

REPORT

OF THE

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

SEQUOIA AND GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARKS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

1894.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
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ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SEQUOIA AND GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARKS.

CAMP AT MINERAL KING,
Tulare County, Cal., July 18, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report on the operations at the General Grant and Sequoia National parks from the date of the last report up to the present date.

On August 20, 1893, the command, Troop B, Fourth Cavalry, was disposed as follows: Main camp at Mineral King. Detachment under First Lieut. Dean at Hockett's Meadows in southern district. Detachment under Second Lieut. Rutherford at Halstead Meadows, in northern district. Detachment under Sergt. Wilson at General Grant Park. Constant patrolling and scouting of the contiguous country went on from each of these camps. From the main camp trains of supplies constantly visited the minor camps, and patrolling detachments were dispatched to the middle district near Atwells Mill.

On August 25 with a small detail I started for the Kern River country, lying east of the park. I was absent four days, long enough to get a general idea of this country. It can be reached only by trail and from three directions. First, from Mineral King, the distance to Kern River being about 30 miles. Second, from the direction of Bakersfield from the south. Third, by the Inyo County trail, which comes in from the plains east of the Sierra Nevada. The country generally is a high tableland, broken by deep valleys with very precipitous sides. It is covered with timber of inferior quality. It is so isolated that there are few or no permanent settlers, the district being abandoned on the approach of winter. For years the Kern River country has been a sheep range, and enormous numbers of sheep are driven there annually. As a consequence the country is entirely denuded of grass and bushes and presents a barren, uninviting aspect. But this is not all the damage the sheep have done. The soil, being denuded of grass, is broken up by thousands of sheep tracks, and when the rains come this loose soil is washed down the mountain sides into the valleys, covering up the swamps and meadows, destroying these natural reservoirs.

Through this country, from north to south, runs the Kern River, a large, deep, swift, picturesque stream, bordered by enormous cliffs averaging 2,000 or 3,000 feet in height. I think it is likely that with the exception of some streams in Alaska, this is the finest trout stream on the continent. The fish are of large size and bite greedily, and when hooked fight for liberty with extraordinary gameness. A large

proportionate number of the fish caught by the average fisherman in this stream are over $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds in weight and trout of 3 pounds in weight are not uncommon. I camped alongside of a party of 5 fishermen who showed me a lot of 300 pounds of dried trout, which they had caught in a few days fishing. At Mount Whitney, a mountain of easy ascent, a magnificent view of the country is had. In this neighborhood, too, is Whitney Creek, in which are found beautiful golden trout. These attractions bring into the country every summer a large number of visitors who, however, are usually compelled to leave earlier than is convenient on account of the lack of grass for their horses, the sheep having made the country a desert.

It was partly for this reason that I recommended in my annual report of 1893 that this country be included in the Sequoia Park. I found the sentiment of the people almost universal in favor of this measure.

A few years of protection and this barren district will assume a different aspect. Annexation will not prejudice the rights of anyone to speak of, almost the only interests in that country being sheep grazing on Government land.

On September 18, through the kindness of the Sportsman's Club of Visalia, and the California State fish commission, I succeeded in obtaining 20,000 young trout, which I transported in cans on pack mules to the streams in the northern part of the park, distributing them as follows:

Marble Fork	4,000
Suwanee River	2,000
Halstead Creek	2,000
Clover Creek	2,000
Horse Creek	2,000
Other places	6,000

Most of these streams, though suitable for trout, contained no fish.

On September 22 I had 700 mature fish taken from streams near Hockett's Meadows, and 500 placed in Cliff Canyon Creek, 150 in Horse Creek in the south district, and 50 in south branch of South Fork, these streams having no fish.

On September 1, 1893, the troop moved back to Three Rivers.

About October 1 the outlying detachments were withdrawn to the camp near Three Rivers, the cold making it a hardship to leave them on the mountains, and the sheep and cattle having mostly disappeared from the vicinity of the park. Scouting detachments, however, were sent out constantly from that date until the troop left the park.

October 20 the troop started on return march to the Presidio, reaching there November 5.

On June 15, 1894, the troop, consisting of Capt. Parker, Lieuts. Dean and Rutherford, and 52 men, arrived at the old camp near Three Rivers.

Detached camps were established June 17, at Halstead Meadows (Lieut. Rutherford and 9 men); June 18, at Hockett's Meadows (Sergt. Cooper and 5 men); June 22, at Grant Park (Sergt. Wilson and 3 men), and June 23, at Mineral King (Corp. Simon and 2 men).

The work of supplying the detachments with forage for the whole summer was entered upon at once, as it was necessary to complete this distribution before the troop could move from Three Rivers.

The season had been exceptionally early. Taking advantage of the lack of snow and the absence of the troops, sheep had entered the northern part of the park in considerable numbers. Being overtaken by a late snowstorm there a large number of sheep had perished, and their carcasses were found lying about to the number of 300 or more.

Sheep had also been in Grant Park. In neither case, however, had their stay been prolonged enough to do any apparent damage.

In the hope of capturing some of these sheepmen the park was vigorously scouted, but they had all retired before the arrival of the troops.

THE FOREST RESERVATION.

About July 1, I received from the Secretary of the Interior 100 copies of a notice warning trespassers off the forest reserve, which is a strip of country extending from the Yosemite Valley to near Bakersfield and taking in most of the Sierra Mountain country not already included in parks and reservations. These notices, in accordance with the Secretary's request, were posted on the reserve lands contiguous to the park. On July 2 I made a trip of 70 miles to the Kern River lakes, for the purpose of posting notices in that country. It was found that the country in that vicinity was regularly eaten up by sheep. In spite of the fact that the Secretary's proclamation had been issued as far back as April 14, there were more sheep men (by all reports) in that country than ever before, and the country was absolutely denuded of bushes or grass, giving it, if it were not for the great pine trees beyond the reach of the sheep, the appearance of a desert. This process has been going on for years, each year more sheep being driven on this land, and the consequence is the country is thoroughly exhausted, and the sheep men, even if undisturbed, will reap the consequences of their own greed by the lack of feed for their sheep. Tourists and travelers suffer correspondingly, if not altogether deterred from entering the country by the lack of feed for their horses.

I posted twenty of the notices of the Secretary of the Interior on the way to Kern lakes. On my return I found more than half of these notices had been torn down, evidently by sheep men.

While the Secretary of the Interior has forbidden the entrance of either sheep or cattle into the forest reservation, it is apparent that it is the sheep and not the cattle that are ruining the country. The few small herds of cattle now on the reserve are owned by small farmers occupying farms on the San Joaquin side of the mountains. Many of these farmers have small ranges back in the mountains, where they drive their cattle in the late spring to remain until the early fall. As far as I have been able to see, this has not resulted in much more injury to the forest than if the animals, instead of cattle, were deer or other wild beasts. With the sheep, however, it is different. A herd of 5,000 sheep will in a month so devour and consume, tread down and destroy the grass and bushes on a section of two or three square miles that it will be almost entirely denuded of sustenance, and parts of it will not recover their growth for two or three years, perhaps never.

