
The UNION STANDARD

April 2006

Vol. 14, no 3

The Newsletter of the 1st United States Infantry, The Regulars

From the Board

Many thanks to those who braved the rain at Beaumont Ranch as it turned out to be a complete washout, literally. The last time I can remember a local event being cancelled due to inclement weather was the '98 Samuel Farm reenactment that was called off because of snow on Sunday, that's right, snow. Anyway, Aaron Smith finally got his vehicle up the rain-soaked hill at Beaumont Ranch and Brian Glass' scouts performed their dutiful duties by pushing vehicles out of mud. The First had a nice contingent on hand when considering the foul weather. Hopefully, these numbers and a few more can be sustained at the next several outings.

Anytime a local event is cancelled our recruiting efforts suffer as, obviously, Beaumont Ranch was one of our prime recruiting opportunities this year. Gentlemen, we need to replenish the ranks and you are asked to secure a viable recruiting gig in your community, or to enlist a friend or an associate. It is reported that the hobby numbers have dipped severely nation wide so it is imperative we try locally to stem that tide. Surely there is someone you know who might be interested in reenacting, or some place where our recruiting brochures can be strategically placed, or a fair within your community which might have a link to our hobby so that we can recruit there. If you have not introduced anybody to the First within the last three years, then it is time you do so as new blood ensures we remain strong.

April 22 at Ft. Chadbourne is the next maximum-effort outing. This is the annual live fire which will be conducted by gun range masters Kip Bassett and Ted Cross. Kip is selling 10 rolled rounds for \$6, a

real bargain. The range will consist of targets at 100, 200 and yes, even 300 yards.



We'll see if deadeye Mattoon, who currently holds 1 the Live Fire Cup, can hit a target at these long ranges. This is a low-key event so expect plenty of downtime. \$10 covers three meals on Saturday and breakfast Sunday. You are on your own for Friday dinner. Barrack quarters are available so bring a cot or mattress. Other amenities include a modern toilet facility and a shower unit. The property owners have collected onsite, pristine artifacts which are available to view. So, come enjoy the camaraderie and the laidback weekend. More fort info is available at www.fortchadbourne.org.

The annual Forts Muster at the Ft. Worth Stockyards is April 28 & 29. Friday, the 28th, will have school kids onsite, but last year a lot of adult activity also visited our booth that day. I know Friday is a work day, but your help is needed if only for a half day. Of course Saturday is also available. Hours both days are 9:00 – 5:00 and contact Paul Mattoon or me if you would like to recruit.

(Continued on Page 2...)

DIRECTIONS TO FORT CHADBOURNE

Go West on I-20 to Abilene.

Stay on I-20 north around the town.

Exit onto US 277 South/US 83 South. At 3½ miles take the US 277 exit and turn right (south) on US 277.

The fort is about 43 miles and it is on the left – east side of road.

Watch for the billboard. Fort is about 1/2 mile off the road.

1st U.S. Calendar

2006

April 22 nd 28 th -29 th	Live Fire – Fort Chadbourne Fort Worth Stockyards – Frontier Forts Muster
May 20 th	NCO school Fort Richardson
June 3 rd	Drill (tbd)
July 4 th (tbd)	Old City Park , Dallas Living History/Recruiting Cartridge Rolling Party
August (tbd)	Unit Social
September 22 nd -24 th	Battle of Atoka Atoka Oklahoma (Indian Territories)
October 20 th -22 nd	Crockett Reenactment Crockett Texas
November 11 th	Old City Park Dallas, or Veterans Day parade (tbd)
17th – 19th	Liendo Plantation Liendo Texas
December 2-3	Prairie Grove – Prairie Grove Arkansas

*Note: **Bold** are scheduled maximum effort events. Italicized dates are available events or recruiting activities.*

(continued from Page 1)

One last thing, a NCO school is planned Saturday, May 20, at Ft. Richardson in Jacksboro with arrivals expected on Friday the day before. A barracks is available for the overnight stay. The NCO school will be unlike any other as conducted by the First, as the information dispensed will surely educate officers to privates. The course is intended to help those who want to know more about NCO functions and it will further one's knowledge about the rights and duties of the 1860

soldier. This maximum-effort jaunt will be fun and enlightening.

So, the live fire and NCO school are the two max-effort events with a recruiting gig thrown in before we shut down for the summer. Let's get revved up as the first half of the 2006 campaign soon closes.

Pvt. George Hansen
NTRS President

RECRUITING CORNER

Marksmanship: The Serious Side of Reenacting

The hallmark of the Regulars is drill and marksmanship. You've not only got to look good in drill as a Regular, you need to hit the mark—literally!

The 1st US schedule this year is perfect for you (and friends that you can invite) to improve your skills at both drill and shooting. You'll need those skills in getting into the fighting mode prior to going into the attack in September, October, November, and December. Boys, I'm telling you: those Rebs can shoot and you will need to be deadly accurate if you're expecting to see home again.

So, use your time wisely before this upcoming event in April at Fort Chadbourn to practice your marksmanship skills prior to throwing any lead down range.

Here's how in 4 easy steps, after you made sure your rifle is cleared.

