



CHARLES WARREN DAKE
CIVIL WAR VETERAN, FOUNDER OF PINE GROVE & LEGISLATOR

Charles Warren Dake, Founder and resident of Pine Grove, Colorado, was born July 28, 1839, in Hinkley, Ohio. He moved to Iowa and married Nancy Tolbot in 1859. When the Civil War began, he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry. He distinguished himself by bravery in battle and was a second lieutenant at the close of the war. He was mustered out in 1865 and paid in Civil War scrip. He then returned to Iowa and was twice elected treasurer of Ringgold County. He moved to Kearney County, Nebraska, in 1873, and operated a bank and stage line that ran between Nebraska and South Dakota. In 1880 Charles and his family moved to Denver, Colorado. Dake and his wife rode the tourist train to Pine Grove and fell in love with the area. In 1885 he used his Civil War scrip to purchase 160 acres in the area. In 1866 he platted the town, became the general manager of Pine Grove Resorts and proprietor of the Cottage Hotel. He built the Pine Mercantile Building, the Post Office, and a two-room schoolhouse.

Dake was elected from Jefferson County to the Ninth General Assembly of Colorado. As a representative he did much for the School of Mines in Golden besides giving Colorado an excellent game law. He served as a Justice of the Peace from 1888 until his death in 1907. He organized and owned the Pine Grove Water and Light Company. He built a dam on the Elk River to supply the town with water, and donated land for the Pine Grove Cemetery. He and his wife had 4 children, A.H. Dake, E.C. Dake, Maud Middaugh, and Lucy Bryden.

Charles W. Dake was elected to the Jefferson County Historical Commission Hall of Fame in 2007.