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O. P. Morton

OLIVIER P. MORTON.

GOVERNOR OF INDIANA.

INDIANA'S

ROLL OF HONOR.

BY DAVID STEVENSON,

LIBRARIAN OF INDIANA.

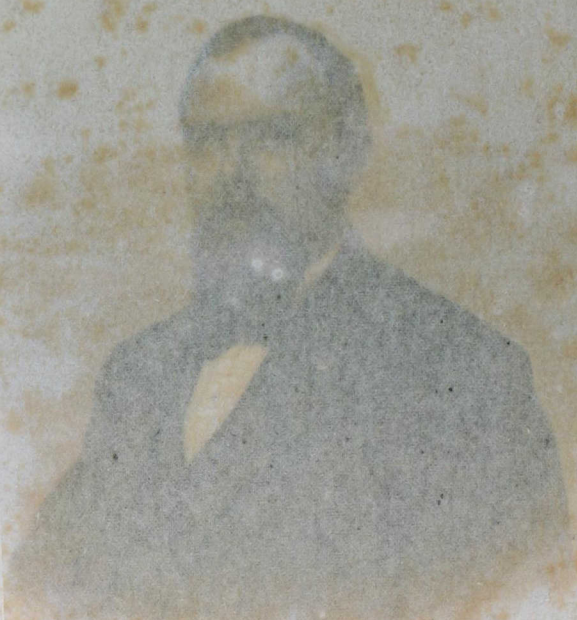
VOLUME I.

AC. NO. *14216*

INDIANAPOLIS.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.

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C. P. Weston

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CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Growth of Indiana—Comparison of Her Military Resources with those of Great Britain—Materiel of War—Purchase of Arms—The State Arsenal—Quartermaster's and Commissary's Departments—The Soldiers' Home—Organization of Troops—Care of Soldiers—Sanitary Commission—Surgeons—City Hospital, 13-32

CHAPTER II.

THREE MONTHS' CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

The Situation—Diversity of Sentiment—Secession of Virginia—Western Virginia refuses to Secede, and Establishes a Provisional Government—Gen. McClellan Assigned to Command of Department—Visits Indianapolis and Reviews Troops—Gen. T. A. Morris—Federal Troops Sent to Western Virginia—Gen. McClellan's Address to the Union Citizens—Battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill, Rich Mountain, and Carrick's Ford—Death of Gen. Garnett—Return of Three Months' Volunteers, 33-64

CHAPTER III.

HISTORY OF REGIMENTS.

History of the Organization of the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Regiments for the Three Months' Service, 65-116

CHAPTER IV.

FIRST POTOMAC CAMPAIGN.

Early Operations on the Potomac—Eleventh Indiana Ordered to Cumberland, Maryland—Destruction of Harper's Ferry—

Destruction of Gosport Navy Yard—Attack on Massachusetts Troops while Passing through Baltimore—Landing of Federal Troops at Alexandria—Battle of Bethel—Ambuscade at Vienna—Gen. Patterson's Corps—Battles of Bull Run and Manassas, 117-134

CHAPTER V.

KANAWHA CAMPAIGN.

Appointment of Gen. Rosecrans—Guerrilla Warfare—Situation of Union Forces—Gen. Lee—Position of Rebel Army—Designs of Confederate Leaders—The Kanawha—Gen. Cox's March to Charleston—The Policy with Prisoners—Gen. Rosecrans' Address—The Gauley—Battle of Cross Lanes—March to the Gauley—Battle of Carnifax Ferry—Retreat of Gen. Floyd, 135-152

CHAPTER VI.

CHEAT MOUNTAIN CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Reynolds Assumes Command—Disposition of Troops—Description of Camps—Camp at the Summit—The Pass—Elk Water—Scouting—Incidents—The Advance and Repulse of Gen. Lee—Scouting Again—Battle of Greenbrier—Evacuation of Camp Bartow—Battle of Allegheny—Huntersville, 153-204

CHAPTER VII.

REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

History of the Organization and Services of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Regiments, with their Marches, Battles, Incidents, &c., 205-234

CHAPTER VIII.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Gen. McClellan Organizes the Army—Extent of its Lines—Affair at Lewinsville—Battle of Ball's Bluff—Death of Col. Baker—Retirement of Gen. Scott—Appointment of Gen. McClellan as Commander-in-Chief—Battle of Drainsville—Division of the Army into Corps—Advance on Manassas—Advance on Winchester—Advance on Fredericksburgh—Address of Gen. McClellan to the Army, 235-244

CHAPTER IX.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC—PENINSULA CAMPAIGN.

Arrival at Fortress Monroe—March up the Peninsula—Siege of Yorktown—Battles of Williamsburgh and West Point—Capture of Norfolk—Situation before Richmond—Battle of Fair Oaks—Stuart's Cavalry Raid—The Situation—Battle of Orchards—Incidents—Further Movements—Battle of Gaines' Mills—The Retreat—Battles of Peach Orchard and Savage Station—The Rout—Battles of White Oak Swamp and Glendale—The Situation—Battle of Malvern Hill—Closing Scenes—After the Battle—Camp at Harrison's Landing, 245-288

CHAPTER X.

ARMY OF VIRGINIA.

Gen. Pope Assigned to the Command—Battle of Cedar Mountain—Movements of the Enemy—March of the Army of the Potomac Across the Peninsula—Joins the Army of Virginia—Jackson's Raid on Manassas—Fight at Bull Run Bridge and Kettle Run—Battles at Manassas—Retreat of the Union Army—Battle of Chantilly—Death of Gen. Kearney—Re-appointment of Gen. McClellan, 289-314

CHAPTER XI.

MARYLAND CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Lee Crosses the Potomac—Movements of the Army of the Potomac—Battles of South Mountain, Crampton's Gap, and Antietam—Reconnoissance—Stuart's Cavalry Raid, 315-330

CHAPTER XII.

BURNSIDE'S CAMPAIGN.

Army re-crosses the Potomac—Gen. McClellan removed and Gen. Burnside appointed—Charge of Sigel's Body Guard into Fredericksburgh—Army in Camp on the north bank of the Rappahannock—The Situation—Battle of Fredericksburgh—Mud March—In Camp Again—General Order No. eight, 331-346

CHAPTER XIII.

REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

History of the Organization and Services of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Infantry Regiments, Third Cavalry and Sixteenth Battery, with the Marches, Battles, Incidents, &c., and Biographical Sketches of Lieut. Col. Bachman, Capt. Drum, Col. William L. Brown, Col. John Wheeler, and Lt. John W. Andrew, 347-420

CHAPTER XIV.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

Appointment of General Lander—Bloomery Gap—General Shields appointed—Movement on Winchester—Battle of Winchester—Battle of Front Royal—Retreat of General Banks—Fremont's Pursuit of Jackson—Battle of Cross Keys—Battle of Port Republic, 421-436

CHAPTER XV.

MISSOURI CAMPAIGN.

Introductory—Capture of Camp Jackson—Gen. Harney's Address—Gen. Harney Relieved—Appointment of Gen. Lyon—Gov. Jackson calls for fifty thousand men—Gen. Lyon takes the field—Battle of Booneville—Col. Sigel—Battle of Carthage—Skirmish at Monroe Station—Arrival of Fremont—Skirmish at Dug Springs—Occupation of Bird's Point—Skirmish at Athens—Battle of Wilson's Creek—Death of Gen. Lyon—Disaster to Sigel's column—More aid for Missouri—Defense of Lexington—Skirmishes and Guerrilla Operations—Death of Major Tanner—Battle of Fredericktown—Death of Major Gavitt and Capt. Highman—Fremont's Pursuit of Price—Gen. Halleck's Administration—Black Water Expedition—Battle of Silver Creek—Battles of Pea Ridge, Leeville and Elk Horn Tavern, 437-488

CHAPTER XVI.

REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

History of the Organization and Services of the Twenty-Second Regiment, with its Marches, Battles, Incidents, &c., with Biographical Sketches of Major Gordon Tanner and Lieut. Col. S. I. Keith, 489-508

CHAPTER XVII.

INVASION OF KENTUCKY.

Position of Kentucky—State Guard—Assembling of the Legislature—Gov. Magoffin to President Lincoln and Jefferson Davis—Gen. Polk Occupies Columbus—Excitement in Kentucky—Appointment of Gen. Anderson—Neutrality Repudiated—Arrival of Troops from Indiana and Ohio—Appointment of Gen. Buell—Fight at Munfordsville—Defeat of Humphrey Marshall—Battle of Mill Springs—Evacuation of Beech Grove—Occupation of Bowling Green and Nashville, 509-532

CHAPTER XVIII.

REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

History of the Organization and Services of the Thirty-Third Regiment, with its Marches, Battles, Incidents, &c., with an account of the Cumberland Gap Expedition—Characteristic Sketch of the Thirty-Fifth (Irish) Regiment, with its Marches, Battles, Characters, Incidents, &c., and Biographical Sketches of Adjutant Mullen and Captain Prosser. 533-584

CHAPTER XIX.

GRANT'S FIRST CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Grant at Cairo—Battle of Belmont—Capture of Fort Henry—Fort Donelson—The Situation—The Battle—Expedition up the Tennessee—Pittsburgh Landing—The Situation—Battle of Shiloh—First Day—Arrival of Buell—Second Day, 585-610

CHAPTER XX.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Biographical Sketches of Lieut. Gwin, U. S. N., Col. Hathaway, Major Abbott, Major Arn, Lieut. Col. Topping, Private Dodds, Sergeant Wylie, Col. Bass, Col. Link, Major May, Sergeant Kemper, Brig. Gen. Hackleman, and Private Bassett, 611-654

TO THE MEMORY OF
INDIANA'S PATRIOTIC DEAD,
THIS WORK
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
BY THE AUTHOR.

INTRODUCTION.

The General Assembly of the State of Indiana, at its session of 1862-3, unanimously passed the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, That it shall be the duty of the State Librarian to carefully collect, and arrange, in the manner hereinafter prescribed, for future preservation, for the use of the State, the names of all the Indiana soldiery (officers and men), who have fallen in this struggle, or who may hereafter fall, whether by disease or by the violence of the enemy; the time, place, and cause of their death; their names, ages, places of nativity and residence; place and date of enlistment, draft or substitution; regiment, company, commanding officers, from Colonel to Captain inclusive; length of service; the battles, skirmishes, or any other engagements with the enemy, in which they may have participated; and any other incidents of special interest connected with their history; and if officers, the office, date of commission, division, brigade, regiment or company, commanded by them, or to which they were attached, with the promotions, if any, and the causes for the same, and any and all other matters that may be interesting and useful in the transmission of these illustrious names, to the posterity of the State. That the whole be inscribed in a clear and legible hand, in such form as to be convenient for printing, in a large and suitable book or books, entitled ‘Indiana’s Roll of Honor,’ and the same to be placed in the Library of the State.’

The above resolution suggested the idea of the present work. It was at first my intention to have published in con-

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The above resolution suggested the idea of the present work. It was at first my intention to have published in con-

nection with the "Roll" contemplated by the Legislature, a volume of sketches of our most distinguished dead. On visiting the armies much valuable information respecting the services of our Indiana regiments was obtained. To put this in proper form so that it might be preserved for the use of the future historian seemed an object worthy of ambition. Having collected the necessary materials, it soon became apparent that in order to make the regimental sketches intelligible to the reader it would be necessary to give an account of the various campaigns, and general descriptions of the several battles in which our regiments participated. Thus the work has grown to its present dimensions.

