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**Military posts on Kansas and Upper Minnesota Rivers. Letter from the Secretary of War, on the subject of estimates for posts at the Republican Fork of Kansas River, and on Upper Minnesota River**

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MILITARY POSTS ON KANSAS AND UPPER MINNESOTA  
RIVERS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

ON THE SUBJECT OF

*Estimates for posts at the Republican Fork of Kansas river, and on Upper  
Minnesota river.*

JANUARY 26, 1853.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, January 21, 1853.

SIR: In the estimates of the Quartermaster's department for the next fiscal year, are two items for the establishment of two new posts; one on the Republican Fork of the Kansas river, the other on the Upper Minnesota river.

I find that in the bill reported by the committee these items have been omitted. In a conversation I had with you, a few days since, you stated, however, that the committee had not intended to reject these items; but they had supposed the object was to obtain the sanction of Congress to the establishment of these posts, and, therefore, that the question had been referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

I beg leave to repeat what I stated to you verbally, that the intention of the department was, not to obtain the sanction of Congress to the establishment of the posts. The posts are mere stations for troops, and the money is required for the erection of barracks and quarters for their accommodation, and do not, therefore, require the sanction of Congress. Many such posts are established every year by the department; many were established during the last year in different parts of the country: and to these establishments the frontier is in a great measure indebted for its present freedom from Indian hostilities.

Most of the labor attending the establishing of these posts is performed by the soldiers themselves, and the expenses incurred are defrayed out of the appropriation "for barracks and quarters." This would have been done in regard to the posts in question; but about two years ago, in consequence of a number of new posts having been commenced in California, the cost of which (had they been permitted

to be continued, would have greatly exceeded the appropriation "for barracks and quarters" of that year, I directed that hereafter, whenever the expense attending the establishment of a post would be considerable, it should previously receive the sanction of the department and be *specially estimated for*. It was in consequence of this order that the Quartermaster General estimated for these two posts by name, instead of including the amount in the general item of barracks and quarters, which he would otherwise have done. In consequence of which, the latter item was reduced from \$400,000, at which it stood in the estimates of last year, to \$300,000.

I can only add that the establishment of these posts is considered by the department, and by all who are conversant with the subject, as of the highest importance, with a view to the overawing of the Indian tribes in their vicinity; and that the one on the Republican Fork is at the point where the routes to New Mexico and to Oregon and California diverge, and is, therefore, of the highest importance to the protection of emigrants proceeding by this route to either of those countries; that it is intended to supersede Fort Leavenworth, and probably Forts Kearny and Atkinson; that a board of officers was appointed this fall to select a proper site for it, and have recommended one as combining all the advantages desirable for a post which is designed to be the principal station and the depot for supplies to the troops stationed on that frontier or employed in the protection of emigrants. I will also add that the Quartermaster General had inserted in his estimates an item of \$33,000 for the repairs of Fort Leavenworth, and one of \$50,000 for repairs of Fort Atkinson, the buildings at which are in a state of dilapidation; that I struck out these items on the supposition that the new post would be established; but that, if Congress should refuse the appropriation necessary for the latter purpose, the items referred to should be reinstated, as the buildings at these posts are represented as hardly habitable.

If the committee desire any further information in regard to these posts, I will transmit to them the reports, &c., on the subject.

The estimates sent in were prepared on such data as the department then had in its possession; since then, however, accurate and detailed estimates have been prepared, which I have the honor herewith to transmit:

By these estimates it appears that the expense of the establishment of the post at the Kansas river is estimated (including the road leading thereto) at \$76,504, and that on Minnesota river at \$63,105 31.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. CONRAD,

*Secretary of War.*

HON. GEORGE S. HOUSTON,

*Chairman Committee Ways and Means, House of Representatives.*

*Estimate of the cost of building a new post for one company of dragoons and two companies of infantry on the Upper Minnesota river, at the boundary line between the whites and Dakotas.*

For a colonel commanding, a house, with four rooms, and a hall, 51 feet by 34 feet from out to out, with an L, 18 feet by 25 feet, for a kitchen; walls of stone, 2 feet thick and 12 feet high; a porch in front 8 feet wide:

3,624 square feet of carpenters' work on roofs, at \$2 50 per hundred feet.....	\$90 60
3,900 square feet of carpenters' work on floor, at \$2 50 per hundred feet.....	97 50
Framing.....	80 00
Joiners' work on casings, closets, &c., &c.....	300 00
7,020 cubic feet of stone masons' work, at 4 cents....	280 80
Bricklaying, 15,000 brick, at \$2 25.....	33 75
Excavation.....	16 00
37,000 shingles, at \$4 25.....	157 25
5,000 feet of dressed flooring, at \$25.....	125 00
4,000 feet of sheëting, at \$15.....	60 00
4,000 feet of studding for partitions and shed.....	60 00
4,000 feet of joists, at \$15.....	60 00
4,000 feet of rafters, at \$15, (shed included).....	60 00
10,000 feet of clear pine for joiners' work, at \$20.....	200 00
1,000 feet of square timber, to be scored by soldiers on extra duty, at 3½ cents.....	35 00
1,100 feet siding for wood shed, at \$20.....	22 00
216 lights of window sash, at 10 cents.....	21 60
16 doors (2 panel,) at \$3 50.....	56 00
34 frames for doors and windows, at \$1 75.....	59 50
324 panes glass, 10 by 16, 360 feet, at 5½ cents.....	19 80
10 locks, \$15; 6 latches, \$3 75; 10 bolts, \$7 50.....	26 25
18 window fastenings, \$12; hinges and screws \$12....	24 00
15,000 bricks, at \$8.....	120 00
6,350 cubic feet of stone, quarried and hauled by soldiers on extra duty, at 3 cents.....	190 50
75 barrels of lime, at \$2 50.....	187 50
1,800 square yards painting, including materials, at 20 cts.	360 00
1,900 sq. yards plastering, including materials, at 30 cts..	570 00
Glazing 216 lights, at 5 cents.....	10 80
700 pounds nails, at 6½ cents.....	45 50
Zinc for stopping leaks, &c., around chimneys.....	30 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 350 feet, at 60 cents.....	210 00
450 pounds of iron work, at 10 cents.....	45 00
	3,654 35

*Estimate—Continued.*

For an assistant quartermaster and assistant surgeon, a double house, containing two halls and four rooms, 60 feet by 33½ from out to out, with an L at each end, for kitchen, 15 feet by 25 feet; walls of stone, 2 feet thick and 12 feet high; porch in front, 8 feet wide:

4,850 square feet carpenters' work on roof, (shed inclusive) .....	\$121 25
5,640 square feet carpenters' work on floors .....	141 00
Framing .....	90 00
Joiners' work .....	350 00
7,800 cubic feet stone-masonry, (common labor to be performed by extra-duty men,) at 4 cents .....	312 00
Bricklaying, (common labor by extra-duty men,) 18,000 bricks, at \$2 25 per thousand .....	40 50
Excavations, by extra-duty men .....	16 20
48,000 white-pine shingles, at \$4 25 .....	204 00
7,250 feet pine flooring, dressed, at \$25 .....	181 25
5,000 feet sheeting for roof and shed, at \$15 .....	75 00
5,000 feet studding for partitions and shed, \$15 .....	75 00
5,000 feet joists, at \$15 .....	75 00
5,000 feet rafters, at \$15 .....	75 00
13,000 feet clear pine for joiners' work, at \$20 .....	260 00
1,400 feet square timber, to be scored by soldiers on extra duty, at 3½ cents .....	49 00
2,200 feet siding for wood shed, at \$20 .....	44 00
408 lights of window sash, at 10 cents .....	40 80
30 doors, (2 panel,) at \$3 50 .....	105 00
64 frames for doors and windows, at \$1.75 .....	112 00
610 panes of glass, 678 feet, at 5½ cents .....	36 79
24 locks, \$36; 18 latches, \$10 75; 18 bolts, \$10 75 .....	57 50
30 window fastenings, \$22 50; hinges and screws, \$22 50 .....	45 00
18,000 bricks, at \$8 per thousand .....	144 00
7,100 cubic feet of stone, to be quarried and hauled by soldiers on extra duty, at 3 cents .....	213 00
90 barrels lime, at \$2 50 .....	225 00
2,200 square yards painting, at 20 cents .....	440 00
2,300 do do do plastering, at 30 cents .....	690 00
Glazing 408 lights, at 5 cents .....	20 40
1,000 pounds nails and spikes, at 6½ cents .....	62 50
Zinc on the roof .....	30 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners—450 feet .....	270 00
500 pounds iron, at 10 cents .....	50 00
	4,651 19

