

STEELE, William, soldier, b. in Albany, N. Y., in 1819; d. in San Antonio, Tex., 12 Jan., 1885. He was graduated at the U. S. military academy in 1840, assigned to the 2d dragoons, and served in the Florida war, the military occupation of Texas, and the war with Mexico, being promoted 1st

lieutenant, 9 May, 1846, and brevetted captain for gallantry at Contreras and Churnbusco. He was stationed in Texas from 1849 till 1852, being promoted captain, 10 Nov., 1851, and was then in New Mexico till 1854. From that time till the civil war he was chiefly in Kansas, Dakota, and Nebraska, taking part in several expeditions against hostile Indians. He resigned on 30 May, 1861, joined the Confederate army as colonel of the 7th Texas cavalry, and took part in Gen. Henry H. Sibley's expedition to New Mexico. On its return he was made brigadier-general, 12 Sept., 1862, and in January, 1863, was assigned to the command of the Department of Western Arkansas and the Indian territory. He commanded at Galveston, Tex., in December, 1863, and had charge of a cavalry division in Louisiana in 1864, where he opposed the Red river expedition of Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks. In 1867 he became a commission merchant in San Antonio, Tex., and for some time after 1874 he was adjutant-general of the state. In this office he did good service by procuring and publishing, at great pains and expense, lists of escaped convicts and other fugitives from justice, which he furnished to the sheriffs of the various counties in the state.

NUMBER.

1840.

CLASS RANK.

1047..(Born N. Y.).....**WILLIAM STEELE**.....(Ap'd N. Y.)..31

Military History.—Cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 1, 1836, to July 1, 1840, when he was graduated and promoted in the Army to

BVT. SECOND LIEUT., 2D DRAGOONS, JULY 1, 1840.

Served: at the Cavalry School for Practice, Carlisle, Pa., 1840-41; in the

(SECOND LIEUT., 2D DRAGOONS, FEB. 2, 1841)

Florida War, 1841-42, being engaged in two Skirmishes with the Seminole Indians; on frontier duty at Ft. Jesup, La., 1842-44; in garrison at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., 1844-45; in Military Occupation of Texas, 1845-46; in the War with Mexico, 1846-48, being engaged in the Battle of Palo Alto, May 8, 1846,

(FIRST LIEUT., 2D DRAGOONS, MAY 9, 1846)

Battle of Monterey, Sep. 21-23, 1846.—Siege of Vera Cruz, Mar. 9-29, 1847.—

—Battle of Cerro Gordo, Apr. 17-18, 1847,—Battle of Contreras, Aug. 19-20, 1847,—Battle of Churubusco, Aug. 20, 1847,—Battle of Molino del Rey, Sep. 8,

(BVT. CAPT., AUG. 20, 1847, FOR GALLANT AND MERITORIOUS CONDUCT
IN THE BATTLES OF CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO, MEX.)

1847,—and as Acting Asst. Adjutant-General of Cavalry Brigade, 1847-48; as Adjutant, 2d Dragoons, Dec. 20, 1847, to Apr. 10, 1849; in garrison at East Pascagoula, Mis., 1848; on Recruiting service, 1848-49; on frontier duty at Fredericksburg, Tex., 1849-50,—Ft. Martin Scott, Tex., 1850,—Austin, Tex., 1850,—Ft. Lincoln, Tex., 1850-51,—Ft. Martin Scott, Tex., 1851,—Ft. Lincoln, Tex., 1851,—Austin, Tex. (Quartermaster duty), 1851-52,—Ft. Conrad, N. M.,

(CAPTAIN, 2D DRAGOONS, NOV. 10, 1851)

1852-53,—Scouting, 1853, being engaged against Apache Indians in a Skirmish near Ft. Conrad, N. M., July 28, 1853,—Ft. Craig, N. M., 1854,—Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., 1854-55,—Sioux Expedition, 1855, being engaged in the Action of Blue Water, Sep. 3, 1855,—Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., 1855-56,—Ft. Randall, Dak., 1856-57,—and Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., 1857-58; in garrison at St. Louis, Mo., 1858; on sick leave of absence, 1858-59; and on frontier duty at Ft. Kearny, Neb., 1859-60,—Kiowa and Comanche Expedition, 1860, being engaged in a Skirmish near Bent's Fort, Col., July 11, 1860,—and Ft. Scott, Kan., 1860-61.

RESIGNED, MAY 30, 1861.

Joined in the Rebellion of 1861-66 against the United States.