

The following instructions have been received from the War Department, and are published for the information, of the members of the late Regiment of New-York Volunteers, and all concerned.

War Department, }
Washington, October 9, 1848 }

Sir, Although the Regiment of Volunteers in California, under the command of Colonel J. D. Stevenson, entered the service under an agreement to receive their discharge at the end of the war in that country, if it should be then a part of the United States, and that they should not have a claim to be brought home at the expense of the Government, yet it is understood that many are anxious to return. The President has deemed it proper to offer facilities for returning, to those who cannot be prevailed on to remain in California.

You will on the receipt of this communication discharge such of the Volunteers in California, as are willing to be there discharged, and retain in service such as are unwilling to take their discharge until they can be conveniently sent to the United States. The authority to retain them is confirmed by a Joint Resolution of Congress, passed the 16th day of June last, with a copy of which you are herewith furnished. The Quartermaster General will be directed to furnish such of the Volunteers as insist upon returning to their homes with the means of doing so. If the Navy now in the Pacific shall have the means of bringing them home, directions will be given for that purpose.

Under a late law of Congress, the men when discharged will be entitled to three months extra pay. Herewith instructions will be sent out to the paymaster to make such payment to them. The soldiers who have been employed in California, will also be entitled to a Bounty in Land; Congress will undoubtedly make provision that the Lands may be located in California, should the soldiers desire it, but this cannot be done immediately, because our Land system has not yet been in operation in that territory. It will be necessary that the certificates for Land should be issued here, the soldiers will be informed what is necessary to be done in order to procure their certificates for Land, by the papers herewith enclosed from

the information communicated to them.

(Signed)

W. L. MARCY,

Secretary of War.

By order of Col. Mason.

W. T. Sherman. 1st Lieut. 3d Artillery,

A. A. A. General.

By order of General Riley. (Signed)

ED: U. S. CANBY, Ass't Adj't-Gen.

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