

G. C. M. O. 22

Held in a opp.

July 12, 1864

J. Adv. 1418. E. B. 8

Proceedings of a General
Court Martial convened at
the Camp of the Army Reserve
Apr. 18. 1864.

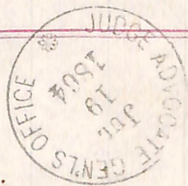
CR CR. 2123

Maj. Edw. Jones 1st N.Y. Army
President

2 Lt. E. P. Mason Capt.
Judge & Advocates.

Case tried
M. J. Robinson, Citizen.

See sentence



Proceedings of a General Court Martial convened
at the Camp of the City Reserve by virtue of the following
Orders.

Head Quarters Artillery Reserve
Army of the Potomac
Asst Adjt Genl's Office
April 8th 1864

Special Order
No 63

I A General Court Martial is
hereby appointed to meet at such place within the
limits of this Command as the President of the Court
may direct at 10 A.M. April 11th 1864, or as soon there
after as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as
may be brought before it. The Court can sit without
regard to hours.

Detail for the Court

Major Edwin Jones 6 th N.Y. Art	1 st Lt J N Cumming 1 st Conn Art
Capt C Shaffer 15 th N.Y. " "	" W W Taylor 15 th N.Y. " "
" W Dickey 15 th N.Y. " "	2 ^d Lt J F Wheeler 1 st N.Y. " "
1 st Lt A W Mahon 15 th N.Y. Art	

2^d Lieut E J Mason A. A. A. G. Judge Advocate
No other officers than those named can be assembled
without manifest injury to the service

By Command of Col H S Burton

5th U. S. Art
Sgd C A W Healey
Asst Adjt Genl

Head Quarters Artillery Reserve

Army of the Potomac

Ast Adjt Gen's Office

April 11th 1864

Special Orders
No 66

"Extract"

x
IV. 1st Lieut W. W. Taylor 15th N. Y. Art'y is
herely relieved from duty as a member of the General
Court Martial convened by Special Orders No 63, from
these Head Qrs on account of physical disability.

x
V. 2nd Lieut Richard Clarke 15th N. Y.
Art'y is herely detailed as a member of the
General Court Martial convened by Special Orders
No 63 from these Head Qrs.

By Command of Colonel H. G. Burrows

5th U. S. Art'y

(Sgd) C. W. Whittlesey

Ast Adjt Genl

Head Quarters Artillery Reserve

Army of the Potomac

Ast Adjt Gen's Office

April 13th 1864

Special Orders
No 68

"Extract"

x
III. 1st Lieut J. W. Cumming, 1st Conn.

3
Art'y is hereby relieved from duty as a member of
The General Court Martial convened by Special
Orders No 13 from these Head Qrs. April 8th 1864

IV Capt J Bigelow 9th Mass Battery
is hereby detailed as a member of the General Court
Martial convened by Special Orders No 13 from these
Head Qrs.

By Command of Col W S Purton
5th U. S. Art'y.
(Sig^d) C H Whitteley
Act Adj Genl

10 O'clock A. M.

April 10th 1864

The Court met pursuant to Adjournment
Present

Wm E Jones 1st U. S. Art'y.

Capt J Bigelow 9th Mass Battery

" C Shaffer 15th U. S. Art'y.

" W Dickey " " "

1st Lieut J R M Mahon 15th U. S. Art'y.

2^d " J J Wheeler 1st U. S. Art'y.

2^d " R Clark 15th U. S. Art'y.

2^d " E O Mason A. C. A. J. Judge Advocate

The records of the proceeding day having been
read the Court proceeded to the trial of

IX. M. J. Robinson a citizen employed in the

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Quartermaster Department Ammunition Train, Art. y
Reserv. A. P. the Accused also present.

The Judge Advocate having read the Order concerning
the Court asked the Accused if he had any objections
to any member named therein, to which he replied: No.

The Court was then duly sworn by the Judge-
Advocate and the Judge Advocate was duly sworn by
the Presiding Officer of the Court in presence of
the Accused.

The Charge was read aloud by the
Judge Advocate as follows.

Charge & Specification^s
Against M. J. Robinnett, a citizen employed in the
Quartermaster Department of the Artillery Reserve,
Army of Potomac, and doing duty in the Ammunition
Train of that command:

Charge II. Conduct prejudicial to good order
and military discipline.

Specification: In this, that M. J. Robinnett,
a citizen employed in the Q. Master Dept and serving
with the Ammunition Train of the Artillery Reserve
in the field, did become intoxicated and invite a
dangous quarrel and disturb quiet and repose in the
Camp of the Ammunition Train, Artillery Reserve
near Purly Ford Va, during the night of March 21st
1864, in violation of good order and military discipline.

This at Camp of the Ammunition Train Art. y.

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Reserv; near Perry Ford Va, on or about the 21st of
March 1864.

Charge II. Assault with attempt to kill.

