

Early Military Posts of Mendocino County, California

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THE INDIAN RESERVATIONS

A BRIEF DISCUSSION of the Round Valley and Mendocino Indian reservations is a necessary preliminary to a study of Mendocino County's early military posts, since these posts and the reservations were intimately connected.¹

In 1854 Thomas J. Henley was appointed superintendent of Indian affairs in California, succeeding Edward F. Beale. Henley soon set about establishing additional Indian reservations, among the earliest of which was the Nome Lackee Reservation formed in September 1854 on Thomes Creek about twenty miles west of Tehama. Originally in Colusa County, the reservation was embraced in Tehama County in 1856.² A detachment of the 3d U. S. Artillery served at Nome Lackee to give local protection between January 4, 1855, and April 21, 1858, the various commanders being lieutenants James Deshler, John H. Lendrum, John Edwards and Michael R. Morgan.³

Remains of an adobe "fortification" still exist at the site of the agency. This structure, about one hundred feet square with walls about ten feet high, was built primarily for the protection of agency personnel.⁴ The Nome Lackee Reservation was the forerunner of the Round Valley Reservation; it was gradually displaced by the latter and was abandoned in 1861.⁵

In 1856, as an adjunct of Nome Lackee, Henley established the "Nome Cult Farm" in Round Valley, northeastern Mendocino County, with S. P. Storms in charge.⁶ This beautiful and productive valley varies from about seven to ten miles in diameter, is surrounded by mountains, and lies within a large bend of the Middle Fork of Eel River. Army records in the National Archives tell of a Camp Mackall, located in a Round Valley on Cash or Cache Creek, and occupied in April and again in June 1857. This camp was apparently not in Mendocino County.⁷

In 1858 the secretary of the interior directed that Nome Cult Valley be retained as a reservation.⁸ In the spring of 1860, Deputy-Surveyor Hatch made a survey of the reservation which was recorded in the San Francisco land office on May 4, 1860, the extent of the area being 25,030 acres.⁹ However, it was not until March 30, 1870, and following another survey, that an executive order was issued by President Grant formally establishing the Round Valley Reservation.¹⁰ This reservation with various modifications exists today.

The Mendocino Indian Reservation was selected by H. P. Heintzelman acting under orders from Henley who forwarded the recommendation to Commissioner Manypenny by letter dated November 17, 1855. Approved by President Pierce May 22, 1856, the reservation extended from the Noyo River to about a mile north of the present Ten Mile River, and from the Pacific Ocean inland to include the first range of hills so as to contain about 25,000 acres.¹¹ Henry L. Ford was the first sub-agent.¹² Although grain did not do well, potatoes were successfully raised and there was an abundance of shell fish, cod and sardines, while "immense quantities of salmon were taken with nets in the Noyo River."¹³

FORT BRAGG

Although as early as 1856 consideration had been given to the advisability of a military post on the Mendocino Indian Reservation, it was not until the summer of 1857 that the project was placed in execution. First Lieut. Horatio G. Gibson, 3d Artillery, was assigned the mission and was provided with a detachment from his own company, M of the 3d Artillery, then serving at the Presidio of San Francisco.¹⁴

It was the admiration of this young officer for a former company commander of his, Capt. Braxton Bragg of Buena Vista fame, that led to the naming of the new post.¹⁵ The name was perpetuated when it was adopted by the town of Fort Bragg, which was established much later at the fort site selected by Lieutenant Gibson.¹⁶

Under date of June 8, 1857, Gibson reported from Mendocino City that he had arrived there the 5th instant, that because of the absence of a road to the Noyo River he was moving his heavy baggage to the Noyo on the agency schooner, and that he was arranging to have tentage and light articles packed by Indians. Because of the absence of vacant quarters at the agency and his desire to keep his command separate, he proposed to build his post on the south bank of the Noyo. At that time the agency buildings were about a half-mile north of that stream.¹⁷

In his next letter dated "Camp Bragg, Mendocino Reserve, Cal., June 18, 1857," Gibson stated that he had arrived at the Noyo the 8th instant but had found no suitable site on the south bank, and that he had established his camp about a mile and a half north of the river. Tools were loaned by Captain Ford and the men set to work hewing timber for buildings. Says Gibson: "It is however slow work, owing to the scarcity of proper tools and other facilities; and I do not expect to have all necessary buildings completed before the beginning of the rainy season."¹⁸

The date officially recorded for the establishment of the post was June 11, 1857.¹⁹

During the summer of 1857, Capt. Erasmus D. Keyes, 3d Artillery, made an inspection of the post. On September 15, 1857, Lieutenant Gibson wrote from "Fort Bragg" to Major Mackall giving information regarding the

management of the Mendocino Reservation. He requested an army surgeon and some howitzers, and stated: "With regard to my Post, I have to report the erection and occupation of three buildings, all of which however are unfinished. The men are now at work on the officers' quarters, which ought to be completed within a month. A stable, guardhouse and storehouse have yet to be built."²⁰

