

Lagrange Oregon Sept 30-26—

Capt R E Carter Dear Sir—I have read  
The Book written by yourself and Sergeant Carlton  
and am very much interested in it. As I served  
in the 4<sup>th</sup> US Cavalry from 1871 till 1875. I joined the  
Regiment at Ft Richardson in '71 and was  
discharge at Ft Sill in 1875. I remember most all  
of the names and most The Incidents that you  
speak about. I don't quite get the meaning of  
The Tragedies of Canon Blanco unless it was the  
Stampede. Carlton does not mention my Troop at all (K Troop).  
We were there and lost quite a lot of our horses  
I know I did not have any from the amount of  
walking I did back to the supply camp.

K Troop was not in Raid to Mexico as I think  
we were camped on the Las Moris at the time  
or on the survey of the Texas Pacific. <sup>this but</sup> I wish you would  
know more about than I do. Captain if you have  
any of the Pictures of the old time Frontier  
Forts, or the Officers. men and any Histories of  
The doings of the 4 Cavalry I wish I  
could get them if not from <sup>you</sup> I could you



tell me where I could get them. I do not  
want them for nothing - will pay them. as they will  
be of interest to me now. I remember you by sight -  
but had quite an acquaintance with Carlton in  
a line of duty. Engagements on my Discharge reads  
little different to those on Carlton's (Page 186).

Fresh Fork Brazos River - Texas Louhados, Oct 10, 1871

Lynn Creek, Texas, Kiowas & Comanches, May 23, 1872

Eighteen miles East of Sulphur Springs, Texas. Louhados, Oct 6, 1872

Sulphur Spring Texas, Louhados Oct 8 1872.

Twile Canon Texas, Kiowas & Comanches, Sept 26 & 27, 1874

Palo Duro Canon. Texas, Leguenses & Kiowas, Sept 28 1874

(Laquatra Rica Texas, Louhados Nov 5 1874  
(spelled different))

I have never seen any of the 4 Cavalry that I know  
since I have left it so any thing of the of the  
Tina from '70 to '75 would be appreciated by me

With all Respect to a former Officer

Martin A. Adams

R.R. 1<sup>cl.</sup> La Grande

Oregon

No pen or ink on place would have used it -

(over)



This letter in pencil was almost illegible by  
the time it reached Washington. I succeeded  
after much difficulty, using a Microscope,  
in tracing it with ink this date.

Oct 10, 1926 }  
Wash. D.C. }  
A & N Unit }

R. H. C.



La Grande Ore Nov 12 - 1926.

My Dear Captain Carter: Respected Officer

I received your card of Oct 6 - and did not answer as you said you were going to write me a letter in a few days - also one today of Nov 7, Captain you don't know how pleased I was. I live on a small ranch out from La Grande and get my mail by the Rural Route so that is what that R.R.#1 is for. There is only one other Indian war veteran in this community. He belongs to some Utah volunteers. we are the only ones that gets a Pension. That Book by you and Largent Carlton I cannot keep at home ~~home~~ as every body wants to read it - and I don't get up Pasted up on it myself. But the Book and your 2 cards seems like bringing 50 odd years ago and the Present time together. whatever became of Captain E. M. Hoyle and Lieut J. A. McKinney.

Thanking you in advance for the Promised matter that you will send me.

Very Respectfully. Martin A. Adams  
La Grande Oregon



Lagrande Ore Nov 30-26 —

Capt R. G. Carter- Dear Sir and respected Officer  
your kind letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> and Package Both received.  
and have not the words to express my Thanks- Had  
to go the Post office in Town to get the Package  
Because it would not go in my mail Box  
and the carrier left a note for me to do so and I  
am glad he done so. And they come in such good  
shape, not a wrinkle or mar on them, and the  
great care you took to make them bear so I could  
understand them, I have read them over twice and  
am going to read them again. No Person is  
going to monkey with <sup>them</sup> except when I am around.  
This is the first time I ever have a clear idea of the  
Mackenzie Raid. I cannot figure out in my head  
where K. Troop was at that time stationed-  
Captain you asked about Stillwell and Comfort-  
I have been on several scouting Parties from Bill  
down to the Panhandle and Redriver and Stillwell  
was along and got somewhat acquainted. After  
I left the service drifted up into Kansas and  
got married, and worked for the Santa Fe Rail Road