Specification: In this, that said M^r Robinson,
a Citizen employed in the 2^d M^o Dept and serving
with the Ammunition Train of the Arty Reserv; in
the field, did make an assault upon the person of
John J Alexander, a Citizen Brigade Wagon Master in
said train, with a deadly weapon (to wit; a knife) &
stab in sundry and vital parts, the body of said John
J Alexander, thereby endangering his life.

This at Camp of the Ammunition Train
Artillery Reserv; near Perry Ford Va, on or about
the 21st of March 1864

(Sgd) G^{en}l A Hood
2^d Lt 11th Mass Vol^s
3rd a. a. g. m. Arty Res.

To which the Accused pleaded as follows.

To the Specification 1 st Charge	Not Guilty.
To the 1 st Charge	Not Guilty.
To the Specification 2 ^d Charge	Not Guilty.
To the 2 ^d Charge	Not Guilty.

Mr John J Alexander, a Citizen Brigade Wagon
Master, Ammunition Train, Arty, Reserv; a witness on
the part of the prosecution was duly sworn.

Done by J. A.

State what you know of the offence said to have been committed
by the Accused.

Ans: On the evening of the 25th of Mch, 1864
I was standing outside of my tent and I overheard Mr
Robinnett telling the Cook a Colored woman if I ever
said anything unflattering to her, if she didnt kill me he would
kill her. I went in and asked her if I ever treated her
in any but a respectable way - she said I had not. I
told Mr Robinnett that I would like to have him say
what he had to say about me before my face ^{and} not
behind my back. I said I thought I knew how to
treat her as well as he did, and was as well brought
up as he was if not better. He then jumped up from the
table ^{and} pulled out his knife - I asked him what he
was going to do with his knife - He replied that if I
said she had a knife I was a damned dying son
of a bitch - he then started towards me with the knife
I caught him by the collar ^{and} undertook to catch his
arm - he cut me with the knife while I was trying
to get hold of his arm - I threw him down. There
came up ^{and} took the knife away from him.

Ques by J. A.

Was the Accused intoxicated at the time

Ans: I should not call him intoxicated - he was
a little under the influence of liquor -

Ques by J. A.: Where was this -

Ans: At Camp of the Ammunition Train Arty,
Res near Sourly Ford, Va.

Ques by J. A.: Where did the Accused cut

you with the Knives-

Ans: He stabbed me three (3) times slightly in my left side and once in my leg - There was a cut in my coat on the Collar but it did not get through my coat -

Ques by J. A.

Where was the Accused employed

Ans: He was employed in the Dr. Mrs. Depot, Am. Train Art. Post.

Ques by J. A.

Did the wounds that you received from the Knives in the hands of the Accused endanger your life.

Ans: Yes Sir.

Ques by J. A.

Did the quarrel disturb quiet and repose in the Ammunition Train.

Ans: Yes Sir it did some.

Ques by C.

Did the Accused continue to stab you until he was taken away -

Ans: Yes Sir.

Ques by C.

What is the length of the Knife Blade used by Robinson.

Ans: About 3 1/2 ins.

Ques by C.

Was you confined to your quarters in consequence of the wounds.

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Ans: Yes Sir-

Ques by C-

For how many days-

Ans: Twenty (20)

C. Q. by A.

Was this in the place we occupied for sleeping or where we eat

Ans: The one occupied for eating.

C. Q. by A.

At what hour of the night did it occur-

Ans: Between 10 & 11 o'clock-

C. Q. by A.

What was I doing in there

Ans: He was sitting at the table eating when I went in-

C. Q. by A.

How far from the door was I seated

Ans: About 8 feet.

C. Q. by A.

Did we not lodge together and were on friendly terms-

Ans: We did lodge together and were on friendly terms for all that I knew-

C. Q. by A.

Do you think any disturbance would have occurred if you had not come in-

Ans: I don't know that there would at that particular time.

C. Q. by A.: Was I not always talkative when-

drinking.

Ans: Yes sir he was always talkative - dont think any more talkative after drinking than at other times.

Q 2 By A.

Were you not always talking about Maria?

Ans: Not in her presence. But sometimes when there was a party in our sleeping quarters.

Re Examined by C: Have you ever had a quarrel with the accused before.

Ans: No Sir nothing of any account.

William Craigie Brigade Wagon Master, Ammunition Train Artillery, Rec. a witness on the part of the prosecution was duly sworn -

Q 3 By J. A.

State to the Court what you know of the offence said to have been committed by the accused.

Ans: I was not present when it took place - I was in bed at the time - I heard the noise - my quarters were some 50 Yds from it when it occurred - Mr Alexander had just come out of the cooks shanty when it happened & told me that he was cut - I then went down to the Guard House and got a file of men to arrest the party - Mr Alexander, Dr Robinson the accused - Francis Sawyer & George Felkin.

When I came up with the file of men - the party had dispersed all except Robinson & Felkin - No one was arrested but Robinson.

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I went down to my quarters. Mr Alexander was there he had his shirt up & his pants down & I saw that he had a severe wound in his side. the blood was running out freely. I put him to bed & sent for the Dr.

Q by J. A.

How many cuts did Alexander have.

