

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

Fort Simcoe W.T. September 4, 1856 R.S. Garnett Major 9 Infy. Comdy post. In relation to Captain F.L. Bowman, 9th infy. 503 B

(AGO) Oct. 29, 1856 Recd Sept. 13, 1856

Fort Simcoe W.T. September 4, 1856

Sir:

~~INTERESTED~~ I regret to ~~inform you~~ report for the information of the colonel that I have deemed it necessary to send Capt. Bowman 9th Infy. in to the Dalles tomorrow under the charge of Asst. Surgeon Brown in what I conclude to be a state of partial insanity at least. My grounds for this believe and action will be found in the enclosed official opinion of the judicial officer of this post. We have neither the time to spare nor the means of taking care of him properly here while his presence here and particularly his exercise of any command or authority is exceedingly injurious to discipline. The perusal of the enclosed proceedings of a ... court martial order at this place by me on the 25 ult will fully disclose to the colonel the accuracy of this opinion. Being a part of the records of this post I request that the proceedings of the court may be returned to me unless their further retention is deemed necessary by the colonel. I beg leave to say in conclusion that in my judgment that the best ~~interest~~ interest of the service no less than those of Captain Bowman would be essentially advanced if the Capt. were ordered absent to the eastern states on an indefinite sick leave.

I am sir, very respectfully, your etc.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9th Infy. Comdy. post.

Lieut. P.A. Owen

Adj. 9th Infy. USA.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd.

Fort Simcoe W.T. September 4, 1856. Joseph B. Brown, asst. surgeon  
Reports the case of Capt. F.L. Bowman, 9th Infy. 503.13(AGO)

Oct. 29, 1856. Recd. Sept. 12th/56. Sept. 4.

Fort Simcoe, September 4, 1856

Sir:

I am directed by the commanding officer of the post to make a report in the case of Captain Bowman. His condition is such as to demand that he be immediately relieved from duty. His mind is so much impaired that he cannot retain the command of his company without manifest injury to the service. He is laboring under the most remarkable mental hallucinations which entirely unfit him for the performance of his duties. From my knowledge of his case for several months past I am warranted in stating that this mental disease has been gradually coming on and I fear will result in permanent ~~injury~~ insanity. His bodily health is in tolerably good condition.

Very respectfully

Your obt. Srvt.

Joseph B. Brown

Asst. Surgeon.

Lieut Henry Douglass,  
post adjutant.

War Dept. Letters <sup>Rec'd.</sup> 54-58

237 G Banytown (?) N.Y. September 12, 1856

William Gaston <sup>B</sup>vt. 2nd Lieut 2d Drag. Acknowledges recpt. and accepts  
commission etc. (one encbasure) Noted.

Rec. AGO Sept. 13, 1856

<sup>B</sup>a...yton Sept. 12, 1856

...Cooper, Adjutant General U.S.A.

Sir:

I have the honor hereby to <sup>ack</sup>nowledge the receipt & to  
signify my acceptance of a commission of <sup>B</sup>vt. 2nd Lieut. Dragoons  
<sup>E</sup>nclosed I send the required oath duly executed. As required by the  
regulations I beg leave to inform you that my birth place was  
Newbern (?) N.C. my age at present is 22 & six months & my residence  
is at Barryton [very plain this time] Dutchess County, New York.

I am sir very respectfully

Your obedient servant

William Gaston

Bvt. 2nd Lt. 2d Drags.

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Office Or. Mr. Gen'l. 107722. Office of the Secretary War Department  
11342. 67739 OGO 1887 File DEut Feby 2498

503 B. Fort Simcoe WT September 19 56 R.S. Garnett Maj. 9 Infy  
Comdy. post. G.O.H. June 1, 57 ~~Answered~~ Announces the death of Capt.  
Francis L. Bowman 9th Infantry (3 enclosures) Headqs. D. Columbia,  
River District, Fort Vancouver, W.T. Sept. 23 1856 Respy. forwarded G.  
Wright Col. 9 Infy. comdy. Rec(AGO) October 29, 1856

Fort Simcoe W.T.