at Dodge City. My Brother in law lived there  
 and was employed By Wright & Wrath as  
 wagon Master and Buffalo Hunter. They were  
 Big outfitters for the Pan Handle trade, They had  
 one store at Dobe walls. He and Jack Stilwell were  
 Great Friends. One evening I was in The W. & W  
 Store and ~~my~~ Brother in law & Stilwell in there. He  
 started to Introduce me but Stilwell rembered me, even  
 with Citizens cloth on. We talked quite a while about  
 The Past Times, That is the last time I ever saw him  
 I am not quite sure but I think that he and Stilwell had  
 hunted Buffalo together at some former time  
 He is long since dead or I could get lots of  
 information from him. Comfort I can hardly  
 place, either the name or the man, but the face looks  
 familiar in the Picture. And the way Carlton  
 describes Palo Duro canyon we must have been  
 quite close together down at the Bottom in that  
 mix up. Don't know Calamity Jane and never  
 heard of her except seeing her name in print.  
 The Picture of Fort Sill is <sup>as</sup> like it was when I was  
 there or else I do not see it from the same angle



it was when I was there, Captain you spoke as you thought this as being a lonely Place - This is a very live town about 9,000 Population - Rail Road Point; and 3 large saw mills that represent 7 or 8 million dollars. I live  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles from town and the largest mill between me and town. I have only 10 acres -

I bought it 12 years ago, and went into sheep but sold them later as I was to blow in and did not have land enough for that purpose.

There is very few G. A. R. Veterans here - and I don't believe they got a Post now. and no Indian war men (2) but the Legion force is strong, and every Armistice day I have been invited to attend, I don't know whether they want me for a curiosity or a freak but I always get a good dinner out of it. as most of the younger ones does not appear to know that that there has been any Indian disturbances since Pocahontas saved the scalp of Captain John Smith. The Captain did you want that I should return that story of the McFingie's raid, you did not say so if not it is one of my Precious Keepers.

Very Respectfully Martin A. Adams

R.R. 1

La Grande, Oregon



Lagrande Ore Dec-20-76

Captain R. G. Carter, Dear Sir<sup>nd</sup> Respected Officer  
Your Letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> and card of 4<sup>th</sup> Received - and have  
read them over several times. As I am interested in  
what you write. Read the story of Col. Forsyth's  
Fight - several years ago at Bechers Island (1868)  
and the great service done by Stillwell, in the  
"winners of the west" - a small paper printed at St Joe  
Missouri, and it was just the same as you described  
it - Captain I know that it will be a disappointment to  
you about giving you any dates or incidents of our  
trip to the Staked Plains, as I was only a kid - and  
kept no dates or memoranda of anything - not giving  
then Past - Present or future any thought at that  
time - but am pleased that comrad Beck was more  
thoughtful than me and can help you out - I would  
like to read what his memoranda has to say - I remember  
the big supply camp with an incline road built up to it -  
But I thought it was on Catfish Creek but neither you  
or Carlton mentions that name. I may be mixed up or  
this may have been on a different trip - One of K troop  
men died on the edge of the Plains (Wm. May) but is



was of Stomach Trouble and was Laid There,  
Sargent S. V. Sullivan was Killed and Scalped  
while <sup>was</sup> on the survey of The Texas & Pacific  
R-R, this was some where near The Head of The  
North Concho river, K Troop of the 4 and 9 Co. of the  
11<sup>th</sup> Infantry (Capt. Born) composed The Escort.

Sullivan's Carbine a Sharps was turned in some years  
later, when that Great bunch of Indians was brought  
in and surrounded at Ft Sill, I suppose it was Movie  
Band that you wrote about in your book.