Ans: I did not examine him closely, all I remember of seeing was three (3)

Q by J. A.

Do you know who inflicted the wounds.

Ans: I do not.

Q by J. A.

What is the age of the accused.

Ans: He is about 46.

Q by C.

Had Mr Alexander & the accused had a quarrel previous to this disturbance.

Ans: Not to my knowledge.

Q by C.

About what time of night was this.

Ans: About 1/4 of 12.

Q by C.

Did the noise of the disturbance awaken you.

Ans: Yes. I heard the talk and got up before the thing occurred and went up to the tent where they were and listened outside and found that they were apparently sociable no disturbance and no quarreling, went back to bed. they did not know that I was about. The quarrel occurred about 1/2 hour after I got up.

the first time.

Ques by C

Did you hear any cries significant of the Character of the quarrel?

Ans: No Sir.

Q Q by C

Which house were you in when you first came up -

Ans: The first time I went up they were where the accused slept and kept his medicines.

C Q by J

Where did the difficulty occur -

Ans: In our Mess House

C Q by J

Did not Mr Alexander & myself sleep together.

Ans: Yes Sir.

C Q by A

Did not Mr Davis Mr Alexander and myself frequently joke about Maria, saying that we would make her tell them if they did anything to her or insulted her and other jokes of a similar character.

Ans: They were frequent jokes passed about the Col^d woman, dont remember exactly what they were.

C Q by J

Was not Mr Alexander & myself always on friendly & social terms.

Ans: To best of my knowledge they were.

Re Examined by J. A.

Who is Maria -

Ans: The Colored woman who cooks for our mess.

The Court then adjourned to meet at 10 O'clock A.M.
April 19th 1864

E. P. Mason

2^d Lieut of A. A. A. G.

Judge Advocate

10 A.M. April 19th 1864

The Court met pursuant to adjournment

Present - Maj Edw Jones

" Capt J Pigelow

" Capt C Shaffer

" W Dickey

" 1st Lieut A R Mc Mahon

" 2^d " S J Wheeler

" 2^d " R C Clark

" 2^d Lt E P Mason A. A. A. G. & Judge Advocate

The records of the proceeding day having been read
the Court proceeded with the trial of M. J. Robinson
the accused also present

Francis Sanyer Art Wagon Master Ammunition
Train City Res. a witness on the part of the prosecution
was duly sworn.

12 by J. C.

What do you know of the quarrel between Mr Alexander
& Mr Robinett.

Ans: I was in the tent, I heard Mr Robinett
say to the woman if Mr Alexander ever came in there
and asked her to do anything for him - if he didnt
say her not to do it. But if Mr Alexander ever came
in and incited her to kill him and if she didnt he
would kill her. Mr Alexander then stepped in the door
and told Mr Robinett that what he had to say to
him (Alexander) to say before his face. He told
Robinett that he thought he had just as good
bringing up as Robinett had if not better. Robinett
then jumped up right before him. Alexander asked
him what he was going to do with that knife. Robinett
replied if you say I have got a knife you are a God
Dammed lying son of a bitch. Alexander then caught
him by the coat collar. I see Robinett striking
at him, didnt see that he had a knife in his
hands. My Brother came in as Chat Painter Watchman
with him & took the knife away from Robinett.

Ques by J. A

Who is the woman that the conversation
was about.

Ans: A colored woman who cooks in the train.
Her name was Maria.

Q by J. A

Was Mr Alexander wounded during
the disturbance. Ans: He was by a knife.

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Ques by J. A.

Who had the knife.

Ans: Mr Robinett.

Ques by J. A.

How many wounds did Alexander have.

Ans: Three (3)

Ques by J. A.

Was Robinett intoxicated.

Ans: I dont know.

Ques by J. A.

Did he provoke the quarrel.

Ans: Yes sir I believe he did.

Ques by J. A.

When & where was this.

Ans: On the 21st of Mch 1864, at the Camp
of the Ammunition Train Art'y, Wis. near Brandy Ford.

Ques by C

Did Mr Alexander catch Robinett by the
coat collar before Robinett struck him.

Ans: Yes Sir.

Ques by C

Who was present beside yourself at the
time of the quarrel.

Ans: Mr Alexander, Mr Robinett & the

Ques by C

Was Alexander intoxicated at the time.

Ans: I dont know.

Ques by A.

Were we not all of us telling anecdotes that



evening and all good humored -

Ans: Yes Sir before the disturbance.

C 2 by J

What took us into the Kitchen -

Ans: We went to eat.

C 2 by J

Did you think I intended the remark that I made to Maria as a joke -

Ans: I dont know.

C 2 by J

If Mr Alexander had remained when we left him do you suppose we should have had any quarrel about the remark -

Ans: I dont know.

C 2 by A.

Had we not always been on friendly terms -

Ans: I could not tell.

Charles Painter Watchman Am^o Fair City Res
a witness on the part of the prosecution was duly sworn.

Q by J. J.

What do you know about the quarrel between Robinett & Alexander -

Ans: All I know is when I went in Lewis Sawyer told me to take the knife out of Robinett's hand and I took it out.

