

3-2-1837

Officers resigned in 1836, and companies employed in Seminole war

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ou.edu/indianserialset>



Part of the [Indian and Aboriginal Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

H.R. Doc. No. 183, 24th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1837)

This House Document is brought to you for free and open access by University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899 by an authorized administrator of University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact darinfox@ou.edu.

OFFICERS RESIGNED IN 1836, AND COMPANIES EMPLOYED
IN SEMINOLE WAR.

MARCH 2, 1837.

Read, and laid upon the table.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
March 1, 1837.

SIR: In answer to two of the resolutions of the House of Representatives of the 13th ultimo, one calling for information respecting the officers of the army who resigned during the year 1836, and the other respecting "the number of companies of the different corps of the army that have been operating during the past year against the Creeks and Seminoles," and the commissioned officers performing military duty with them, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a report and tabular statements prepared by the Adjutant General of the army.

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,

Secretary of War *ad interim*.

HON. JAMES K. POLK,
Speaker of the House of Reps.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 28, 1837.

SIR: In obedience to your instructions, I herewith respectfully submit table A, being a statement of the number of captains and subalterns of the army whose resignations have been tendered and accepted during the year 1836. This table contains such information relative thereto as the records of this office can furnish, and is rendered in such form as is supposed best to meet the requirements of the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 13th of February.

It will be seen by this table that the resignations of 19 captains, 35 first lieutenants, 36 second lieutenants, and 13 brevet second lieutenants—in all, 103 captains and subalterns—have been tendered and accepted in 1836. It appears that 27 officers were on leave of absence, that 52 were serving with the army, 14 employed on civil duties under the orders of the chiefs of the Engineer Department and topographical engineers; and that 16 sent in their resignations after the orders were issued to join their regiments, and 5 others soon after complying with such orders. It will also be seen that 12 lieutenants had never joined their regiments, of whom, however, 8 were of the graduating class of 1836.

In further obedience to your instructions, I also, herewith, respectfully submit table B, being statements (Nos. 1 and 2) showing the number of companies of the regular army, and the number of officers on duty with them, which have been operating, during the year 1836, against the Seminole Indians in Florida, and the Creeks in Georgia and Alabama, at the several dates specified therein.

The remarks annexed to statements Nos. 1 and 2 of this table (B) explain, in some degree, the cause of so many captains and subalterns being absent from their companies, and show that a portion of the officers so separated were on important military duty as staff officers, or acting staff officers, or acting field officers, on service with troops in the field. But I deem it proper respectfully to remark on this occasion, that many officers were absent and employed upon service which had but little relation to the army. Official reports from commanders in the field, and on various occasions, show the great deficiency in the complement of company officers for service in the field during the military operations of the last year; and as illustrative of the actual wants of the service, I make the following extract from the official report of brevet Lieutenant Colonel Pierce, dated "Fort Heileman, Gary's ferry, September 13, 1836," to wit:

"I cannot permit the express to depart without stating to you the miserable, deplorable situation of the regular troops in the Territory, as regards their efficient action in the field. There are here 11 companies of artillery, the whole presents a fighting force of 110 men; and when we are entitled to 55 officers, we have here only *six* for company duty." The colonel of the 1st regiment of artillery reports, on the 2d of February, 1837, that "there are only 7 company officers present for duty with the *nine* companies, (of the regiment,) and that not one of the officers attached to companies C, D, and I, are *present* with any of those companies: Hence the delay and difficulty in procuring the requisite reports and returns," &c. These companies are now serving in the campaign against the Seminole Indians.

These and other official reports from commanding officers, which might be cited, relative to the state of the service in the field, are now respectfully referred to, with no other view than in the hope that the competent authority may, at the proper time, direct such measures to be taken as will effectually prevent a recurrence of the inconvenience so injuriously felt in the army, relative to the want of officers for *duty with their companies*, and which have been so frequently mentioned by commanders in the field and elsewhere.

Respectfully submitted.

