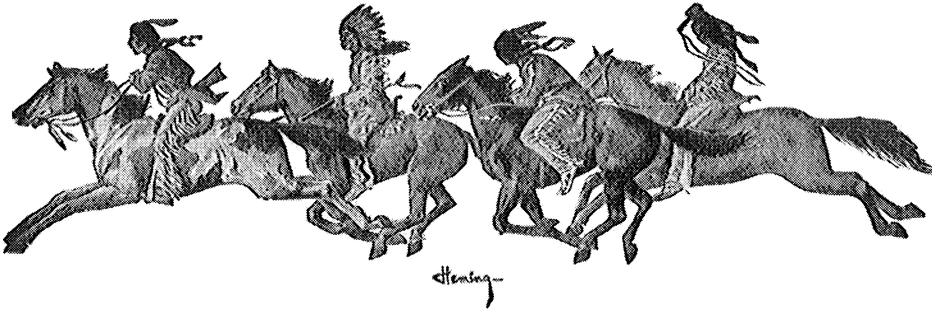




GEORGE A. CUSTER.  
GEORGE CROOK.

E. R. S. CANBY.  
GEORGE WRIGHT.  
GENERAL OFFICERS, INDIAN WARS.

PHILIP ST. GEORGE COOKE.  
RANALD MACKENZIE.



## SERVICES OF GRADUATES OF WEST POINT IN INDIAN WARS.

By Major EBEN SWIFT, Twelfth U. S. Cavalry, U. S. M. A., 1876.

*The savage wars of peace.*—Kipling.



THE ADVANCES and delays of civilization have been in direct proportion to the efficiency of armies and the perfection of the weapons of war. The Indians who first came in contact with the whites were not a warlike race; their weapons had not been improved since the days of primeval man; notwithstanding their boasting and pride in warlike deeds, their performances were spectacular and childish. On the other hand, the Anglo-Saxons had written their name in history with the bow and arrow. They came to America armed with a few smooth-bore, flint-lock muskets, and took whatever they wanted.

Their armies, under Myles Standish, John Smith, Captain Church, and others, were insignificant in size, but they marched where they wished and they met few disasters. In the conduct of the early wars, so far as cruelty and ferocity are concerned, no great difference will be found between the savages and the people who have furnished our best models of piety and who have suffered most for conscience. Human nature in the presence of events which excite revenge and passion has been about the same in all ages.

In the struggles of the white people for control, the Indians had many opportunities to learn their methods of warfare. They gradually became more dangerous in ambush and more expert in stratagem, as was seen in the defeats of Braddock, St. Clair, and Harmar, after about a century and a half. Later, at Tippecanoe, 1811, and at Emucfau, 1814, the Indians fought aggressively and partly in the open. But they never were a steadfast foe; their villages could be located; their breastworks could be stormed; their homes and stores of food could be destroyed.

When we carried the war among the nomads of the plains, the swamp dwellers of Florida, and some of the mountain tribes, it was not so easy to force a fight to a finish, because the Indian was able to hide his home. It was on the plains of the great West where the Indian existed in his glory. Immense herds of buffalo, deer, and elk afforded him food and the necessities of the chase required a nomadic life. These Indians were clean, virtuous, and honest in a certain way, but without fear and without pity. They were few in numbers, but received great accessions from the tribes which were driven westward, who showed a like aptitude. The struggle for existence must have been an exceedingly hard one before they got horses. They despised agriculture. Like the tiger, they were content to eat raw meat and to quench their thirst at the throat of their prey. They would chop open the head of a dying animal and eat out the warm brain with their fingers. The sight of a hungry babe eating a bit of quivering raw liver is enough to dispel many illusions. When the wild get of Coronado's war horses had been caught and when the breech-loader was brought to him in exchange for buffalo robes, a wonderful development took place in the Indian as a warrior. He quickly became the finest light horseman that the world has ever seen, with tactics that have never been equaled by Bedouin, Cossack, Numidian, or Tartar at his best. And he kept on learning, too, as was seen at Ash Hollow and the Little Big Horn, separated by twenty years.

Said old Sergeant Hickeye, of the cavalry, as he stood on the guardhouse porch and eased his belt and shifted his quid

and watched an Indian commission drive into the post: "An' here comes anodder o' thim bald headed ould divils wid a box o' matches to make a traytee wid de Shy Annies." Said Spotted Tail, the Sioux, shaking a paper containing unfulfilled promises of the Government in the face of a Commissioner of Indian affairs: "All men from Washington are liars." Said Joseph, the chief of the Nez Percés, as he recalled nearly seventy-five years of experiment with the white man's friendship, a battle saved for them, their sick succored, their hungry fed: "We do not want your schools, because they teach us to have churches; and we do not want your churches, because they teach us to quarrel about God." Between the lines of these brief bits of history can be read some of the reasons why it is not a pleasant task to tell the history of our Indian wars. To record the story of a race put to the sword would be bad enough, but the paper-treaty method of extermination is worse. Civilization approached the Indian with a Bible in one hand and a paper treaty in the other, a bludgeon in her sleeve, and a barrel of whisky in her wagon, not to mention the blight that goeth unto the third and fourth generation. So in what is here to be said about Indian wars the right and the wrong will be lightly touched upon. The task of the soldier was to punish the Indian when he applied his crude ideas of justice or revenge, and to force him to obey when he could not be cajoled or scared.

The idea of a great military academy was beyond the early efforts of West Point. It was the plan to make a school for "Artillerists and Engineers," whatever that may have meant at that day. How great its success was, as far as the artillery was concerned, may be judged by the fact that up to the beginning of the war of 1812 no authorized manual for the arm had been adopted, and officers who wished to know something of that branch were obliged to avail themselves of anything that came in their way. A department of tactics, probably for the infantry, was established in 1817.

In the reaction following the Revolutionary War the cavalry lessons of Henry Lee and William Washington, not to speak of Tarleton, were forgotten for over half a century. Notwithstanding the fact that the country passed through a great war

in that period cavalry tactics were unknown in the Army, so that each officer had to invent his own theory and his practice as well. At West Point the first cavalry instruction was not given until 1839, when a sergeant and 12 horses were provided, the sergeant being appointed "riding master." Four or five years before this two regiments of cavalry had been added to the Army, but only two officers above the rank of lieutenant were graduates of the Academy. Not until 1841 was a cavalry drill book adopted.

The infantry, although comprising the bulk of the Army, as it always does, seldom received a graduate on its roll. A study of the assignments at that time might lead us to suspect that service in the infantry regiments in the wilderness between Detroit and New Orleans was regarded as a punishment for lessons left unlearned, and midnight scouts and cup and can at "Benny Havens, Oh!" Whisky cost 33 cents a gallon, and the Army, notwithstanding its small size, drank 72,537 gallons merely as rations in a single year. Soap cost 10 cents per pound, and brown sugar 50 cents, and the pay, rations, and forage of a full colonel amounted to about what a second lieutenant gets now. Desertions went as high as 20 per cent. One-fifth of the line officers resigned in one year.

In the second war with Great Britain, out of 55 regiments of infantry, rifles, rangers, sea fencibles, and dragoons, which bore the brunt of that conflict, there were 16 graduates of West Point—one of whom served in the ranks because he was in civil life when the war began and could not get a commission. At the same time about 90 of the alumni of the Academy were serving in other branches of the Service.

Whatever Indian service there happened to be was performed by the infantry, which also planted corn, built roads, and constructed military posts. So one-third of the history of the Military Academy was made without its influence being felt in the Indian wars of the nation.

At the end of forty years there were but five graduates above the rank of captain in the line. After the close of the civil war there was not more than one graduate to ten officers in the infantry and cavalry, which did about all the Indian

campaigning. These matters must be considered in giving the story of Indian wars where West Point men have borne a hand. What share her sons have taken in other fields of action is another story.

It was nearly sixty years before a graduate of the Academy reached the full grade of a general of the line. When McClellan was made a general the Military Academy had graduated nearly 2,000 men, and McClellan, by the way, was appointed from civil life. The question, therefore, may well be asked, "Upon what food did these Jacksons, Taylors, Harrisons, Pierces, Scotts, and others feed that they should grow so great, while the Military Academy was grinding out artillerists and engineers and subalterns of the line?" In that period of sixty years 37 men who began their military careers after the installation of the Military Academy reached the full grade of general of the line, and three of them were elected Presidents of the United States.

Why did this institution fail to breed a single general in all those years filled with warfare? The reason is that military experience and knowledge were not usually essential qualities for that position. Let us look at the list. Twenty-three out of the 37 generals were practically without military experience; of the 14 remaining all but 3 entered the service at the grade of captain or higher. Some of them were undoubtedly fine soldiers, but so were hundreds of others who did not get so fair a start. It is not so hard to reach high rank when you begin at a point which other men take many years to reach. The graduates of West Point entered as second lieutenants and brevet second lieutenants, and by the time they attained the rank from which selections are made they were old and worn out. The record of Indian wars is a history of the deeds of captains and lieutenants, for the most part, many of whom were killed and disabled, after showing the highest military qualities. So that West Pointers in Indian wars, in addition to the hardships of the service, saw themselves in a class that was barred from the high rewards of their profession by men who entered at higher rank and earlier age from civil life.

## EARLY INDIAN WARS, 1811 TO 1835.

In 1811 the troubles in the Northwest Territory, arising from the leadership of Tecumseh and the Shawnee prophet, culminated in the battle of Tippecanoe, Ind. The Indians boldly attacked the camp of the troops, but were beaten off and their town destroyed. The Fourth Infantry, to the number of 300, happened to be placed in such a position as to render the most service and encounter the most danger, and eminently distinguished itself. "In short, sir," says the commanding general in his report, "they supported the fame of American Regulars." George P. Peters commanded a company and was wounded. Henry A. Burchstead was wounded. Oliver G. Burton was present. The loss of the regiment was 25 per cent of those engaged.

At Maguago, Mich., the same officers were engaged with the regiment in the following year. The enemy were defeated with a loss to the Fourth Infantry of 58 in killed and wounded. Peters was again wounded here.

Ensign George Ronan, First Infantry, was the first of the graduates to lose his life in battle, on August 15, 1812, when the command to which he belonged was destroyed by a large force of Indians and English, within the present limits of the city of Chicago, while on the march from Fort Dearborn, Ill., to Detroit, Mich. The wife of one of the officers, in describing her experiences, thus gives us our last view of this young soldier:

I pointed to Ensign Ronan, who, though mortally wounded and nearly down, was still fighting with desperation on one knee.

"Look at that man," said I; "at least he dies like a soldier."

In 1813-14 the Creeks attacked Fort Mims, Ala., and massacred its garrison. In the campaign that ensued the Indians fought with bravery, but showed an entire lack of mobility in the field. They attempted to defend themselves in their villages and rudely built forts. In every case they were easily located and surrounded and their defenses stormed. The general in command stated in his official report that he was "determined to exterminate them," and he had succeeded quite well in his object when they humbly begged for peace.

The principal battle was won by the regular infantry, but we do not know of any graduate who participated.

Lieut. Henry A. Burchstead, Second Infantry, already wounded at Tippecanoe and further distinguished in the Northwest, was killed in the attack on the Autossee towns, Alabama, on November 30, 1813. Lieut. Hippolite H. Villard, Second Infantry, was commended in the dispatches of the commanding general for his services in the defense of Fort Bowyer, Ala., in 1814. Lieut. Joseph M. Wilcox, Third Infantry, was sent on a canoe scout with 5 men in January, 1814. His canoe was accidentally upset, his ammunition was wet, and two of his guns were lost. In this condition they were attacked by a force of Indians. The last seen of Wilcox is thus described by the only survivor: "They continued defending themselves until their gallant leader was shot through the body, and even thus he, though mortally wounded, pursued one of the savages into his canoe, knocked him down with his rifle, and put him overboard into the river." The legislature has preserved the memory of Wilcox by giving his name to the county where these events occurred on the Alabama River, between Canton and Prairie Bluff.

In 1817-18 we had the first war with the Florida Indians. An army crossed into Florida, then a Spanish possession, and defeated the Indians in several engagements. As they seemed to have received aid and encouragement from the Spanish authorities at San Carlos and San Marcos de Barancas, one of which was the Spanish seat of government, those posts were captured.

In the wars in the northwest, and with Creeks and Seminoles in the south, portions of the Regular Army were engaged about twenty-five times, but for reasons which we have mentioned the half-dozen officers here named appear to have been the only graduates of the Military Academy who were present.

In 1823 an expedition was made by the Sixth Infantry against the Arickaree Indians on the upper Missouri, 700 miles above Council Bluffs. The Indians lived in fortified villages and cultivated large fields of corn. The villages

were attacked and easily captured. Lieuts. Nicholas Cruger, Thomas B. Noel, and W. W. Morris, of the Sixth Infantry, were specially noticed in the reports of the campaign, and the President said that he was highly pleased with the good conduct of the officers, but deemed it inexpedient to confer any brevets.

