead of sixty-five.

Our Dead

It is a sad thought that so many of our dead rest in southern soil, 275,000 of our comrades, who went out with us but did not return. But, after all, are we not to think of them as the Church thinks of her missionaries who die in foreign fields, and that is that their dying and being buried in foreign lands brings that foreign land nearer our home land? And is it not true also that our dead, sleeping in southern soil, brings that southland nearer to the heart of our common country?

Memorial Day, Flag Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day are coming to their own. While I would make no invidious comparisons, judging from reports already received, measured by the interest indicated by said reports, the Potomac Department, at Washington, seems to lead the way. A prominent man once said, while in a certain town "show me your churches and school houses and I will tell you what kind of people you have." I think he ought to have added "*cemeteries.*" If our Nation should be judged by its care for its dead—our soldier dead—as I observed in the South, as well as its churches and school houses, it would speak well for our government. In my trip South, I visited our national cemeteries at Hampton, Atlanta, Marietta, Chattanooga and Corinth. While, like the Marys and Disciples, we went to the tombs to weep for the dead, yet we were rejoiced to see our nation's dead so neatly cared for. At the same time it costs our comrades no little to decorate so many graves.

Even at Washington the expense must be quite a financial burden; the Chaplain of the Department of the Potomac in his report says, "We are obliged to solicit from the public every dollar ever raised. We raised this year about \$4,000." This ought not to be. Our comrades ought to be helped in some way to bear these heavy burdens.

While we commend the Chaplain's report in general of the Department of the Potomac, we cannot commend his suggestion to change the day from the thirtieth of May to the last Sunday of May. He says, "Put Memorial

Day on Sunday, the last Sunday in May.” Oh, no, let it remain as it is, a legal holiday in most States, and make it as sacred as we can. There is too much secular work on that day for the holy Sabbath.

The Women of the W. R. C. and the Ladies of the G. A. R., these elect women are doing grand work. Judging from the report from the entire field, their work is increasing in interest and efficiency as the years go by. The two societies fairly vie with each other as to which shall do the work for the old soldier. One has well said that the first work of woman’s life was to get man into trouble, but finds it a hard task. [He continued with statistics regarding Memorial Day Sabbath and Memorial Day ceremonies which are not included here.]

And now dear comrades, since the regulations do not well define very closely the duties of a Chaplain, and he is left largely to his own discretion, as to *what* to do and *how* to do it, I thought it wise to get in touch, as far as possible, with my comrades, and thus prepared a large number of cards and letters and sent them out broadcast to my comrades, irrespective of rank, location or social conditions; and I am sure that my comrades feel much nearer to me now than they did a year ago. And comrades, your many replies to my cards and letters have been and ever will be a source of great pleasure to me.

Again, and again, thanking you all for your kind words and deeds so abundantly bestowed during the past year, and for your letters and congratulations; especially your Commander-in-Chief and his official family for all the favor bestowed upon me, thus making my work easier; and now commending you all to the fatherly care of the Supreme Commander, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.

Thomas Harwood,
Chaplain-in-Chief

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30 1912 [sic], 9 Posts, 196 members; December 31, 1910, 11 Posts, 200 Members

Report of the Assistant Inspector-Generals

New Mexico—Lee Rudisille, White Oaks

The nearest Post to that of the Assistant Inspector-General is seventy miles and the farthest four hundred. Nearly every eligible veteran has been gathered into the Posts who live within hailing or traveling distance, as well as many who are quite remote from Post headquarters, so that work in that line appears to about finished, and efforts are now centered on the best methods of keeping ranks closed up and making life for those who take things too seriously, as pleasant as possible by “jollyng them a bit at our meetings.” The Posts of this Department have set aside no relief fund, from the fact that when occasion requires they prefer to “chip in” and meet pressing needs in that manner; and one who knows of Western liberality in its broadest sense can readily understand why it is that no case of actual suffering has ever been known to veterans, or those depending on them, in this Department.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-ON-CHIEF

To the Officers and Members of the Forty-fifth National Encampment

Comrades: Your Committee appointed on the report of the Chaplain-in-Chief have carefully considered the same and beg leave to report that as the duties of that office are left very much to the discretion of the incumbent, there seems to be no general rule laid down as to just what is required or expected from that official; but in the case of our present Chaplain-in-Chief he has given us in his report and especially in the statistics much food for careful and serious consideration, and through it all, but in the pathos of the minor key, is breathed the heroic story of the passing of that great host that saved the nation. From his report we are convinced that no more important office for the good of all the Comrades exists in the entire Grand Army of the Republic than that of Chaplain in the hundreds of Posts scattered throughout the nation, and it is the opinion of your Committee that in the selection of a Comrade to fill that important office, it should be the aim of the Posts to call one who, like our present Chaplain-in-Chief, has shown the sweet Christian spirit of a true follower of the Great Commander.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.

J. Payson Bradley, Massachusetts, *Chairman*, J. O. Thompson, Florida, J. G. Caldwell, New Mexico
Committee

Comrade Sampson, of Arizona: I take especial pleasure in making a motion for the approval of this report, for I have known Chaplain-in-Chief Harwood for more than forty years, and know him to be a true man as he has been an efficient Chaplain-in-Chief.

The motion was adopted.

General Orders, } HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
No. 2. } STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS., October 28, 1910.

I. At the Forty-fourth National Encampment, held at Atlantic City, New Jersey, the following named comrades were duly elected to the offices designated below:

Commander-in-Chief,

John E. Gilman, Boston, Mass.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief,

Charles Burrows, Rutherford, N. J.

Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief,

William James, Jacksonville, Fla.

Surgeon-General,

John Loper Smith, M.D., Hillyard, Wash.

Chaplain-in-Chief,

Rev. Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Alabama	William Snyder	Greencastle, Pa.
Arizona	E. S. Godfrey	Phoenix
Arkansas	M. Kirst	Little Rock
California and Nevada	Henry Z. Osborne	Los Angeles, Cal.
Colorado and Wyoming	John W. Wingate	Durango, Colo.
Connecticut	Virgil F. McNeil	New Haven
Delaware	William Mendenhall	Wilmington
Florida	William E. Emerson	Tampa
Georgia and South Carolina	Lewis Thayer	Fitzgerald
Idaho	John H. Hart	Nampa
Illinois	Charles B. Wilson	Chicago
Indiana	William H. Armstrong	Indianapolis
Iowa	H. M. Pickell	Des Moines
Kansas	Thomas H. Grisham	Cottonwood Falls
Kentucky	Jesse H. Green	Bellevue
Louisiana and Mississippi	F. C. Antoine	New Orleans
Maine	Woodbury K. Dana	Westbrook
Maryland	Fred C. Tarr	Baltimore
Massachusetts	Charles H. Pinkham	Worcester
Michigan	Frank R. Chase	Belding
Minnesota	Loren W. Collins	Minneapolis
Missouri	Frank M. Sterrett	Troy, Ohio
Montana	Perry H. Manchester	Butte
Nebraska	S. K. Spaulding	Omaha
New Hampshire	Orlando B. Douglass	Concord
New Jersey	J. R. Mullikin	Newark
New Mexico	Orlando Smith	Las Vegas



Rev. THOMAS HARWOOD, D.D.
Chaplain-in-Chief

Santa Fe New Mexican

April 11, 1911

G. A. R. Encampment—The twenty-eighth annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R., will be held in Albuquerque, May 17 and 18, according to general orders just received from the department headquarters.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 18, 1911

National chaplain, G. A. R., for quarter century, chaplain of New Mexico department and prominent figure at annual encampment

With veterans, of the civil war from all parts of the territory assembled in the national guard armory, headquarters for the twenty-eighth annual encampment of the New Mexico department, Grand Army of the Republic, the two day's session opened yesterday morning at 10 o'clock with a meeting the council of administration.

This meeting of the comrades who one year older have added twelve month's more devotion to the flag which they fought to preserve, is marked by the significant absence of several who attended the annual encampment last year, but a goodly number are in attendance taking keen interest in the assembly and talking over old times with the comrades.

The morning was given over to welcoming the visiting delegates and routine work. Department Commander H. B. Steward called the meeting to order. A committee of the local relief corps were received at 11 o'clock and their invitation to dinner at noon in the Odd Fellows hall accepted. Incidentally and ultimately the dinner was a real treat of epicurean nicety and heartily enjoyed by the local and visiting comrades. A feature of the morning was a brief talk by Mrs. Frisbee of San Francisco, Cal., who, as national inspector for the Relief Corps, is here on a tour of inspection. She made a clear and concise report of the National Relief Corps work.

At the afternoon session reports from the various officers were heard and approved. The campfire last night, to which the public were bidden to attend, was a glorious finale to the first successful day of the encampment. The armory hall in its decking of the stars and stripes accorded a proper setting for the patriotic speeches and songs which mingled with toasts and wartime reminiscences affording thorough enjoyment to the big crowd attending. John W. Wilson, commander of the Sons of Veterans, delivered the eloquent address of welcome. . .

The response was made by A. D. Higgins of Las Vegas, who made a splendid brief talk. An interesting incident was the presentation of an original daguerreotype of Kit Carson to Commander Wilson of the Kit Carson camp of the Sons of Veterans of this city. Smith Simpson of Taos, N. M. was a friend of Kit Carson, and this original picture is the only one in existence of the famous scout. From the invocation pronounced by Rev. Thomas Harwood, who is the national chaplain of the G. A. R., to the closing song, the camp fire was a huge success and a delight to the veterans, as well as the many women and men, who were guests. Informally the visiting veterans and the local comrades gave toasts and brief speeches telling occasionally a thrilling story of the "late unpleasantness." Local Post Commander Phillips acted as toast master and acquitted himself credibly, as did the huge number participating in the program.

Officers Elected Today

At today's session officers will be elected for the coming year, and the next place of encampment decided upon. John A. Logan Circle No. 1, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, will entertain the delegates at dinner today at noon.

The officers for the past year are H. B. Steward, department commander; Wm. M. Bergen, senior vice commander; F. B. Thompson, Junior vice commander; J. G. Caldwell, assistant adjutant general; Smith Simpson, medical director and Thomas Harwood, chaplain. Past department commanders ex-Governor E. S. Stover, W. W. McDonald and W. B. Brunton. The out-of-town delegates to the encampment include Smith Simpson of Taos, N. M., representing the Santa Fe post; W. J. Worden of Santa Fe; S. W. Sherfey, of Las Cruces; W. B. Brunton, of Shoemaker, N. M., representing the Las Vegas post; A. D. Higgins, Las Vegas;

Orlando Smith, Las Vegas; W. M. Berger Belen; William Cozine, Socorro; H. W. Boutwell, Socorro; John Greenwald, Socorro; George H. Piatt, Laguna; J. M. Shields, Jemez Springs.

Note: The article had a picture of Harwood above the title; however, the title may be misleading in that he was the Chaplain-in-Chief for one year and had been the Department Chaplain since 1884 [Beath, *History of the Grand Army of the Republic*]*—*27 years. He was a member of the G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque.

Santa Fe New Mexican
May 19, 1911

G. A. R. Elects Officers

A. D. Higgins of Las Vegas, was elected department commander; J. D. Caldwell of Albuquerque, department [senior] vice commander; S. W. Sherfey of Las Cruces, junior vice commander; Thomas Harwood, chaplain; Smith Simpson of Taos, medical director; William Berger of Belen, editor of the Belen Tribune, was named as delegate to the national encampment, which will meet in Rochester, N. Y., during the week of August 21, at the territorial encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Albuquerque yesterday.

The Fort Sumner Review
May 27, 1911

Presents Kit Carson Picture

Albuquerque.—One of the interesting features of the annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R., which convened here was the presentation by Captain Smith Simpson of Taos, to Kit Carson Camp, Sons of Veterans, of this city, of an enlargement from the only picture of Kit Carson ever taken.