*Estimate—Continued.*

For one captain and one subaltern of the line, and one chaplain, a house, containing 3 halls and 8 rooms, 99 feet by 37 feet from out to out; walls of stone, 2 feet thick and 12 feet high; porch in front, 8 feet wide :

6,700 square feet of carpenters' work on roof and shed ..	\$167 50
8,200 square feet of carpenters' work on floors .....	205 00
Framing .....	150 00
Joiners' work .....	450 00
11,900 cubic feet masons' work, (common labor to be performed by extra-duty men,) 4 cents .....	476 00
Bricklaying, (common labor as above,) 25,000 bricks, at \$2 25 .....	62 50
Excavations by extra-duty men .....	18 00
67,000 white-pine shingles, at \$4 25 .....	284 75
10,250 feet dressed flooring, at \$25 .....	256 25
7,500 feet of sheeting for roof and shed, at \$15 .....	112 50
6,000 feet of studding for partitions and shed, at \$15 .....	90 00
8,700 feet of joists .....	130 50
5,500 feet rafters for roof and shed, at \$15 .....	82 50
16,000 feet clear stuff for joiners' work, at \$20 .....	320 00
15,000 feet square timber, (common labor as above,) 3½ cents .....	52 50
2,600 feet siding for shed, at \$20 .....	52 00
444 lights of window sash, at 10 cents .....	44 40
42 doors, (2 panel,) at \$3 50 .....	147 00
79 frames for doors and windows, at \$1 75 .....	138 25
666 lights glass, 740 feet, at 5½ cents .....	40 70
30 locks, \$45; 18 latches, \$9 75; 18 bolts, \$9 75 .....	64 50
42 window fastenings, \$35 50; hinges and screws, \$30 .....	65 50
25,000 bricks, at \$8 .....	200 00
10,700 cubic feet stone, (to be quarried and hauled by soldiers on extra duty) .....	321 00
190 barrels lime, at \$2 50 .....	300 00
3,000 yards painting, at 20 cents .....	600 00
3,000 yards plastering, at 30 cents .....	900 00
Glazing 444 lights, at 5 cents .....	22 20
1,300 pounds nails and spikes .....	84 50
Zinc on roof .....	30 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 450 feet .....	270 00
600 pounds iron .....	60 00
	6,198 05

For 2 captains and 1 subaltern of the line :

A house precisely like the preceding one ..... \$6,198 05

*Estimate—Continued.*

For 2 subalterns of the line, a house, containing two halls and four rooms, 59 feet by 37 feet from out to out; walls of stone, 2 feet thick and 12 feet high; porch in front, 8 feet wide:

4,020 square feet of carpenters' work on roof (including shed).....	\$100 50
5,700 square feet of carpenters' work on floors.....	142 50
Framing.....	80 00
Joiners' work.....	300 00
7,734 cubic feet masons' work, (common labor as before mentioned,) at 4 cents.....	309 36
Bricklaying, (common labor as above,) 9,000 bricks, at \$2 25.....	20 25
Excavations by soldiers on extra duty.....	13 50
40,000 white-pine shingles, at \$4 25.....	170 00
7,250 feet dressed flooring, at \$25.....	181 25
5,000 feet sheeting for roof and shed.....	75 00
4,000 feet studding for partitions and shed.....	60 00
5,000 feet joists.....	75 00
4,500 feet rafters.....	67 50
8,000 feet clear stuff for joiners' work.....	160 00
800 feet square timber, (common labor as above).....	28 00
2,200 feet siding for sheds, at \$20.....	44 00
240 lights of window sash, at 10 cents.....	24 00
24 doors, (2 panel,) at \$3 50.....	84 00
50 frames for doors and windows, at \$1 75.....	87 50
360 panes of glass, 400 feet, at 5½ cents.....	22 00
18 locks, \$24; 12 latches, \$7 50; 12 bolts, \$7 50.....	39 00
20 window fastenings, \$15; hinges and screws, \$15.....	30 00
9,000 bricks, at \$8.....	72 00
7,050 cubic feet stone, (to be quarried and hauled by troops,) at 3 cents.....	211 50
90 barrels lime, at \$2 50.....	225 00
1,600 square yards painting, including materials, at 20 cents.....	320 00
1,648 square yards plastering, including materials, at 30 cents.....	504 40
Glazing 250 lights, at 5 cents.....	12 50
900 pounds nails and spikes, at 6½ cents.....	58 50
Zinc on roof.....	20 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 350 feet.....	210 00
450 pounds iron, at 10 cents.....	45 00
	3,792 26