R. JONES, *Adjutant General.*

Hon. B. F. BUTLER,
Secretary of War ad interim.

A.

STATEMENT showing the number of captains and subalterns of the army who have tendered their resignations during the year 1836; how and where each was employed at the time of resigning; the dates of acceptance thereof: also, specifying those who may have resigned on receiving orders to join their respective companies and stations, or immediately after complying with the order: also, the time which each officer, so resigned, may have served with his company or regiment during the five years ending December 31, 1836, according to the returns in the Adjutant General's office.

Number.	RANK AND NAMES.	Regiment or corps.	Where last employed.	On what business or duty engaged at the time of resignation, &c.	Date of acceptance of resignation.	Period of service with his corps, company, or regiment, during the five years ending Dec. 31, 1836.	REMARKS.
					1836.		
1	Capt. A. Talcott	- Corps eng.	Albany	- Hudson river imp't	Sept. 21	All the time.	When lieutenant of artillery, and previous to his appointment as captain in the ordnance. Part of the period, while in the 2d regiment of infantry.
2	Capt. R. P. Parrott	- Ordnance	Creek nation	- With the army	Oct. 31	1 year 8 mos.	
3	Capt. D. Hunter	- 1st drag.	-	Leave of absence	July 4	3 years	Resigned, under orders to join his company in Florida, on being promoted. Resigned under orders to join his company in Florida.
4	Capt. C. Dimmock	- 1st artillery	Fort Monroe	- Assistant qr. mas.	Sept. 30	No period, being in staff.	
5	Capt. T. C. Legate	- 2d do.	Galena	- Superintend'g lead mines.	Dec. 31	No period	Resigned soon after being relieved from ordnance duty, and joining his company in the Creek nation.
6	Capt. F. Ansart	- 3d do.	Creek nation	- With the army	Aug. 31	Whole period.	
7	Capt. C. M. Thruston	- 3d do.	Florida	- Do.	Aug. 31	3 years 7 mos.	Resigned soon after being relieved from ordnance duty, and joining his company in the Creek nation.
8	Capt. C. Ward	- 4th do.	Creek nation	- Do.	Aug. 31	2 years 2 mos.	
9	Capt. H. A. Thompson	- 4th do.	Fort McHenry	Act'g adj't 4th art.	Oct. 15	Whole period.	Having been on recruiting service and topographical duty.
10	Capt. Wm. M. Boyce	- 1st infantry	-	Leave of absence	Nov. 14	7 mos.	
11	Capt. I. Dean	- 3d do.	Fort Fowson	- With his company	Nov. 15	4 years 2 mos.	
12	Capt. W. Martin	- 4th do.	Lewistown	- Recruiting	Sept. 23	3 years 6 mos.	

STATEMENT A—Continued.

