

The California Volunteers and the Civil War: 3rd Regiment of Infantry 1861-1866

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THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Reference: "Record of California Men in the War of the Rebellion" (1890)
Adjutant General's Office

Regimental Headquarters:

Stockton	November 1861
Benicia Barracks	December 1861-June 1862
Fort Ruby	September 1862
Camp Douglas	January 1863

Mustered in August 31, 1861
Mustered out July 27, 1866

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Patrick E. Connor, Colonel	Sept. 4, 1861	Sept. 10, 1861
George P. Ihrle, Lieut. Col.	Sept. 4, 1861	Sept. 12,
Robert Pollock, Lieut. Col.	Dec. 12, 1861	Dec. 28, 1861
Robert Pollock, Colonel	_____	March 29, 1863
G. B. Moore, Lieut. Col.	_____	April 27, 1863
William M. Johns, Lieut. Col.	_____	April 6, 1865

Companies Included in Third Regiment of Infantry

Company A:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Thomas K. Ketchum, Captain	Oct. 10, 1861	Oct. 16, 1861
William M. Johns, Captain	Nov. 1, 1861	Nov. 1, 1861
John F. Staples, First Lt.	Oct. 10, 1861	Oct. 16, 1861
Louis F. Grant, First Lieut.	_____	April 21, 1863
S.E. Jocelyn, First Lieut.	_____	April 24, 1863
Stephen E. Jocelyn, Captain	_____	May 19, 1865
Charles Billing, First Lieut.	_____	May 19, 1865

Location of Company:

Stockton (Organized)	Oct. 31, 1861
Benicia Barracks	December 1861
Enroute to Salt Lake City	July-Aug. 1862
Fort Ruby, Nevada	Sept. 30, 1862
Fort Churchill	Feb.-March 1863
Camp Douglas	January 1864
Denver City, Colorado	June 1865
Camp Douglas	October 1865

Mustered in October 31, 1861
Mustered out July 27, 1866

Companies Included in Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

Company B:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
J. B. Moore, Captain	Oct. 24, 1861	Oct. 31, 1861
Thomas S. Bridges, First Lt.	Oct. 24, 1861	Oct. 31, 1861
Thomas B. Gately, First Lt.	_____	Sept. 16, 1861
J. C. Morrill, First Lieut.	_____	Dec. 2, 1862
Francis Moneyman, First Lt.	_____	April 21, 1863
Lysander Washburn, Captain	_____	July 2, 1864
J. C. Morrill, Captain	_____	July 2, 1864
William H. Dodds, First Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Stockton	Oct. 31, 1861
Benicia Barracks	December 1861
Enroute to Salt Lake City	July-August 1862
Fort Churchill, Nevada	Feb.-March 1863
Camp Douglas	January 1864
Denver City	June 1865
Camp Douglas	October 1865

Mustered in October 31, 1861
Mustered out July 27, 1866

Company C:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John H. May, Captain	Oct. 26, 1861	Oct. 31, 1861
William H. Allen, First Lt.	Oct. 26, 1861	Oct. 31, 1861
James W. Stillman, Captain	_____	April 21, 1863
Francis M. Griffen, First Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Benicia	December 1861
Fort Bragg	January 1862
Fort Ruby	August 1863
Camp Douglas	October 1864
Camp Connor (Idaho Territory)	October 1864
Camp Douglas	May 1865

Mustered in December 31, 1861
Mustered out July 27, 1866

Companies Included in Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

Company D:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
William M. Johns, Captain	Nov. 1, 1861	Nov. 1, 1861
Joseph Anderson, First Lt.	Nov. 1, 1861	Nov. 5, 1861
John D. Myers, First Lieut.	_____	Oct. 26, 1862
Stephen E. Jocelyn, First Lt.	_____	April 24, 1863
Willard Kittridge, Captain	_____	July 2, 1864
Francis M. Shoemaker, First Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

This company was organized at Stockton, October 31, 1861, and at once took station at Fort Gaston, Humboldt County, California.. In the Spring of 1862, it returned, and was stationed at Camp Union until the Summer of 1863. It then went to Camp Douglas, Utah, where it remained until its consolidation with Company C, on December 9, 1865.

Mustered in October 31, 1861

Mustered out July 27, 1866

Company E:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Charles Tupper, Captain	Nov. 3, 1861	Nov. 9, 1861
Josiah Hosmer, First Lieut.	Dec. 7, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
Josiah Hosmer, Captain	_____	July 2, 1864
James Finnerty, First Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Company E was organized at Benicia, December 21, 1861. During the Summer of 1862, it went to Nevada and Utah, and was stationed at Camp Douglas and Fort Ruby until its disbandment by consolidation, November 1, 1864.

