

The California Volunteers and the Civil War: 5th Regiment of Infantry 1861-1864

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FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY*

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

Regimental Headquarters:

Camp Union	September, 1861
Camp Wright	March, 1862
Franklin, Texas	August, 1863

Mustered in (Not on file.)
Mustered out December 14, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John Kellogg, Colonel	Sept. 12, 1861	Sept. 12, 1861
George W. Bowie, Colonel	Nov. 8, 1861	Nov. 9, 1861
Marcus D. Dobbins, Lieut. Col.	Sept. 12, 1861	Sept. 13, 1861
Theodore A. Coult, Lieut. Col.		Jan. 10, 1863

Companies Included in Fifth Regiment Of Infantry:

Company A:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 2, 1861
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Company B:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 18, 1861
Mustered out December 12, 1864

Company C:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 7, 1861
Mustered out November 30, 1864

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*Placer County Mountaineers formed a part of the Fifth Regiment
of Infantry. "Synonyms of Volunteer Organizations of the United
States." Page 8.

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Companies Included in Fifth Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

Company D:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (No record)
Mustered out November 27, 1864

Company E:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (No record)
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Company F:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (No record)
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Company G:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 30, 1861
Mustered out November 27, 1864

Company H:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (No record)
Mustered out December 12, 1864

Company I:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in November 11, 1864
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Company K:

Headquarters: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in November 22, 1861
Mustered out November 27, 1864

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FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry:

This regiment was organized at Sacramento, under the President's Second Call for recruits in the War of the Rebellion. The first to command the Fifth Regiment of Infantry was Colonel John Kellogg," who resigned November 8, 1861, to accept the position of Captain and Commissary of Subsistence, in which capacity he served during the War of the Rebellion. He was succeeded in command by Colonel George W. Bowie, who commanded the regiment during the remainder of the period it was in the service. The Colonel was given the rank of Brevet Brigadier-General for faithful service during the war.

This regiment was concerned mainly with subduing hostile Indian tribes, except for Company D, which was accredited with breaking up a band of Secessionists in Tucson, Arizona. The regiment after its organization was completed, joined with Colonel Carleton's command and became part of the California Column on the march into New Mexico and Texas; and was mustered out as part of the Column, December 14, 1864.

The mustering out of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry in New Mexico resulted in criticism by the soldiers against Colonel Carleton. In the following letter, Colonel Carleton explains the reason for his action to the Governor.**

Headquarters,
Department of New Mexico
Santa Fe, New Mexico
July 18, 1865

To His Excellency
Frederick F. Low,
Governor of California
Sacramento, California

Governor:

I have had the honor to receive your

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*Colonel Kellogg died on April 25, 1865, following his promotion to the rank of Major.

**The above communication is an exact copy of the letter to Governor F. F. Low from Brigadier-General James H. Carleton, July 18, 1865, on file State Archives, State Capitol.

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

communication dated at Sacramento, California, May 22, 1865, in relation to complaints made by many of the volunteers who composed the 1st and 5th Infantry, California Volunteers, and by the friends of those volunteers. The complaints seem to have been that they were discharged in New Mexico when they claim that they should have been returned to California before they were discharged.

By the enclosed correspondence your Excellency will see the reasons given by myself to the War Department why I thought it was more considerate to the volunteers alluded to, and better suited to the wishes of many of them that they should be discharged here, than to be marched in a body to California to be discharged there. Up to the time of the discharge of these men, it was believed by myself from conversations with individuals of those organizations as well as from the enclosed correspondence, that but few, if any of the men, even though they returned to California, would wish to recross the inhospitable deserts over which they had toiled and suffered so gallantly and uncomplainingly in the fulfillment of the requirements of their country. But after their discharge, and where I was personally some three hundred miles away when many of those first discharged started for home, it was a matter of some surprise, disappointment and regret, that I learned that many of the men had determined to return home by the route over which they had come to New Mexico. I was surprised at their choice of route and disappointed and sorry that the Government had been unable to secure the services of such well disciplined and splendid troops to the end of the War. When they had

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

been under my immediate command, and had my care and solicitude for quite three years; when they had been the subjects of a just pride on my part for their high soldierly qualities, your Excellency can judge of the pain and mortification which I had to endure in finding that I had become the subject not only of their censure and that of their friends, but the object in some few instances I am sorry to say, of their unjust, unmerited abuse.