In June 1857 and in the fiscal year following, a little over \$600 was spent in building the post.²¹ In 1858 Lieutenant Gibson had two paintings of the post made by Alexander Edouart, an artist of San Francisco. One was retained by Gibson who later stated, "One I sent to Genl. Bragg, then not in the Army, but Mrs. Bragg years afterward told me that it was burnt when the Genl's mansion and plantation were burnt or destroyed by the Union troops in 1864." The painting is of a scene looking northeast across the parade ground and shows four of the fort's buildings against a background of pines. In the foreground is the flagstaff and a detachment of about twenty men in ranks facing an officer with drawn sword.²²

After Col. Edward J. Steptoe's defeat at Te-hoto-nim-me in eastern Washington Territory in May 1858, plans were soon made for sending a large expedition to that area under command of Col. George Wright. Among the troops ordered north from California was Company M, 3d Artillery, including its detachment at Fort Bragg. A letter of Lieutenant Gibson dated "Fort Bragg, Cal., June 15, 1858," tells of his evacuation of the post: "In obedience to your letter of instructions of the 31st ultimo, received at noon of the 5th instant, the detachment of Company M, 3d Art under my command left this Post to rejoin its company on the 7th instant. My confinement to a sick bed has prevented my accompanying it, and detained me at the Post until today. Strength of detachment 15 rank and file. A copy of my instructions to the non-commissioned officer left in charge of the Post and public property will be transmitted to Dept. Headqrs. at an early day."²³

Following Wright's successful campaign, Gibson returned to Fort Bragg for a short stay in November 1858, whether with troops was not stated.²⁴ Early in 1859, probably in January, a detachment of about twenty men of Company D, 6th U. S. Infantry, was sent to Fort Bragg from Fort Weller, being guided overland by James Tobin.²⁵ When Fort Weller was abandoned in September 1859, all of Company D, except a detachment at Round Valley, was assembled at Fort Bragg under Bvt. Maj. Edward Johnson. Returns show Company D to have been at Fort Bragg and commanded by 2d Lieut. Edward Dillon on December 31, 1860, and by 1st Lieut. Orlando H. Moore on June 30, 1861.²⁶ The company lost two officers to the Confederate cause: Major Johnson who resigned June 10, 1861, and Lieutenant Dillon who was dropped from the rolls June 25, 1861. The former became a major general and the latter a colonel in the Confederate army.²⁷

Col. Patrick E. Connor, 3d California Infantry, then at Stockton, on November 1, 1861, was ordered to send a company of that regiment to San Francisco, destined for Fort Bragg. On November 20, 1861, 1st Lieut. James P. Martin, 7th Infantry, then commanding Company D, 6th Infantry, at Fort Bragg, was ordered to march his company to Mendocino prepared to embark on the return of the steamer *Columbia* from Crescent City. Capt. Jeremiah B. Moore with Company B, 3d California Infantry, relieved Lieutenant Martin at Fort Bragg on November 23, 1861, and Company D, the last regular army unit to occupy the post, was soon on its way to the battlefields of the East.²⁸

Commencing in 1859 and probably continuing for several years, the tiny post left by Lieutenant Gibson was necessarily increased to company size. Although no ground plan has been located, various accounts, surveys, and the photograph included with this article enable assembly of a fairly satisfactory description.

The post was located within an opening or clearing in the pine woods, about fifteen acres in extent, rectangular in shape with long axis lying east and west. Old-timers of Fort Bragg and vicinity still remember the location as having been a "nice warm spot" before the pines were cleared away. The south side of present-day Laurel Street, from the railroad depot to the alley between Franklin and McPherson streets, was the north side of the post; the alley corresponds to the east side; the south side extended from a point on the alley about one hundred feet south of Redwood Street west to the section line beyond the Union Lumber Company office, and the west side was generally along that section line. Main Street bisects the area somewhat west of its center.²⁹

The one-story quarters of the officers, the troops, and the non-commissioned officers were respectively on the east, north, and south sides of the parade ground and occupied the eastern part of the area. Farther west were the guard house, the commissary and quartermaster storehouse (in the southwest corner), with the stables on the west side. The hospital stood near the northwest corner on a knoll which is at present occupied by the Guest House of the Union Lumber Company. Dr. P. W. Randle was post surgeon in 1863. The hospital was remodeled about 1884 and used as a residence by C. R. Johnson. There were probably about sixteen buildings in all. The cemetery was immediately west of the parade ground; the remains were later moved to the cemetery in the northern part of town.³⁰

Captain Moore's company was relieved on August 11, 1862, by Company D, 2d California Infantry, Capt. William E. Hull commanding, which arrived on the *Panama*.³¹

All troops at Fort Bragg, except possibly Gibson's and Moore's, operated in the field against hostile Indians, generally to the north as far as Shelter Cove and northeast to the South Fork of the Eel River and Long Valley.