For two subalterns of the line:

One building like the preceding one..... \$3,792 26

## Estimate—Continued.

Hospital building, 105½ feet by 35 feet from out to out—containing a dispensary, two wards, two halls, mess-room, kitchen, steward's room, store-room, and two rooms for laundresses; walls of stone, 2 feet thick and 12 feet high; porch in front, 8 feet wide:

5,512 square feet of carpenters' work on roof.....	\$137 80
4,120 square feet of carpenters' work on floor.....	103 00
Framing.....	35 00
Joiners' work.....	130 00
10,324 cubic feet of masons' work, (common labor to be performed by extra-duty men,) at 4 cents.....	412 96
Bricklaying, (common labor as before,) 9,000 bricks, at \$2 25.....	20 25
Excavation.....	16 00
56,000 white pine shingles, at \$4 25.....	238 00
5,400 feet dressed flooring, at \$25.....	135 00
6,000 feet sheeting, at \$15.....	90 00
3,000 feet joist, 2 by 10, at \$15.....	45 00
2,500 feet joist, 2 by 8, at \$15.....	37 50
4,250 feet rafters, at \$15.....	63 75
8,500 feet clear stuff.....	170 00
1,450 feet square timber, (common labor as before).....	50 75
375 lights of window sash, at 9 cents.....	33 75
18 doors, at \$3.....	54 00
43 frames for doors and windows.....	64 50
562 panes of glass, 317 feet, at 4½ cents.....	14 26
8 locks, \$8; 10 latches, \$5; 8 bolts, \$3.....	16 00
Butts and screws.....	4 00
9,000 bricks, at \$8.....	72 00
9,337 cubic feet stone, (to be quarried and hauled by troops,) at 3 cents.....	280 11
103 barrels lime, at \$2 50.....	257 50
1,235 square yards plastering, at 30 cents.....	370 50
800 square yards painting, at 20 cents.....	160 00
Glazing 375 lights, at 5 cents.....	17 75
900 pounds nails and spikes, at 6½.....	58 50
Zinc on roof.....	20 00
5,000 feet studding for partitions.....	75 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 340 feet.....	204 00
400 pounds iron, at 10 cents.....	40 00

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 3,426 88
 

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*Estimate—Continued.*

Barrack for three large companies, two stories high, 234 feet by 31 feet from out to out—containing on lower floor three orderly rooms, three mess-rooms, three kitchens, three company clothing rooms, and three laundresses' rooms, and on upper floor nine square rooms; walls, 2 feet thick and 22 feet high; porches in front, 8 feet wide:

10,296 square feet carpenters' work on roof .....	\$257 40
16,380 square feet carpenters' work on floors .....	409 50
Framing .....	100 00
Joiners' work .....	200 00
31,160 cubic feet masons' work, (common labor as before,) at 4 cents .....	1,246 40
Bricklaying, 24,000, at \$2 25 per thousand .....	54 00
Excavation by troops .....	24 30
100,000 white-pine shingles, at \$4 25 .....	425 00
23,475 feet dressed flooring, at \$25 .....	586 87
10,500 feet sheeting, at \$25 .....	157 50
30,500 feet joist .....	457 50
8,000 feet rafters .....	120 00
17,000 feet clear stuff, for joiners' work .....	340 00
4,510 feet square timber, (labor by troops,) at 3½ cents ..	157 85
1,560 lights window sash, at 9 cents .....	140 40
45 doors, at \$3 .....	135 00
149 frames for doors and windows, at \$1 50 .....	223 50
2,340 panes glass, 1,300 feet, at 4½ cents .....	58 50
15 locks, \$15; 30 latches, \$15; 18 bolts, \$5 .....	35 00
24,000 bricks, at \$8 .....	192 00
25,160 cubic feet of stone; (to be blasted and quarried by troops,) at 3 cents .....	754 80
25½ barrels of lime, at \$2 50 .....	625 00
2,600 square yards plastering, at 30 cents .....	780 00
1,600 square yards painting, at 20 cents .....	320 00
Glazing 1,560 lights, at 5 cents .....	78 00
1,200 pounds nails and spikes, at 6½ cents .....	78 00
Hinges and screws .....	15 00
Zinc for roof .....	50 00
4,000 feet studding for partitions .....	60 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 924 feet, at 60 cents .....	565 20
800 pounds iron, at 10 cents .....	80 00
	8,726 72