❧ 1912 ❧

Journal of Forty-Sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1912

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1911, 172; Posts 11

*Department Commander . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Daniel Risdon, Raton

*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . H. B. Steward, Albuquerque

Representatives: George J. Pace, Raton; *Alternate: J. M. Muggley, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: June 30 1910, 11 Posts, 200 members; December 31, 1911, 11 Posts, 172 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal
June 11, 1912

VETERANS ELECT J. G. CALDWELL COMMANDER

Raton, N. M., June 10—The annual encampment of the Department of Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, closed here this evening after a well attended and successful session by electing officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Department commander, J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque; senior vice commander, Daniel Risdon, Raton; Junior vice-commander; S. W. Sherfy, Las Cruces; chaplain, Rev. Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque; assistant adjutant general, H. B. Steward.

Albuquerque Evening Herald

June 12, 1912

CALDWELL PROUD OF THE HONOR BESTOWED

Albuquerque Veteran Elected Department Commander of G. A. R. Works as Usual Today in Santa Fe Shops.

"I am proud of the honor my comrades bestowed upon me and will do my utmost to further the interests of the organization," said J. G. Caldwell, of Albuquerque today, when asked how it felt to be department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico. Mr. Caldwell was elected department commander at the state encampment, held in Raton, Monday, being strongly backed by a delegation of eight members of G. K. Warren post No. 5, of this city. The Albuquerque delegation urged Caldwell's candidacy from the start and he was elected without opposition. The delegation that succeeded in electing Mr. Caldwell department commander consisted of Comrades W. W. McDonald, H. B. Steward, E. S. Stover, J. M. Muggley, H. Z. Bliss, John Murphy, and Rev. Thomas Harwood.

Department Commander Caldwell spoke very highly today of the treatment the G. A. R. received at Raton. Mr. Caldwell is 66 years old. Despite his age, he is hale and hearty and as strong physically as the average man at 40. After a strenuous trip to Raton, he returned to Albuquerque last night, and at 7 o'clock this morning was at his work in the Santa Fe machine shops, where he has been employed for many years. Mr. Caldwell served during two enlistments in the Civil war, enlisting when he was 17 years old. He served in the 115th and 117th Indiana Volunteer Infantry companies.

~ 1913 ~

Journal of Forty-Seventh National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1913

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1912, 159; Posts 10

Department Commander . . . D. M. Sutherland, Alamogordo

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Zenas H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . J. M. Muggley, Albuquerque

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks

Representatives: T. B. Thompson; Raton; Alternate: E. W. Davis, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1911, 11 Posts, 172 members; December 31, 1912, 10 Posts, 159 Members

Report of the Inspector General

New Mexico: Assistant Inspector-General, Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks

* * *

Albuquerque Evening Herald

May 5, 1913

G. A. R. Veterans' Campfire Will be Held

One of the Most Interesting Features of Annual Encampments of Department of New Mexico, G. A. R.

A feature of the 30th annual encampment of New Mexico, G. A. R., which opens its session tomorrow morning at 9 in Odd Fellows' hall, will be the annual campfire which occurs in the hall tomorrow night at 7:30. The G. A. R. and auxiliary orders and all patriotic societies are invited to attend.

Veterans have begun arriving from state points for the annual reunion of the boys who wore the blue and the attendance is said will surpass previous expectations.

Albuquerque Evening Herald

May 6, 1913

The thirtieth annual encampment of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R. was held in this city Wednesday and Thursday. Social features were provided by the Woman's Relief Corps and John A. Logan Circle, who served dinner to the delegates, Wednesday, and by Abraham Circle No 3 Ladies of the G. A. R., who gave an elaborately appointed supper at Odd Fellows' hall, Wednesday evening. A campfire followed, with an interesting program, participated in by comrades and their wives.

Alamogordo Daily News

June 6, 1913

COMMANDER SUTHERLAND ISSUES FIRST GENERAL ORDER

D. M. Sutherland, Department Commander for the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, has issued General Order No. 1, which is as follows:

I. Having been elected and installed Department Commander at the Thirtieth Annual Encampment, held at Albuquerque, May 7 and 8, I hereby assume command.

II. The following comrades were elected and installed in the offices specified:

Senior Vice Department Commander, Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander, J. M. Mugglely, Albuquerque

Department Chaplain, Rev. Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque

Medical Director, Smith Simpson, Taos

Delegate to National Encampment, T. B. Thompson, Raton

Alternate, E. W. Davis, Albuquerque

Council of Administration

John Y. Hewett, White Oaks; R. Vogl, Raton; John A. Ross, Las Vegas; William H. Sloan, Las Cruces; Smith Simpson, Taos.

III. The following appointments are announced:

Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, Lee H. Rudisille

Patriotic Instructor, W. A. Cozine

All official communications and reports should be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General at White Oaks.

By Command of

D. M. Sutherland

Department Commander

Attest—Lee H. Rudisille, Assistant Adjutant General

❧ 1914 ❧

Journal of Forty-Eighth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1914

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . John A. Ross, Roselle Park

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1913, 156; Posts 10

*Department Commander . . . John A. Ross, East Las Vegas

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Zenas H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Stephen J. Pace, Farmington

Assistant Adjutant General . . . F. E. Olney, East Las Vegas

*Representatives: W. M. Berger, Belen; Alternate: S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1912, 10 Posts, 159 members; December 31, 1913, 10 Posts, 156 Members

Report of the Inspector General

New Mexico: Assistant Inspector-General, Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks

* * *

Las Vegas Optic

March 9, 1914

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AT THE ENCAMPMENT

Beginning tomorrow at Albuquerque the annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, will begin. The encampment will be attended by members of the G. A. R. from all over the state; judging from the plans announced, it will be the most successful gathering of the Old Boys ever held in New Mexico.

Washington Gardner, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. of the United States, will be present at the encampment, and will have charge of a large part of the ceremonies. Mr. Gardner comes from Detroit, Mich., and is much interested in the Grand Army of the Republic in this section of the southwest.

Among the members of Sherman Post who will attend the encampment are J. A. Ross, Captain, W. B. Brunton, A. D. Higgins, Dr. F. E. Olney, Jefferson Reynolds and J. W. Jones. These men left Las Vegas this afternoon for Albuquerque. H. J. Ryan likely will go later in the week.

The real significance of this annual encampment is touching. Several members will attend his year who probably will never join another annual encampment of the G. A. R. on earth. The meeting means to the old soldiers, in a way, a farewell to their comrades, though they are the most cheerful men on earth and expect to have a good time. Last year the old soldiers who attended the annual encampment exceeded the number that will attend this year, and so it will be next year. Each encampment sees a larger list on the roll of "Honorably Discharged" by the Grand Commander above.

There was a time when the veterans were taken as a matter of course. Now people observe the old soldiers, who, through their trials and hardships, preserved the Union, with greater reverence. Their encampments are occasions when the public shows its regard for the veterans, rather than the picnics and carnivals of several years ago.

At the encampment in Albuquerque many battles will be fought over by the old soldiers. There will be renewal of acquaintance that originated on the battlefields of the civil war. Albuquerque likely will furnish entertainment for the old soldiers and the encampment is expected to be a success in every way.

Albuquerque Journal

March 12, 1914

ELECTION HELD BY GRAND ARMY; SESSION CLOSES

The thirty-first encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of the department of New Mexico closed yesterday afternoon with the installation of officers, elected to serve for the next year, at I. O. O. F. hall.

Department officers were elected at the morning session, and as the organization had disposed of all routine business the first day, nothing remained for the final session except the installation. Reports of officers and committees, submitted the first day showed the department in excellent condition. The membership rolls bear 155 names. The loss through death since the thirtieth encampment was only three, but this was offset by an increase in membership.

The new officers of the department are:

Department Commander—John A. Ross, Las Vegas

Senior Vice Commander—Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Commander—S. J. Pace, Farmington

Chaplain—Rev. Thomas Harwood, Albuquerque

Medical Director—Dr. S. H. Simpson, Taos

Chaplain's Thirtieth Term

Mr. Harwood has held the office of chaplain of the department for thirty years.

W. M. Berger, of Albuquerque, was elected delegate to the national encampment, and S. W. Sherfey, of Las Cruces, was selected as alternate. The following made up the council of administration: D. M. Sutherland, Tucumcari; John W. Jones, Las Vegas; Judge John R. McFie, Santa Fe; M. C. Picken, Farmington, and Thomas Brannigan, Las Cruces.

Las Vegas Optic

March 13, 1914

SHOW 'EM A GOOD TIME

The 1915 encampment of the Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Las Vegas. It is not too early for making plans to show the Old Soldiers coming the good times of their lives. . . .

Elaborate plans were laid for the entertainment of the New Mexico Education association when the campaign for securing it was at its height. How much more honor should be shown to the old soldiers! We will not have them with us many more years. Why not make them realize that their services to the country in the Sixties are appreciated by the present generation? State Commander John A. Ross and Adjutant General F. E. Olney will represent the Grand Army in the preparations for the encampment. They should be assisted in every way by the citizens.

~ 1915 ~

Journal of Forty-Ninth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1915

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . F. E. Olney, East Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1914, 131; Posts 9

Department Commander . . . Zenas H. Bliss, Albuquerque

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Samuel W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . F. E. Olney, East Las Vegas

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Representatives: *W. A. Cozine, Socorro; Jefferson Reynolds, Las Vegas; Alternates: J. W. Terry, Socorro, Olander [Orlando] Smith, East Las Vegas.

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1913, 10 Posts, 156 members; December 31, 1913, 9 Posts, 131 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 27, 1915

The members of the Grand Army of the Republic left yesterday afternoon on Santa Fe train No 2 for Las Vegas to attend the encampment of the department of New Mexico, which will open today until Thursday night.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 29, 1915

BLISS IS NAMED BY VETERANS AS G. A. R. COMMANDER

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE)

East Las Vegas, N. M., April 28

With the election of Z. [Zenas] M. Bliss of Albuquerque as department commander and the selection of that city as the next meeting place, the New Mexico encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic adjourned its meeting here today.

Other officers elected are, S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces, senior vice commander; F. E. Olney, Las Vegas, junior vice commander; Smith H. Simpson, medical director, Taos; J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque, Adjutant.

❧ 1916 ❧

Journal of Fiftieth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1916

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1915, 117; Posts 10

*Department Commander . . . F. E. Olney, Las Vegas

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . William M. Berger, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . John W. Terry, Socorro

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . John A. Ross, East Las Vegas

Representative: *John Greenwald, Socorro; Alternates: S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces.

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1914, 9 Posts, 131 members; December 31, 1915, 10 Posts, 117 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 11, 1916

Criticizes Peace Advocates

East Las Vegas, N. M. April 10—During a short speech made in presentation of an American Flag to the Y. M. C. A., John Ross, a civil war veteran, took occasion to criticize the advocates of peace at any price. Mr. Ross said such persons “should be compelled to read American history, and then if they persisted in their views they should go out and hang themselves.” He declared also that “the man who is not willing to fight to defend his country should get the tell [sic] out of here, and the government will be better off for his departure.” Mr. Ross, who is a past department commander of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, requested that the flag he presented to the Y. M. C. A. never be allowed to touch the ground, and that it be raised at sunrise of each national holiday and lowered at sunset. He is a warm advocate of preparedness.

El Nuevo Mexicano (Santa Fe)

April 13, 1916

CAPT. SMITH H. SIMPSON

The newspaper contained a very small article about the death of Capt. Smith H. Simpson who died in Taos on April 3, 1916. Smith Simpson was an integral part of the Department of New Mexico G. A. R. and as recently as 1915 was elected as Medical Director of the Department.

