

BHM 2019 021 20

Head Quarters Monterey Redoubt

California July 7th 1852

Captain

In the Post-Return of last month I find you reported absent without leave – As the Commanding Officer of a Post is accountable for the presence or absence of all officers reported by him on the Monthly Post-Return, I am called upon to require of you an explanation of said absence to be reported to the higher authorities with my Post Return of the present month

I am, Very Respectfully

Yr. Obedt Sevt

L Hamilton

1st Lieut 3rd Arty

Comdg

Capt. – BG Baldwin

Mil. Storekeeper

Monterey

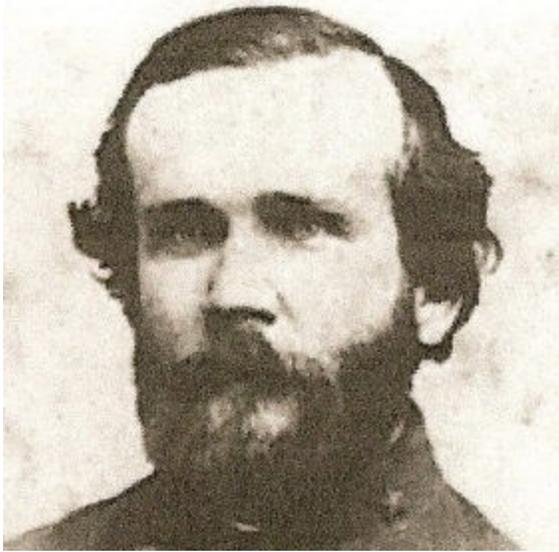
California

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Company F, 3rd Artillery Regiment arrived in Monterey in January 1847, and the U.S. Army then assumed from the Navy responsibility for the continuing construction of Fort Mervine. Two of the artillery lieutenants, William Tecumseh Sherman and E.O.C. Ord, plus Engineer Lieutenant Henry W. Halleck, became prominent generals during the Civil War.

During its early history, this fortification seemed to have many names, including Fort Halleck, Fort Savannah and the Monterey Redoubt. In 1852, the Monterey Redoubt was renamed the Monterey Ordnance Depot and used until 1856 as a military storehouse. From 1856 to the closing months of the Civil War, the fort, then called Ord Barracks, was abandoned. It was manned again in 1865, and abandoned a second time in 1866, although the U.S. Government “reserved” for possible future use a 140-acre military reservation surrounding the redoubt.

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Briscoe Gerard Baldwin Jr.

08/12/1828 (VA.) – 09/28/1898 (Brazos Cty, TX)

Served as Chief of Ordnance of Army of the Potomac under Gen. Robert E. Lee. Paroled as Lt. Col at Appomattox Court House 04/9/1865.