1. Start by trying various positions (kneeling, sitting and prone—primarily). Which one is most comfortable (or the least painful)? Try the off-hand (that's standing) position a time or two..
2. Focus your eyesight on the front sight blade of your rifle while looking at the target (your rear sight and the target should be slightly out of focus when concentrating on that front-sight blade at the end of your barrel). Ensure the tip of the front-sight blade is level and centered with the top of the rear sight.
3. Take a deep, but normal breath, let ½ of it out.
4. Then, (leaving the hammer down) with even pressure, pul the trigger slowly straight back (without curling your finger) in a nice steady motion, and HOLD that position until well after the round has been

(imaginarily) shot. (Realize that when you're at the range, each shot should come as a minor surprise, i.e., you shouldn't anticipate it going off.)

Practice imaginary shooting by choosing an actual target, any-thing at a reasonable elevation. The whole purpose throughout these exercises is to get "comfortable" at holding the rifle in a position for a sufficient amount time to get a good sight picture (see #2), trigger control (see #3 & 4), and follow-through before the round goes off.

Think about this, even though you are a reen-actor: It's grand that you know the history of the War you portray. It's great that your uniform looks good and that your brass is shined. But deep-down, if you can't shoot, how can you seriously portray a Regular?

By concentrating on the serious, deadly art of marksmanship, your impression is bound to improve. After your practice, then seriously applying your absolute personal best at Fort Chadbourn, you may find yourself employing these same steps (without bullets, of course) on the field of battle. Will people in the crowd know you are? Probably not. Yet, it will improve your impression—and your experience.

Sgt. Paul Mattoon, 214-837-6811,
paulmattoon@verizon.net

2006 Live Fire Trophy Winner

April 22

"Will Sgt. Paul Mattoon maintain his hold on the Live Fire trophy for the 2006 competition?" This year's annual Live Fire will be held at Ft. Chadbourne which is 40 miles south of Abilene. Plan to arrive Friday or by 9:00 am Saturday. Rounds are \$6 for ten payable by cash to Kip Bassett. Three meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast is \$10 paid onsite. Friday dinner is on your own. The fort proprietor has asked us to be on hand Sunday at 10:00 am for a quick living history demo as we will depart no later than noon. Question is: "Who of you is man enough to take the trophy from Marksman Mattoon?"

Customs of Service

"Take Care of Your Health"

670. The following extracts are from the Sanitary Commission, Dr. Hall's and other advices to soldiers:

"In any ordinary campaign, sickness disables or destroys three times as many as the sword."

"While marching, or on active duty, the more thirsty you are, the more essential is it to safety of life itself to rinse out the mouth two or three times, and *then* take a swallow of water at a time, with short intervals. A brave French general, on a forced march, fell dead on the instant by drinking largely of cold water, when snow was on the ground."

"Never eat heartily just before a great undertaking, because the nervous power is irresistibly drawn to the stomach to manage the food eaten, thus draining off that supply which the brain and muscles so much need."

"Stew or boil your meat. Always. Roasting and frying are wasteful and unhealthy modes for camp cooking (particularly frying)."

"Whenever possible, take a plunge into any lake or running stream every morning, as soon as you get up: if none at hand, endeavor to wash the body all over, as soon as you leave the bed: for personal cleanliness acts like a charm against all diseases, always either warding them off altogether, or greatly mitigating their severity and shortening their durations."

"Keep the hair of the head closely cut, say within an inch and a half of the scalp in every part, repeated on the first of each month, and wash the whole scalp plentiful in cold water every morning."

"Wear woolen stockings and moderately loose shoes, keeping the toe and finger nails cut close. Wash the stockings whenever soiled, and the underclothing once a week. Thoroughly dry both."

"It is important to wash the feet well every night (not in the morning); because it aids to keep the skin and nails soft, to prevent chafings, blisters and corns, all of which greatly interfere with a soldier's duty."

"While on a march, lie down the moment you halt for a rest. Every minute spent in that position refreshes more than five minutes standing or loitering about"

"The crowding of men in tents for sleeping is highly injurious to health Experience has proven that sleeping beneath simple sheds of canvas ... is less dangerous to health than overcrowding in tents." (**Important to cite when ordered to sleep with the Rudy Twins.**)

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Laundresses of the 1st Regiment

By Don Gross

Those who were at Corinth will remember that there was documentary evidence that the 1st had a laundress with them on "campaign". It seems that the 1st has a history with laundresses as these extracts from the regimental records of the 1st while stationed at Fort Chadbourne attest.

February 1, 1859--Letter from Geo W. Wallace, Capt Co. "G" 1st Infantry, Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to 1st Lieut T.

A. Washington, Adjutant 1st Regiment Infantry, Fort Duncan, Texas.

"I respectfully ask the commanding officer of the Regiment that Private Peter Toole, who served one Enlistment in Company 'C' 1st Infantry, now a married man and recently assigned to my company may be transferred to one of the companies that require a Laundress. I cannot furnish his wife a ration in consequence of having at this time the authorized number of women. Two of the twelve men recently sent to my company, from the principal Depot New York, came out with wives. That they must have been intended for some other company or companies there is no doubt, never having applied to the Superintendent for Laundresses. Hoping some action may be had in this matter at an early date as I do not wish to remove the woman who is a decent proper person. The husband is a sober steady man but not much of a soldier." (RG391, NM-93, Entry 1058, Vol. 1 of 8)

March 5, 1860--Letter from Geo W. Wallace, Captain Co. "G" 1st Infantry, Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Colonel S Cooper, Adjutant General US Army, Washington D.C.:

"I respectfully request that private Alexander Hoyt may be transferred out of my company. On re-enlisting, in July last, I granted him a furlough at the expiration of which he reported for duty at Fort Columbus N.Y. where he now is.

