

**CREMONY, JOHN CLARE**

*Excerpt from J. K. ...  
at ... from ... among the Apaches*

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

CREMONY, JOHN CLARE, born on the French part of the Island of St. Martin, West Indies, 1815; came to the United States in 1827 to attend school at Flatbush, New York; ran away to sea, first making several voyages from Portland, Maine; followed the sea for a number of years working his way "from ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~cast~~ <sup>cast</sup> to cabin" during which time he visited Europe, India, South America and Mexico and learned to speak and write French, Italian and Spanish.

Enrolled December 16, 1846, and mustered in at Boston January 5, 1847, as 2nd Lieutenant, Company E, 1st Massachusetts Infantry; detached from the Company to go to Monterey, Mexico with Lieutenant Colonel I. H. Wright on express to General Taylor, April 8, 1847; participated in the campaigns which resulted in the capitulation of the City of Mexico; promoted 1st Lieutenant March 16, 1848; honorably discharged at Boston, Mass., July 25, 1848.

Served as Spanish interpreter for the United States - Mexico Boundary Commission under J. R. Bartlett, 1849-51; while with the Commission he learned to speak Apache and subsequently wrote a glossary and grammar of that Indian language; author of "Life Among the Apaches" published in San Francisco, 1868.

Mustered in at San Francisco, as Captain, Company B, 2nd California Cavalry, September 14, 1861; stationed at Camp Alert, California, until December, 1861 and then marched to Camp Drum in Southern California; marched with the California Column across Arizona and participated in the Battle of Apache Pass, July 16, 1862; promoted Major, March 6, 1865; honorably discharged March 21, 1865, to enable him to accept appointment as Major, 1st Battalion, California Native Cavalry; arrived at Fort Yuma in July, 1865, and was stationed at Fort Mason, Pima County, A.T. until January 1866; honorably discharged at San Francisco, California, March 15, 1866.

Member of the Bohemian Club, Veterans of the Mexican War; and the Grand Army of the Republic; the following is taken from his obituary in San Francisco Commercial Herald and Market Review of which he was Associate Editor:

His varied newspaper career in this city extended from early in 1852 to the close of his life. He was editor of the Sun, a pioneer paper, now forgotten, and assisted John Nugent in the San Francisco Herald during the Vigilante times of 1856. Indeed; to his pen is attributed many of the stirring editorials which appeared in the columns of the Herald.

JOHN CLARE CREMONY.

during that period. † Colonel Cremony was also a frequent contributor to the Overland Monthly; was a gentleman of fine military bearing, of firm will, strong feelings, and great ability. During the past twelve years he has been represented in every Issue of this paper by his usual quantity of literary work. He wrote easily and well upon a wide range of subjects, and was in many ways a remarkable man.

Died at San Francisco, California, August 24, 1879, aged 64.  
Buried, U.S. National Cemetery, The Presidio, San Francisco.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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✓ The Daily Examiner, San Francisco, August 26, 1879 (obituary).