

A

Fort Steilacoom, W.T.

January 5, 1855

Governor:

It having been my lot to have been engaged in active operations against the Indians of the Sound I know something of the conduct of those who were engaged in hostilities. I shall not attempt however to discuss the part taken by individuals in the war and thereby measure to each one his degree of guilt. But with regard to the Indian Chief Leschi, I would briefly remark that by the operations of the war he and his followers were driven across the Cascade range of mountains, he there surrendered himself to Col. Wright who was in command of that region and who so far as his authority extended, pardoned him.

He then by the advice of the Colonel returned to his own country and while endeavoring to make his peace with the authorities he was taken and delivered up by the treachery of one of his followers. He has now been confined in the guardhouse at this post for more than a year. I am told that Leschi has been tried by the civil authorities of the Territory for murder and sentenced to death on the 22nd inst.

^a
From map which is before me and from the representations of Lieut. Kautz who made the measurement I doubt the possibility of the testimony which convicted him, being true.

Believing that both justice and policy require it, I do most respectfully recommend that he be respited until the wishes of the President of the United States can be known on the matter.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servant.

Silas Casey, Lieut Col 9th Inf.
Commanding post.

to His Excellency. Fayette McMullin,
Governor of Washington Territory
Olympia, W.T.

Fort Steilacoom W.T.

January 22nd, 1855

Governor:

Your communication of 2 1/2 a.m. is just received; and in reply I would say that the Sheriff of Pierce County was somewhat mistaken in the information which he conveyed to you with regard to what I said to him. When the Sheriff applied to me for a guard (which was in the presence of L. McKibbin) I said to him that inasmuch as he was to execute the judgment of a Civil Court of the Territory, he had the power and it was also his duty as Sheriff of the country to call the posse to his aid.

I also said to him that if he then found that he had not sufficient force to execute the law he could officially call upon me, and I would consider the case.

Your excellency is aware that by the nature of our institutions it has always been the policy of the government to employ the regular forces as little as possible, in the execution of civil processes.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

Signed Silas Casey

Lieut. Col. 9th Infy.

Commanding post

To:

His Excelcy . Fayette McMullin

Governor of Washington Ty.

Olympia, W.T.

P.S. The sheriff called on me this morning and I directed a guard to be held in readiness in case of necessity.

Ho. of Rps. July 28, 1855. Hon. Columbia Lancaster. Enc: Copy of an act "Making appropriations for the construction of certain

mil roads in the Territories of Nebraska & Washington and recommends that Lieut. John Mullan be placed in charge of the Northern route across the Rocky Mountains.

L-36 March 2, 1855 2 18B 55

Mullan on duty in Flor (?) and cannot be spared
131357 6518

A field officer of the Top. Corps will be detailed to take the general charge of all authorized military roads to be constructed on the Pacific Coast and also the general superintendencies of Light House on that coast. Col. Albert will ~~designate~~ designate an officer for the purpose. Jeffn. Davis, Sec of War. War Dept. March 30, 55
TOPWG. Office.

House of Representatives

February 25, 1855

Sir:

I have the honor and happiness of including herein a copy of "An Act Making Appropriations for the construction of certain military roads in the Territories of Nebraska and Washington."

The prosperity of the Territory of Washington requires that there shall be opened as soon as practicable another passage across the Rocky Mountains. The present route, or "South Pass" ~~draws~~ draws through it the emigrations ofx to California, Utah, Oregon and Washington. The teams, cattle and other stock do not find sufficient grass or other food and often die in great numbers for this cause and from poisonous waters which produce great suffering to persons and loss of immedie property. Again: Where great numbers are crowing forward in search of gold, there is not that care for the rights of the Indians along the route that there wouldbe by ~~emigrants~~ emigrants who intend to cultivate the soil in the vicinity of the tribes who inhabit near the the route, and whose kind offices and friendship it would be their interest continually to maintain and ccultivate For these causes I believe the northern route will be always safe as comparéd ~~with~~ to the South Pass route. Better and safer in every respect and would be the road which the Secretary of War would

select for the transportation of troops and munitions of war. I am informed by Lieut. John Mullan that he took a cart along this route over the Rocky Mountains. That he has much knowledge of the different crossings or passes. That he remained in the passes of the mountains during the winter and that in his opinion \$30,000 properly expended would make the road passable. Without permitting myself hereby to suggest yet was so favorably impressed with the talents and experience of the Lieut. in the matter, that I cannot refrain from expressing a desire that he be placed in charge of this part of the road.