The "Roll" contemplated by the resolution of the Legislature will be published in the last volume of this work. The second volume will be devoted chiefly to regimental histories and biographical sketches.

I acknowledge my obligations to many officers and soldiers for valuable information furnished, without which it would have been impossible to have prepared reliable sketches either of campaigns or regiments.

This volume is illustrated only with the portraits (the frontispiece excepted) of those who have sealed with their lives their devotion to our Government. The next volume will contain the portraits of the most prominent of our living officers.

Never has any nation of the earth increased so rapidly as the United States. In 1793 the population of New York was thirty-three thousand, it is now over four millions. In 1793 the entire population of the United States was a little over three millions, it was, in 1860, nearly thirty-two millions. Forty-five years ago this place (Indianapolis) was a thick forest, now we have a population of thirty-five thousand. There is nothing in the history of the world that will compare with the growth of the United States. The Hebrew State did not reach its glory in the days of Solomon, but by the slow progress of five hundred years. The Assyrian Empire was twelve hundred years in rising to its enormous magnitude. It took Greece ten centuries to reach her Athenian power. It took Rome seven centuries to arrive at the

splendor of the Augustan age, but in this land where a century ago its broad plains and lofty mountains were covered with the unbroken green of the forest, or waving grass of the wide prairie, we now see large and populous cities.

It has been customary for orators in describing our national career, to say that we have, by a single bound, sprung from infancy to manhood; but the truth is, we have had no national infancy—we have had no barbarism to overcome. The first cry of this nation was for liberty, and her first struggle secured it. We began our national career with the accumulated experience of sixty centuries. The Declaration of Independence is a monument more enduring than marble or granite, of the intelligence and wisdom of its framers. The heroes of the revolution bequeathed to their children, the richest of all earthly legacies—republican institutions! Whether this rich legacy will prove a blessing or a curse, depends, under God, on the course pursued by the present generation.

Were this Government destroyed by the hands of her own misguided and infatuated children, it would be the deadliest blow that has ever been given to the cause of virtue, and the greatest obstruction that has ever happened to the onward march of civil and religious liberty. Unto America are turned the anxious eyes of all nations, to see the result of the experiment we are now making of popular self-government, and of the ability of a free people to sustain the Government of their own choice. From this land, consecrated to freedom by the blood of our fathers, goes forth the only ray of hope to cheer the fainting heart of the oppressed nations of the earth. Shall this ray, now so dim and flickering, be totally extinguished? Destroy this Government, and what becomes of the fair genius of liberty which has been driven out from older climes? Is she, broken-hearted, doomed to be an outcast in the land of her adoption?

Americans! what will posterity say of us, as they read the history of these times, should they learn that we tamely and ignobly surrendered the most inestimable of all earthly blessings—a free Republican Government? If we have one spark of gratitude to the heroes of the Revolution; if we have any

veneration for things sacred; if we have one tender feeling for our children; if we would not be despised and execrated by all the nations of the earth, let us, with determined purpose, declare and vow that this Government must, and shall be, preserved. Let not our faith in freedom, in right, in God, waver. The darker the clouds which hover over us, let our faith in the success of the right be the more steadfast and sublime. This Government, bequeathed to us, is a reality, a glorious possession; yea, it is a sacred trust, which we are bound to transmit to our children, and must be defended against all foes, whether internal or external. Let us, on all proper occasions, and in every proper manner, express our gratitude to the noble and brave sons of Indiana, who are fighting our battles, and let us cherish and revere the memory of our sacred dead, who, far removed from their loved ones, have slowly wasted away by disease, or suddenly fallen on the battle field. Indiana has many gallant dead, whose deeds in life, and whose heroic deaths, should be recorded for all coming time. Her soldiery have never yet turned their back on the foe. Let us honor their patriotism, and perpetuate their memory.