In 1827-28 an expedition consisting of portions of the First, Fifth, and Sixth Infantry regiments was sent against the Winnebagoes of Wisconsin, who had been accused of murdering white people. The Indians surrendered and a number were executed by the civil authorities. Red Bird, the chief, died in prison.

In 1829 a battalion of four companies of the Sixth Infantry was detailed to escort the annual caravan of traders to the Mexican line on the Santa Fé trail. On this trip we have the first appearance of the Comanche Indians of the plains, who were in the South what the Cheyennes and Sioux were in the North. At Chouteau Island the camp was attacked by 500 of these warriors, with a loss to the troops of 2 soldiers killed and 12 horses and 50 oxen driven off and killed. Right royally did these wild riders make this their first bow to the serene skirmishers of the American battle line. They were gay with bonnet, paint, and breechclout—with feathered plumes, brass rings, and beaded quiver. Wild with excitement they rode their fine horses at breakneck speed over the roughest ground, their lean and naked bodies bending to every move and flashing in the light as they shot along. As they dashed by the troops they extended themselves on the right side of the horse, hanging by the foot and arm—the left arm, which carried the bull's-hide shield, passed around the horse's neck—while beneath the neck they rapidly discharged their arrows. Now concentrating for action, now separating at the least show of strength, now daring a thousand of your shots, now flying like frightened deer at the pointing of a gun, they seemed reckless and timid by turns. If one was shot two others instantly stopped, remounted him, and rode off sustaining him on either side. It was in saving their dead and wounded that they took the greatest chances.

One of the officers has given us his sentiments on this occasion in these words:

I was stung by the contempt which these well-mounted savages showed for our powerlessness on foot to avenge the disgrace which they had inflicted on us.

It was a humiliating condition to be surrounded by these rascally Indians who by means of their horses could tantalize us with the hopes of battle and elude our efforts; who could annoy us by preventing all individual excursions for hunting, etc., and who could insult us with impunity. Much did we regret that we were not mounted too.

On this occasion Lieuts. Philip St. George Cooke and James F. Izard were conspicuous.

In 1831-33 the Sacs and Foxes under Black Hawk seemed likely to involve the entire West and Northwest in a great war. Having passed through the form of a treaty by which they sold 8,000,000 acres of the finest land in the country for about 1½ mills per acre, they went on a hunt and returned to find their villages already occupied by the white men. Refusing to leave they were induced to comply by a strong exhibition of force and moved to the land selected for them at the west of the Mississippi. The next year they returned again, saying that their intentions were peaceful. Whether this was true or not, hostilities were precipitated by an attack by some volunteers commanded by Major Stillman, the subsequent proceedings whereof have been immortalized by the name "Stillman's Run," still preserved in that locality. The Indians then committed many depredations and a large force was sent to punish them. Encumbered by their women and children, and suffering greatly for food, they did not show great persistence or courage in the field. They retreated before the troops through a country where they could easily have stopped them. Finally they reached the Missouri River, where they were severely defeated and driven across.

In this campaign Lieut. Albert Sidney Johnston, Sixth Infantry, was conspicuous as adjutant-general and aid-de-camp to the commanding general, writing the orders of the day and the final report of the campaign. Lieut. Jefferson Davis, Sixth Infantry, succeeded in capturing the Indian chief, Black Hawk, and conducted him to Jefferson Barracks.

Davis acted as mustering officer of the volunteers at this time, and is supposed to have mustered Abraham Lincoln into the military service of the United States.

For the first time, thirty years after the first class graduated at the Military Academy, we begin to see evidence of its existence by the appearance of its graduates in some numbers on the Indian frontier. There were 26 of them in this campaign, but the highest in rank was a captain, and there were only four as high as that.

#### FLORIDA WARS.

The cession of Florida in 1821 was followed in a few years by the most monotonous and exasperating of all our Indian wars. The Americans were eager to occupy the mysterious land where the Spaniard had hoped to hide from death and which he had named for its flowering savannahs, which never ceased to bloom. The Indians were fully prepared to die rather than live in any distant wilderness where the white man had decided to send them. The Indians were well armed with the firearms of the day and had possession of all the best land, which they cultivated to a considerable extent. They were proud and self-reliant and believed that God had made them from the sands of Florida, and that after they were dead their people would dance and sing around their graves and tell the story of their deeds. There were Tallahassies, Mickasukies, Uchees, Seminoles, and others; but the last gave the name to the war.

Florida contained about 47,000 square miles of land, mostly sandy and so flat that the water instead of running off collected in great ponds and lakes and sluggish streams. The main features of the country were swamp, jungle, and sand heaps. The swamps extended from a few feet to many miles in extent, sandy or marshy bottom, shallow or deep. They grew canebreaks, pond lilies, great cypress and mangrove trees, and a giant grass as high as a man's head, whose saw-like edge cut the body and clothing. Where the ridges of sand rose above the swamp the pine tree took possession of alternate wastes of barren land. The jungle,

incorrectly called "hammock," was thickly grown with live-oak and scrub, thick vines, and hanging moss. Here the Indian built his hut, cleared a bit of land, and planted corn, rice, and pumpkins. Fish, game, and bananas abounded. Snakes, alligators, fleas, chiggers, and mosquitoes disturbed him not. Many of them owned negro slaves, who cultivated the land on shares, and were practically free.

The country was unmapped and unknown. Even the best Indian guides had small knowledge of its darkest corners, its hidden hammocks; trails were easily obliterated, ambush was easy. A day's march led the men plodding through swamp in mud and water up to the waist, stumbling through thicket, where every instant had its peril and taxed the physical endurance of the men to the limit. Sailors and marines, dragoons, infantry and artillery, all took their trick at walking, riding, and boating, often carrying their rations on the back and the ammunition on the ends of their muskets. The first intimation of the presence of the enemy came along with a volley into the head of a column, and the Indians then disappeared before a solid attack could be made.

The Florida war lasted about seven years, beginning in 1835. We expended about \$20,000,000, not counting the cost of the Regular Army, called 20,000 volunteers into the field, and employed at one time more than 4,000 Regulars. The Indians had about 1,600 warriors and also used as such about 250 negro slaves. They were gradually killed, kidnapped, or persuaded to go to their new reservations, until there remained about 100 men at the close of 1842.

The cause of the great expense and length of the war was the small size of the Regular Army, which did not number more than 6,000 men at any one time. Then, too, no one could appreciate the size of the task. Whenever an extra effort was to be made a lot of militia was called out for a few months, who spent most of the time getting ready to start and then in preparing to quit. They never had time to acquire the discipline and experience which alone would have made them valuable as soldiers.

The authorities made attempts to remedy their vain economy in not sending a sufficient number of good troops by

changing commanders every few months. There seemed to be a helpless struggle to find a commander like Roderick of old, who could blow a blast upon a bugle horn that was worth a thousand men. The result was that some of the best soldiers in the country, perhaps some of the poorest as well, were given the chance to end the war and failed. A plan that promised good results was to divide the infested region into military districts, each about 20 miles square, at the most eligible point of which was to be placed a detachment of cavalry and infantry. The troops were to scout the surrounding country every alternate day, and probably, if sufficient troops had been used, the war would have been soon ended. An act of Congress interrupted the execution of the scheme and directed that the war be ended by peaceable means. The peace lasted only long enough for a war party to go from the peace conference to the massacres of the Caloosahatchee and elsewhere in southern Florida.

There were about 80 engagements involving loss in killed or wounded on one side or the other. The total number of deaths among the Regular Troops was 77 officers and 1,381 enlisted men. There were 239 killed and 327 wounded. Among the graduates of the Military Academy I notice the following:

OFFICERS KILLED.

Lieut. Col. Alexander R. Thompson, Sixth Infantry, commanding the regiment at the battle of Okeechobee. Although he received two balls from the fire of the enemy early in the action which wounded him severely, he appeared to disregard them and continued to give his orders with his usual coolness until he received a third ball which instantly deprived him of life.

Maj. David Moniac, Mounted Creek Volunteers, was killed while leading the advance party of his regiment at the battle of Wahoo Swamp. He was a full-blooded Creek Indian chief, who had graduated in 1822, returned to savage life, and volunteered with his people at the beginning of the war.

Capt. George W. Gardiner, Second Artillery, was in Dade's command December 28, 1835. The senior officer being killed

at the first fire, Gardiner took command. During a lull in the firing, with the 30 men left, he threw up a triangular breastwork of logs. It was here that the last cartridges were fired and they were killed at their posts, Captain Gardiner being next to the last surviving officer.

Capt. Joseph van Swearingen, Sixth Infantry, was killed in the advance of his regiment at Okeechobee, where the Sixth Infantry bore the brunt of the battle.

Lieut. Walter Sherwood, Seventh Infantry, was killed while defending the wife of a brother officer, for whom he commanded an escort, attacked by Indians at Martins Point Hammock. Several of the party saved themselves by flight, but he would not.

Lieut. William Hulbert, Sixth Infantry, was killed while scouting near Fort Frank Brooke.

Lieut. John P. Center, adjutant Sixth Infantry, was killed in the advance of his regiment at Okeechobee.

Lieut. William E. Basinger, Second Artillery, was the last officer killed at the Dade massacre. When the last shot had been fired the Indians rushed in and tomahawked the few who were still alive. Halpatter Tustennuggee, who was one of the leaders in the Indian attack, said afterwards: "They had guns, but no powder; we looked in the boxes and found they were empty."

Lieut. Robert R. Mudge, Third Artillery, was killed on the same occasion, being mortally wounded at the first fire, receiving several more shots before he died.

Lieut. Richard Henderson, Second Artillery, died on the same occasion. He had his left arm broken at the first fire, but fired 30 or 40 shots from his musket before he was killed.

Lieut. John L. Keais, Third Artillery, was killed on the same occasion. He had both arms broken at the first fire and was quite helpless when he was tomahawked at the final rush.

Lieut. Francis J. Brooke, Sixth Infantry, was killed in the advance of his regiment at Okeechobee.

Lieut. James F. Izard, First Dragoons, was serving as a volunteer with Gaines's expedition and commanded the advance guard at the Withlacoochee River. While reconnoitering the crossing at the ford he was mortally wounded.

## OFFICERS BREVETTED.

Capt. John J. Abercrombie, First Infantry, was made a brevet major for gallant and meritorious conduct:

Lieut. James W. Anderson, Third Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant and successful conduct:

Lieut. Robert Anderson, Third Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant and successful conduct:

Capt. George Andrews, Sixth Infantry, a brevet major for gallant and good conduct. He was severely wounded at Okeechobee:

Lieut. Ripley A. Arnold, Second Dragoons, a brevet captain for gallant conduct:

Lieut. Philip N. Barbour, Third Infantry, a brevet captain for active and highly meritorious services:

Lieut. Horace Brooks, Second Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for active and highly meritorious services:

Capt. Harvey Brown, Fourth Artillery, lieutenant-colonel of the regiment of mounted Creek Volunteers, a brevet major, for gallant conduct on several occasions and for general efficiency:

Lieut. Franklin D. Callender, Ordnance Department, a brevet first lieutenant, for active and highly meritorious services:

Capt. Thomas Childs, Third Artillery, a brevet major, for planning the attack on the Indians at Fort Drane, and a brevet lieutenant-colonel for gallant conduct and repeated successes. Men like Captain Childs, like Buck Fanshawe, only needed room according to their strength; but that is not always easy to get:

Maj. Alexander C. W. Fanning, Fourth Artillery, a brevet colonel, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of the Withlacoochee. He commanded at the defense of Fort Mellon, on Lake Munroe:

Lieut. Justin Dimmick, First Artillery, a brevet captain, for gallant and meritorious conduct. At Hernandez's plantation, during a skirmish with Indians, he was directing his men on horseback, when he was set upon by two Indians from different directions. They fired simultaneously and

wounded him in the leg, at the same time bringing down his horse. Disengaging himself with great activity, he gained his feet just as his assailants rushed upon him to get his scalp, thinking their fire had killed him. Dimmick shot one dead and dispatched the other with his sword:

Lieut. William H. Fowler, First Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant and good conduct. At Jupiter Inlet, January 15, 1838, he commanded a force of 25 men acting with the Navy in attacking an Indian encampment. A large force of Indians was developed and the command fell back to its boats covered by the Regulars. Lieutenant Fowler was wounded in the thigh, and while being carried to the rear received still another wound:

Lieut. Joseph E. Johnston, Fourth Artillery, a brevet captain for gallantry on several occasions. At Jupiter Inlet he commanded the rear guard after Lieutenant Fowler was disabled, and was credited by the naval commander in his report with securing a safe retreat for the main command. He was wounded twice—the first of many wounds. His coat, hat, and sash—worn on this occasion—showing 30 bullet holes, were preserved for many years by his family. Fourteen out of the 25 men were killed and wounded:

Lieut. William G. Freeman, Fourth Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant services:

Capt. William M. Graham, Fourth Infantry, a brevet major for gallant and good conduct in the affair of the Withlacoochee. Although severely wounded early in the engagement he continued to head his company until he received another severe wound, when he was taken from the field. For other actions he was highly commended, and a decade later, while leading a regiment to the assault in the next war, he was killed, having been struck eight times and his horse five times:

Lieut. Campbell Graham, brother of William M., who commanded the adjacent company at the Withlacoochee, was likewise severely wounded early in the fight but continued with his men until another wound forced him from loss of blood to retire from the field. He received the brevet of captain:

Lieut. Weightman K. Hanson, Seventh Infantry, a brevet captain for meritorious conduct and gallantry. He commanded at a skirmish at Waccahoota:

Maj. Julius F. Heileman, Second Artillery, a brevet lieutenant-colonel for gallant and good conduct in the affair of Micanopy, where he commanded. It was an empty honor for him, as he died on the day following the fight from the effects of overexertion in the battle. He was one of the earliest graduates of the Academy, and had seen more service than most of the commanders in the war:

Lieut. Alfred Herbert, First Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for gallantry and good conduct on several occasions. At Ridgeley's Mill, on July 27, 1836, with 15 men he attacked a much larger force of Indians on their own ground. Loading with buckshot, 18 to each musket, he continued the action for over an hour, when he found his ammunition to be almost exhausted. He then retired to his boats with half of his men wounded.

