Notes from Transcriptionist

It has been my privilege to transcribe this beautiful volume of the history of the GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC POST NO. 22 Colorado Springs Colorado, Department of Colorado which was purchased by Winfield Scott Stratton in 1895 at a cost of $600.00 (today cost would have been $17,231.77).

This book reflects the pride that our Civil War “Comrades” felt about the service they gave for our country. The stories are many and each one reflects what they accomplished and the many trials they went through to help our country come together again.

I have come to be attached to several of the men that worked to create this historical book. Otis Remick, who I believe was one of the “masterminds” in the creation of this document; Robert Waugh and finally Frederic Geist, who was the “Son of a Civil War Veteran”. These men transcribed many of the stories the men told to them. Some of the script handwriting was beautiful and some of it a bit challenging to decipher. I have done my best in keeping the “words” true to their transcription, therefore words will be spelled in many different versions!

All of the stories in this massive volume, which I think must weigh at least twenty pounds are interesting but several of the stories do stand out. Major McAllister’s memory of General Palmer’s service is of great interest. The story told by Comrade W.C. Dockum tells of what happened after the surrender of General Lee and his experiences in Washington D.C., as a hero in the nation’s eye. “A Word as to West Virginia” by Robert Waugh is of great interest. The recollection of the “Battle of Chickamauga” is fascinating due to the fact that it was recorded 50 years after the war. In 1933(68 years after the end of the war), a new generation started recording the sketches and information. Frederic William Geist was a member of the Sons of the Civil War Veterans’ and his style of writing is truly unique! His “Resolutions Upon the Death of a Comrade” will bring smiles to those who read them!

I could make many more comments, but please enjoy this walk back in history and remember those that came to Colorado and serviced our country with great pride and sacrifice.

Chrys Fotenos
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