

Frederick Dame

Lieutenant & Captain - US Colored Troops



Residence Boston, MA; a 30-year-old Farmer.
Enlisted on 10/16/1862 as a Corporal.

On 10/16/1862, he mustered into **"H" Co. Massachusetts 47th Infantry**
He was discharged for promotion on 4/6/1863 at New Orleans, LA

On 4/6/1863, he was commissioned into **"G" Co. US Colored Troops 75th Infantry**
He was discharged for promotion on 8/11/1863

On 8/15/1863, he was commissioned into **"B" Co. US Colored Troops 83rd Infantry**
He transferred out on 10/5/1864

On 10/5/1864, he transferred into **"K" Co. US Colored Troops 73rd Infantry**
He was discharged for promotion on 4/21/1865

On 4/22/1865, he was commissioned into **"E" Co. US Colored Troops 72nd Infantry**
He transferred out on 8/16/1865

On 8/17/1865, he was commissioned into **"G" Co. US Colored Troops 125th Infantry**
He was Mustered Out on 12/20/1867

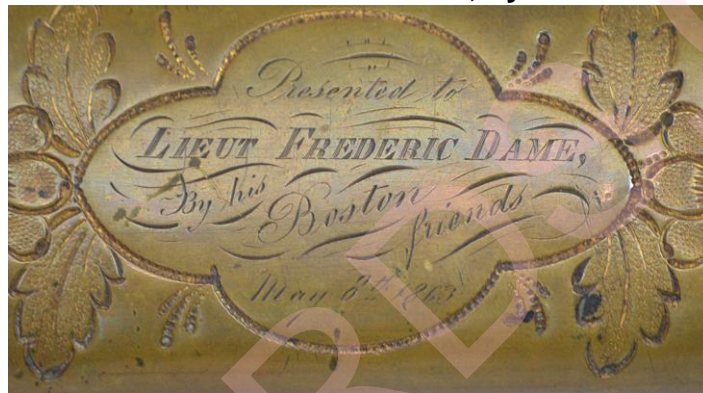
Promotions

2nd Lieutenant 4/6/1863	(Co. G 75th USCT Infantry)
Captain 8/15/1863	(Co. B 83rd USCT Infantry)
Captain 4/22/1865	(Co. E 72nd USCT Infantry)
Captain 8/17/1865	(Co. G 125th USCT Infantry)

Frederick Dame Presentation Sword



This sword was **“Presented to Lieut. Frederick Dame, by his Boston Friends May 8, 1863.”**



Frederick Dame initially enlisted into "H" Co. 47th Massachusetts Infantry but was discharged to accept a commission as a Second Lieutenant in "G" Co. US Colored Troops 75th Infantry. He would eventually serve in five different U.S. Colored Troop units: 75th; 83rd; 73rd; 72nd; and the 125th. He was promoted to Captain and Mustered Out on 12/20/1867.

The sword is a High-Grade German Silver hilt presentation sword with an 1862 dated Collins & Co. blade retailed by Palmer & Bachelder Boston Massachusetts. The hilt is tight and has a mellow patina; however, the quillion is snapped off. The blade is tight with frosty etching and some salt & pepper spots, but never sharpened and is tight. The scabbard is missing the drag and leather, exposing 8 1/2 inches of the blade. No doubt both the quillion and the drag were period lost during Dame's service with five different units.









Massachusetts Infantry Regiment

The 47th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment was a regiment of infantry that served in the Union Army during the American Civil War. It was one of the 18 Massachusetts regiments formed in response to President Abraham Lincoln's August 1862 call for 300,000 men to serve for nine months. The unit was known as the **"Merchant's Guard Regiment"** having been recruited primarily through the efforts of Boston merchant Lucius B. Marsh, who became the regiment's Colonel and commanding officer.

The regiment's service was unusual in that it never saw combat as a full regiment. Two detached companies saw minor skirmishing without casualties. Instead of active combat duty, the regiment served guard and provost duty in various camps and fortifications in and about New Orleans, Louisiana.

Service in Louisiana

The 47th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment trained at Camp Edwin M. Stanton in Boxford, Massachusetts and Camp Meigs in Readville, Massachusetts. On November 29, 1862, they left Boston for New York City where troops were being gathered to reinforce the Army of the Gulf under Major General Nathaniel P. Banks. On December 21, 1862, the regiment boarded a steamship for and reached New Orleans on December 31. The regiment was initially stationed at the United States Barracks, the former headquarters of the Louisiana State Guard. In January 1863, several companies of the unit were detached and ordered to serve guard duty at various locations in New Orleans.

On March 12, 1863 all but one of the companies (Company B), were recalled and the regiment went into camp at Metairie Race Course. The location had been converted into a military camp by the Confederates prior to the capture of New Orleans by the Admiral David Farragut. The location was described as extremely unhealthy. Colonel Marsh was given command over the camp and the several units there. He worked to put the site into better order and also focused on improving the 47th Massachusetts in drill and discipline. During their time at Metairie, companies were detached periodically for brief reconnaissance missions closer to Confederate positions. One company encountered Confederates at Amite River on April 17, 1863 and a brief skirmish followed with no casualties. Another company was involved in a larger engagement, the Battle of LaFourche Crossing on June 20, 1863, but did not suffer any casualties.

On May 19, 1863, the regiment was ordered to Camp Parapet, about two miles up the Mississippi River from New Orleans. Colonel Marsh took command of the post. Since the Union's occupation of the area in 1862, Freedmen had gathered at Camp Parapet in large numbers seeking protection of the Union Army. They were organized into "colonies" or camps. While in command of the post, Colonel Marsh oversaw the organization of the 2nd Louisiana Engineer Regiment, a unit composed of African-American volunteers.

Mustering out

When their term of enlistment expired, the regiment sailed up the Mississippi River to Cairo, Illinois. From there they traveled by train to Boston. The regiment mustered out on September 1, 1863. They lost one man killed in an accident and 37 by disease.

47th MA Infantry

Organized: Camp Stanton, Boxford, MA on 10/16/1862

Mustered out: 9/1/1863

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT

MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER MILITIA(INFANTRY)

NINE MONTHS

The 47th Regt. Mass. Vol. Mill, the Merchant's Guard Regiment, was raised largely through the efforts of Mr. Lucius B. Marsh, a merchant of Boston, who became its colonel. The regiment was organized at Camp Stanton, Boxford, in September and October, 1862. The companies were mustered into the United States service on various dates between Sept. 19 and Oct. 31, and the field and staff on Nov. 7. The regiment was transferred to Camp Meigs, Readville, Nov. 11, where its organization and equipment was completed. Both at Boxford and at Readville it suffered considerably from desertions, but this resulted largely in the weeding out of undesirable material and thus improving the general character of the command.

The regiment was ordered to New York, Nov. 29, where the Banks expedition was being organized. It remained in camp on Long Island until Dec. 21, when it embarked on the steamer MISSISSIPPI bound for New Orleans, arriving on the 31st. From Jan. 1 to 11, the regiment was at Camp Kearney, Carrollton. On Jan. 11, it was transferred to United States Barracks in lower New Orleans. From here, on the following day, it proceeded to the Louisiana Lower Cotton Press, returning to the city on the 14th. United States Barracks was an important post which commanded the lower part of the city. Near it was a large contraband camp, a hospital, and a recruiting station. Several of the companies were here detached and assigned to special duty.

From Feb. 14 to Mar. 12, the regiment was again on duty at the Louisiana Lower Cotton Press. On the latter date the detached companies, except Co. "B", were recalled, and the regiment was sent to Metairie Race Course, which was situated on a ridge surrounded by stagnant pools just above the city. Colonel Marsh was placed in command of the post which was garrisoned by the 47th Mass., the 1st Vt., and 26th N.Y. Infantry Regiments, and for a part of the time by the 12th and 13th Mass. Batteries. The Race Course was a very beautiful but unhealthy spot. During its stay here the regiment gained an excellent reputation for drill and discipline. Companies "D" and "H" were twice sent across Lake Ponchartrain where they captured a steamboat, a schooner, and a large amount of cotton.

After about ten weeks stay at Metairie Race Course, on May 19 the regiment was sent to "Camp Parapet" about two miles up the Mississippi River, Colonel Marsh being assigned to the command of this post. Here was stationed a considerable force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery including a part of the 42d Regt. Mass. Inf. and the 12th and 13th Mass. Batteries. At "Camp Parapet" a company of colored men was recruited to be employed in the swamps. This later became the nucleus of the 2d Regt. La. Engineers, a regiment which was officered very largely by members of the 47th Regiment.

On August 5, 1863, the 47th embarked on the steamer CONTINENTAL at Carrollton and proceeded up the Mississippi to Cairo, Ill., where it arrived August 13 and there entrained for Boston, Mass. Reaching that city August 18, it was received by the mayor and a large concourse of citizens. Although the regiment had never been in action, it had performed the duties assigned to it in a most

worthy and acceptable manner. Twenty-four of its members had died of disease and one had been killed by guerrillas. After its reception in Boston, the men were furloughed for thirteen days at the close of which period, on Sept 1, they reassembled at Readville and were mustered out of the United States service.

Source: Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors & Marines in the Civil War

Report of Lieut. Col. Albert Stickney, Forty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of engagement at La Fourche Crossing.

CONGO SQUARE,

July 9, 1863.

COL.: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with Special Orders, No. 16, from your headquarters, I proceeded to Brashear City on June 7 last, and assumed command of the forces there. I found things in a very disorganized condition, and immediately proceeded to put the place in the best state for defense that I could, and to obtain all possible intelligence of the force and designs of the enemy in that vicinity. I reported to you from time to time the operations at that post, and at the same time made what preparations were in my power for defending any other threatened points on the line of the Opelousas Railroad.

On the morning of June, at about 4 o'clock, I received a telegram from you, informing me that the enemy were advancing in force on La Fourche Crossing, and ordering me to send re-enforcements to that point. Judging that there was no danger of any attack at Brashear City, of a day or two, at least, and thinking that affairs at La Fourche required my presence there, I left Maj. Anthony, Second Rhode Island Cavalry, in command of Brashear City, and went to La Fourche Crossing immediately, with such forces as I could spare from Brasher, intending to return as soon as possible to my former station.

I reached La Fourche about 6 a. m., with 75 men of the Twenty-third Connecticut Volunteers and 115 men of the One hundred and seventy-sixth New York Regiments, 46 men of the Forty second Massachusetts, and two pieces of artillery, one 6-pounder gun and one 12-pounder howitzer. I had ordered Capt. Blober, with his company of First Louisiana Cavalry, on the day previous to scout the country as far certainly as Napoleonville, and farther, if possible with safety, and to send immediately any intelligence of the enemy he might obtain. He went only a mile or two beyond Labadieville, and returned with no intelligence whatever of any force on the Bayou La Fourche. He also reported that gentlemen from Napoleonville gave no information of any force in that direction. After my arrival at La Fourche, I sent out Capt. Blober and his command again to scout the country above Thibodeaux.

They returned on the afternoon of the 29th, reporting that they had been closely pursued by the enemy, and had lost 2 of their men. The force of the enemy advanced very rapidly on Thibodeaux that day, being almost entirely composed of mounted men and artillery, and captured nearly all the infantry stationed there and in the vicinity on the plantations, amounting to about 100 men. They were 47 men of the Twelfth Maine, with 2 lieutenants, convalescents, from Brasher; about 10 men of Company D, One hundred and seventy-sixth New York Regiment, and a very few men who had been stationed as guards on plantations. Capt. Blober's company was mostly composed of new recruits, and, in consequence, undrilled and undisciplined. Had their scouting been properly done, there was no

necessity whatever of the infantry force at Thibodeaux being captured. They had only to retreat this side of the bridge over Bayou La Fourche, and then march down under cover of the levee. The enemy rested two or three hours in Thibodeaux before the bridge could have defended themselves against merely their advance guard.

On the afternoon of Saturday, I received an order to send back two companies to Brashear, but, as the enemy were then advancing down the bayou to the crossing, I did not dare at that moment to weaken my force by sending them away. I sent a train back to Terre Bone to bring down to La Fourche the company and one piece of artillery there stationed. The enemy succeeded in capturing 1 commissioned officer of the company at Terre Bonne, the others of the company escaping on the train and arriving safely at La Fourche. Immediately afterward the railroad and telegraph were cut at Terre Bonne, and the place occupied by cavalry.

About 5 o'clock in the afternoon my pickets were driven in, and the cavalry of the enemy immediately afterward appeared in our front. I do not know how large their force was at that time, but judge it to have been under 100.

Our position was as follows: The levee of the Bayou La Fourche is about 12 feet high; the railroad crosses the bayou over the top of the levee, nearly in a direction perpendicular to that of the bayou, and is about 12 feet above the level of the surrounding country. For 5 or 6 miles to the east of La Fourche Crossing a carriage road runs up and down the bayou on both sides, close to the levee, passing under the railroad on both sides of the bayou. We were on the east side of the bayou and north of the railroad, our front being parallel with the railroad, extending about 150 yards from the levee, and being about 200 yards from the railroad. From the right of our front, I had a line of defense running perpendicular to and resting upon the railroad. I was obliged to have my front farther from the railroad than it otherwise would have been, on account of trees sending which could not be cut down. The country around was level, affording full play for the artillery, and was covered with tall grass, which I subsequently had cut down, as it concealed, in a measure, movements in our front.

A short time before our pickets were driven in, I had ordered a detachment of about 50 men, of the Twenty-third Connecticut Volunteers, under command of Maj. Miller, to lie down in the tall grass on both sides of the road long the levee, about 450 yards in advance of our main line. After the first fire of the enemy, I found Maj. Miller some distance to the rear of his command, crouching in the high weeds on the levee. I ordered him under arrest, and put in command of this detachment the next senior officer, who faithfully executed my order.

The remainder of the infantry was drawn up in line along our front and the extreme left of our right flank, with the exception of a company of convalescents, under Capt. Fletcher, Twenty-sixth Maine, who were at the railroad bridge. Capt. Blober's cavalry was posted so as to guard against the turning of our right flank. The artillery was posted as follows: 12-pounder gun on the railroad, at the point where it crosses the left bank of the bayou; two 12-pounder howitzers and one 6-pounder gun on our front, on the howitzers being placed on the extreme right, so that its fire could be directed to the front or right flank.

After the cavalry of the enemy drove in our pickets, they continued to advance until fired upon by the detachment of the Twenty-third Connecticut Volunteers. A few volleys were exchanged without loss on our side, when our men fell back, and took position on the right flank. As the enemy were now in easy range, we opened upon them with shell and solid shot, the 12-pounder gun on the bridge doing

the most execution. They stopped, seemingly surprised to find such preparations for their reception, and in a few that were killed or wounded by our fire.

Soon after the disappearance of the enemy, I sent a flag of truce to obtain permission to move our hospital stores and sick from the hospital, which was in front of our hospital stores and sick from the hospital, truce went 2 1/2 miles toward Thibodeaux before meeting the pickets of the enemy, who refused to comply with my request. I, however, succeeded in moving safely all the contents of the hospital to our rear, and just after dark burned the building, lest it should interfere with the effectiveness of our fire, and that, at the same time, the light might enable me to perceive the movements of the enemy. For the same reason I had building fired on the other side of the bayou, anticipating that the Confederate might come down on that side and attempt to cross the railroad bridge.

Up to this time, Saturday evening, June 20, our forces amounted to about 502 men, as follows: 195 of the Twenty-third Connecticut; 154 of the One hundred and seventy-sixth New York; 46 of the Forty-second Massachusetts; 37 of the Twenty-sixth Maine; 50 men in Capt. Blober's cavalry, and about 20 artillerists, mostly of the Twenty-first Indiana.

The men were kept under arms, at their several posts, ready to repel an attack at any moment. Pickets were thrown out on the front to a distance of about 400 yards, and squads of cavalry scouted on our right and rear. About 11 p. m. of the 20th, Lieut.-Col. Sawtell, of the Twenty-sixth Massachusetts, arrived with five companies (306 men). As he was the senior officers, I offered him the command, which he refused. I then ordered his regiment into line on the front, to relieve the men posted there. During that night no demonstration were made by the enemy.

On the following morning, Capt. Grow, of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery, reached La Fourche Crossing, with one section of his battery, about 30 men, one gun of which I ordered into possession on the extreme left of our front on the Bayou Road, and the other within our lines, so that it could be moved to our front or right flank as occasion should require. We had begun throwing up slight earthworks, but they were at no point over 2 feet in height, and extended only a few yards in either direction from the angle formed by our two fronts. At different times during the morning reconnoitering cavalry of the enemy appeared in or front and at some distance on the right, but only came within fire of our outposts.

A little after noon, a heavy rain commenced and continued until about 6.30 p. m., thoroughly drenching the men, who were in line a greater part of the time. This was necessary, as I could not depend upon their falling into position with sufficient alacrity at the least warning.

About 4 p. m. the infantry and cavalry of the enemy, about 150 strong, engaged our outposts and pickets, but made no attempt to advance on our main force. An intermittent fire was kept up for an hour and a half, when the enemy retired, and our pickets again resumed their places. At 6.30 p. m. the Confederates again came in view, and this time in large force. Our position was much the same as on the previous night, except that two companies of the Twenty-sixth Massachusetts were on our front, two on our right flank, and the remaining one protecting the field piece on the bridge. The artillery was all posted as before described. The enemy advanced rapidly, and soon compelled the pickets to fall back on the main line, which they reached in rather a straggling condition at our left wing.

Just about dusk the enemy opened upon us with one field piece (which appeared to be a 12-pounder howitzer), throwing shell and solid shot, when I ordered the reserve piece of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery to take such a position on the right as would enable them to reply to this piece. The howitzer of the enemy soon ceased firing, whether compelled by the shots of our piece or the bad quality of their ammunition I am unable to say. Prisoners subsequently stated that they had other guns in position, which the rain prevented their using. All this time our artillery had been constantly firing, using shell for the most part; but the infantry did not, as yet, reply to the straggling bullets which came from the enemy. The moisture of the atmosphere held the smoke of the cannon so close to the ground that it was almost impossible to ascertain the distance or numbers of the enemy, or on what point he would mass his force.

At about 7 p. m. their loud shouts indicated that they were charging in our front. I immediately ordered the infantry to fire by rank and the artillery to use canister. Having no canister for the 6-pounder gun, we used it in packages of musket ammunition.

Notwithstanding a most rapid but accurate fire on our part, the enemy, who had dismounted before charging, advanced boldly up to our lines, firing continually as they came. Our infantry became nervous, and no longer fired by rank, but at will. At the same time a strong attempt was made to turn our right flank. This was prevented (though at one time they seemed on the point of success) by the enfilading fire of our reserve piece and the speedily rally of the men there posted. The attack of the enemy was principally directed against our guns, and the cannoneers of two pieces became panic-stricken and fled. These were the guns of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery, and the Bayou road, and the 12-pounder howitzer at the angle of our front and right flank. The contest over these pieces was hand-to-hand. The enemy were driven off at the point of the bayonet.

At length, at about 8 p. m., the Confederates, growing weary of a fight so unequal in its results, hastily retreated toward Thibodeaux, leaving a great number of their dead and wounded near our lines.

Our actual force during the fight amounted to 838 men, of whom only ably 600 were engaged, the remainder being posted as a guard to the field piece on the bridge and to protect our right. This was necessary, because the darkness rendered it impossible to see the enemy's movements, and few of the troops were steady enough to trust them to make any rapid movement in the excitement of action. The actual force of the enemy engaged in the charge on our lines I estimated at about 600 men.

Our loss was as follows

Command.	K	W	T
23d Connecticut	2	16	18
26th Massachusetts	3	10	13
176th New York	2	12	14
42d Massachusetts	1	3	4
Total.....	8	41	49

K=Killed. W=Wounded. T=Total.

The enemy were engaged during the night in carrying away their killed and wounded who were outside of our lines, and the following morning 53 of their dead were counted inside of our pickets. When we entered Thibodeaux, Tuesday morning, nearly 60 wounded were found in the hospitals,

from which I conclude that their loss in killed and wounded must have been 300, taking 50 as the number of their killed, and reckoning the ratio of killed to wounded as 1 to 4. T

The men who charged upon our lines belonged mostly to the Second Texas Mounted Rangers, Col. [Charles L.] Pyron, claimed to be the oldest regiment in the Confederate service, and the they had never before been beaten in action. Their wounded in our hands thought that our troops must be Regulars, so steadily did they stand at their posts. But I regret to say that the train in waiting on the track left at the commencement of the fight without orders, carrying away some cowardly soldiers, and that during the battle some few left their ranks and sought shelter near and behind the railroad.

Had the enemy brought up his reserve, which was in line at no great distance, at the time the cannoneers deserted their guns, or had he made his attack on the right flank with equal force and with the same persisted energy as was displayed upon our front, perhaps the result might have been different, although our troops, for the most part, stood manfully under so close a fire. Our men remained in line under arms the whole night, but there was no further attack.

The next morning a flag of truce came in, requesting permission to bury their dead and carry away their wounded. This was granted, on condition that all the wounded men outside the camp lines should be paroled; that none of their drivers should come within our outposts, and that all wounded should be retained who were within our camp. As they agreed to these conditions, our drivers were engaged with the ambulances of the enemy during the morning in carrying to Thibodeaux the dead and wounded.

About 11 a. m. Col. Cahill arrived with the Ninth Connecticut Volunteers, a detachment of the Twenty sixth Massachusetts, and the other section of the New York Battery, and took command of the forces at La Fourche. Maj. Morgan, commanding the One hundred and seventy-sixth New York Regiment, through the action encouraged his men, and to him is due, in a great degree, the fine conduct that they showed. Capt. Jenkins, commanding the Twenty-third Connecticut, displayed the greatest bravery and coolness. A Confederate officer seized him by the throat, demanding a surrender. The assault was immediately returned in precisely the same manner, when one of Capt. Jenkins men bayoneted the Confederate.

Lieut. Starr, of the Twenty-third Connecticut, was the only commissioned officer injured in the action. He as wounded in the high, and afterward died in consequence of amputation and ensuing weakness.

I desire particularly to mention Sergt. John Allyn, Company A, Forty-seventh Massachusetts Regiment, who has been with me since I was ordered to Brashear City, and has at all times rendered the most valuable service, going on dangerous scouts, once inside the enemy's lines, and showing at all times the greatest courage and remarkably sound judgment. His thorough knowledge of the country and habit of reporting facts only were of the greatest assistance to me.

Very respectfully,

ALBERT STICKNEY,
Lieut.-Col., Comdg. Forces at La Fourche.

Lieut. Col. W. D. SMITH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-Gen. Source:

75th Infantry, US Colored Troops

Organized at New Orleans, La., November 24, 1862, as the 3d Regiment, La. Native Guards; designation changed to 3d Regiment Infantry, Corps d'Afrique, June 6, 1863, and to this regiment, April 4, 1864

Mustered out: November 25, 1865

3rd Louisiana Native Guard Infantry Regiment

The **3rd Louisiana Regiment Native Guard Infantry** was a regiment in the Union Army during the American Civil War.

Port Hudson

The unit was organized at New Orleans, Louisiana, November 24, 1862, and remained there until May 1863. Between May and July, the regiment was involved in the Siege of Port Hudson.

Corps d'Afrique

The designation was changed to **3rd Regiment, Corps d'Afrique** June 6 at Port Hudson. The Confederate garrison at Port Hudson surrendered on July 9, five days after the fall of Vicksburg farther up the Mississippi River.

United States Colored Troops

The unit designation was changed once again to the **75th United States Colored Troops** on April 4, 1864. The 75th participated in the Red River Campaign with engagements at the Battle of Mansura on May 16 and the Battle of Yellow Bayou on May 18.

The regiment remained on duty in southern Louisiana for the remainder of the war and mustered out November 25, 1865.



75th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry

Overview:

Organized April 4, 1864, from 3rd Corps de Afrique Infantry. Attached to 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to February, 1865. District of LaFourche, Dept. of the Gulf, to November, 1865.

Service:

Red River Campaign March 10-May 22, 1864. Advance from Franklin to Alexandria, La., March 14-26. Retreat from Alexandria to Morganza May 13-20. Mansura May 16. Near Moreauville May 17. Yellow Bayou May 18. Duty at Morganza till February, 1865. Ordered to Terre Bonne February 26. Duty there and in the District of LaFourche till November, 1865. Expedition to Lake Verret, Grand Lake and the Park April 2-10, 1865. Operations about Brashear City April 30-May 12. Mustered out November 25, 1865.

Predecessor unit:

CORPS DE AFRIQUE. - UNITED STATES COLORED VOLUNTEERS. 3rd REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Organized June 6, 1863, from 3rd Louisiana Native Guard Infantry. Attached to 1st Division, 19th Army Corps, Dept. of the Gulf, to July, 1863. Port Hudson, La., to September, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to April, 1864.

Service:

Assault on **Port Hudson, La.**, June 14, 1863. Surrender of Port Hudson July 9. Duty at Port Hudson till April, 1864. Skirmish at Jackson August 3, 1863. Designation of Regiment changed to 75th United States Colored Troops April 4, 1864 (which see).



83rd Regiment, United States Colored Infantry Old Organization

Organized August 17, 1863, as 11th Corps de Afrique Infantry.

April 4, 1864, attached to 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to July, 1864.

Garrison duty at Port Hudson, Louisiana.

Broken up July 28, 1864.

83rd Regiment, United States Colored Infantry (Old Organization)

Overview:

Organized April 4, 1864, from 11th Corps de Afrique Infantry. Attached to 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to July, 1864. Garrison duty at Port Hudson, La. Broken up July 28, 1864.

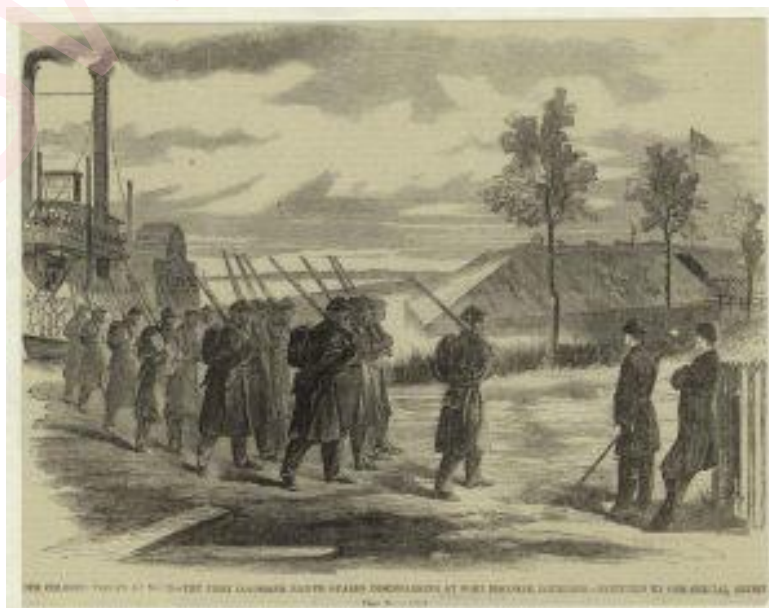
Predecessor unit:

**CORPS DE AFRIQUE. - UNITED STATES COLORED VOLUNTEERS.
11th REGIMENT INFANTRY.**

Organized at Port Hudson, La., August 17, 1863. Attached to Garrison, Port Hudson, La., to December, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to April, 1864.

Service:

Garrison duty at Port Hudson, La., till April, 1864. Skirmishes at Waterproof, La., February 14-15, 1864. Designation of Regiment changed to 83rd United States Colored Troops April 4, 1864.



73rd United States Colored Infantry Regiment

The 73rd United States Colored Infantry Regiment was an all-African American regiment formed in 1864, primarily recruited from the Louisiana Native Guard. It served in the United States Colored Troops (USCT), playing a role in various campaigns, including the Red River Campaign and the siege of Fort Blakely. Elaboration:

- Formation and Recruitment:

The 73rd US Colored Infantry was organized on April 4, 1864, from the 1st Corps de Afrique Infantry. It included men recruited from the First, Second, and Third Louisiana Native Guard, all African American units from New Orleans.

- Service:

The regiment served in the Department of the Gulf, initially at Port Hudson, Louisiana, and later participating in the Red River Campaign, including actions at Franklin, Alexandria, Mansura, Moreauville, and Yellow Bayou. They also saw action in the siege of Fort Blakely in Alabama and the occupation of Mobile, according to the National Park Service.

- USCT:

The 73rd Regiment was part of the United States Colored Troops, which consisted of over 179,000 African American men who served in the Union Army during the Civil War. The USCT played a significant role in the war effort, facing discrimination and challenges but also demonstrating bravery and resilience, according to the American Battlefield Trust.



73rd Regiment, United States Colored Infantry

Overview:

Organized April 4, 1864, from 1st Corps de Afrique Infantry. Attached to 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to March, 1865. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, United States Colored Troops, District of West Florida, to May, 1865. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, United States Colored Troops, District of West Florida, to June, 1865. Dept. of the Gulf to September, 1865.