The following information is obtained from The Library of Congress: “Captain Simpson died April 3, 1916, being just a month less of eighty years of age. His funeral was held three days later and conducted by Bent Lodge No. 1 A. F. & A. M. of Taos and Carleton Post No. 3. G. A. R. of Santa Fe and by common consent all the stores closed and the whole town turned out for the funeral. He is buried in Kit Carson Cemetery near his old friend and comrade of Indian fighting days.” (<https://www.loc.gov/resource/wpalh1.18110209/?st=gallery>)

The *San Miguel County, New Mexico, Genealogy & History* website has this in part to say about Simpson:

. . . After leaving the military service he went to Las Vegas and in the latter part of the same year he removed to Taos, which was his home for the remainder of his lifetime. From 1859 to 1861 Captain Simpson served as the confidential clerk of Kit Carson, who was, during that time, Indian agent at Taos. On November 28, 1863, he enlisted as captain of Company I, First New Mexico Volunteers, and served until September 26, 1866, when

he was mustered out at Albuquerque and returned to Taos. . . . In the spring of 1861, after the firing on Fort Sumter, Captain Simpson, Colonel Ceran St. Vrain, A. H. Pfeiffer, Jim Enos, Dave Wilkens, Tom Barnum, Solomon Beuthner, McPherson, Johnnie Whitesides, Van Hecklen, Fred Muller, and several other Americans raised the American flag in Taos plaza and nailed it to the flagstaff so that the Confederate sympathizers could not haul it down in the night time. And Captain Simpson saw to it that "Old Glory" has been kept flying in Taos, by day and by night, ever since. In the Civil War Captain Simpson saw much hard service, taking part in the fights at Arivipa Cañon, Penal, Salt River, Sauz, Ochava, Waterhole Cocotopi, Naposite, and San Carlos, in which last action he was again wounded.

For nearly two years he was in command at Fort Goodwin, near the present town of Globe, Arizona . . .

In 1867, Captain Simpson married Miss Josefa Valdez, daughter of Juan Valdez, of Taos, who died about six years ago. Captain Simpson was the intimate friend and confidant of Kit Carson, and they were together in numerous fights with the hostile Indians. Almost the last wish expressed by Carson before his death was, "Tell Simpson and Tom Boggs that I want to be buried at Taos"—and the wish was carried out. It was largely through the efforts of Captain Simpson that a monument was erected over the grave of Kit Carson by Carleton Post No. 3, G. A. R., and an iron fence built around the grave plat by the Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of New Mexico. He was an ardent and faithful member of the G. A. R. of New Mexico, and served as its senior vice-commander and also for many years as its medical director. . . .

Fearlessly as he had faced the many dangers encountered in his fourteen years of military service, so fearlessly he faced the approach of death. He had lived his life, he had finished his work, he was ready to go, and calmly he awaited the end. Interment was made in the American cemetery in Taos on April 6th. The G. A. R. burial service was read at the grave by Comrade Jacob Weltmer of Santa Fe. [Source: Old Santa Fe (July 1916) Vol. 3; No. 11; transcribed by Richard Ramos] (<https://genealogytrails.com/newmex/sanmiguel/obits.html>)

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 19, 1916

DISPLAY FLAGS FOR G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

The department of New Mexico of the Grand Army of the Republic will hold its thirty-fifth [33d] annual encampment here Thursday and Friday. The sessions will be held at the I. O. O. F. hall.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 21, 1916

GRAND ARMY OF REPUBLIC OPENS ITS ENCAMPMENT

Officers to Be Elected Today Toward Close of Two-day Session; Dinner to Be Given for Veterans

The thirty-third annual encampment of the department of New Mexico of the Grand Army of the Republic public opened yesterday morning at the I. O. O. F. hall. Less than fifty veterans came from out of town. The local attendance was more than thirty members.

The encampment will close today. The chief business of today will be the election and installation of officers. The report of the committee on resolutions also will be heard today.

Lincoln Circle No. 3, Ladies of the Grand Army, will give a dinner for the veterans at noon today at the I. O. O. F. hall. All the union and confederate veterans in town, all wives of veterans, all Sons of Veterans and their wives, all grandsons of veterans and their wives and all widows of soldiers are invited.

~ 1917 ~

Journal of Fifty-First National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1917

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . O. L. Gregory, East Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1916, 109; Posts 10

*Department Commander . . . Jefferson Raynolds, East Las Vegas

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . William M. Berger, Belen

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . John C. Klepinger, White Oaks

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . John A. Ross, East Las Vegas

Representative: John Greenwald, Socorro; Alternate: John W. Terrell, Socorro

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1915, 10 Posts, 117 members; December 31, 1916, 10 Posts, 109 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

January 1, 1917

THOS HARWOOD, HEAD OF SCHOOL FOR BOYS, DEAD

Dr. Thomas Harwood, minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, an outstanding figure in the religious and early educational history of New Mexico, died shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 233 North High street. He was in his eighty-seventh year. His last illness was long. He had been confined to bed for nearly ten weeks with neuralgia of the stomach, which caused death.

Doctor Harwood came to New Mexico from Sparta, Wis., as a missionary and teacher, traveling the last stages in stage coaches. That was in 1869. His first religious work in the territory was that of a circuit rider. His circuit ranged over a great area in northern New Mexico over which he traveled on horseback, preaching in homes, tents, or any other places where English-speaking people lived. . .

Minister for Sixty-two Years.

Doctor Harwood came to Albuquerque in 1893 as president of the Boys' Biblical and Industrial school. He held this office until three years ago when he retired. His association with the school gave the school his name. Although its rightful name still is the Boys' Biblical and Industrial school few persons here knew it by any other name than that of the Harwood School for Boys. This school was the successor of the Albuquerque college, founded in 1887.

G. A. R. Chaplain-in-Chief.

The doctor also was prominent, in the Grand Army of the Republic, having served one term as chaplain-in-chief of the national organization. He was chaplain of the Department of New Mexico, G. A. R., for thirty-three years and chaplain of G. K. Warren post, the local organization, for twenty-three years. . .

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 11, 1917

Students Learn Flag Etiquette

East Las Vegas. N. M., April 10.—The students of the New Mexico Normal university have been instructed in the proper respect and care for the flag of their country, and are prepared to teach these patriotic things to others. At a large patriotic meeting held on the campus, Monday at noon, John A. Ross, assistant adjutant general of the New Mexico department of the Grand Army of the Republic, explained the ritual of the raising and lowering of the flag, and of how the banner should never touch the ground.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 3, 1917

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH

East Las Vegas, N. M., May 2. The thirty-fourth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, will be held here on June 14 and 15. Dr. F. E. Olney, of this city, department

commander, has issued orders relative to the encampment. The following have been named a committee on credentials: Lee H. Rudisille, J. G. Caldwell and D. Risdon.

The Commercial club and the Normal university are making arrangements to assist in entertaining the old soldiers and making their visit here a pleasant one.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

June 16, 1917

CRAMPTON DELIVERED FLAG DAY ADDRESS

(Special correspondence to Morning Journal)

East Las Vegas, N. M., June 15.—With a larger attendance than had been expected, the New Mexico department of the Grand Army of the Republic began its annual encampment here yesterday. The city is bedecked in flags and bunting in honor of the veterans, who are holding their sessions in the Odd Fellows hall. Last night the veterans were guests of honor at the Elks' Flag day exercises at the Normal university. E. C. Crampton, of Raton, delivered the principal address. This morning occurred the annual election of officers, and the soldiers were taken for a trip to El Porvenir, the famous mountain resort, where a dinner was served.

❧ 1918 ❧

Journal of Fifty-Second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1918

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . F. E. Olney, East Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1917, 95; Posts 8

*Department Commander . . . John W. Terry, Socorro

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Samuel W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . O. L. Gregory, East Las Vegas

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . John Greenwald, Socorro

Representative: S. K. Sydes, Las Vegas; Alternate: Daniel Risdon, Raton

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1916, 10 Posts, 109 members; December 31, 1917, 8 Posts, 95 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

June 16, 1918

ENCAMPMENT OF G. A. R. CLOSES WITH ELECTION

Veterans Enjoy Trip Through out District Yesterday Afternoon; Dinner Served by Women's Organizations

Following the election of officers yesterday the thirty-fifth annual encampment of the New Mexico department, Grand Army of the Republic, closed here yesterday.

The new officers elected are John W. Terry of Socorro, N. M., department commander; S. W. Sherfey of Las Cruces, senior vice commander; O. L. Gregory of Las Vegas, junior vice commander; John Greenwald of Socorro, assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster general; S. K. Sydes of Las Vegas, chaplain, and E. S. Stover, medical director.

The council of administration follows: W. W. McDonald, Lee Rudisille, John Shank, G. J. Pace and Thomas Branigan.

At noon yesterday the delegates, Confederate Veterans, Sons of Veterans and women of the various organizations were served with dinner at noon yesterday in the I. O. O. F. hall. During the afternoon the delegates were treated to a motor trip throughout the district and last night many returned to their homes. The following resolutions were adopted by the veterans:

"Resolved, That our thanks are due and are hereby tendered to the press in session yesterday of the city for their kindness and generosity to the G. A. R. in public notices for us.

"Resolved, That we owe thanks to the G. K. Warren Relief corps and Ladies Circle No. 3, L. of G. A. R., for the excellent dinners provided for the comrades, and also for the comrades and also for their part of the entertainment at the campfire.

"Resolved, That our thanks are due, and are hereby tendered to the Girl Scouts for their splendid drill and entertainment at the campfire.

"Resolved, That we tender our thanks to Rev. C. O. Beckman for the invocation, and to R. P. Barnes and G. S. Klock for their patriotic addresses."

Contrary to expectations of those in charge a small number of veterans attended the encampment. With the ranks of the blue and the gray gradually thinning, however, there are fewer and fewer delegates living to attend. What the encampment lacked in numbers made up in patriotism. The general attitude of the veterans was illustrated by the wish of one that he was just a bit-younger and could shoulder a gun against the "Huns."

~ 1919 ~

Journal of Fifty-Third National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1919

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Lee H. Rudisille, White Oaks

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1918, 92; Posts 8

Department Commander . . . O. L. Gregory, Las Vegas

*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . W. M. Berger, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . S. W. Sherfey, Las Cruces

Assistant Adjutant General . . . John Shank, Las Vegas

Representative: *John Greenwald, Albuquerque; Alternate: A. B. Stanton, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1917, 8 Posts, 95 members; December 31, 1918, 8 Posts, 92 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

September 19, 1919

TWELVE NEW MEXICO CIVIL WAR VETERANS AT THE ENCAMPMENT

(Special correspondence to Morning Journal)

East Las Vegas, N. M., Sept. 18—Twelve New Mexico Civil War veterans were in attendance at the annual [national] encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic according to Department Commander F. E. Olney of this city, who has just returned home. Olney attended a reunion of his old regiment, the Fortieth Ohio, and saw some old companions whom he had not seen for fifty-three years. "The boys are all getting old," said Dr. Olney, "but they had the time of their lives." In Columbus, O., Mrs. John A. Ross of this city, wife of a veteran, suffered a painful injury when she was thrown against one of the fixtures in a Pullman car, but has recovered and will be home soon. The reunion parade was immense, Dr. Olney says, but a heavy downpour of rain interfered with it seriously.

~ 1920 ~

Journal of Fifty-Fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1920

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . John Greenwald, Socorro

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1919, 86; Posts 8

Department Commander . . . William M. Berger, Belen
Senior Vice Department Commander . . . John Shank, Las Vegas
*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Abraham B. Stanton, Albuquerque
Assistant Adjutant General . . . William B. McDonald, Albuquerque
Representative: Daniel Risdon, Raton; *Alternate: Chas. L. Diehl, Albuquerque
(* indicates present)
Report of Adjutant General
New Mexico: December 31, 1918, 8 Posts, 92 members; December 31, 1919, 8 Posts, 86 Members

Albuquerque Morning Journal

June 13, 1920

A delegation of ten from the G. K. Warren post is here to attend the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic to be held at Las Vegas Tuesday.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

June 15, 1920

LOCAL ITEMS

Nine representatives from the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic are in attendance at the annual state encampment which is being held at Las Vegas. The business sessions will include the annual election of officers and the selection of the city for the next encampment.

❧ 1921 ❧

Journal of Fifty-Fifth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1921

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . John Greenwald, Socorro
New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1920, 70; Posts 8
Department Commander . . . John Shank, East Las Vegas
*Senior Vice Department Commander . . . John Greenwald, Socorro
Junior Vice Department Commander . . . John Hull, Santa Fe
Assistant Adjutant General . . . John Caldwell, Albuquerque
Representative: B. A. Jones, Albuquerque; *Alternate: John M. Rice, White Oaks
(* indicates present)
Report of Adjutant General
New Mexico: December 31, 1919, 8 Posts, 86 members; December 31, 1920, 8 Posts, 70 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

April 23, 1921

ORDER FOR GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT

Headquarters Department of New Mexico,
Grand Army of the Republic
New Odd Fellows' Hall,
South Second Street, Albuquerque, N. M.
April 18, 1921
General order No 3

Place and Time of next Encampment.