Ques by J. J.

Should you recognize the knife that you took away from Robinett -

Ans: Yes sir.

Ques by J. A

Is this it (handing witness a knife)

Ans: It is the very knife that I took away from Robinett
it was the big blade that he had open.

Ques by J. A

Was Robinett or Alexander intoxicated

Ans: Not as I know of.

Ques by J. A

Should you not have known if they had
been intoxicated

Ans: I shouldnt think they were intoxicated
I couldnt see any sign that they were intoxicated or had
been drinking.

Ques by J. A

When was this

Ans: I dont know - I think it was sometime
during Mch.

Was there any more noise in Camp that night
than usual

Ans: No Sir.

C. Q. by A

Do you know of our being at a sociable party
that evening drinking

Ans: No Sir.

Acct Surg W Purdie 6th N.Y. Art'y a witness
in the part of the prosecution was duly sworn.

L. G. J. A.



During last month was you called upon to attend Mr Alexander a citizen employed in the U. S. Dept-

Ans: Yes Sir.

Q By J. A

State what you know of his case.

Ans: On the night of Mch 21st between 11 & 12 O'clock I was called by a man who said he was a Watchman in the Ammunition Train - who stated that Mr Alexander Forags Master had been stabbed, I went over to the train found Mr Alexander in Mr Gatewoods quarters lying on the bed - I found the man very weak from loss of blood and on examination found that he had been stabbed with some sharp instrument - the chief wound I found to be between the 8th & 9th Rib on the left side, the instrument having entered through the skin and passed downward & backward cutting through the muscle and rupturing the lining of the abdomen perforating the intestine about three fourths of an inch.

I also found one slight wound about 3 inches back of the other - There were two or three scratches - one under his left nipple - one slight wound on his left side - I also found that he had been cut to the depth of about 1/2ⁱⁿ on his right thigh - I proceeded to dress the wounds and am treating him at the present time, he is now doing well.

Q By J. A

Were any of the wounds in vital parts.

Ans: Yes.

Ques by J. S.
Was Mr Alexanders life in danger from
the wounds he received-

Ans: Yes Sir,

Ques by J. S.
Was Mr Alexander under the influence
of liquor when you first saw him after he was wounded-

Ans: He did not appear so to me.

Ques by C

Were there any indications of Mr
Alexander having taken liquor during the evening-

Ans: I couldnt state as the man was weak from
loss of blood-

Ans: the prosecution closed.

Mr Tho^s M^r Demott Brigade Wagon Master a
witness for the defence was duly sworn.

Q by A

How long have you known me-

Ans: About 6 years.

Q by A

How long did I board with you-

Ans: About 1/2 of the time.

Q by A-

What is my character-

Ans: As far as I know - Good first rate.

Q by A

What opinions have you heard me express



towards Mr Alexander.

Ans: Always good, friendly on all occasions.

Ques by A

Did you ever know of my having an affray with any one?

Ans: No Sir.

J W Clements Wagon Master Ammunition Train a witness for the defence was duly sworn.

Ques by A

How long have you known me?

Ans: About 11 years.

Ques by A

How long did I mess with you?

Ans: About 4 Months.

Ques by A

What is my general character?

Ans: Polite, full of fun, always lively and joking, Orderly, never in any way a disturbance.

Ques by A

What feelings have you heard me express towards Mr Alexander?

Ans: Never heard him express any enmity towards him whatever.

William E Davis Master Mechanic Ammunition Train City Reg, a witness for the defence was duly sworn.

Ques by A: How long have you known me?

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Ans: About 5 Months.

Q by A

How long did you miss with me -

Ans: I don't remember.

Q by A

When in our tent was it not customary for Alexander himself to be joking and rigging each other and was it not always taken in good part -

Ans: As a general thing it was.

Q by A

Did not Alexander & myself always appear on the most friendly terms.

Ans: Always seemed to be on good terms.

Q by A

Have you not known us to take social drinks together -

Ans: Yes sir.

The Accused then made the following statement:-
I have only to say gentlemen that whatever I have done was done in self defence - that I had no malice towards Mr Alexander before or since. He grabbed me and possibly might have injured me seriously had I not resorted to the means that I did.

He laid violent hands on me and ran me over a table -

The statement of both parties being thus in possession of the Court the Court was cleared for

deliberation and after mature consideration of the evidence adduced find the accused M. J. Robnett a citizen employed in the Qu Masters Dept as follows

Of the Specification of the 1 st Charge -	Guilty
excepting the words "did become intoxicated."	
Of the 1 st Charge	Guilty
Of the Specification of the 2 ^d Charge -	Guilty
Of the 2 ^d Charge	Guilty
excepting the words "with attempt to kill."	

and the Court do therefore sentence find the said M. J. Robnett a citizen employed in the Quartermasters Department, Artillery Reserve

To be confined a hard labor for two (2) years at such place as the Commanding Genl directs.

The Court then adjourned until 10 AM Apr 20. 184.