Service:

-Duty at Port Hudson, La., till March, 1864. Red River Campaign March 10-May 22. Advance from Franklin to Alexandria March 14-26. Retreat from Alexandria to Morganza May 13-20. [Mansura](#) May 16. Near Moreauville and Yellow Bayou May 17. [Yellow Bayou](#) May 18. Near Morganza May 24. Duty at Port Hudson till July, and at Morganza till February, 1865. Moved to Algiers, La., February 26; thence to Barrancas, Fla. March from Pensacola, Fla., to Blakely, Ala., March 20-April 1. Siege of [Fort Blakely](#) April 1-9. Assault and capture of Fort Blakely April 9. Occupation of Mobile April 12. March to Montgomery April 13-25. Detached as guard to transports April 28, and return to Mobile. Duty there till June. Moved to New Orleans, La., June 10; thence to Greenville, La. Duty there and in Dept. of the Gulf till September. Consolidated with 96th United States Colored Troops September 27, 1865.

Regiment lost during service 4 Officers and 42 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 1 Officer and 173 Enlisted men by disease. Total 220.

Predecessor unit:

CORPS DE AFRIQUE.-UNITED STATES COLORED VOLUNTEERS. 1st REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Organized June 6, 1863, from 1st Louisiana Native Guard Infantry. Attached to Defences of New Orleans, La., to July, 1863. Port Hudson, La., to December, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Corps de Afrique, Dept. of the Gulf, to April, 1864.

Service:

Assault on Port Hudson June 14, 1863. Surrender of Port Hudson July 9. Duty at Port Hudson, La., till April, 1864. Skirmish at Jackson August 3, 1863, and at Tunica Bayou November 8. Designation of Regiment changed to 73rd United States Colored Troops April 4, 1864

History of 73rd U.S.C.T.

May 29, 2023 by Louisiana Genealogy

First Black Troop to be Mustered into the Union Army

by Camille Corte

The famed 73rd U. S. C. T. was first organized in the Confederate service by Governor Moore of Louisiana as the 1st Louisiana Native Guards in May of 1861. After the surrender of New Orleans, they offered themselves to the Union. General Butler accepted them and mustered the regiment into the service on September 27, 1862. The 73rd became the first Colored regiment to be mustered into the Union Army. It retained its designation as the 1st Louisiana Native Guards until after the siege of Port Hudson where it won great distinction in that desperate assault of May 27, 1863.

In April 1864, the Regiment's name was transferred to the 73rd U.S.C.T. Upon assembling the troops for the completion of the Mobile Campaign in Pensacola, Hawkins' U.S.C.T. Division of three Brigades contained the 73rd. General Frederick Steele's provisional corps consisted of Hawkins' Division, Lucas' Cavalry Brigade, and General C. C. Andrews Second Division of the Thirteenth Corps. Steele's column set out on March 20th traveling due north towards Pollard and turning west towards Blakeley, arriving there on April 1.

At daybreak on the second, Hawkins' Division charged forward driving the enemy into their works, becoming the first to invest Fort Blakeley. Andrews' Division arrived the night of April 2, positioned on the left of Hawkins far right flank. On April 3, General Steele applied to General Canby to retain Veatch's Division, formed on the left of Andrews and Garrard's Division of the Sixteenth Corps which positioned itself to the far left flank.

The Union forces numbered approximately 16,000 while the Confederate garrison held 4,000. Not to be forgotten was the strong support of the Confederate gunboats "Morgan," "Nashville," and "Huntsville" whose guns constantly threatened the nearby Black Division, thereby doubling their losses.

The Confederate garrison consisted of the Veteran Brigades of Mississippi and Missouri, flanking the left, respectively. Both were under the command of General F. M. Cockerel and covered two-thirds of the line. The remainder of the right line was occupied by General Thomas' Alabama Boy Reserves, so named because the Brigade consisted of school boys and other odds and ends.

The 73rd commanded by Col. Henry Merriam and located in Pile's First Brigade received news on the morning of April 9 of the escape of the Confederate garrison from Spanish Fort the previous night. Colonel Merriam reported, "The effect upon us was very depressing . . . To me it appeared that the escape of the garrison in our front also would be simply disgraceful." Merriam asked his Brigade Commander, General Pile, for permission to capture the enemy's advanced line of works at once instead of waiting for cover of darkness and having the Blakeley garrison disappear also.

Pile consented and the 73rd and 86th were the first Regiments to advance the Union lines. So successful were they in attacking the Rebels' outposts that when Merriam requested to attack the main works General Osterhaus refused, saying "I will go and order the White troops up." Merriam

appealed to General Pile, "We have already fought the battle, but unless we go over the main works we will not get the credit." Pile answered, "You are right, Colonel. When you see Andrews' Division start to advance, charge the main works with your regiment." Colonel Merriam claimed, "in my official report my regiment was the first to cross the enemy's works. I have not claimed to have been the first over the works because my color sergeant was at my elbow and entitled to at least share the honor. The order awarding me the Congressional Medal of Honor reads for 'voluntarily and successfully leading his regiment over the works in advance of orders, permission having been given at his own request.'"



Capt. Snaer in Uniform 73rd U. S. C. T.



Snaer died in 1917.

CAPTAIN LOUIS A. SNAER, Co. B., 73rd U.S.C.T., holds the distinction of being the sole Black Officer on the Blakeley Battlefield. Snaer was considered a free person of color in New Orleans upon his joining the Louisiana Native Guards in 1862. At the final charge at Blakeley he received a shell wound in his left foot and was treated for six days in the Field Hospital near Fort Blakeley. Colonel Merriam said about Snaer, "Captain Snaer fell with a severe wound at my feet as I reached the line. He refused to sheathe his sword or to be carried off the field . . . No braver officer has honored any flag." Snaer moved to California and died there in 1917 at the age of 75.

Major-General Henry C. Merriam, in a paper read May 3, 1905 to the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of United States, concluded by stating what was unknown to many:

"Thus ended the assault and capture of Fort Blakeley with its garrison of four thousand men and forty heavy guns. It lost much attention and public appreciation through the overshadowing event transpiring in Virginia on the same day . . . the surrender of Lee . . . but its place in history, as the last assault of our great and bloody Civil War, will always be assured."

Louisiana Native Guards (73rd USCT)

1st Louisiana Native Guards

In the summer of 1862, the first attempts in Louisiana to arm and equip men of African ancestry into the Union Army were made by Brig. Gen. John W. Phelps, a Vermont abolitionist with Gen Butler in New Orleans, Louisiana. Phelps desired to arm, uniform, and equip the contrabands utilized by him for engineer duties to defend the position at Camp Parapet near Carrollton, just a few miles upriver from New Orleans. On July 30, 1862, Phelps asked Butler for *"arms, accoutrements, clothing, camp and garrison equipage, & etc for three regiments of Africans, which I propose to raise for the defense of this point."* Butler, who had been using contraband to repair levees, widen drainage ditches, and strengthen fortifications, would deny the request and instruct Phelps to use them to *"cut down all the trees between Camp Parapet and Lake Pontchartrain."* Phelps resigned over the issue stating, *"...while I am willing to prepare African regiments for the defense of the government,"* he continued, that he *"was not willing to become a mere slave driver which you propose."*

On August 5, 1862, Confederates attacked Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Although repulsed, General Butler feared rumors that they were headed toward New Orleans and evacuated Baton Rouge and called for reinforcements to be sent to New Orleans. Rather than Washington sending him reinforcements, Stanton advised Butler to recruit new troops from the Unionist population in Louisiana, mainly the Irish and German immigrants in New Orleans. However, due to the disruption of slavery in the region, there was a labor shortage which lured the immigrants to the higher wages in the labor market.

On August 14, 1862, just a dozen days after rebuffing Brig. Gen. Phelps request to form colored regiments, General Butler made a momentous decision; fearing an imminent attack on New Orleans, he told the Secretary of War, *"I shall call on Africa to intervene."* *"I have determined to use the services of free colored men who were organized by the rebels into the Colored Brigade, of which we have heard so much."* Butler recalled, "I then found that one of the Captains was a translator in the Provost Court of German, Spanish and French, Mr. Sauvenet. I sent for him and asked him (he was a colored man, hardly a mulatto), "You were a captain in the colored regiment?" "Yes, sir." "Why didn't you go away with the rest of the Confederate forces, when they ran away?" "We didn't chose to go. The whole regiment stayed." "But, how came you, free colored men, fighting for the Confederacy - fighting for slavery?" Ahh! We could not help it... We have property and rights here, and there is every reason why we should take care of ourselves." "Didn't you do it out of loyalty to the Confederate Government?" "Not at all, there are not five men of the regiment fighting on the side of the Confederacy." "Are you willing to enlist on our side?" "Yes!" "Will you get the captains and other officers to come here, and see if you can find your men?" "Yes, sir!" The men had previously drilled without muskets, as the Confederates would not let them have arms. Sauvenet brought about fifteen captains and lieutenants and they were all very glad to take service with the Union Army.

Butler's General Orders No. 63 of August 22, 1862.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, NEW-ORLEANS, Aug. 22, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 63. -- Whereas, on the 23d day of April, in the year 1861, at a public meeting of the free colored population of the City of New-Orleans, a military organization, known as

the "Native Guards" (colored,) had its existence, which military organization was duly and legally enrolled as a part of the militia of the State, its officers being commissioned by THOMAS O. MOORE, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the militia of the State of Louisiana, in the form following, that is to say:

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, [Seal of the State.]

By THOMAS OVERTON MOORE, Governor of the State of Louisiana, and Commander-in-Chief of the Militia thereof.

.....

Now, therefore, the Commanding General, believing that a large portion of this militia force of the State of Louisiana are willing to take service in the volunteer forces of the United States, and be enrolled and organized to "defend their homes from ruthless invaders;" to protect their wives and children and kindred from wrongs and outrage; to shield their property from being seized by bad men; and to defend the flag of their native country, as their fathers did under JACKSON at Chalmette, against PACKENHAM and his myrmidons, carrying the black flag of "beauty and booty."

Appreciating their motives, relying upon their "well-known loyalty and patriotism," and with "praise and respect" for these brave men, it is ordered that all the members of the "Native Guards" aforesaid, and all other free colored citizens recognized by the first and late Governor and authorities of the State of Louisiana as a portion of the militia of the State, who shall enlist in the volunteer service of the United States, shall be duly organized by the appointment of proper officers, and accepted, paid, equipped, armed and rationed as are other volunteer troops of the United States, subject to the approval of the President of the United States. All such persons are required at once to report themselves at the Touro Charity Building, Front Levee-street, New-Orleans, where proper officers will muster them into the service of the United States. By command of
MAJ.-GEN. BUTLER.

R.S. DAVIS, Captain, and Assistant Adjutant-General.

September 27th, 1862, the First Louisiana Native Guards (73rd USCT) were officially mustered into service. They would be quartered in the Touro Building at the corner of Front and Levee streets. Although Gen Butler did not have official authorization from Washington to organize the regiment, his request to do so, unanswered, and therefore not denied, he therefore took it to be approved." According to an article in the New York Times (Feb. 7, 1863), "*Immediately after the issue of this order, Col. STAFFORD, having accepted the command, commenced recruiting. By the direction of Gen. BUTLER, he sought a suitable place as a depot for the men, and finding the great TOURO Almshouse -- provided for by the will of JUDAH TOURO -- in an unfinished state, on account of the rebellion, he fitted it up and occupied it as a barracks for his men. The work of recruiting commenced on the 30th of August. On the 27th of September, 1,800 men of color had been enrolled and ten companies, comprising 1,000 men, were on that day regularly mustered into service by Maj. G.R. GIDDINGS, Fourteenth United States Infantry, Mustering and Disbursing officer, who had been sent on by the War Department to muster into the service such men as were raised by Gen. BUTLER in Louisiana.*"



2nd and 3rd Louisiana Native Guards

The number of men of African ancestry wishing to join the Union Army in New Orleans in 1862 was so great, that additional regiments were formed by General Butler after the muster of the 1st Louisiana Native Guard, two additional infantry regiments were authorized. The 2nd Louisiana Native Guard was mustered into service October 12, 1862. The 3rd Louisiana Native Guard was mustered into service November 24, 1862. These two regiments were made up almost entirely of enlisted men who had once been enslaved only months before. A recruiting article or advertisement in the October 24, 1862 issue of L'Union newspaper in New Orleans. "Ralliez vous sous le Drapeau de l'Union" with a bounty (which can be seen on the Pay, Bounties, Draft, etc. page on this site) offered and a "special appeal to men who can speak both English and French." In addition, Hollandsworth writes in his book *The Louisiana Native Guard* that at least two men in the 2nd LNG were born in Africa and that they told stories to the men about African customs, tribes and kings. Having grown into 3 regiments, General Butler moved the men to Camp Strong which was located outside New Orleans at the location of the Louisiana Race Track.

Letter from a Colored Soldier" (1st Louisiana Native Guard [73rd USCT]) Published in the Daily Delta newspaper, New Orleans, November 4, 1862:

"We arrived at this place (Lafourche Landing) on the 1st instant [i.e., 1 November 1862] eight hundred to eight hundred and forty-five strong, only about thirty men having fallen out, and these from sickness. We have not, as yet, had the pleasure of exchanging shots with the enemy. But we are still anxious, as we have ever been, to show to the world that the latent courage of the African is aroused, and that, while fighting under the American flag, we can and will be a wall of fire and death to the enemies of this country, our birth place. When we enlisted we were hooted at in the streets of New Orleans as a rabble of armed plebeians and cowards. I am proud to say that if any cowardice has been exhibited since we left Camp Strong, at the Louisiana Race Course, it has been exhibited by the rebels. They have retreated from Boutee Station beyond Terrebonne Station, on the line we have marched, burning bridges, and destroying culverts, which, no sooner than coming to the knowledge of Colonel Thomas, of the 8th Vermont regiment, have been repaired as quickly as they were destroyed. I am not of a disposition to claim for our regiment more than its share of praise, but I venture the assertion that there is not a regiment in the service more willing to share the hardships of marching and bivouacking, and more desirous of meeting the enemy than this regiment, led by Colonel S. H.

Stafford and Major C. F. Bassett."

Some of the men in the regiment were as young as 16, the oldest 53, with half under 30 years of age. One-third were of pure African blood while the majority were of mixed ancestry (classified at the time as "mulattoes") noted as yellow, fair and bright in muster roll books. Nearly 2/3rds worked in the skilled trades before enlisting, the remainder were listed as laborers. The majority of the men were born in Louisiana.

Colonel Spencer H. Stafford took overall command of the three Native Guard regiments at Camp Strong. Major Chauncey Bassett, a former 6th Michigan abolitionist, was placed in command of the 1st Louisiana Native Guard. Nathan Daniels, of New Orleans, took command of the 2nd LNG, and John A. Nelson, formerly a captain in the 30th Mass. Infantry, took command of the 3rd LNG. All of the foot officers (captains and lieutenants) of the 1st and 2nd LNG were black and what appears to be of mixed ancestry as the New York Times stated in November, 1862, that several of the black officers were *"to all superficial appearance, white men."* Captain Francis E. Dumas, 1st LNG, later major in the 2nd LNG, was the son of a white Creole father and a mulatto mother who had been educated in Paris, France. Others, like free men of color such as the captain of company E, Andre Cailloux "the blackest man in New Orleans" and Lieutenant John H. Crowder who lied about his age when he enlisted and became the youngest black officer in the army. The commissioned officers of the 3rd LNG were both white and black. Captain Henry Louis Rey of the of the 1st LNG wrote in *L'Union* newspaper October 16, 1862, *"In parade [at Camp Strong] you can see a thousand white bayonets gleaming in the sun, held by black, yellow, and white hands. Be informed that we have no prejudice; that we receive everyone into camp."*

Outside of camp, prejudice did exist, and the men's families in New Orleans were harassed. When on the streets of New Orleans the men were taunted and jeered with racial slurs. Transportation was segregated in the city and issues arose when officers and enlisted men were treated with indignity while wearing the uniform of a soldier.



Confederate Reactions

With the United States now enlisting colored men into the army, the Confederate government reacted harshly. CSA President Davis issued orders specifically targeted towards U.S. General Butler, the officers of colored troops and enlisted men of color.

Confederate President's General Order No. 111...

Now therefore, I Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, and in their name do pronounce and declare the said Benjamin F. Butler to be a felon deserving of capital punishment. I do order that he be no longer considered or treated simply as a public enemy of the Confederate States of America but as an outlaw and common enemy of mankind, and that in the event of his capture the officer in command of the capturing force do cause him to be immediately executed by hanging; and I do further order that no commissioned officer of the United States taken captive shall be released on parole before exchange until the said Butler shall have met with due punishment for his crimes.

And whereas the hostilities waged against this Confederacy by the forces of the United States under the command of said Benjamin F. Butler have borne no resemblance to such warfare as is alone permissible by the rules of international law or the usages of civilization but have been characterized by repeated atrocities and outrages, among the large number of which the following may be cited as examples:

...

and by virtue of my authority as Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the Confederate States do order—

1. That all commissioned officers in the command of said Benjamin F. Butler be declared not entitled to be considered as soldiers engaged in honorable warfare but as robbers and criminals deserving death, and that they and each of them be whenever captured reserved for execution.
2. That the private soldiers and non-commissioned officers in the army of said Butler be considered as only the instruments used for the commission of the crimes perpetrated by his orders and not as free agents; that they therefore be treated when capture as prisoners of war with kindness and humanity and be sent home on the usual parole that they will in no manner aid or serve the United States in any capacity during the continuance of this war unless duly exchanged.
3. That all negro slaves captured in arms be at once delivered over to the executive authorities of the respective States to which they belong to be dealt with according to the laws of said States.
4. That the like orders be executed in all cases with respect to all commissioned officers of the United States when found serving in company with armed slaves in insurrection against the authorities of the different States of this Confederacy.

In testimony whereof I have signed these presents and caused the seal of the Confederate States of America to be affixed thereto at the city of Richmond on this 23d day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

....

In addition to the Militia Act of 1862, the Emancipation Proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln announced the acceptance of black men into the Union Army and Navy. Taking effect January 1, 1863, the proclamation triggered a rapid and enthusiastic expansion of colored regiments mustered into the United States armed forces. Lessons learned from the initial recruitments of late 1862, the

War Department's need for the military and political success of colored regiments, to minimize the effects of racism and bigotry within white regiments, and to ensure that the leadership of officers was of a high character, the Bureau of Colored Troops was created. [To learn more, see the page titled Pay, Bounties, Draft, etc.] The Confederate government's response to the increasing enlistment of U.S. Colored Troops by the United States was the Retaliatory Act of May 1, 1863.

....

The Retaliatory Act, Confederate Congress, May 1, 1863 in which the Confederate government ordered the execution of officers in command of USCT to be executed for leading an insurrection of slaves and for those soldiers in the USCT to be executed.

"Every person, being a commissioned officer, or acting as such in the service of the enemy, who shall, during the present war, excite, attempt to excite or cause to be excited servile insurrection, or who shall incite or cause to be incited a slave to rebel, shall, if captured, be put to death"

"Every person, being a commissioned officer, or acting as such in the service of the enemy, who shall, during the present war, excite, attempt to excite or cause to be excited servile insurrection, or who shall incite or cause to be incited a slave to rebel, shall, if captured, be put to death, or be otherwise punished at the discretion of the court."

"All negroes and mulattoes who shall be engaged in war or taken in arms against the confederate States, or shall give aid or comfort to the enemies of the Confederate States, shall, when captured in the Confederate States, be delivered to the authorities of the State or States in which they shall be captured, to be dealt with according to the present or future laws of such State or States."

Early Operations





1st LNG part was part of Brig. Gen. Weitzel's offensive into the Bayou La Fourche region in southern Louisiana. During the autumn of 1862 escaped slaves flooded into the US Army as refugees. This created supply issues as soon the refugees outnumbered the soldiers. Weitzel complained to Gen. Butler that citizens were fearful because the *"sight of armed negroes in uniform spurred servile insurrection in an area where the whites were outnumbered 10 to 1."* Inhabitants were terror stricken at the sight of black men in uniform carrying arms.

In late October, 1862, the 1st Regiment Louisiana Native Guards, 8th Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and 2 guns from the 4th Massachusetts Artillery marched overland to Brashear City along the route of the New Orleans, Opelousas, and Great Western Railroad. They were to be joined by additional Union troops who were marching down from Donaldsonville. Captain James H. Ingraham wrote, *"While fighting under the American flag, we can and will be a wall of fire and death to the enemies of this country, our birthplace."* (2) Progress was slow as tall grass had grown thick between the rails that prevented the locomotives to move forward. The soldiers were then ordered to get on their knees and pull the grass up with their bare hands. Culverts were also in need of repair and many of the rails needed to be re-spiked. Obstructions needed to be removed. Axes were put to use felling trees for sleepers (cross ties) which also needed replacement as they had been destroyed by the Confederates.

It took two days before the men were able to reach Boutte Station. With continued railroad maintenance as part of the march, it was not until the afternoon of October 28th when the men reached the curve approaching Des Allemands Station, which was reported to be held by Confederates. A platform car was placed in front of the locomotive and the two artillery pieces were placed upon it. Moving forward, the 8th Vermont formed into line of battle on the right, north of the roadbed, and the 1st Louisiana Native Guard on the left, skirmishers in front. As they advanced, they soon discovered that the station had been abandoned and burned. The bridge across the bayou had also been burned by the retreating Confederates. The next two days were spent rebuilding the 435 foot bridge before reaching La Fourche crossing. From there, the men repaired the torn up railroad and a second bridge, 675 feet long, as it marched to Brashear City. For the remainder of 1862, the 1st Regiment guarded the railroad.

The headquarters of 1st LNG was established at La Fourche Crossing. The 2nd LNG guarded the railroad closer to New Orleans with its headquarters at Boutte Station. The 3rd LNG was sent to plantation fields to pick sugar cane. During this time General Butler was replaced by Major General Nathaniel P. Banks and was immediately met with demands from Brig. Gen. Weitzel and white Louisianans to withdraw the black troops from the region because they feared the moral effect in the community and that their presence would incite insurrection.

Banks responded by reassigning the 2nd LNG to Ship Island to guard prisoners. The 1st LNG was sent to Algiers, across the Mississippi River from New Orleans. From Algiers, the soldiers of the 1st LNG were assigned to man Fort St. Leon and Fort McComb. The 3rd LNG, after harvesting the sugar cane, was transported up the Mississippi River to Baton Rouge. A correspondent for the New York Tribune, February 1, 1863, wrote, *"The more I see colored regiments..., the more convinced I am that upon them we must ultimately rely as the principle source of our strength in these latitudes. ...The Third Louisiana Native Guards, Colonel Nelson, are encamped here, and a more orderly, disciplined, robust, and effective set of men I defy anyone to produce."* Others did not share the correspondent's opinions but were prejudiced against them. Some regiments refused to be in contact with them fearing their *"manliness to be lowered by contact with an inferior race."* The post commander, Brigadier General Cuvier Grover refused to recognize them as part of the Union army and did not permit them to draw any clothing, blankets, or pay.

As racial tensions rose at Baton Rouge, and conflicts between white soldiers and the colored officers of the 3rd LNG increased, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks ordered the officers to New Orleans and asked for their resignation citing that the government's policy was not to commission blacks as officers in the army. All sixteen of the colored men turned in their resignations. *"We did not expect, or demand to be put on a Perfect equality in a social point of view with whites. But we did most certainly expect the Privileges, and respect due to a soldier who had offered his services and his life to his government, ever ready and willing to share the common dangers of the Battle field. This we have not received, on the contrary, we have met with scorn and contempt, from both military and civilians. If we are forced to ask for information from the generality of white officers, we invariably receive abrupt, and ungentlemanly answers, when in many instances it is their legitimate business to give the information required. To be spoken to, by a colored officer, to most of them, seems an insult. Even our own regimental commander has abused us, under the cover of his authority, presuming upon our limited*

knowledge of military discipline. All combine to make our Position insufferable."

The 1st LNG arrived in Baton Rouge to join the 3rd LNG on March 19, 1863. The men of the LNG were noted for their fine practice of drill and sharpness in military maneuvers. They were, however, provided with obsolete muskets, poor quality accoutrements, and uniforms discarded from white regiments. The men had also not been paid nor had they received their promised recruitment bounty.

Men of the 2nd LNG had their first taste of action, one of the first involving black Union troops in the Civil War, when on April 8, 1863, a detachment of 180 of the men were sent via transport to East Pascagoula, Mississippi. Captain Sauvenet and twenty men secured the wharf and raised the American flag on the roof of the hotel. Confederates engaged the men for several hours while the Native Guards held their ground. The men were recalled to the transports when additional Confederates arrived. 6 were killed and thirteen wounded. As General Banks moved his forces up the Bayou Teche and through Alexandria, Louisiana in the spring of 1863 as part of his strategy to take Port Hudson, he left the 1st and 3rd LNG at Baton Rouge.

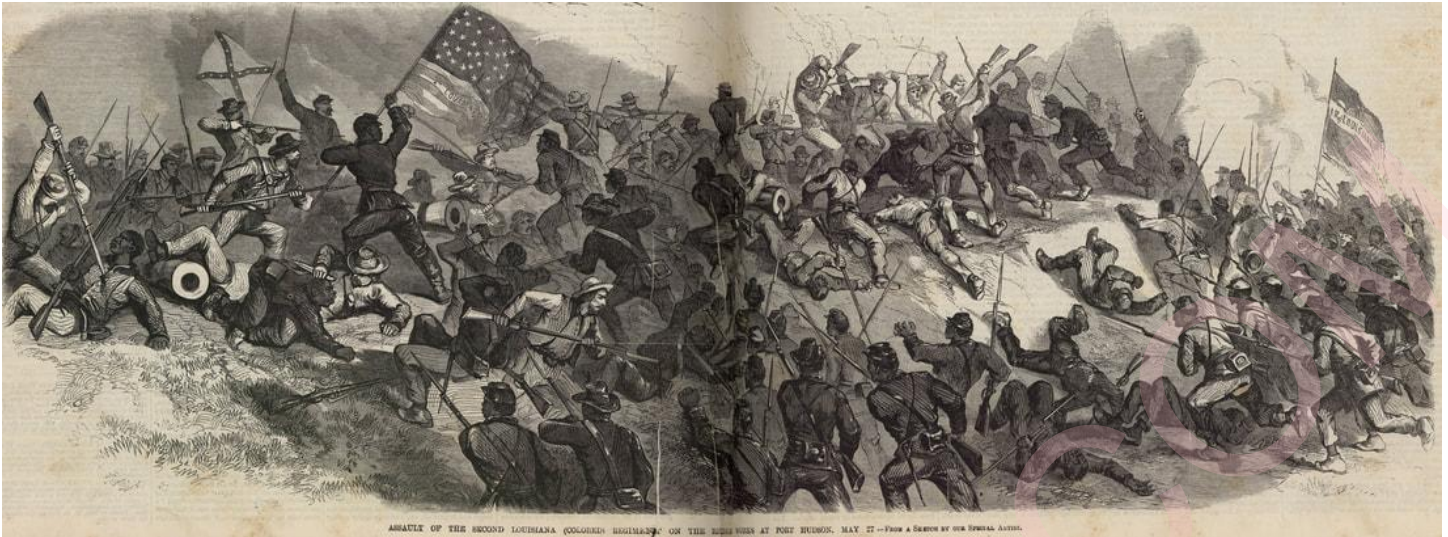
In February 1863, the 4th Louisiana Native Guard was mustered into service at New Orleans and placed on garrison duty at surrounding forts. It was then sent to Baton Rouge to accompany the first and third regiments. In April, the 1st Louisiana Engineers was mustered into service at Carrollton, Louisiana whose enlisted men were also formerly enslaved men.



On May 13, 1863 a heated exchange of insults in an argument over wood between Col. Stafford of the 1st LNG and Captain Garland of the 21st Maine Infantry resulted in General Banks placing Col. Stafford under arrest. Col. Stafford wrote a letter protesting that the captain had insulted him by calling him a "*black son of a bitch*" but he was subsequently charged with "*conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline,*" and was dismissed from service.

Just a few days later, the 1st LNG received orders to join General Banks' army already at Port Hudson. Arriving on May 23, the regiment was now commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Bassett. The 3rd was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Fennegass who replaced Colonel John A. Nelson, now in command of the Native Guard regiments. The 1st Louisiana Engineers arrived in Baton Rouge on the 21st of May and then Port Hudson on the 24th along with the 4th Louisiana Native Guard the same day.