FORT BRAGG About 1862 (Looking East)

Courtesy of C. Russel Johnson

Captain Hull received the commendation of the department commander for his operations from March to June of 1864. While off duty, a favorite gathering place for soldiers was John Burns' hotel at Noyo. Desertions were comparatively few. After their discharge, some soldiers who had served at the post returned and settled in the vicinity.³²

In September 1864, many units serving in the Humboldt district were ordered south, among them Captain Hull's company. The steamer *Panama* left Humboldt Bay October 18, 1864, picked up the Fort Bragg garrison and arrived at the Presidio of San Francisco October 20. Thus was completed the permanent evacuation and abandonment of the post.³³ The Mendocino Indian Reservation was discontinued in March 1866, and the land opened for settlement several years later.³⁴

The troops gone, there remains only to record the passing of the fort's buildings. In 1870 about fifteen houses were still standing but with "crumbling roofs, doorless doors and paneless windows." By 1889 but two remaining houses were recorded; in 1907 the guard house still stood, but today all vestige of Mendocino's first military post seems to have disappeared.³⁵

FORT WELLER

Nearing the end of a march of about 2100 miles from Fort Leavenworth to Benicia, the 6th U. S. Infantry paraded through Sacramento on the morning of November 11, 1858. The Sacramento *Daily Bee* thus noted the unusual spectacle:

At precisely 11 o'clock the Regiment marched down J Street, with bayonets glistening in the sun, colors flying, band playing "Jordan is a hard road to travel" and "Yankee Doodle," and all hands covered with dust, all of which was hugely admired by a large concourse of men, women, and children, who thronged the street. The train which consisted of about 160 wagons, extended a distance of two miles. The soldiers all looked first rate, marched well, were clean and well dressed, and presented an unexpectedly good appearance. The band, consisting of fourteen pieces, and six drums and fifes, made good music, and did Uncle Sam credit.³⁶

It was not recorded whether the band's repertoire included the currently popular tune "Sacramento Gals," but it does seem natural that the troops cast many an admiring, sideward glance at the Sacramento "gals" among the crowd lining the street.³⁷

The stay of the regiment at Benicia was short; most of the companies were soon on their way to stations in southern California. Earlier in 1858 Bvt. Brig. Gen. Newman S. Clarke, department commander, had received a personal call from Superintendent Henley, who represented that troops were needed at the Round Valley and Mendocino reservations "for the purpose of protecting property from Indian depredations and to protect the Indians from the consequences at the hands of the white men."³⁸

As a result of Henley's request, Company D, 6th Infantry, under the temporary command of 1st Lieut. William P. Carlin, 6th Infantry, left Benicia Barracks on December 13, 1858, with orders to take post at or near

the Nome Cult Indian Reservation in Round Valley. "The baggage and supply train consisted of nineteen wagons, drawn by six mules each, the wagons loaded with about 1800 [pounds]. The mules were a portion of the same lot that crossed the plains with the Sixth Infantry, and were not entirely recovered from the effects of that long trip." The route was via Sonoma, Petaluma, and Healdsburg to Cloverdale. Much difficulty was met in negotiating the mountains at the canyon of the Russian River, commencing about three miles north of Cloverdale. The teams were doubled when practicable, otherwise troops were used to assist in pulling or pushing the wagons.³⁹

After fording Russian River several times the company reached Calpella where it was joined on December 23 by the company commander, Capt. and Bvt. Maj. Edward Johnson. The following day a point was reached at the end of the road on Russian River in Redwood Valley about seven miles north of Calpella. There the train was unloaded, a supply depot was established, and on the twenty-fifth the wagons were sent back to Benicia for new loads.⁴⁰

In order to determine the most practicable route to Round Valley, 2d Lieut. Edward Dillon was sent on a reconnoissance. Leaving the depot site on December 24, and accompanied by the guide, James Tobin, Dillon passed east over the intervening ridge into Potter Valley. Thence he was also accompanied by a Mr. Potter, probably William or Thomas Potter, who pointed out a suggested route which led northwesterly from the head of Potter Valley, crossing Tomki Creek then called Blood Creek, about two miles above its mouth, to the Eel River about two miles east of the present site of Hearst. The party then returned to the depot camp December 26, crossing Tomki Creek about three miles higher up, thence via the ridge east of Redwood Canyon. Dillon reported the streams swollen and the trails by either route steep, slippery, and obstructed, with some boggy places. He considered that animals with light packs could be taken through, but that a wagon road was impracticable.⁴¹

Confronted with this situation, Johnson wrote explaining the situation to the department commander. He stated that even if it were possible to get the company through to Round Valley it would be impracticable to transport sufficient supplies, and that the valley was supplied only by packing from Tehama in the dry season. He reported that "the dam at the sawmill just below this was carried away last night," and concluded with a recommendation that he build a post at his camp site as a depot of supply and for protecting the adjacent country, and that he send a small detachment to Round Valley.⁴²

Johnson's recommendation was approved, for he wrote to that effect to the Adjutant General of the Army from "Fort Weller, Cal., Jan. 28th, 1849," enclosing a sketch of the country from Sonoma to Round Valley.⁴³

He named the post for John B. Weller, governor of California and former U. S. senator. The post was officially founded January 3, 1859.⁴⁴

The site was on the present ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Homer H. Mitten, west of the Redwood Valley road and immediately east of a small tributary of Russian River.⁴⁵ The location was pointed out to the present writer by James A. Lane of Cloverdale, and Isaac C. Burke of Redwood Valley. Both lived in the vicinity in their youth. Mr. Lane was born in 1867, moved near the fort location in 1868, and lived there until twenty-two years of age. He remembers several buildings at the site and says that all were demolished or burned.

