
From Mormon Battalion Member to Civil War Soldier: The Military Service of Henry Wells Jackson

Devan Jensen and Paul A. Hoffman

Henry Wells Jackson was a wandering Mormon hero. His story is both an adventure tale and a love story, albeit one with a tragic ending. Henry was born the seventh of thirteen children in Chemung, New York, on March 10, 1827. His parents were William Jackson (1787–1869) and Mary Troy (1795–1838). His mother died when Henry was eleven, and he moved in with his older brother James. James joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and moved his family to Nauvoo, Illinois. Henry tagged along and was baptized at age seventeen by John Hicks on January 28, 1844. When the Saints were forced from Nauvoo, the two brothers became separated in Iowa, where this story begins.¹

The military service of Henry Wells Jackson is marked by many significant firsts. Henry was among the first to march west to California in the Mormon Battalion, the first and only U.S. military unit based on religious affiliation. His career also included service in the Mormon Volunteers, participation in the California gold rush, the Utah territorial militia, and pioneering mail delivery between Placerville, California, and Great Salt Lake City. Years later, he was commissioned a Union lieutenant in the Civil War and was shot by Confederates while leading an assault on a railroad bridge,

DEVAN JENSEN (devan_jensen@byu.edu) is executive editor and associate director of publications for the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University. He is a direct descendant of Henry Wells Jackson through Henry's son William Henry Jackson.

PAUL A. HOFFMAN (pahoffman@ghlaw.us) is a partner in the law firm of Greenwald & Hoffman, LLP, Santa Ana, California. He has been a Mormon Battalion reenactor for sixteen years. He is a direct descendant of Henry's wife, Eliza Ann Dibble, through Eliza's third husband, Julius Augustus Caesar Austin.



Fig. 1. Photograph of Henry Wells Jackson, circa 1861.

becoming the Civil War's first and only battle fatality from Utah and the first known Latter-day Saint to be killed in a U.S. national conflict (fig. 1).²

Mormon Battalion Service

On July 1, 1846, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, Captain James Allen of the U.S. Army met with Brigham Young, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, to recruit five hundred Mormon men to march west to California in support of the war against Mexico.³ Some twelve thousand Latter-day Saints were scattered across Iowa, and initially many of the potential recruits fiercely opposed serving a federal government that had forsaken them after having been expelled first from Missouri and then Illinois. John Steele recorded his strong opposition to fighting for the United States: "I will see them in hell before I will fire one shot against a foreigner for . . . those who have mobbed, robbed, plundered and destroyed us all the day long and now seek to enslave us to fight for them."⁴

President Young, however, saw providence in this offer from the government. Months earlier he had sent his nephew Jesse C. Little to the eastern states to seek any financial advantage for emigration, charging him, "as a wise and faithful man, [to] take every honorable advantage of the times you can."⁵ At the encouragement of non-Mormon advocate Thomas L. Kane,⁶ Little wrote to President James K. Polk on June 1, 1846, explaining the Saints' intent to go west and hinting that they wanted to remain loyal to the United States but might look for help from foreign governments. President

Polk wanted to maintain the balance of power in California and authorized Colonel Stephen W. Kearny to form the battalion to march to California.⁷ President Young asked the men to enlist and to donate their funds to help the Saints move west. One recruit, Daniel B. Rawson, wrote: “I felt indignant toward the Government that had suffered me to be raided and driven from my home. . . . I would not enlist. [Then] we met President Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and [Willard] Richards . . . calling for recruits. They said the salvation of Israel depended upon the raising of the army. When I heard this my mind changed. I felt that it was my duty to go.”⁸ Nineteen-year-old convert Henry Wells Jackson heeded the call to serve, and he also consecrated his earnings. He enlisted as a fife player in Company D along with Rawson and Steele.⁹

Henry likely viewed this military service as a grand adventure. That sense of adventure must have worn thin, however, as the footsore battalion marched some nineteen hundred miles through the deserts of the Southwest—from Council Bluffs to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas Territory; to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Marching without sufficient food and water, the weary battalion carved out a wagon road from Santa Fe to the Pima Indian villages in Arizona and part of what later became known as the Butterfield stage route in



Fig. 2. Wagon road carved by the Mormon Battalion in Box Canyon in today's Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Courtesy of Mike Stangeman.