It was decided by the Thirty-seventh encampment held at Las Vegas, N. M. last June 14 and 15, to hold the Thirty-eighth encampment at Albuquerque, N. M. The council of administration by letter, to those headquarters, approved of the May 11th and 12th 1921, as the date on which the encampment would be held. A lower railroad rate has been applied for and we hope it will be granted. Committees have been appointed to meet the trains. Our splendid auxiliary "The Woman's Relief Corps," will give a banquet each day. A camp fire with good speaking the night of the 11th [sic]. All arrangements have been made for this encampment.

Come to the encampment and the comrades of the G. K. Warren post will vie with the citizens of Albuquerque in making your stay with us pleasant.

By command of

W. M. Berger,

Department Commander

Attest: W. W. McDonald Assistant Adj. & Q. M. Gen.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 13, 1921

DUKE CITY IS NEXT SITE FOR G.A.R MEETING

John Shank of Las Vegas to Head State organization; Paid Agitators are Scored in Resolution

John Shanks of Las Vegas was elected department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, New Mexico division at the closing session of the thirty-eighth encampment of the organization, which concluded here yesterday. Albuquerque was the unanimous choice of the delegates for the thirty-ninth encampment to be held next May.

Other officials elected are:

John Greenwald, Socorro, senior vice commander; John Hull, Santa Fe, junior vice commander; J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque, adjutant; Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque, chaplain; former Governor, E. S. Stover, Albuquerque, medical director; Col. W. M. Berger, Belen, post inspector; John R. McFie of Santa Fe, D. Risdon of Raton, F. E. Olney of Las Vegas, Sam Armstrong of Las Cruces and John Y. Hewitt of White Oaks, council of administration. Governor Stover, past department commander, was installing officer.

Twenty-five delegates from all sections of the state attended the two-day campfire, which started here Wednesday morning. The entertainment program was in charge of the ladies of the Relief Corps, who served luncheon at Odd Fellows' hall during the noon hour of both days of the encampment.

During the last session yesterday resolutions were adopted thanking the Santa Fe railroad for granting a reduced rate to delegates, to the press, the officers, the Relief Corps and Joe Barnett, for the invitation extended to the delegates to attend the shows at the "B" theater during their stay in the city.

A resolution warning the people against the workings of factional agitators in the cities was also passed. "We view with alarm and we deplore the advent of the paid agitator and propagandist who engenders strife and bitterness among the people," the resolution stated.

"We therefore warn our people against these factional agitators whom we regard are largely responsible for the turbulence in our cities and towns to the injury of all our people, except the paid agitator himself," the resolution continued.

No imitation that the resolution was intended to throw light upon the veterans' opinion of the Albuquerque situation was given out at the meeting, but it is supposed that the present situation in this city prompted them to go on record in the form of a resolution against paid agitators in general.

New Mexico State Record (Santa Fe)
May 20, 1921

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC ENCAMPMENT

The Grand Army of the Republic held its annual encampment in Albuquerque last week. The grand old veterans of the war which preserved the United States, undivided and inseparable, are to our keen regret becoming fewer as each year takes its toll on the boys of '65. The election of officers was held and the three principal officers for the ensuing year are: John Shank, of Las Vegas, Department Commander; John Greenwald, of Socorro, Senior Vice Commander and John Hull of Santa Fe Junior Vice Commander.

~ 1922 ~

Journal of Fifty-Sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1922

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1921, 68; Posts 7

Department Commander . . . John Greenwald, Socorro

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . John C. Hull, Santa Fe

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Valentine Herbert, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . John G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Representative: B.A. Jones, Albuquerque; *Alternate: William Kahler, Carrizozo

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1920, 7 Posts, 70 members; December 31, 1921, 7 Posts, 68 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 18, 1922

IN REVERENT RECOGNITION

A score of comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic are in Albuquerque attending the annual state encampment. Their ranks are dreadfully thinned; their steps are painfully faltering.

They are the vanishing symbol of a million stalwart men who bravely followed the old flag as she sought to maintain her sovereignty and to preserve, unbroken, our territorial integrity.

A few brief years and the last of them will be gone. The Journal wishes to honor these in life and to preserve the memory of those who are dead.

They pass, but their deeds of valor and patriotism shall never die. May the nation which they preserved, live forever.

NEW OFFICERS OF N.M. G. A. R. INSTALLED HERE YESTERDAY AT MEETING

The new officers for the New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic were elected and installed yesterday morning at the Knights of Pythias hall. The officers who will serve the ensuing year: John Greenwald, Socorro, department commander; John C. Hull, Santa Fe, senior vice commander; Valentine Herbert, Albuquerque, junior vice commander; William Kahler, Carrizozo, delegate to fifty-sixth national encampment; Nickolas McKinney, alternate delegate; E. S. Stover, Albuquerque, medical director; members of council of administration, W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque; Nickolas McKinney, Santa Fe; J. R. McFie, Gallup; F. E. Olney, Las Vegas; J. Y. Hewitt, White Oaks.

Albuquerque Morning Journal
May 19, 1922

RESOLUTIONS OF G. A. R. OFFERED HERE YESTERDAY

At the business meeting yesterday morning of the New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic, the committee on resolutions presented the following report to the commander of the thirty-ninth annual encampment:

1. Resolved, that we are profoundly grateful to Almighty God that the lives of so many of us have been spared for another year so that we have been permitted to attend this encampment and meet each other as comrades once more and renew our undying friendship for each other.
2. We express our sincere thanks to Governor M. C. Mechem for his timely proclamation calling attention to the proper observance of the centenary of General Grant, and also for his kindly tribute to our Grand Army of the Republic, and we assure the governor that his action is very much appreciated by us.
3. We are profoundly grateful to the Woman's Relief corps of Albuquerque for their uniform kindness to us; for the two fine dinners they provided for our refreshment, and the fine entertainment last evening during which we were permitted to enjoy the interesting addresses of Mr. Carl C. Magee and Judge J. R. McFie, two fine readings by Miss Radley and a beautifully rendered solo by Miss Sherer, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Alice Rry.
4. We thank Assistant Adjutant General J. G. Caldwell for the beautiful badges which he kindly donated to us, and we assure the Relief corps that they contributed largely to the pleasure of our stay in your fine, progressive city.
5. We regret the absence of Past Commanders John W. Terry, of Socorro, and Oscar L. Gregory, of Las Vegas, and being informed that both of them are detained by illness, we express our deepest sympathy for each of them and fondest hope for their speedy recovery.
6. We thank the press of Albuquerque for kindly notices with reference to our meeting. We also thank the Santa Fe and E. P. and S. W. railroads for their reduction of rates for the benefit of our comrades.
7. We thank our commander, John Shank, Assistant Adjutant J. G. Caldwell and all our other officers for their faithful discharge of their respective duties and courtesy to us during our session.
8. And last, but not least by any means, we express our most grateful thanks to the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows for the free use of their beautiful lodge rooms for our meetings and entertainment, and we assure them that we deeply appreciate their kindness to us.

E. S. Stover, F. E. Olney, John Y. Hewitt, J. R. McFie, committee.

A feature of yesterday's program was a luncheon served in the Odd Fellows' hall, for the members of the G. A. R., by the members of G. K. Warren Women's Relief corps, number 1.

The following members of the G. A. R. were present for the two day session of the encampment: John Hall, F. E. Olney, Nicholas McKinney, of Santa Fe; John Shank, of Las Vegas; John Greenwald, of Socorro; John Y. Hewitt, of White Oaks; J. R. McFie, of Gallup; George Pradt, of Laguna; W. Jackson, of Petersburg, Ind.; Z. H. Bliss, K. S. Stover, J. G. Caldwell, John Murphey, A. Harsch, W. W. McDonald, Valentine Herbert, William Burnside, B. A. Jones, of Albuquerque.

The next encampment will be held here.

❧ 1923 ❧

Journal of Fifty-Seventh National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1923

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . M. C. Picken, Farmington

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1922, 63; Posts 6

*Department Commander . . . B. A. Jones, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . John C. Hull, Santa Fe

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . William Kahler, Carrizozo

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . John G. Caldwell, Albuquerque
Representative: A. Harsch at large, Albuquerque; Alternate: Nicholas McKinney, Santa Fe
(* indicates present)
Report of Adjutant General
New Mexico: December 31, 1921, 7 Posts, 68 members; December 31, 1922, 5 Posts, 63 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Journal
March 24, 1923

The annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held here May 5 and 6, on one of which days President Roosevelt will visit the city.

Albuquerque Journal
May 14, 1923

GRAND ARMY TO HOLD FORTIETH MEETING HERE

John C. Hull, department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, has issued his official announcement of the fortieth department encampment of the department of New Mexico, to be held in Albuquerque May 16 and 17. The Woman's Relief Corps will furnish entertainment.

The department commander, John Greenwald, having died recently, Mr. Hull, who was senior vice commander, succeeded to the office. Communications are to be addressed to J. G. Caldwell, assistant adjutant general, 216 W. Silver avenue, this city.

Albuquerque Journal
May 16, 1923

VETERAN OF EIGHTY YEARS COMES HERE TO ATTEND G.A.R.

William Kahler of Carrizozo is here to attend the fortieth annual encampment of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Kahler is 86 years old. He made the automobile trip from Carrizozo with relatives. Mr. Kahler had some experience as a steamboat man before the war. He has lived in New Mexico for seventeen years.

Albuquerque Journal
May 18, 1923

ALBUQUERQUEAN IS ELECTED TO HEAD VETERANS

B. A. Jones is Department Commander of Grand Army

B. A. Jones of Albuquerque, was elected commander of the department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic, at the closing session yesterday of the fortieth annual state encampment. Other officers elected are: John C. Hull, Santa Fe, senior vice commander; William Kahler, Carrizozo, junior vice commander; J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque, assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general; Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque, chaplain; A. Harsch, Albuquerque, adjutant general; E. S. Stover, Albuquerque, patriotic instructor; A. Harsch, Albuquerque, delegate to national encampment, in Milwaukee; Nicholas McKinney, Santa Fe, alternate. J. Y. Hewitt, White Oaks; M. C. Picken, Farmington; W. W. McDonald, Albuquerque; John R. McFie, Gallup; John Shank, Las Vegas, members of council of administration.

Following are the resolutions:

To Comrade J. C. Hull
Commander:

Your committee on resolutions beg leave to submit the following:

First. That we are grateful to Almighty God for preserving the lives, and blessing with health during the past year, so many of us so that we are permitted to meet and enjoy the company of each other again in the fortieth annual encampment.

Second. That it is with deep regret that we learn of the death of three of our comrades all of whom were present with us at our last encampment: Commander John Greenwald died at Socorro, April 17, 1923; Comrade Dr. F. E. Olney died at Las Vegas, September 3, 1922; Comrade Valentine Herbert died in Albuquerque, December 6, 1922. All of these dear comrades were faithful members of our order, and we hereby pay a loving tribute to the memory of each of them, knowing that they lived honorable and useful lives, consistent with the requirements of good citizenship.

Third. That we are thankful to our United States Senator Holm O. Bursum for his services in introducing and securing the passage of congress of a bill increasing the pensions of veterans of the civil war and their widows; the bill having been vetoed by the president, he introduced a new pension bill . . .

Fourth. That our hearts go out in sincere gratitude to the loyal and hospitable women composing the Women's Relief Corps of Albuquerque for their bountiful refreshments, including a chicken dinner of which we are so much we have not been able to crow since, also for the delightful entertainments last night and we also thank every person who kindly participated in the entertainment. And we express our thanks to G. K. Warren post for their uniform kindness to our department when in session here every year . . .

John R. McFie, Chairman

Carlsbad Current-Argus
September 14, 1923

THE END OF THE MARCH

At the G. A. R. encampment at Milwaukee [September 2 to 8, 1923] there was no response when the state of Arizona was called.

