

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO / WYOMING

Vol. 3

Fall 2009

WESTERN

TRIBUNE



**Sons of Union
Veterans
of the Civil
War**

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A NEW SET OF BYLAWS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO / WYOMING



On October 3, 2009 an Emergency Meeting was held at the home of Secretary / Treasurer Gary Parrott for the purpose of voting in a revised set of Department Bylaws. The vote was unanimously in favor of adopting the needed changes and we now have a new set of bylaws, subject to approval from National SUVCW which should be no problem. A copy of the new bylaws is posted on our department website at the following location: <http://suvcw.org/co/deptcowy.html>.

Only needed changes were incorporated into the newly revised bylaws and the previous set was used for the primary foundation of the new ones. The changes will allow the Department to operate in accordance with standards set by national and by the state of Colorado. Once the bylaws are returned to us signed by the National officers we will post a copy of these on the website at the above address.

DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

If you have not already done so now would be a good time to take a look at the Department of CO/WY website located at:

<http://suvcw.org/co/deptcowy.html>

Bro. Eric Richhart is our webmaster and has done an outstanding job of maintaining the site and updating information on it to keep current with issues as they break. He has put in a lot of work to make it one of the finest websites in SUVCW.

We especially want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who had submitted a photo or other information about our Past Department Commanders.



HEADQUARTERS

DEPARTMENT OF
COLORADO / WYOMING

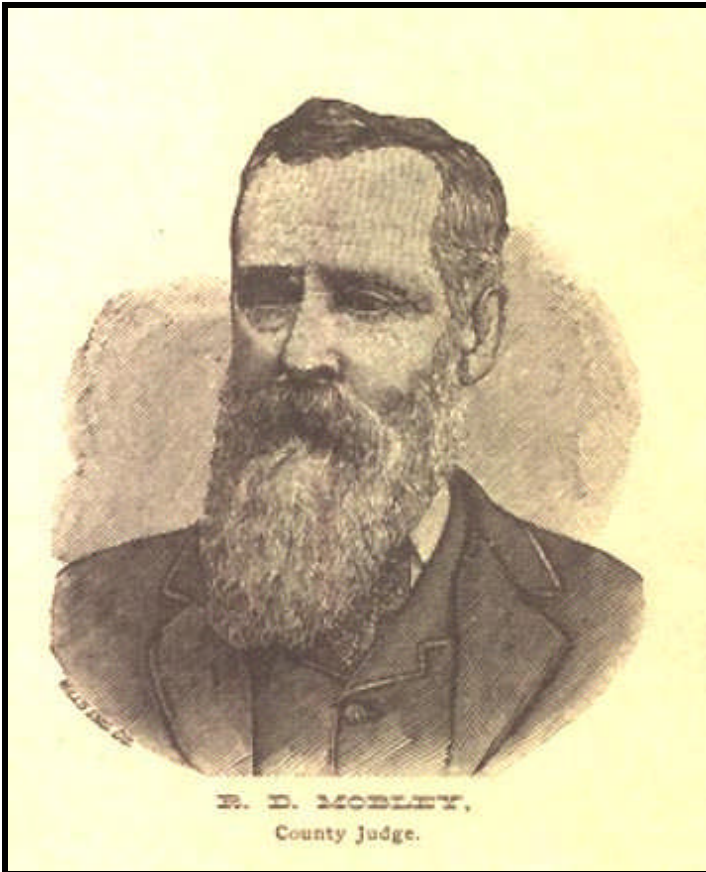
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Commander Gary W. Brewer

What Is The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War?

In 1866 Union veterans of the Civil War organized into the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and became a social and political force that would control the destiny of the nation for more than six decades. Membership in the Veterans' organization was restricted to individuals who had served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service during the Civil War, thereby limiting the life span of the GAR.

RICHARD D. MOBLEY BY: K. DON THOMPSON, SECRETARY, CAMP 7

Date of Birth: 1833
 Location: Graves County, Kentucky
 Date of Death: October 13, 1893
 Location: Grand Junction, Colorado
 Age: 60
 Burial: Orchard Mesa Cemetery
 (Masonic) Lot 82 Plot J
CIVIL WAR SERVICE
 Captain
 Company D, 17th Kansas Infantry

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
 POST #35
 Grand Junction Colorado

**EX – JUDGE R. D. MOBLEY KILLED
 Sad and Horrible Death of One of the Founders
 of the Town of Grand Junction – Struck By a
 Midland Sleeper**

The startling announcement of the untimely death of Ex-Judge Richard D. Mobley on Tuesday morning brought sorrow to the hearts of many old timers and citizens who knew him intimately, and the horri-

ble manner in which he met his death aroused the sympathies of the entire community.

In response to a telegram Judge Mobley came down from Montrose on Sunday afternoon to attend the sick-bed of his nephew, Mr. George Yates, who is lying dangerously ill with typhoid fever at his home in the Crawford addition.

Early Tuesday morning he had started up town and had gotten as far as the railroad yards and it was while crossing the tracks that he met his death.

The early morning train had just arrived from the west and the switchmen were making their usual changes and getting the train ready for its departure east. Judge Mobley was walking leisurely down the track when the switch engine with a Midland sleeper ran up behind him. A passenger in the sleeper who was standing on the platform of the car called out to him and endeavored to attract his attention, and a railroad employee also tried to warn him, but all too late. The sleeper struck him and he fell under the cars and was dragged about two hundred yards before the train could be stopped.