4

Number.	RANK AND NAMES.	Regiment or corps.	Where last employed.	On what business or duty engaged at the time of resignation, &c.	Date of acceptance of resignation.	Period of service with his corps, company, or regiment, during the five years ending Dec. 31, 1836.	REMARKS.
13	Capt. P. Hunt -	5th infantry	-	Leave of absence	1836. Oct. 31	No period -	Having been assistant to the commissary general of subsistence.
14	Capt. J. M. Baxley -	5th do.	Fort Dearborn -	With his company	April 1	2 years 11 mos.	
15	Capt. W. E. Cruger -	5th do.	Rochester -	Recruiting -	Oct. 31	2 years 7 mos.	
16	Capt. Z. C. Palmer -	6th do.	-	Leave of absence	Dec. 31	2 years 11 mos.	
17	Capt. H. Smith -	6th do.	Monroe, Mich.	Engineer duty -	Nov. 16	9 mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company.
18	Capt. J. Rogers -	6th do.	Camp Sabine -	With his company	July 31	2 years 2 mos.	
19	Capt. N. Tillinghast -	7th do.	Fort Gibson -	Do.	July 31	7 mos.	Having served at the Military Academy.
1	1st Lt. T. S. Brown -	Corps eng.	Lake Erie -	Harbor improve't	Oct. 31	All the time.	
2	1st Lt. L. P. Lupton -	1st dragoons	Ft. Leavenworth	With his company	Mar. 31	3 years 6 mos.	Part of the period while in the 3d infantry.
3	1st Lt. F. M. Noland -	1st do.	-	Abs. with l've, sick	Mar. 1	No period.	
4	1st Lt. J. W. Shaumburg -	1st do.	Ft. Des Moines	With troops -	July 31	7 mos.	
5	1st Lt. G. P. Kingsbury -	1st do.	-	Leave of absence	Oct. 15	2 years 7 mos.	
6	1st Lt. J. McClellan -	1st artillery	Creek nation -	With the army -	Nov. 19	4 years 7 mos.	
7	1st Lt. E. French -	1st do.	-	Leave of absence	May 3	2 years 3 mos.	
8	1st Lt. J. W. Barry -	1st do.	Newport, Ky. -	Assistant qr. mas.	Nov. 30	1 year 7 mos.	Resigned under orders to join his post in Florida, having recently served in the Indian Department.
9	1st Lt. H. W. Fitzhugh -	2d do.	-	Leave of absence	June 28	No period -	Having been in the staff.
10	1st Lt. F. L. Dancy -	2d do.	Florida -	With the army -	Sept. 11	2 years 10 mos.	
11	1st Lt. J. L. Locke -	2d do.	Do. -	Do. -	Aug. 16	2 years 3 mos.	
12	1st Lt. A. A. Humphreys -	2d do.	Do. -	Do. -	Sept. 30	2 years 10 mos.	
13	1st Lt. G. W. Ward -	2d do.	Do. -	Do. -	Dec. 31	10 mos.	
14	1st Lt. R. P. Smith -	2d do.	West Point -	Military Academy	Dec 31	2 years 8 mos.	
15	1st Lt. F. N. Barbarin -	3d do.	Watertown arsenal, Mass.	Ordnance duty -	Sept. 16	1 year 11 mos.	

[Doc. No. 183.]

