

THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF A COURT OF INQUIRY CONVENED

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JANUARY 13, 1879 By The
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES Upon The Request
of Major Marcus A. Reno, 7th U.S. Cavalry To
Investigate His Conduct At The Battle Of The
Little Big Horn, June 25-26, 1876. Published by
Col. William Alexander Graham, U.S.A., Retired.
(Col. W.A. Graham, Pacific Palisades, California,
1951, ⁵⁹⁰~~575~~ pp. incl. appendices, folio, one and two
volumes, \$35.00 and \$40.00 x pages 8½ x 13 in
Elite type by direct liquid process, hand sewn,
hand bound).

Despite the large volume of material published
on the Little Big Horn fight in the past years
there has existed several gaps in the information
available to the students of military history,
collectors of western history and those ~~xxxx~~
who have been interested in the story of ~~this~~
particular bit of fascinating American history.
Col. Graham's publication of the record of the
Court of Inquiry now opens a new source of orig-
inal material. The ^{restricted,} official record of the Court
of Inquiry has been in the ^{AGO Section of the} National Archives for
many years and ^{is now sealed and} ~~has~~ not ~~been~~ available to students
or researchers because of ~~the~~ ^{its} worn and tattered
condition.

A number of copies of the Court of Inquiry ~~record~~ were made prior to the publication of the record ~~by Col. Graham~~. Col. Graham made one manuscript copy of the record in ~~1929~~ 1919-1920 and checked it with the original. Then a second copy (with three carbons) was typed under his supervision in Washington in 1933 and checked by the Judge General's Advocate's Office. One of these copies was double checked with the manuscript copy and was used as the master copy for this book. In ^{Aug. 2} 1934 the late Dr. Francis R. Hagner of Washington transcribed one of the J.A.G. copies in quadruplicate and this was edited by William James Ghent. The Hagner copies were sold by his estate at public auction at prices from \$170.00 to \$90.00. One copy is now in the William Robertson Coe Collection, Yale University Library and two copies are in the ^{and one copy in the Newberry Library, Chicago} Manuscript Room, New York Public Library, Mr. H.B. McConnell of Cadiz, Ohio also has a copy of the Graham transcribed record. Lt. Col. Eugene Hart, in Sept. 1938 ~~also transcribed a copy of the~~ ~~Hagner record~~ made copies of the Hagner record and two of the Hart copies are in the Manuscript Room, New York Public Library.

Only 125 copies of the record were ~~published~~ published by Col. Graham in one or two volumes. The edition also contains the June 13, 1878 letter

of Fredrick Whittaker and Major Reno's letter of June 22, 1878 which formed the basis of the request for an inquiry in his conduct in the fight. In addition, ~~xxxxxxx~~ the interview of Fredrick Whittaker which appeared in the Chicago Times, Jan. 23, 1879 is also published. The record includes the ~~sworn~~ testimony of twenty three survivors of the fight or persons closely connected to the *that* following ~~proceedings~~ proceedings. This constitutes the only part-source of sworn testimony of the men who ~~were~~ participated in the battle.