Hoyt is an intelligent, sober man, and an excellent soldier, but during his absence he married without my consent, knowing at the time there were two Laundresses in the company over and above the regulation allowance. "So many women in a company renders it inefficient; on the march they fill up the wagons with their traps, or wish to do so, and occupy too much of their husband[']s time in endeavoring to render them comfortable. Once rid of the present batch, hope never again to have more than two laundresses in my comp[an]y. Trusting, under the circumstances, that my request will be complied with." (RG391, NM-93, Entry 1058, Vol. 1 of 8)

(The men like being clean....I think that must be the reason these women are kept around....in fact, I'm sure of it...and I'm sure there's a pot o' gold at the end of ivry rainbow too....Mcfuddy)

Bit's and Pieces

Courtesy of Art Ogle

One "testy" Rebel from Athens, Texas declared if the South lost, he would never wear any colored shirt but red. So Thomas "Red Shirt" Miller proved to be a man of his word and never wore any other colored shirt for the rest of his life.

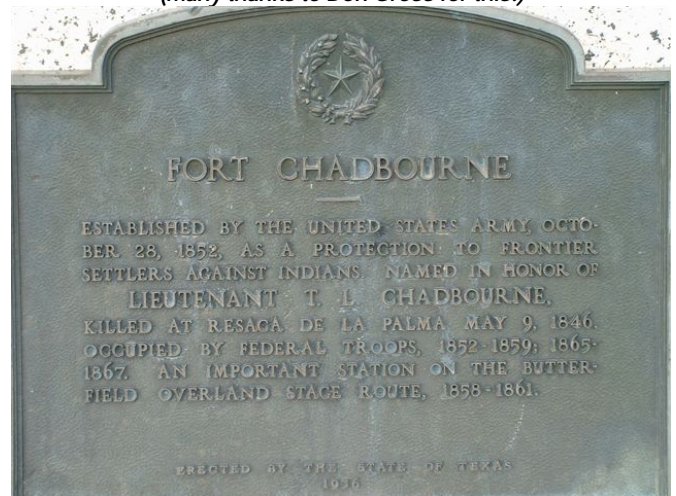
Sometimes called the "tallest man in the CSA" or "tallest man in the Civil War" on either side, Colonel Henry Clay Thurston settled in Mount Vernon, Texas after the war. At 7' 8" he was a "giant target" for the boys in blue.

In fact he was wounded twice-once by a bullet that grazed the top of his towering noggin. After the War he traveled in a Circus Side Show billed as the "World's Tallest Man". In the South he led circus parades carrying the CSA flag. In the North he carried both flags dressed as Uncle Sam.

Walter Williams of Robertson County, Texas passed away in 1959 at the reported age of 117. The last living veteran of the Civil War had joined "Hoods Brigade" and served as forager. A position he called "a hog chasin, chicken stealin job". In 1956 when he turned 114, he was given a new CSA uniform with gold braids. He often told reporters, "we quit 5 minutes too soon". "we didn't get beat, we wuz starved out".

First US and Fort Chadbourne -

*Extracts from the Regimental Records
(many thanks to Don Gross for this!)*



The 1st moves to Chadbourne

June 6, 1855--Special Orders No[.] 60 issued by order of Brevet Major General Smith, Head Quarters Department of Texas, Corpus Christi, June 6, 1855:

"11..... The commanding officer of the 1st Infantry will make the details for the disposition of his regiment in the following manner viz: the Head Quarters and two companies to take post at Fort McKavett; **two companies to take post at Fort Chadbourne**; two companies to take post at Fort Belknap; two companies to take post at the camp on the San Pedro recently occupied by Captain Granger[']s company, on the El Paso road; and two companies to occupy Fort Duncan. The movement indicated will be made with the least possible delay after

the arrival of the necessary transportaion, and for that purpose ten wagons for the regimental Head Quarters, and the ten wagons for each company, will forthwith be sent to Fort Duncan by the Chief of the Quarter Master[']s Dept. for distribution by the regimental commander.

"111. . . . The six companies of the Second Dragoons occupying Forts McKavett, Chadbourne, and Belknap, will prepare to proceed to Fort Riley, Kansas Territory. They will be allowed transportation at the rate of ten wagons for the Head Quarters of the bat[t]alion and the Hospital Department, and ten for each company, for all purposes in addition to the wagons already in the possession of the companies. As soon as the companies are relived [sic] at their respective posts by the arrival of the companies of the 1st Infantry as above ordered, they will avail themselves of the transportation brought by the latter, ten wagons to each, and will proceed as promptly as possible to concentrate at Fort Belknap, under the command of Major Steen 2nd Dragoons, who will immediately thereafter march them by the shortest practicable route to Fort Riley, and report to the authority under which the post belongs. **The ten wagons used by the Head Quarters of the 1st Infantry will accompany the Dragoon companies from Fort McKavett, to make up the allowance above authorised** [sic]. The whole transportation for the command will be transferred permanently to its acting assistant Quarter master, with the proper transfer rolls of the teamsters. The provisions for the use of the consolidated command on its march, will at once be sent forward to Fort Belknap. The forage will be provided under the orders of the commanding officer, at such points on his route as he may be able to procure it. All artillery and artillery equipments in the possession of the companies, and all other property pertaining properly to the posts, will be turned over to the garrisons which are to occupy them." (RG92, NM-81, E-225, Box 411)

Sometimes you just can't get what you want

Adjutant General, Head Quarters Department of Texas, San Antonio, to Captain Albert G. Miller, 1st Infantry, Commanding Fort Chadbourne:

"Your requisition for Ordnance and Ordnance Stores for Fort Chadbourne, for the year 1857, asks for so large an amount of ammunition for small arms as to leave the Department Commander in doubt as to whether or not you had complied with the first part of Orders No. 65 of October 1, 1856, requiring that all supplies intended for the use of companies be issued to them on the requisition of their commanders. You report on hand the following articles:

- 4. Colts dragoon revolver pistols.