Mustered in December 21, 1861

Mustered out November 1, 1864

Companies Included in Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

Company F:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Izatus Potts, Captain	Nov. 12, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
Francis D. Todd, First Lt.	Dec. 11, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
Francis D. Todd, Captain (Promoted from First Lieut. Sept. 19, 1864)		
Isadore Morris, First Lieut.	_____	Sept. 19, 1864

Location of Company:

This company was organized at Benicia, on the twelfth of December 1861. It went to Fort Ruby, Nevada, in the Summer of 1862. In the Spring of 1864, it marched to Camp Douglas, where it remained until it was disbanded by consolidation on November 1, 1864.

Mustered in (Not on record)
Mustered out November 1, 1864.

Company G:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John B. Urmey, Captain	Nov. 13, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
George S. Bradley, First Lt.	Dec. 9, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
William L. Ustick, First Lt.	_____	Dec. 7, 1862
Caleb Gelman, Captain	_____	Sept. 30, 1864

Location of Company:

Company G was organized at Benicia Barracks on the ninth of December 1861. The unit remained at Benicia until the Spring of 1862, and then marched to Camp Douglas, Utah, where it was stationed until disbanded by consolidation November 1, 1864.

Mustered in (Not on record)
Mustered out November 1, 1864.

Company H:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
David Black, Captain	Nov. 14, 1861	Nov. 20, 1861
Lysander Washburn, First Lt.	Dec. 12, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
Caleb Gilman, First Lieut.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Company H was organized at Benicia Barracks December 12, 1861. During the Spring and Summer of 1862 the unit went to Utah and took station at Camp Douglas. How long it remained there is not known, but in May----

Companies Included in Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

Company H: (Continued)

of 1863, this company was at Camp Connor, Idaho, where it remained until disbanded by consolidation, at Camp Douglas, November 1, 1864.

Mustered in (No muster in roll on file)
Mustered out November 1, 1864

Company I:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
M. G. Lewis, Captain	Nov. 15, 1861	Nov. 20, 1861
Willard Kittridge, First Lt.	Nov. 26, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
Willard Kittridge, Captain	_____	Sept. 1, 1863
Francis M. Shoemaker, 1st. Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Company I was organized at Stockton, November 26, 1861. During the month of December, the unit was moved to Benicia Barracks, where it remained until the Summer of 1862, where it went to Fort Bridger, Wyoming Territory (then part of Utah), remaining there until August, 1864. The company then marched to Camp Douglas, where it was disbanded by consolidation, November 1, 1864.

Mustered in December 2, 1861
Mustered out November 1, 1864

Company K:

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Samuel Hoyt, Captain	Nov. 16, 1861	Nov. 26, 1861
Michael McDermott, First Lt.	Nov. 3, 1861	Dec. 26, 1861
John F. Staples, Captain	_____	April 21, 1863
Joseph C. Morrill, Captain	_____	July 2, 1864
Charles Billig, First Lt.	_____	July 2, 1864

Location of Company:

Company K was organized at Stockton, December 3, 1861. The unit moved to Benicia Barracks in the same month, then to Utah with the balance of the Regiment during the Summer of 1862. The company was stationed at Camp Douglas during the remainder of its term of service, being disbanded by consolidation, November 1, 1864.*

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*Company K took part in the "Battle of Bear River," an account of which will be found in the activities of the Second Cavalry, page 4.

Company K: (Continued)

Mustered in December 3, 1861

Mustered out November 1, 1864

Activities of the Third Regiment of Infantry:

The Third Regiment of Infantry was organized at Stockton and Benicia Barracks, during the period from October 31 to December 31, 1861. This regiment was first commanded by Colonel Patrick Edward Connor, who was promoted Brigadier General of the Volunteers, March 30, 1863, and to Brevet Major General on March 13, 1865. He was succeeded in command by Colonel Robert Pollock, who was mustered out of service, November 14, 1864, afterwards becoming Lieutenant Colonel of the Second Infantry, and later made an officer in the Regular Army.

The men enlisted in the Third Regiment of Infantry with the idea of being sent to the seat of the war and were disappointed when ordered to Utah Territory. Their duties were to guard the Overland Mail Route and hold the Territory under military surveillance. The regiment was stationed at Salt Lake City, Utah, the settlement of the Mormons. The Mormons had migrated there from eastern states, forming a colony and government of their own. These people had settled in this region as early as 1847. They had by the time of the Rebellion an enormous following, and the male population was fully armed and trained to protect their colony of any invasion by United States Troops or by the Confederates. Colonel Connor, in command of the regiment, was very much alarmed upon his arrival in the Mormon territory to find what a hold Brigham Young (the leader of the Mormons) had upon his people.

The establishment of the Third Regiment of Infantry in this vicinity seemed to arouse the ire of the Mormon leaders, as they assembled armed men and kept their city patrolled by Mormon guards. The duties of the Third Regiment of Infantry were

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*Company K took part in the "Battle of Bear River" an account of which will be found in the activities of the Second Cavalry, page 4.