E. P. Mason	Edward Jones
1 st Lt. 5 th Regt.	Major G. M. out-
Judge Advocate.	Pro. G. C. M.

(Approved)
H. J. Luntson
Col. 5th Regt

Approved & the Dry Court's sentence approved
Geo. G. Meade
Major. 5th Regt

Head-Quarters, Army of the Potomac,

July 12th, 1864.

GENERAL COURT MARTIAL ORDERS, } No. 22.

I. Before a General Court Martial, of which Captain EDWARD MCK. HUDSON, 14th Infantry, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 5th Corps, by virtue of General Orders, No. 30, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 5th Corps, of April 20th, 1864, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *William T. Hill*, Company "D," 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"*To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding may direct;*" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

2d. Private *George D. Bell*, Company "A," 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"*To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct;*" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

3d. Private *George J. McKnight*, alias *John Scott*, Company "A," 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"*To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding may direct;*" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

II. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel H. C. BOLINGER, commanding 2d Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 2d Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserves, 3d Division, 5th Army Corps, by virtue of General Orders, No. 20, from Head-Quarters, Pennsylvania Reserves, 3d Division, 5th Army Corps, of April 21st, 1864, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *John Wellington*, Company "K," 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"*To be shot to death with musketry, two-thirds of the members concurring therein; the sentence to be carried into effect at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct.*"

2d. Private *George Free*, Company "H," 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, upon the following

CHARGE—Violation of the 46th Article of War.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances that are now or may become due him, and be confined at hard labor on the public works for the period of three years, at such place as the Commanding General may direct.”

III. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel JOSEPH E. HAMLIN, 65th New York Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 1st Brigade, 3d Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 202, from Head-Quarters, 3d Division, 6th Corps, of December 7th, 1863, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *George S. Goodrich*, Company “K,” 122d New York Volunteers, upon the following charges:

CHARGE 1st—Misbehavior before the enemy.

CHARGE 2d—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding the Army shall direct;” two-thirds of the members of the Court concurring therein.

2d. Corporal *Benjamin L. Breed*, Company “G,” 122d New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding the Army shall direct;” two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

IV. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major EDWARD JONES, 6th New York Artillery, is President, convened at the camp of the Artillery Reserve, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 63, of April 8th, 1864, from Head-Quarters, Artillery Reserve, Army of the Potomac, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *William Stewart*, of Horse Battery “A,” 4th United States Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—Mutinous conduct.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be confined at hard labor for three (3) years, at such place as the Commanding General directs.”

2d. Private *Charles Horton*, “M” Company, 6th Regiment New York Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances now due or that may become due him, and to be confined at hard labor for the remainder of his term of service, at such place as the General Commanding may direct, with a ball weighing ten (10) pounds, attached to his left leg by a chain four (4) feet long.”

3d. *M. J. Robbnett*, a citizen employed in the Quartermasters Department, Ammunition Train, Artillery Reserve, Army of the Potomac, upon the following charges:

CHARGE 1st—Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.

CHARGE 2d—Assault, with attempt to kill.

Finding—Of the 1st charge—Guilty.

Of the 2d charge—Guilty, excepting the words “with attempt to kill.”

Sentence—“To be confined at hard labor for two (2) years at such place as the Commanding General directs.”

V. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel N. A. MILES, 61st New York Volunteers, is President, convened in the field, by virtue of Orders, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 2d Corps, of May 18th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Albert Bohler*, Company “K,” 39th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct;” two-thirds of the members concurring therein.

VI. Before a General Court Martial, of which Lieutenant Colonel G. L. MONTAGUE, 37th Massachusetts Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 4th Brigade, 2d Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 45, from Head-Quarters, 2d Division, 6th Corps, of April 10th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *James Stevens*, Company “H,” 77th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To forfeit all pay and allowances now due, to wear a ball and chain for six months, to be confined at hard labor for two years without pay, and then to be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States.”

VII. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major RUFUS SCOTT, 1st New York Dragoons, is President, convened at camp Cavalry Reserve Brigade, near Mitchells Station, Virginia, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 43, from Head-Quarters, 1st Cavalry Division, of March 25th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Martin Hart*, Company “A,” 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be shot to death with carbines, at such time and place as the General Commanding shall direct;” two-thirds of the members concurring therein.

VIII. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major C. O. BELDEN, 67th New York Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters of the 4th Brigade, 1st Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 48, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 6th Corps, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Thomas Congden*, Company “F,” 65th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion.

Finding—Guilty.

Sentence—“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the proper authority may direct;” two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

IX. Before a General Court Martial, of which Lieutenant Colonel E. R. TRAVIS, 6th New York Artillery, is President, convened near Piney Branch, Virginia, by virtue of Orders, No. 5, from Head-Quarters, Artillery Reserve, of May 8th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Walter Montgomery*, Company “G,” 6th New York Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—Desertion in the face of the enemy.

