

Wichita Daily Eagle

THE PHANTOM CAVALRY.

Several years ago the writer was one of a party of seven formed for the purpose of exploring that portion of Northern Arizona designated on the map as the "Painted Desert."

It is a part of the tablelands constituting the great Colorado plateau, which has an altitude of from 5,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level, the western edge of which is marked by the grand canyon of the Colorado, and extends north and south from the Atlantic and Pacific railroad to the Utah line.

When we left the Atlantic and Pacific railroad our outfit consisted of a stout team and a strong buckboard, three saddle horses and three burros—the latter selected for the purpose of carrying supplies of food and water when we should undertake ascents of mountains, descents into canyons, or should make excursions into regions that were particularly rugged and forbidding.

From the engineering difficulties of getting the wagon over the country, the remainder of the party moved much more rapidly, and on the evening of the fifth day made a "dry camp" some sixty or seventy miles from where we started.

ate sufficiently that in the course of a few hours they were able to drink some tea and taste a little broth—prepared from the meat of our mountain sheep—after which both men fell into the deep, lethargic sleep of utter exhaustion.

A few weeks previous the men left Utah, to go to the United Verde copper mines in the Yavapai county, Arizona, following the Lees ferry road. Being attracted by some prospecting that they had seen in the mountains, they left the road for the purpose of prospecting them for the precious metals.

Two days subsequent we assisted the prospectors out of the canyon and turned back on our new enterprise of exploration, notwithstanding the most earnest protests and entreaties to the contrary on the part of the two grateful men.

One afternoon, after having left Ackley to look after the camp for two or three hours, White and I, upon returning from another futile search for a passage more important to us than the one we had just made, were surprised to find a statement in made, which was to the effect that two or three times since our absence he had distinctly heard a military call sounded on a bugle.

After the evening meal and while we were discussing the matter, the man who had noticed the color suddenly leave the face of Ackley, who was sitting on a rock opposite me, and in great excitement and terror he exclaimed: "My God, here they come! We are gone this time, boys."

As I turned to look in the direction of his point, I saw a trumpet in my hand, and supernatural, broke on the quiet, still air. In the wonderful light, yet unobscured twilight of that high altitude, the sight which was then presented was strange, startling and unaccountable, and created an impression of being a prelude to an extraordinary danger that can never be effaced from my memory.

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visited Northern Arizona in search of the Seven Cities of Cibola and their fabulous stores of gold, a squad of his troops were lost on the Colorado plateau and are supposed to have perished to any extent.

It is only been within the past ten years or so that this class of immigrants began to colonize North Dakota to any extent. There are now about 2,500 of them located along the border in Pembina county. They are claimed as a rule, they are well educated in their native language, and rapidly acquire a knowledge of English.

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