Siege of Port Hudson



Organization of U.S. Colored Troops at the Siege of Port Hudson:

XIX Corps: Army of the Gulf: Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks

United States Colored Troops (Corps d'Afrique): Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullman

1st Louisiana Native Guards (73rd USCT): Lt. Col. Chauncey J. Bassett, mustered into service Sept. 27, 1862

3rd Louisiana Native Guards (75th USCT): Col. John A. Nelson, mustered into service Nov. 24, 1862

4th Louisiana Native Guards (76th USCT): Col. Charles W. Drew, mustered into service Feb 10, 1863

Engineers (Department of the Gulf): Major David C. Houston, Chief Engineer

Captain John C. Palfrey, U.S. Engr.s

Captain Joseph Bailey, 4th Wisconsin Infantry (Mounted)

1st Louisiana Engineers (1st Regt. Engineers, Corps d'Afrique) (95th & 97th USCT): Col. Justin Hodge mustered into service April 10, 1863

One of the major objectives of the Union army was to take control of the Mississippi River. As General U.S. Grant pushed his way southward towards Vicksburg, General Nathaniel Banks was to push northward from New Orleans to meet Grant at Vicksburg. Confronting Gen. Banks was the Confederate bastion at Port Hudson fourteen miles north of Baton Rouge. Banks tested the Confederates on March 14, 1863 through a diversionary attack as Farragut attempted to run his fleet past the Port Hudson batteries. Farragut's fleet was badly shot up and only two ships were able to pass through. The Union army fell back to Baton Rouge. In April, Banks bypassed Port Hudson and advanced through the Bayou Teche to Vermillionville, and then to Alexandria while keeping the Confederates at bay. Leaving Alexandria, Louisiana, Banks marched his army down the Red River and crossed the Mississippi to invest Port Hudson from the north while additional Union troops marched up from Baton Rouge beginning the Siege of Port Hudson on May 22.

On May, 26, General Banks ordered an assault on the Confederate bastion. The 1st and 3rd LNG were positioned on the Telegraph road running between the Mississippi River and Port Hudson and at Bayou Sara near Francisville. In their front was Big Sandy Creek and a bridge that the Confederates had burned. Two officers of the 1st Louisiana Engineers and men of the 42nd Massachusetts (the pontoon train had yet to be transferred to the colored men of the 1st Louisiana Engineers) laid a 280 foot pontoon bridge across the marshy bog. The far right of the Union line, where the Native Guards were placed, was commanded by Brig. Gen. William Dwight, Jr. who had earned a reputation for his drunkenness while in uniform. He saw the order for a general assault as an opportunity *"to test the negro question."* *"The negro will have the fate of his race on his conduct. I shall compromise nothing in making this attack, for I regard it as an experiment."* Dwight was drunk by breakfast and did not conduct a reconnaissance, study the map, or look over the terrain. Beyond the marshy bog lay a flooded and rugged terrain with tangles of trees in front of the Confederate position which the men would have to cross. The path was alongside 400 yards of rifle pits parallel to Telegraph Road. Six field pieces and multiple Confederate regiments manned the works to be stormed. The floodplain which would be crossed left little room for maneuver and two eight-inch Columbiads in a water battery were positioned to rake the road as the Union troops advanced.

Early the next day, Wednesday, May 27, 1863, six companies of the 1st LNG and nine of the 3rd LNG advanced over the pontoon bridge over the Big Sandy and filed to the right to form a line of battle in a grove of willow trees over the old riverbed south of Telegraph Road. Initially covered by the 6th Massachusetts Artillery and dismounted troopers of the 1st Louisiana Cavalry, after only one round fired, the Confederate response was so heavy that the artillerymen withdrew. At ten in the morning, the Native Guards left the willow trees and moved forward at the double-quick to advance across the six hundred yards to the Confederate positions. Two hundred yards they marched when the Confederate artillery opened up with *"shot and shells, and pieces of railroad iron twelve to eighteen inches long."* The enemy in the rifle pits and behind the breastworks commenced firing as soon as the Native Guards came within range. Anselmas Planciacois, the color sergeant of the 1st Louisiana Native Guards, was hit almost immediately, having his head split in two and his brains splattered on those soldiers around him. *"The flag! The flag!"* shouted the men. The colors were seized by two corporals around him, who fought for the honor of carrying the colors forward. Captain Andre Cailloux, leading the men of his company, urged the men forward, *"Steady men, steady,"* while his left arm dangled by his side with a shattered elbow. *"Evante"* The men pushed forward across the open ground as Cailloux was shot and killed. Firing only one volley, the men of the Native Guards fell back as the Confederates continued their deadly fire. Some found cover under a small hill between the Confederate rifle pits and the river. Only 15 minutes after their advance had begun, not a single casualty had been inflicted on the Confederates, yet the dead and wounded men of the Native Guard covered the battlefield by the score.

Col. Nelson, of the 3rd LNG, sent an aid to Dwight informing him of the failed assault and found him seated on the ground leaning on a tree. *"Tell Colonel Nelson [that] I shall consider he has done nothing unless he carries the enemy's works,"* he said to the aide. When he was told that both regiments were cut up badly and half of their men lost, Dwight replied, *"Charge again, and let the impetuosity of the charge counterbalance the paucity of numbers."* Recrossing the river and relaying the message to Col. Nelson, word was sent to the other commanders, Bassett and Finnegass, to prepare the men for another assault.

Lt. Col Henry Finnegass, rather than moving his regiment forward, fell back with his men to Nelson's position and asked the colonel for a chew of tobacco. Nelson ordered Finnegass to return to his regiment, which he did, but promptly returned a few minutes later asking for a drink of whiskey and a light for his pipe. "*Return to your men and lead the advance,*" Nelson told him, as valuable time was being lost. Finnegass responded that the Rebel positions were too strong and asked to take his men to the rear to re-form them. Nelson refused the request and added that a withdrawal under the current conditions would demoralize the troops and encourage the Confederates. Finnegass refused and said that he "*would be damned*" if he would go and stand off to the side.

With Finnegass' refusal to obey orders, the formidable Rebel position and the heavy casualties made it clear that it would be suicidal for the Native Guards to assault the position again. Furthermore, with an intoxicated Dwight who had no intention of leaving his headquarters, Nelson ordered the men to continue firing from their current position among the willows. Throughout the afternoon, they continued to fire at the Confederates while the enemy's guns shelled the Louisiana Native Guards' position. The wounded men continued to stream to the rear as the casualties mounted. The Native Guards went into battle with fewer than 540 men in each of the two regiments. The 1st LNG lost two officers, Captain Andre Cailloux and 2nd Lt. John Crowder. Twenty-four enlisted men were killed, and three officers and ninety-two enlisted men wounded. The 3rd LNG lost a total of ten killed and thirty-eight wounded.

There was no flag of truce to remove the dead and dying for the Louisiana Native Guard after the May 27th assault. Along the Telegraph Road and up to the Confederate parapets, the bodies of the slain colored troops were left to rot and as their corpses bloated and putrefied. When soldiers of the Louisiana Native Guard attempted to retrieve the remains of Captain Andre Cailloux, they were repulsed by Confederate sharpshooters. After days of rot, the smell became so unbearable that Confederates finally sent a message through the lines asking General Banks to allow their soldiers to bury the black dead.



The Native Guards were held in reserve for the failed June 14th assault which was more disastrous than the first. However, two companies of the 1st LNG were able to capture detached rifle pits which had stopped their advance two weeks earlier. Preparing for a third assault to take place in early July,

Banks called for volunteers for a "Forlorn Hope" who he promised promotion, recognition, and a medal to those who volunteered. Fifty-four men of the 1st LNG volunteered and thirty-seven from the 3rd LNG. Banks, however, refused to accept the volunteers from the black regiments for the elite assignment. When Vicksburg fell on July 4th, Port Hudson capitulated shortly thereafter, on July 9th, when news reached the Confederates. The third assault became no longer necessary.

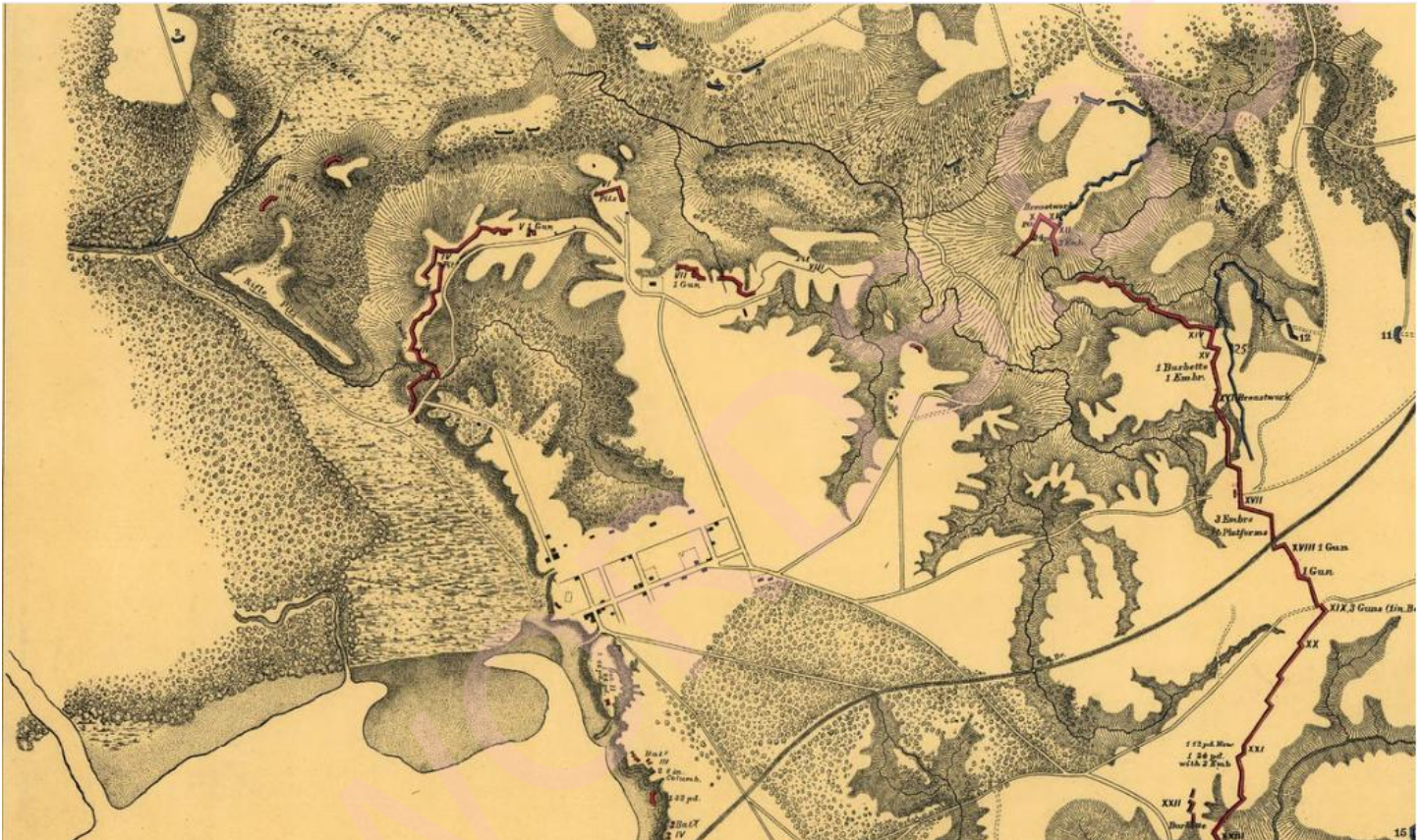
Official army reports gave special praise to the 1st Louisiana Native Guard and the 1st Louisiana Engineers for their bravery and accomplishments during the siege of Port Hudson. News accounts of the gallantry of the 1st Louisiana Native Guards assault on May 27 proliferated in the northern press. Many were filled with exaggerations and errors. Reports of the number of charges made varied between three and six. Several accounts had the men incorrectly identified as the Second Louisiana Native Guard. A popular illustration in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* depicted the assault with glaring errors such as an incorrect flag, hand-to-hand combat, and men of the regiment on top of the Confederate parapet.

The May 27 assault at Port Hudson was the first major confrontation between African-American soldiers and Confederates on the battlefield. Because the men fought bravely and proved their value, enlistment of blacks into the Union army increased dramatically afterwards. Although the Lincoln administration and the War Department had adopted the policy of recruiting black troops, even ordering Brigadier General Daniel Ullman to the Department of the Gulf with two hundred officers from the Army of the Potomac to raise a black brigade. Public support, however, lagged behind the new policy until the 1st Louisiana Native Guard turned public opinion towards its favor. By August 1863, more than 10,000 black soldiers were in the Department of the Gulf, and by the wars end, ten percent of the Union army were colored troops.

"The battery was not captured; the battle was lost to all except the black soldiers; they, with their terrible loss, had won and conquered a much greater and stronger battery than that upon the bluff. Nature seems to have selected the place and appointed the time for the negro to prove his manhood and to disarm the prejudice that at one time prompted the white troops to insult and assault the negro soldiers in New Orleans. It was all forgotten and they mingled together that day on terms of perfect equality. The whites were only too glad to take a drink from a negro soldier's canteen, for in that trying hour they found a brave and determined ally, ready to sacrifice all for liberty and country. If greater heroism could be shown than that of the regiments of the Phalanx already named, surely the 1st Regiment of Engineers displayed it during the siege at Port Hudson. This regiment, provided with picks and spades for the purpose of "mining" the enemy's works, often went forward to their labor without any armed support except the cover of heavy guns, or as other troops happened to advance, to throw up breastworks for their own protection. It takes men of more than ordinary courage to engage in such work, without even a revolver or a bayonet to defend themselves against the sallies of any enemy's troops. Nevertheless this Engineer Regiment of the Black Phalanx performed the duty under such trying and perilous circumstances. Many times they went forward at a double-quick to to do duty in the most dangerous place during the engagement, perhaps to build a redoubt or breastworks behind a brigade, or to blow up a bastion of the enemy's. "They but reminded the looker on." said a correspondent of a western newspaper, "of just so many cattle going to a slaughterhouse." A writer, speaking of the other regiments of the Phalanx, says: "They were also on trial that day, and justified the most sanguine expectations by their good conduct. Not that they fought

better than our white veterans; they did not and could not."

"But there had been so much incredulity avowed regarding the courage of the negroes; so much wit lavished on the idea of negroes fighting to any purpose, that General Banks was justified in according a special commendation to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Regiments, and to the 1st Engineer Regiment, of the Phalanx, saying, 'No troops could be more determined or daring.' The 1st lost its Cailloux, the 2nd its Paine, but the Phalanx won honor for the race it represented." (From: Joseph T. Wilson, *THE BLACK PHALANX*. Published by American Publishing company, Hartford, Connecticut, 1892.)



This Library of Congress map shows the location of the advance and charge of the 1st and 3rd Louisiana Native Guards (73rd & 75th USCTs), May 27th 1863 at Port Hudson. On the far left is the 280 foot pontoon bridge over the Big Sandy Creek laid by Capt. John J. Smith of the 1st Louisiana Engineers (97th USCT) which the Native Guard crossed at 5 A.M. Telegraph Road is seen on the left of the map and to the east of the road is the grove of willow trees in which the two regiments assembled for the assault and then fell back to after it had failed. Along the west side of Telegraph Road, along the rise, is a 400 yard long line of Confederate rifle pits. These opened fire on the men of the Native Guard as they advanced. In the lower left of the map is a grouping of confederate batteries, with six cannon and two 8 inch Columbiads which also opened fire. The bottom left of the map shows the floodplain above the Mississippi River in which the regiments crossed under heavy fire.

During the siege, Banks reorganized the Native Guards and created a separate Corps d'Afrique division within the XIX Corps under the command of General Ullman.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 47.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, 19TH ARMY CORPS

Before Port Hudson, June 6, 1863.

I. The regiments of infantry of the Corps d'Afrique, authorized by General Orders, No. 44 [No. 40], current series, will consist of ten companies, each having the following minimum organization: 1 captain, 1 first lieutenant, 1 second lieutenant, 1 first sergeant, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 2 buglers, 40 privates. To the above may be added hereafter, at the discretion of the commanding general, 4 corporals and 42 privates, thus increasing the strength to the maximum fixed by law for a company of infantry. The regimental organization will be that fixed by law for a regiment of infantry.

II. The commissary and assistant commissaries of musters will muster the second lieutenant into service as soon as he is commissioned; the first lieutenant when 30 men are enlisted, and the captain when the minimum organization is completed.

III. The First, Second, Third, and Fourth Regiments of Louisiana Native Guards will hereafter be known as the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Regiments of Infantry of the Corps d'Afrique.

IV. The regiment of colored troops in process of organization in the District of Pensacola will be known as the Fifth Regiment of Infantry of the Corps d'Afrique.

V. The regiments now being raised under the direction of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, and at present known as the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Regiments of Ullmann's brigade, will be respectively designated as the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Regiments of Infantry of the Corps d'Afrique.

VI. The First Regiment of Louisiana Engineers, Col. Justin Hodge, will hereafter be known as the First Regiment of Engineers of the Corps d'Afrique.

By command of Major-General Banks:

RICH'D B. IRWIN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

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As tensions continued to escalate between black troops and white troops, especially as it pertained to prejudice against black officers, Andrews issued the following order.

COLORED SOLDIERS

GENERAL ORDERS No. 12.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,

Port Hudson, Louisiana, July 30, 1863.

The commanding general of this post has been informed of the abuse of colored soldiers, and disregard of their authority as sentinels, on the part of some of the other troops of this command, and on the part of some persons not in the military service. He takes this opportunity to correct certain erroneous impressions, and to announce to all concerned that this course of conduct must cease at once and entirely.

The Government having decided upon the employment of colored troops, it is the imperative duty of all officers and soldiers to acquiesce fully and promptly in this decision, for which they are in no wise responsible. The colored soldier employed as such is entitled to respect and consideration, and to the protection and support of his military superiors, particularly when performing any duty which has been imposed upon him.

While engaged in carrying out the orders he has received, he is but the agent or instrument of his commanding officer. Any opposition to him or abuse of him while so engaged is not disobedience of his orders nor contempt of his authority, but is nothing less than disobedience of the orders and contempt of the authority of the commanding general, neither of which will be tolerated under any circumstances in this command. Abuse of the colored soldier, or opposition to him in the discharge of his duty in this command, will be punished with unrelenting severity, not only for the protection of the colored soldier, who is justly entitled to it, and shall have it, but because such conduct is grossly insubordinate to lawful authority.

All discussions of the subject of employing colored soldiers, all remarks disparaging them, and any course of conduct tending to create ill-feeling between the colored troops and other troops of this command, are most strictly prohibited.

All soldiers of this command are exhorted to the prompt, cheerful, soldierlike performance of military duties. The exhibition of high soldierly qualities by them in the camp, on the march, and on the battlefield, will leave neither time nor inclination for vexatious discussions of a subject with which as soldiers they have no concern.

By command of Brig. Gen. George L. Andrews:

GEO. B. HALSTED,

Captain, and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Aftermath of Port Hudson

After the siege had ended, and through the remaining summer, the Corps d'Afrique assisted in clearing the countryside surrounding Port Hudson of remaining Confederate resistance. A detachment from the 1st Regiment Infantry, Corps d'Afrique was attacked by Logan's Confederate cavalry near Jackson, Louisiana and twenty-one enlisted men along with Lieutenant Oscar Orillion, a black officer, were captured. When four of the captured soldiers attempted to escape, it *"created some excitement and a general stampede among them, all attempting to affect their escape."* Colonel Frank Powers, commanding Logan's cavalry stated, *"I ordered the guard to shoot them down. In the confusion, the other negroes attempted to escape likewise. I then ordered every one shot, and with my six shooter assisted in the execution of the order."* Thirteen of the black soldiers were claimed to be killed by Lieutenant Shattuck of Scott's Louisiana Cavalry.

During the summer, Banks had decided that black officers were not welcome in the Corps d'Afrique and began to purge the black regiments of them. In the Department of the Gulf, black officers had been seen as a source of "constant embarrassment and annoyance" and blame put on them for a demoralization in the officer corps which caused whites to retaliate with violence. Some white troops even threatened to not reenlist if it meant that they would have to salute a black man. Too many white men in the ranks felt that it was condescending to have them show respect to a colored officer.

The mass resignation of the black officers in the 3rd Louisiana Native Guard on February 19, 1863 was accomplished swiftly, but the purge of those remaining in the 1st and 2nd required time. First, an examining board was set up for the black officers who sought a commission. These boards had the power to grant and deny officer commissions through an oral exam on military matters in which the men had to show proficiency. Second, Banks threatened to withhold the pay of black line officers

while paying the white field officers and black enlisted men. The prejudice exhibited by the actions resulted in multiple resignations, which Banks had intended.

Resignations in the 1st Regiment multiplied by through the next several months. Many officers resigned citing illness, physical disability, or family hardship. Others were dismissed by Banks. Several who had passed the board exams resigned after they were transferred to the newly organized 20th Infantry, Corps d'Afrique. By the end of the Red River Campaign, only two black officers remained in the 1st Regiment, James H. Ingraham and Louis A. Snear. Additional officers resigned from the 2nd Regiment when examining boards were made up of white junior officers who would all benefit from an advancement in rank if the examinees failed their exams. The resignations of black officers continued through the winter and then spring of 1864. Lt. Solomon Hayes' resignation letter cited his reasons for leaving as "*the prejudice which exists in my Regiment, as well as the entire Service against Colored Officers.*"

By the war's end, only Charles Sauvenet, the translator in which Maj. Gen. Butler had asked to form the Louisiana Native Guards, remained as the only black officer of the 2nd Regiment. He would muster out at the end of his enlistment as the assistant quartermaster and he would be the black officer with the longest continuous service in the Union Army.

The purge of the black officers also negatively impacted the morale of the black enlisted men. A fourth of the men in Captain Emile Detiege's company deserted after he resigned on September 25, 1863. When Captain James H. Ingraham resigned in the spring of 1864, nearly fifty men deserted. Writing from Massachusetts in response to the purge of black officers, Banks stated, "*The negro, whether the equal to the white man or not, knows when he is treated fairly, and appreciates an injustice quite as endearingly as if of a lighter color.*" He continued, "*How can we expect the Black man to stand up against the White rebel when we allow him to be insulted by our own soldier because he is White?*"

Assuming command of the black troops at Port Hudson on July 10, 1863, Brigadier General George Andrews did not show as much prejudice as other Union officers. In a letter to his wife, he stated that he set out to make the Corps d'Afrique "*one of the best in the army.*" An 1851 graduate of West Point, civil engineer, and experience as the lieutenant colonel of the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry, he had battlefield experience at Antietam before becoming Bank's chief of staff. He demanded the "*strictest discipline among the officers.*" He established an examining board and applied high standards to the officers. A school was established for officers of the Corps d'Afrique providing instruction. Merit was the exclusive measure of promotion.

With the officer corps now restricted to qualified white men, intelligent and literate black men were in short supply for non-commissioned officers where literacy was essential. Since enslaved persons were forbidden to be taught to read and write in the surrounding parishes, finding literate black men to fill the positions of sergeants, whose work included numerous reports and forms to be completed, required those soldiers to be literate in the English language. To address the issue, Andrews set up schools in almost every regiment in the Corps d'Afrique. Spelling books were common place in the colored soldier's hands as much as the rifle.

Red River Campaign



Colonel William H. Dickey assumed command of the colored brigade in March of 1864 as the XIX Corps prepared for the upcoming Red River Campaign. The Corps d'Afrique consisted of only four regiments and were grouped together as the 1st Brigade, 1st Division (colored).

1st Infantry (73rd U.S.C.T.): Maj Hiram E. Perkins
3rd Infantry (75th U.S.C.T.): Col Henry W. Fuller
12th Infantry (84th U.S.C.T.): Cpt James H. Corrin
22nd Infantry (92nd U.S.C.T.): Col Henry N. Frisbie

Dickey's Corps d'Afrique were transported from Port Hudson up the Mississippi to the Red River and then to Alexandria. Arriving March 23, where they joined the other US forces assembled there. Banks informed Dickey that he was to *"keep your brigade well in hand"* and that no passes outside of

camp should be given to the black enlisted men.

On March 29, the Corps d'Afrique began its march to Grand Ecore on the banks of the Red River. As the long columns of troops marched into the interior of Louisiana towards Shreveport, the Corps d'Afrique was in the rear guarding the long wagon train. After ten days of marching, the black regiments reached Pleasant Hill while the rest of the column continued to Mansfield. When the Confederates drove the Union forces back in the aftermath of the battle of Mansfield on April 9, the route was blocked by abandoned wagons left behind by fleeing teamsters who fled to the rear to avoid capture.

The retreating mob of soldiers fell back to Brigadier General Emory's hastily improvised defensive line, but rather than hold that position, Banks had his army retreat to Pleasant Hill. As the Union troops dug in, the Corps d'Afrique and the long wagon train were ordered back to Grand Ecore. Arriving on April 10, the Dickey's regiments began to fortify their position. Lines of defense were established at Grand Ecore the 12th of April, and orders were given to attack the enemy if he approached. A pontoon bridge was thrown across the river during the night. "Our pickets were driven in on the 13th, but the enemy appeared, upon a reconnaissance made in force, to have gone below for the purpose either of attacking our troops"

Falling back, Bank's army had an additional problem; Admiral Porter's Mississippi squadron was stranded in shallow waters above the rapids at Alexandria and was under attack. The engineer brigade, consisting of the 97th and 99th USCTs under command of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Bailey, built a dam across the river to raise the water level and rescue the fleet (For the story of the building of Bailey's Dam by US Colored Troops, refer to the 97th USCT Regimental History page). Other

troops cut timber, took stone from quarries, downed fences and buildings, and gathered all the materials for the dams. Sailors stripped the warships of their guns and stores in order to lighten their loads. Dickey's Corps d'Afrique, now designated U.S. Colored Troops, strengthened the perimeter defenses.

"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,

Alexandria, May 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General GROVER,

Commanding Post:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that no details be made from Colonel Dickey's command of colored troops which will not leave at least 250 men in his camp. He has been ordered to take possession of the line now held by Colonel Smith, and throw up a defensive work there.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. DRAKE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,

Alexandria, May 5, 1864.

Colonel DICKEY,

Commanding Brigade, U. S. Infantry (Colored):

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you advance your command of the line now held by Colonel Smith with two regiments of infantry, being the narrowest point between Red River and the Bayou Rapides. You will take up position there and throw up a defensive work along the line. As soon as you have taken up this new position you will report by letter to these headquarters the fact that you have done so, and any other facts in relation to the position which you may deem of importance.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. DRAKE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.-Orders have been sent to the officers making details from your command to make on detail which will not leave at least 250 men in your camp. You will fill no details in excess of this.

Respectfully,

GEO. B. DRAKE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Alexandria, May 5, 1864.

Colonel WILLIAM H. DICKEY,

Commanding Colored Troops:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs me to communicate for your information the following extract from the report of Colonel George L. Beal, on duty as commandant of outposts yesterday:

The hedges and trees in front of line on the right, between the river and Bayou Rapides, should be cut down, as the observation is very poor, and they afford shelter for the enemy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. N. LIEBER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General."
(Serial 063, Page 0453, Louisiana Trans-Mississippi, Chapter LXVI)

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After the fleet successfully passed over the rapids by May 12th, Banks' army continued to fall back. Leaving Alexandria in flames, the army reached Mansura four days later and was met with a Confederate force blocking their route. The Union army formed a line of battle with the colored infantries of Dickey's brigade in the center. After a four hour fight with light casualties, the Confederates gave way and the bluecoats continued their march. For the remainder of the retreat, the men of the colored infantries guarded the wagon train.

"Numbers 78. Report of Colonel William H. Dickey, Eighty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade, First Division, Corps d'Afrique, of action near Moreauville.
HDQRS. 1ST Brigadier, 1ST DIV., U. S. INFTRY. (COLORED),
Morganza, La., May 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 17th of May while marching on the Bayou De Glaize road, 5 miles beyond Simsport, the enemy appeared, about 300 strong, coming from the wood to the right of the road, a little in advance of my position in the general column, and immediately advanced across the fields, firing on the train. I had just previously deployed a battalion as skirmishers, and it was then marching by the flank near the edge of the wood and in front of the rebel line. This regiment attacked the enemy vigorously, drove him from the field, and pursued some distance. Our loss was 2 killed, 8 wounded, and 2 missing. The enemy left 9 dead on the field. The rebel troops were mounted. No damage was done the train, except, perhaps, the slight wounding of a few horses and mules. The battalion of my command engaged behaved with the utmost coolness, and delivered its fire with excellent effect. No one who witnessed their conduct on this occasion can doubt that it is perfectly safe to trust colored troops in action, and depend upon their doing their full share of fighting. This report has been delayed by the failure of Lieutenant-Colonel Chadwick, the officer commanding the regiment engaged, to forward his report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. DICKEY,

Colonel, Commanding.

Captain FREDERIC SPEED,

Assistant Adjutant-General, near Morganza."

(Serial 061, page 0443, Louisiana and Trans-Mississippi, Chapter XLVI)

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"Numbers 79. Report of Lieutenant Colonel John C. Chadwick, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, of action near Moreauville.

HDQRS. NINETY-SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,

Morganza, La., June 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 17th of May, while acting as a part of the convoy to the trains of the recent Red River expedition on their passage from Mansura to Yellow Bayou, near

Simsport, this regiment was ordered out as flankers and skirmishers. Soon after entering the woods the enemy was discovered in some force, and was at once engaged. Skirmishing with them continued for an hour and a half, which resulted in their being forced back, and a safe passage to the trains guaranteed. This was the first time this regiment, as a whole, had been engaged with the enemy, and I must say that their conduct was as good as that of any new troops. There were instances of cool courage and determined bravery which would compare with the conduct on the battle-field of any veteran. Antoine Davis, acting first sergeant of Company E, was shot in the head, left breast, and groin by the same weapon, a pistol, in the hands of a rebel cavalryman, but could not be moved from his ground until the shot in the groin laid him upon the earth. he received the enemy's fire with the muzzle of the pistol resting against his left breast. I regret to be obliged to report his death in hospital at New Orleans on the night of the 22nd instant. The regiment was and is now armed with the Springfield smooth-bore musket, of very inferior and defective quality, many of them becoming useless at the first fire.