N.N. 2123

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—“*To be kept at hard labor for the remainder of his term of enlistment, with loss of pay for the whole of said period.*”

X. The proceedings of the General Courts Martial in the foregoing cases having been approved by the proper authorities, and transmitted for the action of the Major General Commanding, the following are the orders thereon :

In the cases of Private *James Stevens*, Company “H,” 77th New York Volunteers; Private *Walter Montgomery*, 6th New York Artillery; Private *William Stewart*, of Horse Battery “A,” 4th United States Artillery, and *M. J. Robinnett*, a citizen employed in Quartermasters Department, the proceedings are approved and the sentences will be carried into effect. The prisoners will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order, for transportation to Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

In the cases of Private *William T. Hill*, 1st Battalion 14th Infantry, Private *George D. Bell*, 1st Battallion 12th Infantry; Private *George McKnight*, alias *John Scott*, 1st Battalion 14th Infantry; Private *John Wellington*, 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; Private *George S. Goodrich*, Company “K,” 122d New York Volunteers; Corporal *Benjamin L. Breed*, Company “G,” 122d New York Volunteers; Private *Albert Bohler*, 39th New York Volunteers; Private *Martin Hart*, 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and Private *Thomas Congden*, 65th New York Volunteers, the proceedings, findings and sentences are approved. By authority of the President, the sentence in each case is commuted to discharge, with forfeiture of all pay and bounty due or to become due, and imprisonment at hard labor during the war at Dry Tortugas, Florida. The prisoners will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order, for transportation to the place of confinement.

In the case of Private *George Free*, 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, the proceedings and sentence are approved. The term of confinement is mitigated to one year. The prisoner will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order for transportation to Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

In the case of Private *Charles Horton*, 6th New York Artillery, the proceedings and sentence are approved. So much of the sentence as relates to wearing a ball and chain is remitted. The prisoner will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order for transportation to the Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

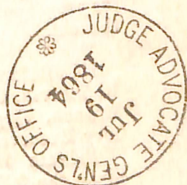
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MEADE :

S. WILLIAMS,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL :

E. N. Platt
Judge Advocate
Assistant Adjutant General.



G. C. M.

Head-Quarters, Army of the Potomac,

July 12th, 1864.

GENERAL COURT MARTIAL ORDERS, }
No. 22.

I. Before a General Court Martial, of which Captain EDWARD McK. HUDSON, 14th Infantry, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 5th Corps, by virtue of General Orders, No. 30, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 5th Corps, of April 20th, 1864, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *William T. Hill*, Company "D," 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding may direct;" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

2d. Private *George D. Bell*, Company "A," 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct;" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

3d. Private *George J. McKnight*, alias *John Scott*, Company "A," 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding may direct;" two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

II. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel H. C. BOLINGER, commanding 2d Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 2d Brigade, Pennsylvania Reserves, 3d Division, 5th Army Corps, by virtue of General Orders, No. 20, from Head-Quarters, Pennsylvania Reserves, 3d Division, 5th Army Corps, of April 21st, 1864, were arraigned and tried:

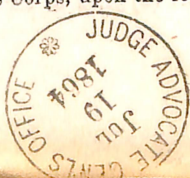
1st. Private *John Wellington*, Company "K," 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—"To be shot to death with musketry, two-thirds of the members concurring therein; the sentence to be carried into effect at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct."

2d. Private *George Free*, Company "H," 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, upon the following



CHARGE—*Violation of the 46th Article of War.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances that are now or may become due him, and be confined at hard labor on the public works for the period of three years, at such place as the Commanding General may direct.”*

III. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel JOSEPH E. HAMBLIN, 65th New York Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 1st Brigade, 3d Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 202, from Head-Quarters, 3d Division, 6th Corps, of December 7th, 1863, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *George S. Goodrich*, Company “K,” 122d New York Volunteers, upon the following charges:

CHARGE 1st—*Misbehavior before the enemy.*

CHARGE 2d—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding the Army shall direct;”* two-thirds of the members of the Court concurring therein.

2d. Corporal *Benjamin L. Breed*, Company “G,” 122d New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General Commanding the Army shall direct;”* two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

IV. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major EDWARD JONES, 6th New York Artillery, is President, convened at the camp of the Artillery Reserve, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 63, of April 8th, 1864, from Head-Quarters, Artillery Reserve, Army of the Potomac, were arraigned and tried:

1st. Private *William Stewart*, of Horse Battery “A,” 4th United States Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—*Mutinous conduct.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be confined at hard labor for three (3) years, at such place as the Commanding General directs.”*

2d. Private *Charles Horton*, “M” Company, 6th Regiment New York Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances now due or that may become due him, and to be confined at hard labor for the remainder of his term of service, at such place as the General Commanding may direct, with a ball weighing ten (10) pounds, attached to his left leg by a chain four (4) feet long.”*

3d. *M. J. Robinnett*, a citizen employed in the Quartermasters Department, Ammunition Train, Artillery Reserve, Army of the Potomac, upon the following charges:

CHARGE 1st—*Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.*

CHARGE 2d—*Assault, with attempt to kill.*

Finding—*Of the 1st charge—Guilty.*

Of the 2d charge—Guilty, excepting the words “with attempt to kill.”