1	1st Lt. E. B. White	3d do.	Knoxville, Ten.	Topograph. duty	Aug. 13	6 mos.	On survey for Charleston and Cincinnati railroad. Resigned under orders to join his company.
2	1st Lt. W. R. McKee	3d do.	Creek nation	With the army	Sept. 15	1 year 5 mos.	Resigned soon after complying with order to join his company in the Creek nation, having been recently on engineer duty.
18	1st Lt. H. Bliss	4th do.	-	Leave of absence	June 10	10 mos.	Having been on engineer duty on Cumberland road.
19	1st Lt. A. Beckley	4th do.	Fort Hamilton	In ch'ge of prop'ty	Oct. 24	1 year 8 mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company in the Creek nation.
20	1st Lt. W. F. Hopkins	4th do.	-	Leave of absence	June 30	No period	Resigned under orders to join his company in the Creek nation.
21	1st Lt. T. J. Cram	4th do.	-	Do.	Sept. 16	3 mos.	Having served previously at the Military Academy.
22	1st Lt. M. C. Ewing	4th do.	Florida	With the army	Aug. 15	A few days	Resigned soon after repairing to Florida, having been previously employed on the Potomac aqueduct.
23	1st Lt. J. Burnes	4th do.	West Point	Military Academy	July 31	1 year 9½ mos.	
24	1st Lt. T. B. W. Stockton	1st infantry	Michigan city	Topograph. duty	Nov. 30	No period	Resigned under orders to join his company.
25	1st Lt. J. K. Greenough	1st do.	Terre Haute, In.	Engineer duty	Dec. 17	2 years 4 mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company.
26	1st Lt. Wm. Bloodgood	2d do.	-	Leave of absence	Dec. 31	2 years 2½ mos.	
27	1st Lt. R. W. Colcock	3d do.	-	Do.	April 1	1 year 9 mos.	Having been previously employed on the Cumberland road.
28	1st Lt. F. D. Newcomb	4th do.	Eastern States	Assistant qr. mas.	Sept. 30	No period	Resigned under orders to join his post in Florida.
29	1st Lt. T. Paige	4th do.	Florida	With the army	Mar. 16	1 year 5 mos.	
30	1st Lt. S. R. Alston	4th do.	Creek nation	Do.	Jan. 31	4 years.	
31	1st Lt. W. Hood	4th do.	Washington	Topograph. duty	Aug. 7	No period.	
32	1st Lt. J. M. Berrien	5th do.	Michigan Ter.	Do.	Dec. 31	2½ mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company.
33	1st Lt. A. J. Center	5th do.	Do.	Do.	Dec. 31	8½ mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company.
34	1st Lt. W. W. Mather	7th do.	Fort Gibson	With his company	Aug. 31	5½ mos.	Having served at the Military Academy.
35	1st Lt. G. W. Cass	7th do.	Brownsville	Engineer duty	Oct. 26	No period	Never joined. Resigned under orders to join his company.
1	2d Lt. W. H. C. Bartlett	Corps eng.	West Point	Military Academy	April 20	Whole period.	
2	2d Lt. R. Park	Do.	Del. breakwater	Construction	Sept. 30	Whole period.	
3	2d Lt. A. M. Lea	1st dragoons	Ft. Des Moines	With his company	May 31	10 mos.	
4	2d Lt. L. Tilghman	1st do.	-	Leave of absence	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
5	2d Lt. G. W. Turner	1st artillery	Florida	With the army	June 30	1 year 10 mos.	
6	2d Lt. W. H. Pettes	1st do.	Do.	Do.	Sept. 11	3 years 9 mos.	
7	2d Lt. L. Sitgreaves	1st do.	Creek nation	Do.	Aug. 31	3 years 3 mos.	
8	2d Lt. F. H. Smith	1st do.	Pikesville	Ordnance	May 1	7 mos.	
9	2d Lt. T. A. Morris	1st do.	Indiana	Engineer duty	April 13	6 mos.	Resigned under orders to join his company in Florida.

STATEMENT A—Continued.

Number.	BANK AND NAMES.	Regiment or corps.	Where last employed.	On what business or duty engaged at the time of resignation, &c.	Date of acceptance of resignation.	Period of service with his corps, company, or regiment, during the five years ending Dec. 31, 1836.	REMARKS.
					1836.		
10	2d Lt. R. T. P. Allen	1st artillery	Florida	With the army	July 31	5½ mos.	
11	2d Lt. A. V. Brumby	1st do.	Do.	Do.	June 30	2 mos.	
12	2d Lt. M. Churchill	1st do.	-	Leave of absence	Nov. 19	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
13	2d Lt. A. P. Crittenden	1st do.	-	Do.	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
14	2d Lt. W. B. Burnett	2d do.	Florida	With the army	July 31	2 mos.	
15	2d Lt. W. T. Stockton	2d do.	Do.	Do.	May 31	11 mos.	
16	2d Lt. C. J. Whiting	2d do.	Do.	Do.	May 31	1 mo.	
17	2d Lt. G. M. Legate	2d do.	-	Leave of abs., sick	April 1	1 mo.	
18	2d Lt. D. P. Dewitt	2d do.	-	Leave of absence	Oct. 31	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
19	2d Lt. F. Vinton	3d do.	Creek nation	With the army	Aug. 31	2 years 3 mos.	Resigned soon after complying with orders to join his company in the Creek nation.
20	2d Lt. J. H. Allen	3d do.	Fort Wolcott	-	June 30	2 years 1 mo.	Resigned under orders to join his company in the Creek nation.
21	2d Lt. G. G. Meade	3d do.	Watertown arsenal, Mass.	Ordnance	Oct. 26	No period	Having served temporarily on Indian duty.
22	2d Lt. W. B. Wallace	3d do.	-	Leave of absence	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
23	2d Lt. T. J. Lee	4th do.	Creek nation	With the army	Aug. 31	2 years 3 mos.	
24	2d Lt. W. H. Emory	4th do.	Do.	Do.	Sept. 30	4 years 4 mos.	
25	2d Lt. B. S. Ewell	4th do.	West Point	Military Academy	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment, having served at the Military Academy the whole period.
26	2d Lt. A. Brush	4th do.	Creek nation	With the army	July 28	A few days	Resigned soon after complying with orders to join his company in the Creek nation, having been on engineer duty in Michigan.
27	2d Lt. J. L. Davis	4th do.	Do.	Do.	Sept. 11	2 years 11 mos.	
28	2d Lt. W. B. Arwin	4th do.	Florida	Do.	Nov. 30	2 mos.	
29	2d Lt. J. Wood	1st infantry	-	Leave of absence	Dec. 17	4 years 5 mos.	
30	2d Lt. J. H. Leavenworth	2d do.	Auburn	Recruiting	Oct. 31	3 years 9 mos.	