When taken from beneath the car his head was so badly cut up and bruised and covered with blood that he was hardly recognizable, and it was not until his pockets were searched that his identity was established.

Dr. Bull, who happened to be at the depot helping to get another injured man on the train, was called and examined Judge Mobley's injuries. He was still breathing but it was evident from the extent and nature of his injuries that he was beyond medical aid, but the Dr. remained with him until his death, which came within an hour after he was hurt. It is not at all likely that he knew what hurt him. His body was taken to

(Continued on page 11)

BUFFALO BILL BY RHY PARIS

Circa 1875



In the annals of history there is hardly a name that stands out more than Buffalo Bill! William Frederick Cody (aka, Buffalo Bill) was born February 26, 1846 in LeClare, Iowa.

Cody drove hay wagons and herded cattle, tried his hand a fur trapping, gold mining and even put some time is as a Pony Express rider in 1860 and then the Civil War broke out and he became an Army scout. He earned the nickname “Buffalo Bill” because of his skill of hunting buffalo on the prairie. Bill spent much of his life in the west and finally found his true calling—Showman! This opportunity coming from a dime novel called, “Scouts of the Prairie” written in 1872. In 1882 he formed Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show and toured the United States and many continents putting on shows of how it was in the west.

In his early years, around age 11 (1857 after his father died), he worked as a “boy extra” running up and down wagon trains delivering messages in order to raise money for his family. He later joined Johnson’s Army as an unofficial member of the scouts and went to Utah to squash the Mormon rebellion that was supposedly going on there in Salt Lake City (this proved to be a falsehood).

According to his account in his book, *Buffalo Bills Own Story* it was the Utah Wars that began his career as an Indian fighter:

“Presently the moon rose, dead ahead of me; and painted boldly across its face was the figure of an Indian. He wore the war-bonnet of the Sioux, at his shoulder was a rifle pointed at someone in the river-bottom 30 feet (9 m) below; in another second he would drop one of my friends. I raised my old muzzle-loader and fired. The figure collapsed, tumbled down the bank and landed with a splash in the water. ‘What is it?’ called McCarthy, as he hurried back. ‘It’s over there in the water,’. ‘Hi!’ he cried. ‘Little Billy’s killed an Indian all by himself!’ So began my career as an Indian fighter.”

At age 14 Cody found himself with a bad case of “Gold Fever” and headed for the gold fields but on his way there he met a Pony Express agent and signed on with the Pony Express to help build way stations. After working for the Pony Express doing construction he was offered a job as a rider and delivered mail between Saint Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California until he was called home due to his mother being sick. She recovered and Bill then tried to join the Army but was turned down due to his age and began to work for a freight company delivering good to Ft. Laramie, Kansas. It was 1863 when young William Cody enlisted as a private in Company H of the 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry and served with them until his discharge in 1865.

On March 6, 1865, he was married to Miss Louisa Frederici, of St. Louis, and afterwards ran a hotel for a few months and then again returned to scouting.

From 1868 to 1872 Buffalo Bill, as he was now known to most folks , was employed by the United States Army as a civilian scout. His time was divided between scouting for Indians and gathering and killing bison for the Army and the Kansas pacific Railroad. In 1872, while serving as a scout for the Grand Duke Alexei Alexandrovich of Russia during his highly publicized royal hunt in the United States.



Louisa Frederici Cody

(Continued on page 6)

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:



2009 has brought us many blessings.
My association with you
is one I will cherish.