The construction of the post was under Lieutenant Carlin who submitted a ground plan, dated July 1859, for the nine buildings required.⁴⁵ It is not certain how many of those buildings were actually constructed. It is likely that merely crude shelters had been built during the previous winter.

Some forty additional men, mostly recruits, arrived at the post with the wagon train returning from Benicia Barracks under Lieutenant Dillon in January 1859. During that month Company D sent a detachment of about seventeen men, commanded by Lieutenant Dillon, to Round Valley; another detachment of about twenty men was sent to Fort Bragg. Both were guided by James Tobin.⁴⁶

Apparently the trail to Round Valley and the supply situation there were improved during the summer to the extent that it was considered desirable to vacate Fort Weller and send its garrison to Fort Bragg. The abandonment of this short-lived post was in September 1859.⁴⁷

CAMP WRIGHT

The station of Dillon's detachment in Round Valley appears in records as having been at the Nome Cult Agency without having any special camp name. It was probably located at or near a group of buildings, including a block house, shown on the map of the reservation survey of 1860 as about two miles northeast of the present town of Covelo.⁴⁸

In March 1859 Dillon asked Major Johnson for mules for pack purposes and some garden seeds, stating that the men wanted some occupation badly. After a period of uncertainty, it was determined to keep the troops in Round Valley, and Dillon was notified in September 1859 that he should make his command "as comfortable as possible by the Labor of Troops but that no expense must fall on the government."

Dillon remained at Round Valley until May 1860 when he was transferred to Fort Bragg, leaving a sergeant in charge of the detachment. In April 1861 Dillon ordered the detachment from Round Valley to a point on Eel River, probably near present Dos Rios, "equidistant from Round, Long and Eden Valleys." One corporal and a private remained in Round Valley. Both detachments were withdrawn to Fort Bragg in July 1861.⁴⁹

Because of several representations of the necessity therefor, made by

George M. Hanson, superintendent of Indian affairs for northern California, troops were ordered to Round Valley on October 28, 1862. The unit selected was Company F, 2d California Infantry, Capt. Charles D. Douglas commanding, which was ordered from Camp Gaston to Round Valley via Fort Humboldt and Fort Bragg. After interminable delays en route due to difficulty in obtaining a vessel, calms and fog at sea, and heavy rains during the trip overland, Douglas and his company arrived at Round Valley December 11, 1862. There a site was selected and the new post was named Fort Wright, later called Camp Wright, for the commander of the Pacific department, Gen. George Wright.⁵⁰

Previously General Wright had ordered the establishment of martial law in Round Valley, so it became one of the first duties of Captain Douglas to investigate formally the situation there. In his long report to General Wright, Captain Douglas discussed his findings, generally approving the position taken by the settlers against the Indians and against the management of Indian affairs. General Wright then revoked his instructions for the establishment of martial law and ordered the restoration of a justice of the peace who had been removed by Douglas.⁵¹

The post location was about one and a half miles northwest of the present town of Covelo. During 1863 and 1864 the post construction proceeded. All were log buildings with roofs of shakes. These included two officers' quarters, a company quarters and mess hall, bakery, hospital, guard house, storehouse, and stables. The post surgeon was Dr. William C. Deans.⁵²

Although most of the men were on guard and pack-train duty, and post construction, on at least two occasions detachments took the field against hostile Indians in 1853. Several men were at the ferry on Eel River. In 1864 Captain Douglas stated that his orders were to protect the Indians and their interests from the depredations of bad whites, to prevent the Indians from leaving the reserve, and as far as possible to protect settlers' property from Indian depredations.⁵³

Capt. José Ramon Pico's Company A, California Native Cavalry, joined the post November 23, 1864, and remained until April 1865, when it left for Benicia.⁵⁴ There is evidence that this reinforcement of Captain Douglas' reduced company was to forestall possible uprising by suspected disloyal elements in the vicinity.⁵⁵

The Fourth of July 1865 saw the garrison and settlers joined in celebration. Lieut. John H. Swift gave the oration. About twenty-five ladies were present, several from the Sacramento Valley. In the afternoon there was horse racing, probably at Storms' mile track about three miles southeast of the post. Then the crowd went to the "ice cream saloon" and was served ice cream made with snow packed in the day previous from "the summit." An all-night session of the quadrille followed, broken only by an intermission for supper.⁵⁶

On April 13, 1866, Company F received its long-awaited relief by Capt. William H. Jordan's Company A, 9th U. S. Infantry. Company F left by schooner from Noyo for the Presidio of San Francisco where it was mustered out May 4. That year was commenced a brick building for Captain Jordan's quarters. Entertainment for the troops included singing school every Saturday night and "dances very often."⁵⁷ About this time a visitor to the post said, "The neat white barracks of Fort Wright, with its prim enclosure, spoke of military precision and discipline."⁵⁸

A Ukiah paper described the passage through town on May 13, 1869, of the relief for Jordan's company:

Yesterday morning a company, or at least, a portion of a company, of Uncle Sams boys in blue, directly from Washington City, passed through here, on their way to Camp Wright, together with all but innumerable wives and children and plenty of baggage.