At Fort Drane Herbert and others did some excellent service. The regimental historian thus records the affair:

They were charged by the right division on horseback in every direction; several were killed and rode over; a few extra shots were fired by the men into those who showed signs of life. The left, commanded by Captain Childs, also rode down and killed one savage on their way to join the other troops. Two more were killed and rode over by Acting Adjutant (William H.) Betts while bringing up the reserve, when himself and four of his men were wounded by a volley of rifle shots fired from the edge of the hammock by the Indians. One of the men stopped to take the rifle from an Indian, which detained him until the division had passed. He spurred forward, but found himself among the Indians. He attempted to retreat, but found himself pursued by five Indians. He was discovered by Lieutenant (Alfred) Herbert, who was coming over the crest of a hill, and who spurred to his relief, followed by a few of his men; but before he could reach him the poor fellow was shot from his horse, and the savages struck a tomahawk into his head and would have scalped him had not Lieutenant Herbert arrived in time to prevent it. Lieutenant (James R.) Irwin attempted to cut off their retreat but they were too near the hammock and escaped. Irwin and Herbert carried off their mangled companion, who had six balls through his body, and Herbert secured the contested rifle that had cost the life of a brave soldier.

Irwin was given a brevet of captain and Betts was not recognized, for what reason I know not, unless it was because he resigned and died shortly after.

Lieut. Douglass S. Irwin, Third Infantry, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant and good conduct:

Lieut. John F. Lee, First Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant and good conduct. At Hacheeluskee he swam the stream, and was one of the five who first crossed in the face of the enemy:

Capt. Richard B. Lee, Third Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant and good conduct in the affair of Micanopy, where he was twice severely wounded:

Lieut. Thomas B. Linnard, Second Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant conduct, activity, and enterprise:

Lieut. William S. Maitland, Third Artillery, a captain by brevet for gallant and meritorious conduct in the affairs of the Withlacoochee and Welika Pond. He was severely wounded at the battle of Wahoo Swamp, and was commended in the reports of the action. His wounds brought on temporary insanity, during which he drowned himself while on sick leave of absence. For his age he was one of the most conspicuous in the army of Florida:

Capt. John Munroe, Third Artillery, a brevet major for faithful and meritorious conduct during three campaigns:

Capt. William W. Morris, Fourth Artillery, a brevet major for gallant conduct. At Hacheeluskee he was the first to cross the stream, and in the pursuit he constantly led the van:

Capt. Thomas Noel, Fourth Artillery, a brevet major for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of Kissimmee:

Capt. Gabriel J. Rains, Seventh Infantry, a brevet major for gallant and meritorious conduct in action near Fort King, where he was severely wounded:

Lieut. Samuel Ringgold, Third Artillery, a captain by brevet for meritorious services, activity, and efficiency:

Lieut. Frederick Searle, Fourth Artillery, a major by brevet for gallant and good conduct on several occasions. At Hacheeluskee he was one of the five who first crossed the stream. At Wahoo Swamp he was mentioned for gal-

lantry. On the road from San Augustine to Piccolata he was ambushed and severely wounded and never recovered:

Capt. Washington Seawell, Seventh Infantry, a brevet major for meritorious services:

Lieut. George H. Talcott, Third Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant conduct on several occasions:

Lieut. George Taylor, Third Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant and meritorious services:

Lieut. George H. Thomas, Third Artillery, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant and good conduct:

Capt. Daniel D. Tompkins, First Artillery, a brevet major for gallant and meritorious conduct. He was recommended for gallantry by the legislature of the State of Florida, particularly for San Velasco, where he charged and beat the enemy with an inferior force:

Lieut. William H. T. Walker, Sixth Infantry, a brevet first lieutenant for gallant and good conduct. At Okechobee he was wounded by three balls, making five wounds:

Lieut. Robert H. T. Whiteley, Second Artillery, a brevet captain for gallant conduct:

Capt. George Wright, Eighth Infantry, a brevet major for meritorious conduct, energy, zeal, and perseverance:

OFFICERS WOUNDED DURING THE WAR, WHO RECEIVED NO BREVETS.

Lieut. William W. Mackall, First Artillery, severely wounded from ambush at New Inlet:

Lieut. John L. Hooper, Fourth Infantry, wounded through the arm at Okechobee, but continued on the field at the head of his company until the end of the battle. He was mentioned by the commanding general in his report:

Lieut. William H. Betts, First Artillery, wounded at Fort Drane:

Lieut. James Duncan, Second Artillery, wounded at the crossing of the Withlacoochee:

Lieut. Henry Prince, Fourth Infantry, wounded at the crossing of the Withlacoochee:

OFFICERS RECOMMENDED IN OFFICIAL REPORTS, BUT NOT BREVETTED.

Capt. George A. McCall, recommended for brevet major, being highly accomplished, full of zeal, intelligence, and capacity:

Capt. Silas Casey, Second Infantry, recommended for brevet major as an officer of rare merit; has seen much and rendered very valuable service; equally intelligent and persevering in pursuit and combat with the enemy. He commanded the advance at Pilaklikaha:

Lieut. Isaac V. D. Reeve, Eighth Infantry, recommended for brevet captain; distinguished in battle and for zealous and intelligent performance of duty:

Lieut. Edward J. Steptoe, Third Artillery, distinguished for intelligence and capacity for service; constantly in the field and often in combat:

Lieut. Samuel Woods, Sixth Infantry, commended by the commanding general in the report of the battle of Okecho-bee, where he served as a company commander a couple of months after graduation:

Lieut. George C. Thomas, Fourth Artillery, commended for good conduct at the defense of Fort Mellon, and reported as one who always volunteered his services on every dangerous scouting party:

Capt. John R. Vinton, Third Artillery, specially mentioned for his conduct and courage at the defense of Fort Mellon:

OFFICERS WHO DIED OF DISEASE AND OTHER CAUSES INCIDENT TO THE SERVICE WHO WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF BREVETS.

Lieut. Thompson B. Wheelock, First Dragoons. He had severe service on the Plains with the regiment, distinguished himself at Micanopy, and died by suicide a few days after the action during a fit of insanity caused by sickness:

Capt. John F. Lane, Second Dragoons, while serving as colonel of the regiment of mounted Creek volunteers, killed himself by falling on his sword during a fit of temporary insanity:

Capt. James A. Chambers, Second Artillery, died of disease. At Hatcheluskee he was one of the five who first crossed the stream in the presence of the enemy:

Lieut. Thomas B. Adams, Second Artillery, died at Fort Dade in 1837:

Capt. William B. Davidson, Third Artillery. He was complimented for his conduct in the defense of Fort Mellon. While on the Everglade expedition of 1840 he was taken with fever and died:

Lieut. Daniel S. Herring, Third Artillery, died of yellow fever at San Augustine, 1836:

Lieut. Rowley S. Jennings, Third Artillery, died of yellow fever at San Augustine, 1839:

Lieut. Benjamin Poole, Third Artillery, died of yellow fever at San Augustine, 1839:

Lieut. George C. Rodney, Third Artillery, died of yellow fever at San Augustine, 1839:

Lieut. Job R. H. Lancaster, First Infantry, killed by lightning while scouting near Crystal River, 1841:

Capt. Enos G. Mitchell, First Infantry, died at Fort Roger Jones, 1839:

Lieut. James McClure, First Infantry, died at Fort Brook, 1838:

Lieut. John W. McCrabb, Fourth Infantry, died at San Augustine, 1839, while on duty in the Quartermaster's Department:

Lieut. Charles H. E. Spoor, Fourth Infantry, died in New York, 1836, of disease contracted in Florida:

Lieut. John Conrad, Sixth Infantry, died at James Island, 1838:

Lieut. George H. Griffin, Sixth Infantry, died at Tampa, 1839:

Capt. James R. Stephenson, Seventh Infantry, died at Palatka, 1841:

Lieut. John M. Harvie, Eighth Infantry, died at Cedar Keys, 1841:

Lieut. Henry Wardwell, Eighth Infantry, died at Key Biscayne, 1841:

Lieut. Alexander D. Mackay, First Artillery, lost his life in a steamboat explosion at the mouth of the St. Johns River:

Lieut. Charles B. Chambers, First Artillery, wandered away out of his mind, leaving San Augustine on horseback, being

picked up at Baton Rouge many days after, naked and crazy; dropped for desertion, 1838.

One of the brilliant events of the Florida war was the attack by the Sixth Infantry at Okeechobee. The brunt of the action was sustained by five companies of that regiment. Its commander and adjutant were killed. Every officer except one, as well as most of the noncommissioned officers, including the sergeant-major and four first sergeants, were killed and wounded in the charge of these companies. One company had only four men uninjured.

At the Withlacoochee more than 25 per cent of the Regular troops were killed and wounded, while a large force of volunteers were present and could not be gotten into action.

On departing for the Everglade expedition in December, 1840, the commanding officer, in taking leave of the department commander, announced with almost unnecessary publicity that he would return with the scalp of Chai ki ha, who had murdered the family of Mr. Perkins. He also purchased a coil of new rope which he said was to be used in hanging the Indians he expected to catch. Both promises were fulfilled. Chai ki ha was killed in single combat by a soldier and scalped; 16 warriors were hung after they had surrendered. These measures had the result of ending the war in that region.

Among the methods used for locating the savages was that of trailing them with Spanish bloodhounds. Contradictory reports were given as to the result. Some said that the dogs, being used to negroes, would not take the trail of Indians. Others claimed that the dogs did good work. At all events, the public went quite wild over the matter, ignoring the fact that dogs were quite commonly used in hunting negroes and criminals.

No excuse, however, should be offered for the abuse of the flag of truce, which was begun by a general officer and followed by several others. The Indians, supposing themselves to be masters in the art of deceit and also being tired and thirsty, would visit a post under a flag and say that they wanted to make peace and emigrate. Their only object was

to get rations and whisky, principally the latter, so the troops would play the game for a while and then kidnap a lot of the Indians and ship them off to Indian Territory.

The war, which ended in 1842, broke out again in 1855-1858 in the region about the Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades. About ten actions were fought, Col. Gustavus Loomis, Fifth Infantry, again declared the war closed in 1858, when he shipped 165 men, women, and children to the Territory. A small remnant still cling to their Pai hai o kee—grass water—somewhat cowed at last, but swearing that they have never been beaten.

In the first of the fights last mentioned Lieut. George L. Hartsuff, Second Artillery, was attacked by a large party while on a surveying expedition with ten men in the Big Cypress Swamp. At the first fire his party was nearly annihilated, but Hartsuff, with two men, managed to reach some shelter behind the wagons where they kept up firing for a time. Here both the men were shot, and Hartsuff, who had been already shot through the arm and been severely shocked by a bullet which struck his pistol handle at the waist, received a bullet in the chest. The party then separated and Hartsuff dragged himself into the saw grass of the swamp, where he was concealed, and the Indians were afraid to follow him too closely. For nearly three days he lay helpless, close to the scene of the conflict, 50 miles from his friends, without food. He finally succeeded in crawling by slow stages 15 miles in the direction of the fort, the saw grass causing him even more suffering than his wounds. Concluding that his end had come, he tore a leaf from his notebook, wrote in blood his name and the date and place of his disaster and pinned it to his knee. As he thus prepared for death his ears caught the faint and distant roll of a drum. Then he knew that a search party was near and he made one more effort. His pistol had gotten wet in the water, so he took it from his belt, unloaded it as best he could in his crippled and weak condition with the unhurt hand, and let the powder dry in the hot sun. Reloading, he waited until he heard the drum again and when it stopped he fired. Then he fainted, but the shot was heard and he was found.

Hartsuff's life was strangely filled with narrow escapes in no respect less thrilling than this, but he always showed the same self-reliance and coolness. The bullet he received in the chest in Florida was never extracted and probably caused his death from pneumonia twenty years later.