Nine of the enemy are known to have been killed. The casualties in this command are as follows, viz: Killed, 2; wounded, 4; missing, 6; total, 12.

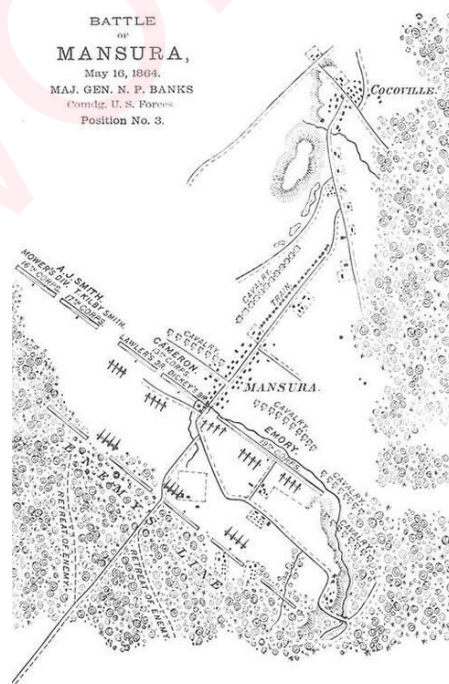
I have the honor to be, general, your very obedient servant,

JNO. C. CHADWICK,

Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry."

(Serial 061 page 0444 Chapter XLVI Red River Campaign)

At the conclusion of the Red River campaign the 1st and 3rd Regiments Corps d'Afrique returned to Port Hudson before being assigned to duty at Morganza for eight miserable months of garrison duty. During the campaign, nearly 600 black men enlisted into the Union army. During that same time, the number of black officers still holding commissions had been chiseled down to three.



Map from Official Records shows Dickey's 3rd Regiment (73rd, 75th, 84th, and 92nd USCTs) in the center of the federal line.

Garrison Duty

At the conclusion of the Red River campaign the 1st and 3rd Regiments Corps d'Afrique returned to Port Hudson before being assigned to duty at Morganza for eight miserable months of garrison duty. Another reorganization also occurred with the U.S. Colored Troops in the Department of the Gulf through General Order No. 88. In a follow up report, Brig. Gen. McNiel mentioned the number of men in each regiment and that the men of several of the colored regiments at Port Hudson were mere "skeletons" presumably due to poor health.

"GENERAL ORDERS,
HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, Numbers 88.
New Orleans, July 11, 1864.

I. The subjoined General Orders and instructions from the headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi are republished for the information of those concerned:

GENERAL ORDERS,
HDQRS. DIVISION OF WEST MISSISSIPPI, Numbers 17.
New Orleans, La., July 7, 1864.

The colored regiments of the Corps d'Afrique in the Department of the Gulf will be consolidated and reorganized as follows: The Seventy-third to be formed by consolidation with the Ninety-first; the Seventy-fifth to be formed by consolidation of the Seventy-ninth, Eighty-fourth, and Ninety-second; the Seventy-sixth to be formed by consolidation with the Seventy-eighth; the Seventy-seventh to be formed by consolidation of the Eighty-first, Eighty-eighth, and Eighty-ninth; the Seventy-eighth to be formed by consolidation of the Eighty-second and Eighty-third...

.....

The Seventy-third and Seventy-fifth Regiments will be organized at Morganza, the Seventy-fourth at Forts Pike and Macomb and Ship Island, the Seventy-sixth and Seventy-seventh at Port Hudson, the Seventy-eighth at Pensacola, the Seventy-ninth, Eightieth, and Eighty-second at New Orleans, and the Eighty-first at Brazos Santiago.

The regiments of the old organizations that are now absent from the point at which new regiments of which they will form part are to be organized will be concentrated at those points with as little delay as possible, and will be replaced at the stations from which they are withdrawn by colored troops not induced in the original organization of the Corps d'Afrique. All recruiting and other detached parties belonging to the above-named regiments will also be sent to the points indicated without delay.

The organization of the consolidated regiments will be the minimum prescribed by law. The officers to be retained will be determined by the reports of the examining boards appointed for that purpose and the supernumerary officers mustered out of service.

The examining may be made will not only determine the fitness of the officer for the grade for which he has been examined, but also the order of precedence in that grade. Supernumerary officers who are approved by the boards will be recommended to the Adjutant-General of the Army for appointment in regiments that are now being organized in other departments. *(NOTE: For the details on the examining boards and the requirements for each grade, see the "Officers" page on this web site)*

By order of Major General E. R. S. Canby:

C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

The following instructions are contained in letters from headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi:

The enlisted men of the Seventy-seventh Regiment, Corps d'Afrique (old organization), now stationed at Fort Jackson, will be transferred to those of the new organizations in which vacancies may exist. The officers will be examined in the same manner as the other officers of the Corps d'Afrique. Boards will be convened at Morganza, Port Hudson, Pensacola, Ship Island, Brazos Santiago, and New Orleans. The board to be convened at Ship Island to proceed first to Forts Pie and Macomb, for the purpose of examining the officers at those posts. * * * An inspector and a mustering officer will also be appointed at every point where boards are convened, who shall make it their special duty to see that the transfers are made with the greatest care, and that the status of the pay and clothing accounts and the general military history of the men is carefully noted on the muster-rolls and on the records of the new organizations, to prevent the possibility of any trouble in future settlement of accounts. Extra copies of the rolls will be forwarded through department headquarters to these headquarters.

(NOTE: For the details on the examining boards and the requirements for each grade, see the "Officers" page on this web site)

* * * * *

"HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, Port Hudson, La., July 15, 1864.

Major GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following statement concerning the troops that will remain at this post after the execution of General Orders, No. 88, Department of the Gulf, current series, the provisions of which are being carried into effect: The Ninety-sixth Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry (engineers) is ordered to New Orleans immediately. This will suspend all work on the fortifications here. The Seventy-third, Seventy-fifth, Seventy-ninth, Eighty-fourth, and Ninety-second Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry are ordered to proceed to Morganza immediately (one regiment, Seventy-fifth already reported) according to Special Orders, No. 183, paragraph 9, Department of the Gulf, July 11, 1864, which will leave at this post the Seventy-sixth, Seventy-eighth, and Eighty-first Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry, having for duty 1,188 enlisted men, and the Eighty-eighth and Eighty-ninth Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry (skeletons, mostly non-commissioned officers), unable to furnish and details save their own camp guards. There being no heavy artillery at this post, the Seventy-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry is used to man the guns. There are 367 enlisted men in the regiment for duty, which barely supplies sentinels over the guns - the camp guard - with a few remaining for detachment drill at the pieces. It will be seen that after taking the number of men that belong to the Seventy-sixth United States Colored Infantry from the whole number that will remain for duty - 1,188 - but 821 enlisted men (infantry) remain for all purposes connected with the post. It will be impossible to perform the most ordinary duties and properly maintain guard and outpost lines.

The Second Louisiana Mounted Infantry number 185 for duty, and the outpost duty is at present very loosely performed, even with the utmost exertion and care.

From the above it will be observed that the effective force of this garrison will be as follows:

Infantry for duty (Seventy-eighth and Eighty-first Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry), total, 821; infantry for duty (Eighty-eight and Eighty-ninth Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry, skeletons), 185; heavy artillery for duty (Seventh-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry), 367; cavalry (and two light batteries not numbered), 1865

It is respectfully suggested that as the Seventy-third, Seventy-ninth, Eighty-fourth and Ninety-second Regiments, U. S. Colored Infantry are at this post (now awaiting transportation to proceed to Morganza), General Orders, No. 88, be so modified as to permit of the formation of the Seventy-third and Seventy-fifth Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry (new), at this point; or that troops be sent here to replace those ordered away. The insufficiency of the cavalry force here has been the subject of former communication.

JOHN McNEIL,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding." (Serial 084 Page 0259 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS MISSISSIPPI Chapter LIII)

As a result of continued complaints about colored regiments being assigned to fatigue duty in greater numbers than white regiments, Secretary of War Stanton issued an order to field commanders in mid-May to divide fatigue duty equally. The typical daily routine for the infantrymen at Morganza was:

5:30 beating of drums

6 am Reveille: Fall in by companies at parade facing each other Roll call those found sick reported to surgeon)

7 Am Breakfast

7:30 Camp guard posted

8 AM Drill for an hour and a half

9:30 Dismissed for details

1 PM Dinner

3 PM Drill for an hour and a half

4:30 Parade and Inspection

9 PM Tattoo: Assembly in two ranks when sergeants call out the names of men assigned to the next day's details.

9:30 Taps: All lights out and silence as men slept.

The 74th USCT on Ship Island was merged with the 91st USCT on July 24, 1864 and several of the companies were sent to Fort McComb for garrison duty. By August, three of the five companies of the 74th on Ship Island were sent on detached service to Fort Morgan at the mouth of Mobile Bay. Now trained in heavy artillery, the companies were sent to aid in the siege of Fort Morgan but arrived on August 21, just as the Confederates surrendered the fort. By early September, they returned to Ship Island and manned the guns at Fort Massachusetts.

In Mid-September the 75th USCT joined the 92nd USCT, 1st Louisiana Cavalry, and 2nd NY Veteran Cavalry on an expedition to Simmesport in attempt to prevent a Confederate raiding party from escaping across the Atchafalaya. The long march, although failing to accomplish its mission, resulted in unauthorized plunder and theft. Correspondence afterwards shed light on the complex issues of warfare in Louisiana, emancipation, enlistment, and the mixing of white and black troops on expeditions

"Number 2. Report of Colonel Joshua J. Guppy, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. 3rd Brigadier, 2nd DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, September 18, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to orders from General Lawler, I marched from this place in support of Colonel Davis on the 16th instant, with the One hundred and sixty-first New York, Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey commanding; the Twenty-third Wisconsin, Lieutenant-Colonel Hill commanding and the Seventy-fifth and Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry; the last two named regiments reporting to me under their brigade commander, Colonel Frisbie. I marched nineteen miles during the night, two miles farther than was necessary, owing to want of exact information on the part of the guide, but after correcting my position, I went into camp at the head of Bayou Letsworth, on the ground where our men had been captured that morning. Colonel Davis was proceeding down this bayou toward Simsport, and our camp was within three miles of the rear of his column at the time of our halt, but I had not established direct communication with him. In the morning we followed his force seven miles toward Simsport, when we met a messenger from Colonel Davis informing me that the rebels had got across the river and that the cavalry was on its return. I halted till Colonel Davis came up, and his information confirming what I had been told, viz, that it was twenty-five miles to Morgan's Ferry by any practicable route from where we were, and the object of my joining Colonel Spicely having ceased to exist by the escape of the rebels to the north side of the Atchafalaya, I decided to return to Morganza. Colonel Davis gave me 200 cavalry and proceeded with the rest of his force on the return. I marched back about fourteen miles and went into camp at 5.30 p. m., having made forty miles in less than twenty-four hours. This morning I came to camp here, marching about ten miles. My command suffered no loss while out, but many of my men are very foot-sore.

I regret to state that this morning, while Colonel Frisbie was with the rear guard and I was at the head of the column, many men of the Ninety-second Colored Infantry broke from their ranks and commenced stealing poultry, &c. As soon as advised of their actions I put them in order in such a manner that they made no further attempts at pillaging. The Seventy-fifth Colored Infantry is an excellently behaved regiment and I could not but admire their good behavior while the Ninety-second were straggling about houses and yards this morning. The lieutenant-colonel of the Seventy-fifth seems to be an excellent disciplinarian. I have no fault to find with the Ninety-second, except the acts of pillage above named, and Colonel Frisbie assures me that the guilty ones shall be properly dealt with.

I have with reluctance mentioned this matter, that no imputation may rest on my own character as an officer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. GUPPEY,

Colonel, Commanding Expedition." (Serial 083 Page 084 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS
MISSISSIPPI Chapter LIII)

"Numbers 5. Report of Colonel Henry N. Frisbie, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade of Colored Troops.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, U. S. COLORED TROOPS,

Morganza, La., September 24, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the safe return of my command. Colonel Guppy, of the Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, having other troops, directed the march, which continued all night. Soon after daylight we reached the point of our destination, which was Morgan's Ford, on the Atchafalaya River, where we found quite a force under command of Colonel Spicely, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry and who treated us courteously and gentlemanly throughout the time I was under his command. For two days we worked at fatigue, building lunettes for the artillery and cutting roads in the woods, so they could be approached under cover. Some officers, apparently acting by authority, seemed hardly able to find enough for the colored troops to do. Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall, of the Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry (engineers), who was in charge of the works, became disgusted and returned to Morganza. Some beef procured by a detail from my command from over the river, by permission of Colonel Spicely, for the benefit of the troops, who were suffering some from scurvy, was, in my temporary absence, taken by a cavalry officer, who represented it to be by my order. I am sorry to say there are persons wearing the uniform of a U. S. officer who will not scruple to tell a falsehood to gain some petty advantage and use his uniform to deceive a "poor nigger," and afterward tell his smartness (shame) to his fellows, and then with the air of a clown look around for applause. The evening before we left some buildings on the other side of the river were burned. There seemed to be a general disposition to accuse the colored troops of doing it, and Colonel Spicely seemed to believe the report, and would probably have officially so reported it if I had not positively assured him to the contrary, from indisputable evidence in my possession; but they could not accuse them of burning the buildings the night before they came, the ruins of which were still smoldering, and which was just as wanton an act as the other. Some white soldiers on the road were catching fowls, and no effort was made to stop them. When some officers sent in some of their men to get water a white guard was sent immediately to arrest them to prevent, as was alleged, their plundering, yet no stop was put to the operation of the others. On the return but few men were unable to march and keep up, and not a dozen had to be carried, and in this respect they far exceeded the white troops. In fact, they march as well as any white troops with which they have come in contact. Some sixteen recruits were obtained, and about 150 contrabands. A patient and systematic effort would probably bring to light many recruits, but great pains are taken to hide this class of persons on the approach of our forces. The migration of so many women and children is not encouraged, as they are in incumbrance to the army, and it is not beneficial to themselves. If some officers with a few mounted men are permitted to accompany the cavalry many more recruits could be obtained; but as it is, when they go they have no interest, and in fact discourage the coming of these persons. The policy of breaking up brigades and then mixing white and black regiments to form a new one for raiding purposes temporarily is exceedingly injudicious and productive of much evil and disorganization, and but little good can come of it. No white troops lifted an ax or a spade while out on that trip to work, yet the colored troops marched as far, did as much guard duty, and would probably have fought as hard as the other troops, as they carried as much ammunition and were as well armed, and while the rest lay in the shade we were hard at work.

The constant violation of orders from the War Department by so many commanders falling temporarily in command of colored troops has been the subject of remark and complaint so long that it seems useless to complain again or to mention it, for I have almost ceased to expect justice from any one, for if they will not obey and respect the published orders of the Secretary of War, neither will they those of General Canby, for he has republished this order that prohibits colored troops being required to do an excess of work or fatigue duty over and above those with whom they are

associated. The work is no objection to either officers or men, but the manner and the circumstances under which it is required. The slur and stigma of inferiority is what displeases so many officers and makes it so difficult to keep our best officers, for they will not command troops that the Government allows inferiority to become attached to, for they say if the Government wants bosses or overseers let them so be employed from those who want the position; but while they bear commissions they want only their fair share of fatigue, but will do any amount of fighting. The people along the road of this raid and the one previous seemed terror stricken at the sight of black troops, and in future, if every raid is answered by black troops, you will soon not hear of one this side of the Atchafalaya River, yet they behaved in a soldierly manner and were at all times under strict discipline. The distance between this place and the Atchafalaya River is so near on a straight line that a couple of regiments could probably in a week make a good road between two points. The value of holding the line of that river is so manifest to one who will look at the subject that probably only very great interests elsewhere have so far prevented, but with this road the same force that holds the Mississippi could also hold that and give quiet and security from Turnbull Island to Bayou La Fourche, and yet be as available in three hours as if at Morganza. An intrenched camp on the west side of that river to cover the operations of the cavalry up and down the river and toward Opelousas, flanked by batteries on the east bank, would make the position impregnable, and no raid need be apprehended from the certainty of its destruction if attempted. The force at Morganza would answer the purpose, and when they are withdrawn, concentrate the troops between here and the Brasher City Railroad, and its occupation would include within our lines a very rich country from which considerable supplies for the enemy are now being drawn, and the abundance of timber would enable us quickly and cheaply to construct a telegraph and keep the wagon road in good order.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. N. FRISBIE,

Colonel Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry, Commanding. (Serial 083 Page 0809 Chapter LIII OPERATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF MORGANZA, LA)"

Initial Mobile Campaign Movements

In February, 1865, Major General Edward R. S. Canby, the new commander of the Department of the Gulf, began making plans to capture the Confederate stronghold of Mobile, Alabama. The 73rd USCT was transported to Pensacola, Florida where it was brigaded with two other black regiments, the 68th USCT and 76th USCT, under the command of Brig. Gen William Anderson Pile. By March, 1865, on the eve of the upcoming general movement, the 73rd USCT was encamped next to the 82nd and 86th USCT as part of Hawkins Brigade. The following orders set the 73rd U.S. Colored Infantry into motion:

"SPECIAL ORDERS,
HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, Numbers 48.
New Orleans, February 20, 1865.

* * *

8. Owing to the want of success that has attended the efforts made to organize the regiments of colored volunteers authorized by General Orders, Numbers 154,* series of 1864, from these headquarters, the authority contained in the same is hereby revoked, and all recruits who have been enlisted under that order will be at once transferred to other regiments of colored troops serving in

this departments to complete the terms of their enlistment. In making transfers under this order care will be taken to equalize as far as possible the relative strength of the regiments, and to place the men so transferred where their services will be first and most available. To this end infantry regiments serving in the field will be selected. The chiefs mustering officer of the departments is charged with the execution of this order.

* * *

14. In compliance with orders from headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, the following-named regiments will proceed as soon as transportation can be furnished to Algiers, La., and be reported to Brigadier General John P. Hawkins, commanding Separate Division of the U. S. Colored Infantry: The Ninety-third U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Brashear City; the Eightieth U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Bonnet Carree; the Seventy-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Port Hudson; the Seventy-eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Port Hudson; the Seventy-third U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Morganza; the Seventy-fifth U. S. Colored Infantry, now at Morganza. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportations.

By command of Major-General Hurlbut:

J. C. STONE,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General."

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"SPECIAL ORDERS,

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, Numbers 50.

New Orleans, February 22, 1865.

1. In compliance with orders from headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, extract 14 of Special Orders, Numbers 48, current series, from these headquarters, is hereby so far modified as to require only the Seventy-third U. S. Colored Infantry (at Morganza) and the Seventy-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry (at Port Hudson) to report to Brigadier-General Hawkins, commanding division of colored infantry at Algiers, La. The other four regiments of colored infantry named in the order will be disposed of as follows: The Seventy-fifth (at Morganza) will relieve the Thirty-third Illinois Volunteers at Terre Bonne; the Seventy-eighth (at Port Hudson) will relieve the Twenty-sixth Indiana Volunteers at Thibodeaux; the Eightieth (at Bonnet Carre) will relieve the Sixth Minnesota Volunteers, now at new Orleans, La; the Ninety-third will remain at Brashear City, and in place thereof the Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteers will be relieved from duty at that place. Upon being relieved as above the four regiments of white infantry will be sent to the camp located below Chalmette, about four miles from this city, and be reported to the commanding officer Sixteenth Army Corps, to which they are assigned. Brigadier General T. W. Sherman, commanding Southern Division of Louisiana, is charged with the execution of so much of the above order as relatives to the movement of these regiments to camp below Chalmette, upon being relieved by the troops from Port Hudson, Morganza, and Bonnet Carre. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * *

By command of Major-General Hurlbut:

J. C. STONE,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General."

(Source: *Serial 101 Page 0941 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI Chapter LX*)

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"HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF WEST MISSISSIPPI,
New Orleans, La., February 23, 1865.
Brigadier General JOHN P. HAWKINS,
Algiers:

Please send two regiments to encamp near the Half-Way House on the road to Hickox Landing. A steamer will be sent to ferry them across to Saint Joseph street, and they will march out by that street and the Shell road. Until transportation is furnished from Hickox Landing to Pensacola such details as may be required for fatigue duty, under the superintendence of Captain Morse, assistant quartermaster, will be furnished. Please make the necessary preparations at once.

By order:

C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.
ALGIERS, February 23, 1865.

(Received 7. 35 p. m.)

Lieutenant Colonel C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The ferry-boat has stopped running on account of the fog and several of our wagons belonging to the troops and en route for Pensacola, are left on this side. They will be sent over early in the morning. This will also prevent the teams of the two regiments ordered to Half-Way House. The regiments had better remain here till morning.

JOHN P. HAWKINS,
Brigadier-General."

(Source: *Serial 101 Page 0956 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI Chapter LX*)

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"SPECIAL ORDERS,
HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF WEST MISSISSIPPI, Numbers 54.
New Orleans, La., February 23, 1865.

1. The following regiments are hereby organized into a division of colored infantry, to be commanded by Brigadier General John P. Hawkins, who will report direct to these headquarters: First Brigade-Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Infantry, Seventy-third U. S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry. Second Brigade-Forty-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry, Fiftieth U. S. Colored Infantry, First-first U. S. Colored Infantry. Third Brigade-Forty-eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, Sixty-eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, Seventy-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry.

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By order of Major General E. R. S. Canby:

C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General."

(Source: *Serial 101 Page 0954 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI Chapter LX*)

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"HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, U. S. COLORED INFANTRY, Half-Way House, near New Orleans,
February 25, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

If my division could be strengthened I would like very much that it should be done. The effective force in the field will be much less than is shown as "effective strength" in the field return, owing to the many details necessary for the administration of the different staff departments, pioneers, &Etc.

JOHN P. HAWKINS,

Brigadier-General, Commanding."

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"SPECIAL ORDERS,

HDQRS. 1ST DIV., U. S. COLORED TROOPS, Numbers 24.

Half-Way House, La., February 25, 1865.

I. Brigadier General William A. Pile, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to these headquarters for duty in pursuance of Special Orders, Numbers 50, current series, headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade, composed of the following regiments: Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Infantry, Seventy-third U. S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry. Brigadier-General Pile will report in person to these headquarters at Pensacola, Fla., with as little delay as practicable.

II. Colonel C. W. Drew, Seventy-sixth Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, having reported to these headquarters pursuant to orders from headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, composed of the following regiments: Forty-eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, Sixty-eighth U. S. Colored Infantry, Seventy-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry.

By order of Brigadier General J. P. Hawkins:

SAML. B. FERGUSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General."

(Source: *Serial 101 Page 0974 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI Chapter LX*)

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"GENERAL ORDERS, WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, Numbers 28.

Washington, February 26, 1865.

The Thirteenth and Sixteenth Army Corps having been reorganized by Major-General Canby, by direction of the President Major General Gordon Granger is assigned to the command of the former and Major General A. J. Smith to the latter, their assignments to date from February 18.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant-General."

.....

"MORGANZA, February 26, 1865.

Captain W. H. CLAPP,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to inform you that the Seventy-third and Seventy-fifth Regiments U. S. Colored Infantry left here this day for Algiers, pursuant to orders.

D. ULLMANN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding."

(Source: *Serial 101 Page 0982 LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI Chapter LX*)

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"HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA, Barrancas, March 4, 1865.

Brigadier General JOHN P. HAWKINS,

Commanding First Division, U. S. Colored Troops:

GENERAL: In regard to your desire that the Twenty-fifth and Eighty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry Regiments be relieved from duty and ordered to report to you at the camp of your division, I beg leave to give the following explanation: First. Special Orders, Numbers 54, headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, dated February 23, giving the number of regiments intended for the organization of your division comprises in the First Brigade three regiments stationed here for the last year, namely, the Twenty-fifth, the Eighty-second, and the Eighty-sixth Regiments. Second. The Twenty-fifth Regiment is garrisoning Fort Pickens, Barrancas, the redoubt, and guarding Gun-boat Point, at the mouth of the Bayou Grande above the navy-yard. The Eighty-second and Eighty-sixth are busily engaged in completing the line of fortifications between the beach and Fort Barrancas, Barrancas and redoubt, and redoubt and Bayou Grande, and it is important that this work is done before the troops take the field. Third. I have no other troops at my disposal to relieve and replace these three regiments in the several forts and on the line of fortifications. Fourth. I have received no orders to relieve those three regiments from duty with this district, which would leave all the forts without garrison, and prevent the completion of the line of fortifications.

Under these embarrassing circumstances I consider it the best expedient that these regiments continue to remain at their present duties, and that the Seventy-third U. S. Colored Infantry, just arrived, be encamped near the Eighty-second and Eighty-sixth, in order to have the regiments of the First Brigade of your division united as much as possible preparatory to their taking the field. I feel inclined, general, that you will agree to these my views, pending the daily expected arrival of Major-General Canby, commanding, and his final orders in the matter.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ASBOTH,

Brigadier-General, Commanding."

Source: *Serial 101 Page 839 Correspondence, Etc Union*

Siege of Fort Blakeley

The Union Order of Battle for the Army of West Mississippi, consisted of nearly forty-five thousand men under the command of Major General E. R. S. Canby. The XIII Corps under General Gordon Granger with thirteen thousand men in three divisions, the XVI Corps under Maj. Gen. A.J. Smith with sixteen thousand men, and a column from Pensacola consisting of thirteen thousand men under Major General Frederick Steele. These separate columns were to be marched on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay and up to the initial fortifications at the north end of the bay.

The First Division, United States Colored Troops fell under the command of Brigadier General John P. Hawkins. With three brigades organized, the 1st Brigade consisting of the 73rd, 82nd, and 86th U.S.C.T. fell under the command of Brigadier General William A. Pile. Colonels Hiram Scofield and Charles W. Drew the other two brigades.

Pile's brigade began its advance towards Mobile, Alabama on March 20, 1865. Defending the city were massive fortifications and earthworks protecting the western and southern attack, and Fort Blakeley and Spanish Fort protecting the eastern approaches. As Canby and Smith's combined column marched north from the Fish River towards Spanish Fort, the U.S. Colored Troops under Steele advanced from Pensacola northward to Pollard, Alabama and then westward to Fort Blakeley. Steele's column consisted of thirteen thousand men and 250 wagons. Fresh rains turned the roads into mud and the routes became very laborious and wagons and equipment continually became stuck and roads had to be corduroyed.

Pile's men reached Fort Blakeley on April 1. The next morning, the men threw skirmishers and reached within nine hundred yards of the enemy defenses. Instead of making a dramatic assault, the men were ordered to dig approaches towards the Rebel position. For several days, the men dug closer and closer to the enemy under constant fire from sharpshooters. By the morning of April 9, the men were close enough to charge the Rebel fortifications.

"The usual way of locating advanced parallels was to send forward a line of skirmishers after dark to seize a position about one hundred yards in advance, more or less, according to topographical conditions, and when this line was assured in its position another line supplied with picks and shovels, was sent forward to join the first, when the line so established would intrench themselves as they stood. This done the occupants of these pits would extend them right and left to form a continuous line. Meanwhile saps or zig-zag approaches were also made to connect these parallels, so that officers and men could pass from one parallel to another in safety by night or day. These advances were made under the supervision of brigade commanders, who reported their progress daily to higher authority. This work was of course made as difficult and dangerous as possible by the besieged garrison, by means of frequent sallies, by night and day, and by means of fire-balls tossed into our lines from cohorn mortars and exposing our men to fire short range while at their work." - Lieutenant Colonel Merriam, 73rd USCT

The division of U.S. Colored Troops took up position on the right flank of the Union army that besieged Blakeley, the entrenchments at Blakeley extended 3-miles and anchored at the north and south ends by the Tensaw River. In front were nine redoubts where men and artillery could be massed. The 73rd USCT, along with the other USCT troops, were posted in an area fronting Redoubts 1 and 2, the northernmost along the line at Fort Blakeley. As the siege progressed from April 1 to April 8, 1865, the Federals advanced steadily closer to the Confederate position while under fire, ultimately digging multiple lines of trenches and advanced rifle pits where skirmishers could be posted. By the morning of Sunday, April 9, their lines lay within just a few hundred yards of the Confederates, close enough for an overwhelming assault that would end the siege. Federal commanders began planning such an operation that morning with a sense of urgency, as they feared the severely outnumbered garrison might attempt a stealthy withdrawal via the Tensaw and reform as a combined force with other troops of the Rebel army.

According to Merriam, " ...we received news of the escape of the garrison of Spanish Fort...during the previous night. The effect upon us all was very depressing, for the failure to capture that garrison after spending half a month digging them out meant that these troops had abandoned a position no

longer tenable, only to fall back to stronger fortifications covering Mobile, there again to be besieged, probably under conditions less favorable to us. To me it appeared that the escape of the garrison in our front would be simply disgraceful. Oppressed with this feeling I asked the colonel of the 86th Regiment on my right to go with me to our brigade commander, General Pile, and ask permission to capture the enemy's advance line of works at once (it was then soon afternoon) instead of waiting for cover of darkness as had been the custom."