They were not all paid their just allowance of mileage from an error made by the paymaster who paid them. This matter the paymaster himself explains in a letter, a copy of which is enclosed. And then again--the commanding officer at San Cruces saw fit not to let them have rations after their discharge and while they were obliged to wait for their pay, unless they paid for those rations! All this was unjust and hard--but as I before said I myself was three hundred miles from the spot, and knew nothing of the matter until it was too late, from the departure of many of the men, to remedy the evil. The commanding officer, I have heard, took the ground that he could not under orders issue rations to citizens! As if such citizens had not a claim upon the Government to be fed, while the Government itself, compelled them to wait for their just dues. The evil, as I have said, was not known to me until it was too late to remedy it. And, I myself, was charged with having given orders to treat the volunteers as they were treated. This matter caused me to feel more indignation and more painful regrets than I can express.

With reference to issuing subsistence for these men to consume en-route to

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry: (Continued)

California when once they were discharged could not be done under the Regulations--because they had received in cash, commutation for their rations, and for their mileage back to the place of their original enrollment. Besides, even though they wished to buy rations at Fort Bonie and at Tucson or Tubac on their route home--the rations were not at those points to meet such unexpected demands in the midst of a desert without injustice and perhaps danger to the garrisons of those isolated places, situated at very long distances from the source of supply.

I hope I need not state that my natural desire must have been to have done all I could to further the interests and the comfort and happiness of the brave men with whom I had been closely associated under so many trying emergencies on our long and toilsome march, and who had performed such gallant services under my command in this department. But it was my fortune to be misunderstood and misrepresented in the matter. Personally, each of those brave fellows should have shared my last crust; and many of them knew and all ought to have known that they were alike the objects of my pride, my solicitude and of my professional as well as of my personal regard. Few commanders have had such splendid troops as those given to me from the State of California; and however much I may be censured in the matter, that fact shall always find me a prompt and cordial witness to its truth.

I need hardly say in conclusion that of all this matter your Excellency had not the slightest knowledge, therefore, must be held entirely blameless.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's
obedient Servant,
James H. Carleton
Brigadier General,
Commanding

COMPANY A FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company A:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California

Mustered in October 2, 1861

Mustered out December 12, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Joseph Smith, Captain	_____	Nov. 16, 1861
Thomas P. Chapman, First Lt.	_____	Nov. 16, 1861
Edward B. Frink, Captain	_____	Jan. 10, 1863
Thomas Buckley, First Lt.	_____	Jan. 10, 1863
William H. Higdon, First Lt.	_____	May 4, 1864

Activities:

Company A was enrolled at Yreka by Captain Joseph Smith and mustered into the United States service at Camp Union during the month of October 1861. This company was sent at once to the southern part of the state, joining the California Column. In March of 1862, the unit marched for New Mexico. Upon reaching Tucson, Arizona, the regiment forming the Column assembled there, in preparation for the final march into Texas and New Mexico.* Company A was ordered to escort the supply train for the Column. The unit left Tucson on the thirty-first of July 1862, and arrived in New Mexico during August. From then until January of 1863, the company was encamped at Fort Fillmore, New Mexico.

On the twenty-ninth of January 1864, the Indians attacked two hunting parties composed of men from Company A, at Pinos Altos mines. One of the soldiers was killed and another wounded. The Indians were driven off with a loss of twenty killed and fifteen wounded. During the month of May this company was located at Fort Stanton, New Mexico; from there it left as part of an Indian expedition to the headwaters of the Gila River. The unit was stationed at Fort Goodwin, Arizona Territory, until ordered to be mustered out of service upon expiration of terms. This took place at Mesilla, New Mexico, November 30, 1864.

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*Refer to History of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY B FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY

Company B:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 18, 1861
Mustered out December 12, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Charles A. Smith, Captain	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
Thomas A. Young, First Lt.	Nov. 30, 1861	Dec. 3, 1861
Gilbert C. Smith, First Lt.		May 4, 1864

Activities

Company B was mustered into the United States service at Camp Union, October 18, 1861, and remained there until the latter part of February at which time the unit became a part of the California Column, and started at once for New Mexico and Texas, arriving at Pimos Villages, New Mexico on April 30, 1862. This company was among those who took possession of Tucson, Arizona Territory, and afterward put the territory under military Law.*

Company B was stationed at various camps throughout Arizona and New Mexico from October 1862 until September 1863. During the following three months reports show the company as being on scout duty on the Rio de Los Animos and Gila River. These troops then marched into Texas and were stationed at Franklin, Texas from February until December 12, 1864, at which time and place the company was mustered out of service.