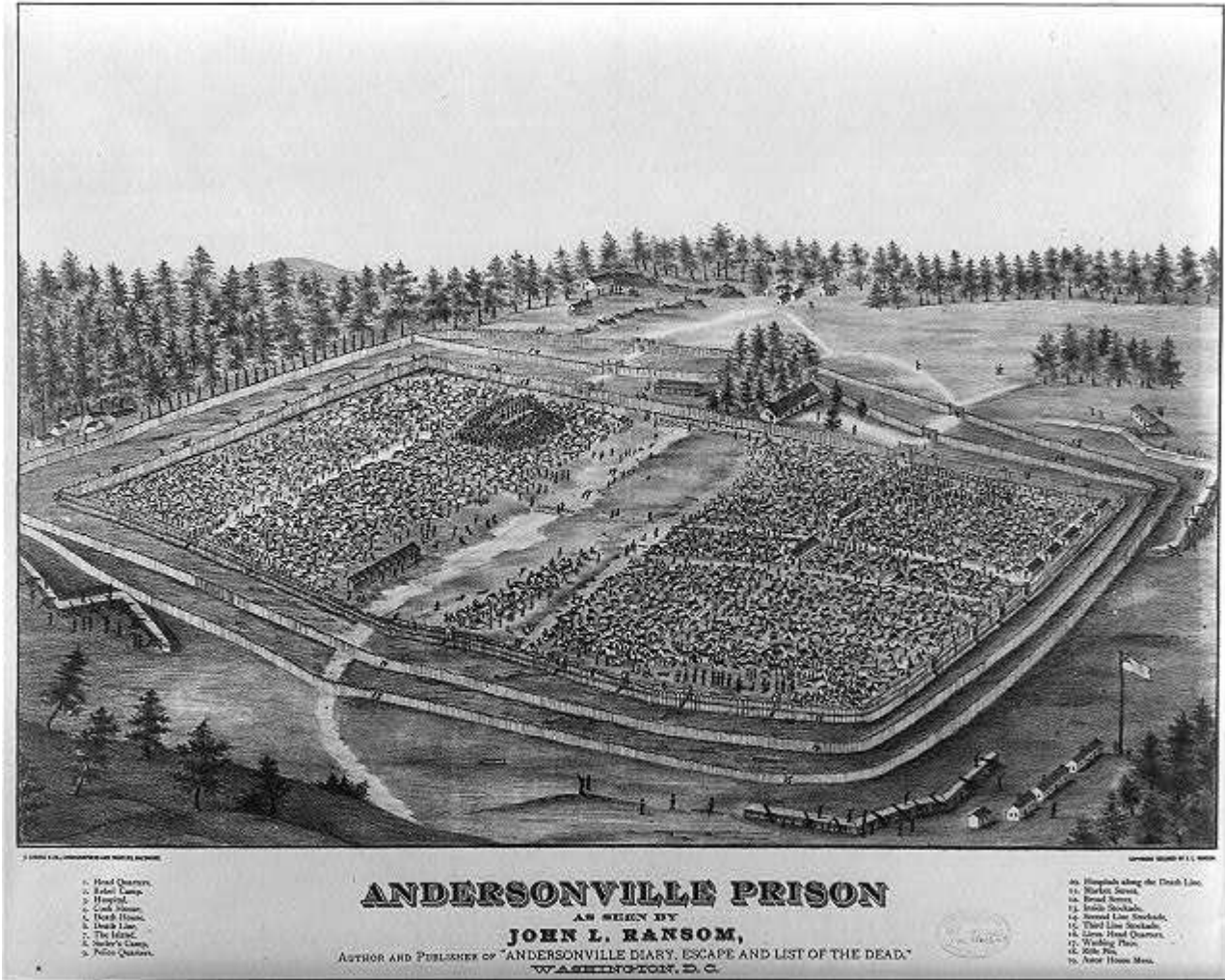
Merry Christmas and a Happy 2010

filled with peace and happiness
for you and yours!

Garry W. Brewer D.C.

**Commander
Department of CO/WY
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
brewer62@bresnan.net**

ANDERSONVILLE BY RHY PARIS



Andersonville - a little background on the most famous, or possibly infamous, POW camp of the Civil War would seem an appropriate beginning. By 1863 it had become obvious to the Confederacy that there was a need to build a prison camp to hold many of the Union soldiers captured during various battles and engagements. The Confederacy sent Captain W. Sidney Winder to the village of Andersonville in Sumter County, Georgia to determine what the potential would be to build such a facility. There were several factors that made Andersonville a good location. It was deep in the South, close to the Southwestern Railroad, and there was fresh water available for the prisoners and guards alike. Andersonville's small population (less than 20) would further prevent its inhabitants from having any political pull to avoid the construction of such an unpopular facility. Because of all these factors Andersonville was chosen as the location to build the prison.

Once the site had been selected the Confederacy sent Captain Richard B. Winder to Andersonville to oversee construction of the prison. Captain Winder arrived in the latter part of December 1863 and proceeded to design a prison that would cover approximately 16.5 acres as he assumed a figure of 10,000 prisoners would be held there. The construction was rectangular in shape and had a small creek running through its center. The name decided upon for the prison was Camp Sumter.

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BUFFALO BILL (CONT.)

(Continued from page 3)

Cody received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1872 for "gallantry in action" while serving as a civilian scout for the 3rd Cavalry Regiment. In 1917, the U.S. Congress—after revising the standards for award of the medal—revoked 911 medals previously awarded either to civilians, or for actions that would not warrant a Medal of Honor under the new higher standards. After Dr. Mary Edwards Walker's medal was restored in 1977, other reviews began that led to Cody's medal—along with those given to four other civilian scouts—being reinstated on June 12, 1989. (Editors note: When Brother Charles Sharrock found out about this he assisted in getting a new monument with the Medal of Honor on it placed at Buffalo Bill's gravesite on Lookout Mountain just outside Denver, Colorado—see Brother Sharrock's article for additional information).

Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of rough Riders of the World put on shows all over the world with such greats as Annie Oakley and her husband Frank Butler demonstration their shooting skills and American Indians such as Sitting Bull and his braves giving horse riding demonstrations and showing other skills with Bow and Arrows, lance and tomahawk. To the right is a copy of an ad for his show in Grand Junction, Colorado on September 7, 1908.

Buffalo Bill died while on a trip to Denver, Colorado to visit his sister in 1917 and was buried on top of Lookout Mountain, just outside of Denver, on June 3, 1917 at his request. Four years later his wife, Louisa was laid to rest next to him.

GRAND JUNCTION Monday Forenoon SEPT. 7
Only One Performance ∴ 11 a. m. Sharp
AN ARENA OF HISTORIC AND THRILLING EVENTS
 Illuminated by the Light of More than a Quarter Century, and Reflecting the Final Vistas of a Fast Fading Era

BUFFALO BILL'S WILD WEST
AND CONGRESS OF ROUGH RIDERS OF THE WORLD
STANDS ALONE, MONARCH OF ITS SPHERE
 Bearing the Original Characteristics of that which it Represents, and Picturesquely Perpetuating for Posterity Primordial Pictures of the Plains, Combining Under the Banner of National Entertainment
Historic Scenes and Incidents | Reckless Horsemanship and Equine Intelligence
Aboriginal Types and Customs | Military Drills and Martial Pageants
Feats of Skill, Nerve and Manly Daring | Realistic Charges and Thrilling Battles
A Great Drama of Civilization with a Typical Cast
 Epoch making Scenes Revived in Animated Living Pictures.