It is not difficult to imagine the silence that filled the Milwaukee auditorium as the Grand Army waited for a response from Arizona. The old boys in blue knew what it meant. It meant that the Arizona division of the Grand Army of the Republic has been virtually wiped out during the last year in the unequal conflict with the rider of the pale horse, "whose name is Death."

There was but feeble response from some of the other states—next year perhaps there will be the same silence when the names of other states are called. Arizona was the first state to fail when the roll was called, that is all. Never before has this happened. But next year, and the next and the next it may become the rule, until the last encampment is held. A few years ago Arizona was at the annual encampments boasting of its big representation for a state so small in population. A few years ago the boys from every state sang:

Bring the good old bugle boys, we'll sing another song,
Sing it with a spirit that will start the world along;
Sing it as we used to sing it, fifty thousand strong,
While we were marching through Georgia.

And there were fifty thousand to join in the chorus of the old rallying song—a few years ago.

But Arizona's out! No need to spend any time explaining what is happening to the wearers of the bronze button. They know. The men who stood against the charge of Pickett's at Gettysburg; who plowed through the Wilderness with Grant; who climbed Lookout Mountain; who marched with Sherman to the sea, need not be told when the tide of battle turns against them. That's the meaning of no response from Arizona this year.

When the Grand Army marched down the streets of Des Moines last year, Arizona was there, and it flashed back the proud message that it would be in Milwaukee this year. But the parade is over for the Arizona division. Not many more parades for any of the members of the Grand Army.

The Grand Army of the Republic is passing! Put out the flags along the line of march, and stand at attention as the depleted lines makes its way for the remaining short distance yonder to the eternal reviewing stand! Arizona has already reached the end of the march.—New Mexican (newspaper).

❧ 1924 ❧

Journal of Fifty-Eighth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1924

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . J. R. McFie, Gallup

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1923, 45; Posts 5

*Department Commander . . . Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . M. C. Picken, Farmington

*Junior Vice Department Commander . . . John C. Hull, Santa Fe

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . John G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

Representative: M. C. Picken at large, Farmington; Alternate: R. H. Junkin, Farmington

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1922, 6 Posts, 63 members; December 31, 1923, 5 Posts, 45 Members

* * *

The Santa Fe New Mexican

August 8, 1924

CIVIL WAR VETERAN IS FATALLY INJURED WHEN STRUCK BY LOCOMOTIVE

Raton, August 8—Judge J. B. Thompson, aged veteran of the Civil War and for many years Justice of the Peace in this city, was fatally injured when he was struck by an engine as he was walking on the tracks in Railroad Canyon. Mr. Thompson was 76 years old. . . . Judge Thompson has lived in this city since the early days and was one of the three remaining members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Note: The article is presumably referencing the Sedgwick Post No. 2 in Raton.

Albuquerque Morning Journal

November 26, 1924

W. W. McDonald, who has resided in Albuquerque for more than a score of years, left Tuesday, accompanied by Mrs. McDonald, for San Francisco, California, where they will reside. Several members of the Grand Army, of which Mr. McDonald has been an officer and an active worker, were at the station to bid him good bye. Mr. McDonald recently underwent a surgical operation. He is improving but not yet completely recovered.

❧ 1925 ❧

Journal of Fifty-Ninth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1925

Roll of the National Encampment

*National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . J. G. Caldwell, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1923, 45; Posts 5

Department Commander . . . M. C. Picken, Farmington

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . John C. Hull, Santa Fe

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . Milton Horn, Santa Fe

*Assistant Adjutant General . . . B. A. Jones, Albuquerque

Representatives: B. A. Jones, at large, Albuquerque, Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Alternates: E. S. Stover, Albuquerque, John Murphy, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1923, 5 Posts, 43 members; December 31, 1924, 3 Posts, 44 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

May 12, 1925

The annual encampment of the veterans of Civil War, of the department of New Mexico, will be held in this city Wednesday, May 13. The meeting will be held at 9 o'clock in the morning at the Odd Fellows' hall and will be followed by a chicken dinner at 12:30. This will be served by the Woman's Relief corps, and the veterans, their families and members of the corps will be the guests. At 2 o'clock a program for the entertainment of the veterans will be given under the direction of the Woman's Relief corps . . .

Albuquerque Morning Journal

May 14, 1925

M. C. PICKEN TO HEAD G. A. R. OF STATE FOR 1925

John C. Hull Elected Senior Vice Commander; S. J. Pace, Junior; to Pass Resolutions Today

M. C. Picken of Farmington was elected state commander of the Grand Army of the Republic at the business session of the annual encampment here Wednesday. John C. Hull of Santa Fe was elected senior vice commander and S. J. Pace of Farmington junior vice commander [the 1925 National G. A. R. Journal shows Milton Horn of Santa Fe]. The assistant adjutant general will be appointed today.

The delegates were guests of the Woman's Relief Corps at a banquet at Odd Fellows' hall at noon, after which a program was held in the hall.

Major T. H. Toulouse explained the purpose of the War Mothers' Memorial hospital, the construction of which he told them will probably begin here in October. Major Toulouse declared that he was convinced that the committee on location, which will visit Albuquerque next month, will decide to locate the hospital here.

The Yott orchestra gave a concert, and Miss Najla Malouf played a violin solo. Miss Janet Kimball gave a reading.

Newly elected officers will be installed at 10 o'clock this morning, and resolutions will be passed. Today's meeting will be held at the G. A. R. hall, 906 W. Central.

Delegates attending the encampment are: M. C. Picken, Farmington; John H. Hewett, White Oaks; J. C. Hull, Santa Fe; Milton Horn, Santa Fe; S. J. Pace, Farmington; John R. McFie, Gallup, and E. S. Stover, Z. H. Bliss, B. A. Jones, A. Harsch, and John T. Murphy, all of Albuquerque.

Albuquerque Journal

November 17, 1925

LONG CAREER OF COL. JOHNSON BROUGHT TO AN END

Funeral services will be held 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon for Col. Edward Johnson, a veteran of the Civil War and for many years a resident of Albuquerque, who died at 3 o'clock Monday morning at his home, 914 W. New York avenue, following a stroke of paralysis. The services will be held at the French chapel and directed by members of the Grand Army of the Republic which organization Col. Johnson had been a member of for many years.

Colonel Johnson was 88 years old. He came to Albuquerque on September 1, 1889, and had made his home in the city since that time with the exception of the last few years, which he had spent in southern California. . . .

Grand Army Officer

Colonel Johnson served as post commander of the G. K. Warren Post No. 5, and had also served as state patriotic instructor for New Mexico.

The death of Colonel Johnson, a severe blow to members of his family, was exceptionally sorrowful to the handful of his comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic here—E. S. Stover, A. Harsch and Z. Bliss, three of the five or six members of the local post who now answer "here" to the roll call which only a few years ago contained many veterans of the armies which marched 60 years ago with Grant and Sherman.

❧ 1926 ❧

Journal of Sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1926

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1925, 40; Posts 3

Department Commander . . . John R. McFie, Gallup

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . A. Harsch, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . B. A. Jones, Albuquerque

Representatives: John R. McFie, Gallup; M. C. Pickens, Farmington; Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque; B. A.

Jones, Albuquerque; Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Alternates: E. S. Stover, Albuquerque, A. Harsch, Albuquerque

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1924, 3 Posts, 44 members; December 31, 1925 3 Posts, 40 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

February 27, 1926

JOHN SHANK, ONE OF TWO G. A. R. SURVIVORS IN LAS VEGAS, DEAD

John Shank, for many years a resident of Las Vegas, died in that city Friday morning after a brief illness. Mr. Shank was one of the two surviving members of Sherman post, Grand Army of the Republic, of Las Vegas. H. J. Ryan, the other member, who has been here visiting his granddaughter, Mrs. Colbert C. Root, and her family, will leave Saturday morning to attend the funeral.

Mr. Shank, many years ago, was superintendant of the Las Vegas street car line, then operating horse cars. Later he became secretary of the Mutual Building and Loan Association in Las Vegas, an office he held until his death. Mr. Shank had been prominent in Grand Army matters in New Mexico for many years.

Albuquerque Journal

May 12, 1926

GRAND ARMY TO HOLD SESSIONS IN CITY TODAY

M. C. Picken, of Farmington, commander of the department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic, arrived Tuesday for the annual encampment of the department, which will be held here Wednesday. Commander Picken has his headquarters at the Combs hotel.

At 9:30 Wednesday morning the encampment will begin with an open session at the Odd Fellows' hall: All G. A. R. men in the city, whether members of the New Mexico department or of other jurisdictions, are asked to be present.

At noon, the Woman's Relief corps, in accordance with an established custom of many years, will serve dinner for the veterans at the Odd Fellows' hall. The remainder of this day will be devoted to a general good time and reunion of the civil war survivors.

A short session probably will be held Thursday morning, at which officers will be elected for the new year. Delegates will be elected to the national encampment in Des Moines.

There are thirty-five members of the New Mexico department, a considerable number of whom are expected to be here.

Commander Picken said there are two other G.A.R. men in San Juan county who are entitled to attend the encampment, but that they have been suffering from the flu and are unable to make the trip. Mr. Picken has just

recovered from the same ailment. He is a long-time resident of San Juan county, having first settled there about thirty-five years ago. He served in the war in the Seventh Iowa cavalry.

Mr. Picken made the trip by way of Gallup. He says the roads between Gallup and Farmington are in bad shape, because of wet weather, and the use of heavy trucks which are carrying materials for the oil pipe line from the San Juan oil fields.

Albuquerque Journal

June 1, 1926

G. A. R. VETERANS, LEGION TO HONOR TO WAR HEROES

Aged Soldiers and Younger Brothers Cooperate on Memorial Day Services at Fairview Cemetery

American legionnaires co-operated with members of the Grand Army of the Republic Monday morning in commemorating the honored dead whose bodies lie in Fairview Cemetery.

Commander Z. H. Bliss, of the local post of the G. A. R., opened the memorial services at the monument to the unknown dead. Chaplain E. S. Stover said a prayer, and Commander Bliss read General Logan's organ creating Memorial day. Lincoln's Gettysburg address was read by John R. McFie, department commander. . . .

Only six Civil war veterans were present: they were Department Commander John R. McFie, Adjutant General E. A. Jones, Commander Z. H. Bliss, Vice Commander A. Harsch, Chaplain E. S. Stover and Comrade John Murphy.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

July 28, 1926

DUKE CITY PIONEER DIES TODAY IN LOS ANGELES

Albuquerque, N. M. July 28 (AP)

W. W. McDonald in his 85th year, a pioneer resident of Albuquerque, died in Los Angeles at the home of a daughter, according to work received here today. Mr. McDonald was in the real estate business here for many years and was a past commander of the New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic.

~ 1927 ~

Journal of Sixty-First National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1927

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . [No names from N. M.]

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1926, 21; Posts 2

Department Commander . . . John R. McFie, Santa Fe

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . A. Harsch, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Representatives: John R. McFie, at large, Santa Fe; M. C. Pickens, Farmington; Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque; Luther Foster, Las Cruces.

Alternates: J. W. Davis, Clovis

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1925, 3 Posts, 40 members; December 31, 1926 2 Posts, 21 Members

* * *

Santa Fe New Mexican
February 4, 1927

GOV E. S. STOVER DIES AT NINETY; LIVED IN STATE FIFTY YEARS



The Late Elias S. Stover

Governor Elias S. Stover—so called by reason of his having been lieutenant governor of Kansas—died Thursday evening at his home in Albuquerque at the age of ninety years and two months, having been for fifty years a prominent citizen of New Mexico.

Governor Stover's service in New Mexico politics included a membership in the territorial senate in the 1889 state constitutional convention, and as county commissioner of Bernalillo county; in Kansas following the Civil War he was state senator and in 1872 was elected lieutenant governor and presiding officer of the state senate for two terms. He fought with valor in the Union forces of the Civil War; was first president and a regent of the University of New Mexico, and engaged in the mercantile and banking business in the state until his retirement from active business in 1890. He administered the University affairs from 1891 to 1901 as head of the board of regents and president. He served as department commander of the G. A. R. in this state; and was a Mason and past grand master. He was a Republican. . . .