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*Refer to History of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY C FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company C:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 7, 1861
Mustered out November 30, 1864

<u>Name</u>	<u>Commanding Officers:</u>	
	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John S. Thayer, Captain	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
E. B. Frink, First Lieut.	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
John Slater, First Lieut.		Jan. 10, 1863

Activities:

Company C was organized in Grass Valley and mustered into the United States service at Camp Union on October 7, 1861. There is no record of the activities of this company from the date of mustering in until April of 1863, at which time the unit was stationed at Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Forming a part of the California Column." Company C shared in many of the feats accomplished by the Column. Leaving Las Cruces, reports show that the company was stationed at La Mesilla from October 1863 to February 1864. During August of 1864, Captain John Thayer went on a scout for Indians with this company of men. On their fourth day out, the company destroyed about seventy-acres of corn, also several small fields of beans and pumpkins. Two days later they came upon a party of Indians --wounded one and captured another who was later shot in trying to escape. A Mexican captive was also rescued from these Indians.

The company was stationed at Fort Goodwin until November, 1864, when the men received orders to report at Mesilla where they were mustered out of service, November 31, 1864.

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*Refer to History of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY D FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY

Company D:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in September 17, 1861
Mustered out November 27, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
William French, Captain	October 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
Milton L. Glasby, First Lieut.	_____	Jan. 2, 1862
James H. Toole, First Lieut.	_____	Jan. 10, 1863

Activities:

Company D was among the first to answer the President's second call for volunteers from California, in suppressing the Rebellion. This unit was organized and mustered into service at Sacramento on September 17, 1861. The company was sent immediately to souther California, joining the forces of Colonel Carleton, known as the California Column.*

There was no record kept of this company's activities after its organization, until the Spring of 1863. The troops at that time were stationed at Mission Camp, enroute for Tucson. During the month of May, Captain Tuttle, with a detachment of twenty men from this company and a "spy" party of Mexicans and Indians, proceeded in pursuit of a party of Secessionists. The march was made from Tucson, Arizona Territory, on May twenty-eighth, returning June 23, 1863. They succeeded in breaking up the party, arresting a portion of its members and recovering seven horses. This prevented the Rebel party from proceeding to Texas and joining the Confederate Army.

On the sixteenth of December, 1863, a report from Mr. Labadie, Indian Agent, and Mr. Fialon, Chaplain of Fort Sumner, stated that there was a large number of Navajo Indians with an immense herd of stolen sheep at the Cerretas. The officers and men of Company D, Fifth Infantry, were assembled and prepared to take the field with two days rations in haversacks.** Lieutenant

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*Refer to History of California Column. Adjutant General's Office.

**Company C, Seventh Infantry, also participated in this conquest.

COMPANY D FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Lattimer, with eight mounted men of Company B, Second California Cavalry, were also put into readiness. Mr. Lapadie, Mr. Fialon and about thirty Apache Indians started in pursuit. The companies left the post at 5:30 A. M. but the mounted men and Indian Agent with his Indians outstripped the Infantry, as they came upon the Navajo trail on the west bank of the Pecos River and overtook the Navajos, about thirty-five miles northeast of the fort. There were about one hundred and thirty Indians in the tribe, ten mounted and twenty armed with rifles. When captured the hostiles had over five thousand sheep in the herd.

A severe contest ensued in which the Navajos had twelve of their warriors killed. A number of the bodies were left on the battle field although some of the dead and wounded were carried off. There was one Indian prisoner taken. All the sheep were recovered and the troops captured thirteen burros, four rifles, one horse, all the Indian provisions, including blankets, one hundred and fifty pair of moccasins, and nearly all the effects which the Indians had taken from Mr. Labadie's train enroute to Fort Sumner.*

Company D was stationed at Tucson the remainder of the time it was in service, and was mustered out at Las Cruces on November 27, 1864. The officers and men whose terms had not expired were transferred into Company D, First Veteran Infantry.

