

The California Volunteers and the Civil War: 8th Regiment of Infantry 1865

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EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

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

Regimental Headquarters:

Alcatraz Island, California	March 1865
Fort Point, California	April-October 1865
Mustered in March 31, 1865	
Mustered out October 24, 1865	

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
A. L. Anderson, Colonel	_____	Mar. 7, 1865
Charles O. Wood, Lieut. Col.	_____	Jan. 10, 1865

Companies Included in Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

Company A.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Claremont C. Smith, Captain	_____	Nov. 21, 1864
Amos P. Knowles, First Lieutenatn	_____	Nov. 1, 1864

Location of Company

Fort Point, California	Nov. 1864
Cape Disappointment, Washington Territory	Feb. 1865
Fort Dalles, Oregon	Aug. 1865
Fort Point, California	Oct. 1865

Mustered in November 29, 1864
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company B.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Gaston De Artoise, Captain	_____	Nov. 29, 1864
John Drum, First Lieutenant	_____	Nov. 21, 1864

Location of Company

Fort Point, California	Dec. 1864
Fort Stevens, Oregon	Apr. 1865
Fort Point, California	Oct. 1865

Mustered in December 5, 1864
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Companies Included in Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

Company C.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Jasper M. Barhelon, Captain	_____	Jan. 21, 1865
J. C. Hinman, First Lieutenant	_____	Jan. 21, 1865
Louis S. Lohse, First Lieut.	_____	Feb. 16, 1865

Location of Company

Fort Point, California January 1865-October 1865
Mustered in January 28, 1865
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company D.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Morgan S. Grover, Captain	_____	Jan. 20, 1865
Thomas Smythe, First Lieutenant	_____	Jan. 20, 1865

Location Of Company

Fort Point, California February 1865-October 1865
Mustered in February 14, 1865
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company E.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Francis D. Todd, Captain	_____	Jan. 16, 1865
Charles H. Platt, First Lieut.	_____	Jan. 16, 1865

Location of Company

Alcatraz Island, California January 1865-October 1865

Mustered in January 25, 1865
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Companies Included in Eighth Regiment of Infantry (Cont.)

Company F.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Lewis T. Grant, Captain	_____	_____
James Reardon, First Lieutenant	_____	Feb. 3, 1865

Location of Company

Point Blunt, Angel Island, Calif. February 1865-October 1865

Mustered in February 14, 1865

Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company G.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Charles G. Hubbard, Captain	_____	Dec. 19, 1864
A. J. Sansoni, First Lieut.	_____	Dec. 19, 1864

Location of Company

Alcatraz Island, California January 1865-October 1865
Fort Point, California October 24, 1865

Mustered in January 5, 1865

Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company H.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Levi N. Tower, Captain	_____	Feb. 8, 1865
Edward Scott, First Lieutenant	_____	Feb. 8, 1865

Location of Company

Alcatraz Island and Fort Point, California Feb. 1865-Oct. 1865

Mustered in February 27, 1865

Mustered out October 24, 1865

Companies Included in Eighth Regiment of Infantry (Cont.)

Company I.

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Sheldon Burton, Captain	_____	Feb. 30, 1865
J. J. Dickenson, First Lieut.	_____	Feb. 17, 1865

Location of Company

San Francisco, California	February 1865
Fort Point, California	March 1865-October 1865

Mustered in February 6, 1865
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Company K

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John R. Crocker, Captain	_____	Feb. 2, 1865
Brant T. Catlin, First Lieut.	_____	Feb. 2, 1865

Location of Company

San Francisco, California	February 1865
Fort Point, California	March 1865-October 1865

Mustered in February 25, 1865
Mustered out October 24, 1865

Activities of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry:

The War of the Rebellion came to a close sooner than was expected, therefore, the men of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry were not given an opportunity of engaging in active warfare. They were organized and maintained at camp as a reserve unit..

The regimental colors of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry, bear no inscription of battles fought or victories won, however, they do suggest that the patriotic feeling of these soldiers, who composed the regiment, insured peace and prevented bloodshed on our own soil. These colors are preserved and displayed in the State Capitol, Sacramento.

The Eighth Regiment of Infantry, with the exception of two companies, under the command of Colonel A. L. Anderson and Lieutenant Colonel Charles Wood, was organized during the spring of 1865 and mustered into United States service on March thirty-first of that year. The two companies that were mustered in prior to that date were Companies A and B, and were mustered into United States Service respectively November and December 1864.

Captain Artois was responsible for the raising of Company B, Sixth Infantry, and served as First Lieutenant of that company until November of 1864, when he was commissioned Captain of company B, Eighth Regiment of Infantry.* Some trouble arose in the company during November of 1865, and Captain Artois was brought to trial on several counts. While he was in command of Fort Stevens, the Captain expelled a citizen employee of the Quartermaster Department for habitual treasonable language, drunkenness and mutinous interference with the soldiers. He also preferred charges against the surgeon who assaulted him with a cane in consequence of the expulsion. The two men combined and preferred charges against Captain Artois for which he was brought to trial. However, these charges were soon dropped by the Judge Advocate for lack of evidence. An additional charge was brought in against the Captain by the surgeon, who stated that after charges had been preferred against the commanding officer he retained command of Fort Stevens, which was felt to be contrary to military laws. In fighting for his rights, Captain Artois stated that "anyone familiar with the rules of the service should know that preferred charges did not constitute an arrest". He was "in command of Fort Stevens and could not be arrested by anyone except a superior or staff officer and such was not the case." The court no doubt favored the other two men and contrary to law, a sentence was placed upon the Captain. After an improper publication by telegraph of the sentence, General Halleck made an investigation of the facts of the case and cancelled the judgment ordering the Captain to be honorably mustered out of service.** This statement is contrary to the Remarks on page 802, Record of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, which states Captain Artois was dishonorably discharged from the service by order of General Court Martial.