California, finally arriving in San Diego on January 29, 1847, after other U.S. forces secured California (fig. 2).

Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke praised the battalion's endurance: "History may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry. Half of it has been through a wilderness where nothing but savages and wild beasts are found, or deserts where, for lack of water, there is no living creature."¹⁰ Through their hardships, they had formed a wagon road to the Pacific, helped define the southern boundary of the United States, and had become confident frontiersmen who would shape the colonization of the West.¹¹

For the next five months in southern California, the battalion trained and performed occupation duties. Their main contributions after arriving in California were constructing buildings in San Diego, building Fort Moore in Los Angeles, and serving as a reliable unit to block John C. Frémont's unauthorized bid to control California.¹²

Toward the end of their service, the U.S. Army desperately sought their reenlistment to provide the military stability needed in the area. Chief among those recruiters was their latest commanding officer, Colonel Jonathan D. Stevenson, who delivered a flattering speech to the men on June 22. Robert Bliss summarized the speech in his journal: "Gave us the praise of being the best company in the Southern Division of California; the most intelligent & correct Soldiers. Said we were universally esteemed & respected by the inhabitants & in Short we had done more for California than any other people."¹³

The Mormon Volunteers in San Diego

The battalion was mustered out in Los Angeles on July 16, 1847. Henry was among eighty-one Mormons who reenlisted as a company of Mormon Volunteers and served eight more months.¹⁴ He had no family on the way to Utah, so he likely reenlisted to earn more money and provide military stability to the area. Many of those who reenlisted were either unmarried or reenlisted for financial reasons. The Mormon Volunteers reenlisted only on condition that they be discharged by March 1848, allowing them time to plant crops at Salt Lake and being furnished with pay and rations for their trek to Utah.¹⁵

Most of this ragged little company, including Henry, began serving in San Diego, where they were newly attired in uniforms belonging to the Seventh New York Regiment of Volunteers (fig. 3).¹⁶ With Captain Daniel C. Davis in command, one of their first duties was to remodel the leaky pueblo barracks. They also helped keep the peace and constructed a brick courthouse. Col. Richard B. Mason, acting military governor of California, offered high praise for the men: "Of the services of this battalion, of their patience, subordination,



Fig. 3. Photograph of author Paul Hoffman in replica uniform very similar to the uniform worn by Henry Wells Jackson and other Mormon Volunteers after they reenlisted for additional military service from July, 1847 to March, 1848 (see note 16 herein). This uniform displays a blue forage cap, blue waist jacket trimmed with red cuffs and collars, and white or gray pants with red stripe along the outer seam. Photograph by Cindy B. Hoffman.

and general good conduct, you have already heard, and I take great pleasure in adding, that, as a body of men, they have religiously respected the rights and feelings of these conquered people, and not a syllable of complaint has reached my ears of a single insult offered, or outrage done, by a Mormon volunteer.”¹⁷

During the Mormon Volunteer period of service, several former battalion comrades had traveled northward to work for John Sutter, digging the millrace where gold was discovered in January, 1848. On March 14, 1848, the small band of Mormon Volunteers disbanded. Henry joined former comrades at Mormon Island (now beneath present-day Folsom Lake), where he panned for gold for about a year, eventually making several deposits in the Utah gold account, an important resource to back the early Utah currency.¹⁸

Move to Utah and Service in Utah Territorial Militia

In 1849, Henry moved east to the Salt Lake Valley while hordes of Forty-Niners traveled west to the gold fields of California. He began working for Israel Barlow in what is now the Bountiful/Centerville area. Henry’s fiddling, riding, and shooting abilities captured the heart of Philo Dibble’s twenty-year-old daughter, Eliza Ann,¹⁹ and the two were married by President Young on February 3, 1850 (fig. 4).²⁰

Throughout his life, Henry was strongly motivated by his family's financial well-being and traveled extensively in that pursuit. Along with about twenty other families, the Jacksons homesteaded in Tooele Valley. Eliza and Henry's first child, William Henry Jackson, was born on December 1, 1850. Meanwhile, the wandering Henry Jackson was on the road to Iowa to claim 160 acres of bounty land for his service in the Mormon Battalion. He appeared before Justice of the Peace Jacob G. Bigler on December 23, 1850, returning to Utah in early 1851.²¹