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*Extract from a letter written by Major H. L. Wallen, Seventh Regiment of Infantry to General Carleton, commanding Department of New Mexico December 18, 1863.

COMPANY E FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company E:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (No record)
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Silas P. Ford, Captain	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
John F. Qualey, First Lieut.	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
Benjamin F. Harrover, Captain	_____	Jan. 19, 1863

Activities:

Company E was organized at Sacramento by Captain S. P. Ford. The exact date the men were mustered into service is not on file. In January 1862, the company was sent to Camp Latham, where the unit became a part of the California Column and marched into New Mexico and Texas. During the month of June the company was stationed at Fort Barrett, Pimos Vallages, where an encounter with the Rebels took place and Lieutenant Barrett was killed.*

Company E was stationed at Fort Bowie, Arizona from January to May 1863; Franklin, Texas, August 1863; and at Las Cruces from September 1863 to May 1864. The troops were then sent on the Gila River expedition, (which forced the Rebels from Texas), and marching back to Mesilla, New Mexico, the company was mustered out of service on November 30, 1864.

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*Refer to the History of California Column for additional information concerning the Battle of Pimos Villages. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY F FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company F:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 23, 1861
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
James H. Whitlock, Captain	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
George A. Burkett, First Lt.	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
John Lambert, First Lieut.		May 4, 1864

Activities:

This company was organized at Quincy, Plumas County, by Captain James H. Whitlock, and mustered into service at Camp Union, October 23, 1861.

During January 1862 the company was sent to the southern part of the state, where the men joined with the forces of the California Column on their march into New Mexico and Texas.* Arriving in Tucson, Arizona in September of 1862, Company F remained there until April 1863. On the fourth of September in the same year, records show that this company left Camp Miembres on an Indian scout, and on the following day captured and burned an Indian camp. A few days later the men had another spirited engagement with the Indians, who seriously wounded one of the soldiers and a guide.

The company was next stationed at Fort West, New Mexico until January of 1864. On the twelfth of February, Captain Whitlock and twenty-four enlisted men had an encounter with the Apache Indians at Pinos Altos. They killed thirteen of the Indians and captured a Mexican woman, who had been held a prisoner by this tribe for fifteen years. The woman was returned to her family.

Company F was sent to Camp Miembres about the first of February 1864, and while there, Captain Whitlock with twenty-one men left camp on another scout after Apache Indians. The next day (February 25) these men came upon a party of nineteen Indians; attacking and killing

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*Refer to Activities of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY F FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

thirteen of them, without the slightest injury to any of the soldiers. This company was engaged in many such Indian scout expeditions during its period of service. On July 1864, Lieutenant Lambert reported that a band of Indians attacked a detachment under his command in Cooks Canyon. Private Queen of Company F was wounded and died before the Skirmish was over. The soldiers abandoned two wagons and twelve mules to the Indians.

Another report from Captain Whitlock, of September 5, 1864, states that he found an Indian camp, surprised the group and captured two mules, one sharps carbine, a United States' blanket, and one thousand pounds of Mescal.* He then had the camp completely burned. A few days later this company came upon a band of hostile Indians and had a strenuous fifteen minute encounter with them. The United States forces lost one soldier and a citizen was wounded. The Indian loss was unknown.

Company F was stationed at Fort Cummings, New Mexico, from September until November 1864, and mustered out of service at Las Cruces, New Mexico on November 27, 1864.

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*Mescal or pulque brandy--a fermented drink made from the juice of Naguey berries and stored away in skins of hogs.

COMPANY G FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company G:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in October 30, 1861
Mustered out November 27, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Hugh L. Hinds, Captain	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
Benjamin F. Harrover, First Lt.	Oct. 30, 1861	Nov. 16, 1861
John D. Slocum, First Lieut.	_____	Jan. 10, 1863
Thomas A. Young, Captain	_____	May 14, 1864

Activities:

Company G was organized in Placerville by Captain Hugh L. Hinds, and mustered into service at Camp Union on October 30, 1861, remaining there until February 1862. There was very little history pertaining to this company, except for the mention of a few of the stations where the troops were located.