Albuquerque Journal
May 12, 1927

M'FIE RENAMED COMMANDER OF STATE G.A.R.

Veterans of the Civil War Adopt Resolution to Hold All Future Meetings in Albuquerque

Members of the Grand Army of the Republic closed their encampment at Odd Fellows' hall Wednesday afternoon with the election of officers and with the adoption of a resolution to hold all future meetings in Albuquerque.

The newly elected officers are: John McFie of Santa Fe, state commander; Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque, senior vice commander; A. Harsch, Albuquerque, junior vice commander; Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque, assistant adjutant general; J. H. Davis, Torrence county, chaplain.

~ 1928 ~

Journal of Sixty-Second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1928

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . Luther Foster, Las Vegas

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1927, 20; Posts 2

Department Commander . . . J. W. Davis, Morarity

Senior Vice Department Commander . . . Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque

Junior Vice Department Commander . . . A. Harsch, Albuquerque

Assistant Adjutant General . . . Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque

Representative: Andrew Horn, Santa Fe

Alternates: Nickolas McKinney, Santa Fe

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1926, 2 Posts, 21 members; December 31, 1927 2 Posts, 20 Members

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

May 13, 1928

G. A. R. MEMBERS ELECT OFFICERS AT ENCAMPMENT

The Forty-fifth Annual Encampment, Department of New Mexico, G.A.R., met at the I. O. O. F. hall this week, the session being informal owing to the fact that but very few of the veterans were able to attend. There were present Commander J. R. McFie, of Santa Fe; J. W. Davis, Morarity; Charles St. Vrain, A. Harsch, and Z. H. Bliss of Albuquerque.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: J. W. Davis, Morarity, commander; Charles St. Vrain, Albuquerque, senior vice; A. Harsch, Albuquerque, junior vice; Z. H. Bliss, Albuquerque, assistant adjutant general and quartermaster general; W. B. Shanks, Albuquerque, patriotic instructor; William Rue, Deming, chaplain; Luther Foster, Las Cruces, national council of administration; Andrew Horn, Santa Fe, delegate to national encampment at Denver; Nicholas McKinney, alternate to national encampment.

The Ladies of the Relief Corps prepared and served dinner during the noon intermission. Music added to the occasion. The music was in charge of Mrs. Dry and Mr. Ellis "official bugler."

~ 1929 ~

Journal of Sixty-Third National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1929

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . . no report

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1928, 2 Posts 20 members

Department Commander . . . J. W. Davis, Morarity

Senior Vice Department Commander . . .

Junior Vice Department Commander . . .

Assistant Adjutant General . . . K. H. Fisher, Albuquerque

(Representatives and Alternates no names listed)

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico: December 31, 1927, 2 Posts, 20 members; December 31, 1928 (no information)

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

January 29, 1929

ANOTHER VETERAN PASSES

Death has claimed Zenas H. Bliss and thinned the local ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic to seven members. The last taps have been heard for this veteran who for years had been a conspicuous figure at all encampments of the civil war veterans. Only a short time ago Governor E. S. Stover, a faithful member of the local G. K. Warren post No 5 passed on. A week ago it was Adolph Harsch who answered the last call. Those who remain to answer roll call are: Judge John R. McFie, of Santa Fe; Andrew Titsworth, W. H. Tippett, John Murphy, Charles St. Vrain, Willis Lawrence, and J. Protzman, all worthy of the fine tribute that was paid to their departed comrade at his funeral service on Monday.

Albuquerque Journal

July 9, 1929

GRAND ARMY OF STATE TO HOLD ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

Forty-Sixth Encampment Wednesday May Be Last, as Only Handful of Veterans Still Are Living

For the 46th and probably for the last time, the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New Mexico, will hold its annual encampment here Wednesday [July 10]. J. W. Davis of Moriarty is department commander and he expects an attendance of seven of eight members, most of them residents of Albuquerque. The sessions will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall.

The business will be held beginning at 10 a.m., after which the Woman's Relief Corps will serve a dinner for the Civil War veterans and the members of the corps.

Death has laid a heavy hand on the old comrades during the past year, four of the Grand army men having been summoned by their last bugle call. Only a few remain, but they are filled with the spirit that fired them to fight for their country in the 60's, and all who can possibly overcome infirmities of age are planning to be present.

The afternoon session will be in the form of a camp fire, without a long formal program, but it will give the old soldiers an opportunity to talk over old times and exchange experiences.

Among those who are expected to be present are Commander Davis, Andrew Titsworth, [Charles] St. Vrain, Willis Lawrence, Judge John R. McFie of Santa Fe, Hugh J. Ryan, George Protzman and W. H. Tippett.

The Santa Fe New Mexican

July 11, 1929

ONLY TWO SHOW UP FOR G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Albuquerque, July 11—Only two members of the Grand Army of the Republic of New Mexico showed up for the annual encampment, the first time in history that they had ever been unable to get a sufficient number to hold a meeting. The two expressed a fear that they would never hold another encampment. The two here were Charles St. Vrain and Andrew Titsworth of Albuquerque.

Their commander John W. Davis, of Moriarty, sent word that he was ill and could not come. J. R. McFie, of Santa Fe, another member who was counted on also sent word that he was too ill to attend.

The Woman's Relief Corps was present in sufficient numbers to prepare a dinner for the warriors and hold a music program.

Albuquerque Journal

November 7, 1929

G. A. R. VETERAN TAKEN BY DEATH AT HOME OF SON

Passing of Andrew Titsworth Thins Ranks of Few Remaining Civil War Soldiers in Albuquerque
Andrew Titsworth, 86 years old veteran of the Grand Army of the Republic and a resident of Albuquerque for the last six years died suddenly at the home of his son . . . death is believed to be due to a heart attack.

❧ 1930 ❧

Journal of Sixty-Fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1930

Roll of the National Encampment

National Council of Administration—New Mexico . . .

New Mexico—Number of members December 31, 1928, 20, Posts 2; 1929, 1 Post, 5 members

Department Commander . . . J. W. Davis, Moriarty

Senior Vice Department Commander . . .

Junior Vice Department Commander . . .

Assistant Adjutant General . . . K. H. Fisher, Albuquerque

Representatives and Alternates . . .

(* indicates present)

Report of Adjutant General

New Mexico:

One department, which has but five members and one post, has not sent in its credential report up to the present time. In order that the comrades of that department may not lose their membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, I recommend that the charter of the Department of New Mexico be annulled, and that the one post now remaining be assigned to the Department of Wyoming and Colorado.

Note: Other than the Adjutant General's report, nothing else about the Department is mentioned in this or the 1931 journal. The Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic no longer exists.

* * *

Albuquerque Journal

March 24, 1930

H. J. RYAN, VETERAN OF CIVIL WAR, IS GIVEN A MILITARY FUNERAL

The funeral of the late Hugh J. Ryan, Civil War veteran and one of the few remaining members of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Mexico was held Saturday, in Las Vegas, with full military honors.

The Roswell Daily Record

July 23, 1930

McFie Funeral Today

Santa Fe N. M. July 22—More than 250 friends of John R. McFie, former territorial associate justice of the New Mexico supreme court attended his funeral here this afternoon.

The state capitol was closed this afternoon to permit state officials and employees to attend the funeral.

The Deming Headlight

July 31, 1930

JUDGE JOHN MCFIE PASSES AWAY IN NEW MEXICAN HOME

Santa Fe.—John Robert McFie, 82 . . . died here at his home Sunday night.

Judge McFie had been ill for fifteen months . . . He is survived by his widow Mary McFie and five children.

~ 1933 ~

The Albuquerque Tribune

June 19, 1933

HOLD FOSTER RITES

Las Cruces, June 19—Funeral services were held today for Luther B. Foster, 84, the last Civil War Veteran in Dona Anna county and president of the New Mexico A. and M. College from 1901 to 1909, who died here Saturday [17th] night. He is survived by his widow and two daughters. . . . The funeral was largely attended by longtime friends of the Ryan family in Las Vegas, where Mr. Ryan lived for 46 years. The pallbearers were members of the American Legion. Mr. Ryan died here suddenly last week.

~ 1935 ~

Albuquerque Journal

February 21, 1935

Charles St. Vrain, Last G. A. R. Man in City Is Dead

Charles St. Vrain, last member of the Albuquerque G. A. R. post, died Tuesday at the home of his son in Trinidad, Colo., where he had been visiting. St Vrain was 90 years of age, and resided here at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Maud St. Vrain Jones, Rio Grande boulevard.

He was a member of the First Missouri regiment during the Civil War, and was a nephew of Col. Cyran [Ceran] St. Vrain of Taos fame. He was born at Fort St. Vrain, Colo.

Burial will occur in Trinidad Thursday. He was one of the last survivors of the Civil War in Albuquerque.

List of Department of New Mexico G.A.R. Posts

The following is a list of known Posts in the Department of New Mexico.

Provisional Department 1868— All of these posts were disbanded in 1873, and the Provisional Department was discontinued.

McRae Post No. 1, Santa Fe
Wingate Post No. 2, Fort Union
Dodd Post No. 3, Santa Fe
McPherson Post No. 4, Silver City

Reorganization

Thomas Post No. 1, organized May 30, 1882, and temporarily attached to the Department of Kansas, then transferred to the Department of Colorado as Post 21.

In 1883, Sedgwick Post, Raton, and Carleton Post, Santa Fe were chartered as Post 37 and 39, Department of Colorado. With these Posts re-numbered 1, 2 and 3, the Provisional Department of New Mexico was organized May 28, 1883.

Provisional Department 1883

Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas
Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton
Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe

Permanent Department July 14, 1883

Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas
Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton
Carleton Post No. 3, Santa Fe
Sergeant Ben Hopper Post No. 4, Wallace
G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque
Slough Post No. 6, Socorro
McRae Post No. 7, Silver City
Custer Post No. 8, Deming
E. G. Roys Post No. 9, Fort Bayard (disbanded)
John A. Logan Post No. 9, Fort Bayard
Kearney Post No. 10, White Oaks
Post No. 11, Mineral Park, Arizona Territory (short-lived Post)
U. S. Grant No. 11, Hillsboro
Veteran Post No.12, Kingston
Lincoln Post No. 13, Flora Vista
Phil Sheridan Post No. 14, Las Cruces
Colonel Issac R. Hawkins Post No. 15, Eddy (Post charter surrendered 1896)
Aztec Post No. 15, Aztec
Henry W. Lawton Post No. 16, Roswell
Phil Sheridan No. 17 Las Cruces (reorganized)
Dr. J. H. Blazer Post No 18, Alamogordo
H. H. Rapier Post No. 19, Tularosa
McPherson Post No. 20, Tukumcari

Post notes:

Information regarding the 1868 Provisional Department, its reorganization and the 1883 Provisional Department is found in, among other sources, *History of the Grand Army of the Republic* by Robert B. Beath, published in 1889.

The Permanent Department references are found in Beath's "History," historical newspapers and in the New Mexico State Records Center & Archives, Santa Fe.

Posts 1-10: See the *Weekly New Mexican Review* May 21, 1885. Note regarding Post No. 9: Some records for the E. G. Roys Post and the John A. Logan Post (both having No. 9 designators and both located at Ft. Bayard) are located in the New Mexico State Records Center & Archives. The G. A. R. "Descriptive Book" for the E. G. Roys Post shows that it was in existence from 1883 to at least 1884 and the "Descriptive Book" for the John A. Logan Post No. 9 shows that it was in existence in 1887 and 1888. No two Posts in a Department could share the same Post number at the same time so the charter for the Roys Post was surrendered or annulled before the Logan Post was chartered.

Post 11: Mineral Park, Arizona Territory; New Mexico State Records Center & Archives (copy of its charter) and *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, June 5, 1884 (the note about general post charters and numbering contained in Post No. 9 information is applicable).