This was Company A, 12th U. S. Infantry, under 1st Lieut. Alexander B. MacGowan, which with other units of its regiment had crossed the country by rail, except for a march of about forty-five miles at the incomplete section between the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads.⁵⁹

Capt. Edward C. Woodruff, 12th Infantry, assumed command in August 1869. The same year a new company barrack building of adobe 200 by 30 feet was erected on the south side of the parade ground, and a military reservation one mile square was established. A school was "soon to be opened" at the post in the spring of 1870. Other buildings erected were a storehouse 88 by 26 feet on the west side of the parade ground in 1873; an additional room on its north end in 1874; a guard house 30 by 20 feet on the west side in 1874; and a hospital 54 by 16 feet with an addition 20 by 12 feet in the rear was located 200 yards east of camp, date of completion not stated. To the west outside the quadrangle were the bake house, carpenter's shop, and laundress' quarters; the corral was some 300 feet south of the enclosure fence; the cemetery which in 1870 contained six graves was much farther to the southwest. Cows, hogs and chickens were kept, while gardens provided some vegetables. There were several dug wells which dried in the summer, necessitating the hauling of water from a creek.⁶⁰

A. G. Tassin states that during the Modoc War Captain Woodruff arranged with the Indian agent at Round Valley to have arms taken from the Pit River Indians then on that reservation. To this action Tassin attributes the lack of an uprising by those Indians.⁶¹

By 1875, the nearby town of Covelo claimed two stores, a post office, express, drug store, livery stable, three saloons, and three doctors. It was a place of "constant excitement, with drinking, gambling and horse racing." Annual horse races were held there for Mendocino, Trinity, Humboldt and Sonoma counties, with "horses training for weeks and hotels crowded."⁶²

Because of friendly relations with the Indians of the reservation, Camp

Wright was ordered abandoned on June 10, 1875, the troops left on June 17 and their "elegant quarters were placed in charge of a Dr. Patty."⁶³ An executive order of July 26, 1876, relinquished the Camp Wright Military Reservation. It was transferred to the interior department for use and occupancy by the Indians on the Round Valley Indian Reservation, for whom it was divided later in ten-acre allotments.⁶⁴

There were two more occasions when troops were sent for a short time to Round Valley. The first was in September of 1887, when a detachment from the Presidio of San Francisco, under Capt. Richard G. Shaw, was sent to "remove settler's stock from the reservation." Again in March 1892 Capt. William E. Dougherty led Company B, 1st Infantry, and a detachment of the 4th Cavalry to the valley. This was said to have been necessary because of the refusal of George E. White, "the cattle king of Mendocino County, to vacate the territory on request of the Indian agent."⁶⁵

At present only a few heaps of stones and broken brick, and several abandoned wells, give evidence of the location of old Camp Wright—last of Mendocino's early posts.

NOTES

Manuscripts referred to are to be found in the National Archives unless otherwise stated. Mrs. J. S. Cotton, Fort Bragg, has the letters written to her by Gen. H. G. Gibson.

1. Before establishment of reservations and posts in Mendocino County, two U. S. expeditions consisting of troops, in whole or part, passed through the area. The first was the 1850 punitive expedition of Bvt. Capt. Nathaniel Lyon, 2d Infantry. See 31st Cong., 2d sess., Sen. Exec. Doc. 1, Pt. II, 81-83; and Herman Altschule, "Exploring the Coast Range in 1850," in *Overland Monthly*, 2d Ser., XI, 321-23. The second expedition was that of Redick McKee, agent of the Indian department, which marched from Sonoma to the Klamath River in 1851. McKee had an escort of 36 dragoons under Bvt. Maj. Henry W. Wessels, 2d Infantry. George Gibbs' journal of McKee's expedition is in Henry R. Schoolcraft, *Archives of Aboriginal Knowledge* (Philadelphia, 1860), III, 99-177. Wessels' report is in 34th Cong., 3d sess., H. R. Exec. Doc. 76, pp. 59-68. The camps used by those expeditions were over-night camps or were used for but a few days.

2. Alban W. Hoopes, *Indian Affairs and their Administration* (Philadelphia, 1932), pp. 56-57. Owen C. Coy, *California County Boundaries* (Berkeley, 1923), p. 276. A. L. Kroeber, "California Place Names of Indian Origin," in *Univ. Calif. Publ. Am. Archeol. and Ethnol.*, XII, No. 2, p. 51, lists Nomlaki as meaning west-tongue or west-language. Henry L. Ford became the first sub-agent at Nome Lackee. In his MS report to Henley, dated Tehama, Sept. 4, 1854, regarding his reconnaissance of the proposed reservation, he stated, "This section of the country is inhabited by a tribe of Indians calling themselves Nome Lacka."