K. Troop had four kind of Carbines for a Test by the  
ordnance Dept. - Sharps - Springfield. Ward Burton,  
and Remington

Captain I would like to throw all red tape and  
military Etiquette aside for just 1 hour and  
sit down and talk to you, it would be a great  
pleasure to have my mind Refreshed

Thanks for the Promise of The Stillwell Book

Respectfully

Martin A. Adams

La Grande

R.R. 1

Oregon



Lagrande Ore Jan 19-27

Captain R. G. Carter Dear Sir and Respected Officer  
I have been waiting very Patient to hear from  
you for some time. Haven't wrote you two letters  
and one Card. Hope you are not Sick or  
unable to write. Or it may be that I am  
giving you too much bother. But Captain I  
am interested in you and that is the reason  
I am writing. If you do not take the  
winners of the west I will send you one every  
month. The National Tribune does not seem to  
have much use for Indian war veterans  
as it never mentions our name.  
The Utah Indian War Veteran that lived in this  
vicinity Died on the 30<sup>th</sup> of last month  
so I am the only one left. Hoping to hear  
from you soon and that you are well

Yours with Respect

Martin A. Adams

Lagrande

R.R. 1,

Ore



Longview Ore Feb 12-27

Captain R. G. Carter - Respected Officer

Dear Sir. I received the Frontier Times with you so kindly sent me. And found it very interesting and am going to subscribe for it. Thanks for your sending the sample copy. Also the kind and brotherly letter that you wrote on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January - Captain I am answering your letter with a very sad heart. The companion of my life that has traveled with me since 1875 with all my joys and sorrows, passed away on the first of this month, and is now in the Great Beyond where I will meet her in the future, we took her to Portland ~~Bundy~~ and had her body cremated, and now her ashes rest in a niche in the wall, among flowers instead of the in a cold and lonesome grave. There is 5 grown children left. So that is all the comfort that I have, Captain the reason that I wrote you of my trouble is because that it takes a load off my heart -

yours in Comradship

Martin A Adams

Longview  
Ore

R. R. 1



.. Lagrande, Ore Mar 16-27-

Captain R. E. Carter, Dear Sir and respected Officer  
Your Kind and Sympathetic letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> was received  
And Dear Captain the sympathy of my Heart goes out  
to you, as I know how I feel after my own  
Bereavement, and I will not mention further  
about it as we have enough to worry about.  
You must be a very busy man with all your  
correspondence and literary work, and when you  
mention about the Sulphur works you get pretty  
close to home for you and me, in our old stamping  
ground, as two engagements on my discharge reads  
- Eighteen miles east of Sulphur Springs Oct 6-72 and  
Sulphur Springs Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 72- and it may be that  
we were closer together there than we will ever be again.  
Captain do you remember the wagon (ot) outfit  
we run across out on one of our expeditions. It looked  
like they had just returned from trading with the  
Indians. There was several empty gun cases in the  
wagons. They were in camp at the time, and Lieut  
Wood made the Mexican or half breed in charge give  
him his Revolver. Soon afterwards McKenzie came  
up and the Mexican told him about J. Wood's raid.



Mine. It pleased me to know of your Invitation  
 Back to your scene of your operations, and hope  
 it will be as as you can accept it - and that  
 your crippled leg and eyes will Permit

Any thing you have to read along our line I  
 will be very glad to receive, as I am not going  
 to work as hard this summer and will have more  
 time to read, because Captain I am not asking this  
 on a beging line, as I want to Pay fil.

I understand we are to have raises in our Pensions  
 I have more things to write and some questions to ask  
 but will not at Present; and as your time is valuable  
 I answer when suitable to you

With Love and Respect -

M. A. Adams

La Grande

R-R-1

Ore



Lagrande Ore- 4-21-27—

Captain Carter Dear Sir and Respected Officer  
I received kind Letter of April 9<sup>th</sup> and it Relieved my  
suspectance that was troubling me for sometime, as you  
told me that the flu had left you with a bad cough  
or your wounded leg- or Eyesight- was bothering you  
or had gone to the in invitation of Dedication the  
tablet on our old stamping ground- so it was a Relief  
to me. Captain I got the 67+worth Papers and have read  
them over severap times and have kept them in rotations  
and am going to cut out ~~out~~ the Parts out and Put them  
in the same form as you Put the McKingie raid into  
Mexico in, for future reading. as to Mr Garber Request  
for Information I cannot Entiteen you any as I think  
there must be some mistake somewhere and I think  
it must be in the date, as there could nothing in the  
way of sheep or cattle been taken care of there at the time  
we were there. and surely it could not have been from  
1866 till that date. I saw no signs of Habitations or civilation  
there. or had been- and ~~we~~ we were over most of it that  
could have been used- Captain in the last Part  
of your last letter you give some dates that is not  
quite clear to me. now do not think I am going to



