

"On the morning of the 6th, Kearny's command met and defeated at San Pasqual, about forty miles from San Diego, a body of Mexicans under General Andres Pico. Kearny had at this time about 300 men, composed of companies B, and C, First Dragoons, and volunteers. The action was severe, the First Dragoons losing three officers,—Captains Moore and Johnson and Lieutenant Hammond,—and fourteen men killed; nearly all the Dragoons were wounded, principally with lance thrusts. General Kearny himself received two wounds, Lieutenant Warren of the Topographical Engineers, three; Captain Gillespie, of the volunteers, three. Kearny was compelled to remain at San Bernardino until the 11th on account of wounds, but reached and occupied San Diego, December 12th.

"General Wilcox in his history of the Mexican War says: 'At dawn of day the enemy, already in the saddle, were soon at San Pasqual. Captain Johnson charged them with the Advance Guard, followed and supported by the Dragoons, and they gave way. Captain Moore led off rapidly in pursuit, accompanied by the Dragoons (mounted on horses) and followed; though slowly, by those on tired mules. The enemy, well mounted and superb horsemen, after falling back a half mile, halted and, seeing an interval between Captain Moore's advance and the Dragoons' coming to his support, rallied their whole force and charged with lances. Moore held his ground for some minutes but was forced back, when, those in the rear coming up, the enemy were in turn driven back and fled not to rally again. Kearny occupied the field and encamped upon it.

"But few of Moore's men escaped without wounds. Captain Johnson was shot dead at the commencement of the action; Captain Moore was lanced and killed just before the final retreat of the Mexicans; Lieutenant Hammond was also lanced, surviving the wound by a few minutes; two sergeants, two corporals, and ten men of the First Dragoons, one private of volunteers, and a citizen engaged with the engineers were killed.'

"General Kearny had left companies G and I at Albuquerque, under Captain J. H. K. Burgwin. When Colonel Sterling Price (the successor of Colonel Doniphan in command at Santa Fe) learned of the seizure and murder at Fernando de Taos of Governor Bontand and five others by the Mexicans (January 20), he moved out against them with a force of about 250 dismounted men and easily defeated them January 25, at Canada. Captain Burgwin, with Company G, First Dragoons, also dismounted, joined him on the 28th, and the Mexicans, numbering about 500, were again encountered on the 29th in a canyon leading

to Embudo, from which position they were driven out by Burgwin with a force of 180 of Price's regiment and Company G. He entered Embudo the same day.

"On the 31st, having united his force, Price moved towards Pueblo de Taos, which he attacked February 3, but on account of its strength and the stubborn resistance offered, and more especially for the reason that the ammunition for the artillery had not come up, the attack failed. It was renewed on the following morning when Captain Burgwin, with his company of Dragoons and McMillan's of Price's regiment, charged, crossed the wall, and attacked the church, which, with other large buildings within the wall, was occupied by a large force of the enemy and was stubbornly defended. While gallantly leading a small party against the door of the church, Burgwin received a mortal wound from which he died on the 7th. Company G sustained a loss in this engagement of one officer and 23 men killed. The Mexicans lost 153 killed and many wounded.

"From this time until the year 1861, scouting and skirmishes with the Indians were almost incessant, and portions of the regiment were always found where the fighting was going on."

THE BLACK HAWKS BID FAREWELL TO THE HORSE

"December fourteenth, 1932, is a date that will be long remembered by all personnel of the First Cavalry, Horse. For nearly one hundred years the First Dragoons had set the standard for the mounted service, and now the time had come for a final mounted formation, for a long farewell to the faithful animals which had served their masters so well. The mechanization of the regiment was at last to become a reality.

The day dawned clear and cool, and everywhere on the post there were signs of orderly activity as the troops prepared to turn out every horse and man to take part in the final ceremony. At 9:30 a. m., the troops were leaving their stables for the parade ground and soon they were in readiness for Adjutant's Call.

Facing them, on the left of the reviewing stand, was parked a double row of cars, the families of the officers of the garrison, and the citizens of Marfa and the Big Bend who had come with heavy hearts to say farewell to the mounted First. It was a sad occasion for both the participants and the spectators.

And now the buglers sounded Adjutant's Call and the Squadron moved forward at a trot to their positions. Sabers were drawn and the regiment presented to its Commanding Officer. He rode around the lines to the