THE GREAT Train Hold-Up
AND BANDIT HUNTERS
 of the Union Pacific. Showing a Scene Typical of the Dangers attendant upon early Railroading in the Far West, wherein Lawlessness is Punished by the Trained Representatives of Law and Order.

A Vivid Re-enactment of the Red-man's Final Conflict at Arms
THE BATTLE OF SUMMIT SPRINGS
 The Final Chapter in Martial Conquest of Half a Continent, depicting with historic exactness the Barbaric Methods of Savage Warfare, contrasting the cunning of the Indian Warrior with the Valorous Deeds of the American Soldier, correct in every detail and **REALISTIC BEYOND DESCRIPTION**
A Holiday at "T-E" Ranch
 Wherein the Pleasures and Pastimes of the Plainsmen are set forth in Attractive Display, and the Dangers of Early Pioneering are shown in an Attack by Indians and their Repulse and Defeat. A special feature being
FOOTBALL ON HORSEBACK
 An exhibition entirely new to America, wherein Western Bronchos and Range Horses participate in the greatest of all athletic sports, drilled to perfection, and expert as human players.
THE EXHIBITION INTRODUCES THESE
Rare, Skillful and Natural Actors :
 AMERICAN INDIANS, U. S. ARTILLERY, AMERICAN COWBOYS, AND CAVALRY, ROYAL IRISH DRAGOONS, WILD WEST GIRLS, DEVLIN'S ZOUAVES, ROYAL ENGLISH LANCERS, MEXICAN RURALIES, JAPANESE SOLDIERY, SOUTH AMERICAN GAUCHOS, BEDOUIN ARABS, RUSSIAN COSSACKS, SCOUTS AND GUIDES.
PRESENTING IN FAITHFUL REPRESENTATION TYPICAL SCENES AND INCIDENTS
 Feats of Horsemanship, Skillful Sharpshooting, Military Manoeuvres, Equestrian Sports, Drills, Reviews and Pageants, Cavalry Charges, Indian War Dances, Cossack Charges, Fun and Frolic by Cowboys and Wild West Girls, the Entire Entertainment
COMPLETE, UNCHALLENGED AND UNEQUALLED IN ITS CLASS
 Directed, Instigated, Conceived, Originated and Perpetuated by the One and Only **COL. WM. F. CODY (BUFFALO BILL)**
 Ex-Chief of Scouts, U. S. A., Pioneer, Patriot, Pathfinder and Plainsman, who Positively Appears at Every Performance, no matter what the Weather.

DOORS OPEN AT 10:00 A. M.—PERFORMANCE BEGINS AT 11:00 A. M.
 Admission (including Seat) 50 cts. Grand Stand Chairs (including admission) \$1.00 on sale day of exhibition at KRAFT & EMERSON'S DRUG STORE. Children under 10 years half price. All seats protected from sun and rain by Immense Canvas Canopy.

Ad from the Grand Junction, Colorado newspaper for a Buffalo Bill Show Sept. 7, 1908

G.A.R. DEPARTMENT OF CO/WY EARLY HISTORY



Past Department of CO/WY Commander Robert L. Krasche (1986-1987) sent this three-page history of the Grand Army of the Republic Department of CO/WY, which follows:

History of Colo. GAR

This history was compiled by the late Brother John B. Tipton, long-time member of Colorado Springs Camp #5, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). He gathered the information from a booklet written by Comrade John Conkie. A past Commander of the Department of Colorado & Wyoming, Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). This information is as of August 1, 1931, the date of Brother Conkie's booklet.

The first National Encampment of the GAR was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 20, 1866. General S. A. Hurlburt of Illinois was elected as the first Commander-in-Chief of the GAR at that Encampment. Departments represented and number of representatives from each Department were as follows: Indiana – 210; Illinois – 34; Ohio – 16; Maryland – 9; Wisconsin – 5; Iowa – 4; District of Columbia – 1; Pennsylvania – 3; Kansas – 5; New York – 2; Kentucky – 3; and Arkansas – 1.

The Department of Colorado was organized early in 1869. In 1874, the name was changed to the Department of the Mountains. The Department consisted of the States of Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah. The Department's name was again changed, for the last time, in August, 1889, when it became the Department of Colorado and Wyoming. On this date the Department had over 9,000 members. Following is a brief description of each post within the Department of Colorado and Wyoming, as of August 1, 1931:

George A. Custer Post #1, Laramie, WY. Founded in 1878 with 70 members. Associated with it was George A Custer Women's Relief Corps #20.

Abraham Lincoln Post #4, Denver, CO. Formed in 1878, it had over 700 members in the 1890's. Associated with it was Denver Circle #1, Ladies of the GAR.

Nathaniel Lyons Post #5, Boulder, CO. Formed in 1881, it had 410 members, 125 being the most at one time. Associated with it were Nathaniel Lyon's Women's Relief Corps #27 and Louise M Alcott Tent, Daughters of Union Veterans.

McPherson Post #6, Longmont, CO. Formed in 1905, it had 248 members. Associated with it was McPherson Women's Relief Corps #32.