Sentence—*“To be confined at hard labor for two (2) years at such place as the Commanding General directs.”*

V. Before a General Court Martial, of which Colonel N. A. MILES, 61st New York Volunteers, is President, convened in the field, by virtue of Orders, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 2d Corps, of May 18th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Albert Bohler*, Company “K,” 39th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct;”* two-thirds of the members concurring therein.

VI. Before a General Court Martial, of which Lieutenant Colonel G. L. MONTAGUE, 37th Massachusetts Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters, 4th Brigade, 2d Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 45, from Head-Quarters, 2d Division, 6th Corps, of April 10th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *James Stevens*, Company “H,” 77th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To forfeit all pay and allowances now due, to wear a ball and chain for six months, to be confined at hard labor for two years without pay, and then to be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States.”*

VII. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major RUFUS SCOTT, 1st New York Dragoons, is President, convened at camp Cavalry Reserve Brigade, near Mitchells Station, Virginia, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 43, from Head-Quarters, 1st Cavalry Division, of March 25th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Martin Hart*, Company “A,” 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be shot to death with carbines, at such time and place as the General Commanding shall direct;”* two-thirds of the members concurring therein.

VIII. Before a General Court Martial, of which Major C. O. BELDEN, 67th New York Volunteers, is President, convened at Head-Quarters of the 4th Brigade, 1st Division, 6th Corps, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 48, from Head-Quarters, 1st Division, 6th Corps, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Thomas Congden*, Company “F,” 65th New York Volunteers, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—*“To be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the proper authority may direct;”* two-thirds of the Court concurring therein.

IX. Before a General Court Martial, of which Lieutenant Colonel E. R. TRAVIS, 6th New York Artillery, is President, convened near Piney Branch, Virginia, by virtue of Orders, No. 5, from Head-Quarters, Artillery Reserve, of May 8th, 1864, was arraigned and tried:

Private *Walter Montgomery*, Company “G,” 6th New York Artillery, upon the following

CHARGE—*Desertion in the face of the enemy.*

Finding—*Guilty.*

Sentence—“*To be kept at hard labor for the remainder of his term of enlistment, with loss of pay for the whole of said period.*”

X. The proceedings of the General Courts Martial in the foregoing cases having been approved by the proper authorities, and transmitted for the action of the Major General Commanding, the following are the orders thereon :

In the cases of Private *James Stevens*, Company “H,” 77th New York Volunteers; Private *Walter Montgomery*, 6th New York Artillery; Private *William Stewart*, of Horse Battery “A,” 4th United States Artillery, and *M. J. Robinnett*, a citizen employed in Quartermasters Department, the proceedings are approved and the sentences will be carried into effect. The prisoners will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order, for transportation to Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

In the cases of Private *William T. Hill*, 1st Battalion 14th Infantry, Private *George D. Bell*, 1st Battalion 12th Infantry; Private *George McKnight*, alias *John Scott*, 1st Battalion 14th Infantry; Private *John Wellington*, 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; Private *George S. Goodrich*, Company “K,” 122d New York Volunteers; Corporal *Benjamin L. Breed*, Company “G,” 122d New York Volunteers; Private *Albert Bohler*, 39th New York Volunteers; Private *Martin Hart*, 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and Private *Thomas Congden*, 65th New York Volunteers, the proceedings, findings and sentences are approved. By authority of the President, the sentence in each case is commuted to discharge, with forfeiture of all pay and bounty due or to become due, and imprisonment at hard labor during the war at Dry Tortugas, Florida. The prisoners will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order, for transportation to the place of confinement.

In the case of Private *George Free*, 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, the proceedings and sentence are approved. The term of confinement is mitigated to one year. The prisoner will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order for transportation to Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

In the case of Private *Charles Horton*, 6th New York Artillery, the proceedings and sentence are approved. So much of the sentence as relates to wearing a ball and chain is remitted. The prisoner will be turned over to the Provost Marshal General of this Army, accompanied by a copy of this order for transportation to the Dry Tortugas, Florida, which is designated as the place of confinement.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MEADE :

S. WILLIAMS,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL :

E. V. Katt
Judge Advocate
Assistant Adjutant General.

Army of the Potomac,
City Point July 26th 1864

To, His Excellency
Abraham Lincoln
President of the U.S.

Your petitioners
would beg of you the pardon of
one Moses J. Robinett a Doctor &
Veterinary Surgeon who has been
sentenced to two years imprisonment
at the Dry Tortugas, His offense
was for defending himself and
cutting with a Penknife a Teamster
much his superior in strength and
size, all under the impulse of the
excitement of the moment, The
Teamster was only slightly wounded,
Mr. Robinett is a good loyal,
western American, highly respectable
with a dependent family, and
to his credit, we take pride in

Saying he

"was, early, intelligent, audacious,
And Influential from the beginning
to this time, in opposing Traitors
And their Schemes to destroy the
Government, (For a Verification
of which we beg to refer to
Senators Wiley, Carlisle, and
Hon Mr. G. Brown, Think of
his Motherless Daughters and Sons
at hand!! And we hope the Case
(without adding more) will sufficiently
Commend itself to your Executive
Clemency, And being ^{his} only Acq-
=aintance, from West Virginia
we felt in duty bound to pray
your interposition in behalf of
the unfortunate Father, of an
interesting and distressed family
of loved Children, Union Daughters
& Union Sons,

Very Resp. Geo. S. Burdett,
Capt. U. S. A.