*Estimate—Continued.*

Store house, 105½ feet by 43 feet from out to out; to be partitioned with four rooms, two of them with loft for the quartermaster's department, and two with cellar for subsistence department; walls 2 feet thick and 12 feet high:

5,512 square feet carpenters' work on roof.....	\$137 80
4,120 square feet carpenters' work on floors.....	82 40
Framing.....	80 00
Carpenters' work on partitions, stairs, &c.....	125 00
11,432 cubic feet masons' work, (common labor by troops,) at 4 cents.....	447 28
Bricklaying, 5,000 brick, at \$2 25.....	11 25
Excavation by troops.....	80 00
56,000 white pine shingles, at \$4 25.....	238 00
13,000 feet two-inch plank for floors, at \$17 50.....	227 50
6,000 feet sheeting, at \$15.....	90 00
2,500 feet partitions, at \$15.....	37 50
9,500 feet joists, 3 by 12, for lower floor.....	142 50
4,250 feet rafters.....	63 75
1,300 feet square timber, at 3½ cents.....	45 50
150 lights window sash, at 9 cents.....	13 50
10 pair double batten doors, at \$5.....	50 00
16 pair double batten window shutters, at 3 50.....	56 00
26 door and window frames, at \$1 50.....	39 00
225 lights, 127 feet glass, at 4½ cents.....	5 71
5 locks, \$7 50; 5 latches, \$2 50; 52 bolts, \$17 33.....	27 33
Wrought hinges, hooks, and nails, 310 lbs., at 14 cents.....	43 40
5,000 bricks, at \$8.....	40 00
4,250 feet joists, 3 by 10, for upper floor.....	63 75
10,300 cubic feet stone, at 3 cents.....	309 00
Dressed stone for caps, sills, and corners, 322 feet.....	193 20
110 barrels lime, at \$2 50.....	275 00
800 square yards painting, at 20 cents.....	160 00
Glazing 150 lights, at 5 cents.....	7 50
1,000 pounds nails and spikes, at 6½ cents.....	65 00
Zinc for roof.....	20 00
1,000 feet studding for partitions.....	15 00
400 pounds iron, at 10 cents.....	40 00
	3,231 87

*Estimate—Continued.*

Magazine, 28 feet square from out to out, double walls, with 12-inch interval; outside wall of stone, 2 feet thick and 10 feet high, with wooden roof; inside wall of brick, 1 foot thick, and covered with an arch:

1,296 feet of work on floor and roof.....	\$32 38
3,360 cubic feet stonemasons' work, at 4 cents .....	134 40
Bricklaying, 36,000 bricks, at \$2 25.....	81 00
Excavations .....	3 00
9,000 shingles, at \$4 25.....	38 25
1,000 feet two-inch flooring, at \$20.....	20 00
2,100 feet sheeting, joists, and rafters.....	31 50
3 doors and 2 frames.....	9 00
2 brass locks, 4 brass bolts, 3 pair copper hinges and hooks .....	15 00
36,000 bricks, at \$288; 75 barrels lime, at \$187 50...	475 50
3,100 cubic feet stone at 3 cents.....	93 00
Iron and copper nails, and zinc to cover doors.....	36 50
	969 53

Defensive wall of stone-masonry, including guard and prison-houses, and main entrance, 11 feet out of ground and 3 feet under, 2 feet thick and 500 feet on each of four sides:

54,000 cubic feet masons' work, (common labor by troops,) at 4 cents .....	\$2,160 00
50,000 cubic feet stone, at 3 cents .....	1,500 00
550 barrels lime, at \$2 50 .....	1,375 00
Excavations .....	30 00
Dressed stone for coping, corners, and gates, 2,270 feet.	1,135 00
	6,200 00

*Estimate—Continued.*

For two block houses, at corners of the square diagonally opposite, for musketry and cannon, each 24 feet square, from out to out; walls 18 feet high above ground, 2 feet thick:

1,350 feet of carpenters' work on roofs.....	\$33 70
800 feet of carpenters' work on floors.....	32 00
7,680 cubic feet masons' work, at 4 cents.....	307 20
Excavation.....	40 00
14,000 shingles, at \$4 25.....	59 50
Timber floors.....	75 00
2,700 feet sheeting and rafters.....	40 50
Door and frame, lock, bolts, and hinges.....	10 00
7,200 cubic feet of stone, at 3 cents.....	216 00
76 barrels lime, at \$2 50.....	190 00
200 pounds nails, at 6½ cents.....	13 00
700 feet curb stone and sheet-lead for roof.....	500 00
	1,516 90

Quarters for the authorized number of laundresses, of hewed logs, 8 rooms:

Entire cost..... \$1,200 00

Stable for a troop of dragoon-horses, 215 feet by 30 feet, to be built of logs:

Foundation, including lime.....	\$210 00
6,000 feet hewed timber, at 4 cents.....	240 00
Carpenters' work on roof, 7,740 square feet.....	193 50
Carpenters' work inside, and raising.....	200 00
Floor.....	300 00
75,000 shingles, at \$4 25.....	318 75
16,000 feet lumber for sheeting and loft.....	240 00
1,000 pounds nails.....	65 00
Chinking.....	40 00
Feed-boxes, mangers, locks, iron, &c.....	300 00
	2,107 25

Stable for use of the quartermaster's department, of log, with stone foundation, 80 feet by 30 feet:

Entire cost..... \$1,100 00

*Estimate—Continued.*

Miscellaneous—including Quartermaster's stores over and above the regular supply of the post, which would be purchased from the appropriations for the Quartermaster's department.

Digging and curbing four wells .....	\$400 00
Flag-staff.....	150 00
Allowance for wastage on lumber, including work-shops, work-benches, scaffolding, mortar beds, &c., &c.—say 30,000 feet.....	450 00
Nails for shops, &c .....	65 00
60 stoves for barracks and quarters.....	600 00
60 double bunks for barracks.....	750 00
Tables, benches, &c., for barracks and hospital.....	100 00
Office furniture.....	60 00
Carpenters' tools for 6 men, (soldiers) .....	300 00
Extra spades, shovels and axes.....	120 00
6 broadaxes, 6 whip-saws, and 6 cross-cut saws .....	110 00
18 picks and mattocks, crow bars, and block and tackle .....	50 00
Extra iron, steel and blasting tools.....	350 00
Extra smiths' tools.....	150 00
Extra rope, chains and harness .....	200 00
6 horses and 8 yoke of oxen, (extra) .....	1,100 00
5 ox carts and 5 horse carts, (extra) .....	800 00
12 wheelbarrows .....	85 00
Items not specified.....	500 00
	<hr/>
	6,340 00

*Estimate—Continued.*

## RECAPITULATION.

1 building for commanding officer.....	\$3,654 35
1....do..... two staff officers.....	4,651 19
2....do..... one chaplain and 5 line officers.....	12,396 10
2....do..... four line officers.....	7,584 52
1 hospital building.....	3,426 88
1 barrack for three companies.....	8,726 72
1 storehouse.....	3,231 87
1 magazine.....	969 53
Defensive wall.....	6,200 00
2 block-houses.....	1,516 90
Quarters for laundresses.....	1,200 00
Stable for troop of dragoons.....	2,107 25
Stable for quartermaster's department.....	1,100 00
Miscellaneous.....	6,340 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>63,105 31</b>

NOTE.—The foregoing estimate is made in the belief that there will not be less than two companies of infantry belonging to the garrison; making it convenient to execute some of the mechanics' work, and all the ordinary labor, by means of soldiers on extra duty.