With much esteem

I am your obedient servant

Columbia Lancaster

Delegate from Washington

Hon. Jefferson Davis

Secretary of War

An Act

Making appropriations for the construction of certain military roads in the Territories of Nebraska and Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums of money be, and the same are hereby appropriated for the construction of military roads in the Territories of Nebraska and Washington, to wit: For the construction of a military road from the Great Falls of the Missouri river in the Territory of Nebraska to intersect the military road now established leading from Walla Walla to Puget's sound, thirty thousand dollars; for the construction of a military road from the Dalles of the Columbia to Columbia City Barracks, twenty-five thousand dollars; for the construction of a military road from Columbia City barracks to Fort Steilacoom on Puget's sound ; thirty thousand dollars

2

The said military roads shall be constructed under the direction of the Secretary of War.

Approved Feb. 6, 1855

Dept. of State

Feb. 28, 1855

A true copy carefully collated with the original roll

W.G. Center)?)

Chief clerk

General Services Administration , 1954

H. Dean Guie Collection

Letters of the War Dept.

Office of the Adjutant General

Letters Received 1854-1858

149 Trenton, N.J. March 22, 1855

D. Woodruff, capt. 9th infy. Accepts. Appt. forwards oath
etc. (1 enclosure) noted. Received March 24/55

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Trenton N.J.

March 22nd, 1855

Sir:

I herewith transmit my acceptance of the appointment of captain
in the Ninth Regiment of U.S. Infantry and beg to present my
acknowledgements of the honor conferred.

Very Respectfully

Yr. obt. servt.

Dickinson Woodruff

Hon.

J. Davis

Secretary of War

Washington.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd, 54/58

Wilkesbarre
Penn~~a~~

March 23rd, 1855

Hon Jefferson Davis

Secretary of War

Sir:

The notice from the War Department dated March 20, 1855, of my appointment as captain of the 9th Rgt. of Infantry by the president was received this morning.

I hereby accept of the appointment and ... to instructions enclose herewith the oath as directed.

I have also the honor to report that my age is forty one years, that I was born in Wilkesbarre, state of Pennsylvania that I am a resident of that place and was so at the date of my appointment.

Very respectfully, your obt. servt.

Francis L. Bowman

(Oath enclosed. Dated, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1855, signed Francis L. Bowman)

88 NewYork City March 24, 55. R.S. Garnett, captain In relation to
t.... his company of cavalry. Received "arch 26, 1855.

New York City

"arch 24, 1855

Colonel:

I deem it probable that my transfer from the 7th Infantry to the 1st Cavalry will involve some changes in the duties in which I am now engaged. I have been here nearly four months recruiting men for our company (A 7th Infantry) and have so far got about 50 picked men. I have taken much pains in the selection of these men and feel reluctant to give them up. "any of these men are well suited to Cavalry service and several are anxious to be transferred to that arm of service. Under these circumstances I venture to ask if I may be permitted to select from them such ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ as are suited to Cavalry service to constitute a part of my company in the 1st Cavalry.

I beg leave further to say that if the orders for the recruiting of the new regiment are to emanate originally from your office it would be acceptable to me, if compatible with the interests of the service, to continue my recruiting at this place. Under these circumstances I should have no objection to continuing in the recruiting for Company A 7th Infantry if it should be so desired

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully sir

Your Obedt. Servt.

R.S. Garnett,

Captain 1st Cav.

Colonel Samuel Cooper
Adjut. Genl. of the Army
U.S.A.

I Dickinson Woodruff, born and now resident at Trenton New Jersey, aged thirty seven years, appointed a captain in the Ninth Regiment of Infantry ['printing' from here on] in the Army of the United States do solemnly swear or affirm that I will bear true Allegiance to the United States of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or ~~opponents~~ opposers whatever and observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the Officers appointed over me according to the rules and Articles for the government of the Armies of the United States.

Dickinson Woodruff

Sworn to and subscribed before me
at the city of Trenton New Jersey
this 25th day of March, 1855
Wm. C. Howeley (?) justice of the peace
of Mercer county , N.J.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54/58

H.D.G. Collection

102 New York, March 29, 1855

Recruiting Rendezvous

183 Chambers St., New York

March 29, 55

Colonel:

Under the authority granted me by your communication of the 26th inst. I have selected from the men whom I had enlisted for Company A 7th Infantry the following named men as being well suited for Cavalry service.