Lieut. Edmund Freeman, Fifth Infantry, was severely wounded while reconnoitering the Garden Hammock, near Bow-Legs' town, in 1857. He had a small party and was in great danger when he was relieved by Capt. C. L. Stevenson, with his company, who defeated the Indians.

#### THE PLAINS PRIOR TO THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

During the years immediately preceding and following the Florida war the regiment of Dragoons which was not there employed was watching the western frontier. By rapid movements on several occasions the troops placed themselves in position to prevent hostilities, notably with Pawnees in Indian Territory, Osages in Missouri, and Cherokees in Arkansas. By ceaseless activity, without rest summer or winter, putting recruits in the field before they had time to learn the squad drill, they kept the frontier comparatively quiet. Particularly noticeable at this time was the Pawnee expedition, in which one-fourth of the command, including the commander, died of fever, and the expedition to the South Pass via Fort Laramie and Bent's Fort which marched about 2,300 miles in ninety-nine days. In these expeditions the troops became familiar with the farthest limits of our domain and first came in contact with the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and Sioux at their best.

#### TEXAS, 1849-1861.

In Texas it is probable that wars with Indians had existed ever since the Spanish conquest, but they were intensified in number, bitterness, and cruelty by the advent of colonists from the United States shortly after the separation from Spain. The coast tribe of Caranchua Indians seem to have been destroyed as early as 1825, while wars with the plains Indians continued unremittingly. Under the presidency of

Lamar the policy was to annihilate and drive the Indians from the country. This idea was ably enforced by Albert Sidney Johnston, the secretary of war of the new republic. Under his control many expeditions were organized and successfully prosecuted. In one of these the Cherokees were driven out of the State, and their head chief killed in a decisive engagement on the Nueces River, at which Johnston was present. So violent were the passions of the people that they set upon a lot of Comanche chiefs who came to San Antonio on a peace conference and killed them all.

Immediately after the Mexican war our troops continued the old strife with the Lipans and Comanches. From 1849 to 1855, inclusive, there were fifteen engagements between the Indians and detachments from a half dozen regular regiments.

Lieut. Montgomery P. Harrison, Fifth Infantry, was killed in 1849 near the Colorado River, in Texas, while on the march to Santa Fe, N. Mex.

Lieut. Charles G. Merchant, Eighth Infantry, while on the march to Fort Inge, was severely wounded in a skirmish with Comanches near Leona.

In an action near the Nueces River, in the summer of 1850, Brevet Capt. James Oakes, First Dragoons, was twice severely wounded. From one of the wounds he has never recovered, and on account of it he was obliged to decline a brigadier-generalcy at the beginning of the civil war.

In a combat near Mount Diavolo, Lieut. Eugene A. Carr, of the Mounted Rifles, was severely wounded by Mescalero Apaches.

Near Lake Trinidad, Lieut. George B. Cosby, of the Mounted Rifles, was severely wounded in a skirmish with Comanches.

Capt. Stephen D. Carpenter, First Infantry, while on an expedition in search of timber for building purposes at Fort Stockton, was attacked and wounded.

At the close of this period the Indians had murdered and pillaged as far down as the Blanco and even below San Antonio. The army commander said to the Military Committee of the House of Representatives on the subject of these matters: "In

Texas the Indian hostilities have been more destructive than elsewhere.”

This state of affairs led to the formation of two new regiments of cavalry and two of infantry. About one-half of the officers were appointed from civil life. The balance were from the Regular Army, being given an advance of a grade in consideration of distinguished services in the Mexican and Indian wars up to that time.

One of the new regiments, now the Fifth Cavalry, was ordered to Texas and served there until the beginning of the great rebellion.

In Texas the country was particularly favorable to the depredations of the enemy. On one side was the safe refuge of a foreign country and the friendly alliance of bands of marauders who were in skill and courage only inferior to the Indians. On another side was the equally safe protection of the agencies maintained by a branch of the Government entirely distinct from the military, so that a considerable amount of official formalism had to be worked through before the depredators could be punished. Off to the west stretched the vast “Staked Plains” almost unknown to the whites, but containing many good resting points for those who did know them. The new regiment, upon which most of the work now rested, entered upon it with a desperate energy worthy of the good rule of selection which had filled its roster with so many fine soldiers. During the next six years the regiment fought 40 well-contested engagements with Indians and made hundreds of minor scouts.

Now to run down a Comanche raiding party was no day dream. It was up and away on no notice, with a dozen hard gallopers behind you, short rations in your pack, an empty can, a head high, and a heart for every fate. A trail must be followed, some of the best-mounted desperadoes in the world must be tired out and fought to a finish. Small note was taken of what did not mean a ride of a couple of hundreds of miles, days without food or water, the fierce extremes of heat or cold.

In this service Lieut. Cornelius Van Camp, one of those

fine souls whom fate seems to mark out either for great deeds or for early death, was killed far in the front of his second fight just as fame pressed her goblet to his lip. In the traditions of a regiment which was soon to furnish the commanders of four great armies, there no name is held in greater honor than Van Camp.

Major George H. Thomas, Captains Earl Van Dorn and Kirby Smith, Lieuts. John B. Hood and Fitzhugh Lee were wounded. So soon to be the leaders of thousands, these men and others of their kind were chasing Indians over the plains at the head of a few hard-riding troopers. No doubt lessons were then learned that were soon to carry many a hard-beat line across the fire-swept zone, while nerving other hearts to stop and strive for the cause that was lost. Thirteen enlisted men were killed and 42 were wounded in the combats with the Kiowas, Comanches, Lipans, and Mescalero Apaches. The Comanches were the most numerous and aggressive and were unequalled at that time as riders and fighters.

The Indians were mostly armed with bows and arrows, which accounts for the small number of casualties among the troops, but they were in good force, possessed many horses, and often showed a valor worthy of those happy hunting grounds beyond the stars of which they dreamed. At first the efforts of the troops were confined to following the marauding bands, but after a time a policy was inaugurated of forming expeditions of considerable strength and seeking the Indians in their homes and hiding places. Under this system the two fights of Brevet Major Van Dorn with Comanche Indians at the Wichita village and in the Nescutung Valley, in which 125 Indians were killed and 400 animals were taken, did much to break the spirit of the hostiles and gave the first appearance of peace to the settlements. We may not stop to chronicle numerous deeds of valor in single combat as when Fitzhugh Lee, James P. Major, and others got their men, or where a single hard driven savage turned on us and potted a major and five men with just his bow and arrows.

Sometimes there was other work, too, as when Major George H. Thomas was obliged to protect the Comanche Agency on

the Brazos River from an attack by 250 settlers led by an ex-Indian agent. There were Mexican bandits under Cortinas and others who had to be driven across the Rio Grande and even followed into old Mexico.

A fair sample of the service of that day is afforded by the fight of Lieut. John B. Hood on Devils River. After making about 200 miles in four days, mostly without water, on the close of the fourth day this officer with 17 men rode up to a small party of Lipans and Comanches who were showing a white flag. Instantly he found himself attacked by three times his force, some mounted, who rushed him with lances, and some dismounted, who, firing with guns and handing them to squaws who ran to the rear to load, kept up the fire with arrows. So close was the fight that one gun was taken from a soldier by an Indian while Indians struck the horses in the face with their shields. Hood went at them with rifles and revolvers as long as he had a shot left, when he drew off, for in those days it was not easy to reload on horseback in the mix-up of a battle. But neither side was in shape to renew the conflict, so the Indians marched off singing their death song, and Hood started for water for his famishing party. The Indians lost 22 killed and wounded; the troops lost 7, including the commander badly wounded.

Detachments of other regiments within the same territory fought about a half dozen engagements during this period. Three of these were commanded by Lieut. William B. Hazen, Eighth Infantry, who had already distinguished himself in Oregon and New Mexico. In one affair he was dangerously wounded, and for his gallantry on several occasions he received the only brevet conferred during the period.

NEW MEXICO, 1847-1861.

In New Mexico, in 1847, shortly after the American occupation, the Mexicans incited the Pueblo Indians of Taos to insurrection, which resulted in the murder of the governor and a number of Americans. The resulting campaign was prosecuted under great hardship, against greatly superior forces in the ancient fortresses of the land. Captain John H. K. Burgwin, First Dragoons, led every attack, and in the

assault of the last stronghold he was killed with 23 of his men. Troop G, First Dragoons, contemporaries of Burgwin, have left us several handsome tributes to his character and service.

At this time Lieuts. Oliver H. P. Taylor, Clarendon J. L. Wilson, Rufus Ingalls, First Dragoons, were brevetted for gallantry. Lieut. Joseph McIlvain, First Dragoons, greatly distinguished himself, but missed a brevet by accidentally shooting himself shortly after. Lieut. Alexander B. Dyer, Ordnance Department, who commanded the artillery, declined a brevet. The leaders of the insurrection were killed and their forces dispersed, and this was the first and last fault of the Pueblos.

Various other tribes kept up a constant turmoil. The worst of them were the Navahos and Apaches of the Mescalero, Gila, Mimbres, Jicarilla, Mogollon, and other bands. The Navahos were not great fighters, but they were expert thieves, lived in an inaccessible country, and had some 2,500 warriors. They had some pretense to civilization, planted considerably, and owned great herds of sheep. With the Apaches they shared a common contempt for the Mexican, whom they regarded as their natural and legitimate prey.

Matters came to a focus with the Navahos in 1858, when an Indian with an attack of "bad heart" walked into Fort Defiance and deliberately killed the negro servant of an officer. As soon as it was seen that the Indians could not or would not deliver up the murderer a strong expedition was sent against them. The operations were principally under the command of Colonel Dixon S. Miles and Major Oliver L. Shepard, the troops consisting principally of mounted rifles and the Third Infantry. For three years the Navahos were constantly harassed by expeditions which slaughtered thousands of their stock, destroyed their homes, and killed many of their men. They were quite impoverished, having formerly been prosperous and wealthy, and they begged for a peace, which was granted, and which has had some permanence.

The Apaches were a far more savage and warlike race. Adding to the instincts of the animal the mental processes

of the human being, they are able to multiply by many times the qualities that are useful in war. They have always been killers, made no friends, sought no allies.

On August 23, 1849, a party of 60 Jicarilla Apaches having come to Las Vegas and demanded powder and balls from the settlement, Lieut. Ambrose E. Burnside, Third Artillery, went out with 29 men to arrest their chiefs. His demand was answered by arrows, so he attacked and severely defeated the Indians. In the engagement Burnside was wounded in the head with an arrow.

On March 30, 1854, a troop of the First Dragoons, commanded by Lieut. John W. Davidson, was nearly destroyed by Jicarilla Apaches and Utes about 25 miles from Fernandez de Taos. About 40 men were killed. Davidson was wounded and by great good fortune managed to escape with 17 men, mostly wounded. In both of these actions the conduct of the officers and men was worthy of high praise, but it served Senator Thomas H. Benton as a basis for attack on the Army during the debate on the increase of two cavalry regiments in 1855. He cited these cases to show the "misconduct and ignorance of officers and men."

Lieut. Col. Philip St. George Cooke, Second Dragoons, took up the trail of the Indians who had beaten Davidson and followed them into the snow line of the continental divide in the dead of winter, and broke them up completely. On this trip Lieut. Joseph E. Maxwell, Third Infantry, lost his life charging at the head of a party of dragoons. He was almost instantly killed with two arrow wounds just as he was about to saber an Indian, having already exhausted his revolver. His men following quickly avenged his death.

Lieut. David Bell, Second Dragoons, was commended on this occasion for distinguished services, the second time within a month. We are told that Bell was conspicuous for extraordinary marches and in action; an accomplished horseman, a great hunter; an admirable partisan leader, a rare compound of bravery and prudence. Evidently he was such a man as Steingel, the Alsatian, whom Napoleon described as a model commander of horse, who, like Bell, died at an early age.

It was Bell who avenged upon the Apache chief Lobo the murder of a white family, and the story reads like an annal of the days of joust and tourney.

One day while scouting on the Cimarron he met Lobo and his band. Bell had 22 dragoons mounted in line behind him. Lobo had 22 Apaches, well armed, on foot, also in line with intervals. The chief and the trooper parleyed for a time across the space of 20 yards between them.

At last—Lobo sinking on one knee and aiming his gun and Bell throwing his body forward and reining up his horse—they exchanged shots. Both lines followed the example of their leaders, the troopers spurring forward over and through their enemies. The warriors mostly threw themselves on the earth, and several vertical wounds were received by horse and rider. The dragoons turned short about and charged and charged again. Then the surviving Indians were seen escaping to a deep ravine which had not been noticed before, although it was only 100 or 200 paces off. A number thus escaped, the horsemen having to pull up at the brink, but sending a last volley after the descending fugitives.

In less than five minutes of this strange combat 21 of the 46 actors were killed or wounded. Bell had shot the Indian chief several times.

