

## DEATH OF GEN. PALMER A NOTED DELAWAREAN

Organized a Cavalry Regiment and Served Throughout the Civil War

WAS A NATIVE OF THIS STATE

And Was a Substantial Benefactor of the O'd Folks Home at the Capital.

General William J. Palmer, a noted Delawarean and a distinguished survivor of the Civil War, died on Saturday at his residence, at Colorado Springs, Col., of which he was the founder and one of the most prominent citizens. Concerning his death a dispatch from Colorado Springs says:

"Gen. William J. Palmer, founder of Colorado Springs, died at his country seat, Glen Eyrie, west of the city, on Saturday. Death came as a result of a fall from a horse in October, 1906, in which his back was broken. Gen. Palmer, who is widely known in the East, has often been called the foremost citizen of Colorado. He leaves an estate valued at \$15,000,000. Gen. Palmer was distinguished as a soldier in the Civil War, but his greatest fame came as a railroad builder. In connection with his inception and construction of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Gen. Palmer conceived and founded on a beautiful site near the eastward base of Pike's Peak the city of Colorado Springs, near which at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, he has lived since that city came into existence in the summer of 1871.

General Palmer, who was about 70 years of age, was born in Dover, but he left Delaware in his youth and went to Philadelphia, where he soon became private secretary to the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., and while he was working in that capacity the Civil War broke out, and in 1861 Mr. Palmer organized the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, at Philadelphia, becoming colonel of the regiment. Among the members of the regiment were several Delawareans, including former Mayor Evan G. Shortlidge, the late William M. Field and Stephen Southard of this city. The regiment saw much service and was in several notable engagements, including the battles of Missionary Ridge, Murphersburg and Nashville, and also did a great deal of skirmish work at other places.

A year ago last August General Palmer entertained about 200 of the survivors of his regiment at his palatial residence, at Colorado Springs, providing a special Pullman train, which made the trip each way between the Eastern cities and Denver, and also providing elaborate entertainment at his home for six days. The Delaware survivors were in the party and enjoyed the trip very much. This outing cost about \$47,000, all of which expense was borne by the genial host.

Though he had not lived in Delaware for a long time, General Palmer had not forgotten his native State, having contributed to various worthy objects here, the most notable object of his beneficence being the Old Folks Home, at Dover, which was named in his honor, and to which he gave liberally.

He was equally mindful of the interests of the place of his adoption, Colorado Springs, to which he gave land for two or three parks and several schoolhouses, and he also endowed a college there. He was a widower, his wife having died several years ago. He leaves three daughters.