Viz: John Kaufmann, William Douglas, John Murphy, William H. McDougall, Alexander F. McDougall, John Kempfer, Charles Graul, Henry Bernasco, John F. Mertesdorf, Louis Vorass, Morris Wolf, Frederick E. Wusth)? Thomas ~~Dooley~~ Dooley, Rudolph Wagner, Samuel Walsh, John Frost, Richard Flemming, David Garrison ~~Walsh~~ Daniel Walsh, Lewis H. Larsom, Lewis Held, in all 21.

The superintendent of the General Recruiting Service informs me that an order from your office transferring these men to company A 1st Cavalry will be necessary and I beg that it may be issued to take effect on the 1st ? As understood by your communication of the 26th inst that I am to recruit my company of Cavalry in this City and as there is no ... clothing on Government Island I shall in a few days forward to the QM general my estimate for a year's supply for the company unless in the meantime I should be instructed to the contrary.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

R.S. Garnett,

Captain 1 Cav & bvt. maj.

Colonel Samuel Cooper,
Adjutant general of the Army

Bureau of Topographical Engineers

Washington March 31st, 1855

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your directive of the 30th instant to designate a field officer of the corps to have the general charge of all military roads authorized to be constructed on the Pacific Coast and also the general superintendence of Light Houses on that coast.

In obedience to this directive I have the honor to designate Major Hartman Dache.

To enable the officer properly to attend to these duties all officers now upon said duties should be ordered to report to him and to take his orders. He should also be directed, on all Light House matters to correspond with the Light House Board and to take its instructions and upon all other matters to correspond with this Bureau.

Respectfully sir

Your obt. servt.

I.I. Albert

Col Corps

Hon. Jefferson Davis,
Secretary of War

42 A Baltimore Md. March 31, 1855
James J. Archer Capt. 9th Infy. Accepts appt. etc. (enclosure)

Baltimore

31st March 1855

To

The Adjutant Genl, U.S. Army, Sir:

I have the honor hereby to communicate the acceptance of my appointment as Captain in the 9th Rgt. of Infantry and as requested to report my age between thirty eight and thirty nine years.

Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

J.J. Archer

Capt. 9th Infantry

P.S. I was born in the state of Maryland and resided in the city of Baltimore and state of Maryland at the time of my appointment

J.J. Archer, Capt. 9th infantry.

(Oath enclosed... I James J. Archer appointed a captain of infantry .. this 26th day of March, 1855, at the city of Baltimore)

War Dept. Letters rec'd. 54/58

Recruiting Rendezvous

183 Chambers St. New York, April 2, 1855

Colonel:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of General orders No. 4 current series. The last ^{sentence} ~~paragraph~~ of Par. V states that "All officers will take rank in their respective grades from March ~~30~~ 3 1855." ...respectfully to be informed whether I am to understand (sic) by this sentence that I have lost the rank which I acquired while in the 7 infantry. My date as a captain in that Regt. is March 9, 47 and in accepting my transfer or appointment to the first regiment of Cavalry I presumed that I should retain it. There are precedents for this and among them I will call to your notice the case of Captain A.S. Shins (?) of the dept. In this dept. he takes his place and holds the rank he acquired while in the 4th artillery although the law under which he was appointed or transferred to Sub Dept. was passed subsequent to his promotion to the artillery. This is a question of much interest to me and should all the mounted regiments of the army be merged into one camp it is highly probable I should claim to take my place on the final list of captains just below Captain~~x~~ (Sic) Ewell (?) of the First Dragoons. I beg that I may be informed of the subject ~~xxxxxx~~ at your earliest convenience.

I remain

Your obdt. servt.

R.S. Garnett

Capt. 1 reg of Cav. Pvt Maj.

Colonel Samuel Cooper

Adjt. General of the Army

Washington Dity .

Spl. 13. Col S has the same opinion on the subject of the enclosed note as I have. Can I ask that the necessary order may be issued and that these men may be transferred to take effect on the 1st of April? and per this date be cause? under the authority of your letter of Marcy 26. I have recommended two of the men selected to be appointed sgts. and to be be ...to date. and Col. Sumner has thus appointed them. I should know how to muster them if they ~~xxx~~ were transferred any other date subsequent to April 1.