2  
a trip to the Plains or before - as the first engagement  
marked on my Discharge says Fresh Fork Brazos  
River, Texas. Llanohados - Oct 10. 1871. So it will be seen  
that from the date of enlistment till the time of my  
introduction to the Indians was a little less than  
5 months. I was with the 4<sup>th</sup> quite a while before  
Lieut M<sup>c</sup>Kinney joined us. and was not Drilled in  
Recruit formation as I remember off only with my Troop  
now come. I was never as far East as Cossecanua -  
was to Dallas once with Captain Heyle on a Horse  
Board. Several of F. Troop were with us. Larkins,  
Salisbury - Kerns - and a tall young Corporal - I do  
not recall his name. but he was a fine young man  
he was from Philadelphia - Captain that was a fine  
description of the Stampede that you gave. I rode a horse  
(Black Dave) that was almost a match for the one (High)  
that you spoke of that Captain Heyle rode - but he left  
me that night and I never saw him again. Next  
morning after you and Heyle got away I was given  
a small Hard mouthed Bay that had been caught  
near camp. The owner had got his arm hurt with  
a picket pin and said he could not Ride. and I  
was with ~~the~~ M<sup>c</sup>Kinzie when he came up to show you



Lagrande Ore - July 14. 24  
Captain R. G. Carter U.S.A.

Dear Sir and Respected Officer,

It has been a long long time since I have heard from you. I could not stand the silence any longer. I did not get any answer to my last letter that I wrote to you. And the last one that I received from you was dated April the 9<sup>th</sup>. I do not want to get out of touch with you, and your writings. As I feel a great comradeship for you, as we have gone through many hardships together and we are both living on borrowed time at present. I have not got the vim and get-up that I used to have since my life partner has been called away from me. So I am leading a rather lonely existence. And sometimes I think I will go to the Soldiers Home. But maybe I would not be counted there, what do you think about it? I would like your advice.

Please answer when you have the time. I see the 4<sup>th</sup> is taking care of President Coolidge. G.P. of it. I take the Nat. Tribune, the winners of the west and the frontier times of Bandero Texas, which you put me onto. And if you have any thing that is historical I wish you would lend it to me.

With Great Respect: M. A. Adams, Lagrande Ore  
R.R. 1



Lagrande Ore July 31-27—

My Dear Captain and Respected Officer

I received your 2 letters several days ago and was so glad to hear from you again - was sorry to hear of your being sick, but glad to know that you are able and going to make the long trip as I am confident - that it will do you good. The warm weather Hotel that you have taken for your summer quarters look very inviting to me and hope you will enjoy the cool New England climate, and would have been much pleased to have had a picture of your self also. Captain anytime you and Comrade Beck in your travels should have your picture taken, would be very glad to receive one (am not acquainted with Comrade Beck) but wish I was - I always had a warm place in my heart for Captain Mauck ~~is~~ as I think he was the best liked Captain in the 4<sup>th</sup>. always very considerate of his men.

I will give you one incidence of it - once when we were marching along the edge of the Staked Plains.