As soon as the sheep have exhausted one section, they are moved on to another. Large numbers of these sheep men are foreigners—Portuguese, Basques, and Frenchmen—paying no taxes and having no settled places of residence. Their herds are forever on the move, forever wandering about the country. During the winter they manage to subsist their herds on the stubble fields in the San Joaquin plains. In the summer their herds despoil and destroy the national domain. When these foreigners have accumulated a few hundred dollars at our expense, they return to their own country. An invincible enmity exists between them and the cattle men, who, with their rights to their range, confirmed by long use and custom, oppose the advance of the all-devour-

ing sheep. The cattle men have the support and sympathy of the community in general, while the sheep men, as a rule, have not. The exclusion of both cattle and sheep would be opposed by the united endeavors of both cattle and sheep men. But if the authorities will, as they have many good reasons for doing, suspend the regulation as far as the pasturing of cattle on the Forest Reserve is concerned, and enforce it against the sheep, the measure would be a popular one, generally speaking, and the agents of the law would have the active support, not only of the cattle men, but of the hundreds of people who frequent these remote mountains for hunting and fishing, and who at present can find barely grass enough to keep their horses from starving.

With these qualifications, however, no time should be lost in enforcing these regulations by the arrest of the trespassers, who are now openly defying them.

The policy of the Department in setting aside the reserve is, in my opinion, a most wise and beneficial one. For years the sheep industry of California has made use of these ranges. The sheep have been increasing in numbers. The ranges have been decreasing, as a result of the extortionate demands made upon them. The result is, that now the forest reserve does not afford enough food for the flocks occupying it. The underbrush has been swept away, and the grass on the side hills. During rainfalls the water, with the exception of a small quantity that lodges in the trees, rushes down the denuded sides of the hills, producing freshets, and in a few hours the country is as devoid of moisture as before. As in the absence of other feed the sheep now crowd around the meadows, these are being filled up, thus destroying the natural storage reservoirs that are found always at the heads of running streams. The snow no longer lingers late in the forest; on the warm, bare sand it melts rapidly early in spring. The rivers and the irrigation ditches in the plains below are thus beginning to fail the farmers. This is particularly the case during the present season.

This policy, then, is a most wise one. It will regenerate the country. Rid the country of sheep for a few years and a marvelous change will be seen. The sides of the mountains, now bare and gravelly, will be covered with grasses, and in place of the patches of dry sticks, which show where the undergrowth once existed, will be found heavy thickets of snow brush, white sage brush, deer brush, currant and gooseberry bushes, cherry, willow, alder, and other small trees and bushes, protecting the snow and retarding the now too rapid drainage of the slopes. Four or five years will go far toward accomplishing this result. This country is now so inaccessible, high, and remote from roads that few or no settlers have entered it. It should be held until the demands of settlements justify its gradual opening under proper regulations. As for the sheep industry, it is bound to suffer. The country is overstocked and the mountains are exhausted. The sheep industry of California should be conducted honestly, as in other States, and not by the wholesale destruction of the public domain.

THE GIANT FOREST ROAD.

The condition of this road still deteriorates, and in a few years it will be difficult to get a pack animal over it. It was built by the Kaweah colony as a means of access to the Giant Forest country, with the intent to take up lands there and saw the timber. This scheme was frustrated by the formation of the park. The setting aside of the park ruined the

colony collectively and individually. A few of the members remain stranded near Three Rivers. The majority have departed. For the loss of their claims in the forest they can not well be compensated, but for the road, which is a valuable and necessary adjunct to the park, they should be paid. Furthermore, the road should be repaired and extended into the forest. This great natural curiosity should be made accessible. Not being so now, it is seldom or never visited.

I take the liberty of renewing my recommendations of last year on that subject—\$5,000 to put the road in good condition, \$300 a year for annual repairs, \$4,000 for bridges, and \$30,000 to extend the road to the Giant Forest.

GAME AND FISH.

I can not state from personal observation that the game in the park has increased. In fact, if anything, there seems to be some decrease. Whether this is due to the encroachments of sheepmen and hunters during the late fall and winter I am unable to state. The park, however, is not suited for a game reserve, for the reason that during the heavy snows of winter the game retires to the lands outside the park in order to escape the severity of the winter.

As detailed already, I have done somewhat toward stocking the many fine streams with fish, and hope more in the same direction will be accomplished this season. If the streams around the Giant Forest are well stocked, that region will become a great place of resort, inviting the sportsman and the lover of the grand in nature.

The California State Fish Commission have promised me 20,000 more fish for this purpose.

GRANTS FOR HOTELS, ETC.

The Giant Forest, by reason of its inaccessible situation, is rarely visited. This is a great pity, for it is a superb natural curiosity. Not only a road should be constructed there, but a grant made in order that one or two hotels may be constructed there. The people of this vicinity very much want a place where the almost unendurable heat of the summer in the San Joaquin Valley may be escaped. They flock in numbers to Mineral King, an abandoned mining town, 60 miles from Visalia, just on the eastern edge of the park. But Mineral King is as cold as the plain is hot. The temperature of the Giant Forest is more equable, and the place is much better suited to the requirements of the people. It would be a great boon to these people if a tract of land in the Giant Forest were allotted for summer campers and for a hotel.

ARTIFICIAL RESERVOIRS.

A number of places exist, particularly in the heights about Halstead Meadows, where by constructing slight dams large storage reservoirs could be made. As one of the primary objects of the park is the insuring of a constant flow in the streams and rivers, it would seem that the construction of such storage reservoirs, in case they do not interfere with the beauty of the park, should be allowed. Complaints are made that the flow of the streams does not in the late summer afford irrigation facilities for all.

GRANT PARK.

Toward the close of the season of last year Grant Park was overrun by cattle. The efforts of the detail in camp then afforded but slight relief, the cattle when driven off invariably returning. This reservation is but 2 miles square, and lies in the immediate neighborhood of several private cattle ranges, hence its liability to invasion. This could be entirely avoided, as stated in my report of 1893, by the construction of a wire fence around the park. Such a fence would cost but \$1,600.

TRAILS.

I respectfully renew my recommendations of last year on this subject. Good trails should be constructed, so as to make the different sections of the park accessible. An appropriation of \$3,000 is recommended for this purpose.

EXTENSION.

I respectfully renew my recommendations of last year on the subject of extending the park so as to take in that portion of the forest reserve lying east of Sequoia and General Grant parks. This would include a most picturesque and grand portion of the Kings River Canyon, and also the New River country, a section rich in scenic grandeur and beauty, which is visited each year by great numbers of tourists. This extension would make possible the employment of troops, and thus rid the country of sheep, a result which seems impossible at present to hope for in any other way. It would take in the source of the South Fork of the Kings River, of the Kern River, and includes more of the sources of the Kaweah River than does the park as at present laid out. It would simplify the sheep question by interposing to the migrating sheep herds a barrier stretching entirely across the mountain country, thus restricting their operations. It would be hailed with delight by the tourists, fishermen, and sportsmen, who now find this country barren, desolate, and devoid of feed for their riding and pack animals. Such an extension has its precedent in the enlargement of the Yellowstone Park, April 14, 1891, an order of the President including therein a portion of the forest reserve adjoining.

GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PARK IN WINTER.

To protect the park from ravages during the late fall, winter, and early spring a guardian should be appointed. It is plainly inexpedient to station troops here during the winter. But the experience of the last winter shows that the park is liable to invasion when the troops are absent, not only by sheepmen but by professional hunters. If practicable, the guardian should be an officer of the United States, empowered to arrest for infraction of law. As the guardian will occasionally have to deal with tough characters and alone, he should be a man of force, energy, and courage. His duties if thoroughly performed will bring him the ill will and resentment of many citizens. To secure the right man for such a place a good salary should be paid him, say \$100 per month.

• FIRES.

There have been no forest fires in the park up to date.

SURVEYS, ETC.

The boundaries of the park should be run by a competent surveyor and marked. This has never yet been done, and until it is done trespassers may plead, with reason, in extenuation of their offense, ignorance of the park limits.

OPERATIONS DURING 1894.

The troops arrived at the park and camped at Three Rivers June 15. Present, 4 officers (including 1 medical officer) and 54 men, 1 civilian teamster, and 1 civilian packer. The transportation consisted of 2 four-mule wagons and 16 pack mules.

The outpost at Halstead Meadows for the guarding of the northern district of Sequoia Park, consisting of Lieut. S. McP. Rutherford and nine men, was established June 17. I inclose Lieut. Rutherford's report, dated July 16. His patrols traveled up to that date about 750 miles.

The outpost at Hockett's Meadows to guard the southern district of Sequoia Park was established June 18. It consisted of Sergt. Cooper and five men. I inclose Sergt. Cooper's report, dated July 18. His patrols up to that date had traveled about 900 miles.

The outpost at Grant Park, consisting of Sergt. Wilson and three men, was established June 22. I inclose his report of operations. Lieut. Rutherford, Sergt. Wilson, and Sergt. Cooper have performed their duties in an efficient and praiseworthy manner.

In addition to the patrols reported by these officers, numerous patrols and scouts have been made from the main camp and elsewhere.

RÉSUMÉ OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

In conclusion, I take the liberty of making a résumé of the recommendations in this report in regard to the park.

(1) That \$5,000 be appropriated and expended for the repair of the road leading toward the Giant Forest.

(2) That this road be further extended as far as the Giant Forest, and that \$30,000 be appropriated for this purpose.

(3) That bridges be built on this route at a cost of \$4,000 to prevent interruptions by high water.

(4) That an appropriation be made for the construction of trails through the park.

(5) That a wire fence be put about Grant Park at a cost of \$1,600 to keep cattle off this small outlying reservation.

(6) That an annual appropriation of \$3,000 be made to keep trails, roads, and bridges in repair.

(7) That the park be extended to include that portion of the forest reserve lying east of the park.

(8) That the boundaries of the park be surveyed and marked.

(9) That the Kaweah road to the Giant Forest be paid for.

(10) That all claims to land within the park be settled.

(11) That a guardian be appointed to take care of the park at times when troops are not present and as a guide while the troops are here.

Orders having been issued transferring me to duty as cavalry instructor at West Point, to commence August 13, this report is sent in at an earlier date than would otherwise be the case.

The grandeur, beauty, and picturesqueness of this place is not without a charm and fascination to the most casual visitor, and thus I experience considerable regret at leaving it, as well as in leaving a post which has been made acceptable by the courteous treatment I have always received from the Department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES PARKER,

*Captain Fourth Cavalry, Commanding Troop B,
Acting Superintendent Sequoia and General Grant National Parks.*

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

CAMP AT HALSTEAD MEADOW,
Sequoia National Park, July 16, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the work done by the detachment under my command:

I left the main camp at Carter's ranch near Three Rivers on the afternoon of the 16th of June with a detachment consisting of 2 non-commissioned officers, 7 men, and the pack train, and marched to Ha Ha Falls on the Colony road; distance traveled, 11 miles.

On June 17 I marched to Halstead Meadow and made a permanent camp at the same place that was occupied by the detachment last year; 19 miles.

I found signs of sheep having been in the park about 3 miles south of Halstead Meadow and a later investigation showed that they had been grazing over very nearly all of the two northern townships. I judged from the vegetation that they had left a month previous to my arrival.

On June 18 I sent a detachment to patrol the park in the vicinity of Cabin Meadow, going by way of Halfway Meadow. Sergt. Farrell reported that sheep had been over that portion of the park and that there were probably 150 dead ones in Cabin Meadow. These were branded with C, but I have been unable to determine to whom they belonged; 12 miles.

On June 19 I took a detachment to Upper Cahoon and Clover Creek Meadow, scouting country north and west of Mount Silliman; 16 miles. I found that sheep had been on these meadows a short time ago, as the grass was eaten off close. I sent a detachment to the Giant Forest. The noncommissioned officer reported that no sheep or cattle had been there and that the grass on the meadows was in good condition; 18 miles.

On June 20 I went to the Giant Forest myself and found everything in good condition; 18 miles.

I sent a detachment to northern part of park by way of Pond and Sheep Meadow, returning by way of Dougherty and Halfway Meadow. A few stray sheep were seen, but no large band was found in the vicinity. These sheep belonged to Mr. Hadley, who has his sheep on the forest reserve north of the park; 10 miles.

On June 21 no detachments were sent out. I built a cabin for grain.

On June 22 I sent detachment to scout country in vicinity of Big Baldy. No sheep were found in park, but a few stray ones were seen, and a sheep-herder's camp was visited about a mile outside of the park; 15 miles. I went to northern boundary of park by way of Pond and Sheep Meadow, thence along North Fork several miles. I found corner stake of townships 44 and 15 south, ranges 29 and 30 east; 10 miles.

On June 23 I sent a detachment to Upper Cahoon and Clover Creek Meadow, thence along northern boundary to lake, and from there up to Mount Silliman.

No sheep were seen in park. A camp was found about 2 miles outside of park; 25 miles.

On June 24 I went to Cabin Meadow and scouted the country in vicinity; 12 miles.

On June 25 I sent one man to Grant Park and had him post forest reserve notices; 25 miles.

I sent a detachment to patrol eastern part of park, going by way of Giant Forest and camping at Long Meadow; 13 miles.

On June 26 this detachment left camp at Long Meadow and went to Lower and Upper Huckleberry meadows, thence over ridge to Farley Meadows, returning same way to Horse Meadow and scouting country south and east of Mount Silliman.