3. Dates of occupancy are in 35th Cong., 2d sess., H. R. Ex. Doc. No. 93, p. 23. Names of officers are in MS letter, T. J. Henley to Maj. Gen. J. E. Wool, San Francisco, May 31, 1855; 34th Cong., 1st sess., Sen. Ex. Doc. No. 1, p. 140; 35th Cong., 1st sess., H. R. Ex. Doc. No. 2, p. 78; Red Bluff Beacon, June 24, 1857.

4. Report of T. J. Henley in *Report of the Comr. Ind. Affairs for 1856* (Washington, 1857), p. 238; and MS letter, Henley to the Comr., Oct. 4, 1856.

5. Report of George M. Hanson in *Report of the Comr. Ind. Affairs for 1862* (Washington, 1863), p. 312.

6. Charles J. Kappler, *Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties* (Washington, 1904), I, 825. A. L. Kroeber, in *Handbook of the Indians of California* (Washington, 1925), p. 896, says that Nome Cult is Wintun for "west people."

7. Capt. J. W. T. Gardiner, with his Company A, 1st Dragoons, was at Camp Mackall, Cache Creek, in April 1857. Since Gardiner was reported to have arrived at Fort Reading early in May of that year, "after a ten days march from Benicia," it appears that the Cache Creek referred to may have been the one forming the outlet of Clear Lake. Red Bluff *Beacon*, May 12, 1857; Letters, National Archives to F. B. Rogers, March 9 and July 15, 1948.

8. Kappler, *loc. cit.*

9. San Francisco *Examiner*, Feb. 5, 1888, pp. 9-10.

10. Kappler, *op. cit.*, p. 828.

11. Hoopes, *op. cit.*, p. 61.

12. Henry L. Ford (1822-1860) was a prominent participant in the Bear Flag revolt of 1846, was in command of a detachment in the skirmish at Olompali, and commanded Company B, California Battalion under Frémont. His MS on the Bear Flag revolt, now at the Bancroft Library, is an important contribution to the history of that affair. He was killed at Round Valley, Mendocino County, by the accidental discharge of his pistol July 2, 1860. *Sacramento Daily Union*, July 6, 1860.

13. *Report of the Comr. Ind. Affairs for the year 1857* (Washington, 1858), pp. 394-98; *for the year 1858* (Washington, 1858), p. 301.

14. 34th Cong., 3d sess., H. R. Ex. Doc. No. 76, p. 143; *Special Orders No. 72*, hq. dept. of the Pacific, May 30, 1857. Horatio Gates Gibson (1827-1924) was born in Maryland, graduated from the U. S. military academy in 1847, served in the war with Mexico, and arrived at Monterey on the ship *Fanny Forrester* April 16, 1849. He served at many stations of the Pacific coast. In 1855 he commanded the escort with the California-Oregon railroad survey party of Lieut. R. S. Williamson. He was wounded in an engagement with Indians near Grave Creek, Oregon, the same year and took part in Wright's Spokane expedition of 1858. In 1861 he went east, served in the Civil War, and was retired as colonel in 1891. He was advanced to the rank of brigadier general in 1904 for Civil War service and died in 1924, at which time he was the oldest living graduate of the U. S. military academy. George W. Cullum, *Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U. S. Military Academy* (New York, 1868), pp. 190-91; *ibid.* (Cambridge, Mass., 1901), IV, 71; *Army and Navy Journal*, April 26, 1924, p. 843; Society of Calif. Pioneers, *Record* completed by Gibson.

15. H. G. Gibson in MS letters to Mrs. J. S. Cotton, Mar. 14 and Apr. 16, 1911, says: "It [Fort Bragg] has preserved the name of my honored friend and commander, of Buena Vista and Confederate fame," and, "Genl. Bragg never saw Fort Bragg." General Gibson in 1902 wrote a 17 page MS on Bragg's "Light Battery C, 3d Artillery," copy held by F. B. Rogers. In the battle of Buena Vista, Feb. 22-23, 1847, Santa Ana was completely routed by the Americans under Gen. Zachary Taylor.

16. In 1884 the small community which had grown in the vicinity received impetus from the construction there of the sawmill of the Fort Bragg Redwood Company, predecessor of the present Union Lumber Company. See "For 59 Years," in *West Coast Lumberman*, Aug. 1942, p. 23. The town of Fort Bragg was incorporated June 24, 1889. Aurelius O. Carpenter, *History of Mendocino and Lake Counties, California* (Los Angeles, 1914), p. 64.

17. MS letter recd. dept. Pac., July 13, 1857, File G 22. *Report Comr. Ind. Affairs for the year 1857* (Washington, 1858), p. 390, notes: "a schooner of twenty tons used

for bringing supplies from the landing at Mendocino city to the reserve by sea a distance of twelve miles."

18. MS letter recd. dept. Pac., July 10, 1857, File G 19.

19. 35th Cong., 2d sess., H. R. Ex. Doc. No. 93, p. 23.

20. MS letter recd. dept. Pac., Sept. 29, 1857, File G 47.

21. 35th Cong., 2d sess., H. R. Ex. Doc. No. 93, p. 17.