31	2d Lt. J. Brown	- 2d do.	-	Leave of absence	July 31	2 years 7 mos.	
32	2d Lt. C. H. Fry	- 3d do.	-	Do.	Oct. 31	1 year 8 mos.	
33	2d Lt. J. T. Collingsworth	- 5th do.	Ft. Winnebago	With his company	July 31	3 years 8 mos.	
34	2d Lt. H. P. Vancleve	- 5th do.	Do.	Do.	Sept. 11	4 years 3 mos.	
35	2d Lt. T. Stockton	- 5th do.	Columbus, Ohio	Engineer duty	Oct. 31	No period	Never joined. Resigned under orders to join his company.
36	2d Lt. T. F. Drayton	- 6th do.	South Carolina	Topograph.-duty	Aug. 15	No period	On survey for Charleston and Cincinnati railroad. Resigned on being ordered to join his company.
1	Bt. 2d Lt. R. King	- Corps eng.	Albany	Hudson river imp.	Sept. 30	Whole period.	
2	Bt. 2d Lt. J. H. Martindale	- 1st dragoons	-	Absent with leave	Mar. 10	No period.	
3	Bt. 2d Lt. H. C. Morehead	- 1st do.	-	Do.	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
4	Bt. 2d Lt. A. B. Lansing	- 1st artillery	-	Do.	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.
5	Bt. 2d Lt. M. Blair	- 2d do.	Florida	With the army	May 20	3 mos.	
6	Bt. 2d Lt. R. M. Renick	- 4th do.	Fort Monroe	With his company	April 30	7 mos.	
7	Bt. 2d Lt. W. H. Price	- 1st infantry	Fort Snelling	Do.	Aug. 31	1 year 9 mos.	
8	Bt. 2d Lt. G. W. Shaw	- 1st do.	Do.	Do.	Oct. 31	10 mos.	
9	Bt. 2d Lt. R. S. Smith	- 2d do.	-	Leave of absence	Oct. 19	No period	Never joined his regiment, having been on topographical duty the whole period.
10	Bt. 2d Lt. J. W. Scott	- 2d do.	Houlton, Me.	With his company	Mar. 15	3 mos.	
11	Bt. 2d Lt. H. McLeod	- 3d do.	Fort Jesup, La.	Do.	June 30	3 mos.	
12	Bt. 2d Lt. A. Campbell	- 6th do.	Camp Sabine	Do.	Sept. 30	11 mos.	
13	Bt. 2d Lt. T. P. Cheffelle	- 7th do.	-	Leave of absence	Sept. 30	No period	Never joined his regiment. Graduate of 1836.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, February 28, 1837.

R. JONES, Adjutant General of the Army.

[Doc. No. 183.]

B No. 1.

DETAILED STATEMENT of the number of companies of the several regiments of the regular army, operating against the Seminole Indians in 1836, for the months of March, June, September, and December, showing the number and grade of the commissioned officers serving with them, taken from the muster-rolls and returns on file in the Adjutant General's office.