George H. Thomas Post #7, Fort Collins, CO. Formed in 1881, it had a total of 318 members. This Post erected a 15-foot statue of a soldier at parade rest in the GAR plot in the Fort Collins cemetery. Associated with this Post was George H. Thomas Women's relief Corps #26.

Pueblo Post #8, Pueblo, CO. Formed in 1881, it had 350 members. It had the largest drum and fife corps in the Department. Associated with this Post was Pueblo Women's Relief Corps #2.

James A. Garfield Post #9, Leadville, CO. Formed in 1881, it had 400 members when Leadville was a boom town. Associated with it was James A. Garfield Women's Relief Corps #8.

Greenwood Post #10, Canon City, CO. Formed in 1881, it had 130 members. Associated with it was Greenwood women's Relief Corps #22.



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ANDERSONVILLE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 5)

In January of 1864 slaves from nearby farms were brought in to clear the land and dig ditches for the prison stockade. The stockade measured approximately 1010 feet long by 780 feet wide with walls constructed from pine logs cut on site and squared. These logs were set vertically in a wall trench approximately five feet deep. One account of the logs used provided some insight to the construction: each log was hewn to a thickness of eight to twelve inches and "matched so well on the inner line of the palisades as to give no glimpse of the outer world" (Hamlin 1866:48-49). In addition to this wall a lesser wall was built approximately 19-25 feet inside the main wall. This lesser wall was used as a demarcation point for the no-man's land between the fences to warn the prisoners and keep them away from the main wall. If a prisoner were foolish enough to cross this demarcation line they were immediately shot by one of the many guards stationed at intervals along the main wall. On the west side of the stockade were two gates. These gates were built of massive timbers and approximately 30 feet square with smaller door sized entrances in each one.

When Sherman started his march to Atlanta concern grew that Union forces might try to attack Andersonville and free the prisoners or that the prisoners hearing of Sherman's march might try to escape. As a result additional inner barriers were constructed. By early September, Sherman's troops had occupied Atlanta and the threat of Union raids on Andersonville prompted the transfer of most of the Union prisoners to other camps in Georgia and South Carolina. By mid November there were only about 1,500 prisoners left in Andersonville and this figure was maintained until the end of the Civil War in April 1865. Andersonville was only in operation for approximately 15 months but during that time 12,913 Union prisoners died and were buried there.

Once the Civil War had ended the plot of ground where those 12,913 prisoners were buried was converted to a National Cemetery by the Union and the prison reverted to private ownership and the ground was planted with cotton and other crops until the Grand Army of the Republic of Georgia acquired the land in 1891. The GAR constructed stone monuments to mark various portions of the prison including the four corners of the inner stockade and the North and South Gates.

The average mortality rate for prisoners in the prison camps of the Union or Confederacy was around 13% and this was only slightly higher than the mortality rate for soldiers who died in the field.¹ Disease was the demon that caused many of those 12, 913 deaths, which occurred at Andersonville. More precisely those diseases which were most common to the digestive system, diarrhea and dysentery, according to Dr. Isaiah H. White, Chief Surgeon at Andersonville in 1864. "Scurvy combined with diarrhea was a particularly lethal combination, not only in Andersonville but also in London prisons (1823), polar expeditions (1853), among the British and French troops in the Crimea (1854-56, and during the Boer War (1899-1902)."²

When the exchange of prisoners was discontinued late in the Civil War the Confederacy was left with little choice of what to do with the multitude of Union prisoners in their care. The Confederate secretary of War, James Seddon stated that the conditions at their prisons "presented a great embarrassment" and then added that "I see no remedy which is not worse than the evil . . . We are not responsible for the miserable sufferings of the captives."³

Of particular note is the fact that a Vermont Brigade was one of the best fighting units and its soldiers were of exceptional health overall with only about 9% of them dying from disease. Of those captured and held by the Confederacy only about 13% (again the average for the Civil War) died while held captive. One major difference to this was 379 enlisted men who were captured on June 23, 1864, at the Weldon Railroad just south of Petersburg. They were all sent to Andersonville and 224 of them died there (this is 59% -

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ANDERSONVILLE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 8)

OVER ONE-HALF!!). This was excessive even by Andersonville standards.⁴⁻⁵

Severe malnutrition at Andersonville resulted in a multiple deficiency state with scurvy being the dominate problem. Due to a diet deficient in vitamins (folic acid, B12 and C among others) created an intestinal malabsorption and diarrhea but the greatest problem came as a result of hookworm disease (a disease not discovered until 1899).⁶

On June 6, 1864 Captain Henry Wirz, who was commander of the inner stockade, reported that “the bread which is issues prisoners is of such and inferior quality, consisting fully of one-sixth of husk, that it is almost unfit for use and increases dysentery and other bowel complaints.”⁷ Andersonville’s physicians further confirmed that the diet given the prisoners was unhealthy with Dr. R. Randolph Stevenson, one of the chief surgeons at Andersonville stated, “The bread was made from cornmeal... [that] produced diarrhea, and hence laid the foundation of all those symptoms resulting from defective nutrition.”⁸

Dr. Samuel P. Moore, Confederate Surgeon General, sent Dr. Joseph Jones, the South’s leading expert on infectious diseases, to Andersonville in September of 1864 to determine the cause of the high mortality rate there. Dr. Jones’ discovered that 9,501 prisoners had scurvy (a condition caused by a deficiency in vitamin C) and decided that this was the cause of about nine-tenths of the prisoner’s deaths.⁹ In fact they appeared to be dying from “scorbutic dysentery”.¹⁰ Point of fact was that Dr. Jones had mistaken the conditions he saw and the actual problem was the result of a very lethal epidemic of hookworm disease.