Sept. 19, 1856

Sir:

The Comful (sic) office desires ..his of announcing (sic)  
for the information of the War Department the death under circumstances  
singularly distressing of Captain Francis L. Bowman of the Ninth  
Regiment of Infantry. From the best data before me (or us) I should  
judge that the unfortunate event occurred near about the 10th of  
September and within about twenty miles of Fort Dalles, O.T.

The accompanying narrative of Asst. Surgeon Brown (?) prepared by  
my direction will convey to you all the information in my possession in  
relation to the circumstances of death. It appears to have been one of  
those instances of fatality or accident which no human wisdom could foresee

Lieut (?) Douglass (sic) 9th Infy. the subaltern officer of the late  
Capt. Bowman's company and his personal friend has taken charge of  
Capt. Bowman's effects and will forward them without delay to his family  
at Fort Dalles. I learn that their purpose is to return to the eastern  
states (Wilkesbarre, Pa) in October. I am sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servt.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9 Infy. Comdy. of Post.

To the Adjutant General of the Army  
Washington City, D.C.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

22GA Greenville Ill. Sept. 26, 56

W.A. Allen Engrs. after(sic) (Inquires after ?) Lieut. J.R. Allen

ABBL Oct. 3, 1856 Adt. Genl. Rec. AGO Oct 3, 1856

Greenville, Bend County, Illinois

Sep. 24, 1856

Hon Sir:

Not having received any news from Lieut. J.R. Allen (9th Infy. Washington Territory) for some six months, am becoming very anxious to know something about him either dead or alive & if you are informed of the same by communicating the same to me you will oblige your humble servant

W.A. Allen, Greenville, Ills.

Hon. Secty. of War.

Washington.



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Adjutant Generals Office

Washington, October 6, 1856

Sir:

In answer to your letter of the 24th ultimo to the Secretary of War which has been ~~replied~~ forwarded to this office, you are informed that when last heard from July 31, 1856, Second Lieutenant Jesse K. Allen 9th Infantry was serving in the Yakima country, Washington Territory. He was reported well.

I am sir etc.

H(?) Williams, asst. Adt. Genl.

W.A. Allen, esq.

Greenville, Mend County, Illinois.

October 15, 1856

I trust it will not be deemed officious in me to beg to call respectfully the attention of the President and Secretary of War to certain evils which I conceive to exist in the present mode of administering the duties of the third auditor's office. I am impelled to this step by the unusual annoyances to which I have been subjected during the incumbency of the present third auditor and to ~~his~~ which I know that many other officers of the army have also been subjected. The matter of which I wish to complain is I conceive, his arbitrary rules of auditing the transportation accounts of officers of the army traveling under orders. I will illustrate the difficulty by citing my own cases. In '49 I traveled from Baton Rouge La to Washington City with General Taylor in pursuance of an order from him "by the western route" that is by the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and the Cumberland road. In the fall of '54 I traveled from Fort Snelling (M or W. T) to New York and again in '55 I travelled from St. Louis to Fort Monroe Va., In each of these cases the auditor claims that the estimated distances are too great. It is known to all persons connected with the practical working of our ~~quartermaster's~~ quartermaster's Department that at all the principal offices throughout the country they keep tables of the distances between most of the military posts of the country and other points usually travelled by officers of the army. These tables are taken from those .... published by the post office Dept. of the govt. and transportation accounts paid under them having once been audited and settled at the .... Dept. they are very justly deemed by the quartermasters to be approved and correct. But correct or not, they are the best light by which the disbursing officer can go, and on paying by him, he is ... in good faith to consult the best interests of the government. Now upon my own part I have for several