In 1857 important expeditions were made against the Gila River Apaches under the command of Colonel B. L. E. Bonneville, Third Infantry, and he was thanked in a resolution of the house of representatives of New Mexico.

Brevet Major William N. Grier, First Dragoons, was wounded in a skirmish with Apaches at Too koon kurre Butte November 17, 1849. Evidently this was not the occasion which the poet intended to celebrate in the famous lines—

Old Billy Grier, bueno commandante,  
Didn't catch the Injuns, because he didn't want to.

On January 18, 1855, Captain Henry W. Stanton, First Dragoons, lost his life at the end of a successful action with Mescalero Apaches. In the ardor of pursuit he became separated from the bulk of the troop with only 12 men. Attacked by a large force, he was killed while endeavoring to cover with his own person the retreat of his party. The tragedy of his

death is rather aggravated by the cold-blooded report of the department commander that Stanton was reckless and was smarting under disappointment in the Mexican war.

Lieut. Benjamin F. (Grimes) Davis, of the Rifles, was shot in the knee in an encounter with a Gila Apache in the engagement of June 27, 1857. In the same engagement Lieut. Henry M. Lazelle, Eighth Infantry, was specially mentioned as charging with the Dragoons, shooting one Indian and cutting down another. In an engagement with Mescaleros in 1859 Lazelle was severely wounded through both lungs, but kept the field until he extricated his command.

Lieut. Alfred Gibbs, Mounted Rifles, was severely wounded with a lance in a skirmish with Apache Indians near Cooke's spring, March 8, 1857.

Lieut. William W. Averill, Mounted Rifles, was severely wounded during a night attack on his camp on the Puerco of the West, October 8, 1858.

Captain Richard S. Ewell, First Dragoons, who was distinguished in a number of affairs, was wounded in a skirmish with Pinal Apaches, December 14, 1859.

In the above I have only been able to notice a few out of seventy or more engagements fought with loss in killed and wounded in New Mexico and near its border up to the time of the civil war.

In the neighboring department of Utah there was much less trouble, on the whole. The most noteworthy loss was the murder of Lieut. John W. Gunnison, topographical engineers, with his entire command, near Sevier Lake in 1853. The murderers were captured in the following year by Lieut. Colonel Edward J. Steptoe, Third Artillery, who turned them over to Mormon civil authorities, by whom they were permitted to escape after a farcical trial. The name of Gunnison and his work will long survive in the snow-clad peak, the remarkable cañon, and the mountain torrent which bear his name.

## THE PLAINS, 1847-1861.

For some reason the great flow of immigration to the Pacific slope which followed the discovery of gold was not attended by destructive Indian wars on the Plains. Something over a dozen skirmishes would cover the cases where the troops were employed. By a few determined actions the Plains Indians were quieted for many years, until the surveys and work on the Pacific railways aroused them for a last stand. During all the time, however, they were making rapid progress in the art of war. When they broke out again they were better armed and better fighters to a surprising degree, and to find one of their villages was not the luck of every man who took a summer's ride.

In 1849 Lieut. Charles H. Ogle, First Dragoons, was wounded with an arrow in a skirmish with Pawnee Indians near Fort Kearney, Nebr.

In August, 1853, Lieut. John L. Grattan, with 30 men of the Sixth Infantry from Fort Laramie, Wyo., rode over to the assembled Sioux camps and told the chief that he had an order to arrest an Indian who had stolen a Mormon's cow. In attempting to enforce his order he was killed with every man. A crumbling adobe wall in an almost forgotten bend of the North Platte River recalls the only effort to commemorate the event. History will probably get its judgment from the words of Thomas H. Benton, in the Senate of the United States, in which Grattan was cited as a sample of the "school-house officer and pot-house soldier" sent to treat Indians like dogs and beasts. Remembering the story of the French grenadier, who was reported each day for a hundred years as "dead on the field of honor," we are led to reflect upon the fate of this young officer of our own country, whose highest aim in life and death was to do his duty.

After the death of Grattan the Indians attacked the post of Fort Laramie itself, and the commanding officer, Lieut. Hugh Brady Fleming, Sixth Infantry, was wounded.

In the following year 1,300 cavalry and infantry left Fort Leavenworth, Kans., for the purpose of punishing the Indians for the above attacks. The commander left the post in the

same frame of mind as chronicled on a previous occasion in the Florida war, when he blazed his way through the Everglades with prisoners hanging to the trees. "By God," he remarked, "I am for war—no peace." In a month he reached the camp of the Indians. Refusing to parley, he drove Little Thunder, the chief, from his presence with the information that his warriors had insulted our citizens and murdered our troops, and that now they must fight. Attacking them in front and rear, he killed 83 of them and destroyed their camp. In this battle, called "Ash Hollow" or "Bluewater," the cavalry was commanded by Lieut. Colonel Philip St. George Cooke, Second Dragoons, and the infantry by Major Albemarle Cady, Sixth Infantry.

The earliest trouble with the Cheyennes occurred in 1855, when Captain George H. Stuart, First Cavalry, defeated a band who had attacked a mail party. In the following year an expedition consisting of six troops of the First Cavalry marched against them and found them on the Solomon Fork of the Arkansas. The Indians came up in battle array as if to make a stand, and the cavalry charged in ancient style with sabers. The effect was not great so far as casualties were concerned, but the Indians were dispersed and their principal camp was destroyed. The moral effect was undoubtedly important.

On this occasion Lieut. James E. B. Stuart, First Cavalry, drew the fire of an Indian just as he was about to shoot Lieut. David S. Stanley, of the same regiment, and was himself wounded. Lieut. George D. Bayard, First Cavalry, was dangerously wounded in the face by an arrow during a skirmish with Kiowas near Bents Fort, Colo., while on Major John Sedgewick's expedition to the upper Arkansas in 1860. In these actions no men were more conspicuous than Horace Randall, First Dragoons, and Isaiah N. Moore, of the Rifles. Both of them died early in the civil war.

#### THE PACIFIC SLOPE, 1847-1861.

On the Pacific slope the Indians were a cruel, craven, and degraded lot, and no high standard was set up so far as faith and mercy are concerned by the white settlers. As the

Indians were not confined to reservations prior to 1857, the whites naturally took the best land in sight, thus placing their claims in opposition to those of the Indians, who also subsisted largely by agriculture. Several bands of white men, calling themselves volunteers, whose real purpose was plunder and murder, kept up a state of terror and committed many black crimes. Upon the Army fell the unworthy task of punishing the Indians for their faults, while the white miscreants hid beneath the giant's robe of American citizenship, like the paltry thieves they were.

Governor Isaac I. Stevens made many treaties with the Indians of the Northwest, and in 1857 a tract as large as New England with Indiana added, was nominally ceded to the Government, at an average price of 4 cents per acre. The Indians were gradually concentrated by force and persuasion, but it was years before the treaties were finally carried out. Stevens's policy has had many critics, and a general of the Army has characterized him as a fatal blunderer. He simply followed the well-defined policy of the Government and does not deserve such harsh judgment.

During the period now under consideration there were about 50 engagements between the troops and the Indians, divided in almost equal proportion between California, Oregon, and Washington.

In 1851 Brevet Captain James Stewart, of the Mounted Rifles, was mortally wounded in a skirmish with Rogue River Indians in southern Oregon. He was a celebrated trooper in his day and will long be a tradition in the old Rifles.

In 1853 Captain Bradford R. Alden, Fourth Infantry, with ten of his men and some citizens, was engaged in a skirmish with Rogue River Indians. He was dangerously wounded while charging at the head of his men. The wound led to his resignation in a short time and he never recovered.

In 1856 an expedition commanded by Lieut. Colonel R. C. Buchanan, Fourth Infantry, consisting of one troop of the First Dragoons, two batteries of the Third Artillery, and four companies of the Fourth Infantry, defeated the Rogue River Indians and forced them onto their reservation. During this campaign Captain A. J. Smith, First Dragoons, with 90 men of

Troop C, was caught at the Big Bend of Rogue River by a large force of Indians, and was held there for thirty-six hours, part of the time without water. He was relieved by Captain Christopher C. Augur, Fourth Infantry, but not until he had lost about one-third of his troop in killed and wounded.

A war between the Yakimas and the Klictitats was conducted by Brevet Major Gabriel R. Rains, Seventh Infantry, and Colonel George Wright brought it to a conclusion. The most serious incident of this war was the engagement at Simcoe Valley, Oregon, in which a detachment of 100 men of the Fourth Infantry was forced to retreat with a loss of nearly one-fourth of the command.

In May, 1858, Lieutenant-Colonel Steptoe, with a command of three troops of the First Dragoons and one company of the Ninth Infantry (159 men in all), while on a scout to arrest some depredators, was surrounded and attacked by an overwhelming force of Spokanes, Pelouses, Cœur d'Alenes, Yakimas, and smaller tribes. The commanding officer concluded to retrace his steps and assigned the duty of flanking the column to Brevet Captain Oliver H. P. Taylor and Lieut. William P. Gaston, First Dragoons. Both of these fine officers were killed. Taylor had already distinguished himself on a number of occasions, while Gaston had only recently joined. The command made a night march of 75 miles, and owed its escape largely to the Nez Percé Indians at the Snake River, where the pursuit was stopped and the troops assisted across.

A punitive expedition was then organized by Colonel George Wright, Ninth Infantry, in September. The Indians were completely routed in three engagements, great herds of their horses were captured and shot, their winter stores of provisions were burned. It was at the outset of this expedition, at the Cascades of the Columbia, that Philip Henry Sheridan, then a subaltern of the Fourth Infantry, first won his spurs and was specially mentioned in orders. Wright had shown energy and ability in the Florida and Mexican wars and three years before in this same field of operations. His services in keeping California in the Union and his death at sea while actively on duty are a part of another story.

Part of the Spokane expedition just noticed consisted of a side scout by Major Robert S. Garnett, Ninth Infantry, which resulted in the capture and execution of some of the murderers of the white miners. A hostile camp was charged at 3 o'clock in the morning on August 15, 1858, in which Lieut. Jesse K. Allen, Ninth Infantry, was killed.

On September 26, 1849, Captain William H. Warner, Topographical Engineers, was killed in the Sierra Nevada Mountains while making explorations of mountain passes for railroad purposes. He had been distinguished (and wounded) in Kearney's expedition in the Mexican war. His body was found pierced with nine arrows. The Warner Range was named in his memory. Captain Nathaniel Lyon, Second Infantry, in 1850, made an expedition to Clear Lake and Russian River in search of the perpetrators of the deed. He made a terrible example of them, killing several hundreds.

An expedition against the Pitt River Indians of northern California was made in 1850 by Lieut. George Crook, Fourth Infantry. He engaged them three times and thoroughly defeated them. In one of the skirmishes Crook was wounded with an arrowhead which pierced his side and was never extracted.

In 1855-1858 the Indians in the Puget Sound district went on the warpath and were subdued by troops under Lieut. Colonel Silas Casey, Ninth Infantry. Lieut. W. A. Slaughter, Fourth Infantry, was killed in an attack on his camp at Brannan's Prairie, December 4, 1855. Lieut. August V. Kautz, Fourth Infantry, was wounded at Brannan's Prairie, and was again wounded a few months later on the White River. Lieut. Horatio Gates Gibson, Third Artillery, was severely wounded at Hungry Hill, October 31, 1855.

Lieut. Edmund Russell, Fourth Infantry, was killed in a skirmish with Indians near Redbluffs, Cal., on March 24, 1853. He had already been wounded and brevetted in the Mexican war.

In July, 1859, some depredations were committed by Klamath Indians in northern California, which were settled by the Klamath chief bringing in the heads of three of the culprits and promising to get the others. As this event is

noticed in the report of the Secretary of War for that year with apparent approval, it may be taken as a satisfactory way of settling such an affair in those days.

CIVIL WAR PERIOD.

The war with Indians which reached the greatest proportions, caused the most terror and destruction, and called forth the greatest exhibition of strength on both sides was the war with the Sisseton Sioux of Minnesota, which involved all the tribes of the great Sioux Nation. In this war the frontier of Minnesota was depopulated, large towns and villages and abandoned, property and crops of 50,000 people destroyed. In Minnesota alone between 500 and 800 white people were killed and hundreds of women and children were in captivity.

We have seen how Grattan with his small party had been overwhelmed, and how Ash Hollow had been followed by a peace with the Sioux at Fort Pierre, on the upper Missouri, in the early fifties. In the spring of 1857 the fire broke out in a new spot. Captain Bernard E. Bee, Tenth Infantry, then reported troubles in the vicinity of Spirit Lake, Minn. It started with the killing of a dog, but before it ended many white people were massacred and a small band of Indians were killed and scattered. At the Sisseton Agency a situation of great excitement and danger was quieted by the prompt arrival of Brevet Major T. W. Sherman, with his battery of the Third Artillery. The major was credited in orders from the headquarters of the Army with "preserving the country from a war with the tribes of the Sioux Nation." How great that service was may be appreciated by a study of later events during the great civil war.