- 2250. Percussion caps (musket percussion)
- 9800. Musket percussion Buck and ball cartridges.
- 960. Rifle “
- 316. Colts revolver “

"If the above is in addition to the ammuniton held by the two companies at your post it is considered a sufficient supply for the occasional issues to scouting parties &c from other posts, and until he shall hear from you, as he desires to do, in explanation of your requisition, the Department Commander has ordered the following addition only:

- 2 Colts revolvers, Dragoon
- 50 Blank cartridges, 12 lb. Howitzer
- 200 Musket percussion cartridges
- 1000 Colts revolver (dragoons) do." (M-1165, Roll #1)

Is this a “campaign” event?

February 23, 1857--**Company D**, 1st Infantry, left Fort Chadbourne and encamped same day at Valley Creek (14 miles), marched from Valley Creek to creek beyond Round Mountain on February 26 (23 miles), marched from creek beyond Round Mountain to Phantom Hill Creek on the 27th (25 miles), then marched from Phantom Hill Creek to Table Springs (18 miles). (M-665, Roll 5)

What do the Officers Do?

(we often wonder ourselves...that very question...except about Branigan, who mainly gets us killed....McF.)

December 29, 1857--"Proceedings of a Board of Survey held at Fort Chadbourne Texas by virtue of the following order viz:

Hd Qurs Fort Chadbourne Texas December 29th 1857 Orders No 85

A Board of Survey to consist of

- 1st Lieut. S. H. Reynolds 1st Infantry
- 2d Lieut C W Thomas 1st Infantry
- 2d Lieut J H Holman 1st Infantry

will assemble at this post this morning at 9 o'clk to examine and report upon a Sick public horse for which Maj Earl Van Dorn 2d Cavalry is responsible.

By Order of Capt King
(Signed) C. W. Thomas

2d Lt. 1st Infy
post adjt.
Fort Chadbourne Texas
December 29--1857

The Board met pursuant to the above order present all the memb[er]s.

The Board finds the horse with a very large ulcerous [sic] sore upon the back and Shoulders and is of the opinion that it is incurable and recommends that the horse be shot.

The Board is of the opinion that no blame should be attached to any person in the Military Service for the condition in which the horse is found." (RG92, Consolidated Correspondence File, Box 292)

Reenlistments

July 6, 1859--Letter from Geo W. Wallace, Captain 1st Infantry, Comd'g, Co. G 1st Inf'y & Post, Head Quarters, Fort Chadbourne, Tex., to Colonel G. Cooper, Adjutant General, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.:

"I have the honor to transmit herewith a Recruiting Account with re-enlistments and Abstract of Disbursements a[nd] also a Summary Statement for June 1859. On the 27th May I addressed a communication to the Adjutant of the Regiment, asking the Regimental Commander to detail one of the officers of my company to recruit for it, sending at the same time, an estimate for funds to include the 3rd Quarter of 1859[.] [N]ot having received any reply, I assumed the duty in order to retain in my Company several good men who expressed a desire to re-enlist.

"To include this date, I have re-enlisted three, and expect to re-enlist some fifteen more before the close of the present quarter, giving each one a furlough of from four to six months, in order that they may visit their friends. To secure the re-enlistment of these men, I am compelled to grant this indulgence and pay each one the three months bounty.

"There is no precedent for the course I have adopted, that I am aware of, but believe it to be for the interest of the Service, and at the same time feel convinced it will meet with your approval, and that funds will be sent me to carry it out, for should all the men of my Company who are now or soon will be entitled to their discharge go off, at least twelve months will elapse under the most favorable circumstances, ere their vacancies are filled, and even then by an awkward, untried, and untrained set of men." (RG391, NM-93, Entry 1058, Vol. 1 of 8)

The Movement out of Texas

March 27, 1861--Orders No. 1 from Larkin Smith, Maj. by Br. Capt. 8th Inf., Comdg., Head Quarters Camp on Green Lake, Texas:

"Companies D. E. G. H & I[,] 2nd. Cavalry[,] A & I [G?] 1st. Infantry will proceed to Indianola tomorrow, companies B, 2nd Cavalry and H. 1st Infantry the day following (29th inst.) to sail for New York Harbor in the Steam-Ship Coatzacoalcos or Empire City as may be indicated by Captain Eddy the Asst. Qm- in charge.

"Asst: Surgeon R. H. Alexander will accompany the troops, and will report to the senior officer Capt G. [J.?] H. King, 1st Infantry[.]

