

Provenance

Harry Gibbons Cavanaugh (1843-1919) was married to Cornelia Rutgers *LaTourrette* Cavanaugh (1852-1895). He was appointed as an 18-year-old from Delaware, Private then Corporal and then Sergeant, with the 1st Delaware Infantry, he served from 2 September 1861 to 25 July 1864. He became a First Lieutenant with the 1st Delaware Veteran Infantry, 26 July 1864 and made Captain, 26 December 1864. During this time his unit fought at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. He was honorably mustered out 12 July 1865. He re-enlisted as a Second Lieutenant with the 37th U. S. Infantry, 28 July 1866 and was transferred to the 5th U. S. Infantry on 19 May 1869. He was unassigned until 5 June 1869, then to the 13th U. S. Infantry on 31 March 1870. He was promoted to First Lieutenant on 4 September 1871 and sent to Camp Douglas in the Utah Territory. He later made Captain on 16 August 1884; Major on 17 September 1898; and retired on 16 September 1899. He died at the age of 75 on 18 July 1919 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Harry G. Cavanaugh's eldest son Harry LaTourette Cavanaugh was born in 1872 at Camp Douglas (SLC), Utah Territory. He would later be the first West Point appointee from the Oklahoma Territory and would graduate in 1895. According to his 1954 obituary in the *Orlando Sentinel*, after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he began his military career in the west, where LT/CAPT Cavanaugh chased hostile Indians and became "one of the best rifle shots in the army". While growing up (1871-1890), his father Harry G. served in many locations: with the "Buffalo Soldiers" and various postings in Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Iowa. Harry G., sons Harry L. and William A. all fought in the Spanish American War where Harry G. was wounded at the battle of San Juan Hill. Harry L. would later serve in WW I, where now Col. Cavanaugh was honored with the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism while commanding the 363rd Infantry Regiment, 91st Division, A.E.F., in the Argonne-Meuse offensive. Col. Harry LaT Cavanaugh would become a professor of military science and tactics until

his retirement in 1936 and was a winter resident of Winter Park, FL until his death in 1954.

The Fenno Bear Dance Story Cloth, Native American Prairie, Plains and Plateau clothing, doll, weapons, and other artifacts in the Cavanaugh collection were likely acquired by Col. H. G. Cavanaugh and were in the possession of his daughter Marie Bates *Cavanaugh* Cook (1880-1963) and then passed to Robert LaT Cavanaugh (1906-1979), son of Harry LaT Cavanaugh, and then to David Newcomb Cavanaugh. Some items could have been acquired by H.L.C. when assigned to Ft. Robinson (NE) or Ft. Des Moines (IA) as collectively the Cavaughns were stationed over a wide geographic region of prairie, plains and plateau tribes.

Our research shows that the Cavaughns were in the Salt Lake City area at what was then Camp/Fort Douglas between 1871-1874. We know Louis Fenno was killed in that general area in Myton in 1905. This most likely puts the range for a Cavanaugh acquisition of the Fenno story cloth as between 1871-1874.