Because the Tooele settlers lived on the edge of the western frontier, they were easy prey for marauding Indians, who often killed their cattle or stole their crops. For safety, the settlers moved their houses into a square fort in 1851 and built a church/school in the center of the fort. Henry enlisted in the Utah territorial militia and often participated in campaigns to pursue these raiders.²² On June 23, 1851, Henry and his family were listed in the United States census in Tooele County as Henry, age twenty-four, farmer, born in New York; Eliza, twenty-one, born in Ohio, and William, six months. Soon after the census was taken, the Jacksons decided to move back to Bountiful for their safety.²³

In 1852, Henry traveled to San Francisco to make another land claim for his reenlistment in California, appearing before notary public William Hart on September 15, 1852.²⁴ Then, in 1853, he enlisted again in the territorial militia, appearing on militia records as a private in W. H. Kimball's Company from August 25 to September 10 and in J. W. Cumming's Company from September 6 to October 9, 1853 (the last two periods overlap a few days).

In 1852, Henry traveled to San Francisco to make another land claim for his reenlistment in California, appearing before notary public William Hart on September 15, 1852.²⁴ Then, in 1853, he enlisted again in the territorial militia, appearing on militia records as a private in W. H. Kimball's Company from August 25 to September 10 and in J. W. Cumming's Company from September 6 to October 9, 1853 (the last two periods overlap a few days).

The Utah War and Subsequent Mail Service

In 1854, the Jackson family moved to the Mormon colony at San Bernardino, California, where Henry was ordained an elder by Apostle Charles C. Rich.²⁵ Tragically, two of the Jackson children died during this time. In late October 1857, as a result of the federal army's approach to Utah to install a new governor, Brigham Young told the Saints to abandon



Fig. 4. Eliza Ann Dibble Jackson. Courtesy of International Society, Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

the settlement. Consequently, the Jacksons moved from San Bernardino to Bountiful in late November to early December 1857.

Later, as federal troops neared Utah, the family relocated again, temporarily moving south to Springville, being prepared to torch their possessions to deny the federal troops any forage. "Stringent policies were needed to safeguard the settlements and the Saints' property and lives," writes historian Sherman L. Fleek. "Food, a bartering commodity with immigrant trains, was restricted for sale to Church members only. Full reorganization of the Utah militia, the Nauvoo Legion, continued an effort that actually began months earlier. Weapons and gunpowder were stockpiled. In order to arm the legion, revolvers and other firearms were produced locally, some even on Temple Square itself."²⁶ Mormon troops gathered at Echo Canyon to oppose the incoming federal troops. Eliza's brother, Philo Dibble Jr., participated in the Echo Canyon defensive measures, but we have no record of Henry's involvement in the conflict.²⁷

Despite caustic rhetoric from both sides, the hostilities were mitigated, due in large part to the negotiations of Colonel Thomas L. Kane.²⁸ The army peacefully marched in and established Camp Floyd, one of the country's largest outposts. Ironically, the unwelcome presence of federal troops infused much-needed cash and job opportunities into the local economy.²⁹ For example, George W. Chorpenning Jr. secured a potentially lucrative contract to deliver mail between Great Salt Lake City and Placerville, a route with which Henry was very familiar, and Henry began working for him in the fall of 1858. In June 1858, Congress had already adjourned without making arrangements to pay Chorpenning and his workers. Chorpenning was apologetically offered "letters of obligation" to use as security to get loans.³⁰ To stay afloat, he mortgaged several properties, anticipating that Congress would honor their contract. When Congress caught wind of his financial woes (which they inadvertently caused), they nullified his contract on May 11, 1860, with the vague claim of "bad management."³¹ The same day a contract was approved with the newer, faster Pony Express. For the rest of his life he was unsuccessful in collecting the back pay for himself and his workers, which included Henry, who was personally owed \$1,300.