"Lieut: Jones 1st, Infantry will receipt for the wagons and teams in possession of officers [?] asst: Qmasters, and he will furnish the necessary transportation to Indianola." (RG393, Pt. 1, Entry 4777)

April 15, 1861--Company G, 1st Infantry, "left Cold Springs, Texas, and arrived at Green Lake Tex., April 15, '61. Embarked on Steamer 'Fashion' [?] at Indianola, Tex., on the 18th." (M-665, Roll 5)

Lessons from Lincoln

A Good Reply when Someone Asks You How You Like Your Job.

"Well, you have heard the story, haven't you, about the man as he was ridden out of town on a rail tarred and feathered? Somebody asked him how he liked it, and his reply was if it was not for the honor of the thing, he would much rather walk." (Lincoln's reply when asked how he liked being president of the United States.)

Building Fort Chadbourne



The forts on the Texas frontier were built by the men using local materials and supplies shipped in from San Antonio.

Fort Chadbourne was established in 1852 by the 8th Infantry. By the time it was occupied by the 1st it was in need of repair.

August 6, 1856--Letter from A. G. Miller, 1st Lt. 1st Inf., Comdg. Post, Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Maj. D. C. Buell, Assist. Adj. Gen., Depart. of Texas, San Antonio, Texas:



"A requisition from the A.A.Q.M. at this Post, to the Chief Qr. Mast. of the Depart[.], for building materials, has been forwarded by this mail. [See entry for August 7, 1856.] I take the liberty of enclosing a ground plan of this Post [see attached], with remarks explanatory of the condition of the buildings, intended to show the necessity for additional quarters. Stone can be easily procured in the immediate vicinity of the Post, and comfortable quarters can be erected without any expense except such as is mentioned in the requisition. It is believed that lumber can be purchased at Fredricksburg [sic], and the wagons of the Post can be employed in its transportation."

Miller made the following remarks pertinent to buildings that appear on his plan of the fort:

- "No. 1. Co. D Quarters. - Stone walls, shingles.
- " 2 Co. F " " canvass, nearly worn out, requires covering before Winter
- " 3 Guard House. Jackal with Canvass covering. In miserable condition. A new stone one could be soon built if shingles can be procured for covering it.
- " 4. Store House-Needs no immediate repairs.
- " 5. Lieut. Thomas' Quarters, Jackal with Canvass. One Room, dirt floor, not fit for Winter.
- " 6 Assist. Surg. Langworthy's Quarters. Same Kind of building, two rooms, canvass covering nearly worn out, not fit for winter.
- " 7. Stone Building with shingles. Two Rooms, no Kitchen. Officer's Quarters- now used as an office on account of its position not being retired

" 8. Lieut. Miller's Quarters. Three Rooms and Kitchen[.] Upright logs with shingles; Four years old and hardly habitable.

" 9. Vacant set of Officers' Quarters, Logs with part canvass and part grass covering. Leaks so badly that they are hardly habitable

" 10. Hospital. Stone with shingles. Roof needs repairs. Dirt floor, no sashes or glass in windows, so that when the weather is cold the interior is in darkness, the windows being filled with canvass 7 1/2, 11, and 12, proposed Quarters of stone on the Rectangle proper of the parade, to replace all other officers' Quarters."(RG92, Consolidated Correspondence File, Box 292)

August 7, 1856--Letter from C. W. Thomas, 2d Lt. 1st Infy., A.A.Q.M., Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Col. A. C. Myers, Chief Q. Mr. San Antonio:

"Enclosed I have the honor to transmit a requisition for building materials for this Post. The articles required for, are very much needed as the quarters occupied at present are in a very bad condition and not fit to live in in winter. There is only one roof at the post that does not leak in rainy weather, and the paulins which we have to use instead of shingles are nearly worn out. **If the articles enumerated in the requisition are allowed, it will be very easy to build good quarters before winter as there is a plenty of good Stone for building purposes near the Post.**"

"Requisition for building materials for Fort Chadbourne, Texas.

35000 Shingles	For building Officers Quarters
9000 feet Sheathing boards	" " " "
6000 " flooring	" " " "
120 Rafters, 25 ft. long 6x4 inches.	" " " "
85 flooring joists, 25 ft. long.	" " " "
20 doors, panel,	" " " "
25 Window Sashes	" " " "
350 Panes of Window glass, 10x12 in.	" " " "
2000 Shingles	For repairing Guardhouse
10 Rafters	" " " "
500 feet Sheathing boards	" " " "
18000 Shingles	For repairing qrs. of Co. F. 1st. Infy.
4500 feet Sheathing boards,	" " " " " " "
"	" " " " " " "
60 Rafters	" " " " " " "
12. Window Sashes	For repairing Hospital.
144. panes of glass, 10x12 in.	" " " "
4 Kegs Shingle nails.	For building quarters,
&c.	
1 " 8d nails.	" " "
1 " 10d "	" " "

1	" 12d "	"	"	"
30	lbs. putty.	"	"	"
2	Kegs white lead.	"	"	"
2	galls. oil for paint.	"	"	"

"(Signed) C. W. Thomas, 2d Lt. 1st Inf. A.A.Q.M."
 "Approved, A. G. Miller, 1st Lt. 1st Inf. Comdg. Post."

May 28, 1857--Report from T. A. Washington, 1 Lt. 1 Infy. A. A. Q. M., Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Major D. H. Vinton, U.S.A., Principal Quartermaster, Department of Texas, San Antonio, Texas:

"Your communication of the 1st Instant is at hand and I proceed to comply with the instructions therein contained in the order and manner you desire--viz:--"Fort Chadbourne, Texas

1st. Established--when--by whom? Answer--In October 1852 by 4 Companies of the 8th Infantry.