years past --and I know it was so in the cases above cited--been in the habit whenever I travelled under orders, of simply presenting my order upon termination of my journey to the quartermaster, and of requesting him to have my account made out. I have never estimated nor charged any particular distance myself, but have always accepted whatever distance the quartermaster has named. Had he seen fit in the cases above to say that the "official distance" as the auditor terms it between Fort Snelling and New York City was only one thousand miles ~~1000~~ instead of some thirteen or fourteen hundred I should have accepted it at once--considering that by long experience these officers had better means of knowing what the true distance was than I had. I contend, therefore, that I adopted the best and only means in my power, and endeavored in good faith to secure the government against any error or overcharge. Still the auditor claims that an error was made, and very properly that the government ought to be indemnified. But by whom? It seems to me that every principle of justice would require that the Govt/<sup>be</sup> ought to be reimbursed by the person through whose negligence the error occurred, and I further think that that ~~my~~ negligence is directly traceable to the third auditor's office. It seems to me that there has been strange inefficiency somewhere. When we learn that in the practicable working of a government for upwards of half a century there is yet no system, no understanding or concert of action between the disbursing and the accounting officers of its treasury. If inaccuracies in public accounts arise from this course, it is but first reasonable that they should be changed to that office, which has the power and means of preventing their occurrence but which yet fails to do it.

But if I understand the third auditor correctly in a conversation which I ~~had~~ had with him last winter on the subject, these accounts are disallowed because the distances named are not now the "official distances." of present "shortest mail route." I do not



not know that he claims that they were not the correct "official distances "at the time at which they/ journies were performed. It is unnecessary to say anything against the fallacy of such a .... ~~print~~ ~~print~~ principal as this. With such a rule there would be no finality of government for by the continual increase of railroads "the shortest routes" are almost daily ~~being~~~~shorter~~ becoming shorter and there could therefore be no settlement of an account which would be pertually correct. As an indication of the difficulties into which the principal would lead, the case of Col. Wright 9th Infy may be mentioned. I learn that he ~~DS~~ has had a transportation account disallowed by the present auditor which was paid by Capt. Day, I think, some ~~tkms~~ ten or fifteen years ago on the ground that the distance charged is "not the shortest ~~route~~" mail route."

If there is not something wrong in this system of auditing accounts, there is at least, it seems to me, something very unusual about it. I have been fifteen years in service, and at no period of the time have I known of such general complaining in the army against the action of any of the accounting officers of the treasury as I have on all sides against the present Third Auditor. If any new rules for military accounts have been instilled, it is but just that the disbursing ~~different~~ officers, and indeed all officers of the army should know of it.

I beg to say in conclusion that I do not submit this communication with any hope or expectation of relieving my self of the disallowances against me but with the trust that the President and Hon. Secretary of War will deem the subject to be of sufficient importance to order to be established in the 3d Auditor's Office, and to be made known, such uniform rules for the settlement of transportation accounts of officers of the army as will effectually secure them from annoyances, and the government inconveniences which it seems that no

precaution on their part can now avert.

I have the honor to be  
Very Respectfully, Sir,

Your Obt. Servt.

R. Garnett )Sic)

Major 9 Infantry

To the adjutant general of the Army,  
Washington City, D.C.

316 G Fort Simcoe, Washington Ty. Oct. 15, 1856.

Referred to Qr Gen. for his views on the within. Jeffn. Davis, Secretary  
of War, Rec. AGO December 1, 1856.

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Olympia 600 W.T. Oct. 20/56  
Washington Territory (governor of) Announces the close of the  
Indian war in that country. Rec. Dec. 31, 1856.

General Orders No. 7

Headquarters W.T. Vols.

Olympia W.T. Oct. 30, 1856

1st. The Volunteers of Washington Territory, of both staff and line, are hereby disbanded.

2d. The adjutant General, Quarter Master & Commissary General, with such officers and employees as they may require to perfect and finish the muster rolls and accounts, are retained in service till further orders.

3d. All officers commanding companies will be discharged, upon rendition of their muster rolls at the office of the Adjutant General, and the settlement of their accounts for public property with Qr. Master & Commissary General.

4th. The senior officers of the late 2d Regiment W.T. Volunteers and the Military Clerk to the command-in-chief, will be retained in service till further orders.

5th. No purchases of property or supplies after this date, will be made by any officer or employee without special orders from the Qr. Master General.

6th. The Commander-in-Chief desires me to express to the officers and men of the Right Wing of the 2d Regiment commanded by Lieut. Col. Shaw, the Northern Battalion commanded by Major Van Bokkelin, the Southern by Major Maxon and the Central by Major Blankenship, his most cordial thanks for the signal gallantry, resolute endurance, and excellent discipline they have displayed and maintained during their six months arduous faithful and efficient service.