Intestinal worms are contracted from soil and are quite rampant in the developing nations of the world were the temperatures are warm and the soil wet and hygiene is at a low level. Combined with bare feet and improper human waste disposal hookworm thrives. Currently in second place of the helminthic infections, hookworm affects over one billion people around the world.

Adult hookworms are less than 1 centimeter in length and live in the walls of human intestines. A single female hookworm can lay up to 10,000 eggs every day. The 3se eggs then pass through the stool and in the larva stage thrive in the moist and warm conditions of the soil of tropic and sub-tropic countries. These larva then penetrate the skin between the toes of the people walking bare foot and other areas of the body and are transported by the body through the blood stream into the lungs where they get coughed up and again swallowed into the stomach and on into the intestines where they take up residency. Mature hookworm bore into the small intestine lining and cause illness by ingestion of the person’s blood resulting in chronic anemia.¹¹

Hookworm was so prevalent in the South that a term became associated with it, “Georgia Cracker”. This condition, in varying degrees, resulted in an emaciated overall appearance, premature aging, a lanky frame, lack of muscles and a look of a scarecrow with “fish eyes”. Individuals suffering from hookworm were short on energy and often thought of a lazy or slow witted and ignorant.¹²

Hookworm is a byproduct of the slave trade brought into this country when slaves, captured in Africa and other areas, infected already with the parasite were introduced into the population. The cycle of infection was then carried on to other who came in contact with the hookworm.

Slave labor was used to build Andersonville and conditions there were ripe for a mass epidemic. The slaves would deposit the larva in their excrement and the larva would then develop in the soil and with the influx of the Union prisoners who were crowded into the stockade in deplorable conditions then became infected

(Continued on page 12)

G.A.R. DEPARTMENT OF CO/WY EARLY HISTORY (CONT.)

(Continued from page 7)

U. S. Grant Post #13, Greeley, CO. Formed in 1882, it had 560 members, 170 at one time. Associated with it was U. S. Grant Women's Relief Corps #15.

Byron L. Carr Post #14, Denver, CO. Formed in 1903, it had 284 members. Associated with it was Byron L. Carr Women's Relief Corps #6

Joe Hooker Post 16, Soldier's and Sailor's Home, Homelake, CO Formed in 1917, it had 48 members. Associated with it was Ladies of the Grand Army Circle #14 of Monte Vista, CO.

John A. Logan Post #21, Grand Junction, CO. Formed in 1883, it had 310 members. Associated with it was John A. Logan Women's Relief corps #21.

Colorado Springs Post #22, Colorado Springs, CO. Formed in 1882, it had over 700 members. It had a fine drum and fife corps, and a group which recreated Civil War battles. General William T. Sherman was a guest of the post in July, 1889. Associated with this post was William D. Matthews Women's Relief Corps #33.

Trinidad Post #25, Trinidad, CO. Formed in 1881, it had 146 members. Associated with it was Trinidad women's Relief Corps #20.

John F. Reynolds Post #33, Cheyenne, WY. Formed in 1881, it had 100 members. Associated with it was John F. Reynolds Women's Relief Corps #25.

E. M. Stanton Post #37, Salida, CO. Formed in 1883, it had 200 members. Associated with it was Salida Circle #12, Ladies of the GAR.

John Schuler Post #67, Sheridan, WY. Formed in 1889, it had 40 members. Associated with it was John Schuler Women's Relief Corps #19.

F. H. Beecher Post #70, Wray, CO. Formed in 1906, it had 86 members. It had no women's organization associated with it.

George Washington Post #85, Denver, CO. formed in 1891, it had 250 members. Associated with it was George Washington women's Relief Corps #42.

R. A. Cameron Post #95, Fort Morgan, CO. Formed in 1882, it had 100 members. Associated with it was R. A. Cameron Women's Relief Corps #18.

The Current Department of Colorado and Wyoming, SUVCW, was an outgrowth of the GAR Department of Colorado and Wyoming. The last member of the GAR Department of Colorado and Wyoming died in 1948. the GAR Department's charter is now in the Pioneer Museum in Colorado Springs. With it is "The Great Book" of the GAR Department. It is a magnificent leather-bound, gold embossed and edged volume, which was presented to the Department in 1895 by Comrade Winfield Scott Stratton. In it is the history of the Department and the names and a notation of the Civil War service of each of the Department's members.

The last member of the GAR Department of Colorado and Wyoming was Robert T. Bryan, who died in 1948 at the age of 100. He was born near Lincoln, Illinois on August 9, 1848. He enlisted in the Army at the age of 15. In 1925 he moved to Boulder, CO to live with his daughter, Effie Clapper. Comrade Bryan's father had been a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln.

The above information was revised by Juanita V. Coleman, Department Historian of the LGAR, for the 1984 Annual Encampment of the Federated Patriotic Societies on June 4, 1984.



RICHARD D. MOBLEY (CONT.)

(Continued from page 2)

M. O. Whitehead's undertaking establishment and prepared for burial. Mrs. Mobley was telegraphed for and arrived from Montrose on Tuesday night with some friends. At her request the funeral services were arranged to be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. from the Methodist church.