The Sioux occupied the immense country of the two Dakota States, but ranged far beyond their boundaries. Major-General John Pope commanded the district involved, with his headquarters at St. Paul, and he proclaimed a policy of extermination and directed his subordinates not to treat them as a people with whom treaties or compromises could be made.

A number of campaigns were made in which the Indians were defeated with great loss and suffering. They sub-

mitted with deep humility, and gave up their leaders to be tried by military commissions, and the war was supposed to be finished. Three hundred were condemned to death, and when President Lincoln asked which were the most guilty General Pope replied that the only distinction between the culprits was as to which murdered the most people and ravished the most young girls.

The warm-hearted President had just been nagged into asking a pestiferous peace patriot if he expected that a war should be prosecuted "with elder stalk squirts charged with rose water." He could not, however, make up his mind to such a large killing as this, and it was with much delay and reluctance that he finally ordered the execution of 38; and this was the result of that cold-blooded extermination. It may fairly be said that the result was not valuable as a warning or instructive as an example. General Pope's protest that it would have an exceedingly bad effect was justified by the prompt renewal of hostilities on the coming of grass and buffalo in the next spring.

In 1857 Captain Alfred Sully had commanded one of the companies of the Second Infantry at Fort Ridgeley, and had subsequently moved to the Yellow Medicine Agency to reinforce Sherman. In 1863, as a brigadier-general of volunteers, he commanded an expedition of about 700 cavalry against these Indians in Dakota Territory. He defeated them at White Stone Hill with a loss of 100 warriors, and destroyed their camp of 300 lodges with their winter supply of meat. This was a heavy loss to the Indians and induced them to beg for peace.

In 1864 the war broke out with greater violence than ever. Sully was again in the field with 2,200 cavalry and 4 mountain howitzers. At the Tahkakhakully Mountains, at the head of Heart River, North Dakota, he attacked the largest body of Indians ever collected on the continent and inflicted the greatest disaster. On July 28 he came upon their camp of 1,400 lodges, with between 5,000 and 6,000 warriors. The country was wooded and much cut up with rugged hills and impassable ravines. After an hour's talk with some of their chiefs, he moved against them, and they were forced to abandon

their camps, with robes, lodges, utensils, and winter supply of provisions. The work of destroying the camp was in itself a large task. The Indians scattered, leaving 125 dead warriors. The troops lost 15 killed. The Indians were armed with shotguns, and bows and arrows.

In August General Sully again encountered the Sioux, in the Bad Lands of North Dakota, and again killed about 100. These defeats inflicted immense suffering upon the Sioux of that region. Several of the most powerful bands never recovered their prestige. Sully was made a brevet brigadier-general in the Regular Army for gallant and meritorious services against the Indians in the Northwest.

During the civil war there were many outbreaks on the Pacific coast. The troops were for the most part volunteers, and few West Point men were on the ground. General George Wright continued to be the most prominent military personage in that region until he was drowned in the wreck of the *Brother Jonathan*, July 30, 1865. General Benjamin Alvord was commanding in Washington and Oregon.

On May 29 Assistant Inspector-General Nelson H. Davis, while looking for a site for a post, with an escort of 100 men, attacked some hostile Apache rancherias on Mescal Mountains, Arizona, and killed 49. For this action he received the brevet of colonel.

#### LATER CAMPAIGNS ON THE PACIFIC.

In the winter of 1867-68 General George Crook undertook a campaign against the Pitt River Indians, whom he had such good cause to remember on a previous occasion back in the fifties. He was completely successful after a winter campaign of great hardship in northern California and southern Oregon.

The Modoc war in southern Oregon in 1873 was not long and brought few combatants in the field, but it cost a half million dollars and about 120 officers and men in killed and wounded. The strong position of the enemy in the lava beds or pedregal added immensely to the resisting power of the Modocs and multiplied the labors of the troops. The Indians

under Captain Jack finally abandoned the lava beds and surrendered to Captain H. C. Hasbrouck, Fourth Artillery.

Brigadier-General Edward R. S. Canby, commanding the department, had been opposed to the use of troops in the first place, and when he wanted to use them he was again overruled. Having been ordered to aid the peace commissioners, he was murdered in a conference to which he went, in spite of warning from those who knew the intentions of the Indians, refusing to be armed or to secure his safety by the easy method of deceiving the Indians. There is no doubt that General Canby, as he walked at the head of the peacemakers on that fatal day, had said farewell to life and was giving himself as a victim to his high sense of duty. He was succeeded by Brigadier-General Jeff. C. Davis, who carried the campaign to a conclusion, caught, tried, and hung the murderers.

Among the killed was Lieut. Arthur Cranston, Fourth Artillery, who in the midst of the defeat of April 23 took five men and volunteered to clear a ridge near the command. The party were all killed, and the position of their bodies when found showed that they had fallen in trying to accomplish their task.

Lieut. George M. Harris, Fourth Artillery, was killed on the same day.

In 1877 the war with the Nez Percés, starting in western Idaho and ending in Montana, near the British line, employed all the available troops of three large departments for some months. The Indians under Joseph made a desperate attempt to reach the camp of Sitting Bull in the British possessions, and nearly succeeded. From start to finish with all the loops and fighting returns, they must have traveled more than 2,000 miles in seventy-five days. They fought eleven times and inflicted heavy losses. They crossed an unfordable stream in the presence of an enemy; surprised and driven out of their camp, they made a vicious return, recovered much that they lost and buried most of their dead; stopped on a mountain trail they resorted to diplomacy and won; they got out of the Yellowstone Park by a very pretty piece of strategy; at the last almost all the fighting men got away, while Joseph

surrendered little more than the wounded and women and children. Three regiments of cavalry and a half dozen regiments of infantry and artillery were engaged with the Nez Percés. Considering that the Indian chief had his old men and women and children with him, that he had no supplies of rations or ammunition, no telegraph and no hospitals, there is food for thought in this Nez Percé war which should save it from being lost among the forgotten annals of conquered tribes.

At Craig's Mountain, Idaho, Lieut. Sevier M. Rains, First Cavalry, commanding an advance guard of 12 men, was killed with all his men. And so no more of Rains, pugnacious, great-hearted Rains; but then it is inevitable in our profession, unlike all others, that the fittest have the least chance to survive. The department commander says this of Rains:

This young officer was of the same mold as the famous Winterfield of history, who was killed in just such fashion under Frederick the Great—prompt, loyal, able, without fear and without reproach. Frederick lost many brave leaders, but only one Winterfield; we, but one Rains.

A few days later General O. O. Howard fought the Indians on the Clearwater. Lieut. Charles A. Williams, Twenty-first Infantry, was severely wounded.

At the Big Hole Pass, Mont., General John Gibbon, with 149 officers and men of the Seventh Infantry and some civilians grappled with the enemy, but they shook themselves free and left him pretty badly used up, with a loss of 69 killed and wounded. Gibbon is an example of the fortune of war in our country. A few years before, in three of the greatest battles in recorded history, he had successively commanded the brigade, the division, and then the army corps which had stood up to the greatest percentage of loss in killed and wounded known in battle. Now after thirty year's service, a colonel of the line, he was fighting with a rifle in his hands, like a private soldier, at the head of less than 200 men.

Gibbon was wounded, and his adjutant, Lieut. Charles A. Woodruff, who had already stopped more than his share of bullets in the civil war, was hit three times. The horses of both men were wounded, and one horse was also eaten.

Escaping from the National Park, the Indians were fought by General Samuel D. Sturgis, with the Seventh Cavalry, but they could not be held though in great distress. Yet a while longer and Joseph was run down by another command, General Howard still following. During the negotiations for the surrender Lieut. Lovell H. Jerome, Second Cavalry, rode alone into the Indian camp, and was made a prisoner and held until the return of Joseph. In the action preceding the surrender nearly 50 per cent of the cavalry engaged were killed and wounded. Lieut. Edward S. Godfrey, Seventh Cavalry, was severely wounded.

#### ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO.

Arizona had been a battle ground for many a day when the troops of the United States first raised their flag during the Mexican war. Mangas Colorado and all his breed, Cochise, and many other great marauders kept things hot. During the civil war the Territory was claimed by both factions, the common policy of both being to kill off as many Indian men as possible. One prominent official was enthusiastically in favor of selling the women and children into slavery as an additional means of civilizing the natives. His scheme was pronounced to be an infamous crime by Mr. Jefferson Davis, who would not permit it. The head tax was a source of revenue to adventurous white men on both sides of the line until some one was caught turning in a Mexican for an Indian scalp.

Many disasters fell to the Indians, as they were poorly armed and could accumulate no supplies of food. In the nine years immediately following the civil war there is a record of about 1,500 Apaches killed in Arizona on our side of the line, and probably that average had been kept up for many years before. On the Mexican side a large number of troops were kept in the field, and we know that they also did some harm to the Apaches, although Geronimo claimed that he never wasted cartridges on them, but killed them with rocks. There was never any sign of discouragement on the part of the Indians or a moment when they were not eager for the fray.

Until the arrival of General George Crook, lieutenant-colonel of infantry, they had never been subdued. An ancient civilization seemed to have been wiped out by their ancestors, and even now a great tract of country which had recently been well populated was ruined by their raids. Crook was an old hand at Indian management. He grasped the question with a broader view and deeper thought than any man before or since. His methods were simple. A Dyak of Borneo would not be more inflexible in his punishment, no Prince of Peace could have more patiently examined all their complaints or treated them more honestly and squarely. Unconscious of danger, unmindful of treachery, never misled by deceit, not disturbed by failure, the strongest of them found their wills bend to his. He discovered the possibilities of Indians as soldiers and scouts against their own people, and he was never betrayed.

A few months after the first campaign 2,500 hostiles acknowledged themselves beaten and went to work on their reservations to make a living for themselves, and he had them raising good crops of grain in a short time. It was a wonderful sight, for they were warriors from immemorial tradition and very well satisfied with themselves in that line. As well might we expect to see a brace of tigers hitched to a bull cart as one of these fellows hoeing corn, but the experiment was working perfectly when the Indians were returned to the Indian Department. The pacification of the Territory was then complete, except in the case of the Chiricahuas, who were especially exempted from the General's jurisdiction.

General Crook went to another department, and in about ten years returned again to find the Chiricahuas in Old Mexico and the balance of the Indians on the verge of an outbreak. Proceeding almost alone among the disaffected tribes he quieted their complaints and enlisted about 200 for a campaign against the Chiricahuas. He then marched 900 miles into the heart of the Sierra Madre Mountains of Old Mexico and forced the surrender of the hostiles. His fairness in pacifying the agencies brought a great storm of abuse upon him and proved the insincerity of much of the talk about civilizing the Indian. After discovering that he

could accomplish nothing in the face of the opposition and weak support he was receiving he asked to be relieved.

The record of the Army in Arizona fills many volumes, but we can notice a few events only. Nearly every regiment of cavalry made its trail there. A single regiment in one short tour fought a hundred engagements and killed several hundred Indians; one of the officers being in a dozen skirmishes in a year and a half. Another regiment marched 1,000 miles for each one of its nine years of service there.

Lieut. Franklin Yeaton, Third Cavalry, received his death wound in an action in Sanguinaria Canyon in 1870.

Lieut. Reid T. Stewart, Fifth Cavalry, while alone with one man hurrying to obey an order, pushed ahead of his escort and was ambushed by a party of Apaches in Davidsons Canyon in 1872. His body was found lying in the road pierced with six bullets.

Lieut. Jacob Almy, Fifth Cavalry, having served in the civil war before he was a Cadet and in many Indian fights since, was in command at San Carlos Agency on the morning of May 27, 1873. He had detailed a guard to arrest an Indian who had assaulted the agent, but seeing that the man had not been found he joined in the search himself. This proceeding caused great excitement, the Indians began to handle their arms, and it was plain that trouble was near. Almy, however, knew that any sign of weakness on his part would be bad policy, so he went right ahead, quietly and boldly continuing his search, as if nothing unusual was occurring among the Indians, until he was shot dead in their midst by one braver than the rest, as a signal for revolt.

Fourteen years later Lieut. Seward Mott, Tenth Cavalry, was mortally wounded at the same place in much the same way.

Lieut. Charles King, Fifth Cavalry, was seriously wounded at Sunset Pass, 1874.

Lieut. J. Hansell French, Ninth Cavalry, was killed in the San Mateo Mountains, New Mexico, during the pursuit of Victorio's band in 1880.

In August, 1881, at Cibicu Creek, General Eugene A. Carr, with two troops of the Sixth Cavalry and one of scouts,

arrested a medicine man who was inciting trouble. The scouts here turned on the troops and there was a severe fight, ending in the defeat of the scouts and their allies. This is the only instance we have of treason of the kind.

At Big Dry Wash of Chevelons Fork, in 1882, Major Andrew W. Evans, with a command of the Third and Sixth Cavalry Regiments, had a successful fight with Indians. Lieuts. George H. Morgan and George L. Converse, Third Cavalry, were severely wounded. Evans was brevetted brigadier-general, and a number of other officers in both of these affairs received brevets and medals of honor. Sixteen Indians were killed, and the loss of the troops was more severe than usual.