2d. Buildings--Number--of what material composed--work done by hired men or troops, how occupied?

Answer--There are 9 buildings at the post--viz--
 2 sets of company quarters 100 feet x 20 feet, built of yellow sand stone.

1 hospital same dimensions (about) of same material. 1 store-house 100 x 20 ft. for Q. Mr. & Subs. Storerooms built of post oak,

3 post Oak frame buildings, officers quarters 2 rooms each--& each with temporary kitchens.

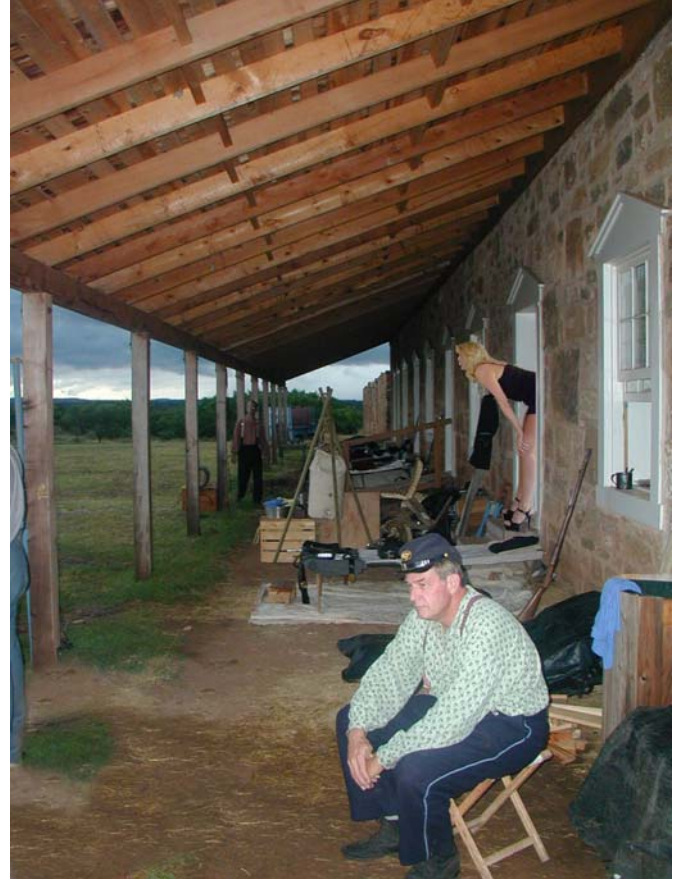
2 sandstone buildings,



Officers qr's. 1 of 2 rooms & 1 of 4 rooms & no outhouses, the latter has recently been erected. There is also another stone building in progress of construction, designed for the Commanding officer. The work has all been done by enlisted men of the 8th & 1st Infantry, so far as I can learn and the post is now occupied by 2 companies of the 1st Infy.

3d. Building Material--Description, cost, quality, quantity, facilities for obtaining it?--Answer--The only

building material which the country in the vicinity affords is stone. Fine quarries of a soft, homogeneous, sand stone have been opened within a few hundred yards of the post & good stone can be had even nearer. Lime stone of a fine quality 4 miles distant. There is now on hand about 15000 ft. of assorted pine lumber, hauled from the neighbourhood of Bastrop and delivered here by contract (made verbally) at \$110 pr. ths. [thousand?] and about 20,000 Shingles delivered in same manner for \$10 25/100 fpr. thousand. Lumber can be hauled by post teams from Fredericksburg or Bastrop with a saving to the government, to be ascertained by experiment.



4th—Water--
Quantity,
quality, how
procured?

Answer. The post is supplied from Oak creek, about 300 Yds distant, a small tributary of the Colorado, the water of which is generally good, although last summer, like most streams in Texas, it ceased to run and the water became wholly unfit for drinking purposes. A small spring was walled in about 1 ½ miles distant which afforded a supply sufficient for drinking & cooking [sic].

5th Fuel. Description, quantity, quality, how procured, facilities for procuring? Answer. The fuel is of post & live-oak, abundant & of excellent quality--& lies upon 2 tracts of land[,] one rented of S. A. Maverick at \$25. pr month, containing 320 acres, the other from Howard &

Twohig at \$50 pr. month, quantity not specified in lease. The post proper is on Maverick[']s land. Fuel is cut & hauled by the command & is readily procured.

6th Forage--quantity, quality, cost, how obtained?

Answer--Quantity on hand about 250 bushels, of good quality, & is delivered by contract at \$2 84/100 per bushel. The contract requires 4000 bushels & expires 30th Sept. 1857. (I.C. Gooch, contractor)

7th Hay--Quantity, quality, cost, how obtained, and facilities for procuring it? **Answer--**There is no hay on hand, can be had of a good quality from the vicinity of the post. The cost of the hay delivered last year was \$25 per ton, and was delivered by contract, and was cut in a valley some 2 miles distant. The grass up to the present time is sparse, affording scarcely more than enough for good grazing. But it is believed that it will be much better at a more advanced state of the season.

8th Beef--Quantity, quality, cost, how procured? **Answer--**supplied 4 days per week by contract at 9 1/2 cents per lb. and is of excellent quality. (Louis Martin, Contractor.)