From Horse Meadow the detachment went to Wet Meadow and camped; 25 miles. I went to top of Little Baldy and scouted country in vicinity; 8 miles.

Sent detachment to Pond and Sheep meadows. Same detachment scouted along North Fork, thence by trail to Big Baldy, returning to camp by Halfway Meadow; 25 miles. Signs of stray sheep in Halfway Meadow.

On June 27 the detachment left Wet Meadow and scouted Clover Creek and Upper Cahoon meadows, returning to main camp by Lower Cahoon Meadow; 9 miles. I sent a detachment from main camp to look for band of stray sheep, tracks having been seen the previous day in Halfway Meadow. It scouted the country in vicinity of Big Baldy and Cabin Meadow, but found no sheep; 20 miles.

On June 28 I sent detachment to scout country east of Big Baldy as far as Shell Mountain; 17 miles.

On June 29 I sent a detachment to Giant Forest to see if any cattle were there; none were found; 18 miles.

I sent two men with pack mules to Schneider's, on Colony road, for grain; 20 miles.

I took detachment to Pond and Sheep Meadow, then northeast along park line, between Shell Mountain and park line to Upper Cahoon Meadow, returning to camp by Clover Creek and Lower Cahoon Meadow; 15 miles.

On June 30 no detachments were sent out.

The pack train arrived with grain and rations at noon. Capt. Parker arrived about 1 p. m. and the detachment from Grant Park came in about 3 p. m. Capt. Parker mustered the men here this evening.

On July 1 the detachments which came in for muster yesterday left for their own camps. A detachment was sent to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty Meadow; 10 miles. I left for the main camp at Three Rivers with Capt. Parker, and the following is the work done in my absence:

On July 2 a detachment went to park line, in vicinity of Big Baldy and Cabin Meadow. They found several stray sheep; 20 miles. Another detachment to Upper Cahoon and Clover Creek Meadow; 12 miles. On July 3 a detachment went to Giant Forest, scouting through Round Circle and Thorpes meadows; 20 miles.

On July 4 a detachment went to Pond and Sheep meadows, from there to Upper Cahoon, returning by Clover Creek and Lower Cahoon; 15 miles.

On July 5 a detachment went to park line and Cabin Meadow; 15 miles.

On July 6 a detachment went to Giant Forest, scouting Round Circle, Thorpe's, and Hackberry meadows; 20 miles. Another detachment went to Clover Creek and Upper Cahoon Meadow; 12 miles; and another scouted country in vicinity of Little Baldy; 8 miles.

On July 7 no detachments were sent out.

On July 8 a detachment went to Cabin Meadow and park line. Reported a band of sheep having been in the park but could not find them; the country being so cut up by sheep trails it is impossible to follow any one trail for a great distance; 20 miles. Another detachment went to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows; 8 miles. Another detachment attempted to cut a short trail from this camp to the Giant Forest, but the underbrush was so thick that they got no farther than the Marble Fork; about 12 miles.

On July 9 a detachment went to Cabin Meadow and park line. Found nothing; 20 miles. Another detachment went to Giant Forest, scouting the meadows in it; 20 miles.

On July 10 a detachment went to Clover Creek Meadow and scouted country in that vicinity; 15 miles. Another detachment went to Cabin Meadow, from there east in the direction of Mount Silliman; about 22 miles.

On July 11 a detachment went to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows; 10 miles.

On July 12 a detachment went to Giant Forest, scouting the meadows in that vicinity; 20 miles. Another detachment went to Upper Cahoon and Clover Creek Meadow; 15 miles. I marched from Schneider's to camp to-day, having left the main camp the previous evening.

On July 13 I kept the horses in camp to be shod.

On July 14 I started to find a trail from ridge running east and west from Little Baldy to Black Oak Spring. I succeeded in getting within 1 mile of it, but the country became so rough and the underbrush so thick that it was impossible to go farther; 12 miles. On my way here on July 12 I found that Mr. Homer had driven a band of cattle up the Colony road to Watson's Spring and then north along the ridge to Black Oak Canyon. This country is just outside the park, but the trail over which he went lies inside.

On July 15 I sent a detachment to Upper Cahoon and Clover Creek Meadow, 12 miles, and another to Cabin Meadow and park line, 15 miles.

On July 16 I sent a detachment to Giant Forest; 20 miles.

The entire pack train has been occupied in carrying grain from Schneider's on the Colony road to this camp, since June 29; they packed the last up on the 12th, and I now have enough to last until September 1.

They are several bands of sheep on the forest reserve, north of the park, which require constant watching, as their feed is pretty well eaten up and they only wait for a chance to run in the park.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. MCP. RUTHERFORD,
Second Lieutenant, Fourth Cavalry.

Capt. JAMES PARKER,
Fourth Cavalry, Acting Superintendent Sequoia National Park.

CAMP IN GENERAL GRANT PARK, *July 22, 1894.*

SIR: In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report:

I left camp near Carter's ranch June 20 with a detail of 3 privates and 1 wagon with supplies en route to General Grant Park; marched to Auckland post-office, 28 miles, arriving at 4 p. m. Roads good, no grass, water in creek.

June 21. Left Auckland at 5:30 a. m., marched to Old Comstock Mills, 22 miles, arriving at 3 p. m. Steep mountain road, no grass, plenty of wood, and good water.

June 22. Left camp at Comstock Mills at 5:15 a. m., marched to park, 10 miles, arriving at 10:30 a. m.; delay caused by unloading wagon at Stevens Grade. Plenty of wood, water, and grass. Found that sheep had been in the park but had left and driven over to the Kings River.

June 23. Entered on my duties as guard to the park by sending out my patrols, which has been continued ever since.

We have had no trouble with cattle this year so far, having found but 3 head in the park, and upon chasing them they left and have not returned. There are no sheep in the neighborhood of the park. We have visitors in the park daily. On the 4th of July we had quite a large picnic here from the Sequoia Mills. I had my detail present to enforce the rules; no damage done.

I have no breach of discipline to report. The men have performed their duties in a soldierly manner. The men and horses are in good health and condition.

I have on hand rations to include August 31 for the men, and barley to include October 10 for the horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WILSON,
Sergeant Troop B, Fourth Cavalry, in charge of detail.

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK.

HOCKETTS MEADOWS, CALIFORNIA, *July 18, 1894.*

SIR: In pursuance of troop orders No. 7, June 21, 1894, Three Rivers, Cal., the following report is respectfully submitted:

On June 19, 1894, I left main camp at Three Rivers, Cal., with detachment of 2 men (Lance Corp. Klaving and Private Balch) to take charge of southern portion of Sequoia National Park.

June 20. Myself and detail patrolled Hocketts Meadows, Sand Meadows, and Lower South Fork Meadows (20 miles).

June 21. Myself and Corp. Klaving patrolled Milk Ranch Meadows, Corral Meadow, and Sand Meadow (18 miles).