In 1885 Lieut. George R. Burnett, Ninth Cavalry, was twice wounded in an action at Cuchillo Negro, N. Mex. He received a medal of honor for distinguished gallantry in saving a wounded man on the same occasion.

In 1885 Lieut. De Rosey C. Cabell, Eighth Cavalry, was wounded in an attack on his troop by Chiricahua Apaches.

Among the conspicuous individual acts of this period was that of Lieut. Charles B. Gatewood, Sixth Cavalry, in riding alone into Geronimo's hostile camp and calling on him to surrender. He might as well have poked up a wild bee's nest and expected not to be stung as to hope to come out alive, but he did so, strange to relate, with every chance against him. It was only one of many great performances by Gatewood; but he never had a brevet or medal of honor, and died a lieutenant on the retired list after nearly twenty years' service.

Lieut. Powhatan H. Clarke, Tenth Cavalry, distinguished himself by saving the life of a wounded man in one of the engagements with Geronimo.

#### THE PLAINS, 1866-1876.

The rapid settlement of the tract formerly known as the "Great American Desert" and the energetic construction of the Pacific railroads in the years immediately following the civil war brought the Indians of the Plains to realize the

logical result. Without concert of action or definite purpose, they rallied desperately—Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, and Comanche—to a last defense of their hunting grounds. They were encouraged by the scarcity of troops and the lack of energy in military affairs during the civil war, when all the efforts of the Government were directed into other fields.

On the plains the military posts were garrisoned by cavalry and infantry. Due to the casualties of the great war and to staff details, a great change had taken place in the roster of the regiments. The list of officers seldom contained the name of a graduate below the grade of field officer. In the higher grades there were a number of graduates, taken from the long list of generals of the civil war. Merritt, from the command of a cavalry corps, and Custer, from a division, were serving as lieutenant-colonels. In the ten years immediately following the war the service on the plains was as hard as any in our history; but large commands were seldom formed and most of the work was performed by small detachments, in which, as we have seen, West Pointers cut no figure. There were 20 officers killed on the plains in those years, but the Little Big Horn and Custer at the head of the list furnish the first casualties to occur among the graduates.

In the country north of the Platte the Army was well nigh overmatched by the Sioux under Red Cloud, and the posts on the Oregon trail were abandoned. In the Department of the Missouri hundreds of depredations had been committed and the Army was called on for action. Generals Sheridan and Hancock, fresh from the great war, now found full scope for their talents in an entirely new field and took active command. Sand Creek and Fort Phil. Kearney had given both white man and Indian a fair excuse and a deep thirst for revenge.

To neutralize the pernicious skill of the Indian in the summer it was necessary to attack him at home when the cold forced him to seek shelter and when the starved condition of his ponies limited his activity. General Sheridan at once seized upon this solution and carried it out with his usual energy. A winter campaign was decided upon, in which the

troops were to undergo all the hardships which the Indians themselves were trying to avoid by keeping quiet.

General George A. Custer, with the Seventh Cavalry, General Eugene A. Carr, with the Fifth Cavalry, and Colonel Andrew W. Evans, with the Third Cavalry, were designated to round up the hostiles in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Indian Territory.

Evans struck the Comanches on Christmas day, 1868, at Ellen Creek, Indian Territory, killed 25 and destroyed their camp. Carr, after capturing and destroying a camp at Beaver Creek, Kans., finally ran down Tall Bull's band of Cheyennes at Summit Springs, Colo., in the spring of 1869. The troops marched 150 miles in three days, outmarched the Indians, passed their flank, and struck them in rear. The chief and 80 of his warriors were killed.

At about Thanksgiving day in 1868, Custer surprised a Cheyenne village on the Washita River in Indian Territory, killed Black Kettle, the chief, and more than 100 warriors, destroyed the camp with its contents and shot more than 800 ponies. The loss of the troops was 35 officers and men, killed and wounded. Among the latter was Lieut. T. J. March, Seventh Cavalry.

After the action it was found that much bigger game had been flushed than had been expected. For 12 miles along the river were the winter camps of Kiowas, Comanches, Arapahoes, and Cheyennes, comprising about all the hostiles of the Indian Territories. Custer thought it advisable to go no further at that time, so he returned to Camp Supply. Leaving again in a short time he continued his operations throughout the winter, with the result of bringing in the balance of the hostiles. Several times he had the enemy at his mercy and would have been fully justified in attacking, but he choose the opposite course at a much greater personal risk to himself. He was largely influenced in his resort to peaceful methods by a knowledge that there were some white women held as prisoners in the Indian camps who would have been killed at the first sign of an attack.

The result of all these operations planned by General Sheridan was that some 12,000 Indians left the war path and

went to live on their reservations. Hostilities were practically brought to an end in three or four great States.

The report of General Sheridan for 1868 sums up the Indian question in characteristic style. It says:

The present system of dealing with the Indians, I think, is an error. There are too many fingers in the pie, too many ends to be subserved, and too much money to be made; and it is in the interest of the nation and of humanity to put an end to this inhuman farce. The Peace Commission, the Indian Department, the military, and the Indian make a balky team. The public treasury is depleted and innocent people plundered in this quadrangular arrangement, in which the treasury and the unarmed settlers are the greatest sufferers. \* \* \*

The Army has nothing to gain by war with the Indians; on the contrary, it has everything to lose. In such a war it suffers all the hardship and privation, exposed as it is to the charge of assassination if the Indians are killed, to the charge of inefficiency if they are not; to misrepresentation by the agents who fatten on the plunder of Indians, and misunderstood by worthy people at a distance who are deceived by these agents.

In January, 1870, Major E. C. Baker, with four troops of the Second Cavalry, left Fort Ellis, Mont., to punish some bands of Blackfeet who had been marked down for punishment. He struck their camp on the Las Marias River and killed 173 of them and captured others, with all their property. Much obloquy was heaped upon the troops because a number of women and children were killed at the time. The facts were much obscured by the event being made to serve the purposes of a political attack on General Sheridan. General Winfield S. Hancock commanded the department and sustained the troops. The campaign was made in weather when the thermometer registered 40° below zero. No further offenses have been charged to these Indians.

To the next six years and 150 engagements on the plains we can only give a brief notice. This will take us up to the beginning of the year 1876. It was a season of peace compared with former and later years, and much work was done by the commands of Neill, Baker, Mackenzie, Custer, Davidson, and Stanley. In truth, the southern Indians were under the influence of their defeats and sufferings, while in the north Red Cloud had now become our friend, the Oregon trail had

been abandoned by our garrisons, and the Black Hills had not yet strongly excited our roving population to dig for gold.

One of the brilliant actions of this period was fought by Lieut. Austin Henely, Sixth Cavalry, at Sappa Creek, Kansas. Henely deserves more than a word in the annals of the Military Academy. He showed the best qualities of a soldier on a number of occasions, and died too soon to reap the harvest sown by his high ambition. He was drowned in a mountain torrent in Arizona, along with his friend and classmate, "Tony" Rucker, who was trying to save him. The gallant example and tragic fate of these two noble youths will long be a tradition in the Army, as well as among the frontier population of Arizona.

General Ranald S. Mackenzie, Fourth Cavalry, was wounded on the Freshwater Fork of the Brazos in Texas in the year 1871.

Lieut. Charles Braden, Seventh Cavalry, during the Yellowstone expedition of 1873, received a severe wound, which caused his retirement from active service.

#### THE PLAINS, 1876-1891.

On February 7, 1876, authority was received to proceed against the non-agency Indians of the plains, principally represented by the small bands of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse. Neither of them was supposed to be of great importance. Sitting Bull was accredited with 30 or 40 lodges, Crazy Horse with 100 to 200 warriors; but to accept these figures it was unfortunately necessary to take the statements of the civilian agents of the Interior Department, who had full charge of the Indians and who persistently declared that they kept track of their wards. The Army was expecting to have a rather easy time of it. As a matter of fact over 28,000 Indians were absent from their agencies.

General George Crook, having fought every tribe of Indians on the Pacific coast, was in command of the Department of the Platte, the northern line of which ran through the middle of the buffalo country claimed by the Sioux, Cheyenne and Arapaho. On March 1 the general headed an expedition from Fort Fetterman, Wyo., into the Powder River

country. On March 17 a detachment of this command under Colonel J. J. Reynolds, Third Cavalry, captured and destroyed Crazy Horse's village of 105 lodges near the mouth of the Little Powder River in Montana. The command was marching and fighting for thirty-six hours, and most of the officers and men were frost-bitten. The limit of endurance was nearly reached, and the pony herd got away, which furnished many people with an excuse for forgetting whatever good service the command performed.

This Crazy Horse was a pretty big Indian. A few years before, while looking for a chance to show what sort of stuff he was made of, he walked into Fort Laramie and killed a soldier on the parade ground. That gave him a good start, and now great numbers of the young bloods from the agencies gathered about him and Sitting Bull. The frequent military expeditions into the Black Hills and the rush of miners into the same region gave them fair warning that they would soon have to fight for their hunting grounds. The loss of his village was a heavy blow to Crazy Horse, but he came up smiling again in a few months.

The Army made rather unusual preparations, chiefly due to the fact that the troubled district was within the domain of two military departments, neither of which desired to be outpointed by the other in the approaching campaign. No one dreamed that owing to the anomalous policy of our Government we were ignorantly going to fight two-thirds of our bacon-picking Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho, who were confidently reported as drawing their regular rations at the various agencies provided for that purpose.

In the spring three columns took to the field, one of which was commanded by General George Crook, another by General John Gibbon; General George A. Custer and the Seventh Cavalry was with the third column.

On June 17 Crook, with 1,000 men, had a fight with Crazy Horse on Rosebud Creek and got a little the worst of it. Much to his chagrin the general found himself confronted by a superior force, who were not backward in offering him battle. Their village was only 8 or 10 miles away, but he

could not take it, and found it best to withdraw and wait for more men.

Captain Guy V. Henry, Third Cavalry, was shot through the head, receiving a very bad wound, which troubled him as long as he lived.

A week later Custer, at the head of five troops of the Seventh Cavalry, consumed with an overmastering fear lest a single Indian should escape, rode gaily at the combined force of Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, encamped on the Little Big Horn. It was a great deed of arms, and will not be forgotten as long as our race continues to be inspired by acts of honor and duty.

With Custer were killed Lieut. James E. Porter, Seventh Cavalry; Lieut. H. M. Harrington, Seventh Cavalry; Lieut. John G. Sturgis, Seventh Cavalry.

Of the manner of their death not a thing is known beyond the story of the field itself. The skirmish lines were well kept and each officer and man seems to have stood well up to his work. Meanwhile, a couple of miles away, the balance of the regiment, under Major Marcus A. Reno, was having a hard struggle to escape the same fate. In the action of this command, Lieut. Benjamin H. Hodgson was killed and Lieut. Charles A. Varnum was wounded. A few days later Lieut. Frederick W. Sibley, Second Cavalry, with 25 men on a reconnoissance from Crook's camp, had a narrow escape from being massacred with his entire force.

These events caused strenuous measures to be taken. General Sheridan, by stripping every post from Manitoba to Texas, put 3,500 men in the field. The Army was placed in charge of the Indian agencies and soon made the discovery that 28,000 Indians were absent without leave. Troops of cavalry were filled up to 100 men by enlisting raw recruits, who were rushed to the front. They were dubbed "Custer Avengers" and perhaps it was fortunate that they were not required at once on the skirmish line.

The Indians found it impossible to keep together in large bodies and broke up into smaller bands. As Crazy Horse went south toward the Black Hills—the Pah sap pa of the savages, the mysterious land of gold which caused all the

trouble—Crook struck after him, although it was necessary to go 200 miles on two and a half days' bacon and hard-tack. In the march some troops lost nearly all their horses, many of which had to be butchered for food, and the command was in about as bad shape as possible without going to pieces, when an advanced party of 150 men of the Third Cavalry under Colonel Anson Mills ran upon Roman Nose's village of 40 lodges at Slim Buttes on September 14. A fortunate capture of ponies and putrid dried buffalo eked out the food for a few days. Crazy Horse was near at hand and came up in royal style, but, after some lively skirmishing and several attempts to run off the herds, he drew off. It was on this day that Lieut. Frederick Schwatka, Third Cavalry, with 25 men, coming upon the village in the dim light of the early day, not knowing but that, like Custer, he was tackling the entire Sioux Nation, and rather thinking that he was, yet went ahead and made his charge.

On November 16 Crook again left Fetterman on his third campaign of the year with a fresh command. On the 24th a detachment under General Ranald S. Mackenzie, Fourth Cavalry, struck Dull Knife's village of Cheyennes on the North Fork of the Powder River in Wyoming. A large village was destroyed and a herd of ponies was captured. The suffering of the Indians was terrible; large numbers of them froze to death in the mountains. Lieut. John A. McKinney, Fourth Cavalry, was killed. He was a brilliant young officer, handsome, popular, full of ambition, with everything in his favor except luck, if it be not luck to stop a bullet at the head of a charging troop and to leave a name as one who learned his lesson well.