A Trip to the War-Torn Eastern States

Just after the Civil War broke out in April 1861, Henry gathered the papers necessary to file a claim for back pay, deciding to first visit his dying father, William, and to help settle the estate. Accompanied by his brother-in-law John Daley, the two began their journey on May 8, 1861. Sadly, neither would ever return home. Shortly after the two travelers separated, John was

robbed and murdered.³² Henry fared better at first. He began an odyssey that left him mortally wounded exactly three years after his departure. For the next few months he traveled between various states, staying with his father, his sisters, Mary, Aseneth, Lydia, and Catherine, and his brothers, Daniel and James, and their families, and working to pay his bills. In Washington, D.C., he contacted Chorpensing, who promised to pay him in four months. Low on cash, he worked as an assistant wagon master for thirty-five dollars a month. His duties were to haul provisions and forage for federal military units located around the city.³³ His duties eventually expanded to areas outside the capital, and during one of his journeys he was captured by Confederate forces. For about three months, he was held in a Southern prison camp and later exchanged for Confederate prisoners. Because of the way he was treated by the Confederates, he decided to fight for the Union.³⁴

At this point, it is important to note that most Mormons avoided direct combat service in the Civil War. Chief among the reasons was the feeling that non-Mormons were being punished for mistreating the Saints in Missouri and Illinois years earlier. On December 25, 1832, Joseph Smith had prophesied that the Southern states would divide against the Northern states and that “with the sword and by bloodshed,” the United States would “feel the wrath, and indignation, and chastening hand of an Almighty God” (Doctrine and Covenants 87:6).

Weeks before the Civil War broke out, Brigham Young added: “I have heard Joseph say, ‘You will see the sorrows and misery that will come upon this land, until you will turn away and pray that your eyes may not be obliged to look upon it.’”³⁵ Then, a year later, President Young asked: “Do we appreciate the blessings of this our mountain home, far removed from the war, blood, carnage and death that are laying low in the dust thousands of our fellow creatures in the very streets we have walked, and in the cities and towns where we have lived?”³⁶ The Saints watched from their mountain retreat as the carnage escalated.

Henry’s motivations for volunteering, however, were both personal and financial. The personal reasons included his irritation at being captured and mistreated by the Confederates.³⁷ His financial motivations were even more important: he needed cash for his family. Back home, his wife was scraping out a meager living as a schoolteacher in Willard, Utah.

First Regiment, District of Columbia Volunteer Cavalry

Needing money to get home, Henry was enticed by several strong incentives listed on a Union recruiting poster in the nation’s capital.³⁸ First, he would receive a bounty, or signing bonus, of at least one hundred

dollars. Second, he was promised a fast horse, which appealed to this longtime horseman. Third, he would be charged with defending the capital “under the distinct assurance that they would never be required to serve outside of the District of Columbia,”³⁹ receiving orders directly from the War Department; this suggested a safe position near the capital. The poster was signed by Colonel Lafayette C. Baker, who later became famous for organizing the successful manhunt for John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln’s assassin.⁴⁰

Henry’s unit—the First Regiment, District of Columbia Volunteer Cavalry—was organized in Washington, D.C., by Colonel Baker in 1863. It was one of only two regiments during the war that was officially issued hundreds of the new Henry repeating rifle, a breach loader that could achieve a rate of fifteen shots per minute (fig. 5).⁴¹ Much faster than contemporary rifles, it was described as a “terribly effective weapon,” and the Confederates were rumored to fear it more than any other Union firearm.⁴²

In January 1864, Henry was commissioned a first lieutenant in Company E, based in part on his past military experience in the Mormon Battalion. He performed his duty to country valiantly, as testified by several contemporaries. Lt. Jackson was first quartered in comfortable barracks at Camp Baker, a short distance east of Capitol Hill. In late January and February 1864, they made camp at Annandale, then traveled by transport to Yorktown, marched to