I publish under the
above petition

J. L. Smith

Capt & Chief Clerk of 15th Army Corp

Respectfully referred by the
President to the Judge
Advocate General

Jno. V. Nicolay

Private

Aug. 19. 1864

A. N. 9123

To his Excellency
Abraham Lincoln
President U. S.
Washington D. C.

Petition for pardon of Capt.
Surg. Moses Robinson, captured
at the Dry Tortugas.

5 J. Adv. 1418. Ex. 8.

I concur in
the within.

Sam^l R. Steel
Capt - & Co. U. S.

Morgantown W. Va.
Aug. 13. 1864

To the President
of the U. S. States.

Sir. The within has been
sent to me to lay before your Ex-
cellency, I do so, hoping it may
attract your attention and re-
ceive a favorable consideration.
I know Capt. Burnett well
— also Chaplain Steele; I
certify that they are men
of veracity and integrity.
It is a hard sentence on
the case as stated.

Wm. B. Willey

U. S. Sen. W. Va.

J. Adams 1418. E.P. 8. Sept 2 1/2

N. 2123.

Pardon for unexcused part of punishment

A. Lincoln

Sept. 1. 1864.

War Dep't, Sept, 1st 1864.

Case of M. J. Robbinett
Citizen

Respectfully referred to the Adjutant General to issue the orders giving effect to the President's action

P.D. 1074689
S.O. 296. ~~107~~ Sept 6/64

By order of the Secretary of War:

Jas A. Hardie

Colonel and Inspector General, U. S. A.

Adj. Genl

Bureau of Mil Justice
War Dept. 24th Aug. 64
M. J. Robbinett - a citizen of
Western Va. employed with the
ammunition train of the Artz
Reserve, in the field as Veterinarian
- as Surgeon - was convicted
by G. C. M. of assault with
intent to kill, in stabbing
& cutting with a knife,
John J. Alexander, a wagon
- master.

He was sentenced to two Yrs.
confinement at hard labor,
and the sentence was duly
approved by the Com'g Genl.
The proof is that the prisoner
was on good terms with Alexan-
- der - with whom he messed
and slept: that he was of
a talkative jocular turn and
while eating his supper, said
something to a colored woman
- who cooked & waited on the
mess - that offended Alexan-
- der - who was listening out
- side the room, went in
and called the prisoner to
account

in an angry manner.
Both parties became excited,
and Alexander seized the
prisoner by the collar, and
- as he stated in evidence -
tried to get hold of his arm
and was then cut with the
knife - which he knew the
prisoner held in his hand
and which, he declared, he took
from him after throwing him
down. He received a stab,
in the side, and a cut in the
thigh - the former pronounced
dangerous, and was not fully
healed at the date of the
trial.
The prisoner declared in his
defense before the Court that
he had never entertained any
malice or unkindness toward
Alexander, and that he used
his knife - a common pocket
one - for his own defense, and
not until he had been seized
- violently - and thrown upon
- over a table.
The only witnesses of the event
were Alexander and his assist-
- ant - both whom testified that
the wounds were inflicted
after

the prisoner had been seized
by the collar. The former de-
-claring that the prisoner was
rushing toward him, and in
this suffering from his apitact

An appeal is made to the Pres-
-ident for the pardon of this
prisoner, on the ground that
he acted, in the affray with
Alexander, solely in self defence
the latter being greatly his su-
-perior in size & strength.

By Captains J^r S. Dunleavy,
D. L. Smith, and Sam. R. Steele
- who thus interpose in his behalf -
represent, that from the outbreak
of the rebellion the prisoner
has been an ardent, intelligent
& influential opponent of the
Traitors surrounding him.
That he has an interesting family
of motherless sons and daughters
in great distress at home.

The integrity and veracity of these
applicants - all of the Army in
the field - are vouched for by
Senator Willey of W. Va. - who
hopes their application will be
successful.

W.A.S.

Judge Adv. Genl

To His Excellency }
The President }

R.V. 276

M J Robinett city

296.

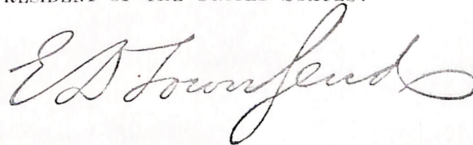
N. N. 2123;

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 296. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, September 6th, 1864.

Pardon, for the unexecuted part of punishment, is granted to *M. J. Robinett*, a citizen, whose sentence, to be confined at hard labor for two years, is promulgated in General Court Martial Orders, No. 22, Headquarters, Army of the Potomac, dated July 12th, 1864. He will accordingly be released from the Dry Tortugas, Florida, and set at liberty.

BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:



Assistant Adjutant General.

*Bureau of
Mil. Justice }*