

CHACON, RAFAEL

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CHACON, RAFAEL, born at Santa Fe, New Mexico, April 22, 1833; son of Albino Chacon and Refugio Secundino Lopez de Chacon; educated in private schools and attended the Academia Militar at Chihuahua, Mexico, 1844-46; married, Juana Maria Paiz at Chamisal, Taos County, N. M., April 15, 1858; children, Guacinda, Antonio, Eusebio and Ladislao; the family resided at Penasco, Taos County, N. M., 1858-70.

Enlisted at Taos, N. M., in Company B, St. Vrain Battalion, New Mexico Volunteers, February 1, 1855, and appointed 1st Sergeant; in several engagements in the Ute War until the Indians surrendered in July; honorably discharged August 13, 1855; appointed Captain, Company K, 1st New Mexico Infantry, at Fort Union, New Mexico, August 13, 1861; participated in the Battle of Valverde, February 21, 1862, and in engagements with Confederates at Albuquerque, Algodones, Peralta, and Los Pines Grove; transferred, by consolidation, as Captain, Company E, 1st New Mexico Cavalry, May 31, 1862.

With 30 men of his Company formed part of the escort of Governor Goodwin and the other Arizona Territorial officials from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Fort Whipple, A. T., December 8, 1863, to January 22, 1864; returned to New Mexico with his Company and brought a large number of Navajos from Fort Wingate to be interned at Fort Stanton, N. M., (Bosque Redondo); promoted to Major, March 20, 1864; appointed Commandant at Fort Stanton, June 23, 1864; engaged in numerous expeditions and skirmishes against Apaches and Navajos during period of his service; honorably discharged at Fort Stanton, New Mexico, September 2, 1864.

Justice of the Peace at Penasco, N. M., for two terms; Member from Taos County, 16th New Mexico Territorial Council, 1866; Chief Clerk, 17th and 18th Territorial Councils, 1867, 1868; moved to Trinidad, Colorado, 1870;

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Deputy County Clerk, Las Animas County, Colorado, 1873-78; County Treasurer, 1879-80; Sheriff of Las Animas County, 1885-86; engaged in the real estate business; Comrade, Trinidad Post No. 25, G.A.R. ; Elected a companion, Colorado Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion, April 20, 1906; died at Trinidad, Colorado, July 23, 1925, aged 92; interment in Catholic Cemetery.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Rebellion Records, Series 1, Vol. 9, 26, 34, 41.
Reed, B. M., Illustrated History of New Mexico, Santa Fe, 1912, pp. 741-743 (portrait).
Jaffa, N., New Mexico Legislative Manual, 1911, pp. 196, 197.
Journal, 1st Arizona Territorial Legislature, 1864, p. 12.
Circular 2, Series 1906, Colorado Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion.
The Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records.
U. S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, W.C. 965,662.