I think there was 4 companies of us. B-K and 2 more (may be you was ~~there~~ yourself) we could <sup>see</sup> Indians all day upon the Plains. sometimes just their heads and sometimes horse back - and they knew our strength just as well as we did. we had our dinner that day, and when we made camp the mid of the afternoon, McKingie



gave orders that no fires be made, so we ate  
a Soldiers Supper - you know what that is - but soon  
after, the smell and the aroma of coffee came floating  
around - McKenzies went straight in the air and called  
Mauck, some sharp remarks passed between them  
about disobedience of orders - when Mauck made  
the remark, G. B. General I thought we come out here  
to make the Indians afraid of us - but it is not that -  
it is afraid of the Indians. Then he called his  
1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant and told him to have all the fires put  
out soon as the men were done eating -  
I don't remember weather this happened on - Catfish-  
creek - or Plum Creek as I get them mixed up in  
my mind - but I do know that K Troop got no  
coffee that night - I do remember all of the other Officers  
you mentioned - I cannot place Kilpatrick - his death  
happened about 2 years after I left the service  
there were 2 Smiths in K Troop and were there  
when I left - I do not remember Fowler but the name  
seems familiar to me, I was at all of the places you  
speak of that you are going to visit - never done any  
service at McKavitt - Hope that this <sup>letter</sup> reaches you in good  
health and that you may get back to yourself again  
soon. Thanks for the Promise of the Map.

With our Respect for a Gallant Officer and Friend  
M. A. Adams

R. R. I.

Lagrande - Ore



Lagrande - Aug 24. 28.

My Dear Captain and Respected Officer. Have not  
Heard from you for a long time. The last time  
was from the Pine woods of Maine. Just before  
you was going to start on your long Trip to the  
South west. I answered it but received no answer  
Thought several times of writing to Army & Navy Club  
about you. Was so surprised the other day to see your  
name in Print: Both in the winners of The West  
and the Banderero Paper. Say Captain I read them  
over several times and it put new life in me. How I  
wish I could set by you and you could tell me all  
about your Trip and our old stamping ground and  
where you got your Leg injured. The general out-line  
of the <sup>country</sup> must be all changed. But El Dorado and Tule  
Canyons are still there. That I tell to the McKinzie Trail  
is great. Captain the troops further north from us  
along the Rail Roads and Telegraph lines and with  
Press agents got all of the front Page news



News and credit for suppressing the Indians  
But we in the Great South west got none of that -  
So it is a pleasure to me to know that we have  
still one of that date, 71. 6. 76. left (and that is you)  
to make any record and put us the 4. U.S. Cavalry in  
History. I am of the opinion you are the only  
Commissioner<sup>of war</sup> of that date now living and but very few  
enlisted men. and time will soon claim you and  
me. I am not the man I was 2 years ago. I used  
to not think of old age but since my life's companion  
has been taken from me, I seem to be falling to pieces  
and have many ailments, which I will not mention  
to you as you have troubles enough of your own to  
contend with, but one of these is I am Partly Paralyzed  
in my right hand. That is the reason that I am writing  
this letter with a Pen oil. Captain that little Paper I  
from St Joe is very good as far as it goes, but it has not  
got the subscribers or capital to get to the front. and  
The National Tribune does not get very Patriotic over the  
Regular service or what the Frontier Army has done



I would like to know what kind of a trip you had  
as it took you over a lot of country. That Tablet  
is almost a copy of my Discharge, some of  
the names are spelled a little different: Bohems  
canyon is not on it.

I have some questions I want to ask you later on  
but will not bother you now. As I know you  
must be very busy with your correspondence.

Any thing you may have that you would like  
me to read: send it to me. I have all the letters  
and printed matter you have ever sent me  
answer when you can.

With respect to my former Officer

Martain A. Adams

La Grande, Oregon, Route 1.



Lagrande 10-12-28.

My Dear Captain Carter and Respected Officer  
your very kind and welcome letter of Sept 4 was  
received some time ago. I am not feeling just right or  
would have answered it sooner. I read it with joy and  
sorrow. Joy at getting it and sorrow at your sickness and  
having to have to go to the Hospital and your other  
troubles. I am not exempt from them myself. I was a  
little disappointed as I expected a description of your trip  
to the Pan Handle as I know <sup>you</sup> would have enjoyed it so much  
yourself and the amount of Honor that would have been shown  
you. But the Tablet is there and it is to the credit of the  
Fourth Cavalry - (your Regiment and mine). I don't remember  
that I ever was ever stationed at Griffin but have been there frequently  
on Escort duty. It has been frequently mentioned in the Frontier  
times as quite a military Post long before our day.  
I take that: winners of the west and the Nat Tribune  
Captain I would like to have one of your Pictures. don't care if it is  
one when you was a Dashing young Cavalry Officer or one later  
just so you're in uniform. I want it to keep don't want to return  
it. Also the clippings you spoke of in your last letter I will take good  
care of them and return them to you. I am the last of the  
Original Adams family. Father was killed at South Mountain and  
all of the rest have passed on. I have 5 children living  
With all Due Respect to a former Officer. M. A. Adams Lagrande Ore  
R. D. 1