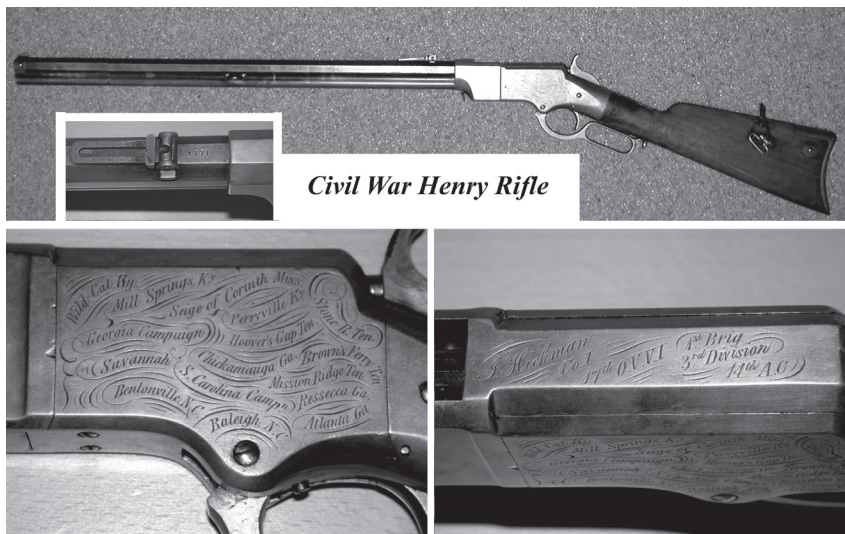


Fig. 5. Photograph of Henry repeating rifle, the primary weapon of Henry Wells Jackson’s regiment, the 1st D.C. Cavalry. Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons, 1860 Civil War Henry Rifle No. 4771.

camps near Williamsburg and Newport News, and, finally, took transports to Norfolk, Virginia.⁴³

On February 21, 1864, Henry and Companies D and E participated in a brief campaign to relieve the 10th New York Cavalry at Pungo Bridge. They rode an arduous twenty-five miles, passing through numerous unbridged streams and swamps, infested by Confederate guerrillas. By March 1, Henry's company was ordered to Deep Creek, south of Norfolk, Virginia, on the borders of the Dismal Swamp, where they drilled and remained on picket duty until May.⁴⁴

Henry's Last Letter to Eliza

On February 19, 1864, Henry's wife, Eliza wrote him a heart-rending letter, likely sharing her financial woes and loneliness. We do not have her letter, but we have Henry's reply, which is dated April 16, 1864. In it, he voiced deep guilt for leaving his family for so long: "When I think of my past life it makes my heart ache, I acknowledge [*sic*] that I have grossly wronged you in doing As I have. I dare not ask forgiveness from you but God. And I pray God that my life may be spared to attone [*sic*] for All my neglect of you and my children."⁴⁵ He affirmed his devotion to her, stating that he had not joined in the common vices of military life. He said that he would receive five hundred dollars on May 1 and promised to send some money home. If all went well, he planned to resign his commission in a few months. He said, "My little children as Well as yourself have scarcely ever been out of my mind And my heart has ached for you." He pleaded a second time, "Pray God that my life may be spared." Unfortunately, tragedy soon struck.

Henry's Last Campaign and the Battle of the White Bridge

At the end of April 1864, the 1st D.C. Cavalry was assigned to the 1st Brigade of the Cavalry Division⁴⁶ of the Army of the James, under General Benjamin Butler, in order to help conduct an overland campaign behind enemy lines that would attempt to sever reinforcements and supplies to the Confederate army in the Richmond area by burning heavily defended bridges along the important Petersburg-Weldon railroad line in southern Virginia. Also assigned to the Cavalry Division were the 3rd New York Cavalry, the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry under the overall command of Brigadier General August V. Kautz.⁴⁷ It also included a small artillery contingent of three-inch cannons from the 8th New York Artillery. All told, Kautz's Cavalry Division numbered about 2,800 soldiers.

General Butler ordered Kautz to cut the Petersburg-Weldon railroad line and delay Confederate reinforcements traveling north by railroad.