It is not yet known that limestone exists in the immediate vicinity of the site selected; but the best information we can obtain leads us to suppose that it will be found at not a great distance. Should it be found within a few miles, the above estimate will be thereby diminished about \$3,000.

All the cut stone estimated for, is for the caps and sills of the windows and doors, for the corners of buildings, and for coping over the wall and block-houses. All the rest of the masonry is rubble work.

FRANCIS LEE,

*Lieutenant Colonel 6th Infantry, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.*

N. J. T. DANA,

*Assistant Quartermaster.*

FORT SNELLING, M. T., December 1, 1852.

*Estimate of cost of military road from Fort Leavenworth to mouth of Pawnee river, and of road thence to Big Bend of Arkansas, in the direction of Santa Fé, and of barracks, quarters, storehouses, and hospital at New Post.*

Estimate of cost of military road from Fort Leavenworth to the mouth of Pawnee river:

Extra pay of 15 cents per diem to fifty soldiers for 90 days.....	\$675 00
Twenty mechanics as bridge-builders.....	3,000 00
Portable saw-mill and pile-driver.....	850 00
	4,525 00

Estimate of cost of military road from New Post, at Pawnee river, to the Independence road to Santa Fé, at the Big Bend of the Arkansas:

Extra pay to fifty soldiers for 120 days.....	\$900 00
Twenty mechanics, as bridge-builders, six months.....	6,000 00
Hire of guides, &c.....	300 00
	7,200 00

E. A. OGDEN,

*Bvt. Major and Assistant Quartermaster.*

Estimate of cost of barracks, quarters, storehouses, and hospital at the New Post on the Kansas river:

Extra pay to 200 soldiers, employed as laborers and mechanics, for 12 months, being at the rate of 15 cents per diem for working days.....	\$10,800 00
Master builder or principal mechanic for one year.....	1,200 00
Master mason.....	720 00
Master carpenter.....	720 00
Fourteen carpenters, at \$50 per month....	8,400 00
Twenty masons.....	12,000 00
Millwright, at \$75; two assistants, at \$60	2,340 00
	\$36,180 00

*Estimate—Continued.*

Steam engine and saw-mill, complete, in St. Louis.....	\$2,500 00	
Planing and shingle machine attached...	650 00	
Freight from St. Louis.....	600 00	
		\$3,750 00
Portable saw-mill, with extra saws, and freight from St. Louis.....	950 00	
Fifty thousand feet of undressed pine lumber.....	1,125 00	
Fifty thousand feet of dressed flooring...	1,750 00	
Freight on the same from St. Louis.....	1,450 00	
For ten blocks of officers' quarters, 4,320 lights of sash, at ten cents each.....	432 00	
Four thousand three hundred and twenty panes of glass.....	450 00	
Sixty mantels, at \$10.....	600 00	
Two hundred and forty doors, at \$5.....	1,200 00	
Paints, oil, and putty.....	1,300 00	
Three hundred and forty pairs of blinds.	1,700 00	
Hardware, viz: nails, hinges, door-fasten- ings, &c.....	1,600 00	
Freight on above, from St. Louis to Paw- nee river.....	1,600 00	
		14,157 00
For ten buildings for barracks and storehouses, according to plan:		
4,780 square of sash, at ten cents.....	478 00	
4,780 panes of glass.....	478 00	
30 mantels, at \$10.....	300 00	
150 doors, at \$5.....	750 00	
Paints, oils, and putty.....	1,500 00	
Hardware.....	1,800 00	
240 pairs of blinds.....	1,200 00	
Freight.....	1,800 00	
		8,306 00
For hospital:		
Sash, doors, mantels, blinds, &c., as above.....	2,386 00	
		2,386 00
Total.....		64,779 00

E. A. OGDEN,  
*Bvt. Major and Assistant Quartermaster.*



*Estimate*—Continued.

## RECAPITULATION.

Military road from Fort Leavenworth to the mouth of Pawnee river.....	\$4,525 00
Military road from New Post, at Pawnee river, to the Big Bend of the Arkansas.....	7,200 00
Barracks, quarters, storehouses, and hospital, at the New Post on the Kansas river.....	64,779 00