Will you be kind enough also to add the name of Jamie Tisconey now of Co. A 7th Infy. to the 21 I have already sent you? May I also ask your action at the same time with reference to the transfer of [all inside]

Head Qrs

Fort Columbus, 12th April 55

Maj:

I find by Col. Cooper's letter of the 4th of April such men as you may select from those specially enlisted by you for comp A 7th Infy are to be held subject to further orders in regard to their appointment to your company of cavalry. This will supercede the necessity of applying for their transfer as I presume in due time to that effect will be issued at Washington

Your obt. servt.

J. J. Abercrombie

Lt. Col. Supt GR?

Bvt. Maj. R. Garnett,
1st Cavalry N.Y.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54/58

HDG

Fort Gibson C.N. (?)

April 14, 1855

Colonel:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter of the 20th ultimo from the Secretary of War informing me of my appointment of first lieutenant in the Ninth ~~Regiment~~ ^{Regiment} of infantry which appointment I have the honor hereby to accept.

The oath of allegiance required will be forwarded as soon as I have an opportunity of taking it which I hope will be in a few days.

Very respectfully

Your most obdt. sservt.

H.M. Black, 1st lieut. 9th infy.

Colonel Samuel Cooper

Adjutant General of the Army

Washington, D.C.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54/58

HDG.

Recruiting Rendezvous

Wilkes Barre, Penn, April 30.55

Sir:

I have forty five recruits zat this station and would recommend their immediate transfer to the Depot at Fort Columbus or to the Headquarters of my regiment at Fort Monroe, Virginia. They are very much in want of clothing and I have ...the necessity of purchasing shoes from my present funds to protect them from in this ague climate.

Very respectfully

Your obt. svt.

Francis L. Bowman,

Capt. 9th regt. infantry
and recruiting officer

To Adj't. Genl. S. Cooper
U.S. Army.

198 G New York City, May 29, 1853 (sic)

R.S. Garnett, major 9 Infy. (1 enclosure) Accepts his appt. as major 9 Infy. Noted. G. Or. 10 , July 10. Rec'd May 31, 1856.

New York City, May 20, 55

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt today of the communication of the Hon. Secretary of War of the 24 and announcing my appointment as major in the ninth regt. of Infantry.

The appointment is accepted and the instructions carried with it will be executed as soon as the Supt. of the Recruiting Service can name an officer to relieve me/ of the public property and funds pertaining to the two recruiting rendezvous now under my charge.

I am sir

Very respectfully

Yr. Obt. servt.

R.S. Garnett,

Maj. 9th Infy.

Col. S. Cooper,

Adjt. Genl. of the Army.

183 Chambers St. New York

May 25, 1855

Sir:

Your letter of the 2rd inst has been received. The instructions contained in it will be complied with as soon as the superintendent of the general recruiting service can name an officer to receive the public property of this rendezvous now under my charge. I ~~think~~ trust that this will be done before the ... inst.

It is proper under the circumstances to inform you that nearly two months ago an estimate for six months supply of clothing for my company of Cavalry was made out and forwarded to Col. ? It was by him transmitted to the Qr. Mr. Generals office with the request that the clothing might be sent to me at Governors Island as soon as practicable. Under date of the 11th inst. I received a letter from the Qr M General informing me that the Qr Master of Philadelphia had been instructed to fill my requisition. This clothing has not yet arrived though I have been daily expecting it here the last ten days. I have not received any instructions of its shipment from Philadelphia.

My men are all without any ... clothing proper to their corps and have only the suit ... by them.

I beg to be informed whether I shall have the clothing behind or wait for it.

I am sir

Very Respectfully

Your odt. servt.

R.S. Garnett,

Capt. 1 Cav and B. maj.

Col. S. Cooper , Adt. Generals office, Wash D.C.

[E pluribus Unum seal]

I Robert S. Garnett appointed a major in the Ninth Regt. of Infy.
in the Army of the United States, do solemnly swear , or affirm that
I will bear true allegiance to the United States of America and that I
will observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States
and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the
rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9th Infy.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
at New York

this 29th day of May, 1855

John Bissell

Notary :Public, justice of the peace

(Public printer

Aug. 8, 1854)

War Dept. Letters Rec'd.

HDG

225 HD Qrs Jeffn. Bks. Mo, June 12, 1855
C. E.W? Summers ? comdy. Reporting Arrival of Major Garnett

Rec'd June 18, 1855

Hd. Qrs.

Jefferson Barracks

June 12, 55

Col:

Major Garnett came from New York to this post in less than five days. He brought 214 men , without the loss of a man ---One man was left behind sick---The success was entirely attributed to the major's great zeal and care

I am col.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

E.V. Sumner

Col 1 (undecipherable)