22. MS letter March 12, 1911, Gibson to Mrs. Cotton. Alexander Edouart (1818-1892), son of the famous silhouettist Augustin A. C. F. Edouart, painted the "Mendocino Hunting Party of 1857," which appeared in Vischer's *Pictorial of California* (San Francisco, 1870). He was a member of the hunting party which visited the Mendocino reservation, and he made the sketches for the seven woodcut illustrations in "Reminiscences of Mendocino," by an anonymous author (probably Edward Vischer) in *Hutchings' California Magazine*, III, No. 4 (Oct. 1858), pp. 145-60, 177-81. Edouart also is probably the artist who made a sketch of Round Valley in 1858, photographic copy of which is in The Smithsonian Institution, bureau of American ethnology, File No. 20-California. His painting of Fort Bragg is held by Mrs. Katherine Gibson White, daughter of General Gibson. It is understood that a reproduction of this painting is to appear in a book on California artists before 1860, by Miss Edith M. Coulter and Mrs. J. J. Van Nostrand, to be published by the University of California Press.

23. MS letter recd. dept. Pac., Ft. Vancouver, July 5, 1858, File G-2, re-marked G-73.

24. Gibson, MS letter to Mrs. Cotton, March 12, 1911. In this letter Gibson lists the following persons with whom he became acquainted during his service at Fort Bragg: Capt. Henry L. Ford, Dr. T. M. Ames (agency physician), D. Sargent, Bob White, and John Simpson. He adds, "Mr. Alex. McPherson built his sawmill at the Noyo while I was in command and lived with me. I surveyed his tract of land and made a crude survey of the Noyo Harbor."

25. Appendix to Jour. Calif. Sen., 11th sess. (Sacramento, 1860), No. 11, *Majority and Minority Reports of the Special Joint Committee on the Mendocino War*—hereafter cited as *Mendocino War*—pp. 54-55; *Daily Alta California*, Jan. 20, 1859.

26. *The War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Ser. I (Washington, 1897)—hereafter cited as *Rebellion Records*—L, Pt. I, 429, 526.

27. Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, 1789-1903* (Washington, 1903), I, 373, 575.

28. *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. I, 693, 694, 731, 735, 750. On Dec. 12, 1861, the counties of Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, Trinity, Humboldt, Klamath and Del Norte were constituted in a new military command, the District of the Humboldt, commanded by Col. Francis J. Lippitt, 2d Inf., Calif. Vols., with headquarters at Fort Humboldt. *Ibid.*, p. 760. Rosters of each California volunteer unit and some account of their operations are to be found in Richard H. Orton, *Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion* (Sacramento, 1890).

29. Plat maps of Twp. 18 N., Range 17 W., and Twp. 18 N., Range 18 W., both Mount Diablo meridian, approved respectively Dec. 28, 1866, and May 14, 1869, and field notes for survey of boundary between those townships, 1866. L. A. Gray, *Map of the City of Fort Bragg*, 1915.

30. Lyman L. Palmer, *History of Mendocino County, California* (San Francisco, 1880), pp. 428-29, quoting an unidentified Ukiah newspaper as to the post's appearance in 1863; W. T. Fitch, "Fort Bragg, Mendocino County," in *The Northern Crown* (Ukiah, March 1907), III, no. 7, p. 7; *Fort Bragg Advocate*, June 26, 1889, and April 16, 1890. The soldiers' plot in the present Fort Bragg cemetery contains graves with military headstones enscribed, "Thos. Knudson, Co. D, 6th US Inf.," and "Jno. Cameron, Co. D,

2d Cal. Inf." Both organizations served at Fort Bragg. Cameron was "accidentally killed Aug. 7, 1862, at Fort Bragg, by a wagon turning over on him." Orton, *op. cit.*, p. 458. *Mendocino Herald* (Ukiah), July 11, 1862.

31. *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. II, 61.

32. *Ibid.*, Pt. I, 19-21, 196, 257-63, Pt. II, 34; Fort Bragg *Advocate*, June 26, 1889.

33. *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. II, 997, 1001.

34. Charles Maltby in *Report Comm. Ind. Affairs for the year 1866* (Washington, 1866), p. 91; Carpenter, *op. cit.*, p. 62.

35. *Mendocino Independent Dispatch*, May 19, 1870; Fort Bragg *Advocate*, June 26, 1889; W. T. Fitch, *op. cit.*, p. 7.

36. *Sacramento Daily Bee*, Nov. 11, 1858; *Sacramento Daily Union*, Nov. 12, 1858.

37. John A. Stone, collector, *Put's Golden Songster* (San Francisco, 1858); Eleanora Black and Sidney Robertson, compilers, *The Gold Rush Songbook* (San Francisco, 1940), pp. 38, 39.

38. *Mendocino War*, pp. 54, 55; *Sacramento Daily Union*, Jan. 14, 1859.

39. MS letter, W. P. Carlin, camp near head of Russian River, Dec. 27, 1858, to Major [Edward Johnson], encl. 2 to letter recd. dept. Cal., Dec. 31, 1858, File J 39.

40. MS letter, E. Johnson, Dec. 27, 1858, to W. W. Mackall, letter recd. Cal., File J 39.

41. MS letter, W. P. Carlin, Dec. 27, 1858, to E. Johnson, encl. 3 to letter, E. Johnson, *op. cit.* A map of Carlin's route was encl. 1 thereto.