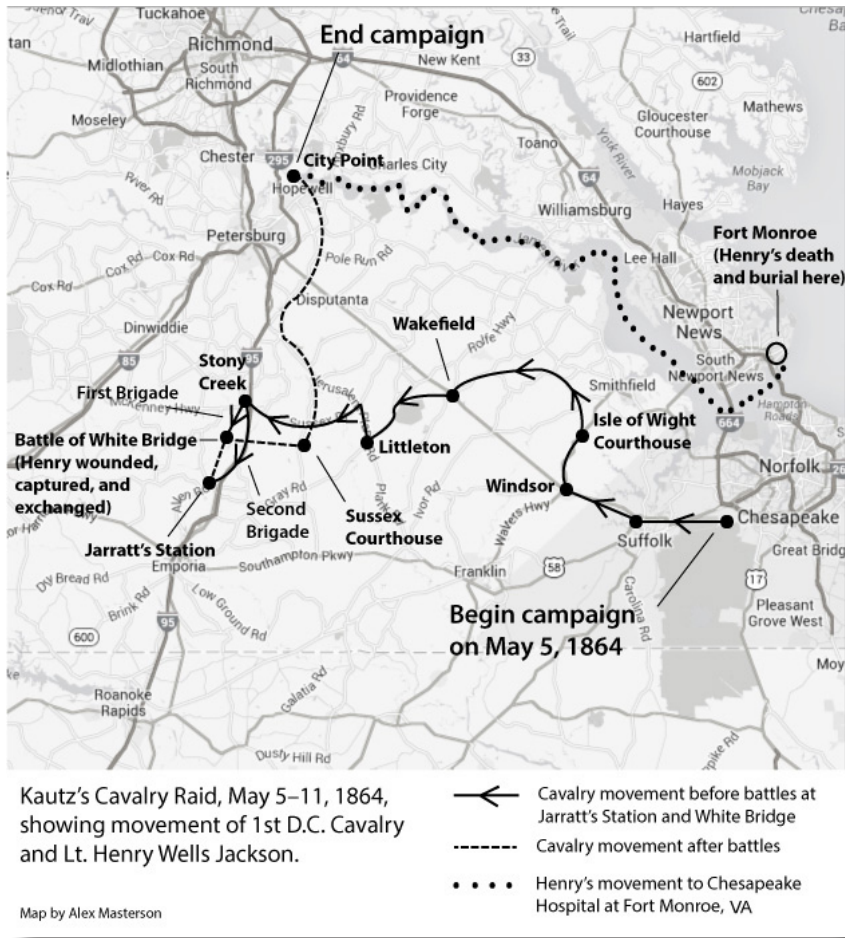


Fig. 6. General August V. Kautz's military campaign, Virginia, May 1864. Map by Alex Masterson.

Carrying only a few days' rations, Kautz's Cavalry Division began Henry's last campaign on May 5, 1864. They rode about thirty miles per day, starting between midnight and 3:00 a.m. each morning to avoid enemy detection. Riding through Suffolk and Andrews' Corners, they turned north toward the headwaters of the Blackwater River, passed through Windsor, Isle of Wight Courthouse, and Fearnsville, and then crossed Birch Island Bridge into Sussex County, Virginia. On May 6 and 7, respectively, they torched the Confederate railroad depots at Wakefield and Stony Creek, Virginia (traveling via Littleton and Sussex Courthouse), and captured some forty Confederates after a short engagement at Bolling's Bridge outside Stony Creek (fig 6).⁴⁸



Fig. 7. Nottoway River railroad bridge, May 9, 2013, location of the Battle of the White Bridge on May 8, 1864. Photograph by Cindy B. Hoffman.