Lieutenant Colonel Merriam, 73rd USCT, and several other USCT officers obtained permission to take a small force to probe the Confederate left on the afternoon of April 9, 1865, to determine if an evacuation was underway and thereby provide invaluable information to army leadership. It was thought that the nearly five thousand USCT may be confronting only five hundred Confederates. At approximately 3:00 p.m., men from the 73rd and the 86th USCT launched their small reconnaissance force in front of Redoubts 1 and 2. Exposed to enemy fire, they took several casualties as they ran up and over felled timber abatis and over the rise of the Confederate advanced rifle pits. The Confederates, believing it to be the beginning of a general assault threw reinforcements into the redoubts.

Lt. Col. Merriam continued, "It was probably about three o'clock when General Pile came to the front to supervise the attack. He was accompanied by Major-General Osterhaus, General Canby's chief of staff. All arrangements being satisfactory, the attack was made with great gallantry by Captain Brown of the 73rd and Captain Jenkins of the 86th. The capture of the outer line was only the work of a few minutes, but so terrific was the fire concentrated upon us from front, and, at first, also from both flanks, by artillery and infantry, and plainly seeing the gathering of reinforcements by the enemy in my front I sent forward as supports Captain Snear, Company B, Lt. Lyon, Company I, and Company A, Captain Crydenwise, in rapid succession – the last named company taking spades, by order of General Pile, to reverse the captured rifle pits. At this time I hastened to the advance myself. Gallant Major Mudgett had fallen, shot through the head. Captain Brown had fallen mortally wounded and Captain Snear fell with a severe wound at my feet as I reached the line. He refused to sheathe his sword or to be carried off of the field. Captain Crydenwise with his company was reversing the rifle pits. Taking B, G and I companies under Captain Lyon – the only officer left in the other brigades of Hawkin's Division were storming the pits in their front and conforming to our lines."

As small units became involved in heavy, prolonged skirmishing the Federal command responded in kind and disorganized fighting on both sides erupted. Colonel Drew commanding the 3rd Brigade (48th, 68th, and 76th USCT) ordered his men to advance around 4 p.m. and his troops "broke off on the double-quick with shouts, and charged with the greatest enthusiasm."

At about 5:30 p.m., cheers could be heard from the Federals to the left of their position and Brig. Gen. Pile ordered his men forward, within moments Hawkins entire division was in motion in an enthusiastic charge. Through a storm of artillery and small arms fire fighting took place all across the 3- mile line. By 6:15 p.m. the last shots of the battle had been fired, and Fort Blakeley lay in the possession of the Union Army.

The 73rd U.S. Colored Infantry was credited with being the first unit to place its colors in the sector; on Confederate Redoubt 2. During the battle, USCT units captured over 200 men and several pieces

of artillery and sustained some of the heaviest casualties of any unit engaged. Over 30 troops were killed and nearly 150 wounded in the assault. USCT units suffered nearly 400 casualties during the entirety of operations. Observers noted the black regiments performed bravely during the assault, with Brig. Gen. Christopher Columbus Andrews writing that “greater gallantry than was shown by officers and men could hardly be desired. The (troops) were burning with an impulse to do honor to their race, and rushed forward with intense enthusiasm, in face of a terrible fire.”

After the fall of Mobile the 73rd USCT marched to Selma, Alabama which had also been captured by the Union Army following General Wilson’s columns marching southward in conjunction with the assaults on Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley. After a short stay in Selma, the regiment returned to Mobile before traveling by steamer to Vicksburg and then marching to Jackson, Mississippi in June. A month later, in July, the regiment returned to Camp Parapet near New Orleans where Brigadier General Phelps had first asked General Butler permission to uniform and arm fugitive slaves. Special Orders No. 67 dated September 23, 1865, demobilized the regiment and the remaining white officers were transferred to the 96th U.S. Colored Infantry, Acting Engineers. The enlisted men whose terms of service were about to expire were mustered out.



1st Louisiana Native Guard (73rd U.S.C.T.)

125th US Colored Infantry Regiment

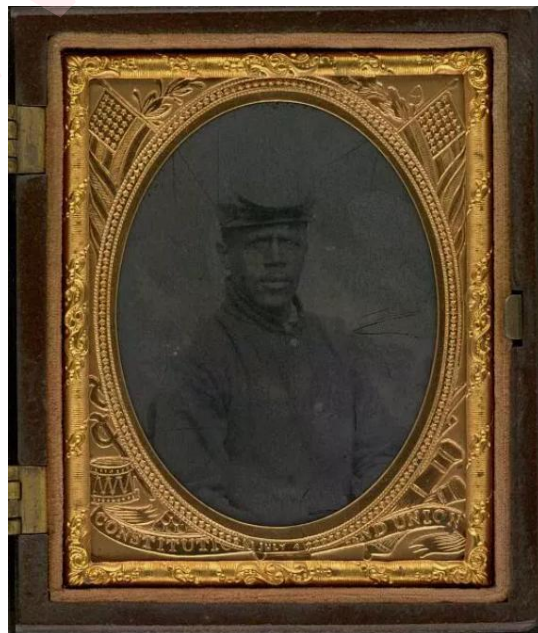
The **125th United States Colored Infantry Regiment**, (USCI) part of the United States Colored Troops (USCT), was an African-American unit formed during the final months of the American Civil War. Organized in Louisville, Kentucky, between February 12 and June 2, 1865, the regiment was the last of its type to be formed, thus not participating in active combat during the war itself. The regiment performed garrison and guard duties, initially around Louisville then in New Mexico. It was officially disbanded and paid off in Louisville on December 20, 1867, the last of the USCT units to be mustered out.

History

During the Civil War, calls for African-American troops by President Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass led to some 23,703 African Americans in the State of Kentucky enlisting into the Union Army, forming a variety of units, including the 125th USCI regiment. Mustered in Louisville, Kentucky, the unit was under the command of Colonel Charles D. Armstrong from 1865 until 1866, with Colonel William R. Gerhart succeeding him afterwards, leading the regiment until its disbandment in 1867.

After the Civil War ended, the 125th USCI regiment continued serving the Union, performing garrison duties in Louisville. In 1866, eight companies of the regiment^[4] were ordered to New Mexico Territory to replace white volunteer troops leaving service and protect settlers and travelers in the Rio Grande River region from potential bandit and Indian attacks. The unit, consisting of about 26 officers and 610 men, traveled by steamboat to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, then marched along the Santa Fe Trail afterwards. They finally arrived in New Mexico by August 1866. During the journey, some soldiers mutinied in St. Louis upon learning of their destination, and a few deserted.

During service in New Mexico, the regiment was stationed at various forts, including Fort Bayard, which they founded on August 21, 1866; Fort Selden, where they were the first African-American troops to occupy the fort; and Fort Bliss in Texas. The unit continued its duties until October 1867, after which they were sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, to be mustered out. The regiment was officially disbanded and paid off in Louisville on December 20, 1867.





An unidentified African American soldier in the uniform of the U.S. Colored Infantry, c. 1865



THE Last Civil War Volunteers

The 125th U.S. Colored Infantry in New Mexico, 1866–1867

BY RUSSELL K. BROWN

In his broad review of the employment of U.S. Colored Troops during the Civil War, former U.S. Army historian William A. Dobak necessarily gave only a few brief sentences to the service of the 125th U.S. Colored Infantry (USCI) in New Mexico, 1866–1867, noting that it was among the last of the Civil War volunteers, black or white, to be mustered out of service. In fact, this regiment was *the* last organized Union unit to be disbanded.¹

The 125th USCI was recruited, mostly from slaves, at Louisville, Kentucky, from 12 February to 2 June 1865. Kentucky was the last state in which African American troops were recruited; the Emancipation Proclamation did not apply there because it was a previously neutral, and now loyal, border state, and the Abraham Lincoln administration did not wish to antagonize loyal slave owners. When the regiment was recruited, many of the slaves enlisted without their owners' consent, as shown in the soldiers' service records. Later, some of the owners claimed and were paid compensation for their lost property.²

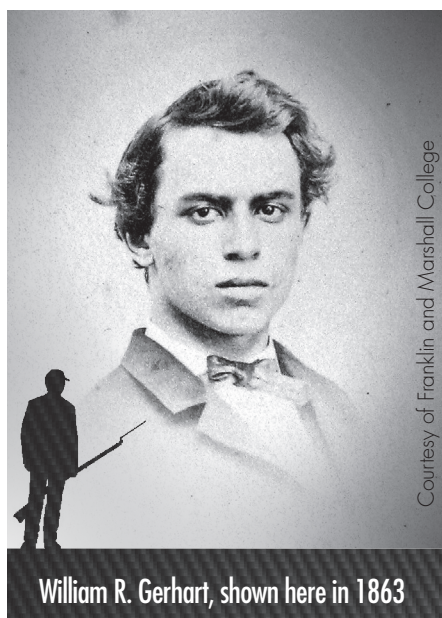
The first regimental commander was 27-year-old Col. Charles D. Armstrong, formerly a captain in the 2d Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry. The

second-in-command was Lt. Col. Alexander Duncan, age thirty-two, a veteran captain of the 11th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and the major was William R. Gerhart, twenty-two years old, who had seen active duty with Battery I of the Pennsylvania Independent Light Artillery during the Gettysburg Campaign. Duncan and Gerhart had served previously in other black regiments.³

The regiment's personnel performed garrison and guard duty at Louisville and several points in the north central states ranging from Ohio to Wisconsin, until they were assembled at Cairo, Illinois, in early April 1866 for transfer by steamboat to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. A total of 26 officers and 610 men made the trip under the command of Colonel Duncan, while another 2 officers and 102 men were absent. One of those absent was Colonel Armstrong, who resigned his commission shortly before the regiment left Cairo, pleading the need to care for an invalid sister. Armstrong submitted his resignation on 25 March, and it was accepted on 12 April.⁴

The ultimate destination of the regiment—New Mexico—had been known since March. The purpose of sending black soldiers to the Southwest was to replace white volunteer

troops who were leaving the service after the Civil War. The troops of the 125th traveled north up the Mississippi River on the steamboat *Adam Jacobs*, arriving at St. Louis, Missouri, about 14 April. Men who did not wish to go to the far West had been deserting the regiment ever since they learned of their distant mission. At St. Louis, on the morning of 14 April, 1st Sgt. Henry Belay of Company H ran through the sleeping men on the boat telling them to resist the orders of their officers "unless they wanted to follow [them] to the Devil," and that he himself "would die before he would go any further." According to Capt. William L. Seran, Company H commander, the regiment "chang[ed] boats at St. Louis, Mo., where a mutiny was attempted; but failed without casualties; by the vigilance and competency of the officers—and prompt arrest of the leaders; I put my 1st Sergeant in arrest and reduced him to the ranks for mutinous talk. Not a man of my co[mpany] made a break." In addition to the fifteen men who were arrested for mutiny, the regimental descriptive book listed the names of six other men who deserted at St. Louis. Capt. Obadiah M. Knapp, commanding Company G, noted in

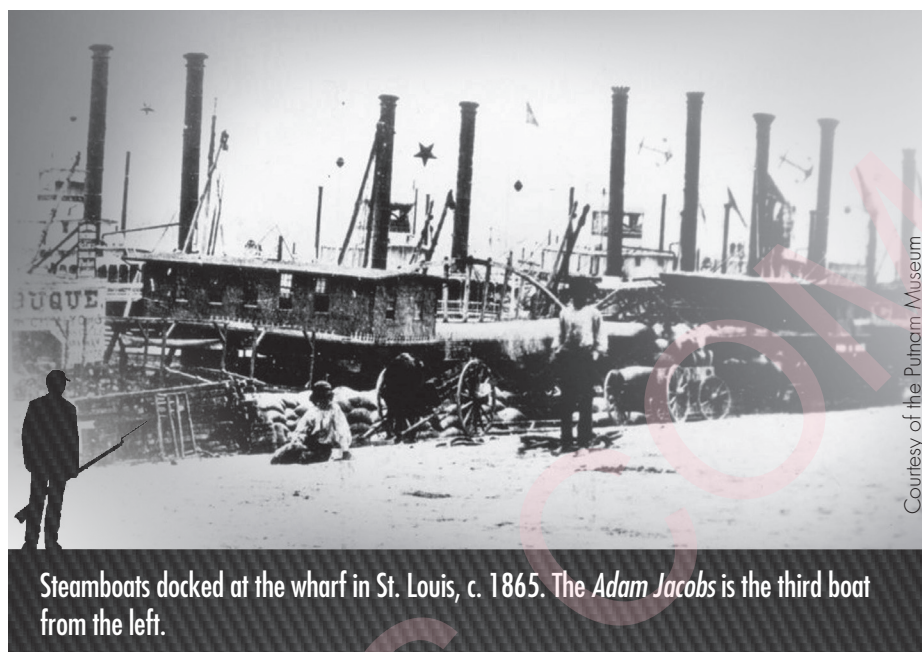


Courtesy of Franklin and Marshall College

William R. Gerhart, shown here in 1863

his diary on 26 April, "The mutineers were arrested today beginning with the 1st Sergt of Co. H & on down, Co 'G' furnishing none."⁵

The regiment traveled on to Fort Leavenworth on the steamer *Columbian*, arriving on 20 April. There, the unit outfitted itself for the long overland march and departed on the Santa Fe Trail, leaving Fort Leavenworth on 3 May 1866 and arriving at Fort Union, New Mexico, on 1 July 1866, a distance of seven hundred fifty miles according to regimental records. It made a massive display crossing the Plains. Nineteen-year-old Lt. James H. "Harry" Storey, a native of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, had joined the regiment at Fort Leavenworth on the morning of departure. In a letter from the trail to his father in Brooklyn, New York, he mentioned a horse herd of 900 head; Captain Seran remembered a train of 100 to 125 mule teams carrying supplies for the military posts in New Mexico plus a party of some two hundred miners and migrants traveling with the soldiers for protection. Seven of the officers were accompanied by their wives, as were some of the non-commissioned officers (NCOs). Captain Knapp, twenty-six years old and unmarried, formed a mess with three lieutenants and the wife of one of them, while an NCO's wife was engaged as their cook. Lieutenant Storey was detailed in charge of the fifteen mutineers in irons; he messed with two of the officers and their wives.⁶



Courtesy of the Putnam Museum

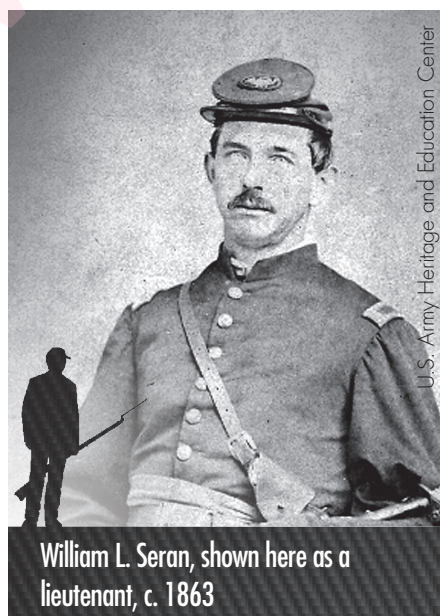
Steamboats docked at the wharf in St. Louis, c. 1865. The *Adam Jacobs* is the third boat from the left.

The fear of the trip to New Mexico caused a few more men to desert in early May, some at Fort Leavenworth, and a few soon after departure. One man died, allegedly from fright of the unknown. Captain Knapp recorded that Pvt. Doctor Richardson, only mildly sick, died at Fort Leavenworth on 27 April and that Pvt. Ben Carter, a good man, had deserted the night before. Knapp's first sergeant, William Boone, opined that Richardson "died more of grief because he was going out on the plains." To Knapp, his men were "poor ignorant superstitious [*sic*] creatures. How they are to be

pitied in every respect." As for Carter, "I suppose the terror of a trip to New Mexico was greater than his fear of the law and self respect combined."⁷

Several officers also failed to make the Plains crossing. In March, the regimental surgeon, William T. Day, had been ordered to make a list of officers and men who were unfit for a long march. He singled out Capt. William W. Leverett, with a foot injury, and Lt. Isaac P. Aiken, with a damaged kneecap, as unable to march to New Mexico. (In infantry regiments in that era, company officers marched on foot with their men; only field grade officers were mounted.) Leverett had been left behind in Kentucky on staff duty and was discharged effective 12 April. Aiken's case was sadder. He traveled with the regiment as far as Fort Leavenworth, but once he arrived he was sent to the hospital, "decidedly insane," and was left behind to be discharged effective 9 April. Lt. William W. Wiggins, though not named in Surgeon Day's letter, was also discharged at Fort Leavenworth, effective 9 April.⁸

Generally, the trip was enjoyable but not without its memorable events and difficulties. There were buffalo hunts, long marches without water, and sudden hail and thunderstorms. Colonel Duncan showed himself to be a commander of uneven temperament. On one occasion, when he issued an order that many thought was unlawful,



U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

William L. Seran, shown here as a lieutenant, c. 1863

fifteen of his officers addressed him a note so saying. Duncan threatened to put them all under arrest unless they retracted their complaint and apologized. Six of them refused, and he arrested them and told them he would levy a charge of mutiny against them and leave them at Fort Larned, Kansas, for trial. A few days later, Duncan called them to his tent, told them that he was very sorry and that they should return to duty. Lieutenant Storey termed Duncan "neither a soldier or Gentleman." Later in the year, when Storey applied for a Regular Army commission, Duncan endorsed the application, writing that he found Storey, "a good and attentive officer" and "a young man well qualified for an officer in the army."⁹

Once in New Mexico, the companies of the 125th USCI were assigned to various posts across the region, including Forts Bascom, Craig, Cummings, McRae, Selden, and Stanton. At some of the posts, Selden for example, they shared duties with the white regulars of the 3d Cavalry and 5th Infantry. One detachment of the regiment founded a new post, Fort Bayard, upon arrival in August 1866. Two companies were assigned as far south as Fort Bliss, Texas. Captain Seran recalled, "My year at Bliss was the most pleasant of my



Fort Selden, New Mexico, in 1867

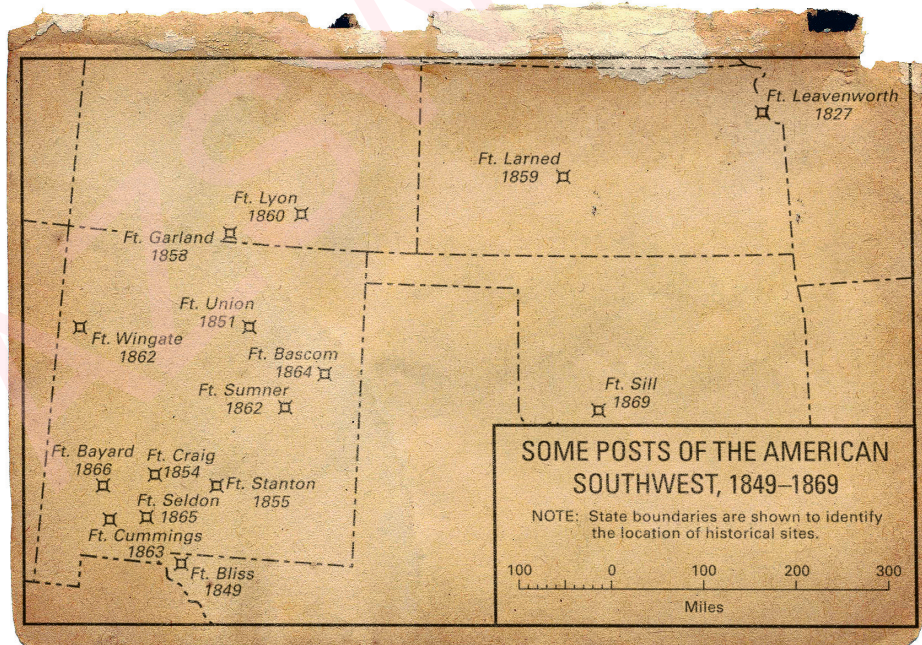
life." On returning to the post after a two-month absence in 1867, by-then Maj. Obadiah M. Knapp told his mother, "Fort Bliss is not to be beat in any respect. Did I not think I was almost 'home again' when I entered it yesterday."¹⁰

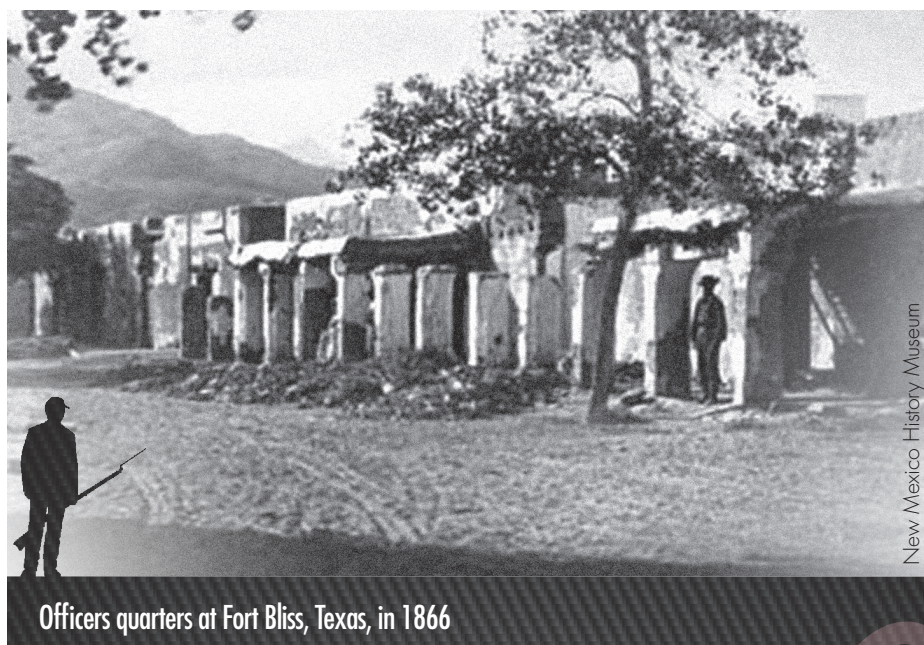
Six companies of the 57th USCI also served briefly in 1866 at Forts Bascom and Union, New Mexico, and Forts Garland and Lyon in Colorado. For the most part, they performed duty as laborers, often mending roads, an assignment they detested. The 57th USCI was mustered out of service in

December 1866 at Fort Leavenworth. The federal government's callous treatment of a number of African American troops who took their discharges in New Mexico and made their own way to Kansas deserves a separate article.¹¹

Life in garrison for the 125th USCI was punctuated by scouting and patrols to suppress marauding bands of Indians and by occasional mining expeditions undertaken by individual officers as a form of private enterprise. Other activities included chasing cattle rustlers, herding livestock, and escorting travelers, wagon trains, and the mail. At least some of the men of the 125th were mounted on mules to keep up with the fleet Indian riders. On one scouting mission in September 1866, Lieutenant Storey combined two activities. He left Fort Selden with a party of ten mule-mounted soldiers to investigate a report of Mescalero Apaches in the San Andreas Mountains. On 13 September, wrote Storey, "a party of about 35 Indians made their appearance on a ridge," but his men never engaged them because a group of private citizens who had joined the scout refused to advance. However, the expedition was not a complete waste of time: they "discovered a vein of [rock] with good indications of silver."¹²

Other encounters were more sanguine. In the same month as Storey's





New Mexico History Museum

Officers quarters at Fort Bliss, Texas, in 1866



New Mexico History Museum

Fort Cummings, New Mexico, c. 1880



University of New Mexico

Fort Craig, New Mexico, c. 1866

expedition, Indians killed Pvt. Charles Dunn while he was herding livestock near Fort McRae. The casualty report called him “a good soldier and a brave man.” The raiders made off with eleven horses and eight mules. The post commander attempted to recapture the animals but failed. In retaliation, he planned an attack on nearby Indian camps; the results are unknown. In October, Pvt. Samuel Taylor was killed while on duty near Fort Cummings by the accidental discharge of his own weapon.¹³

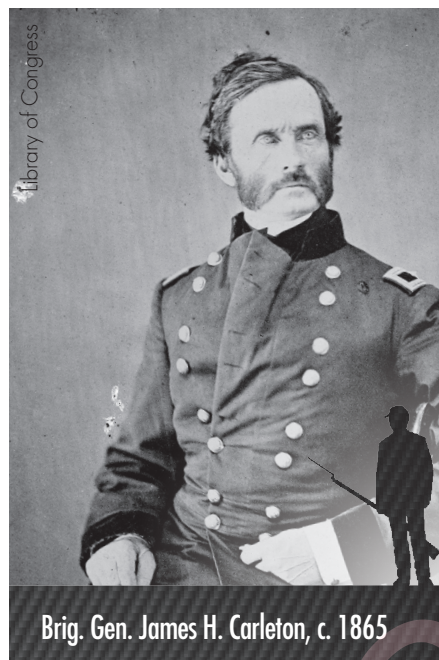
As has traditionally been the case in the Army, soldiers of the 125th spent much of their time in garrison on post construction and maintenance activities. Fort Bayard was built from the ground up beginning in August 1866. Among other projects, they built enlisted barracks and an administration building at Fort Selden, a corral and a warehouse at Fort McRae, and a corral for cavalry horses at Fort Bascom. The men were not always happy with such work. At Fort Craig in May 1867, Pvt. Harry Soaper was court-martialed for refusing an order to make adobe, telling the corporal in charge of the work detail, “By God, I will not do it.” Soaper appears to have been an indifferent soldier, having already been penalized for losing his rifled musket, a haversack, and a canteen. His final pay statement showed that he owed the government \$106.67 for clothing and equipment, which was withheld from the \$200 enlistment bounty still due him.¹⁴

An unusual duty that fell to Lieutenant Storey was the escort of five citizen prisoners, one of them wounded, from Fort Selden to Santa Fe for civil trial in February 1867. Besides the lieutenant, the detail consisted of one NCO and ten enlisted soldiers of the 3d U.S. Cavalry. The prisoners were charged with stealing horses and robbery and were kept in irons except for the wounded man. Storey was instructed to stop at Fort McRae on his way to pick up any witnesses that might be important to the trial and to prevent communication between his prisoners and unauthorized persons while traveling. The background of these men’s crimes and the disposition of their case is unknown.¹⁵

Mining occupied the minds of officers and the hands of enlisted soldiers as well. When it was discovered that soldiers of the 125th, who had been assigned to guard the copper mines near Pinos Altos, were actually hiring themselves out as laborers there, an investigation showed that they had done so with the full knowledge of their company commander and Colonel Duncan. Further investigation revealed that Duncan had used soldiers of the regiment and government property for a personal prospecting trip west of the Gila River. "He staked out a large claim for himself, organized a mining company, built a monument to establish his claim and enacted mining laws." These revelations did nothing to burnish Duncan's military reputation, but even Bvt. Maj. Gen. James H. Carleton, the District of New Mexico commander, joined prospectors in locating gold and silver claims in the San Andreas Mountains.¹⁶

Besides mining expeditions, the officers could entertain themselves with hunting or sightseeing. Captain Seran wrote about Fort Bliss: "There was plenty of shooting around or near the Fort, quail, duck and rabbits, . . . black-tailed deer, antelope, and mountain sheep." He told a tale about himself shooting at and missing a large ram. "I am not built for a hunter of big game and for about a month I didn't want to meet any of my companions" for fear of being laughed at. Seran also found a spring about sixty miles east of the fort that was so beautiful he was tempted to settle there after leaving the service. The officers at Bliss went to dances and visited families in Franklin, on the U.S. side of the Rio Grande River, and El Paso, at that time a community on the Mexican side. After one such foray, Captain Knapp wrote, we "wended our way home filled with spirits, mostly distilled and fermented."¹⁷

One officer told of an exploring expedition across the Rio Grande from Fort Selden that turned into a near encounter with Indians. A party of cattle-rustling Apaches came between the officers and the post, thirty miles away, forcing the military group to go upstream to find another place to ford, all the while under the watchful eyes of the hostiles. Only the intervention of a



force of infantry from the post allowed the group to return unmolested.¹⁸

The enlisted soldiers were more likely to turn to the local community than to nature for amusement, and sometimes with fatal consequences. Leasburg was a ramshackle straggle of buildings that had sprung up near Fort Selden. Like many such settlements, it catered to the wants of soldiers, offering women, dancing, gambling, and alcohol. In letters to his girlfriend back east, Lieutenant Storey noted on one occasion that the soldiers went "on a spree day before yesterday and had not recovered from the effects today," and again "some of the fellows . . . are bound to have a time tonight." Many fights broke out between soldiers and civilians and among the uniformed men themselves. Wrote Storey, "Three men have been shot in two days; we buried two yesterday." In November 1866, Colonel Duncan, post commander at Selden, reported that seven or eight men from the fort had been killed in Leasburg. Following a trip to Selden from Fort Bliss, Captain Seran told Captain Knapp "how whiskey controlled ideas and opinions up there, that [is,] what few ideas it leaves in them."¹⁹

Black soldiers in New Mexico faced the same racial discrimination as their brethren elsewhere in the Army. Poor equipment, poor living accommodations, and even lesser quality food

than their white counterparts were their lot. Sometimes their officers stood up for them. In February 1867, when bad beef was issued to soldiers of the 125th USCI at Fort Bascom, Capt. Joseph A. Corbett threatened to annul the beef contract. Later in the year, he complained to the district subsistence officer that supplies of supposedly fresh vegetables delivered to Fort Cummings had spoiled soon after receipt and that thousands of pounds of bacon and ham were unfit for human consumption. Whether or not any of these complaints had the desired effect is unknown, but it showed the captain's concern for his men. Captain Knapp conducted a school for his NCOs at Fort Bliss and commented, "The men learn rapidly."