June 22. Myself and 1 man patrolled park along south line from Summit Meadow to Quinn's horse camp. Returning to camp we patrolled near Tule Lake (28 miles). Lieut. Dean with detail of 4 men arrived from main camp and took command of detachment.

June 23. Lieut. Dean and 1 man patrolled park at Lower South Fork Meadows. Moved camp from Long Meadow to Hocketts Meadows (14 miles).

June 24. Sergt. Cooper and 2 men patrolled park at Soda Creek and Lower South Fork Meadow (22 miles).

June 25. Lieut. Dean and 1 man patrolled at Wet Meadows (16 miles). Sergt. Cooper and 1 man was sent beyond crossing on Little Kern, posting notices of forest reserve from Secretary of Interior (20 miles). Private Stevens was sent to post notices on Soda Creek and on Peck Canyon trail (18 miles).

June 26. Lieut. Dean and 1 man patrolled park at Soda Creek and Lower South Fork Meadows (16 miles). Lance Corp. Klaving patrolled at Milk Ranch and Corral Meadows (12 miles).

June 27. Lance Corp. Klaving patrolled park on Horse Creek and Tar Gap (10 miles).

June 28. Detachment marched from Hocketts Meadows to Redwood Cabin (15 miles).

June 29. Detachment marched from Redwood Cabin to main camp at Three Rivers for muster (14 miles).

June 30. I took charge of detachment and marched from main camp at Three Rivers to Lady Bug camp (20 miles).

July 1. Detachment marched from Lady Bug camp to camp at Hocketts Meadows (9 miles).

July 2. I sent Corp. Klawing and 1 man to crossing on Little Kern to look out for herd of cattle. They found herd about 1 mile outside of park and warned herder to keep his cattle off park and reserve (22 miles). Myself and 1 man patrolled park along south line (14 miles).

July 3. Myself and 1 man patrolled near east line of park. Found sheep and cattle sign about four days old. Returning to camp met Capt. Parker and reported same to him (20 miles).

July 4. Myself and 3 men patrolled park at Soda Creek. Found 2 men camped there, presumably sheep men, and put them off the park, warning them not to return (23 miles).

July 5. Myself and Corp. Klawing patrolled park, dismounted along Horse Creek, going over and returning by Tar Gap trail (12 miles).

July 6. Myself and 1 man patrolled park along south line from Summit Meadows to Peck Canyon trail (18 miles). Sent Corp. Klawing and 1 man to east line of park along Little Kern. They found a small band of sheep about 1 mile from the line. Warned herder to keep off park and reserve (25 miles).

July 7. I patrolled park near Tule Lake. Met a herder there who has about 4,000 sheep at Raster Canyon, about 2 miles outside of park. Warned him to keep off park and reserve. Posted notices of timber reserve on Mount Solomon and Porterville trail (16 miles).

July 8. Myself and 1 man patrolled at Milk Ranch, Horse Creek, and Corral Meadow (16 miles). Sent Corp. Klawing and 1 man to Soda Creek and Little Kern (22 miles). Private Nieman joined detachment from detail with Capt. Parker (12 miles).

July 9. Sent 1 man to Little Kern to look out for sheep going toward Mineral King and turn them back (18 miles). Sent Corp. Klawing to patrol park near East Fork (12 miles). I patrolled park along south line from Summit Meadows to Soda Creek (23 miles).

July 10. Myself and Corp. Klawing patrolled southern portion of park from Old Camp at Long Meadow to Tule Lake (16 miles). Sent 1 man to Little Kern to look out for sheep (18 miles).

July 11. Myself and Corp. Klawing patrolled Sand Meadow and upper and lower South Fork meadows (16 miles). Sent 2 men to patrol along south line from Summit Meadow to Tule Lake (16 miles). Sent 1 man to crossing on Little Kern, and south as far as line meadow (24 miles).

July 12. Sent Corp. Klawing to patrol along Horse Creek to lakes near the summit (15 miles). Sent 1 man to crossing on Little Kern. He found a band of sheep on ridge near Wet Meadow, belonging to a Mr. Quinn. The herder claimed Mr. Quinn had a permit to drive his sheep across that corner of the park to some deeded land on the east side (18 miles). I patrolled park at Milk Ranch and Corral Meadow (10 miles).

July 13. I took 1 man and 2 pack mules and went to Mineral King for rations, and to see Capt. Parker in regard to the sheep, leaving detachment in charge of Corp. Klawing (18 miles). Corp. Klawing followed band of sheep to park line (16 miles).

July 14. Corp. Klawing and 1 man patrolled park at Milk Ranch and Corral Meadow (12 miles).

July 15. I returned from Mineral King with rations (18 miles). Corp. Klawing patrolled along south line (16 miles). Sent 1 man to Soda Creek (20 miles).

July 16. I patrolled along South Fork to Lady Bug (18 miles). Sent Corp. Klawing to Wet Meadows and Soda Creek (20 miles). Sent 1 man to patrol along south line (14 miles). Private Nieman relieved from duty with detachment and joined troop at Mineral King (18 miles).

July 17. I patrolled park at headwaters of Horse Creek. Found Quinn's band of sheep going north through Tar Gap, and, in compliance with orders received from Capt. Parker, turned them back and drove them south out of park (18 miles). Sent 1 man to patrol along south line of park (20 miles). Sent 2 men to Milk Ranch and Horse Creek Meadows, Corral Meadows, and lower South Fork Meadows (22 miles).

July 18. Myself and Corp. Klawing went to south line of park and drove sheep of Mr. Quinn farther south from park, warning herder to hereafter keep clear of park limits (16 miles). Sent 2 men to Wet Meadows and Little Kern (14 miles).

The health of the detachment is excellent.

I have rations to include July 31, 1894.

I have on hand 2,625 pounds of grain. The feed on the meadows is fairly good, and the horses are in first-class condition.

The discipline of the detachment has been excellent in every respect.

Number of miles marched by detachment from June 19, 1894, to July 18, 1894, 9.03 miles.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT D. COOPER,

Sergeant, Troop B, Fourth Cavalry, in charge of detachment.

Capt. JAMES PARKER,

Fourth Cavalry, Acting Superintendent Sequoia National Park.

CAMP AT MINERAL KING, CAL., August 20, 1894.

SIR: In compliance with your request I have the honor to make the following report of the work done in the Sequoia National Park since July 20, 1894, on which date I assumed command:

On the above date Capt. Parker left here for San Francisco, in compliance with Special Order No. 15, headquarters Department of California, preparatory to reporting for duty at the U. S. Military Academy. His report of the operations up to that date has been forwarded to you.

The disposition of the command at that time was as follows: The main camp at Mineral King having been moved from Three Rivers on July 13, a detachment consisting of 1 noncommissioned officer and 7 privates in charge of Second Lieut. S. Mc. P. Rutherford at Halstead Meadow, in the northern part of the park; a detachment consisting of 1 noncommissioned officer and 3 privates in charge of Sergt. Wilson at General Grant Park, and a detachment consisting of 2 noncommissioned officers and 4 privates in charge of Sergt. Cooper at Hocketts Meadow, in the southern part of the park, the center part of the park being patrolled by detachments sent out from the main camp from time to time.