Lagrande Ore Dec 12-28

My Dear Captain and Respected Officer  
Was so pleased to get your welcome letter one day  
and the Book the next. The Book come in such fine  
Shape. Not wrinkle or mar on it. Captain I cannot <sup>explain</sup>  
to you the Pleasure that Book is giving me in looking  
at the Pictures and Reading it. I do not recognize  
your face as being familiar to me. but 53 years will  
change us some. I suppose the last Place I saw you  
was at Fort Sill. I did not have to read far in that Book  
to find out that you was the only one of the Carter  
family that were Historians and great writers - and I  
know you are Proud of your Brothers - God Bless them  
I should have liked to have been acquainted with them  
but that is impossible as Taps has been sounded over them  
I lived with in hearing of the Battle of Gettysburg - about 45 miles  
at Newport a little west of Harrisburg on the Juniata  
Liet (Kirt) Miller of the 4 cavalry and me came from  
the same Place. I have read the Book most through  
and will soon finish it. do you want me to send  
it Back to you, if not send me the Price and I will  
send it to you. But I would rather keep it. I have read  
much writing about the civil war. but I think  
you and General Sherman Describe it the



Best- as war is Hell. Captain I would <sup>write</sup> move  
but my hand is giving me trouble

Please write to me when you can.

It is good weather here.

Hoping this will find you in health

very Respectfully

M. A. Adams

La Grande

Oregon

R. I.



Lagrande Ore 3-26-29-

My Dear Captain Carter

I have not heard from you for a long time and am anxious to get a word from you. First I will tell you of a little bad luck I had in trying to get a McKenzie trail map when you first advertised it. It was during the very cold weather and we had lots of snow here so it was hard for me to get out and the roads were very badly broken. So I wrote you a letter and put a 2 dollar bill in it and gave it to some school kids that was passing my place to put it in the mail box 1/2 mile away on the main road. I told them there was \$2 in the letter. I never heard of it afterwards. I think the temptation was too strong. I told you to pay the postage on it and you to keep the balance for the postage on that book. Your Brother in Blue with you so kindly sent me and which I appreciate very highly. I am hoping this will find you well with the enjoyments of life.

With regards to my former respected Officer

M. A. Adams, Lagrande Ore. R-1



Lagrande Ore-2-16-29—

My Dear Captain and Respected Officer  
Dear Sir. It has been some time since I heard  
from you. but had a great surpris lately to get  
a nice friendly letter from H. S. Mauck Son of your Brother  
Officer oficer, and consier it a great Honor that he  
bestowed on me along with Picture of his Father. wich I  
Prize very Hily and will have it framed. He was born the  
year I entered the service. Captain I wish you would send  
me a map of the McHenry Trail. the Balanc of the money  
is for Postage on it and for Postage on that Book four

Brothers in Blue wich you so kindly sent me, and is  
the <sup>best</sup> History of the civil war that I have ever read

Hoping this will find you well. as this leaves me at  
Present, with respect to you

M. A. Adams

Lagrande  
Oregon

R-1-



Henniker N.H. Oct 2 1926

Cap R. G. Carter U.S.A.  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington D.C.

Dear Captain Carter;

Your favor of Sept 20 received, also the reprint of the Raid into Mexico, for which I thank you. Do you wish me to return it to you?

I am afraid that in relating my personal history since leaving the Regiment, I may have appeared to be rather verbose and egotistical; but my only excuse is, that I wished you to know and understand the nature of your correspondent that you might at no time be in doubt as to the character to whom you were writing.