The men responded well to good treatment. In a letter to a friend back east, Knapp wrote, "The troops are perfectly disciplined and completely in hand, and no disturbances ever occur. They are all too much interested in the garrison school to find time for mischief," and "They are more free from vices and their general intelligence is quite equal to any company in the Regular service." Two years earlier, while serving with the 87th USCI in Texas, Lieutenant Storey had observed, "I am agreeably disappointed in the [troops]. I expected to find the men stupid, unwilling to do anything & with no ambition, but I am happy to say it is quite the reverse. They learn very fast and make good soldiers."²⁰

Despite discrimination, only 4 percent of black soldiers in the West in 1867 deserted, compared with a rate of 25 percent for whites, but there were problems with discipline. A number of men were court-martialed; their offenses ranged from the mundane (sleeping on post or absence without leave) to the outrageous (sexual assault and murder). First Sgt. Jacob Wooten of Company B was charged with murdering a soldier of the 3d Cavalry at Fort Craig, probably off post, in March 1867. He was tried in a civilian court and acquitted. Later he was found guilty of absence without leave and was reduced in rank, whereupon he went on a drinking spree and was charged with being absent and drunk.



Company quarters at Fort Craig, New Mexico, c. 1870

Pvt. Dan Johnson of Company C was tried and convicted at Fort Craig for breaking into the quarters of his company commander, Lt. James M. Kerr, in June 1867; refusing to surrender his pistol when ordered to do so; and attempting to draw the pistol on Kerr. Johnson was convicted of the charges and sentenced to forfeit all pay and allowances except an amount necessary to pay his creditors.

One officer also underwent trial for an offense. Lt. James Krossen was accused of falsifying records to show that a government-owned horse had died, and then he misappropriated the animal for his own use. He was found guilty by a court and sentenced to be reprimanded by the department commander. That officer, Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, found the sentence to be disproportionate to the offense and declined to issue the reprimand. Krossen was returned to duty.

The most heinous case may have been that of Sgt. James Armstrong of Company B. When he was transferred to Fort Bayard in October 1866, he induced a woman named Harriet, possibly Harriet Talley, a laundress, to go with him, promising he would marry her. Later he beat her, hitting her with his gun, and then deserted her. He was also accused of sexually assaulting the wife of another NCO at Fort Craig while her husband was away from the post. For all of these offenses, he was reduced to the rank of private but apparently suffered no other penalty.²¹

Other soldiers found less violent means to satisfy their interest in female companionship. Toward the end of his

tenure at Fort Bliss, Captain Knapp noted in his diary, "Put J. Howard, Co. H, into the guard house for getting married when he has a wife in the States. I must stop this marrying business among the men just now for the women can't go with us and so it only makes [the men] look lightly on the marriage tie." The service record of John H. Howard, commissary sergeant for Company H, shows that he was reduced to private from 1 May 1867, possibly in conjunction with this incident.²²

In regard to the fifteen mutineers who had been brought from Fort Leavenworth in irons, Colonel Duncan showed his changeable nature once again in September 1866. Writing to District of New Mexico headquarters, he asked for a withdrawal of the charges and specifications against them, saying, "These men have all been in arrest since May 1, 1866, and a portion of the time in irons. Since arriving at this post they have been kept at work daily. They have all been very obedient and worked well. I attribute the cause of their misconduct to their ignorance and being urged on by white men. If they are released, we will gain the service of fifteen soldiers, and as their punishment has already been great, I make this request in their favor." The affirmative answer was forthcoming and two weeks later Duncan wrote again, reporting that the men had been released and restored to duty.²³

One of the most sobering events to occur during the regiment's tenure in New Mexico, what Captain Seran called "the tragedy of our Regt.," was



Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, c. 1870

the result of human passion. Lt. John F. Warner had brought his wife Julia and child to New Mexico with him, and they were assigned at Fort Selden. For whatever reason, Mrs. Warner became involved with another officer on post, Lt. Frederick Hazlehurst. As Lieutenant Storey told the tale, Warner discovered his wife's infidelity, sent her home to Kentucky, and filed for divorce. Somehow, Warner retrieved from the outgoing mail three letters that Hazlehurst had written to Julia in which he professed his love and promised to join her after his discharge. Warner went to confront Hazlehurst on the parade ground and shot him through the body. The mortally wounded man snatched the pistol from his assailant and shot him in turn, killing him instantly. Hazlehurst died the next morning. They were buried together in the post cemetery. The entire regiment blamed the death of two good officers on a perfidious woman.²⁴

Not all altercations ended so violently. Lt. Adolph Ebermayer, the regimental quartermaster, Bavarian-born and a resident of New York City before the Civil War, and Dr. William T. Day, the regimental surgeon, found each other's company at Fort Selden so disagreeable as to come to words, if not to blows. Finally the doctor declared that one of them must leave the service. Major Gerhart dispatched

Captain Seran from Fort Bliss as conciliator but his efforts proved in vain. When Day preferred charges against Ebermayer for misconduct in his capacity as quartermaster during the march from Fort Leavenworth, the latter submitted his resignation, citing the ill effects of the desert climate on his wife and children as his reason. "He had no desire to face charges that the Dr. would prefer," wrote Seran. Cpl. David Smith of Captain Knapp's Company G was able to read and write and was bright enough to be named acting regimental quartermaster sergeant. But when Ebermayer, as quartermaster officer, asked that Smith be relieved because he was "not competent," it was perhaps because the officer did not want an assistant sharp enough to uncover his peculations. Ebermayer moved to California and became a music teacher. Twenty years later he published a romanticized account of his time in New Mexico.²⁵

At Fort Bliss, routine duty could be interrupted by incidents with an international flavor. Captain Seran told of an apocryphal event in which a detachment of Benito Juarez's Mexican republican army crossed into Texas to kidnap a refugee French doctor who had served with the forces of Emperor Maximilian. The doctor appealed to

Seran for help and the latter, having learned the date and time of the attempt, laid an ambush of twenty of his soldiers for the Mexicans. When the kidnappers arrived across the Rio Grande on U.S. soil, they were arrested and returned to the south bank. Seran remembered, "I did not report the matter to my superiors."²⁶

The question of permanent command of the regiment had been pending since Colonel Armstrong's resignation in April 1866. Aside from his failures as a leader, Colonel Duncan may have been in the bad graces of the Army's high command for an incident of poor judgment. While colonel of the 72d USCI before coming to the 125th, he had committed a violation of regulations and a breach of military etiquette by borrowing money from enlisted soldiers under his command. His lack of good sense was compounded by his further action in repaying only part of the loans. The case came to light when one of the soldiers made a formal complaint for payment through Army channels. His petition rose all the way to the commanding general of the Department of the Ohio, Maj. Gen. Edward O. C. Ord, who in February 1866 directed that Duncan make immediate and full payment and "make a statement at once of his action in the matter." Perhaps this was the reason Duncan was passed over when it came time to fill Armstrong's vacancy.²⁷

Upon the regiment's arrival at Fort Union, New Mexico, on 1 July 1866, Major Gerhart and Captain Knapp found War Department orders waiting for them dated 12 April 1866, promoting them to colonel and major of the regiment, respectively, although the muster into their new ranks was delayed until later dates. Years later, Gerhart's obituary said that he had been personally recommended for promotion by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman. Gerhart was officially elevated to his new rank in September 1866, "by order of Bvt. Brig. Gen. Carleton," and Knapp was increased in rank the following March, both to date from 20 April 1866. The reason for the delays in advancement has not been discovered.

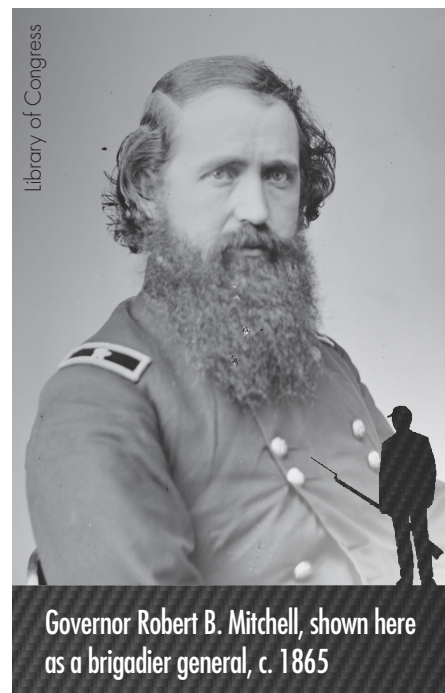
In September 1867, they were remustered into their new ranks by order of Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, the department commander. Again, no explanation for the remuster has been found. On the second occasion, Knapp asked for and Gerhart issued him a document certifying the muster and the date of rank.²⁸

The prospective promotion of these two men may have been the reason Colonel Duncan made an application for a commission as field officer in one of the new Regular Army colored regiments, the approval for which was pending in Congress at the time. Duncan's letter to the adjutant general of the Army was dated 20 July 1866, barely three weeks after his arrival in New Mexico. It carried with it the favorable endorsements of territorial governor Robert B. Mitchell, the territorial secretary, the territorial chief justice, and the district commander, Bvt. Brig. Gen. James H. Carleton. That any of these officials could have formed a positive judgment of Duncan's fitness for command in twenty days is unfathomable.²⁹

Gerhart, as next senior officer to Duncan, was a natural choice for colonel, and he had other qualifications. A native of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, he was an 1863 graduate of Franklin and



Benito Juarez, c. 1868



Governor Robert B. Mitchell, shown here as a brigadier general, c. 1865

Marshall College, class of 1863, where his father, Rev. Emil V. Gerhart, was president. In addition to his service during the Antietam and Gettysburg campaigns, in July 1865 he was mustered in as major in the 121st USCI, and in October that year he transferred into the 125th USCI. Gerhart's first duty in the desert was as commander at Fort Bliss in August 1866 with two companies of the 125th. As a result of his promotion in September, Gerhart moved to Fort Craig and established regimental headquarters there.³⁰

Command of Fort Bliss passed to Captain Knapp, a native of Connecticut, a former volunteer soldier from that state, and a former Regular Army hospital steward. He was not the senior captain in the regiment but, like Gerhart, he had superior educational attainments, having been a medical student at Yale. His selection for promotion was the cause of some envy among his peers. As he wrote in his diary, "Disappointed candidates for the Majority . . . are looking for some flaw or wrongdoing in what I do." Knapp remained at Bliss until his two-company battalion was relieved in August 1867. His opinions of his black troops, with whom he appeared to be sympathetic, have already been mentioned. However, in a letter to his mother near the end of his tenure in the desert, he damned his military peers with faint praise, "I am tired of living among such reprobates as U.S.A. Officers are and being compelled to associate with them on terms of equality, when one only learns to acquire coarse language & disgusting manners and yet the army officers are by far the best class in this territory."³¹

General Carleton, described by historian Robert M. Utley as "contentious, arbitrary [and] domineering," commanded the District of New Mexico for much of the regiment's tenure there. Chief among Carleton's subordinates was Bvt. Brig. Gen. Christopher "Kit" Carson, the renowned frontiersman, who was commander of the New Mexico volunteers. In April 1867, Major Knapp was summoned from Fort Bliss to Albuquerque to be a member of a court-martial of which Carson was president. Knapp was

thrilled at the opportunity to meet the great man, "the hero of Fremont's stories of hardships endured and dangers successfully encountered," and filled several pages in his diary and letters with descriptive phrases about the general's charm, modesty, easy manner, and story-telling prowess.³²

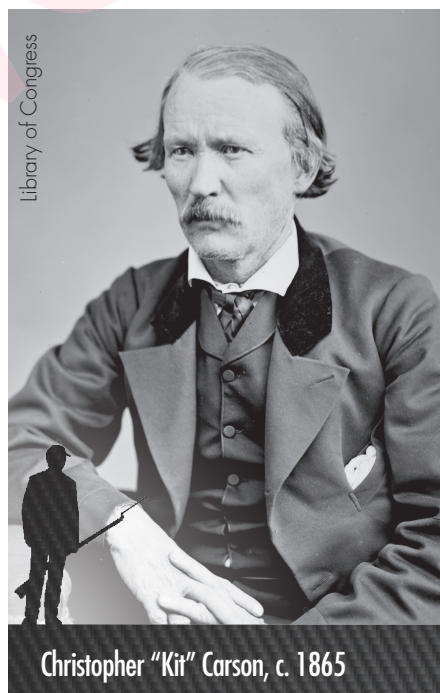
Knapp returned to Fort Bliss late on 18 May 1867, coincidentally with a flood of the Rio Grande that washed away much of the post. As the post report for May described it, "The Rio Grande del Norte, upon the banks of which the post is situated, has during a freshet this month washed away all the store rooms at the post and a part of the officers quarters. Company quarters are now being used as store rooms, a portion of the garrison being camped in tents." The move of the troops to tents occurred on 25 May. Over the two weeks following his return, Knapp's diary and letters to his mother recounted the retreat of the military post in the face of the river's advances, but by 2 June he was able to report that the water was receding.

In October 1867, after the 125th had left Texas and New Mexico, higher headquarters directed that the flooded site be abandoned and that the troops and stores be removed to leased land at Concordia, Texas, three miles away. This was accomplished by 1 March

1868. "Camp Concordia" became the site of the new Fort Bliss in April 1869.³³

With the arrival of new regiments of regulars in the Southwest in the summer of 1867, the volunteers remaining on duty in the desert territories began to return to their homes. The last white troops, a battalion of New Mexico volunteers, were mustered out in November 1867. During the spring, the 125th USCI had received orders to march to Fort Riley, Kansas, to be mustered out. Two companies of the regiment left Fort Craig on 22 October. From distant Fort Bliss and all the other posts, the companies of the regiment began to move toward Fort Union in northern New Mexico for the long trek back up the Santa Fe Trail. Captain Seran's wife Amanda was pregnant with her third child; Major Knapp's column left the Serans behind so that she could give birth at Fort Union. Six days after the birth, by Seran's recollection, they set out by wagon with 46-year-old Pvt. Solomon Brooks (an "elderly negro" to Seran) as driver; Frances, a nurse; and an escort led by Seran's first sergeant, Benjamin Fields. Knapp wrote that he left the Serans behind on 16 September, and they caught up "rather to my surprise" on 19 September. He was happy to have them back with his command.³⁴

After typical Plains-crossing adventures, the detachments of the regiment arrived at Fort Riley and were ordered immediately to Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis for final muster. There, some of the men and dependents contracted cholera, which had been pandemic on the Plains that summer, and they were further ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, to be discharged nearer their homes. In 1884, "Ex-Second Lieutenant" James H. Storey wrote a letter to the editor of the *New York Times* commenting that eight companies of the 125th USCI had been mustered out at Fort Leavenworth on 20 December 1867 and "finally discharged and paid to include Dec. 27, 1867, at Louisville, Ky." The Louisville post return shows that ultimately, "The 125th USCI, consisting of 19 commissioned officers and 450 enlisted men, arrived at the post [Louisville] on the 25th day of December for final payment preparatory to disbanding and



remained until the 31st of the month on which day they were paid and disbanded.” As Seran remarked, “the enlisted men [are] no longer slaves.”³⁵

Not all the soldiers of the 125th USCI left the Army in December 1867. The records are not always clear as to identity, but at least three men enlisted in regular black cavalry regiments before the units left New Mexico, and two more may have done so after being mustered out in Kentucky. One veteran, Sgt. Henry Moore, a native of Adair County, Kentucky, made a career of the Army. He reenlisted for the last time while a member of the 9th Cavalry demonstration troop at Fort Myer, Virginia, in 1892 and retired in March 1895, about age fifty. He is probably the same Henry Moore who died in Washington, D.C., in November 1918 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Lt. Frank Upham Robinson, a native of Livingston County, New York, and a veteran of fighting at Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864–1865, before joining the 125th, integrated into the Regular

Army cavalry in 1868. He rose through the ranks, received a “tombstone promotion” to brigadier general in April 1905, and retired the next day. He died in Phoenix, Arizona, in December 1927 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.³⁶

Col. William R. Gerhart read law after being mustered out of service and became a patent attorney and a civil engineer in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Gerhart married late; he died in 1906, having outlived his wife, and is buried in Lancaster’s Greenwood Cemetery. The unmilitary Lt. Col. Alexander Duncan divorced his wife in Ohio, remarried, moved to San Francisco, and became a bookkeeper. He died in 1890 and was buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, California.³⁷

Maj. Obadiah Knapp often wrote of his plans to marry his sweetheart, Gertrude Palmer, and return to medical school. He did marry Gertrude immediately after returning from New Mexico, and his former lieutenant, Amos Kepner, married her younger sister, Mary. The bond between the two men formed in the Army kept them together for the rest of their lives. Knapp never resumed his medical career; instead, he and Kepner were retail grocers in Philadelphia in the 1870s. By 1880, Knapp was farming in Westchester County, New York, and, by 1910, he was in his native Connecticut. He died there in 1921 and was buried in the North Greenwich Congregational Church Cemetery with his wife, her sister, and Amos Kepner.³⁸

Lt. Harry Storey toyed with the idea of completing his military education at West Point and entering the Regular Army. He did neither. Storey went back to his home in Brooklyn, married Annie Cheshire, the recipient of many of his letters, and began a career in the U.S. Customs Service. Before his retirement, Storey became collector of customs for the Port of Brooklyn. Storey also served as an officer in the New York National Guard for many years. He died in 1927 and is buried with Annie in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn.³⁹

Perhaps the last survivor of the 125th USCI was Capt. William Seran. Born in New Jersey in February 1837, after his Army service he farmed in Kansas and

Oklahoma before moving to California. He died in Los Angeles in January 1936, 98 years and 11 months old. At the time of his death he was living in the Soldiers Home there; he was buried in the Los Angeles National Cemetery.⁴⁰

One of the more surprising success stories among the veterans was that of Robert Ball Anderson. He was born a slave in Kentucky in 1843 and was mustered into the 125th USCI in April 1865 as Pvt. Robert Ball, the family name of his mother’s owner. Ball served without incident in Captain Seran’s Company G for more than two years. After the Army, he took his father’s name (Anderson), wandered around the South for a time, and then settled in Nebraska, where he purchased land and took up farming. By 1910, he was the richest black man in the state. In 1930, at age eighty-seven, Anderson died in a car wreck, a mode of transportation unknown to the slaves of Kentucky in 1843 or the soldiers in New Mexico in 1867.⁴¹



Frank Upham Robinson, shown here as a captain, in 1875



Robert Ball Anderson, c. 1925

A postscript to Anderson's story was written in 1997, when his much younger widow Daisy, by then ninety-six years old, was invited to represent the Union side at the interment of an unknown soldier in the National Cemetery at Gettysburg Military Park. A Confederate widow was present also. They were thought to be two of only three surviving widows of Civil War soldiers, though none of the three women had even been born in the nineteenth century. Daisy's relationship with her husband, as well as his early life as a slave and his military service, was described in the newspapers. Daisy's death a year later also made it into the national news.⁴²

A more macabre epilogue was added to the 125th USCI story in 2008 with the discovery of disinterred human remains in the New Mexico desert. Pvt. Thomas Smith was from New Market, Kentucky. He enlisted in the Army in November 1864 and was assigned to Company A, 125th USCI, in January 1865. He must have been a good soldier because he was often on duty as an orderly at regimental or post headquarters. In November 1866, at age twenty-three, Smith died at Fort Craig, New Mexico, of complications from either typhoid fever or cholera and was buried there. His medical record showed that he had an enlarged



Mrs. Daisy Anderson (right), widow of Pvt. Robert Ball Anderson, attends a burial service at the National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, nearly 130 years after her husband was mustered out of service in 1867.

kidney and that the immediate cause of death was inflammation of the bowels. When Fort Craig was abandoned as a military installation in the 1880s, many burials from the post cemetery were exhumed and reburied elsewhere. In 2008, it came to light that some twenty bodies that had not been reinterred had been looted from the old Fort Craig cemetery and one mummified set of re-

mains was on display in a private home. An investigation led to the recovery of Smith's skull in a brown paper bag and some other remains; in addition, approximately sixty more bodies were exhumed from Fort Craig to prevent further looting. Research by forensic scientists resulted in the identification of three of the remains, Private Smith's among them. The research also led to the discovery of the rest of Smith's body.

In June 2009, some sixty sets of unidentified remains were reinterred at Santa Fe National Cemetery at a site marked by a 1,200-pound granite and bronze memorial. On 28 July 2009, Smith's remains and those of two other African American soldiers of the post-Civil War era were reburied with the others at the Santa Fe cemetery. The Arizona Buffalo Soldiers Association and the New Mexico Army National Guard conducted the elaborate ceremony with full military honors; officials of the Departments of the Interior and Veterans Affairs and prominent retired African American military personnel attended. Congress and the president designated 28 July as National Buffalo Soldiers Day in 1992.⁴³



Members of the Arizona Buffalo Soldiers Association carry soldiers' remains during the reinterment ceremony at Santa Fe National Cemetery, 28 July 2009.

NOTES

1. William A. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword: The U.S. Colored Troops, 1862–1867* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Army Center of Military History, 2011), pp. 491, 496; U.S. War Department, *The War of the Rebellion, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (OR)*, 130 vols. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880–1901), ser. 3, vol. 5, p. 1047.

2. Dobak, *Freedom by the Sword*, pp. 381–84. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) microfilmed the compiled service records (CSRs) for the 125th U.S. Colored Infantry (USCI) as this article was in progress, and the documents were accessed online at <http://www.fold3.com> beginning in May 2013. There is no NARA publication film number. For a discussion of black recruitment in Kentucky, white resistance, and compensation to slave owners, see Earl J. Hess, *The Civil War in the West* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2012), p. 243. For an example of a slave who enlisted without his owner's consent and the former owner's claim for compensation, see the CSR of James Claybrook.

3. CSRs, 125th USCI, for the individuals named. Ages are as of the date of enrollment. Many of the officers and men of the 125th showed their other organizational affiliations in their pension applications years after the war. See Microfilm Publication T289, Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1900, Roll 570, 125th USCI, NARA.

4. 125th USCI, in Microfilm Publication M594, Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Union Organizations, Roll 217; and Cairo, Ill., April 1866, in Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, 1800–1916, Roll 167. Both in NARA. *Official Register of the Volunteer Force of the United States Army for the Years 1861–1865 (ORVF)*, pt. 8, *United States Colored Troops* (Washington, D.C.: Adjutant General's Office, 1865), p. 306; Ltr, Armstrong to Adj Gen, 25 Mar 1866, Regimental Consolidated Morning Rpt, Letter, & Endorsement Book, vol. 3, 125th USCI Regimental Books, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Record Group (RG) 94, NARA; CSR of Charles D. Armstrong. The National Park Service (NPS) Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSSS), online at <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/regiments.cfm>, shows the 125th USCI spent its entire thirty months of service in Kentucky. This is an error copied from Frederick H. Dyer, *A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion*, 3 vols. (1908; repr., New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1959), 3:1740.

5. Robert M. Utley, *Frontier Regulars: The United States Army and the Indian, 1866–1890* (New York: Macmillan, 1973), p. 170; Charges and Specifications, CSR of Henry Belay; William Langley Seran, Civil War Record of Service, 1919, unpublished memoir, courtesy of

Sue Locke, Santa Rosa, Calif., copy in author's files; Knapp Diary, 26 Apr 1866, Obadiah M. Knapp Papers, 1860–1867, Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin; Regimental Descriptive Book, vol. 1, 125th USCI Regimental Books.

6. 125th USCI, in Microfilm Publication M594, Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Union Organizations, Roll 217, NARA; Seran, Civil War Record of Service; Ltrs, Storey to father, 7 May 1866, and to Dear Annie, 7 Jun 1866, both in James H. Storey Letters, Fort Selden State Monument, N.M., copies in author's files; Knapp Diary, 21 and 24 Apr 1866, Knapp Papers.

7. Names of deserters for May 1866, Regimental Descriptive Book, vol. 1, 125th USCI Regimental Books; Knapp Diary, 27 Apr 1866, Knapp Papers.

8. Ltrs, Gerhart to Day, 28 Mar 1866; Gerhart to Asst Adj Gen P. Ord, 29 Mar 1866, Regimental Consolidated Morning Rpt, Letter, & Endorsement Book, vol. 3, 125th USCI Regimental Books; ORVF, pt. 8, p. 306; Knapp Diary, 28 Apr 1866, Knapp Papers.

9. Ltr, Storey to father, 7 Jun 1866, Storey Letters; Special Orders 49, 50, 51, 53, dated 29, 30, 31 May and 4 Jun 1866, respectively, HQ, 125th USCI, Regimental Order Book, vol. 4, 125th USCI Regimental Books; Ltr, Duncan "to whom it may concern," 3 Oct 1866, in Microfilm Publication M1064, Letters Received by Commission Branch, AGO, 1863–1870, file S-1817, 1866 series, NARA.

10. Monroe Lee Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers, 1866–1900* (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 1991), p. 208n4, lists the New Mexico posts where the 125th was stationed. For the returns for the regiment, see Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts. See also NPS, Division of History, Southwest Cultural Resources Center, Leo E. Oliva, *Fort Union and the Frontier Army in the Southwest: A Historic Resource Study* (Fort Union National Monument, Fort Union, N.M., 1993), p. 77 and note 22, accessed 30 Nov 2012, at http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/foun/index.htm; David Kammer, "Establishment of Fort Bayard Army Post," Office of the State Historian, accessed 30 Nov 2012, at <http://www.newmexicohistory.org/filedetails.php?fileID=9953>; Seran, Civil War Record of Service; Ltr, Knapp to mother, 19 May 1867, Knapp Papers.

11. Fort Selden State Monument, N.M., General Management Plan [2004] (hereafter cited as FSGMP), p. 119, accessed 29 Nov 2012, at <http://www.nmmonuments.org>; Oliva, *Fort Union*, ch. 6, note 77, and ch. 8, notes 22, 23.

12. Ltr, Storey to Bvt Maj C. H. De Forrest, HQ, District of New Mexico, 18 Sep 1866, Storey Letters, reproduced as "Notes from a Reconnaissance Led by J. Henry Storey," *El Palacio* (New Mexico's Magazine of Art, History, and Culture of the Southwest) 113, no. 4 (Winter 2008), accessed 27 Nov 2012, at <http://www.elpalacio.org/winter08.php>.

13. Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers*, p. 7; CSRs of Charles Dunn and Samuel Taylor. Billington devotes two chapters to

the activities of black troops in New Mexico, 1866–1869.

14. Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers*, pp. 26–28; CSR of Harry Soaper.

15. Special Order 30, HQ, Fort Selden, 27 Feb 1867, copy in the Storey Letters; Fort Selden, N.M., Feb 1867, in Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, Roll 1145, NARA.

16. Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers*, pp. 13, 30–31; FSGMP, p. 70.

17. Seran, Civil War Record of Service; Knapp Diary, 27 Sep 1866, Knapp Papers. Fort Bliss was originally known as The Post Opposite El Paso. See also Leon C. Metz, *Desert Army: Fort Bliss on the Mexican Border*, rev. ed. (El Paso, Tex.: Mangan Books, 1988), p. 28.

18. A. Ebermayer, "Frontier Life in the Army," *Overland Monthly* 13 (January–June 1889): 280–81, accessed 23 Nov 2009, at http://www.archive.org/stream/overland-monthly213sanfrich/overlandmonthly213sanfrich_djvu.txt.

19. Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers*, p. 35; Ltr, Storey to Annie, 3, 18 Oct 1866, Storey Letters, reproduced in Shelley Thompson, ed., "Dearest Annie: Letters from Fort Selden," *El Palacio* 13, no. 4 (Winter 2008): 31; Knapp Diary, 18 Sep 1866, Knapp Papers.

20. Billington, *New Mexico's Buffalo Soldiers*, p. 185; Knapp Diary, 19 Sep 1866, Knapp Papers; Ltrs, Knapp to William Mead, 1 Oct 1867, Knapp Papers; and Storey to father, 21 Jan 1864. Billington wrote a full chapter on prejudice and discrimination. For more on race relations in the Western army, see William H. Leckie, *The Buffalo Soldiers: A Narrative of the Black Cavalry in the West* (1967; rev. ed., Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2003), and Bruce A. Glasrud and Michael N. Searles, eds., *Buffalo Soldiers in the West: A Black Soldiers Anthology* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2007).

21. CSRs of James Armstrong, Dan Johnson, James Krossen, and Jacob Wooten.

22. Knapp Diary, 18 Jul 1867, Knapp Papers; CSR of John H. Howard.

23. Ltrs, Duncan to De Forrest, 10 and 24 Sep 1866, Regimental Consolidated Morning Rpt, Letter, & Endorsement Book, vol. 3, 125th USCI Regimental Books; and De Forrest to Duncan, 15 Sep 1866, in CSR of Henry Belay.