This has been an unusually dry season in the valley, and consequently feed for stock has been very scarce. The owners or stock have driven it into the mountains surrounding, and there are in consequence more sheep and cattle in this country—so I am told by old residents—than ever before. The cattle are allowed to run loose in most cases, but thus far have been but little trouble. Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Tharpe have their cattle herded. This condition of affairs renders the duty of guarding the park more difficult, as these large bands of sheep are kept close to the line on all sides, and if not constantly watched will feed over them.

These sheep-herders have no respect for the notices posted on the reserve, and tear them down as fast as they are posted up, nor for the rights of land owners within the limits.

They herd their bands on private land, and when warned off by citizens refuse to go and threaten to shoot anyone who attempts to put them off.

Mr. Sheppard, an old man who owns some land north of the park, came to the camp at Halstead Meadows and asked for protection, saying that a Portuguese had driven his sheep on his land, and when warned off threatened to shoot him. Sergt. Farrel, who was then in charge of the camp, told him that he could not drive the sheep off, but to report the matter to the civil authorities. There have been several shots exchanged between sheep and cattle men for this same reason.

If these sheepmen are asked whether they have seen the notices posted on the Reserve, they reply "Yes, but my sheep are not the only ones on the Reserve;" and when told that they have been reported

they say, "Well, I am not the only one in that fix." A few arrests to set an example would be the best thing that could be done. But one band of sheep have been on the park, and they were caught by the detail in the northern part. They had gotten in a mile before stopped. The herders were arrested and taken to camp and the sheep divided into small bands and scattered outside the park.

After keeping the herders a few days they were sent under guard to me, and I sent them down the Mineral King road after several days. The owner of the sheep could not be found, and the herders, who were Portuguese, claimed not to understand English. From what I could learn, however, the sheep belonged to Mr. Merry, of Fresno.

I have seen in several papers lately a notice to the effect that parties having patents of land lying within national reservations can rent said land. No official notification has been received as yet by me. There is a great deal of land within this reservation belonging to private citizens. This land is scattered all over the park in lots of 40 to 150 acres; most of it is in 40-acre plats. There are no boundary lines to it and no way to find the boundary without a great deal of labor. Before these boundaries could be determined the feed would all be eaten off the private land, and the sheep would more than likely have encroached on the park. The most of this land has been taken up as swamp land. This I consider a fraud and a scheme to cheat the Government. The idea of swamp lands lying in these mountains at an elevation of 8,000 and 9,000 feet is simply ridiculous.

It is true that there are places in the park that are unfit to travel over during certain portions of the year, but that is due to the fact that the season is late in the mountains. At this season of the year I do not believe that there is any place that can not be traveled by man or beast without danger.

Again, the parties owning or claiming to own these lands make no improvements upon them. As stated before, none of them are marked in any way, and but two plots of 40 acres each are fenced, one belonging to Mr. H. Thorpe and one belonging to Mr. W. T. Dean; and if these parties are allowed to rent this land to sheep men it will be an impossibility to keep the sheep off the park, due to the distances between plots. The greater part of this swamp land is not patented, and possibly none at all. The parties have purchase certificates and claim to pay taxes every year. Some of these parties have acted already upon the articles published in the papers, and rented their land to sheep men, but I have not allowed sheep to be driven through the park to them as yet.

Mr. W. T. Dean, who has purchase certificates for 120 acres of swamp land and 200 acres of school land, had rented his land to Mr. Quinn before any notice had been published. Mr. Quinn asked permission to take his sheep on this land and was refused. Since that time Mr. Dean has been here, and showed his certificates of purchase and requested permission to have Mr. Quinn use his land. He was informed that until some official notification was received Mr. Quinn could not go on the park. Other parties are taking the same action as Mr. Dean.

There have been more people visiting different parts of the park this year than last, especially the southern part. This is due to the fact of many persons from the valley spending the summer at Mineral King, and that part of the park being of easy access. Also to the fact that there is good fishing there.

The fish placed in the streams in the northern part of the park are doing finely, and in another year that country will be visited more. I

have been corresponding with the California State Fish Commission, and through the efforts of the Visalia Sporting Club have received 20,000 trout fry, which I have placed in the streams of the northern part of the park. Twenty thousand more trout are now on the way with which other streams in the park will be stocked.

GENERAL GRANT PARK.

Sergeant Wilson, with a detail of three men, has been in charge. His report is submitted herewith.

Cattle have been of little trouble so far, but are now beginning to work their way in, as the feed is nearly all gone outside. Although this country is overrun with sheep, so far none have injured the park.

On August 10 I left the camp at Mineral King to acquaint myself with the country surrounding the Kern lakes and embraced in the forest reserve, and also in order, if possible, to procure some of the beautiful golden trout for the California State Fish Commission, which are peculiar to Whitney Creek, a stream heading near Mount Whitney. With much difficulty these fish were procured and forwarded, in good condition, to the State fish commission, whose intention it is to propagate the species.

I found the country surrounding Whitney Creek and the Kern lakes and the Kern flat country indescribably grand, in places the mountain walls, on both sides of the Kern River, running to the height of from 1,700 to 2,000 feet. At one time both banks of the river were bounded by beautiful meadows, containing luxuriant grass. This has all been eaten off by the sheep, so that it is only with the greatest difficulty that tourists and campers, passing through the park, can find feed for their stock, it being impracticable for them to carry forage over the rough, and in places dangerous, mountain trails.

Not only is this true in regard to the Kern River district, but for miles and miles back from its river the whole country has, from a beautiful land once covered with nice and luxuriant grass, been turned into a desert; even the brush along the streams has been eaten, some of its small streams are drying up.

The game, especially the deer, are decreasing in numbers.

The all-devouring and all-destroying sheep are almost making the country uninhabitable for man and beast. Although not in my power to remove the sheep men and their herds from the reserve by force, as in the park, I succeeded in less than a week in removing from 15,000 to 20,000 sheep from the reserve. I strongly recommend that the following measures be adopted to remedy this state of affairs, outlined above:

First. That deputy U. S. marshals be sent through the reserve to arrest some of the sheep owners and have them rigorously prosecuted for trespass. A few arrests of this kind would have a very salutary effect and promptly put an end to this disregard of the orders of the Secretary.

Second. That a guardian be appointed to look after the game interests and general welfare of the park during the absence of the troop. Large numbers of deer are killed in the park every year after the troop has been withdrawn.

There have been no forest fires in the park during the present year. My thanks are due to Lieut. Rutherford for the interest he has taken in the work of the park and the manner in which he has performed his part of it. The work done by the noncommissioned officers

in charge of the outlying camps has been hard and continuous. They have performed their duties in every case in a manner calling for commendation. Their reports are submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. T. DEAN,
First Lieutenant Fourth Cavalry,
Acting Superintendent Sequoia National Park.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

CAMP IN GENERAL GRANT PARK, August 15, 1894.