Post 11 & 12, New Mexico Territory, *Sierra County Advocate* March 13, 1886

Post 13, *Las Vegas Daily Optic* April 7, 1892

Post 14, *Las Vegas Daily Optic* April 7, 1892

Post 15, (Issac Hawkins) *Las Vegas Daily Optic* April 28, 1896 (Post charter surrendered)

Post 15, (Aztec) *San Juan County Index* January 25, 1901

Post 17, *Santa Fe New Mexican* May 17, 1907

Post 16, *Santa Fe New Mexican* May 26, 1905

Post 18, *Alamogordo News* May 25, 1907

Post 19, *Alamogordo News* November 30, 1907

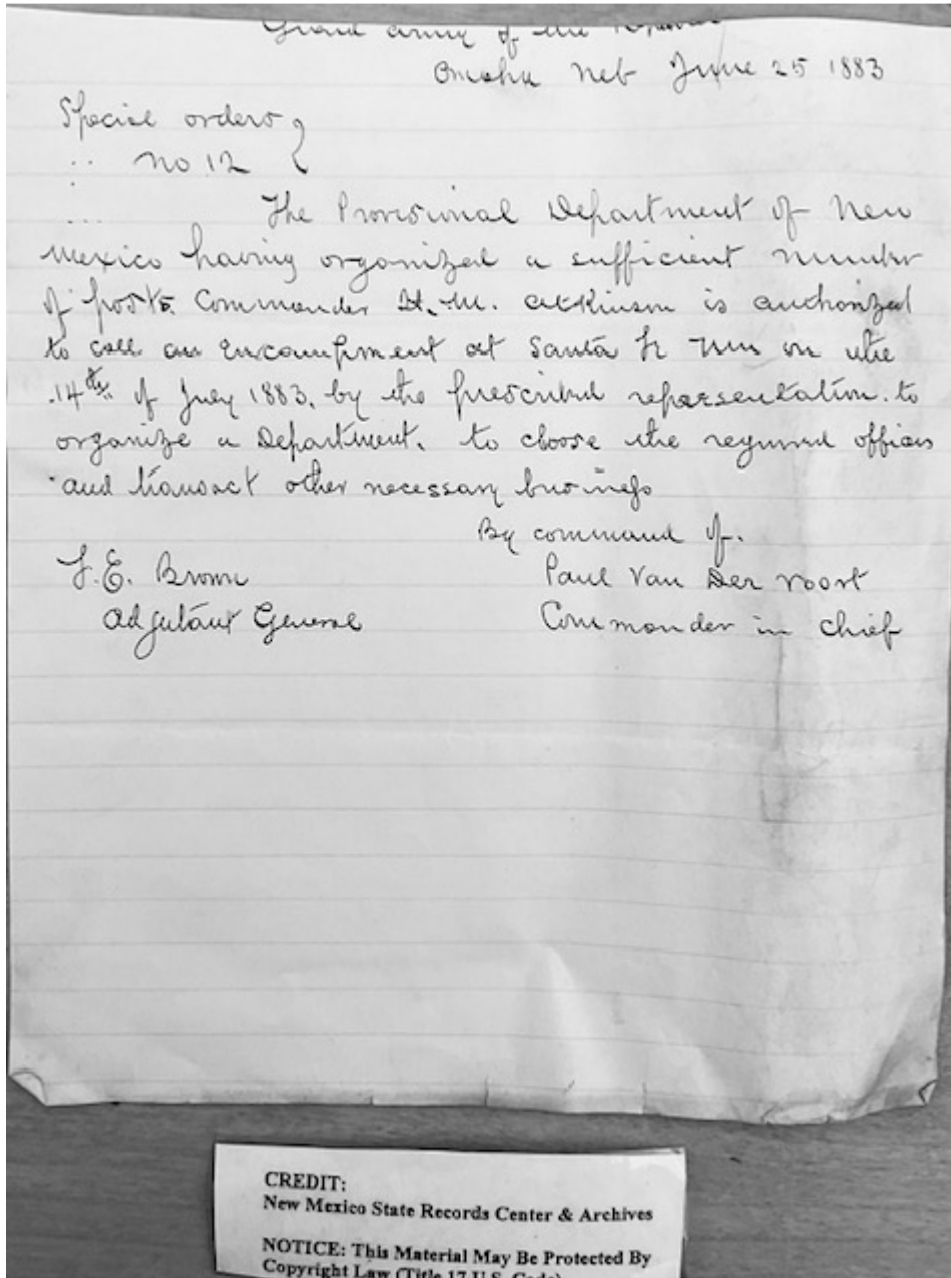
Post 20, *Tucumcari News & Tucumcari Times*, June 17, 1910

Information about GAR Posts in New Mexico and throughout the country can also be found in the *Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Records Project*: <http://www.garrerecords.org>. This excellent webpage was set up and is maintained by Dean Enderlin, National GAR Records Officer, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

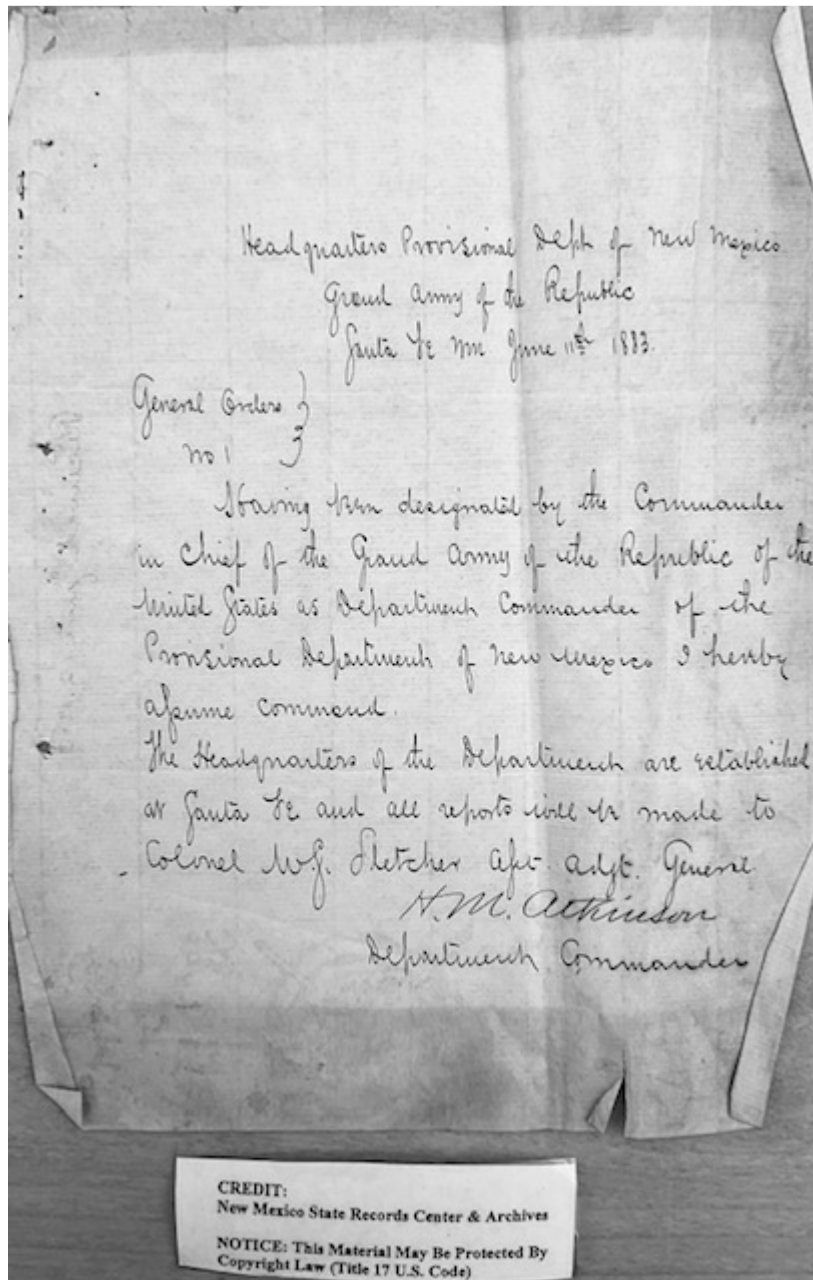
APPENDIX A

Orders relating to the establishment of the 1883 Provisional Department of New Mexico by G. A. R. Commander-in-Chief Paul Van Der Voort and Henry M. Atkinson assuming command.

