

# **REMINISCENCES OF A VETERAN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649379699

Reminiscences of a veteran by Henry S. Hamilton

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**HENRY S. HAMILTON**

**REMINISCENCES  
OF A VETERAN**





*Henry S. Hamilton*

REMINISCENCES  
OF A VETERAN

BY

HENRY S. HAMILTON.

CONCORD, N. H.  
REPUBLICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION,  
1897.

E 6.01

H 21

59428

BANCROFT  
LIBRARY

TO

My fellow-Typos

OF CONCORD AND MANCHESTER,

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

THESE VETERAN REMINISCENCES ARE

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY THE AUTHOR.





# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
Birth and Parentage.—Boyhood Days.—A Hard Apprenticeship.—A Sudden Departure.—Enlistment for the Crimea.—A Bad Beginning . . . . .	5

## CHAPTER II.

Life in the Barracks.—A Cavalryman's Drill.—An Irish Dance and a French Leave.—Arrival in Dublin.—A Dangerous Embarkation.—Lying Low in Liverpool.—Afloat for America . . . . .	10
---	----

## CHAPTER III.

Life on a Sailing Vessel.—Sufferings of the Emigrants.—An Unceremonious Burial.—The Captain's Brutality.—Arrival at New York . . . . .	17
--	----

## CHAPTER IV.

Emigrants on Shore.—An Experiment in "Treating."—Captured by a "Shark."—Penniless in New York.—Life in the Streets.—A Quest for Work.—Tramping towards Buffalo . . . . .	21
--	----

## CHAPTER V.

Temptations to Enlist.—An Appeal to Chance.—A Discouraged Comrade.—A Kind Hearted Conductor.—Enlistment in the U. S. Army.—Military Life on Governor's Island.—A Freak Drill-Master.—A Contraband Traffic . . . . .	27
---	----

## CHAPTER VI.

Promotion to Sergeant.—Poor Jim's Ill Fortune.—On Recruiting Service in Massachusetts.—Escorting Recruits Under Difficulties.—Joining the "Old Tenth."—General Canby's Record . . . . .	36
---	----

## CHAPTER VII.

Taking up the Bugle.—Captain Gove and His New Hampshire Company.—Two Splendid Sergeants.—A Tribute to Sergeant Libby.—A Bugler's Duties.—The Flogging.—Joining the Band . . . . .	41
---	----

## CHAPTER VIII.

- Ordered to Fort Snelling, Minn.—The Band in Clover.—Fishing and Hunting.—The Beginning of Minneapolis.—A Severe Winter.—Lost in the Storm.—A Narrow Escape . . . . . 48

## CHAPTER IX.

- A Risky Rabbit Hunt.—Removal to Fort Ridgely.—The Sioux Indians' War Dance.—A Barbarous Repast.—Hard Life of an Indian Squaw . . . . . 55

## CHAPTER X.

- On Furlough.—Two Hundred Miles in a Sleigh.—A Social Evening with the Noble Red Man.—Novel Sleeping Accommodations.—Return to Fort Ridgely . . . . . 60

## CHAPTER XI.

- An Indian Massacre.—Recovery of a Prisoner.—A Revolt in the Band.—In the Guard-house.—The Musicians' Revenge.—A Military Funeral.—Winter Dangers and Deprivations.—The Drummer Boy's Narrow Escape . . . . . 63

## CHAPTER XII.

- En Route to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.—Exciting Times in the Territory.—Desertion of a Sergeant.—Starting on the Long March to Utah.—The Big Drummer's Discouragement.—His Famous Baked Beans.—His Laughable Dilemma . . . . . 69

## CHAPTER XIII.

- Arrival at Big Blue River.—A Pig Hunt and its Consequences.—Immense Herds of Buffaloes.—The March Across the Desert.—Brigham Young's Proclamation.—Annoyed by Mormons.—An Impudent Order.—Three Mormons Captured.—Continued Depredations . . . . . 75

## CHAPTER XIV.

- A Change of Course.—General Johnston's Arrival.—Ordered Back.—Terrible Hardships.—"The Camp of Death."—Major Canby's Consideration.—Captain Marcy's Relief Expedition.—Mickey O'Brien's Rabbit Hunt . . . . . 85