24. Seran, Civil War Record of Service; Ltr, Storey to Darling Little Wife [Annie], 23 Oct 1866, Storey Letters, reproduced in Thompson, "Dearest Annie: Letters from Fort Selden," pp. 31–32. Seran's version was that Warner intercepted an incoming letter that his wife had written to "Dear Freddie."

25. Seran, Civil War Record of Service; CSRs of Adolph Ebermayer and David Smith; Censuses, 1860 and 1880; ORVF, pt. 8, p. 306; Ebermayer, "Frontier Life in the Army," pp. 277–82.

26. Seran, Civil War Record of Service.

27. CSR of Alexander Duncan.

28. CSRs of William R. Gerhart and Obadiah M. Knapp. Knapp Diary, 1 Jul 1866; Ltr, Knapp to Mead, 7 Oct 1866; and Certificate of Muster, 14 Sep 1867. Last three in Knapp Papers. Gerhart obituary, in *Franklin and Marshall College*

Obituary Record, nos. 12–13, vol. 2, pts. 8–9 (June 1908–1909), pp. 269–71.

29. Ltr, Duncan to the AG, 20 Jul 1866, in Microfilm Publication M1064, Letters Received by Commission Branch, AGO, 1863–1870, file D–836, 1866 series, NARA.

30. Gerhart obituary; *ORVF*, pt. 8, p. 306; Fort Bliss and Fort Craig, both for Sep 1866, in Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, Roll 116 and Roll 261, respectively, NARA.

31. CSR of Knapp; Knapp Service Index Card, Connecticut Troops, Union Service Records, RG 94, NARA; *Directory of the Living Non-Graduates of Yale University: Issue of 1914* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University, 1914), p. 4, accessed at <http://www.books.google.com>; Acceptance from Yale Medical School, and Ltr, Knapp to mother, 1 Sep 1867, both in Knapp Papers. Enlistment of Obadiah M. Knapp, 30 Oct 1863, in Microfilm Publication M233, Register of Enlistments in the United States Army, 1798–1914, Roll 27, accessed at <http://www.ancestry.com>; Knapp Diary, 6 Jul 1866, Knapp Papers.

32. Utley, *Frontier Regulars*, p. 168. Knapp Diary, 2, 10 Apr 1867; and Ltr, Knapp to mother, 14 Apr 1867. All in Knapp Papers. The trial of Lt. James Krossen, described herein, was one case heard by this court.

33. Fort Bliss, May 1867, Nov 1867, Mar 1868, Apr 1869, in Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, Roll 116, NARA. Knapp Diary, 25 May 1867; and Ltr, Knapp to mother, 2 Jun 1867. Both in Knapp Papers. Metz, *Desert Army*, pp. 53–54, 56. Metz's book contains several factual errors about the 125th USCI and omits Knapp's name from the list of post commanders.

34. OR, ser. 3, vol. 5, p. 1047; Fort Bliss, Jul 1867, and Fort Craig, Nov 1867, in Micro-

film Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, Roll 116 and Roll 261, respectively, NARA; Seran, Civil War Record of Service; CSR of Solomon Brooks; Knapp Diary, 16, 19 Sep 1867, Knapp Papers.

35. Fort Riley, Dec 1867, and Louisville, Ky., Dec 1867, in Microfilm Publication M617, Returns from United States Military Posts, Roll 1011 and Roll 651, respectively, NARA; *New York Times*, 4 Aug 1884; Seran, Civil War Record of Service; Utley, *Frontier Regulars*, pp. 120, 128n32. Although most records show the 125th was mustered out on 20 December, the return for the post of Louisville is rendered here as in the original. Knapp's and Seran's CSRs both show they were mustered out at St. Louis on 31 October 1867.

36. Henry Moore, in Microfilm Publication M233, Register of Enlistments, Roll 33, p. 196; Roll 39, pp. 36, 129; Roll 42, p. 75; Roll 45, p. 99; and Roll 46, p. 59, NARA; 125th USCI, in Microfilm Publication T289, Organization Index to Pension Files, NARA; Buffalo Soldiers at Fort Myer, at <http://www.buffalosoldiersresearchmuseum.org/third/myersoldiers.htm>; <http://www.findagrave.com>, both accessed 28 Nov 2012; William B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, 1789–1903*, 2 vols. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1903), 1:838; *ORVF*, pt. 8, p. 214; *The Army Almanac* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1950), p. 347; *New York Times*, 15 Dec 1927.

37. Gerhart obituary; Duncan, Census, 1880 for San Francisco, and Veterans Census, 1890 for Ohio, in Microfilm Publication M1845, Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, all accessed at <http://www.ancestry.com>. The sequence of these events in Duncan's life is unknown.

38. Censuses, 1870, 1880, 1910; Charles R. Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions (1932–1935), Fairfield County, online at <http://www.hale-collection.com>.

39. Thompson, ed., "Dearest Annie: Letters from Fort Selden," note p. 40; *New York Times*, 30 Apr 1927; <http://www.findagrave.com>.

40. Seran, Civil War Record of Service; <http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 28 Nov 2012.

41. Darold D Wax, "Robert Ball Anderson, Ex-Slave, A Pioneer in Western Nebraska, 1884–1930," *Nebraska History* 64 (1983): 163–92.

42. Robert Holt, "Battlefield Burial: Union, Confederate Widows Take Part in Ceremony," and "Union, Confederate Widows Finally Meet," *Gettysburg (Pa.) Times*, 2 Jul 1997 (with photographs); Robert McG. Thomas Jr., "Daisy Anderson, 97, Widow of Former Slave and Union Soldier," *New York Times*, 26 Sep 1998. For a discussion of the irony of the participation of the Civil War widows in the Gettysburg ceremony, see Robert E. Weir, "The Graying of Gettysburg National Military Park: Race, Erasure, Ideology and Iconography," in *The Civil War in Popular Culture: Memory and Meaning*, ed. Lawrence A. Kreiser Jr. and Randal Allred (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2014), p. 71.

43. CSR of Thomas Smith of Co. A; Thomas Smith Carded Medical File, Entry 534, RG 94, NARA; U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Press Release, 28 Jul 2009, accessed 30 Jul 2009, at <http://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=29142>; Melanie Dabovich, Associated Press, "Remains of 3 Buffalo Soldiers Reburied," *Arizona Daily Star*, 29 Jul 2009, accessed 30 Jul 2009, at <http://www.azstarnet.com/sn/metro/302767.php>.

47th Mass. Infantry Regiment Muster Sheets

344
Dane, Frederick
Co. H, 47 Massachusetts
Militia Infantry.

Private Corporal

CARD NUMBERS.

1	15880807	26
2	15880906	27
3	15880998	28
4	15881092	29
5	15881309	30
6	9375-87-1864	31
7	9375-87-1864	32
8		33
9		34
10		35
11		36
12		37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Number of personal papers herein 3

Book Mark: 13544-a-1876
9375-87-1864

See also 3 La. Native Guards

D. | 47 | Mass. Mil.

Frederick Dame.
Corp., Co. H., 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Inf.

Appears on Returns as follows:

Mar 1863. Absent on Special
duty at Baton Rouge.

Book mark

(646)

Gardner

Copyist.

R.P. 503864
02330267- P.O., (M. & M.)
A.G. 2118020 -

J. McFall

D

47

Mass. Mil.

Frederick Danne

Pvt., Capt. Laforest's Co., 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Inf.†

Age 30 years.

Appears on

Company Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Boston, Oct 16, 1862.

Muster-in to date Oct 16, 1862.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When Oct 16, 1862.*

Where Chelsea*

Period 9 months.*

Bounty paid \$100; due \$100.

Remarks:

†This organization subsequently became Co. H, 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Infantry.

*Muster-in roll shows enrollment and muster-in of this company as of same date, except men enrolled subsequent to date of muster-in of company. See enrollment on subsequent card or cards.

Book mark: D 375-67-1864.

(856b)

Brand

Copyist.

D

47

Mass. Mil.

Frederick Damer

Corpl, Cott, 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Inf.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Oct 16 to Dec 31, 1862.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When Oct 14, 1862.*

Where Boston.*

Period months.*

Present or absent Present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't \$ 100 for

Remarks:

* See enrollment on card from muster-in roll.

Book mark:

(358c)

Brand

Copyist.

D

47

Mass. Mil.

Frederick Darnell

3 Corpl, Co. H, 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Inf.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of

for Jan & Feb, 1868.

Present or absent. Present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't \$ 100 for

Remarks:

From Second Auditor's Roll

Book mark:

Brand

D

47

Mass. Mil.

Frederick Danner
5th Corp'l, Co. H, 47 Reg't Mass. Mil. Inf.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of _____

for Mar. & Apr., 1863.

Present or absent _____

Stoppage, \$ _____ 100 for _____

Due Gov't \$ _____ 100 for _____

Remarks: Promoted April
1st/63 to 2^d Lt. in 3^d Lea.
Native Guards.

Book mark: _____

Brand

D

47

Mass. Mil.

Frederick Dame

Corpl, Co. H, 47 Reg't Mass. Infantry.

Age 30 years.

Appears on Co. Muster-out Roll, dated

Readville Mass, Sept 1, 1863

Muster-out to date _____, 186

Last paid to _____, 186

Clothing account:

Last settled _____, 186 ; drawn since \$ 100

Due soldier \$ 100; due U. S. \$ 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$ 20 78 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$ 100

Bounty paid \$ 100; due \$ 100

Remarks: Discharged in

New Orleans La July 31
1863.

Book mark: 13544-A-A90(G.B.) 1876

Brand

20. 47 Mass.

Frederick Warner

, Co. A, 47 Reg't Mass. Inf.

NOTATION.

13544-A-1876 with

Book mark: 20 375 C. I. 1864

Adjutant General's Office,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, June 21, 1877.

Discharged Aug. 31, 1863, at
Readville, Mass., to date April
5, 1863, by reason of promotion
to 2nd Lieut. 45 U.S. I.

A. G. N.

D. 47 Mass.

Frederick Name

, Co. H, 47 Reg't Mass. Inf.

NOTATION.

Book mark: D 375 C. I. 1864

Record and Pension Office,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, Jan. 12, 1898.

It has this day (Jan. 12, 1898,)

been determined by this Department from the
evidence furnished by the
Auditor for the War Dept.
that this man was enrolled
Sept. 30, 1862.

A. G. N.

Danne, Fred.

Corp. Co. H,

47

Reg't

Mass. Inf.

3

Enclosures.

Bed Cards

Descriptive Lists

Burial Records

Final Statements

Certs. of Dis. for Discharge

Furloughs

C. M. Charges

Med. Des. Lists

Med. Certificates

Orders

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l

Furlough

Casualty Sheet (Officer's)

Med. Examination

Confinement

Misc. Information

Contracts

Pay or Clothing

Death or Effects

Personal Reports

Desertions

Rank

Discharge from Hosp'l

Transfer to Hosp'l

Discharge from Service

Transfer to V. R. C.

Duty

Transportation

Port Hudson July 18th 1863
 Lieut Col R B Irwin
 Sir

In compliance with
 an order recently received at the Head
 Quarters of this 3 Regt Infantry Corps d'
 Afrique from Head Quarters Dept of
 the Gulf, I herewith request that I
 be discharged from the 47th Regt Mass
 Vols, having received a commission
 from Major Genl Banks, as second
 Lieut in Co G 3 Regt Infantry Corps
 d'Afrique, dated April 6th 1863, since
 which time I have been serving in
 that capacity. I require the above
 in order that I may be mustered
 into the service

Respectfully Your Obedient Servant
 Frederick Dame
 Second Lieut Co F 3 Regt
 Infantry Corps d'Afrique

Reasons required found on inside page.

170 1863

Port Hudson, July 18-1863

Frederick Dame

2 Lieut 3 Regt Mass Vols

Request to be discharged
 from the 47th Mass Vols in
 order to be mustered in as
 2nd Lieut.

Head Quarters 3rd Regt
 d'Afrique Port Hudson

July 20th 1863

Respectfully forwarded

John A. Nelson
 1st Battery Corps

Head Quarters 3rd Regt
 d'Afrique Port Hudson

July 20 1863

Respectfully forwarded

John A. Nelson
 1st Battery Corps

Head Quarters 3rd Regt
 d'Afrique Port Hudson

July 20 1863

Respectfully forwarded

John A. Nelson
 1st Battery Corps

Head Quarters 3rd Regt
 d'Afrique Port Hudson

July 20 1863

Respectfully forwarded

John A. Nelson
 1st Battery Corps

of Bureau will pass
 and we will copy it and
 enter in this case.

Frederick Dame

1st Battery Corps

Port Hudson July 21st 1863

An application for a discharge from the 44th Regt. Mass Vols was applied for on receipt of Commission in the 3rd Regt. Corps Affrique. This was sent to Col. Marsh of the 44th to be forwarded by him through the proper channels. Having never received the document I presume it was mislaid and lost. I have also enquired personally at the Assist. Adjt General's Office at New Orleans for the above and was told it would be sent to me through Col. J. A. Nelson.

Very Respectfully

P.S.

St. Frederic Dame

I will further add that I have several times enquired while at Baton Rouge for a mustering officer, but did not succeed in finding such officer. I applied also at head quarters department of the Gulf for both dis charge papers and also for a mustering officer, but was told the officers attending to such business had accompanied Gen. Banks on his expedition to the west side of the river, and could not be attended to for the present. Having made these several applications I have thought them sufficient and further than this out of my control, and

attended to my duties as can be satisfactorily shown, fully expecting that I had done all that was required for obtaining the above documents.

Very respectfully

St. Frederic Dame

G. Co. 3rd Regt. Corps Affrique

Camp Porter Carroll Co La
July 31st 1863

Cadet.

Corporal Lane obtained
a furlough approved by the Commandant
of the Division, with permission to
proceed to Baton Rouge for the pur-
pose of obtaining a commission in
a colored Regiment. He has never
applied to me for a discharge
from the Company, in order that
he might receive promotion.

I would respectfully request
that an order for his discharge
may be granted, that he may
receive promotion.

Richard B. Kenia

1st Col A. A. Col

Very Respect

Yours Obedt Servt

W. McElroy
1st Lieut Co 47th In. V.

P 246 1863
Camp Parapet La
July 31st 1863

G. J. Redding
Lt. 4th Mass

Requests order discharging
Corpl. Darnes, Frederick

47th Mass Vols

Discharge to
ap 6

Head Quarters 47th
Mass Vols Camp
Parapet July 31st 1863
Approved
and Respectfully
Forwarded to
Brigade Head
Quarters -

Lucius R. Marsh Sec
47th Mass Vols

Head Quarters
U. S. Forces

Camp Parapet La
July 31. 1863.

Respectfully forwarded, 750

Isaac Dyer -

Col 13th Maine Vols

Comd Post.

Head Quarters Depuces New Orleans,
N. O. Aug 1st 1863 -

Respectfully forwarded.

W. H. Munn
Brig. Gen. Comdg.

Head Quarters Department of the Gulf
New Orleans August 21st 1863

Special Orders }
No. 206 } (Extract)

3. The following named enlisted men are
honorably discharged the service, as such, from the dates
set opposite their names, to enable them to accept commissions:

Capt. Fred. Dame Co. H. 47th Mass. April 6th 1863

By Command of Major General Banks
(Signed) G. Norman Lieber

Acting Assistant Adjutant General

A true Copy

J. Langdon Ward
Major & Commissary of Muster
Corps d'Afrique

Copy of Order discharging
Fred. Damm

107
Dane Frederic
Co E, 72 U.S. Col'd Inf.

Captain Captain

CARD NUMBERS.

1	6743379	26
2	6745056	27
3	6745146	28
4	6745229	29
5	6743967	30
6	9433805	31
7		32
8		33
9		34
10		35
11		36
12		37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Book Mark:

See also 73 & 125 U.S. Col'd Inf.

578
Dame, Frederic

Co —, 96 U.S. Col'd Inf.

Captain

CARD NUMBERS.

1	26
2	27
3	28
4	29
5	30
6	31
7	32
8	33
9	34
10	35
11	36
12	37
13	38
14	39
15	40
16	41
17	42
18	43
19	44
20	45
21	46
22	47
23	48
24	49
25	50

Book Mark: _____

See also 72 + 73 U.S. C. I.

D147750 Aug. W.D.
2330267 - P.O., M. & M.
Al 218020

B. Franklin
End

LD, | 72, | **U.S.C.T.**

Frederick Dame,
Capt, Co. E., 72 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

Regimental Descriptive Book

(List of Commissioned Officers)

of the regiment named above.

Rank *Capt,*

Date of appointment *19 Sept* 186*4.*

Remarks: _____

Dayton,

D | 72 | U.S.C.T.

Frederic Danne

Capt, Co., 72. Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Age 33 years.

Appears on an

Individual Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Louisville Ky., May 6, 1865.

Muster-in to date Apr 22, 1865.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When April 22, 1865.

Where Louisville Ky

Period 3 years.

Remarks: This muster to
take effect April 22, 1865

Book mark: 20 and 4890. Oct. 5/69

Wiley

D.

72

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt., Co. "E", 72 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

Company Muster-in and Descriptive Roll
of the organization named above. Roll dated

Covington Ky., May 2^d, 1865.

Where born Biddford, Ore.

Age y'rs; occupation Salmon

When enlisted , 186

Where enlisted

For what period enlisted years.

Eyes ; hair

Complexion ; height ft. in.

When mustered in , 186

Where mustered in

Bounty paid \$ 100 ; due \$ 100

Where credited

Company to which assigned

Remarks: Appointed by the President to
rank as Capt. 72^d U.S.C.I. from Sept.
19th 1864 reported for duty Nov. 25th 1864
Late Capt. 73^d U.S.C.I.

Book mark:

J. S. Orsey

D.

72

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Daine.

Capt., Co. *E*, 72 Reg't U.S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Organization to April 30*, 1865.

Present or absent *Present.*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks: *Recd. appointment from
the President as Captain in the 72nd
U.S. C. I. on the 19th Sept. 1864 reported
for duty on the 26th November 1864.
Waiting muster in since that time.*

Book mark:

(358)

J. B. Casey
Copyist.

D.

72

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dams

Capt, Co. *E*, 72 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *May & June*, 1865.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

The 72 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry was discontinued July 3, 1865, and men transferred to the 13 Reg't U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, and other regiments.

Book mark:

J. G. Casey

40 | 83 (Old.) | U.S.C.T.

Frederic Wame
Capt, Co. B, 83 Reg't U.S. Col'd Inf. (Old.)

Appears on Returns as follows:

Aug 1863 to Mar 1864
(18 Regt Corps d'Afrique)
Present

April to July 1864
(83 U.S. Col'd Inf. (old))
Present

Book mark :

(546) L. A. Rosafy
Copyist.

D

75

U.S.C.T.

Fredrick Dame
2 Lt; Co.: , 75 Reg't U. S. Colored Inf.

Appears on Returns as follows:

Aug. 1863 (2 Lt. Co. - 3 Regt.
Inf. C d' A.) Discharged
for Promotion. Promoted
to be Capt in 11 Regt Corps
D'Afrique

Book mark : _____

C. E. M. Loughlin

(546)

Copyist.

12

73

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Wanne
Capt., Co. H, 73 Reg't U. S. Colored Inf.

Appears on Returns as follows:

Sept 1864 (Capt. 83 Reg't U.S.C.I.)
Present - Temporarily
assigned from 83 U.S.C.I.
discontinued S.O. 43
Ad 2nd U.S.C. Troops
Morgansia Aug 31. 64
Oct 1864 (Capt Co. H 73 Reg't U.S.C.I.)
Present. assigned from 83
U.S.C.I. S.O. 269 Ex 1
Ad 2nd Dept of Gulf Oct 5. 64
Nov. 1864 - Absent attached by
order of Adj't Genl
Thomas Nov 7. 64
Dec. 1864 - Loss: Transferred
to 72 Reg't U.S.C. Inf
S.O. 321 Ad 2nd Dept
of The Gulf Dec 23. 64

Book mark:

E R Hamner

D | 72 | U.S.C.T.

Fredric Dams
Capt., Co. D, 72 Reg't U. S. Colored Inf.

Appears on Returns as follows :

Dec 1864 Present.

Book mark : _____

(548)

J. L. Parsons

Copyist.

D

72

US62

Frederic Danne

Capt., Co. E., 72 Reg't US62

Appears on Returns

of Co. L. 13 Reg't US64 Arty

as follows:

July 1865 Present Temporarily assigned to
Co. L. 13 US64 A
by SO No. 111 Hd Qrs.
Rendezvous Camp
Kelso on Ky Order Lt
Col. J. F. Foster July
15/65

Book mark:

Blairson

72 | **U.S.C.T.**

Frederic Hame.
Cpl., Co. E, 72 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on an

Individual Muster-out Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 3, 1863.

Muster-out to date *Aug. 16, 1865.*

Last paid to *Oct. 31, 1865.*

Clothing account:

Last settled....., 186 ; drawn since \$..... 100

Due soldier \$..... 100; due U. S. \$..... 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$..... 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$..... 100

Bounty paid \$..... 100; due \$..... 100

Remarks: *Muster out to take effect Aug. 16, 1865 by reason of the consolidation of the 72 U. S. C. I. Reappointed to the 125th U. S. C. I. by the War Dept. on the 21st day (over)*

Book mark:

FEB. 19

6743967

673918

of Oct. 1865. Paid to
include Oct. 31, 1865 by
Maj. Thurston.

James, Fred.

Capt. Co. 72 Reg't 26th C. Inf.

3

Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Descriptive Lists	Orders 3
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough
Casualty Sheet	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertions	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

No. 211. 72^d U.S. C.S.
Cornington Ky. Jan'y 16/65

Duncan, Col. A.
72^d U.S. C.S.

S.O. No. 7, Est. Orders Captain
J. Name 72^d U.S. C.S. to pro-
ceed to Louisville, Ky. to assist
in organizing the same, reporting
to No. 211. Aft. Rendezvous.

B. 75.

July 1903. This paper was formerly filed
with the records of the Draft Rendezvous
Louisville Ky. in the Enrollment Div.
B. & P. O.

Recd No. 211. D.R. January 18th 1865.



Head Quarters 72 U.S. C. I.
Covington Ky
January 16th 1865

Special Orders
No 7

Extract

11 Capt S Dinsie 72 U.S. C. I.
is hereby ordered to proceed without delay to
Covington Ky for the purpose of assisting in the
organization of the 72 U.S. C. I. and will
report to the Comdg Officer of Draft Rendez
vous at that Post for duty.
Quartermaster Department will furnish
the necessary transportation.

By Order
A Duncan
Col Comdg 72 U.S. C. I.
S E Clark
2 Lieut ^{and} Act Adj

Comdg Officer
Draft Rendezvous
Covington Ky

Capt.

~~Brilliant~~ Danks deli

Aug 17/65

72 U.S. 2d Inf.

St. Col. afo.
Cm.

Nov. 8/65

9
13
95

Hon. Quartermaster General
Louisville Ky November 21st 1865

Special Order

No 258

Relieving Capt. Frederic
Dunn as member of Council of Ad-
ministration

To use

Head-Quarters Military Commander,

Louisville, Nov 27th 1865

Special Orders }
No. 258 }

(EXTRACT)

Capt Fred Dame 72nd U.S.C.S.
is hereby relieved from duty as a
member of the "Council of Administration"
appointed Sept 16th 1865 per S.O. from
Head Quarters. And will report to
his Regimental Commander for
duty.

By Command of Brig. Gen'l L. D. WATKINS.

Chas. A. Jones
CAPT. AND ASST. ADJT. GEN'L

Capt Dame
72nd U.S.C.S.

73rd U.S.C.T Muster Sheets

395

Dame Fredric

Co *K*, 73 U.S. Col'd Inf.

Captain *Captain*

CARD NUMBERS.

1	<i>7085877</i>	26
2	<i>7085942</i>	27
3	<i>7072047</i>	28
4	<i>6858829</i>	29
5		30
6		31
7		32
8		33
9		34
10		35
11		36
12		37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Book Mark: _____

See also *83 USCT, 72 USCT*

D | ⁷⁵
83 (old)
73 | *Use 1.*

Frederick Dame
Capt, Co. *K*, 73 Reg't *Use 1.*

REFERENCE CARD.

Original filed with

72 Reg't *Use 1.*

(TENTH STREET FILES.)

P 1477501 and 1150
#2330267-KO, M. & M.
all 0118020

Miller
2

20

73

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame.

Capt, Co. K, 73 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Sept. & Oct., 1864.

Present or absent Present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks: Late Capt. 83 U.S.C.T. temporarily assigned to 73 U.S.C.T. in S.O. No 43 Hd. qrs. U.S.C.T. Morgana La, Aug. 31/64 order Brig. Gen. D. Ullman and announced Capt. 73 U.S.C.T. in S.O. No 269 Hd. qrs. Dept. of the Gulf, dated N.O. Oct. 5/64. order Gen. Hurlbut. Not responsible for public property from Aug. 13/64 to Aug. 31/64.

Book mark:

Pal

20

73

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame,
Capt, Co. K, 73 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Nov 7 Dec*, 1864.

Present or absent

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks: *Transferred to 72"*
U.S.C.T. by order of Secretary
of war.

Book mark:

20 | 73 U.S.C.T.

Fredric Lane
Capt, Co. "K", 73 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on an

Individual Muster-out Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Louisville, Ky. May 6, 1865.

Muster-out to date Apr. 21, 1865.

Last paid to July 28, 1865.

Clothing account:

Last settled....., 186 ; drawn since \$..... 100

Due soldier \$..... 100; due U. S. \$..... 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$..... 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$..... 100

Bounty paid \$..... 100; due \$..... 100

Remarks: Mustered out of service
as Capt. 73^d U.S. Col. Infy. to
enable him to be mustered as
Capt. 72 U.S. Col. Infy. to fill an
original vacancy. Appointment
as Capt. 72 U.S. Col. Infy. brass
(over)

Book mark: _____

D. A. Ward

FEB. 19

7072047

1891

date to Sept 19, 1864.
Transferred from 83^d U.S. Col.
Infy. to 73^d U.S. Col. Infy. by
the consolidation of the 83^d
and 73^d U.S. Col. Infy. per
Genl. Orders No. 17, and 29.
Head Quarters Left of the
West Mississippi.

D

73
96

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt, Co. *96* Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

M. and D. Roll of Men Transferred

to the organization named above,

from Co. *K*, *73* Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Roll dated *New Orleans 4 Sept 23*, 186*3*.

When enlisted _____, 186 .

Period for which enlisted _____ years.

When mustered in *Aug. 17*, 186*3*

Present or absent _____

Company to which assigned _____

Remarks: *Transferred to*
72 U.S. C. I. by order
of Secretary of War
Nov. 5-1864.

Book mark : _____

Hausel

Danne, Fredrick

Capt. Co., *73* Reg't *U. S. C. Inf.*

1 Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs or L. of A
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Descriptive Lists	Orders
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record
Enlistment Papers	Resignations

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough or L. of A
Casualty Sheet	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports <i>1</i>
Desertion	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

Morgan at La. Riv. 4/64

Daniel Frederick
Capt. 73rd U.S. I. S.
Q. 56 - M.D.K. - 1864

Acknowledges receipt
of appointment as
Capt. in 72nd U.S. Infy.

Recd. M.D.K. Nov 15th 1864

Morgansville, La.

Nov. 4. 1864

To the Assistant Adj. General,
Command of Prov. Major Genl. S. G. Burbridge.

Sir:

I have the honor to state, that, having received the appointment of a Captancy in the Twenty Second Regiment United States Colored Infantry, by the President, through the Adjutant General U. S. Army, with orders to report in person, to Prov. Major General S. G. Burbridge at Lexington, Ky. and having forwarded my acceptance of the same to the War Department Washington D. C. I shall report as required and with as little delay as possible.

Respectfully

Your obt. Servt

Fredric Dames
Capt. 73rd N. Y. C. I.

75th U.S.C.T Muster Sheets

D | 75 | U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

2d Lt., Co., 75 Reg't U.S.C.T.

REFERENCE CARD.

Original filed with

83 Reg't U.S.C.T. (old)

(TENTH STREET FILES.)

Previous number.

362

363

Name Frederick

Co G, 75 U.S. Col'd Inf.

2nd Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant

CARD NUMBERS.

1	7086444	26
2	7096332	27
3	7096425	28
4	7096511	29
5	7097347	30
6		31
7		32
8		33
9		34
10		35
11		36
12		37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Book Mark:

See also 47 Mass 11 C. S. A.

P 1477501 ~~1477501~~

And W.D.

R. P. 506044

2330267- P.O., M. & M.

AL 2118020

L Ballant &

B 75 U.S.C.T.

Frederick Damer

2nd Line, Co. 75 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Age 31 years.

Appears on an

Individual Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Port Hudson La, Aug, 186 .

Muster-in to date Apr 6, 1863.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When April 6, 186 .

Where Baton Rouge

Period 3 years.

