

PRICE, GEORGE FREDERICK

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PRICE, GEORGE FREDERIC, born in New York City, New York,
April 23, 1835; son of _____ and

_____ married, _____

_____. Children _____

Removed at an early age to California where he was engaged in business pursuits; enrolled at Fort Jones, California, September 3 and mustered in September 25, 1861, as 1st Lieutenant, Company M 2d California Cavalry; promoted Captain, same Company at Camp Alert, San Francisco, California, November 14, 1861; left Camp Alert in May 1862 for Nevada and commanded an expedition which made a treaty of peace with Winnemucca, Chief of the Piute Indians; commended in orders and reports for courage and determination displayed at the battle of Bear River, January 29, 1863, and for conspicuous gallantry in the three combats at Cedar Fort and Spanish Fork Canyon, Utah, April 4 and 14, 1863; stationed at Fort Bridger, Wyoming from May 1863 to April 1864; in command of the Salt Lake and Fort Mohave Wagon Road Expedition which left Camp Douglas U.T. in May and arrived at Fort Mohave A.T., via the Virgin River Valley and El Dorado Canyon in June 1864; his command made a successful reconnoissance of a comparatively unknown region but suffered many privations in the desert country before returning to Salt Lake City on August 30, 1864; during this movement he erected a monument over the grave of the victims of the Mountain Meadow Massacre of September 16, 1857; stationed at Rush Valley, U.T. and Fort Bridger, W.T. from September 1864 until March 1865, when he was appointed acting

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Assistant Adjutant General and Inspector General of the District of the Plains; appointed to the same position for the District of Nebraska, October 1865, and for the District of Utah, January 14, 1866; honorably discharged from the volunteer service at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, July 9, 1866.

Appointed from California, 2nd Lieutenant, 5th U. S. Cavalry, to date from February 23, 1866, being the first commission in the Regular Army issued to a Volunteer Officer from the Pacific Coast; joined the regiment at Nashville, Tennessee in September and was promoted 1st Lieutenant to date from July 11, 1866; on Reconstruction duty in Tennessee and North Carolina and on the staff of General E. R. S. Canby who was in command in that Military District, 1867-68; moved with the Regiment to Kansas and engaged in campaigns in 1869-71 against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians; cited for gallantry in action near Julesburg, the Niobrara pursuit and the affair at Prairie Dog Creek where he won special mention "as meriting the highest praise for dash and gallantry" and also for having "undoubtedly saved the lives of Major Frank North (Commanding the Pawnee Scouts) and the guide William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill)".

In March, 1872, proceeded by way of San Francisco and the Gulf of California to Arizona and arrived at Fort McDowell in June to serve as regimental quartermaster in charge of construction; promoted Captain, 5th U. S. Cavalry, August 29, 1872, and joined his company at Camp Date Creek, Yavapai County, in October; participated in the Apache Campaign of 1872-73 in which his command engaged in two affairs in Baby Canyon, at Indian Run, in Red Rock Canyon, and at the mouth of Baby Canyon; he then operated from

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Camp Verde by way of Tonto Basin and the Pinal Mountains to Camp Grant having a combat enroute on the East Fork of the Verde River; twice nominated to the United States Senate as brevet Major for gallant conduct in Tonto Basin, A.T., received the thanks of the Department Commander for the successful removal of the Apache-Yuma Indians from Camp Date Creek to the Verde Reservation; in command at Fort McDowell May 27 to June 19, 1873, when he was selected to take charge of the construction of the military telegraph line from San Diego to Tucson with a branch line from Maricopa Wells via Telegraph Pass to Phoenix and Prescott; remained upon that duty until the entire line was completed in December; ordered to San Francisco to prepare the cartography pertaining to the telegraph lines which was finished in April 1874; after a year's leave of absence returned to the regiment at Fort Cummings, N.M., via San Diego, Tucson and Fort Bayard.

From 1874 to 1882 he was continuously on active duty in Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming and Dakota being engaged in numerous expeditions against hostile Indians, and served at Omaha during the railroad riots of July 1877; on recruiting duty in New York City, 1883-84; returned to the regiment in the West and died at Fort Elliott, near the head of Sweetwater Creek, Texas, May 23, 1888, aged 53. Member, California Commandery, Military Order, Loyal Legion, 1873-88. Series 1. Vol. 48, 50.

Sources of Information

- Orion, R. H.: Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, p. 293.
 Heitman, F. B.: Historical Register and Dictionary, U. S. Army, p. 806.
 Hamersly, L. R. & Co.: Records of Living Officers of the U. S. Army, Philadelphia, 1884, pp. 136-139.