As you remark in your letter, my training in the Fourth Cavalry has had a marked effect on my entire life since leaving the service, and



to its discipline and orderly proceed-  
ure. I in a large measure credit  
the training and rearing of my  
boys, of whom, as you remark, I am  
justly proud. Loyalty, respect, obedience  
to orders, and industrious habits  
were rigidly inculcated in their  
boyhood days.

I wish to thank you for your  
eulogy of the old Fourth U.S. Cavalry  
and its commander, for I am sure  
it is not fulsome praise, or empty  
compliment; but the honest opinion  
of one who knows whereof he  
speaks. Did I write you that one  
of my boys is Ronald Mackenzie Beck?  
he is the Field Engineer in N.J.

You can hardly realize with  
what pleasure I read of, and  
as I read lived in imagination, <sup>the</sup>  
days of the Raid into Mexico. In  
that raid the command exemplified  
in the plainest manner, the  
sterling qualities that marked  
it as preeminent in the service,



I think that our Col. had a sincere love for his regiment, for I have heard quoted as coming from him, "That if it was possible to get a hitch on the State of Texas, his regiment would turn it clear round".

How characteristic it was of the man, that he took his life and his life's ambition in his hands, and laid them a sacrifice if need be on that strict obedience to orders himself, that he demanded of his officers and men. He was no uncertain quantity, he was strict in his requirements, but absolutely just to all alike. His men realized these facts, and in most cases were only too glad to do their part.

The name of Mackenzie was sufficient to put every man of his command at his best.

As you mention, Miles did not accompany you on that raid. If I remember correctly, we arrived at Ft. Clark shortly after the expedition



returned, we were immediately placed in outpost camp on Lac Morac Creek, on the St Duncan road, some eight or ten miles in a direct line from the Rio Grande. Our first night in that camp was the night of the hurricane which you mention in your article.

The Mexican Envoys passed through our camp on the way to Washington, also on their return.

Defective equipment was replaced by new, and sabres ground, Our company expecting an immediate command to cross the river; but with the return of the envoys the tension relaxed.

One incident of the hurricane I remember, 1st Lieutenant Guy Sweeney was in command, on the morning after the storm in passing through the camp he saw several old brooms that had been brought along awaiting condemnation by the inspecting officer calling the company R.M.S he said "Burn those brooms, you can never expect anything but ill luck with old brooms in camp" and they were burned.



While in this camp the flour issued as rations was very dark colored, glutinous, and had a musky flavor; it was said to be Mexican flour. This was, as you remember, before a properly educated cook was considered a necessity in the service. Having a baker, a man who had been so, against his protest, a very long time, and this flour in combination, you can judge the result was anything but satisfactory, the biscuit were dark, and heavy. The lieutenant saw one of the men strike a pack mule, and asked why he did it. "Because he kicked me." "Why?" "I gave him one of Lentz's biscuit." Calling the Orderly Sargt. he said Relieve Lentz, if the mules kick at the bread, you cannot blame the men.

From this camp in company with I troop, we went into grazing camp on the Nueces River, about eight miles from the town of Uvalde. Gen. N. B. McLaughlin in command.

Yes I should like very much the



picture of old Ft Sill, and of Jack Comfort - I have the pictures of the Indians you mention, taken by Bliss the photographer at Ft Sill.

In November 1875 in company with six others, I was detailed to accompany the Kioway, Healdsies band, about 360 in number on their winter buffalo hunt, they promising good behavior; I was out with them about three months and had the experience of being driven from camp by prairie fire, and having at one place to ride through it. Being left on the plains alone to guard supplies, which were stacked on the prairie, owing to lack of transportation. - Being overtaken by a blizzard while alone passed a very uncomfortable night, nearly frozen with rain, and sleet. - Made a long night ride alone to carry rations to the relief of two of our men who had lost their horses, and were left stranded. - I also on this trip passed over Gen Custers old battle ground on the Washita.



Our Indians had been nervous for several days as we were on the Cheyennes hunting grounds and an attack might be expected. My comrade by the name of Ginder and I were late in reaching camp, which was on the site of the battle. He had just stripped the saddles from our horses when bedlam let loose. says Ginder "The Cheyennes have come" not waiting to replace our saddles we jumped on our horses and made our way on the run to the portion of the camp occupied by the Indians, and found not a man in sight, but the howls came from the bluffs on either side. We at last found an old squaw and she explained that they were mourning their dead.

