

THE LITTLETON GUIDON

SATURDAY, JAN. 21, 1899

DEATH.—Wednesday a telegram was received by George W. Sanderson, announcing the sudden death of his brother, Dr. Ira L., at Sturgis, South Dakota, the day before.

He was born in Littleton, May 13, 1840, went to New Jersey when eighteen years old, taught school in the town of Lebanon, in that state, making his home with an older brother, Augustus E., who was then a practicing lawyer. Aug. 25, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Co. A., 31st regiment, N. J. volunteers, appointed and commissioned 1st lieut. Co. A, 1st reg. N. J. vol., by Gov. Olden, Sept. 1, 1862. Mustered into the United States service Sept. 17, 1862, honorably mustered out of service and discharged June 24, 1863. Soon after was appointed in the quartermaster's department and stationed at Chattanooga, Tenn., until the close of the war. Graduated from the college of physicians and surgeons in the city of New York, March 1, 1869; served as assistant and house physician and surgeon at Charity hospital, New York, for two years, and later on had charge of the small pox hospital of the city for several months. Had medical charge of the alms house, work house and penitentiary on Blackwell's island, N. Y., for some time, under the charge of the commissioners of charities and corrections for New York city.

He then went abroad, spending nearly a year in travel and observation. Upon his return he was appointed acting assistant surgeon in the regular army, where he served until 1892. He was in the department of Arizona and department of the Platte with Brig.-gen. Crook and Gen. J. J. Coppinger. D. L. Magruder, surgeon and medical director of the U. S. A., wrote as follows:

Headquarters department of Arizona, Prescott, March 16, 1875: Dr. Ira L. Sanderson, acting assistant surgeon U. S. A., has been on duty in this department for nearly three years, and during that time

has performed all professional and official duties, both as field and post surgeon, with marked ability and to my entire satisfaction. In the capacity of field surgeon he has seen hard service in scouting amid the snowfields of the rugged mountains of northern Arizona during the winter of 1873-4. The doctor is very studious, conscientious and fond of his profession. Is temperate, strictly moral and regular in his habits; is courteous and gentlemanly always, and a great favorite with all who served with him.

Brig.-gen. George Crook wrote as follows: Headquarters dept. of the Platte, Omaha, Neb., Sept. 15, 1875. Acting asst. surgeon Ira L. Sanderson served for a long time under my command in the dept. of Arizona, performing the duties of field and post surgeon, serving with scouting parties during the campaign against hostile Apaches and other Indians, and being stationed at Camp Verde, Apache and elsewhere. Of Dr. Sanderson's high character, gentlemanly bearing and faithful attention to duty, it gives me pleasure to speak in terms of high praise.

For the ten last years of his service in the regular army as surgeon, he was stationed at Fort Meade, now the town of Sturgis, South Dakota. For five or six years past he has attended to private practice in his profession at this place. He was a man of few words, but of rugged character, not easily swerved from a course which he thought right.

A few years ago he gave to the Littleton library many volumes of books, including a full set of Encyclopedia Britannica, well bound. Outside of his professional studies and practice he was a close student in historical and genealogical matters. In genealogical research, relating to his own family, he has gathered a great many facts which are now partially prepared for publication.

He was a true believer in the doctrines of the Episcopal church.