

Corporal Charles Webb

Charles Webb, son of James and Anna Webb, left his home in Ohio in the spring of 1845, and headed east for New York City. There he was recruited and enlisted in the United States Army by Lieutenant Burke at the Principal Depot of Fort Columbus, in the Harbor of New York City on 7 May 1845 for a period of five years. He was 21 years of age, born in Oneida County, New York and described as standing 5' 6½" tall, with hazel eyes, brown hair, a fair complexion and was by occupation a Waiter. He was one of 94 recruits sent to Camp Wilkins, Louisiana for the 3rd Regt of Infantry on 19 May 1845. On 14 June 1846 he was assigned to Captain Henry Bainbridge's Company (F), of the Third Regiment Of Infantry, Army of the United States, Commanded by Colonel James B. Many. At the time of his arrival in Louisiana, Charles was due his pay from enlistment and owed Sutler Kendall, at the Fort Columbus Depot, \$2.00.

The 3rd Infantry was part of old establishment's standing regular army, directly descended from the 1st Regiment, and had served in the War of 1812. Captain Bainbridge was a graduate of West Point (Class of 1817) and had been with the 3rd since 1821. Company F's 2nd Lieutenant was Don Carlos Buell, West Point Class of 1841, and future Brigadier-General in the Civil War. Both men were brevetted for meritorious and gallant service at Monterey.

Muster roll of 13 June 1845 at Camp Wilkins near Fort Jessup, Louisiana, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'progressing with recruits', military appearance as 'good', arms as 'good', accoutrements as 'good', clothing as 'old'. On 29 June 1845 the 'Rules and Articles of War' was read to the Company. At Fort Jessup, the men were drilled incessantly.

Muster roll of 31 August 1845 at Camp near Corpus Christie, Texas, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance, arms, accoutrements and clothing as 'in good campaign order'. Company F, left Fort Jessup, Louisiana 7 July, arrived at New Orleans 10 July 1845. Left New Orleans, 25 July, arrived at San Joseph's Island, Texas on 27 July 1845. Left San Joseph's Island 3 August and arrived at Camp near Corpus Christie the same day. The 3rd Regiment was the first Regiment to arrive at General Taylor's camp.

Muster roll of 31 October 1845 at Camp Wilkins near Fort Joseph, Louisiana, reports the company: discipline, instruction, military appearance, arms and accoutrements as 'good', clothing as 'field'. Three volumes of Infantry Tactics were lost while the company was on the Schooner 'Swallow', indicating that they were on this vessel. Charles Webb is noted as owing the U. S. for 1 F. Cap \$1.00, and 1 W. Jacket \$2.83.

Muster roll of 31 December 1845 at Camp near Corpus Christie, Texas, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance, arms and accoutrements as 'in campaign order', clothing as 'service'.

Muster roll of 28 February 1846 at Camp near Corpus Christie, Texas, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good',

military appearance, arms, accoutrements and clothing as 'good field condition'.

Muster roll of 13 April 1846 at Camp near Matamoros, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance as 'good', arms as 'in very good order', accoutrements as 'in good order', clothing as 'good'. Company F left Corpus Christie, Texas on 11 March 1846, arrived at Camp near Matamoros on the 28th of the same month.

Muster roll of 13 June 1846 at Matamoros, Mexico, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance as 'good', arms as 'good', accoutrements as 'good', clothing as 'fatigue, tolerable'. On the 1st May 1846 Company F moved with General Taylor's Army from Camp on the east bank of the Rio Grande for Point Isabel, which place it reached on the following day. On the 7th, Company F, accompanied General Taylor's Army on its return march to the Rio Grande. On the 8th at Palo Alto and on the 9th at Resaca de la Palma, the Mexican Army, under General Arista, attacked General Taylor's force; on both days, the enemy was defeated. The Army continued the march and occupied its old line opposite Matamoros on the 11th. On the 18th May 1846 the Company crossed the Rio Grande with General Taylor's Army and occupied the City of Matamoros, Republic of Mexico.

Muster roll of 31 August 1846 at Camp at Camargo, Mexico, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance as 'good', arms as 'good', accoutrements as 'good', clothing as 'good'. Company F left Matamoros, Mexico, 28 July 1846, and arrived at Camargo, Mexico, 2 August 1846. Charles Webb was appointed to rank of Corporal on 13 July 1846.

Muster roll of 31 October 1846 at Camp near Monterey, Mexico, reports the company: discipline as 'good', instruction as 'good', military appearance as 'tolerable', arms as 'good', accoutrements as 'good', clothing as 'indifferent'. Company F left Camargo 1 September 1846 arrived at Camp near Monterey, 19 September 1846. Was engaged in the 'Action at Monterey, Mexico' 21 September; under fire the 22nd & engaged on the 23rd September 1846. Charles Webb died of disease at Camp near Monterey, Mexico on 22 October 1846 and it is likely that his remains were interred near the encampment of his Regiment. He was last paid by Major Denny to 30 June 1846 and he owed Sutler J. W. Cotton \$4.87.

Sources:

Enlistment ledgers, page 269 of Volume 46?, Register of Enlistments in the U. S. Army, (M233-Roll21), Nat'l Archives & Records Administration. Washington, DC.

RG94, Office of Adjutant General, Regular Army Muster Roll inspection returns, 1821 - 1860; 3rd infantry company f; box 31. National Archives & Record Administration. Washington, DC.