Company G became a part of the California Column during the latter part of February, and arrived in Tucson in April of 1862.* Continuing their march this unit of troops reached Fort Craig, New Mexico, January 31, 1863, where they were stationed until June. Moving then to Franklin, Texas, the company remained there until July 1864. The last encampment was at Las Cruces, New Mexico, where upon expiration of terms, Company F was mustered out of service on November 27, 1864.

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*Refer to Activities of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY H FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company H:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in (Not on record)
Mustered out December 12, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Sylvester Saper, Captain	Nov. 30, 1861	Dec. 3, 1861
Thomas P. Chapman, Captain	_____	Aug. 27, 1862
Samuel Staddon, First Lieut.	_____	Mar. 13, 1862

Activities:

There is no record pertaining to the activities of Company H, except that during the Spring of 1862, this unit of men joined with Colonel Carleton's forces (California Column) on the march into New Mexico and Texas. Aside from this all the information that could be found was relative to the stations that Company H occupied during the march. They are as follows:

San Diego, California	February 28, 1862
Fort Yuma, California	May 1862--January 1862
Cooks Springs, New Mex.	May 1863
Las Cruces, New Mexico	July 1863--February 1864
Franklin, Texas	February 1864--Dec. 12, 1864

Company H was mustered out of service at Franklin, Texas on December 12, 1864.

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COMPANY I FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company I:

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in November 11, 1861
Mustered out November 30, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Joseph Tuttle, Captain	_____	January 2, 1862
James A. Zabriskie, Captain	_____	Sept. 30, 1862
Fred A. Morgan, First Lieut.	_____	January 2, 1862
George A. Burkett, Captain	_____	May 4, 1864

Activities:

Company I was organized in Benicia, by Captain Joseph Tuttle, and mustered into service at Camp Union, November 11, 1861, remaining there until January 1862. The company was then sent to the southern part of the state, joining with the forces of the California Column, marching into New Mexico and Texas.* Previous to entering New Mexico the unit was stationed at Drum Barracks from October 31, 1862 until February 1863, reaching Camp Miembrès, New Mexico, March 31, 1864.

A detachment of twenty men from this company under command of Lieutenant Burkett, and accompanied by twenty men from Company I, Fifth Regiment of Infantry, and ten men from the First California Cavalry, had an encounter with hostile Indians on April 7, 1864. The Indians numbered about two hundred and fifty and were camped near Sierra Bonita, Arizona, when discovered by the troops. After an hour of battle the hostiles were completely routed from camp, twenty-one of them being killed and a large number wounded. Forty-five head of horses and mules were captured from the Indians, and all their provisions and camp equipage destroyed. On the fourth of May, as Company I was entering Doubtful Canyon, near Steins Peak, New Mexico, they were attacked by one hundred Apache Indians. In the skirmish, the natives lost ten braves, while the troops had only one man killed and four wounded. The unit arrived at the Mescal River on the thirtieth of May and surprised two Indian rancherias, killing fifty-one and taking sixteen Indian women and children as prisoners.

Company I was stationed at Fort Cummings, New Mexico until November 1864. The unit was then sent to Mesilla and mustered out of service on November 30, 1864.

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*Refer to Activities of California Column. On file Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY K FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY

Company K

Location: Camp Union, Sacramento, California
Mustered in November 22, 1861
Mustered out November 27, 1864

Commanding Officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Thomas T. Tidball, Captain	_____	Jan. 2, 1862
Benjamin F. Bayley, First Lt.	_____	Jan. 2, 1862

Activities:

Company K was the last company of the Fifth Regiment of Infantry, organized under the President's second call for volunteers in the War of the Rebellion. Captain Thomas Tidball organized the company at Santa Cruz and it was mustered into service at Camp Union on November 22, 1861. There are no records of the stations occupied by Company K from then until March 1863, at which time the unit was located at Fort Bowie, Arizona.

During May of 1864, a report from Captain Tidball, stated that he and twenty-five men from Company K, with a small party of citizens attacked a rancheria in Canyon Arivaypi, killing over fifty Indians and wounding as many. They also took ten of the Indians as prisoners and captured sixty head of stock with the loss of but one man.

Company K was stationed at Las Cruces, New Mexico from September to November 27, 1864, at which time and place the troops were mustered out of the United States service.

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