Commander-in-Chief Paul Van Der Voort



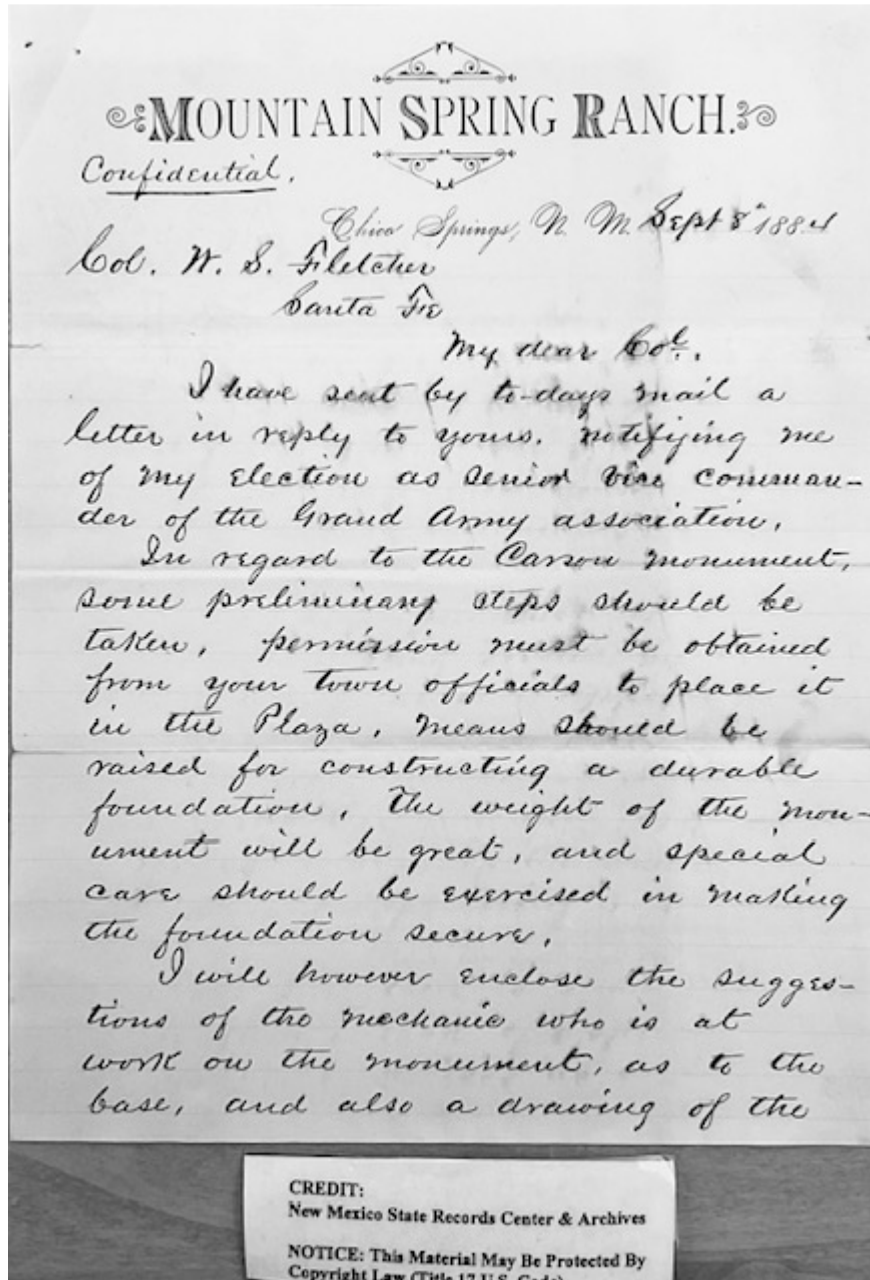
Department Commander Henry M. Atkinson



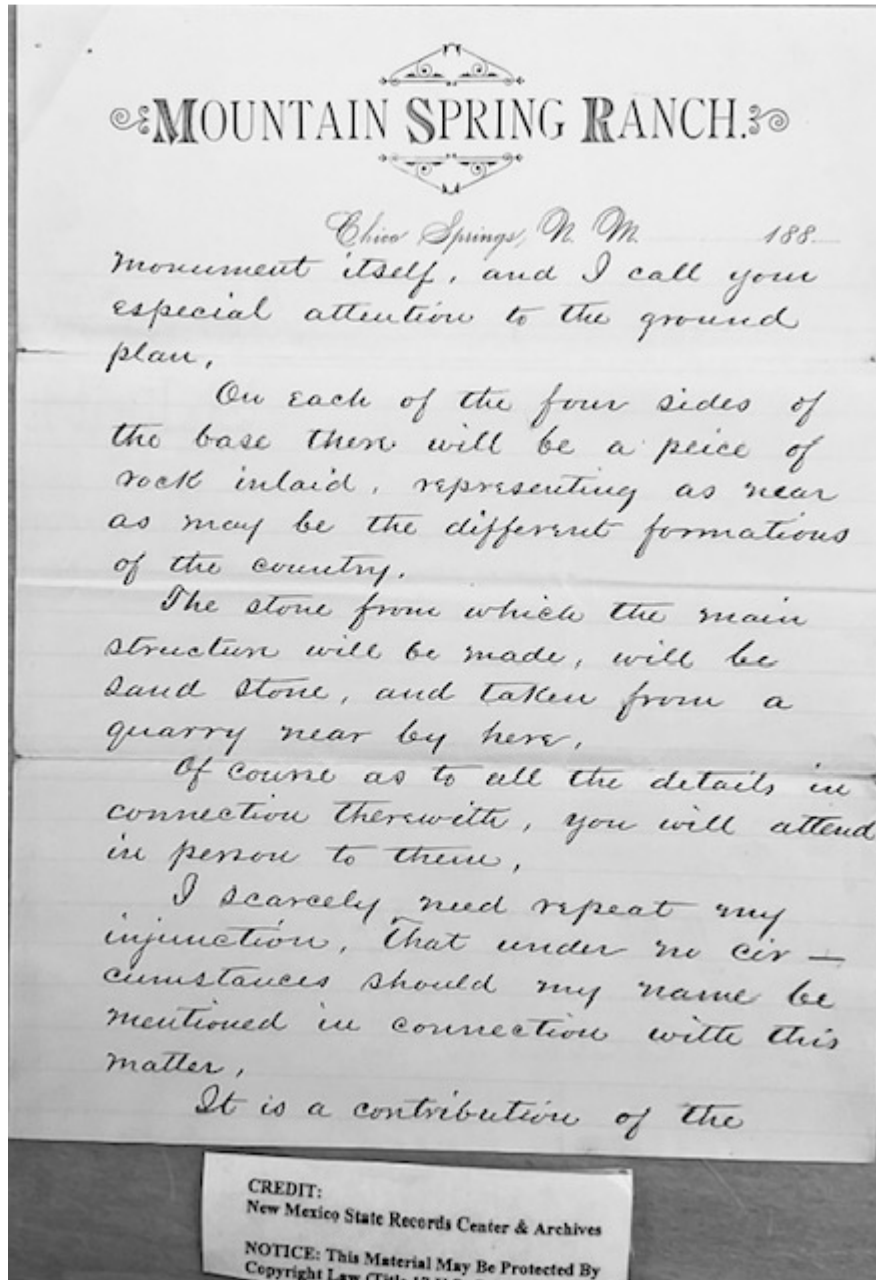
APPENDIX B

A letter from Stephen W. Dorsey to W. S. Fletcher, Department Assistant Adjutant-General, regarding the Kit Carson Monument in Santa Fe—providing information about the monument and requesting that the Grand Army and the “association,” [Department of New Mexico] receive recognition and not he.

Letter, page 1 of 3



Letter, page 2 of 3



Letter, page 3 of 3

⌘ MOUNTAIN SPRING RANCH. ⌘

Chico Springs, N. M. 188

Grand Army, and the credit of
it belongs to the association,

I would also say, in such way
as you choose, that ample funds
had been received from the citizens
of this country for the purpose, and
that contributions made hereafter
would be returned,

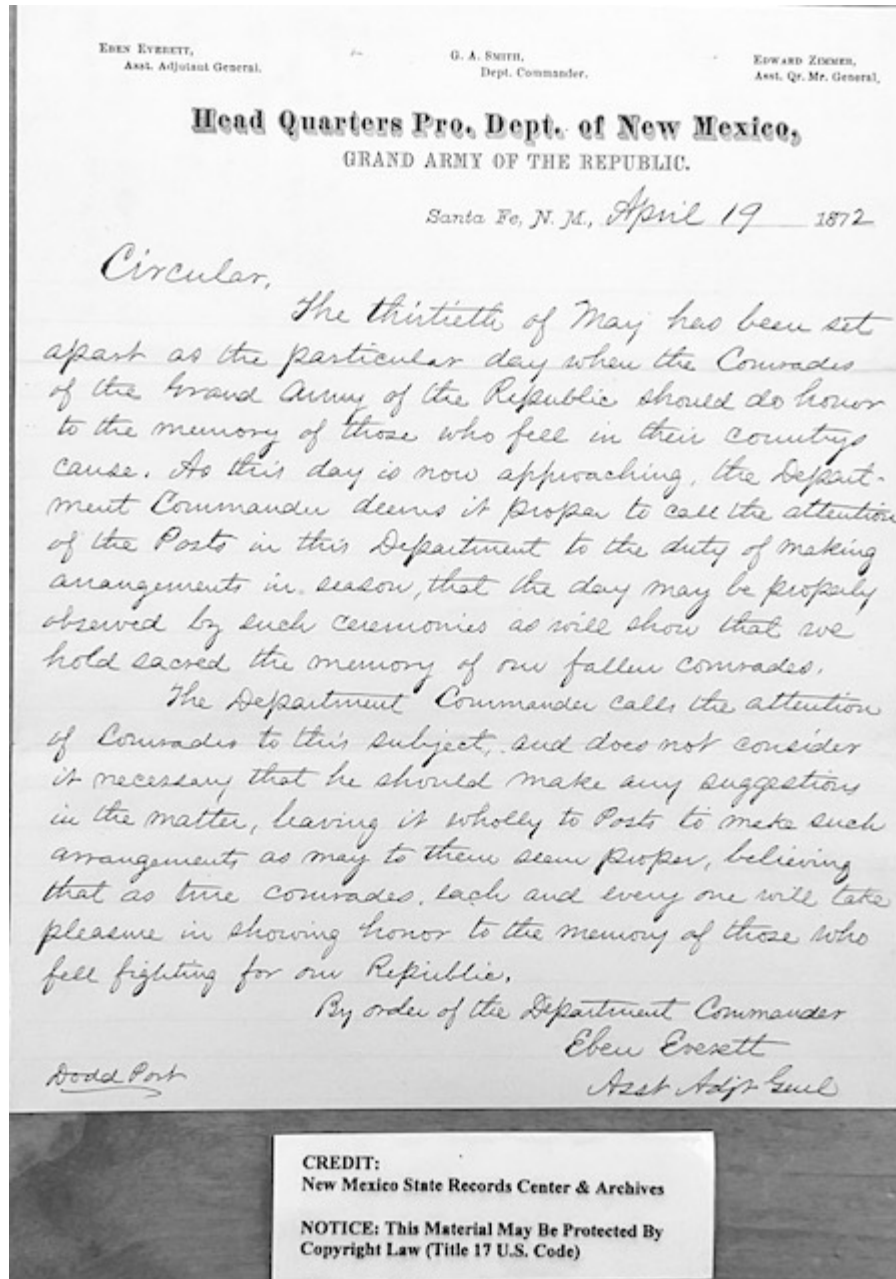
Yours truly
S. W. May

CREDIT:
New Mexico State Records Center & Archives

NOTICE: This Material May Be Protected By
Copyright Law (Title 17 U.S. Code)

APPENDIX C

The 1872 Memorial Day Circular issued by Provisional Department Commander G. A. Smith.



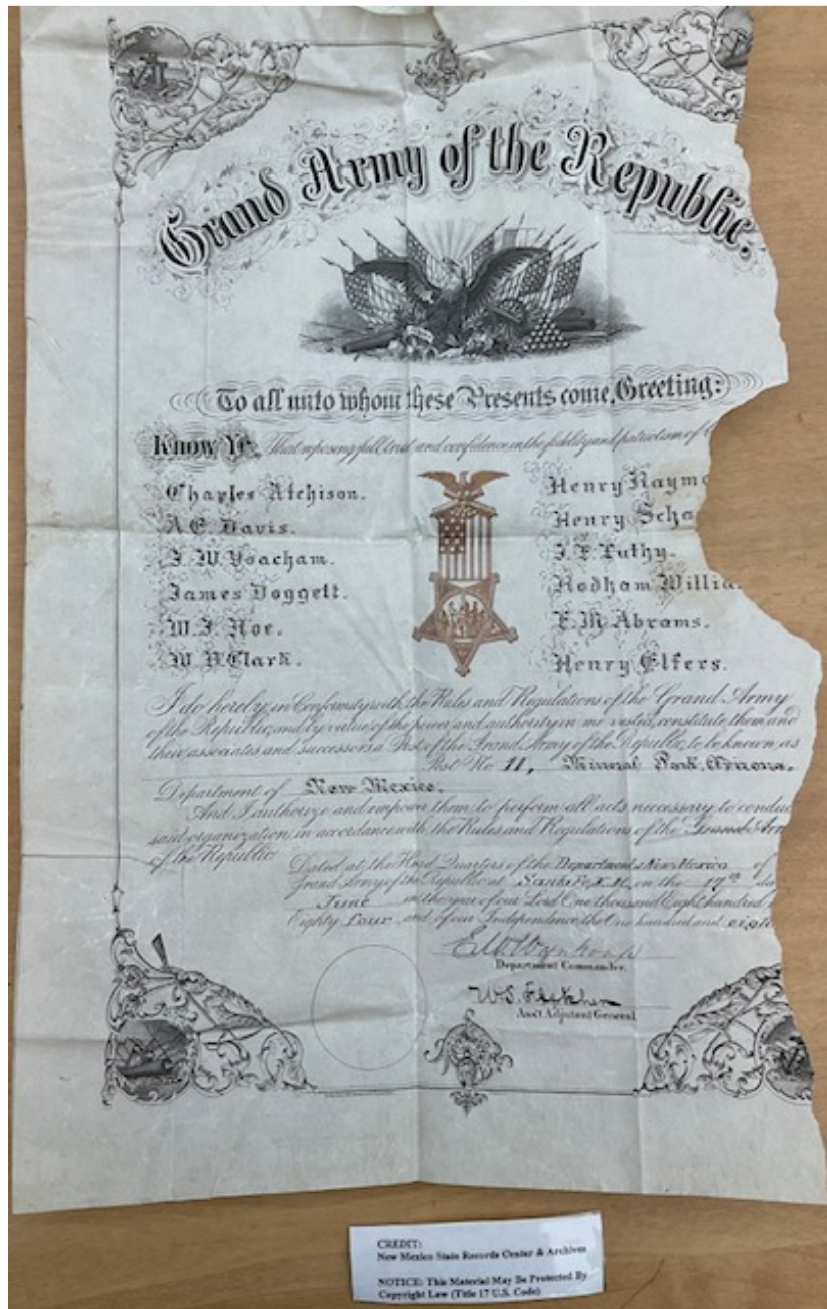
APPENDIX D

Charters for Slough Post No. 6, Socorro, Department of New Mexico and for Post No. 11, Mineral Park, Arizona.

Slough Post No. 6



Post No. 11, Mineral Park, Arizona



“A few years ago the boys from every state sang:
Bring the good old bugle boys, we’ll sing another song,
Sing it with a spirit that will start the world along;
Sing it as we used to sing it, fifty thousand strong,
While we were marching through Georgia.

And there were fifty thousand to join in the chorus of the old rallying song—a few years ago.”

Carlsbad Current-Argus
September 14, 1923