42. MS letter, E. Johnson, *op. cit.* The sawmill mentioned was run by water power and was built by Thomas Elliot. Palmer, *op. cit.*, p. 446.

43. File AGO., 26 J 1859.

44. Letter WD spec. staff, hist. div., May 9, 1947, to F. B. Rogers, encl. 2.

45. Fort Weller was located on Lot 8, Sect. 18, Twp. 17 N., Range 12 W., Mount Diablo meridian, on the bench east of the stream passing through that lot.

46. MS orders No. 1, camp headquarters, Russian River, Dec. 27, 1858; *Daily Alta California*, Jan. 20, 1859; *Sonoma County Journal* (Petaluma), Jan. 21, 1859; *Mendocino War*, pp. 54-57; Augustus G. Tassin, "Chronicles of Camp Wright," in *Overland Monthly*, 2d Ser., X, pp. 27-29.

47. *Sonoma County Journal*, May 27, 1859; June 10 and 24, 1859; July 22, 1859; Aug. 26, 1859. See also "List of Abandoned or Unoccupied Military Posts and Reservations in the Military Division of the Pacific," hq. mil. div. of Pac., San Francisco, Nov. 20, 1876, encl. to Doc. 2016-1876, letters recd., dept. of the Columbia.

48. *Mendocino War*, p. 56-60. The location of the blockhouse on the survey map, and as pointed out to the present writer by Albert Brown who lived at the site, was in the NW¼ of the NW¼, Sect. 32, Twp. 23 N., Range 12 W., Mt. Diablo meridian.

49. Journal 11th Sess. Calif. Sen., Apdx. No. 18, pp. 4-6; Tassin, *op. cit.*, p. 32; *Rebellion Records*, Pt. I, pp. 464, 465, 530, 537; *Medical History of Fort Wright*, MS, p. 1.

50. *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. I, 1084. Pt. II, 92, 101, 162, 197, 237, 238, 250. Two other camps named Wright had been established in 1861, one near Oak Grove and the other near the Presidio of San Francisco. *Ibid.*, Pt. I, 794. George Wright as colonel assumed command of the department of the Pacific Oct. 20, 1861. He was appointed brigadier general and commanded that department until July 1, 1864. He commanded the district of California with headquarters at Sacramento until June 27, 1865, when he was assigned to command the department of the Columbia. In proceeding to Fort Vancouver he and his wife met death in the wreck of the *Brother Jonathan* near Crescent City, July 30, 1865. *Ibid.*, Pt. I, 666; Pt. II, 886, 1268; *Humboldt Times* (Eureka), Aug. 12 and 19, 1865. The remains of General and Mrs. Wright were interred at Sacramento (*Sacramento Daily Union*, Oct. 23, 1865).

51. *Ibid.*, pp. 199, 219, 261-64, 289, 290, 310, 315. Detailed report of the investigation

appeared in the *Mendocino Herald* (Ukiah City), ending with issue of Jan. 9, 1863, and was also published by the *Herald* in a pamphlet offered for sale in that issue.

52. *Medical History of Fort Wright*, MS, p. 1; Fort Wright Plan (in National Archives); *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. I, 203, 230, 231; Pt. II, 629, 805.

53. *Loc. cit.*; *Mendocino Herald*, May 29, 1863; June 12, 1863; Aug. 14, 1863; Sept. 18, 1863.

54. *Medical History of Fort Wright*, p. 1; *Napa Valley Register* (Napa), April 15, 1865; *Rebellion Records*, L, Pt. II, 1054, 1055, 1145.

55. *Ibid.*, pp. 950, 1001.

56. *Mendocino Herald*, July 21, 1865.

57. *Ibid.*, May 18, 1866; Oct. 19, 1866; Dec. 14, 1866; *Medical History of Fort Wright*, p. 2. The museum of anthropology, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, has the negative of a photograph of the brick building, No. 15-1278.

58. *Report on Ind. Affairs by the Acting Comm. for the year 1867* (Washington, 1868), p. 118.

59. *Mendocino Herald*, May 14, 1869; *Journal of the Military Service Institution*, XIV, 1137.

60. *Medical History of Fort Wright*, pp. 2-4; The Surgeon General's Office, *Circular No. 4* (Washington, 1870), pp. 451-452, and *Circular No. 8* (Washington, 1875), pp. 521-522; *Independent Dispatch* (Mendocino), May 5, 1870. The reservation was declared in *Executive Order* of April 27, 1869. It consisted of the W½, Sect. 1 and the E½, Sect. 2, Twp. 22 N., Range 13 W., Mount Diablo meridian.

61. Tassin, *op. cit.*, p. 263.

62. *Salinas City Index*, May 27, 1875; July 1, 1875.

63. Hq. Dept. Calif., *Special Orders No. 52*, 1875; *Salinas City Index*, July 1, 1875.

64. *U. S. Military Reservations* (Washington, 1916), p. 490.

65. Carpenter, *op. cit.*, p. 96; *San Francisco Call*, Mar. 9, 1892.