Coroner Ingersoll held an inquest on the body Tuesday afternoon and the jury rendered the following verdict, after examining several witnesses,

"That the deceased came to his death about 5:00 o'clock on the morning of the 10th day of October, 1893, from injuries received by being struck by car No. 202 of the Rio Grande Western railway, which was being pushed on the side track, by the Denver & Rio Grande switch engine, to form part of Colorado Midland passenger train No. 6, in the yards of the Union depot, and the blame, if any, from the testimony we find impossible to locate."

Richard D. Mobley was about 60 years of age, an early pioneer of Western Colorado and one of the founders of the town of Grand Junction.

Concerning his life previous to his coming to Grand Junction we quote from data furnished by himself for a history published by the Mesa County Democrat in 1886.

"R. D. Mobley was born in Graves county, Kentucky, in 1833, and was educated at Aurora academy in that state. He studied law with Col. Ed Crosslands at Clinton, but was obliged on account of bad health to abandon the practice of his profession and move westward. He came to Kansas during the excitement there previous to the war, and settled at Fort Riley. Much of his time was then spent until 1860 in freighting across the plains when he was elected clerk of the district court of Davis county. In 1869 he enlisted as a private in Co. H, 7th Kansas cavalry, but was rejected on account of ill health. In the spring of 1864 he however raised a company for the 17th Kansas Infantry and was mustered into the same as a captain of Co. D. Captain Mobley was commander of the post at Lawrence, Kansas, for four months, and served under Gen. Curtis in the Price raids and against the bushwhackers in Missouri. After the war he settled in Ottawa county, Kansas, and was elected in 1865 county attorney. Here he remained until 1880, and during this period was elected three terms to the state legislature, where he served as chairman of important committees. In 1869 he was appointed state land commissioner by Gov. Harrey, which position he held for four years. Judge Mobley had visited the territory of Colorado as early as 1856, and the San Juan and Gunnison country in 1877. He was much pleased with this new western country and 1880 moved with his family to Gunnison city. Here he remained until the opening of the Ute reservation in September 1881 when, with Gov. Crawford and others, he came to the Grand valley and assisted in the location of Grand Junction, becoming a prominent and zealous member of the town company. In the fall of 1883 Judge Mobley was elected county judge by a large majority. Judge Mobley has always taken an active part in all questions of public and political importance. He possesses many friends throughout the county and has an extensive and valuable acquaintance with prominent men of the state."

In 1892 he was appointed register of the Montrose land office by President Harrison, which position he was filling at the time of his death.

Judge Mobley had many good traits of character and a kindly heart. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, but did not try to force his knowledge upon the people. There are many men in Grand Junction who having passed through the experiences of the early pioneer days with him will cherish his memory.

(Continued on page 13)

ANDERSONVILLE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 9)

and further passed the hookworm on through the natural cycle of things. The prisoners lacked nutritional food and vitamins and combined with the unbolted cornbread diarrhea was nearly universal. Combine these conditions with 30,000 prisoners in an area designed to house 10,000 at best all tramping around in the universal mud of the prison and you had perfect conditions for the hookworm to flourish. Unsanitary living conditions further added to the problem. It was said that at times the stench of the place reach as far as Americus, Georgia about 12 miles to the south when the winds were blowing in that direction.¹³ The prisoners would sleep barefoot or grub for roots in the soil, burrow in the ground for a place to sleep or dig for a little water to drink thus infection their hands and feet with these parasites. No doubt the water in the stockade stream was infested with millions of the hookworm, which only added to the problem making Andersonville a deathtrap for thousands of Union prisoners.¹⁴

As a result of an investigation done by Marine Colonel Ashford K. Bailey after an epidemic as a result of the 1899 hurricane in San Ciriaco where 11,875 Puerto Ricans died hookworm was discovered for the first time.¹⁵

It was determined that the hookworm became deadly once the victims, who were mostly Puerto Rican *ji-baro* (peons) were also afflicted with intestinal malabsorptive disease.¹⁶ In Andersonville the result had been the same – once the prisoners became infected with scorbutic dysentery the hookworm turned into a killer.

Today thanks to better sanitary conditions and the understanding for them hookworm has nearly been eliminated and poses little threat. However, back in 1864 the conditions that existed in Andersonville created a near perfect environment for the hookworm and made the prisoners there uniquely susceptible to it fury.

Much of the information contained in this article was gleaned from an article written by David F. Cross, M.D. found in Vol. 6, Number 6, September 2003, North and South magazine. Dr. Cross' article also provided the various sources for the below footnotes. Also, various Internet locations were of particular assistance in providing the background information.