Big<sup>er</sup> was out of this party and he appeared about as inaccessible as any Indian I ever encountered, and rejected all friendly advances.

Take it all in all, and with



its varied experiences, this was a memorable expedition.

The following summer, 1876 I was with four others detailed to accompany Chevi and his Comanches some over 150 in number on their summer buffalo hunt to obtain meat, and skins for teepees etc.

I will close before I tire you with my sores, for my wife says that when I get started on my frontier service, I do not know where to stop.

Thanking you for the compliment of your commendation, and hoping that this finds you in comfortable health,

I am

Very respectfully yours

E M Beck  
Late Co 26 4th U S Cav  
Denver  
W 26



Henriker W H Jan 21 1927  
Captain R G Carter USA  
Army and Navy Club  
Washington DC

Dear Captain

I was more than pleased to receive your kind and welcome letter but extremely sorry that you had suffered from an attack of Grippe. It is a treacherous disease not only in its often unheralded approach but in the many ill effects that often follow, but I am encouraged to believe that you are well by the critical point by now for which I am very thankful.

As we grow older we appear to be more susceptible to this disease.

You write that you doctored yourself and are apparently coming through all right. I do not know your method of treatment but I will give you mine. Several



years ago I had a severe attack of grippe and my remedy was rye whiskey and quinine and in a weeks time I had it whipped although I came out very weak. I do not believe in the use of liquor except the emergency so requires but I think there are times when nothing else will fill its place.

It was very gratifying to parental pride to receive such commendation of my oldest son James. Enclosed you will find one of his latest letters home which of itself speaks of his quality. The Bishops letter to which he referred was from the Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan inviting him to a meeting to counsel and advise on the handling of the church youth.

The Lillian he mentions is my niece and foster daughter we brought her up from nine years of age. She has lately married a young minister at Cincinnati Ohio.

My son Ronald Mackenzie was in North Carolina to inspect a stone quarry



in connection with stone supply on his construction work in the approaches to the NY+NJ vehicular tunnel. Had I known in advance that he was going south I should have certainly advised him to call and see you while on his way through Washington but perhaps he may have an opportunity later.

The M A Adams of La Grande Oregon late of Troop K, I do not seem to recall although we have without doubt come in contact many times while on various duties in the service. How the old comrades are scattered, but wherever we may be, there is always a warm place in our hearts for those who shared with us a service many times extremely hazardous and severe, and also there is a feeling of gratitude and pride that we were permitted to share these experiences under the command of such officers as General Donald S Mackenzie, Captain Carter and the other efficient officers of our beloved 4<sup>th</sup> U S Cavalry.



On one campaign during a very cold spell. Many of the men being unable to bear the cold in their blankets one night gathered about a small fire the only one in camp to thaw out and soldier like. began to growl and verbally abuse anything or body even remotely connected with their then condition, and of course the General came in for a lot of it he was scolded about and called by names anything but nice or polite; One man who had been standing by the fire with his overcoat cape about his face and ears being warmed dropped the cape and lo the General himself he did not utter a word, immediate silence settled on the crowd, one by one they sneaked away leaving the Gen in possession, I have often thought how he must have relished the joke of the thing, and he must have known that not one of the growlers but would have followed him through the infernal regions nor permitted any outsider to abuse their General This incident was told me by



an eye witness

I am sure that among your correspondents you mention will be found some and perhaps many who will recognize the historical value of your work and assure you that it shall live in print and in the archives of the State of Texas

I received a letter from Geo Adams a short time ago, he was at that time expecting to go to the Soldiers Home at Washington, I have not answered it yet but will do so as soon as I can catch up on my correspondence I have had very little time since Nov 11<sup>th</sup> owing to my wifes illness as I have taken all the care of her but she seems to be gaining strength and sits up part of the time which will give me a little more freedom

Hoping to hear from you again soon I will close by wishing you the best of health, happiness and prosperity I remain

Your sincere friend and admirer  
E M. Beck