Activities of the Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

very difficult and dangerous, as their body of men were small in comparison to the Mormon troops. Colonel Connor was directed to be somewhat discreet in his movements, and to keep his men from causing any trouble that might create a disturbance with this religious group of people. Although the officers and men treated the Mormons kindly and courteously, they did not receive a similar response. The Mormons returned these courtesies with abuse and slander, and classed the soldiers as a group of cut-throats and gamblers.

On the twenty-ninth of March, 1863, the firing of cannon and playing of martial music awakened the Mormon settlement and fearing an attack, they rushed through the streets fully armed. After investigation the origin, they discovered it to be a salute and music from Fort Douglas in honor of Colonel Connor's promotion to Brigadier General. The news had just arrived at the camp and the men were celebrating the occasion. Previous to his promotion, Colonel Conner conducted an expedition against the Indians on Bear River, which took place during January of 1863. He selected Company K of his regiment and they joined with Major McGarry and his troops of the Second California Cavalry, all under the supervision of Colonel Connor.* Colonel Conner, after the battle, gave the troops under his command his highest praise as he felt their patient endurance and suffering previous to the battle, and also their brave and gallant conduct in action accounted for their victory over the Indians. A statement to that effect was written to Governor Leland Stanford by Brigadier General Wright on February 19, 1863. The Governor replied, through H. M. Holleck, his General in chief, on the twenty-ninth of March, praising Colonel Conner and his company of the Third Infantry for their brave and heroic conduct.**

The Third Regiment was quartered at Camp Douglas, Salt Lake City, guarding the Overland Mail Route in that vicinity from any attacks by Shoshone and Bannock Indians, as these Indians for the past fifteen years had infested the mail route-- slaughtering and plundering the emigrants. During the month of October 1863, Brigadier General Connor of the Third Infantry with three hundred volunteers, had an encounter with a tribe of these Indians, wounding forty-nine and killing fourteen of them. The troops also captured a number of rifles and two

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*A complete outline of this battle, known as the Battle of Bear River, will be found in the History of the Second Regiment Cavalry.

**Letters on file in State Archives, State Capitol.

Activities of the Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

hundred horses aside from destroying seventy lodges and all provisions belonging to the Indians of this rancharia. defeat broke the power and spirit of these tribes, and they were fast becoming peaceful and less frequently attacked the emigrant trains. Flocks and herds were comparatively safe and settlements were made on new and favorable sites hitherto considered unsecure. On the twelfth of October 1863, a peace treaty was negotiated with the Shoshone and Bannock Indians and travel on the principle routes through Nevada and California was no longer considered dangerous.

Although the hostilities of the Indians had been subdued, there was still need for the troops to remain in the vicinity. The feeling of disloyalty still existed among the troops in regards to the Mormons. American citizens who were not of the Mormon faith could not hold real estate in the territory, and those who undertook to do so were abused and threatened; their property stolen or confiscated by the Mormon courts on charges manufactured for the occasion. Under certain circumstances they were not even allowed fuel and water. The Mormon supervision over the people of non-Mormon faith had been carried unhindered for a number of years. Although these people as well as the new settlers were being protected by Brigadier General Connor, they asked for additional protection from United States troops against Mormon suppression. However, the United States at that time could not furnish any additional force as all available troops were recruited for the Civil War Service.

In the Spring of 1865, President Lincoln was re-elected and although his party did not favor Mormonism, the President issued a statement to "leave them alone." This was made an occasion for rejoicing, and brought about a large celebration by the Mormons. The bands of the troops stationed at Fort Douglas and the Nauvoo Legion (local Militia) furnished music for the occasion. Brigadier General Connor and his troops were invited to the City Hall, where a banquet was being held. A few weeks later news of President Lincoln's assassination was received and the Mormon city displayed flags at half-mast, while three thousand persons assembled at the Mormon Tabernacle to pay their respects. The chaplain of the troops at Camp Douglas gave an address on the "Life and character of Lincoln." The bitter feeling between the Mormons and Gentiles was somewhat lessened and with the establishing of more friendly relations between the two factions, General Connor with his men of the Third Regiment of Infantry, which on November 1, 1864, was termed as the Third Battalion of Infantry, received orders to leave. The Volunteers soon disbanded but alarm caused among Gentile citizens by further Mormon troubles was the means of retaining a portion of these troops until replaced by regular United States Troops.

Activities of the Third Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

The men of the Third Regiment of Infantry, whose terms had expired, were mustered out of service November 1, 1864. The remaining troops with some new enlistments were consolidated into a battalion of four companies, namely A, B, C and D, which was known as the Third Battalion of Infantry. It was this body of men who gave protection to the non-Mormon citizens of Salt Lake City during the year of 1865. In December of that year, Companies C and D were consolidated, leaving but three companies in the battalion.

The Third Battalion of Infantry remained on duty in Utah Territory until mustered out July 27, 1866, upon expiration of service terms.