1. Hesseltine, 6; James M. McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (New York, 1988), p. 802.
2. Kenneth J. Carpenter, *The History of Scurvy and Vitamin C* (Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1986), p. 114.
3. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* 128 volumes (Washington, D.C.: 1880-1906), series 2, vol. 7, p. 856. (Hereafter cited as *O.R.*)
4. Bruce Catton, *A Stillness at Appomattox* (Garden City, New York, 1953), p. 72
5. R. Randolph Stevenson, *The Southern Side; 36. or, Andersonville Prison* (Baltimore, 1876), p. 51..
6. Alfred Jay Bollet, "Scurvy and Chronic Diarrhea in Civil War Troops: Were They Both Nutritional Deficiency Syndromes?" *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 47 (1992): 49-67; Alfred Jay Bollet, "Scurvy, Sprue, and Starvation: Major Nutritional Deficiency Syndromes 37. During the Civil War" Part 1, *Medical Times* (November 1989): 69-74; Alfred Jay Bollet, "To Care for Him That Has Born the Battle: A Medical History of the Civil War" Part 2, *Medical Times* (June 1990): pp. 39-44.
7. William G. Burnett, *The Prison Camp At Andersonville* (Eastern National Park and 38. Monument Association, 1995), p. 16.
8. Marvel, p. x; Joe Henry Segars, ed., "Andersonville: The Southern Perspective" in *Journal of Confederate History* vol. XIII (1995), p. 16.
9. *O.R.*, series 2, vol. 8, pp. 589-632.
10. Alfred Jay Bollet, *Civil War Medicine: Challenges and Triumphs* (Tucson, Arizona, 2002), pp. 369-372.
11. Geer Williams, *The Plague Killers* (New York, 1969), pp. 3-17.
12. Thomas D. Clark, *The Emerging South* (New York, 1968), p. 25-26.
13. "Almost every prisoner," Dr. Jones noted, was "affected with either diarrhea or dysentery." He saw prisoners "urinating and evacuating their bowels at the very tent doors" and observed that small pits "not more than a foot or two deep newly filled with soft offensive fasces were found through the stockade?" James O. Breeden, "Andersonville-A Southern Surgeon's Story" in *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* vol. 47, issue 4 (July-August 1973): 317-343.
14. Dr. Bailey Ashford described two near-lethal cases of hookworm disease in Puerto Rico contracted from bathing or swimming in contaminated water. Bailey K. Ashford, *A Soldier in Science: The Autobiography of Bailey K. Ashford* (New York, 1934), pp. 440-408.
15. In the municipality of Adjuntas, Puerto Rico, during the two years following the hurricane, there were 1,600 deaths due to "la anemia" out of a population of 18,000. The average number of deaths from all other causes for the preceding years was 375. Ashford, 91.
16. William H Crosby, "The Deadly Hookworm. Why did the Puerto Ricans die?" *Archives of Internal Medicine* vol. 147 (1987): 577-78; A. E. Maldonado, "Hookworm Disease: Puerto Rico's Secret Killer" *Puerto Rico Health Science Journal* vol. 12 (1993): 191-96; Ashford, 35-63; Ettling, 29-32.

RICHARD D. MOBLEY (CONT.)

His funeral obsequies were conducted under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity, he being a Master Mason. At the Methodist church after prayer by the pastor, Rev. J. L. Vallow, Hon. James Bucklin gave a brief address reciting the early history of the location of the town site of Grand Junction and Judge Mobley's connection therewith, and his many good qualities of mind and heart. The remains were then taken to Orchard Mesa cemetery and laid to rest, the Masons using their very impressive burial ceremony.

The business houses all closed their doors during the hours of the funeral ceremony, and Judge Gabbert also adjourned his court out of respect to the memory of Judge Mobley and his family.

He was twice married but had no children. His first wife, who was well known in this city, died in 1890 at her old home in Kansas. About a year ago he was married to Mrs. S. J. P. Kerston, at Minneapolis, Minn., a lady of English birth, and a member of the historical house of Paddington. His grand niece, Mrs. George Yates, also lives in this city, and to whose assistance he came on Sunday. These are the only immediate relatives which he had in Colorado. He has a brother at Nevada, Missouri.

(The Grand Junction News, October 14, 1893, page 1, column 1 &2)

G.A.R. RECORDS Post #35



Page: 39

No.: 5

Age: 50

Place of Birth: Pasco County, Kentucky

Residence: Grand Junction

Occupation: Farmer

ENTRY INTO SERVICE:

Date: July 1864 **Rank:** Private

Company: D **Regiment:** 17th Kansas Infantry

FINAL DISCHARGE:

Date: November, 1864 **Rank:** Captain

Company: D **Regiment:** 17th Kansas Infantry

Length of Service: 4 months

Cause of Discharge: Expired Term of Service

G.A.R. Muster Date:

Note: Suspended July 1st, 1890

Dropped; July 1, 1891

Reinstated: August 1, 1891

Killed August 10, 1893 by cars

Cause of Discharge: Expired Term of Service

G.A.R. Muster Date:

Note: Suspended July 1st, 1890

Dropped; July 1, 1891

Reinstated: August 1, 1891

Killed August 10, 1893 by cars

Cause of Discharge: Expired Term of Service

G.A.R. Muster Date: **Note:** Suspended: July 1st, 1890

Dropped; July 1, 1891 Reinstated: August 1, 1891

Killed August 10, 1893 by cars



FROM THE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

From all of us to all of you

Merry Christmas



&



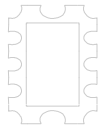
Happy New Year



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO / WYOMING

P.O. Box 3035
Grand Junction, CO 81502-3035

Ph.: (970) 241-5842



Anyone who has photos, articles, letters, etc. that they would like to have included in future issues of the Department newsletter please either mail them to the Department Po Box 3035, Grand Junction, CO 81502-3035 or e-mail them to Commander Brewer at the following: brewer62@bresnan.net or SVC Paris at: Rhy.Paris@state.co.us .

One of the goals the Department officers have undertaken is to update our Department history and to hopefully make it available to those who would wish to have copies of the history. Any articles, photos or past history would be greatly appreciated.