SIR: I herewith very respectfully submit the following report of operations in this park from July 20, 1894.

The daily patrol has been kept up regularly, the men from about the first of August having plenty to do to keep the cattle out, as the feed is drying up in the valley and the cattle work up into the mountains.

Visitors to the big trees are quite plentiful during the day. No sheep near the park. Water, except in the large streams, is drying up. Feed is good. The men are in good health and rationed to include August 31. Horses are in good order and health, and have 2,188 pounds of barley for them, which is to do until October 10, 1894.

Lieut. Rutherford and detail, from Mineral King, arrived on the 30th of July. There has been nothing of importance to communicate.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. WILSON,
Sergeant, in Charge of Detail.

First Lieut. A. T. DEAN,
Commanding Troop B, Fourth Cavalry.

CAMP AT HOCKETTS MEADOWS, CAL., August 18, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of work done by this detachment since July 18, 1894.

July 19. I patrolled at Corral Meadow, Summit Meadow, and Lower South Fork Meadow (14 miles).

Sent Lance Corp. Klawing to Mineral King with report (18 miles).

July 20. Myself, privates Haydon and Stevens patrolled park along south line from Summit Meadows to Peck Canyon; found four head of stock, two horses and two mules, near head of Raster Gulch, presumably strays, and drove them out over south line. Returned to camp over Soda Creek trail (20 miles).

Lance Corp. Klawing returned from Mineral King (18 miles).

July 21. I patrolled park along South Fork from Sand Meadow to headwaters of the stream. Found two men camped on Upper South Fork Meadow; on showing a permit from Capt. Parker I let them remain (18 miles). Sent privates Stevens and Haydon along south line to Soda Creek, returning to camp over Mineral King trail (28 miles). Pack train brought grain for detachment from main camp (18 miles).

Private Wall joined detachment from main camp (18 miles).

July 22. Myself and Lance Corp. Klawing patrolled park along south line to Soda Creek trail (20 miles). Pack train returned to Mineral King.

July 23. Privates Stevens and Wall patrolled park along south line from Summit Meadow to Soda Creek trail (20 miles). Corp. Klawing and Private Haydon patrolled park at Lower South Fork Meadow, Sand Meadow, and Rock meadow (16 miles).

July 24. I patrolled park at Soda Creek and Wet Meadows (20 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled at Corral and Lower South Fork Meadows (8 miles).

Private Haydon patrolled at Long and Summit meadows (10 miles).

Private Dunne brought letter of instruction from troop commander in regard to a flock of sheep belonging to Mr. Quinn.

July 25. Myself and Corp. Klawing patrolled south line of park from Summit Meadow to Peck Canyon. Quinn's sheep crossed out of canyon for White Chief. Left Corp. Klawing with sheep (18 miles).

Privates Stevens and Haydon patrolled at Milk ranch and Corral Meadow (14 miles).

July 26. I patrolled park at Corral Meadow and down South Fork trail to Burned Log Camp (18 miles). Sent Private Stevens to overlook movements of Quinn's sheep (15 miles).

July 27. I patrolled headwaters of Horse Creek looking for cattle reported to be near Summit Lakes, but found no trace of them (15 miles). Sent Private Haydon to overlook movements of Quinn's sheep. They crossed out of park at about 2 p. m., having been two and one-half days crossing White Chief Ridge (14 miles).

First Sergt. Fulle and Blacksmith Rise arrived from main camp.

July 28. Myself and Corp. Klawing, in company with First Sergt. Fulle, patrolled park at Lower South Fork Meadow and Soda Creek. Found two parties, one from Visalia and one from Portersville, camped on Soda Creek, without authority from superintendent, and ordered them to leave the limits of the park (16 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled along south line; found two stray horses near Tule Lake. Drove them out of park down Soda Creek (22 miles).

Private Wall patrolled Corral and Sand meadows (10 miles).

July 29. Myself, Corp. Klawing, and Private Haydon patrolled at Milk Ranch, Corral Meadow, and Lower South Fork Meadow (15 miles).

Sent Private Wall over south line to Soda Creek, returning to camp via Wet Meadow (22 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled at Summit Meadow and Tule Lake (14 miles).

July 30. I patrolled at Wet Meadows and Little Kern, going south to Shotgun Canyon (25 miles). Private Stevens patrolled park along south line to Tule Lake. Drove 6 head of horses out over south line (14 miles).

Private Wall patrolled at Soda Creek and Wet Meadows (22 miles).

Corp. Klawing and Private Haydon patrolled at Corral and Sand meadows (14 miles).

July 31. I patrolled park on Horse Creek, going north to Tar Gap and along park line to East Fork (20 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled park along south line to Tule Lake (14 miles). Pack train brought rations for detachment.

August 1. Myself and Private Stohlberg patrolled park on Horse Creek and Tar Gap, looking for Quinn's sheep. Found no trace of them (20 miles).

Private Haydon patrolled park along south line to Tule Lake. Found eight horses near Lake. Drove them out over south line (14 miles).

Private Wall patrolled park at Soda Creek and Wet Meadows (22 miles).

August 2. Myself and Private Cranson patrolled park north and west of Homers Nose; found where cattle had been inside of the park, but had been driven out. Camped that night at Blossom's Ranch (27 miles).

Corp. Klawing and Private Stevens patrolled park at Tar Gap and Summit Lake, looking for Quinn's sheep, but found no trace of them (16 miles).

August 3. Myself and Private Cranson returned to camp over South Fork trail. Met a party of hunters from Tulare, near Redwood cabin, who intended crossing the park. Having no permit I turned them back (27 miles).

Corp. Klawing patrolled park on Horse Creek and Tar Gap, looking for Quinn's sheep. Found no trace of them (20 miles).

August 4. Private Stevens patrolled park along south line to Soda Creek (18 miles).

Private Wall at Wet Meadows (14 miles).

August 5. Sent Corp. Klawing and Private Haydon with pack mule and two days' rations down South Fork for vegetables (25 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled south line and Soda Creek (16 miles).

Private Wall patrolled on Horse Creek (12 miles).

August 6. Private Wall patrolled on Lady Bug Creek (10 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled along south line to Peck Canyon (16 miles).

August 7. Private Stevens patrolled at Wet Meadows and Little Kern (18 miles).

Corp. Klawing and Private Haydon returned to camp (22 miles).

August 8. I patrolled along Horse Creek to lakes (14 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled along south line to Soda Creek trail (16 miles).

August 9. Corp. Klawing patrolled at Milk Ranch and Corral Meadows (12 miles).

Private Haydon patrolled at Soda Creek (16 miles).

August 10. I patrolled park at south line, going down Middle Tule, looking for Mr. Quinn. Camped night of 10th at Mountain Home (14 miles).

