A HISTORY

OF THE

Second Regiment,

New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry,

IN THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Y}$

Martin A. Haynes,

Company I.

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PREFACE.

Thirty years age and more, the present writer published a History of the Second Regiment—an unpretending little volume which has received much greater commendation than its author had even a suspicion it was entitled to. Its chief, and perhaps only, excellence lay in the fact that it was a "free-hand" sketch of the regiment's adventures and misadventures, dashed off while the events narrated were still as but the doings of yesterday in mind and memory. That little volume is now quoted as one of the scarcest of all the war histories, and the stray copy which occasionally finds its way into the market commands an almost fabulous price.

The present work is in no sense a re-writing or revision of the former volume. The writer has had at his command a great deal of material not then conveniently available, from which he has attempted to construct a reasonably complete and fairly satisfactory history of the regiment. He has carefully avoided all "padding." The aim has been, not to see how large a book he could make, but rather into how few pages he could condense the material he had, without omitting or slighting matters necessary to a proper understanding and appreciation of the regiment's career. He has also carefully avoided the temptation to indulge in lurid descriptions, and has told the story he had to tell in the straightforward, concise narrative form which has seemed the fittest setting for the Second's great deeds.

The writer fully appreciates that his most exacting critics will be the grizzled old fellows who in their glorious young manhood wrought the deeds of which this book is a record. If it but passes muster with them, he has little care for what others may think or say. To you, living or dead, comrades of the Old Second, this volume is affectionately inscribed and dedicated.

THE BOOK-MAKERS.

In the making of this book, many hands have had a part, and many acknowledgments are due.

The author takes great pride in the fact that the typographical composition, from cover to cover, is entirely his own handiwork. In the little toy printing office which is an adjunct of his library, he has spent his spare time in putting this book into type; and when it is stated that an even year, almost to a day, covered the beginning and the end of the work, his fellow craftsmen, at least, will understand that he either had a great deal of spare time, or was very industrious—perhaps both.

On the completion of a form, it was securely boxed and sent to the Republican Press Association, at Concord, who are entitled to all the credit for the character of the press work. Also the binding.

The line engravings were all produced by the Union Publishing Co., of Manchester. The superintendent of their art department, our old-time artist friend Prof. J. Warren Thyng, kindly undertook the drawing of the pictures, and to him the readers of this book are mainly indebted for the beauty of these illustrations.

Of the half-tone portraits, over fifty were engraved by Mr. Fred L. Nay, of Antrim. Purely from his own interest in the work, and a desire to have the men from his own section well represented, he scoured the country for portraits (often, we have reason to believe, at considerable expense to himself), thereby finding a number of rare portraits which otherwise would not have been secured.

The great bulk of the half-tone engravings, including all the full-page, were made by the Republican Press Association.

The interesting and appropriate vignettes at the commencement of each chapter were generously contributed by our old friend, Capt. John McElroy, manager of the *National Tribune*, at Washington.

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