The nature of the vast region of country traversed, the wily and resolute character of the savages overawed or subdued, and the privations



endured by the citizen-soldiery of the 2d Regiment, are well known and appreciated by the inhabitants of Washington Territory, who will know how to honor, for all future time, the devoted and fearless men who have maintained the foothold of civilization upon this remote frontier.

History will present the fact with credit and honor to the volunteer force, that during the six months of active service of one thousand of the citizens of Washington Territory, not a single friendly Indian has been harmed in a volunteer camp or scout;--no Indian has been plundered or molested, and the captured property of defeated savages has been in every case, turned over to the proper officers, and faithfully accounted for by them.

To the efficient staff, commissioned and non-commissioned, both personal, and of transportation and supply, the Commander-in-Chief begs to make his hearty acknowledgements.

Devotion to the service, aided by the patriotism and generosity of the citizens has enabled a widely scattered community of seventeen hundred American citizens to keep on foot, feed, clothe, arm and partly mount, one thousand efficient and serviceable troops.

With these facts for the future historian, the year 1856, although disastrous in material prosperity, is rich in honorable achievements and will be dwelt upon by the descendants of the troops now returning to their avocations of peace, with pride and exultation.

James Tilton

Adjutant General W.T. Vol's.

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Fort Simcoe W.T.

Nov. 1, 1856

Sir:

Mr. Thomas P. Chiffelle of Vancouver, W.T. has been nominated and recommended by the post Council of administration for the appointment of :Post Sutler by the Hon Secretary of War as prescribed in par. 379 regulations of the Army.

His nomination and recommendation have been approved by me and I have now the honor to submit his name for the action of the Secretary of War.

I am sir

Very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9 Infy.

Comdy. post

To the Adjutant General  
of the Army  
Washington City, D.C.



War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

Executive Office Ter. Washy.

Olympia Nov. 21st, 1856

Hon. Jeff. Davis,

Secretary of War, Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

As a part of the history of Indian relations in this Territory the past two years I enclose a copy of a letter which learning that Genl. Wool has just arrived at Vancouver I addressed him on the 22nd day of May, 1855, the second day after my arrival at Walla Walla last year, and some six days before going into the council which resulted in treaties of Cession from the Nez Perces, Yakimas, Cayuses, Walla Wallas and Umatillas.

Genl. Wool however returned to San Francisco where my letter reached him and I passed on to the sources of the Missouri. I have never received any answer to the letter.

I had previously in a letter to you dwelt upon the importance of the ~~xx~~ occupation of the Walla Walla

I am sir, very respectfully

Your most obedient (sic)

Isaac I. Stevens

Gov. & Supt.

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Proceedings of the Post Council of Administration, which  
assembled at Fort Dalles O.T. pursuant to the following order

Headquarters Fort Dalles O.T.

December 14th 1856

Order

No. 99

The post council of administration to consist of Bvt. Major  
P. Lugenbeel, Captain F.T. Dent, First Lieut I. Van Voast 9th infantry  
will assemble at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning for the purpose of  
nominating a post sutler and ~~forwarding such business~~ transacting  
such other business as may be presented.

By order of Colonel Wright.

Signed P.T. Owen

2nd Lieut. 9th Infy. adjutant

Fort Dalles O.T. 11 a.m. Dec. 15, 1856. The Council met pursuant  
to the above order, all the members present, and proceeded to the  
business before it.

The colonel comdy. having submitted the application of the  
following persons.

J.F. Noble

Samuel H. Green

T.P. Chiffelle

and B.H. Morse for the appointment of sutler at ~~the~~ <sup>this</sup> post. The  
council after deliberations nominated Samuel H. Green as sutler for Fort  
Dalles, O.T. Signed Jas Van Vost. Signed P. Lugenbeel

1st lieut 9th infy.  
recorder

~~Major~~ Capt. & Bvt. Major 9th  
President of Council

Head quarters Fort Dalles, O.T.. December 15, 1856. The  
foregoing proceedings are approved. Signed G. Wright. Col. 9th infy.  
comdy. Hd. qrs. Fort Dalles O.T. June 21, 1857 Official P.A. Owen  
sic 2nd lt. adjutant