Remarks: Discharged as
Corporal C. H. 47 days
April 6/63 by Sp Order
206 Hdqrs Department
of the Gulf dated Aug
21/63. Mustered-in to

Book mark:

Edmundson

FEB. 19

7086477

1891

date from Apr 6/63
Aug 28/63 (vice Charles
Schermerhorn resigned
Feb. 23/63

2

75

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

2 Lieut; Co. 9, 3 Reg't La. Inf., Native Guards.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for March + April, 1863.

Present or absent Present-

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks: Appointed March 26
1863 in place of Charles
Schemerhorn discharged
Feb 23, 1863

* This organization subsequently became Co. 9, 75 Reg't U. S.
Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

Ashley

D

75

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dames
*Sgt, Co. 1, 3 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.**

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *May & June*, 186*3*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks: *Appointed April*
11/63 in place of Charles
Schemmerhorn, discharged
Feb'y 23/63,

* This organization subsequently became Co. *1*, 75 Reg't U.S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark :

Adison

Copyist.

D

75

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

24, Co. G, 3 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for July & Aug., 1863

Present or absent

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

Discharged Aug
11/63, by Maj. Genl Banks,
by special order No. 196.

* This organization subsequently became Co. G, 75 Reg't U.S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark :

Hamm

D

75

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dane

2^d Lt., Co. G, 75 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on Co. Muster-out Roll, dated

New Orleans La, Nov ²⁵~~27~~^{*}, 1863.

Muster-out to date _____, 186 .

Last paid to _____, 186 .

Clothing account:

Last settled _____, 186 ; drawn since \$ _____ 100

Due soldier \$ _____ 100; due U. S. \$ _____ 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$ _____ 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$ _____ 100

Bounty paid \$ _____ 100; due \$ _____ 100

Remarks: Joined 47th Mass Vols. Discharged
to receive promotion as 2^d Lt. in 3^d C.D.
A per S.O. no. Hd Qrs Dept of Gulf
discharged to receive promotion 11th
C.D.A per S.O. no. Hd Qrs Dept of
Gulf Aug 11/63
**Corrected Reg. 4, 96 A. O. A.*

Book mark: _____

H. Miller

Samuel Fredrick

H., Co. *B*, 75 Reg't *U. S. C. S.*

Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs or L. of A.
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Descriptive Lists	Orders
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record
Enlistment Papers	Resignations

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough or L. of A.
Casualty Sheet	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertion	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

D

1131

1863

Port Hudson

Aug 1st 1863

Frederic Dame

Lt. 3rd Inf. C d A

Requests discharge
as 2nd Lt and remuster
as Capt.

75 uses.

2nd Lt Frederic Dame

3rd Inf C d A.

to be Capt.

Disch

S.O. 196 Aug 11/63

Ad Gen Port Hudson

Major

Respectfully forwarded

Approved

Geo. L. Andrews

Brig Gen. Vol.

Amey Post &

in the d. of view

Port Hudson Aug. 1st 1863

Lieut Col R.B. Irwin
Asst adjt General
Dept of the Gulf

Sir

I hereby respectfully tender
my resignation of my Commission
as 2^d Lieut. G.C. 3^d Regt. Arkansas to accept
a Commission as Captain
in the 1st Regiment of
Infantry Corps d' Afrique

Very respectfully
Yours Obedt
Frederic Danne

83rd U.S.C.T Muster Sheets

1574

Dame Frederick

Co *B*, **83** U.S. Col'd Inf.

Captain | *Captain.*

CARD NUMBERS.

1	<i>7144776</i>	26
2	<i>7144829</i>	27
3	<i>7144882</i>	28
4	<i>7144937</i>	29
5	<i>7144986</i>	30
6	<i>7145031</i>	31
7	<i>7145075</i>	32
8	<i>D 375-C.T.-1864</i>	33
9		34
10		35
11		36
12		37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Book Mark: *D 375-C.T.-1864*

See also *3 Inftry C. de A.*

P1477501 Ant. W.D

R-P. 506044

A2330267-P.O., M. & M.

Q12118020

Indround
Ex

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Fredrick D. Ame

Capt, Co. *B*, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Age *31* years.

Appears on

Company Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Port Hudson La., Aug 17 186*3*.

Muster-in to date

Aug 17, 186*3*.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When *Aug 10*, 186*3*.

Where *Port Hudson*

Period *3* years.

Remarks: *recharged as 2nd*
3rd Supt. C. d. A. by S.O. 196
recpt. of the Gulf, dated
Aug. 11, 1863

* This organization subsequently became Co. *B*, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

9375-67-1864

E. P. Man

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

Capt., Co. *B*, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Aug 17 to Aug 31*, 186*3*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. *B*, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

E. J. Masi

(358)

Captist

Compr.

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Darné
Capt., Co. B., 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept & Oct*, 186*3*

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. B, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

(358)

E. R. Masi

Copyright
Compr

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Fredrick Dame
Capt., Co. *B*, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Nov 1863*, 186 *13*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. *B*, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

(358)

E. P. Masi
Copyist
Comper

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

Capt., Co. 13, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Jan & Feb, 1864

Present or absent present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. 13, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

(358)

E. P. Masi

Copyist

Compr

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Fredrick Dame

Capt, Co. *B*, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Wash Capt*, 186 *4*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. , 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

(358)

E. R. Masi

Copyist
Compr

20

83

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame

Capt., Co. *B*, 11 Reg't Inf., Corps d'Afrique.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *May & June*, 186*4*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

*This organization subsequently became Co. *B*, 83 Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry.

Book mark:

C. R. Masi

(358)

Copied.

Camp

NO. 1 83 U.S.O.S.

Frederick Daine
Capt., Co. B, 11 Reg't Corps d'Afrique

NOTATION.

Book mark: *NO 375 P.S. 1862*

Record and Pension Office,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, *June 7, 1899.*

Under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved February 24, 1897, this officer is held and considered by this Department to have been mustered into the service of the United States in the grade of _____

captain
Co. B, 11 Reg't Corps d'Afrique

to take effect from *Aug. 15, 1863,*

to file an original vacancy.

A. G. N.

James Frederick

_____, Co. _____, *P 3* Reg't *U. S. C. I.*

2

Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs or L. of A.
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Descriptive Lists	Orders
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record
Enlistment Papers	Resignations

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough or L. of A.
Casualty Sheet	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information <i>2</i>
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertion	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

New Orleans Aug. 20th 1863
St. Col. R.B. Shurin }
Assist. Adjt. Gen. }

Sir,

I was formerly connected with the 4th Regt. Mass. Vol's, from which I was promoted by commission from Gen. Banks to a 2^d Lieutenantcy in the 3^d Regt. Corps d'Afrique.

I have recently been promoted again by order of Brig. Gen. Andrews to a captaincy in the 11th Regt. Corps d'Afrique, — I have complied with the orders in writing for my discharge from the 4th Regt. Mass. Vol's, but as yet have failed in receiving a reply. I now earnestly request that I may receive my discharge as above. The regt. having returned home and been discharged. My papers for promotion to my new command are incomplete and delayed on account of my not having received the above discharge. — My commission as Lieut. in the 3^d Regt. is dated April 6th 1863, when I reported for duty.

My Commission as Captain in the 11th Regt. is dated Aug. 10th 1863, when I am on duty at present.

I am by permission of Brig. Gen. Andrews in the city for a brief period, for the transaction of important business, and an early attendance to the above request will alone enable me to accomplish this business successfully.

I am

Yours Obedt. Servt.

Frederic Dame
Capt. 11th Regt. Corps d'Afrique
Port Hudson.

Aug. 20th 1863
Request of Frederic Dame
Capt. 11th Regt. Corps d'Affaires
for paper of discharge
from the 11th Regt. Mass. Vol's

This applicant
has been discharged
as a 2nd Lt. to enable
him to accept Captaincy
but never as Enlisted
man to become an

and return to the

S.O. 206 Aug 21/63

Port. Hudson Aug. 17th 1863

G. B. Walsted }
A. A. General }

Sir:

I respectfully request
permission to be absent from my command for
seven days for the purpose of assisting my
brother in law Chaplain Lincoln 22nd Me Vol^s,
convalescent from the Gen. Hospital, in obtaining
passage and attendance to his home in Bangor
Me. from New Orleans.

Approved
J. H. H. H. H.
Major Comdr
11th Regt Corps
d'Afrique

Very respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
Frederic Dame
Capt. 11th Regt. Corps d'Afrique

File Aug 26
Port Hudson Aug. 17. 1863

Request of Capt. Fred Dame
11th Regt. Corps application for
leave of absence for seven days
§ 3 U.S.C. Inf Sec

A. F. Geo. W. S. Farnes.

P. H. Aug. 7. 63.

Approved.

By command

Brij. Genl. Andrews.

Geo. A. Fiske, Jr

Lt. & Co. D.C.

Ward per Swan
to Port Hudson

Cr. O. Aug. 22 1863

Chas. Noble

Capt a/gm

125th U.S.C.T Muster Sheets

300
Daniel Frederick
Co *A*, 125 U.S. Col'd Inf.

Captain *Captain*
CARD NUMBERS.

1	<i>7319565</i>	26	<i>42579890</i>
2	<i>7328768</i>	27	<i>42579941</i>
3	<i>7328949</i>	28	<i>42579977</i>
4	<i>7321041</i>	29	<i>42580012</i>
5	<i>7321132</i>	30	<i>42580044</i>
6	<i>7321215</i>	31	<i>42773004</i>
7	<i>7321297</i>	32	<i>42773032</i>
8	<i>7321378</i>	33	<i>42611078</i>
9	<i>7321450</i>	34	<i>42611104</i>
10	<i>7321520</i>	35	<i>42611131</i>
11	<i>7321583</i>	36	<i>42611157</i>
12	<i>7321646</i>	37	<i>42611173</i>
13	<i>7321703</i>	38	<i>42611197</i>
14	<i>7321760</i>	39	<i>4261231</i>
15	<i>7321816</i>	40	<i>4261248</i>
16	<i>7321871</i>	41	<i>42612830</i>
17	<i>7321926</i>	42	<i>42612839</i>
18	<i>9435401</i>	43	<i>42557833</i>
19	<i>9435453</i>	44	<i>42612848</i>
20	<i>46910577</i>	45	<i>42557839</i>
21	<i>40910569</i>	46	<i>42557851</i>
22	<i>42688999</i>	47	<i>42557862</i>
23	<i>42689107</i>	48	<i>42612870</i>
24	<i>42689171</i>	49	
25	<i>42579869</i>	50	

Book Mark: *1514. Co. J. 83.*

See also *73. 2868.*

P1477501 And. R.D.

S1548170 = And. MA

R.D. 506044

J2330267 - R.D., Mr. & Mrs.

Al9118020

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Danne
Capt, Co. G, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *July & Aug*, 186*5*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks: *Capt 72 1st 6 I. Tem-*
porarily assigned to 460
S.O. 34 Aug 18/65 Order
Maj Goshost.

Book mark:

D | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Fred Danne
Capt, Co. G, 125 Reg't U.S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Sep & Oct, 1865.

Present or absent

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks: 72nd M.B.I. relieved
from temporary duty with
the Co Per I.O. No. 39 Reg
Hd Qrs dated Sep 29th 1865.

Book mark:

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dams

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept & Oct*, 186 *5*

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Late Capt. 72
U. S. C. I.

Book mark:

Morgan

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt., Co. 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Age 33 years.

Appears on an

Individual Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Louisville Ky, Nov 3, 1865.

Muster-in to date Aug 17, 1865.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When Aug 17, 1865.

Where Louisville Ky

Period 3 years.

Remarks: This muster to bear date
& take effect Aug 17/65 in
accordance with letter of
instruction from the A.G.O. dated
Oct-21/65 to the Maj. Genl. Comdg.
Dept. Ky. Muster out to bear

Book mark:

Bowman

MAR 10

7319565

1891 *

date Aug 16/65 by reason
of consolidation of the 72^d
U.S. C.I.

Reappointed by the War Dept.
Oct 21/65 to the 125th U.S. C.I.
Rec^d pay as Capt. 125th
U.S. C.I. to include Oct 31, 1865
by Maj. Thornton.

J.

125

usct
V.R.C

Fred Dume,
Capt Co. A. 125 Regt. V.R.C

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill.,

for the month of *November*, 1865,

dated *Nov 30* 1865,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: *Reported for duty at
Cairo, Ill. Nov 29 1865
In command of two (2)
Companies of the 125 Regt
U.S. C.S. per SO. No. 118
dated Hd. Qrs. 1st Ohio Nov
19/65
Present*

Book mark:

F. Tharin

D. | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Frederic Same
Capt. 125 Regt U.S.C.T.

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill.,

for the month of December, 1865,
dated Dec 31, 1865.

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks:

Present
On duty with det.
125 Regt U.S.C.T.

Book mark:

F. Tharin

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederick K Dame

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Nov & Dec*, 186*5*.

Present or absent. *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

morg

D. | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Frederic Same,
Capt. Co. 125 Regt. U.S.C.

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill.,

for the month of *January*, 186 *6*

dated *Jan. 31* 186 *6*

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks:

Present
On duty with 125 U.S.
C.

Book mark:

F. Tharin

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt, Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Jan & Feb*, 186*6*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

Morgan

Copyist.

D. | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Frederic Same,
Capt. Co. A. 125 Reg^t U.S.C.I.

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill,

for the month of February, 1866,

dated March 7, 1866,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: Present

On Board of Survey
per S.O. no. 11, dated 14. Jan
Post of Cairo, Illinois, Feb.
22, 1866

Book mark :

F. Tharin

D. 125 U.S.C.T.

*Fred Same,
Capt. Co. A. 125 Regt. U.S.P.S.*

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill.,

for the month of *March*, 186*6*,

dated *Apr. 1* 186*6*,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: *Present*
On duty, with the 125
U.S.P.S.

Book mark:

F. Tharin

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Name

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Mar + Apl, 1864.

Present or absent

Present

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

Hyman

Copyist.

D. | 125 U.S.C.I.

Fred Dams

Capt. Co. A. 125 Regt U.S.C.I.

Return

of the Post of Cairo, Ill.,

for the month of *April*, 186*6*,

dated *May 12*, 186*6*,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station

Remarks: *Present*

*On duty with the 125
U.S.C.I.*

Book mark :

J. Tharin

11

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Name

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for

May & June, 1866.

Present or absent

Present

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

J. H. Rye

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for July & Aug, 1866.

Present or absent Present

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

Byrne

Copyist.

D | 125 | 2106T,

Frederic Dane

Capt. Co. A. 125 Regt. U.S.C.T.

Return

of Fort Selden, N. Mex.,

for the month of Aug, 1866,

dated Sept 1, 1866,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: Present

Comd'g. Company

Book mark:

R. C. Collins

28 | 125 | 21.0.6.5.

Frederic Darnie
Capt. 60 A 125 Regt U. S. 6. 5.

Return

of Fort Selden, N. Mex.,

for the month of Sept, 1866,

dated Sept. 30, 1866,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks:

Transferred to Fort
Craig N. M. Sept 6/66.

Book mark: _____

Q 1 125 U.S.C.T.

Frederick Dame
Capt Co A 125 U.S.C.T.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of Sept, 1866,

dated Sept 30, 1866,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station _____

Remarks: Parent, Comdg. Co

Book mark: _____

o J. M. M.

D 1 125 16 S. T.

Frederic Dame
Capt Co. 1, 125 U. S. T.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of *Oct*, 186*6*,
dated *Oct 31*, 186*6*,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station _____

Remarks: *Present Comdg Co.*

Book mark: _____

a Major

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt, Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Sept - Oct, 1866.

Present or absent

Present

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

Hyas

Fred Dame
Capt Co A 125 U. S. I. T.

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

dated Nov 30, 1866

Post or station, _____

Remarks: Current, Bond & Co

Book mark : _____

Copyist.

D | 125 V.S.B.P.

Fred Dame
Capt Co. S. 125 V.S.B.P.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of Dec, 1866

dated Dec 31, 1866

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station

Remarks :

Private Reg. Garrison
Comdg Co.

Book mark :

C. Moore

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Nov + Dec*, 186*6*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

DS | 125 U.S.C.T.

And Same
Capt. Co. 1. 125 U.S.C.T.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of Jan, 186 7,

dated Jan 31, 186 7,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station _____

Remarks: Reg Garrison Present

Condgt Co

Book mark : _____

D 1 125 U.S.A.

Fred Dame
Capt. Co. 125 U.S.A.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of Feb, 186 7,

dated Feb 28, 186 7,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station _____

Remarks : Reg Garrison Pursuit
Comd Co Sick

Book mark : _____

Imon

10 • | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Fred . Dame

Capt, Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Jan + Feb*, 186*7*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

H. J. ...

D 1 125 U.S.P.

Fred Dame
Capt. Co. A. 125 U.S.P.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of March, 1867,
dated March 31, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station _____

Remarks : Loc. H^d grs Co. A. 125
U.S.P. left Post for Fort Lyon
March 26, 67 per S. O. No 45 C.S.
H^d grs Dept of Mo Feb. 25. 67.

Book mark : _____

D | 125 | 16.8.67
Fred Dams
Capt Co. A. 125th U.S. C. I.

Return

of Fort Craig, New Mexico,

for the month of April, 1867,
dated April 30, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above :

Post or station

Remarks :

Reg. Garrison. Gain.
Arrived at Fort April 5, 67
Hd qrs. Co. A. 125th U.S. C. I.
ordered back to Fort Craig
March 27, 67 per S. O. No 10, C. I.
Hd qrs. Dist N. M.
Reg. Garrison. Loss.
Left Fort for Fort Bayard
March April 21 67 per S. O.
No 17 C. I. Hd qrs. Dist N. M.

Book mark :

Known

10, 125 U.S.A.

F. Lane,
Capt. Co. A 125 U.S.A.

Return

of Fort Cummings, N. Mex.,

for the month of April, 1867,

dated April 20, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: April 22, arrived
with Co. A 125 U.S.A.
enroute to Fort Bayard.

Book mark : _____

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederick D. Gamel

Reg't., Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Mar. & Apr.*, 186*7*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

R. F. F. F.

10 | 125 | U.S. I. & T.

Frederick Dame
Captain Co. A. 125 U. S. I. & T.

Return

of Fort Bayard, N. M.,

for the month of May, 1867,

dated May 31, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: Absent on detached service
at Fort Craig N. M. on G. C. M. per
D.O. 92 Had leave Sept of Mo. April 27/67
left Camp May 24/67 joined for
duty May 1/67

Book mark:

W. R. Lee

125 125 125

F. D. Lane

Sept 125 125 125

Return

of Fort Cummings, N. Mex.,

for the month of May, 1867,

dated June 1, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: May 24 arrived
May 30 left for Fort
Selden, N.M.

Book mark:

D 125-12589

Name
Capt 125-12589

Return

of Fort Cummings, N. Mex.,

for the month of *June*, 186*7*,
dated *June 30*, 186*7*,
shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: *June 22 arrived*
en route to Fort Bayard,
N.M.

Book mark : _____

M. W. Seal
Copyist.

10 | 125 | U.S. 65

Frederick Dame
Captain Co A 125 U.S. 65

Return

of Fort Bayard, N. M.,

for the month of June, 1867,

dated June 30, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station

Remarks: Present, Comdg Compy A.

since June 24/67

Book mark: 1867

W. R. Lee

20

125

U.S.C.T.

Ored Oamel

Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for May, 4th June, 1867.

Present or absent

Stoppage, \$100 for

Due Gov't, \$100 for

Remarks:

The back increase
of pay due from July 1. 66
to Oct. 28. 67

Book mark:

10 | 125 | U.S. b.T

Frederick Dame
Captain Co A. 125 U.S. b.T

Return

of Fort Bayard, N. M.,

for the month of July, 1867,
dated July 31, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: Present: Comdg Company
A.

Book mark: _____

W. R. Lee

10 | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Fred Name
Captain Co. 9. 125 U.S.C.T.

Return

of Fort Bayard, N. M.,

for the month of August, 1867,
dated August 31, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: Present Comdg Company
and Post

Book mark : _____

W. P. Lee

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Dread (Dane)

Capt, Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for July & Aug., 1867.

Present or absent Present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

R. H. Hall

125 125 125

Dane
Sept 125 125

Return

of Fort Cummings, N. Mex.,

for the month of Sept, 1867,

dated Sept 125, 1867,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: Sept 18 "arrived

went to 125 125

route to Fort Union

Book mark : _____

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Dood & Dame

Capt, Co. A, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept. & Oct.*, 186*7*.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks: *500 ration due for*
July 1 to July 28. 67

Book mark:

B. D. Dood
Copyist.

D | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Fredericks Daniel
Capt., Co. *A*, 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on **Co. Muster-out Roll**, dated

Fort Leavenworth Kan. Dec. 21, 1867.

Muster-out to date

Dec. 21, 1867.

Last paid to

June 30, 1867.

Clothing account:

Last settled _____, 186 ; drawn since \$ _____ 100

Due soldier \$ _____ 100; due U. S. \$ _____ 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$ _____ 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$ _____ 100

Bounty paid \$ _____ 100; due \$ _____ 100

Remarks:

Commanding Company
since Aug. 17/65. Fifty (50) cent
ration due for 28 days in July
1867. Entitled to 3 mos. extra
pay proper, under sect. of Act
approved March 1865, for serv
(over)

Book mark: *1.514 C. P. 83*

MAR 10

7321926

* 1891 *

rices in former regiment. This officer will receive his final pay without further evidence of his non liability to the U. S. he having complied with telegraphic instructions from Hon. Mr. Vincent A. A. G. dated June 13/65 and filed the evidence duly authenticated in the office of the A. C. M. Dept. of the Ins.

10

125

U.S.C.T.

Fred Lane

Capt., Co. 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

Regimental Descriptive Book

(List of Commissioned Officers)

of the regiment named above.

Rank

Capt.

Date of appointment

Aug. 17, 1865.

Remarks:

Transferred from 12 U.S. I. pr. S.O. No. 71 Hd. Qrs. Dept of Ky. Aug. 16/65, & assigned to duty with Co. G. temporarily pr. S.O. 34 Reg't. Hd. Qrs. Recd. appointment as Capt. 125 U.S. I. Aug. 17/65, & assigned to com'd of Co. H pr. S.O. No. 34 Reg't. Hd. Qrs. Sep. 29/65. Stationed at Louisville, Ky. until Nov. 20/65, and was ordered from that post to Cairo, Ills. Left that post Apr. 12/66 for Ft Leavenworth, Ks. (over)

C. E. M. Laughlin

JUN.-2

9435401

1891

I arrived there Apr. 20/66. On duty with Co. across the plains to Ft. Union. Left that post with Regt. July 9/66 for Ft. Selden, & arrived there Aug. 6/66. Was on duty with Co. A that post until Aug. 30/66, when he was ordered with his Co. to Ft. Craig, N. M. pr. S. O. from Dist. Hd. 2rs., where he did garrison duty until Apr. 4/66, when he left for Ft. Bayard, N. M. pr. S. O. No. 17 Hd. 2rs. Dist. of N. M.; on S. C. M. at Ft. Craig pr. S. O. No. 92 Hd. 2rs. Dept. of Mo. Apr. 27/67. Relieved from duty at Ft. Bayard, N. M. per Par. 1. S. O. No. 63 Hd. 2rs. Dist. of N. M. Aug. 12/67 & ordered to proceed to Ft. Union, N. M. pr. Par. 4 of same order preparatory to marching to Ft. Riley, Mo. to be mustered out of service of the U. S. Arrived at Ft. Union, N. M. Oct. 15/67. Relieved from duty in the Dist. of N. M. per S. O. 124 Hd. 2rs. Dist. of N. M. Nov. 17/67 & ordered to proceed to Ft. Leavenworth, Mo. for M. O. of U. S. service, per S. O. No. 52 Hd. 2rs. Dept. of the Mo. Nov. 15/67. Arrived at Ft. Leavenworth, Mo. Dec. 14/67.

20 | 125 | U.S.C.T.

Fred Dame

Capt., Co. A 125 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on

Regimental Descriptive Book

(List of Commissioned Officers)

of the regiment named above.

Rank

Capt.

Date of appointment

Aug. 17, 1865.

Remarks:

O. E. McLaughlin

D

125

U.S.C.T.

Frederic Dame

Capt, Co. ^G_A, 125 Reg't U. S. Colored Inf.

Appears on Returns as follows :

Sept 1865 Loss transferred
to Co A. 125 U.S.C. Inf.

Oct 1865 (Co A) Present
assigned to command
of Co A by S.O. dated
Hd. Qrs 125 U.S.C.

Louisville Ky 1865
Nov 1865 to Apl 1867 Present
May 1867 Absent at Ft Craig.
N.M. in attendance as G.C.M.
per S.O. 92 Hd. Qrs Dept
Mo. dated Ft Leavenworth
Ks. Apl 27/67

June to Nov 1867 Present

Book mark:

H. R. Street

D | 72 | Use by

Fredk Daine

Capt, Co., ¹²⁵~~72~~ Reg't Use by

Appears on Returns

of 125 Reg't Use by

as follows: Aug 18 65 (C. G.) Present

72 Use I temporarily
assigned to duty with
be G. 125 Use I per S.O. 34
dated Hd. Qrs. Aug 18/65

Book mark:

J. R. Street

A 1 125-1 USC.

Fred Dame

Capt 125 Regt U.S.C.I.

Return

of the Post of Louisville, Ky.,

for the month of Aug, 186 5,

dated Sept 12, 186 5,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: _____

Book mark: _____

J. Merchant

Fred Dame
Capt 125 U.S.C.I.

Book mark: _____

J. Merchant

D 1 125 N.O.C.I.

Fred Dame

Capt 125 Regt N.O.C.I.

Return

of the Post of Louisville, Ky.,

for the month of Oct, 1865,

dated Dec. 14, 1865,

shows the following with regard to the person
named above:

Post or station _____

Remarks: Present

Book mark: _____

J. Meacham

Same Fred

Capt, Co. 125 Reg't U.S.C. Inf.

5

Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Descriptive Lists
Burial Records	Final Statements
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Furloughs
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Med. Certificates	Orders 2

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough
Casualty Sheet (Officer's)	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information 3
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertions	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

Ad 2nd Dist of Ills
Springfield Dec^r 21st 1865.

Capt Frederic Danne
Comdg Post Cairo Ills

Captain

The Genl
Comdg directs that in future, you report
yourself as present for duty with your
Command, and not upon Special duty,
as heretofore. You are in Command of
the Post of Cairo, Ills. By virtue of your
Seniority, and not by any orders from
there Ad 2nd, placing you on Special
Duty for that purpose.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
W. F. Layton
1st Lt & a. c. a. g.

Dec. 21, 1865

Fred. Dame

125. U. S. Co. Inf

Head Quarters. Dist. Ill

Springfield Ill

Dec. 21/65

Layton Jas. F.

1st Lt. U. S. C. & A. A. G.

directs that in the
future Capt. Dame reports
himself for "duty" instead
of "special duty" as heretofore

Rec. 7th Div. O.C. Dec. 23/65

Carr March 31st 1866

Kerry James M,
Co. B. 125th A. I. B.

Requests in order
to ~~turn~~ cap. J. D. am,
Co. A to turn over to
me my own clothing &
Camp & Garrison
Equipment which he
has surplus on hand

At San Mar

Cairo Ill

March 31st 1866

Wm. Schuler
Lt Col Adp.

Sir

I have the honor
to request an Order for Capt. Damm
Co. "A" 125th A.C.S. to transfer to me
a surplus of Clothing, Camp and Garrison
Equipment which he has on hand.

I am, Sir, Respectfully

James M. Ken
Lt Col "B" 125th A.C.S.



Headquarters Fort Craig. N. M.

March 14th 1867

Special Orders
No. 37 }

The garrison court martial convened per Special Orders No. 35 c. s. from these A. d. O. s. and of which Captain Fred. D. Lane, 125th reg. C. I. is president will reconvene at this post at 10 o'clock. a. m. to-day or as soon thereafter as practicable for reconsideration of sentences.

By order of
Col. W. R. Gerhardt
sgmt / Carlton Seymour
Lieut and actg Post adjt

Official:
Carlton Seymour
Lieut and actg Post adjt

S. O. 37

Post-Office N. M.
March 14, 1907

Garrison Leont Martial

Fred Darne

125 West

Headquarters Fort Bayard N.M.
Sept 12 1867

General Order }
No. 10 }

The undersigned hereby relinquishes
Command of the Post

(Sgd) Fred Dams
Capt 125th N.M. Troops

Official
B. M. Custer
2^d Lt 38th Regt
Post Adjutant

90 No 10

Port. Bay and
Sept 12 67

Capt D and retungush
Command 125 uset

Butin & Fili

Fort Union N.M.

October 29. 1864

1st Lt. A. W. Kerner

Capt. 125th U.S. Troop

Sir

I have the honor hereby
to report to Col. Wm R. Gishart ~~command~~ 125th
U.S. Troop, for orders, in accordance with
letter of instructions dated Head Qrs. District of
New Mexico, Santa Fe. N.M. Oct. 26. 1864.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Yours obedient servant,

Thos. Dams,

Capt. 125th U.S. Troop.

Command Detachment & Cos. A and I

Same, Fred,