9th Roads--There are four roads leading from this to other posts.

1st one N. W. to Camp Cooper distant about 105 miles, condition good, streams & water holes as follows— at 6 m's from post Fish creek, at 3 m's farther Valley creek, at 7 m's farther Bluff creek, at 12 m's farther Comanche Springs, at 13 m's farther Water-holes, "Volunteers Camp." at 24 miles Phantom Hill (old Fort) Salt-run not fit for drinking or cooking, at 4 m's running water and walled spring, at 14 m's water holes, at 25 m's Water holes. The streams are easily crossed at all seasons & the grass is always ample on the route.

2nd road to Fort Mason, distant 110 m's. road lies along Oak Creek for about 10 m's at 22 m's from post the Colorado river, water brackish, at 4 m's. farther Water holes, salt, at 11 m's. the Concho river, water good, next is Brady's creek & next the San Saba, distances a part not known by me accurately, & I am not able to get reliable information here.

3rd road to Fort McKavett--distant about 95 m's--same as the road to Ft. Mason as far as the Concho 37 1/2 miles, at 8 m's farther the Kickapoo Creek, from this point you travel along the stream 22 miles to its head spring; at about 25 miles farther Fort McKavett. The road to the head of Kickapoo is good, thence to McKavett very bad, rocky and hilly, grass good.

4th. Road to Camp Colorado, 68 miles distant--at 8 m's. from the post Fish & Valley Creeks (Mackay's ranche) at 10 m's. farther Bluff creek, at 25 m's. Water holes, near 'Round Mountain' at 25 m's Camp Colorado. The road is new, & not well defined, but generally good, but in some places rocky. None of the streams enumerated are bridged. The Concho and Colorado are the only ones which cannot be crossed at high water.

10thTransportation--By what means & the cost? **Answer--**Stores are hauled either by contract trains (Oxe trains) or by public wagons, when by the former method the cost at present is \$2 3/4[cents] pr. lb.

11th.Supplies--From what place received, how, and what kinds?--Answer. From the Depot at San Antonio, Texas, by contract or by public wagons, & are composed of subsistence stores and property, such Quartermaster's property as the wear and tear of service from time to time demands; Clothing, Camp & Garrison equipage to meet the wants of the troops here and the requisite Hospital Supplies & Ordnance Stores."

(RG92, Consolidated Correspondence File, Box 292)

September 28, 1857--Letter from D. E. Twiggs, Bvt. Major General, U.S.A., Comdg. Dept., Head Quarters, Department of Texas, San Antonio, to Lieut. Colonel L. Thomas, Asst. Adjt. General, Hd. Qrs. of the Army, City of New York:



"At many of the posts on the Texas frontier, the troops are either under canvas or temporary sheds, that do not protect them from the severity of the 'northers' so prevalent in winter in Texas. They are making estimates for funds to patch and put up such temporary shelters as will best protect the men. I have asked that funds from the appropriation, already made for Texas, may be ordered, to build suitable quarters for the men and sheds for the public animals. If it is intended that buildings be erected for that purpose, it is useless to patch up the old sheds. **One regiment (the 1st Infantry) has been for the last ten years on the Texas frontier, and in that time have not been in sheds or tents with a plank or wooden floor. The winter will soon be here and I respectfully ask for a decision in this matter.**"

June 30, 1859--Report submitted by E. D. Phillips, 1st Lt. 1st Inf. A.A.Q.M., Acting Asst Quarter Masters Office, Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Bvt Major General T. S.

Jesup, Quartermaster General, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.:

"I have the honor to submit the following Report of the Additions, Alterations, and Repairs, needed at this Post in the year ending June, 30th, 1860.

"The Quarters, Kitchens, Offices, &c. allowed for Troops present at this Post would be as follows,

1 Captain & Comdg Officer			2 Rooms as Quarters,		
Kitchens, 1 Office					
1 Chaplain & 1 Actg. Asst Surgeon	3	"	"		
2 " 0 "					
2 Subalterns, 1 A.A Qm. & AACs	2	"	"		2
" 1 "					
1 Ord. Sergeant	1	"	"	0	" 0 "
1 Company	0	"	"	1	" 0 "
1 Hospital	0	"	"	1	" 0 "
	8	"	"	7	" 2 "

Number at present capable of being occupied as above, allowing small bed room with room of Quarters, and actually occupied at present

6	"	2	"
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From which it is seen that no additions, with the exception of one kitchen are needed, beyond the number at present occupied As Officers Quarters, Kitchens, Offices, Hospital Kitchen, and Company Kitchen. One Building is required for a Magazine, there being none at this Post. --The allowance of room for 84 Non Comd. Officers, musicians, and Privates, 5 servants, and three Laundresses, Total 92, would be 3925 feet.

The dimensions of the Company Quarters occupied (inside) 3724 feet



Amount of room embraced in Laundress' Quarters, 2046, difference 1845 feet. 5720 feet

No additional room is therefore required for the use of men, servants, and Laundresses. The room occupied by the other Buildings, Offices, and Kitchens, is nearly

sufficient, so that no additions are required with the exception of One Magazine, and One Kitchen.