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*Record of California Men In the War of the Rebellion (1890) Page 802.

**Letter to Governor F. F. Low from Captain Artois, November 12, 1865, on file in State Archives, State Capitol.

Activities of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry: (Cont.)

The following letter is an illustration of the numerous requests for commissions the respective Governors had to continuously contend with during the Civil War period.*

Marysville, California
October 18, 1864

Governor F. F. Low

Dear Sir:

I am desirous of again entering the service of the United States, and you will pardon the liberty I take in thus making my application believing that I am sufficiently well known to you without the usual accompaniments of verbose introductions or lengthy recommendations.

If it is necessary that qualification for the position I aspire to (that of Quarter-Master) should determine the successful aspirant, I am desirous of undergoing the test by a fair and imparital examination with others who may desire the same position.

If it is a question of political influence I am anxious to show the numerous array of political friends and influential men I can get to sign my recommendations and which would be the easiest method I could adopt, as the Governor is well aware how little labor it is for any one to get signatures of even our best citizens, who are flattered to be even asked to sign such a document.

If it is a question of "services I am ready; my record should speak for itself. For eleven years I have constantly been either in the volunteer service or a member of the Militia. In the spring of 1853., I became a member of the First California Guard and from that time until 1857 I belonged to that Company. When being a resident of Oroville I proposed and organized the "Oroville Guard" and was a regularly commissioned officer util in 1859. Being then a resident of this City I was the first to

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*Letter to Governor F. F. Low from Charles G. Hubbard, Marysville, October 18, 1864, on file State Archives, State Capitol.

Activities of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry: (Cont.)

propose, to head the roll and to recruit the unit which afterward became the "Marysville Rifles". I defy contradiction when I say that the "Oroville Guard" and the "Marysville Rifles" owe not only their existence but their name to me. It may seem egotistical in me to say so, but the proofs are at hand and at the Governor's disposal if required. In 1861, I recruited a company at an expense of \$700. which is or was Company K, Second Infantry, California Volunteers; for eighteen months I was in the volunteer service, one-half of which I was Post Quarter Master and only resigned when my pay was insufficient, to support myself and family, by reason of the low value of legal tenders. Since that time and immediately after my leaving the service, I took command of the company which I have the honor to now command. I have labored faithfully and I believe succeeded in making it such a company both in material and drill that you as the Governor and as an old resident of this City need not be ashamed of.

As to my loyalty I left a lucrative practice for the field. I should do so again under the same circumstances. I do not believe in professions in such an hour of danger as then threatened in the fall of 1861. I believe in action and did my best to set a good example by encouraging others to enter the service by doing so myself. I have pride in knowing that I did my duty where in many cases others did not. As to active efforts in behalf of the Union party I allow no man to outdo me as far as my powers go, or in fervent devotion to the cause which I am ready so far as the sacrifice will go to devote myself and what little I may have.

Do not mistake me, Governor, that I desire to appeal to your feelings, for I am anxious to appeal to facts and not to sensations. If my claims are superior to the many incompetent men who daily apply for positions which they have neither any claim to by reason of either competency, services, or social standing, but simply on account of political influence, I should expect to receive the attention which I think this subject demands.

Activities of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry: (Cont)

The Governor is aware that I have never made myself conspicuous in my applications for appointments and whatever may have been done by my friends was without my knowledge or solicitation for which I do not hold myself responsible.

I feel proud that this city has furnished to this State its first executive officer, whom I supported with all my might and who I hope I may again be able to serve. Yet I think that this city has had less field or staff positions than any other place of its size in the State. I think it can demand that we shall have some of those positions (laying aside all claims of my own). Lieutenant Colonel Coult is the only field officer from this city or county in the service of the Government and there is not one staff officer. There are some line officers, but there is no county of the size of this that has less, and if I should be appointed to the field and staff of the new regiments from this county no one can complain or accuse the Governor of partiality.

This county has furnished more men for its size than any other county in the State and with Captain Gibson's company and Captain Smith's of the Fifth Infantry (in which I furnished and fitted out two substitutes) no other county can boast of better and I believe the Governor will bear me out in my assertions.

Excuse me for trespassing so long upon valuable time, but I could not do justice to myself otherwise.

If I am successful in my application or if not I shall still entertain the same feelings of the highest respect and esteem for yourself. I know that you are only actuated by the sincerest desire to do justice to all and for our common good, and particularly of the cause which is so dear to all good and loyal men.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

(Signed) Charles G. Hubbard

Activities of the Eighth Regiment of Infantry: (Cont.)

Although the Governor did not commission Hubbard Quartermaster, he was given the command of a volunteer company, as on December 19, 1864, Charles G. Hubbard was mustered into the Service as Captain of Company G, Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

The Eighth Regiment of Infantry never engaged in active service during the Civil War. Regimental Headquarters were at Alcatraz Island, California from date of organization until April 1865, when it was stationed at Fort Point, California, remaining there until mustered out of the service on October 24, 1865.

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