Through these campaigns we can not fail to be struck by the magnanimity of General Crook, on two occasions, in giving first to Reynolds, and then to Mackenzie, the chance to get all the credit of the campaign. He did the same in Arizona.

The Indian agencies now being in the hands of the Army, the hostiles were deprived of a base of supplies, the buffalo did not afford a sure or sufficient commissary, and ammunition could not be manufactured, so that the armies of the

great chiefs had to break up into small bands, which scattered for subsistence. Most of them surrendered at odd times during the winter and spring. Sitting Bull took his followers across the border. Crazy Horse surrendered and was quiet for a time, but peace did not suit his turbulent spirit and he met his death at the end of an infantry bayonet while resisting arrest at Fort Robinson.

A band of Miniconjou Sioux under Lame Deer, which had kept out of the general surrender of the hostile bands and were located near the mouth of Muddy Creek, Montana, were attacked and defeated on May 7, 1877. The village was taken with a rush led by Lieuts. Edward W. Casey, Twenty-second Infantry, and Lovell H. Jerome, Second Cavalry. The Indians were driven out of their village, but retired to the bluffs and made a stand there, during which Lieut. Alfred M. Fuller, Second Cavalry, was wounded. Lame Deer and Iron Star, the principal chiefs, were killed.

A portion of the northern Cheyennes which had surrendered was sent to the agency of the southern Cheyennes in the Indian Territory. This was against the earnest protest of General Crook. The Indians, as usual, objected to leaving their old homes and said they would rather die than stay there. It was the same old story, and Dull Knife's band made good their threat. In 1878 they broke away, crossed the State of Kansas, were captured in Kansas and confined in a barrack building at Fort Robinson. Finding that they were again to be sent to the Indian Territory, they knifed their guards on one cold winter's night and took to the country in snow a foot deep. This time the balance of them were killed after a vigorous fight. As they were passing through Kansas they were attacked by Lieut. Colonel William H. Lewis, Nineteenth Infantry, on Punished Womans Fork, where Colonel Lewis was mortally wounded.

The Utes of Colorado had been peaceful since a severe defeat at Puncta Pass in 1855, but in 1879 they broke out again, massacred the agency employees and the agent, and made prisoners of the women of their families. Major T. Tipton Thornburgh, Fourth Infantry, proceeding with three

troops of the Fifth and Third Cavalry regiments to the agency, was attacked at Milk Creek and killed. About one-third of the command was killed and wounded, and was forced to intrench and remain on the defensive, with the loss of all the horses, until it was relieved by General Merritt.

Captain J. Scott Payne, Fifth Cavalry, was twice wounded. Lieut. James V. S. Paddock, Fifth Cavalry, was severely wounded. A few days later Lieut. William B. Weir, Ordnance Department, was killed while on a reconnoissance toward Rifle Creek, 20 miles south of the agency. It should not be forgotten that at the time Weir was killed the troops had been ordered to cease operations and to give the Indian Department a chance.

In July, 1881, Major D. H. Brotherton, Seventh Infantry, received the surrender of the last of the hostiles under Sitting Bull. They could not survive the extermination of the buffalo. Sitting Bull lived quietly for about nine years, and was killed by Indian police during the troubles immediately preceding the uprising of 1890.

With the surrender of these Indians there ended a period of fifteen years of conflict on the plains, which was almost entirely in the military command of General Philip H. Sheridan. More than 400 skirmishes, combats, and battles had been fought; more than 1,000 officers and men had been killed and wounded. The country filled with aggressive settlers, and the Indians, even the proudest, bravest, and cleanest of them, became cowed, degraded, and starved. This condition afforded an opportunity for the "Messiah craze" to take a start, ably abetted, it is to be feared, by educated Indians. The belief of the Indians that they were about to be delivered from the white people by supernatural means was general in 1890. Only a few, however, were bold enough to openly defy the authorities. Among the Sioux most of the unruly spirits gathered into the band of Big Foot, so it was thought advisable to disarm them, and an order to that effect was issued. They escaped from their first captor and after a while fell into the hands of General James W. Forsyth and the Seventh Cavalry. In the attempt to disarm the Indians a desperate conflict occurred, in which 146 Indians were killed and 33

wounded, as well as 60 officers and men. General Forsyth and his command were at once subjected to the same class of criticism so freely bestowed after the Little Big Horn disaster, but the best authority was satisfied with the troops and their handling.

Captain George D. Wallace, Seventh Cavalry, was killed.

Lieut. Ernest A. Garlington, Seventh Cavalry, was severely wounded.

Lieut. John C. Gresham, Seventh Cavalry, was wounded.

Lieut. H. L. Hawthorne, Second Artillery, was wounded.

A few days later a movement to the Catholic mission, a dozen miles away, brought on another conflict, in which Lieut. James D. Mann, Seventh Cavalry, was mortally wounded.

Lieut. Edward W. Casey, Twenty-second Infantry, while riding toward the hostile camp of Brulé Sioux, probably with the intention of emulating the previous exploit of Gatewood in Geronimo's camp, was killed by a murderous Brulé Indian. The Indian was acquitted on the ground that it was an act of war, and the fellow was congratulated by an enthusiastic audience, so we are told. We should like to know what would happen to an American soldier tried for shooting an enemy in the back. In the death of Casey the Indians lost one of their best friends, who had done much for them and who, by his ability and intelligence, was capable of much more.

#### SOME INCIDENTS OF SERVICE.

With this account of some of the men and the acts performed during the Indian wars of an hundred years I have used up the space allotted to me, and yet I feel as if my task were hardly begun.

A thousand scouts came back, but never flushed their game. A thousand others tracked their quarry to the death, but never raised the performance above the dreary level of duty well performed. I am throwing into my waste-paper basket many a hard-riding record of this kind. Some of them are good enough models of frontier service to furnish instruction if our cavalry ever gets stale and rusty in a long peace.

For instance, turn backward with me across sufficient time and space to imagine ourselves at a small group of mud

houses and shanties, called a "fort," on the frontier of Texas about fifty years ago, and let us picture this scene which was one of the casual incidents of army life during much of its history. A young second lieutenant, not long out of West Point, comes riding into the post, followed by a few dusty troopers on jaded horses. The officer's name is Horace Randal, of the First Dragoons. He makes a brief report to the commanding officer, and this is what he says:

I marched out of the post on thirty minutes' notice with 20 men, following a band of Gila Apaches who had stolen some mules. I chased them 300 miles over mountains and plains, through snow and alkali dust, riding 80 miles the last day. Our rations gave out, and we ate the flesh of the sore-backed horses which gave out on the march. For three days and nights we were without water. I caught the Indians, fought them, killed several, and recaptured the stolen stock.

Change Randal's name for another, put in another date, and go 1,000 miles or more to another point on the wide border and you will see the same thing going on, except that in summer the report would be varied by the tale of deserts crossed without grass or water either. If the enemy were fresh at the end you would hear of a hard run over many miles of rough country, probably of wounded carried for many days without the attention of a surgeon.

Officers and men became expert in marching as a few examples will show:

Company A of the Engineer Battalion marched 1,100 miles en route from Fort Bridger, Utah, to West Point, N. Y., in 1858. The company made an average of 20 miles per day for two months.

A company of the Twenty-second Infantry marched 63 miles in twenty-nine hours and fifteen minutes during the Sioux war of 1890-91.

Battery B, Second Artillery, marched 52 miles in twenty-four hours at the time of Ewell's attack on the Mescalero on the Penasco River in 1855.

One of the best instances of individual horsemanship is furnished by the performance of Lieut. William P. (Doc.) Sanders, Second Dragoons, in 1861, just before the civil war. He left Fort Crittenden, Utah, with one man, in pursuit of

deserters, and did not stop until he reached Los Angeles, Cal. He caught the deserters, handed them over to the nearest military post and returned, riding the same horse all the way, 1,600 miles in fifty-nine days, over a rough and dangerous country.

In 1880 Captain A. E. (Jug.) Wood, Fourth Cavalry, rode with 8 men in pursuit of deserters from Fort Reno, Ind. T., to Arkansas City, Kansas, 140 miles in thirty-one hours. One horse was in bad condition at the end of the trip, made so by bad riding; the balance of the horses as well as the men were all right as soon as they got a little sleep and rest, and returned by ordinary marches at once to their station.

Lieut. J. E. B. (Jeb.) Stuart, First Cavalry, on July 11, 1860, with 20 men, rode 26 miles in two hours and a half in pursuit of the band of Kiowas that wounded Lieutenant Bayard. Bear in mind that Stuart had to take the country as he found it and that he had an enemy in his front.

In February, 1860, Brevet Lieut. Colonel Andrew Porter of the Mounted Rifles, left Fort Craig, N. Mex., in pursuit of a band of Navaho. On the second day he marched 90 miles with a detachment of 25 men in eighteen hours, the last 18 miles at a hard run in which he killed and wounded 16 Indians and captured their stock. The only thing that was the matter with Andrew Porter was his failure to get through West Point after two trials.

In July, 1867, General George A. Custer, with 100 men of the Seventh Cavalry made the distance from Fort Wallace to Fort Hays, Kans., 150 miles, in fifty-five hours, including halts.

In the same season, with a larger command, he made 60 miles in fifteen hours.

In the following year he marched a small detachment 80 miles in seventeen hours, every horse completing the march apparently in as fresh condition as when the march began.

In reaching his last battle ground on the Little Big Horn he marched the entire regiment 78 miles over very rough country in a little more than thirty hours.

In 1873 General R. S. Mackenzie took a squadron of the Fourth Cavalry into old Mexico after Lipan and Kickapoo Indians, beat them in a sharp fight, and returned across the

border, making 145 miles in twenty-eight hours. In 1874 he again took his command into Mexico, making there and back 85 miles in fifteen hours.

General Wesley Merritt in 1879, with four troops of the Fifth Cavalry, accompanied by a battalion of the Fourth Infantry in wagons nearly all the way, rode 170 miles to the relief of Thornburgh's command in sixty-six and one-half hours. The command arrived in perfect condition.

Plagues and pestilences sought out the most distant stations as well as those that were near. Some idea of the terrors of this kind may be gathered from the following instances:

So great was the mortality from cholera in 1832 that a force of 1,500 men in the Northwest were not able to participate in the Black Hawk war at that time. In 1848 cholera destroyed one-third of the Eighth Infantry in Texas. The colonel of the regiment was one of the victims.

The Fourth Infantry, crossing the Isthmus of Panama after the Mexican war on the way to California, had a similar attack of cholera.

At Fort Brown, Tex., in 1858, Colonel Francis Taylor and 39 out of 78 men died of yellow fever.

At Jackson Barracks, in 1867, there were 374 cases of yellow fever and 111 deaths out of a mean strength of 380 men.

Scurvy and blizzards have been known which left their mark on every man in the command. The skilled campaigner had to pitch his camp with an eye to waterspouts, bearing in mind frequent disaster from this source.

In November, 1871, two troops of the Second Cavalry were caught in a blizzard, 43° below zero, and 53 men were frost-bitten and had their extremities frozen.

In the same year two companies of the Seventh Infantry, from Fort Shaw, Mont., encountered extreme cold weather. Nearly one-half had hands and feet frozen; 10 had amputations performed.

A remarkable trip was made by Captain R. B. Marcy, Fifth Infantry, in the winter of 1857-58. In the Utah expedition of that time one-half of the artillery horses, two-thirds of the dragoon horses, and a large proportion of the other animals perished. Marcy was sent to replace them in New Mexico.

He started with 40 men in the latter part of November and crossed the Rocky Mountains in the dead of winter at an elevation of 10,000 feet. At times he had to put his men on their hands and knees to break a trail through the snow. He got out of rations and lived for many days on the flesh of the animals which became played out. One man died and many were frozen; 47 out of 65 head of stock were lost. In five months he returned, bringing 1,000 head of stock, having traveled 1,350 miles in 103 marching days.

#### CONCLUSION.

Our Indian wars have nearly all been fought. The officers and men who fought in them had service in peace as hard as that in war. They took lessons in the school of danger and sharpened their wits by contact with emergencies which call forth the highest qualities of the soldier. These qualities must continue to be available if our country is to be a success.

In Indian wars 51 graduates of the Military Academy have been killed and 68 have been wounded. If we take credit for John W. S. McNeill, Second Dragoons; John J. Crittenden, Twenty-second Infantry; Hayden Delany, Ninth Infantry, and others who got their early training at West Point but did not graduate, the list would be longer. In numbers it does not approach the loss in a single great battle, but in every other way it should count for many Gettysburgs.

To the century that is beginning our Alma Mater points with pride to the history of the century that is past, only asking that in another hundred years the "dust that builds on dust" will have as good a tale to tell.

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