

Nelson Cole

1885-1886



**Colonel Nelson D. Cole, 2nd MO Art., USV
(1833 NY-1899 MO)
Original Member of the
Missouri Commandery of
MOLLUS**

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Colonel Nelson Cole, Senior
Vice-Commander-in-Chief,
was born in Dutchess county,
New York, November 18,
1833. Located in St. Louis in

1856. On the first call for troops he organized a company and was commissioned Captain, and on April 27, 1861, reported with his company to General Lyon. He was actively engaged in the measures taken to prevent St. Louis falling into rebel hands, and on an expedition to Southeast Missouri was credited with the capture of the first rebel flag taken in action.

Before the expiration of the three months term he was mustered for the three years service in the 1st Mo. Vol. Inf., Colonel Frank P. Blair, and

served under General Lyon in Southwest Missouri, being severely wounded at Wilson's Creek.

The regiment was reorganized as the 1st Mo. Light Art., and Captain Cole served with it until 1862, when he was appointed Chief of Artillery and Ordnance to General J. M. Schofield, and was afterwards Chief of Artillery, Department of Missouri. Promoted Major, August, 1863, Lieutenant-Colonel, October, 1863, Colonel, February 15, 1864. In the fall of 1864, as Chief of Staff to General A. Pleasanton, participated in the movements against General Sterling Price in Missouri. In May, 1865, was assigned to duty against the Northern Sioux and other Indians in the northwest, and at Powder river his command signally defeated them. He was mustered-out November 27, 1865.

Was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic on its organization in 1866, and on the reorganization was mustered in Frank P. Blair Post, No. 1, and served in a number of positions in that Post. Served two terms as Department Commander.