"The Alterations needed, are as follows: 1st, To tear down the present Company Kitchen, and build a new one of Stone (20 x 60) feet. 2d. To tear down the present Hospital Kitchen, and build a new one of Stone (16 x 40) ft. 3d. To tear down three old Buildings marked 3d in report of condition of Laundress Quarters, and to construct one good one in their place. 4th, To tear down the Building at present occupied as a Quarter Masters and Commissary Store house, and to construct a new one of Stone (30 x 60) ft.

"The Repairs ordered, are as follows. 1st, new Roofing, and flooring the Hospital, constructing and arranging shelves, counters, &c for the Dispensary. 2d, new Roofing the Building marked 5th in report of condition of Buildings. 3d Flooring the Building occupied as Ordnance Store room; and A.A.A.M. Office. 4th Repairing roof of the Company Quarters. 5th putting in new windows in place of broken ones, repairing Roofs[,] Walls, Ceilings &c. in all Quarters. For effecting the alterations, and repairs, above named, an estimate of materials is submitted along with this Report. The above embraces only what might be looked upon as necessary repairs, for otherwise all the Buildings at this Post might come under present notice, the general condition and appearance of none of them being very good. Almost every Building erected in past years, exhibits evidences of the decay consequent to Quarters which have been occupied by Troops only at intervals, and without the repairs naturally expected, where Troops occupy permanently, or for several years the same station. Altogether, these Buildings can with the above named changes, accommodate one Company of Troops; and should many more be stationed here, considerable additions and alterations would be required."

The report was approved by Capt. Geo. W. Wallace, Captain 1st Infantry Commanding, and forwarded, apparently, to Washington. (RG92, Consolidated Correspondence, Box 292)



June 30, 1859--Estimate of building materials required for the additions, alterations and repairs needed at Fort Chadbourne, Texas in the year ending June 30th, 1860. [Submitted by E. D. Phillips, 1st Lt. 1st Inf.; A.A.Q.M., Fort Chadbourne, Texas, to Bv't Major General T. S. Jesup, Quartermaster General, U.S.A[.], Washington, D.C.]; it was approved and forwarded to Jessup by Cap't 1st Infantry Commanding Headquarters Geo. W. Wallace:

Additions

1st. For one Magazine, Stone, (12 x 14) feet, 3000 Shingles, 200 feet sheathing boards, 15 Pine Rafters (3 x 4) inch, 12 ft. 16 pine Joists & Wall Plates (2 x 6) in. 14 ft. 225 feet of Plank 1 1/2 inch, 14 ft. for Flooring. 15 pounds 8 p. nails, 25 pounds 5 p. nails, 5 pounds, 6 p. nails.

2d. For One Kitchen to Officers Quarters, Stone, (16 x 30), feet, 7000 Shingles, 500 feet of Sheathing, 20 pine Rafters (3 x 4) inch 12 feet 6 pine Wall Plates (4 x 6) inch, 16 ft. 15 pine Joists (2 x 6) inch, 16 ft. 700 ft 1 1/2 inch Plank for Flooring, 300 feet 1 inch pine boards. 4 Sets Window Sash (10 x 12) in. lights, 1 Box window glass (10 x 12) inch. 4 Kegs 4 p. nails, 2 Kegs, 8 p. nails, 1 Keg 10 p. nails

Alterations

1st. For One Company Kitchen, Stone, (20 x 60) feet, 18000 Shingles, 40 pine Rafters, (3 x 4) inch 14 feet, 2000 feet of Sheathing, 400 feet 1 inch pine boards, 12 pine wall Plates (4 x 6) inch 15 ft. 6 pine Tie Beams (4 x 6) in, 20 ft. 20 pieces pine scantling (2 x 6) in. 20 ft. per door, and window frames 12 sets Window Sash (10 x 12) inch panes, 2 Boxes Window glass (10 [x] 12) inch 5 kegs 4 p. nails, 3 Kegs 8 p. nails, 2 Kegs 10 p. nails.

2d. For one Hospital Kitchen; Stone, (16 x 40) feet. 10000 Shingles, 1500 feet sheathing, 28 pine Rafters, (3 x 4) inch, 12 ft.

Charles Francis Adams – Letters to home

“At the edge of the village we met a vast drove of Rebel prisoners marching under guard in no kind order. The road where we met them passes under an arch over which runs the railroad. We had to halt and wait till they all got through.... Our bands ... played “Yankee Doodle,” “Johnny Comes Marching Home,” and other lively airs, while the procession passed. There were 8,300 prisoners in it. To see them coming through the opening at a double quick almost literally reached the idea of subjugation. The Romans passed their prisoners under an arch made of spears, called a yoke (sub jugum). I think the railroad arch is an improvement on the arch of spears, and better embodies the elements of our success, There were a great many of our troops looking at the prisoners, and through there was some joking, I believe there was not an insulting word spoken.” Nottaway Court House, Va., April 9, 1865.

For Sale:

The 1st has purchased powder and contact John Bowen if you need some – jbowl1stus@comcast.net

E- Mail/Mailing submissions to The Union Standard – d1stus@gte.net or C/O Alan Prendergast, 1403 Barclay Drive, Carrollton Texas, 75007

Newsletter –

contact George Hansen if you did not receive your mailed newsletter, beast1st@comcast.net or (972) 529-5349.

Address/Telephone changes –

any mailing/e-mail address changes or telephone number changes should be submitted to Blair Rudy, brsuv1@verizon.net - or 817-424-0027

**2006
April**

21st – 23rd –Fort Chadbourne

28th – 29th Fort Worth Stockyards

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