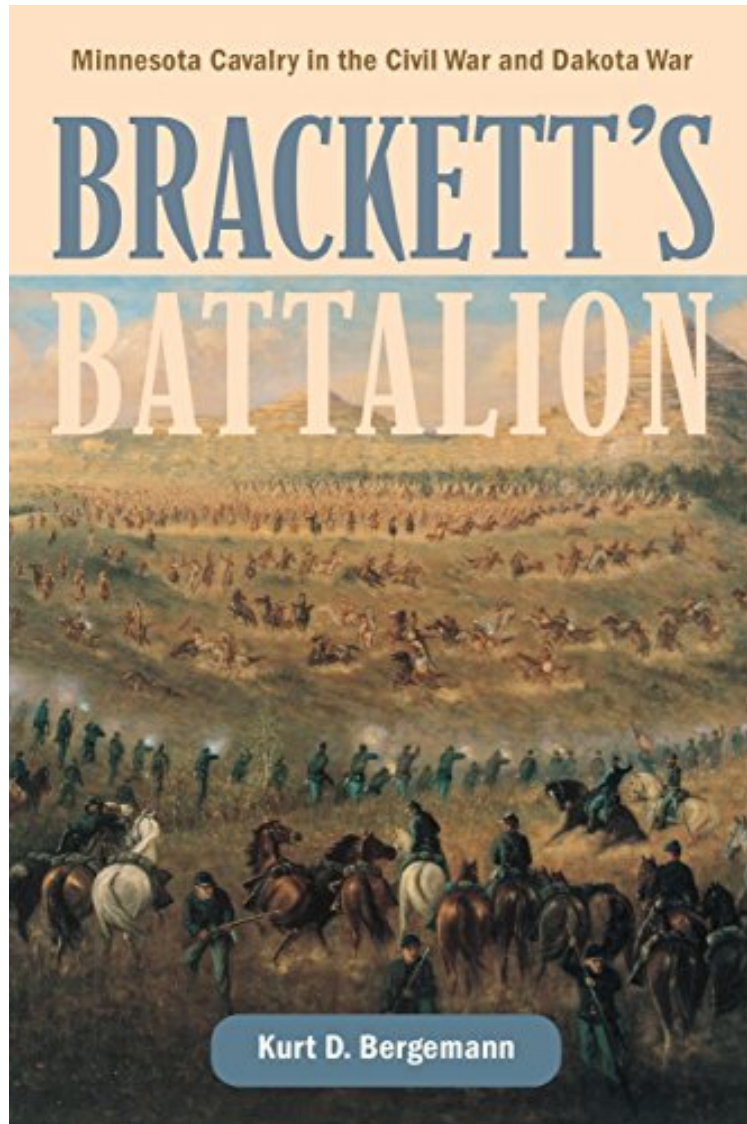


(Mobile pdf) Brackett's Battalion: Minnesota Cavalry in the Civil War and Dakota War

# Brackett's Battalion: Minnesota Cavalry in the Civil War and Dakota War

*Kurt D. Bergemann*

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**Kurt D. Bergemann : Brackett's Battalion: Minnesota Cavalry in the Civil War and Dakota War** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brackett's Battalion: Minnesota Cavalry in the Civil War and Dakota War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hello to my GGrandfather! By Winda Wee To find such incredibly well-researched and detailed accounts of the day to day events of my great-grandfather, Joseph J. Buck and his

infantrymen during the Civil War and the Dakota War is truly a gift. How I wish we had more pictures of them during this time. I only have two photos of him, one on his wedding day in 1880 and one as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Civil War. I knew some of his Civil War escapades, but to learn about their Northwestern Indian Expedition of 1864 is like looking right into their lives. Their descendants should be proud of their service to our country, at a time when unrest was a common, daily event. Their bravery and perseverance are to be so incredibly admired. Researching the genealogy of my GGrandfather's life has come full circle with this great account. Thank you, Kurt Bergemann! Our ancestors served with each other!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great chapters on George Northrup and the Battle of Killdeer Mountain! By killebrew1017 Following reading other current scholarly works on the U.S. - Dakota War, including "Columns of Vengeance" by Paul Beck and "The Dakota War: The United States Army Versus The Sioux, 1862-1865" by Michael Clodfelter, I came away quite satisfied with their interpretations regarding all facets of this military engagement, including the use of New Military History in Beck's case. However, I also felt like I could do one better, in regards to witnessing a good detailed look into how a specific unit went about this war, from start to finish. And considering that I was also researching the involvement of legendary frontiersman George Northrup in the Dakota War - a man who coincidentally was enlisted in Brackett's Battalion, Bergemann's book was the perfect read for me. This book brilliantly captures the journey of these Minnesota volunteer cavalry soldiers, from their initial enlistment into the Union Army to their two years of service in the Deep South against the Confederacy to their two summers on the plains of North Dakota in pursuing those Dakota Sioux responsible for the 1862 uprising in southwestern Minnesota. Bergemann diligently researched and utilized numerous primary sources to document these ordinary Minnesotans who felt patriotically motivated and obliged to serve their country during these tumultuous years of the early 1860s. As a Minnesotan myself, I enjoyed this book tremendously. As a historian, I overwhelmingly appreciated the coverage of particular micro-histories of the Dakota War, including the tale of George Northrup. This is one of two sources (the other being a 1869 magazine article written by Northrup's biographer) that adequately covers Northrup's involvement in the Civil War, as well as Brackett's Battalion pre-Dakota War years. I gained a greater understanding and appreciate of this Minnesota unit during the Civil and Dakota War during my reading of this book, and I learned plenty about what kind of man that Northrup truly was during his three years in the military. This is surely a must-read for all scholars and casual readers interested in Minnesota's involvement in the Civil War, as well as the second war that was going on closer to home with the Dakota Sioux. Witness the transformation of hundreds of ordinary men from Minnesota into battle-hardened cavalry veterans who gave their all to the United States in two great wars. I know I will always admire the ones of Brackett's Battalion that gave the ultimate sacrifice, especially George Northrup, the "Kit Carson of the Northwest"!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. My great grandfather's unit By Doug Stoltzman My name is Doug Stoltzman and my great grandfather Florence Garen served with Brackett's Battalion thru the entire Civil War. Kurt Bergemann was tireless in his research for this book and did, I feel, an excellent job of recording the battalion's history, people, and characters. It is both factual and personal. One not only gets the history but also the human side of the unit. A very good read.

After two years in the Southern theater of the Civil War, Brackett's Battalion became part of the Northwestern Indian Expedition of 1864 and rode into Dakota Territory to seek out and engage the Indians in response to the attacks on settlers in Minnesota. On July 28, 1864, during a decisive battle against a large Dakota contingent at Killdeer Mountain, Brackett's men conducted a remarkable three-mile-long saber charge that resulted in vicious hand-to-hand combat and eventually turned the tide of the battle. Told through the extant journals, diaries, and letters of the troopers themselves, Brackett's Battalion brings to light a long neglected aspect of Minnesota's role in the Civil War and reveals a side of the conflict rarely portrayed in the war's literature.

About the Author Kurt D. Bergemann has long been a student of the Civil War. This book is a result of his research on his great-great-grandfather, who served in Brackett's Battalion.