REGIMENTS.	No. of companies.	Captains.	First lieutenants.	Second lieutenants.	Total commissioned officers serving with companies.	REMARKS.
1st regiment of dragoons - -	-	1	2	-	3	Detachment.
1st regiment of artillery - -	8	6	5	7	18	
2d regiment of artillery - -	7	5	3	6	14	
3d regiment of artillery - -	3	2	3	1	6	
4th regiment of infantry - -	8	-	2	4	6	
Total - - - - -	26	14	15	18	47	March 31, 1836.
1st regiment of dragoons - -	-	-	-	-	-	Detachment.
1st regiment of artillery - -	8	4	2	2	8	
2d regiment of artillery - -	7	2	1	7	10	
3d regiment of artillery - -	3	-	3	2	5	
4th regiment of infantry - -	8	3	1	6	10	
Total - - - - -	26	9	7	17	33	June 30, 1836.
2d regiment of dragoons - -	1	-	1	-	1	Sept. 30, 1836
1st regiment of artillery - -	8	6	3	1	10	
2d regiment of artillery - -	7	3	4	2	9	
3d regiment of artillery - -	4	1	1	2	4	
4th regiment of artillery - -	4	3	2	1	6	
4th regiment of infantry - -	7	1	1	6	8	
Total - - - - -	31	14	12	12	38	
2d regiment of dragoons - -	1	-	1	1	2	Dec. 31, 1836.
1st regiment of artillery - -	9	5	3	4	12	
2d regiment of artillery - -	7	-	3	5	8	
3d regiment of artillery - -	8	2	2	5	9	
4th regiment of artillery - -	7	5	1	2	8	
4th regiment of infantry - -	8	1	1	5	7	
Total - - - - -	40	13	11	22	46	

Remarks.—In the first three months of the year, (1836,) there were 9 field officers serving with the troops in Florida, in April, May, and June, 7; in July, August, and September, 3; in October, November, and December, 7.

It will be seen that, in June, there were serving with the 26 companies (several of which were much reduced in strength) 9 captains, 7 first lieutenants, and 17 second lieutenants, making 33 officers. The residue, to wit: 17 captains, 37 first lieutenants, 27 second lieutenants—in all, 81 company officers—(deducting several vacancies,) were absent from their respective companies; a part of whom were variously employed on the staff, in Florida; but the greater number were absent on ordnance, engineer, and topographical duty, Indian service, &c.; and several of the number absent were on leave, being sick, &c.

R. JONES, Adjutant General.

B No. 2.

DETAILED STATEMENT of the number of companies of the several regiments of the regular army, operating against the Creek Indians in 1836, for the month of June, 1836, showing the number and grade of the commissioned officers serving with them.

REGIMENTS,	No. of companies.	Captains.	First lieutenants.	Second lieutenants.	Brevet second lieutenants.	Total commissioned officers serving with companies.
1st regiment of artillery - - - -	1	-	1	1	-	2
2d regiment of artillery - - - -	1	-	-	1	-	1
3d regiment of artillery - - - -	4	4	1	1	-	6
4th regiment of artillery - - - -	7	6	3	1	3	13
2d regiment of infantry - - - -	2	2	-	2	-	4
4th regiment of infantry - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	1
Total -	16	13	5	6	3	27

REMARKS.

In June, there were 3 field officers serving with the troops in the Creek nation. Of the 13 captains reported to be serving with the 16 companies, 5 were on higher duty as commanders of battalions, acting as inspectors, or performing other important duties as field officers with the troops in the field. The actual number of company officers, acting as such with the 16 companies, were 8 captains, 5 first lieutenants, and 9 second lieutenants, in all 22—leaving, after deducting 2 vacancies, 50 who were not on duty with their respective companies. The last remark, respecting absent company officers, in statement No. 1, is applicable, also, in some degree, to the state of the service in the Creek country. Vide remarks of statement No. 1 of table B.

R. JONES, *Adjutant General.*

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 27, 1837.