Private Wall patrolled at Wet Meadows (16 miles).

August 11. I returned to camp from Middle Tule, having found nothing of Mr. Quinn (14 miles).

Corp. Klawing patrolled at Soda Creek and Lower South Fork Meadows (16 miles).

Private Wall patrolled at Lady Bug Canyon (7 miles).

August 12. I went into Mineral King to find out if anything had been seen or heard of Quinn's sheep. Met his foreman on Farewell Gap who informed me the sheep were in Eagle Lake Canyon, outside of park. I went on to Mineral King and reported to troop commander (18 miles).

Private Wall patrolled along south line to Tule Lake (16 miles).

August 13. I returned to camp from Mineral King (18 miles).

Corp. Klawing patrolled along south line from Summit Meadows to Soda Creek (20 miles).

Private Haydon patrolled at Milk Ranch and Corral Meadows (12 miles).

August 14. I patrolled, dismounted, at headwaters of Hickman Creek, returning to camp via Horse Creek (15 miles).

Private Wall patrolled at Wet Meadows and headwaters of South Fork (16 miles).

Private Stevens went along south line from Summit Meadows to Quinn's horse camp. Found eight head of stock near Tule Lake. Drove them south out of park (20 miles).

August 15. I patrolled park at head of Hickman Creek, returning to camp over Horse Creek trail (12 miles).

Sent Corp. Klawing to Wet Meadows and headwaters of South Fork (14 miles).

Private Stevens patrolled south line to Soda Creek (20 miles).

August 16. Myself, privates Haydon, Stevens, and Wall took one day's rations and camped at Milk Ranch. From there we scouted thoroughly the country north and west of Homers Nose, looking for cattle. There is a herd of about 300 on Salt Creek, 1½ miles from park line, but as yet they have not crossed into the park, except a few strays, which we were unable to find (20 miles).

Corp. Klawing patrolled at Wet Meadows (14 miles).

August 17. Myself and detail returned to camp from Milk Ranch, 6 miles. Corp. Klawing patrolled at Soda Creek. Found two men camped there without authority and ordered them to leave the limits of the park (18 miles). The detachment is rationed to include August 31, 1894.

I have on hand 11 sacks of grain, 825 pounds. The health of the detachment has been excellent. No accidents have happened during the season to either men or horses. The detachment has traveled, since July 18, 1894, to August 18, 1894, 1,173 miles. The discipline of the men has been excellent.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT D. COOPER,

Sergeant, Troop B, Fourth Cavalry, in Charge of Detachment.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER TROOP B, FOURTH CAVALRY,

Mineral King, Cal.

CAMP AT HALSTEAD MEADOW, CAL., August 10, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of work done by this detachment since July 16, 1894:

July 17. Sent two men to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows. They reported nothing there.

July 18. Sent two men to Cabin Meadow and park line. They reported nothing there.

July 19. Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow. They reported nothing there. Took one man and went to Giant Forest, visiting Round, Circle, Huckleberry, and Thorpes meadows. Mr. Thorpe was on his way to his upper meadows, with some cattle.

July 20. Took one man and went to Clover Creek, Wet, Horse, Boulder, Long, and Lower and Upper Huckleberry meadows; camped in Upper Huckleberry Meadow; did not find any cattle or sheep.

Two men went to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows; they reported nothing there.

July 21. Left Upper Huckleberry Meadow and went to several small meadows on the ridge above Huckleberry Meadow; did not find anything there; returned to camp by the same route I came.

July 22. Sent one man to General Grant Park, with mail for Sergeant Wilson's detachment.

July 23. Took one man and went to Giant Forest, visited Round, Circle, Huckleberry, and Thorpes meadows; nothing there.

July 24. Sent one man to Three Rivers, with mail. Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow. They reported nothing there.

July 25. Took one man and went to Boulder Meadow, passing through Wet and Horse meadows; kept on up through Boulder Meadow until we got as far as Mount Silliman; did not find any sheep; noticed two sheep camps about two miles east of Mount Silliman. Sent two men to Cabin Meadow and the park line. They reported nothing there.

July 26. Did not send out any details to-day.

July 27. Sent two men to Giant Forest. They reported having visited Round, Circle, Huckleberry, and Thorpes meadows. Nothing there. Sent two men to

Clover Creek Meadow. They brought in two sheep-herders they had caught in the meadow. Took one man and two mules and went to Clover Creek Meadow and brought in the sheep-herders' camp outfit.

July 28. Took five men and went to Clover Creek Meadow to drive out and scatter the sheep found there. Drove them about a mile outside the park. Had to leave them, as they were played out.

July 29. Left camp with two men to escort the sheep-herders to Mineral King by way of the Middle Fork. Four men went to the Clover Creek Meadow to drive the sheep further on and scatter them. They divided the band into several smaller bands and drove them in all directions.

July 30. No details were out to-day.

July 31. Two men went to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows, returning by way of Sheep Meadow, Upper and Lower Cahoon meadows. They reported nothing there.

August 1. Two men went to Clover Creek Meadow and vicinity. They found a band of five hundred sheep. They drove them out and scattered them.

August 2. Two men went to Giant Forest. They visited Round, Circle, Huckleberry, and Thorpes meadows. They reported nothing there.

Two men went to Shell Mountain, returning by way of Clover Creek Meadow. Nothing there.

August 3. No details went out to-day.

August 4. Three men went to Clover Creek Meadow. They reported nothing there. Took one man and went to Cabin Meadow and park line. Found six head of cattle just inside the park line. Drove them out.

August 5. Took one man and went to Pond, Sheep, and Dougherty meadows, also to Shell Mountain. Did not find anything there.

August 6. Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow. They reported nothing there.

August 7. Sent two men to Cabin Meadow and park line; they reported no cattle in the park.

Took one man and went to Mount Silliman by way of Boulder Meadow, passing through Wet and Horse meadows; did not find any sheep.

August 8. Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow; they reported nothing there.

August 9. Sent two men to Grant Forest; they reported nothing there.

Took one man and went to Pond, Sheep and Dougherty meadows, also to Shell Mountain; nothing there.

August 10. Sent two men to Cabin Meadow and park line; they reported no cattle inside the park.

August 11. No details went out to-day.

August 12. Sent two men to Grant Park with vegetables and mail for Sergeant Wilson's detachment.

Sent two men to Three Rivers for vegetables left there on their way from Mineral King.

Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow; they reported nothing there.

Went to Pond, Sheep and Dougherty meadows, also to Shell Mountain, Upper and Lower Cahoon meadows; nothing there.

August 13. Sent two men to Cabin Meadow; they reported nothing there.

August 14. Sent two men to Clover Creek Meadow; they reported nothing there. Took one man and went to Giant Forest; nothing there.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD D. FARREL,

Sergeant, Troop B, Fourth Cavalry.

COMMANDING OFFICER TROOP B, FOURTH CAVALRY,
Mineral King, Cal.