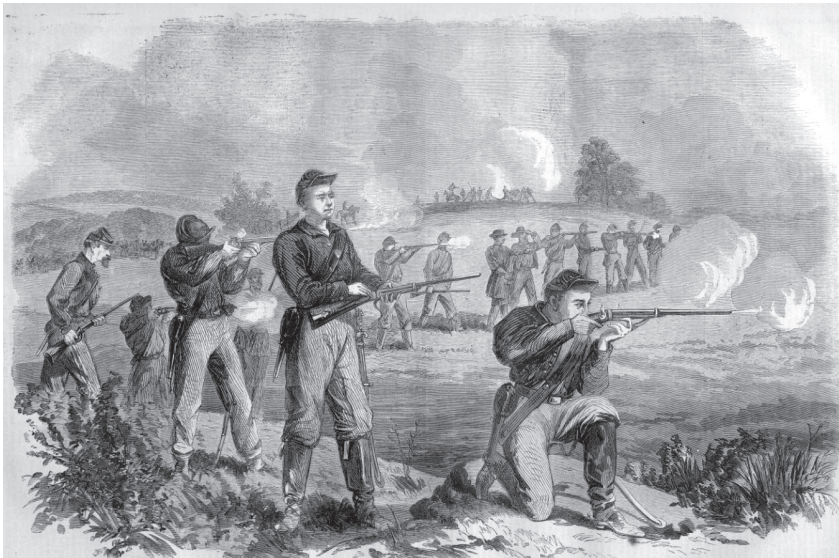


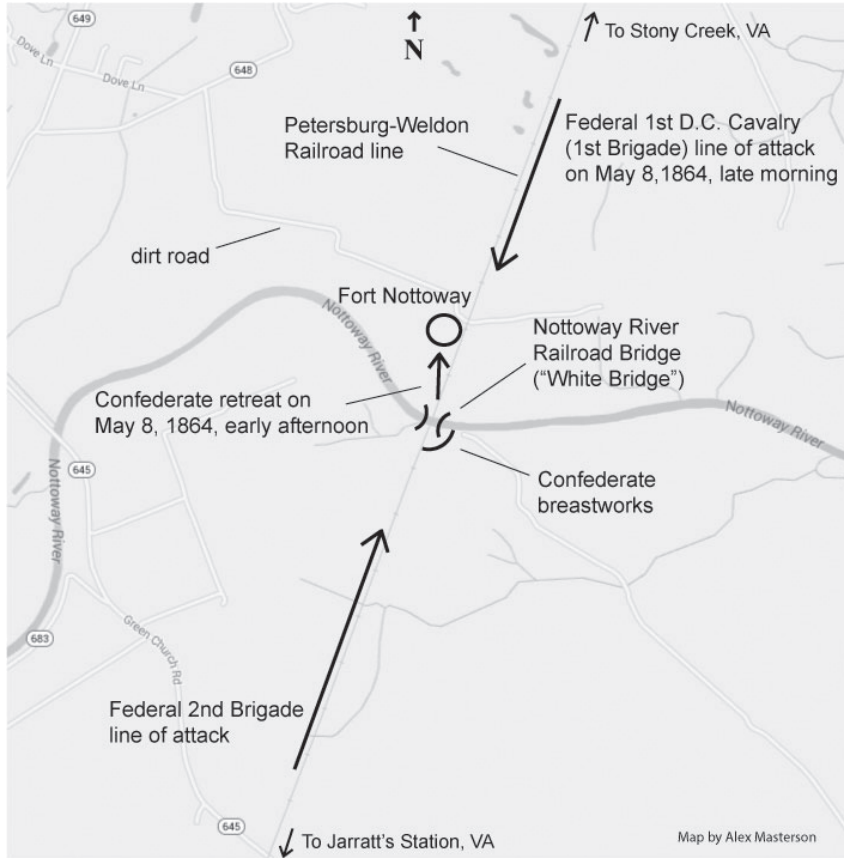
Fig. 8. Civil War–era sketch of 1st Maine Cavalry, a closely associated sister unit to the 1st D.C. Cavalry, deployed in a dismounted cavalry skirmish line at the Battle of Middleburg, 1863. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

On May 8, the 2nd Brigade rode south and burned the town and the railroad station at Jarratt's Station, Virginia, four miles south of the railroad bridge over the Nottoway River. Meanwhile, Henry's company, as part of the First Brigade, attacked the railroad bridge over the Nottoway River, also known to the local population as the White Bridge because it was a covered wooden bridge that was painted white. Thus it became known as the Battle of the White Bridge.⁴⁹

The White Bridge, 210 feet in length (fig. 7), was the longest and highest bridge on the vital Petersburg-Weldon railroad.⁵⁰ It was fortified by strong breastworks (high earthen mounds often reinforced by wood or railroad ties) on each side of the bridge, and defended by nearly 600 Confederates of the 26th and 59th Virginia infantry regiments and elements of Holcombe's Legion of South Carolina. Dismounting their horses and deploying on foot according to contemporary cavalry tactics, Kautz's First Brigade, including Henry's Company E, attacked the rebel forces, from the north, along the railroad line to the south, toward the White Bridge, while the Second Brigade (after burning Jarratt's Station) attacked from the south, along the railroad line to the north, in a classic pincer movement (fig. 8).⁵¹ In his official after-action report, Major J. Stannard Baker, of the 1st D.C. Cavalry, wrote:

About 8 a.m. marched for Nottoway railroad bridge above Jarratt's Station, which was reached before noon, where we found the enemy entrenched behind earth-works at the opposite end of the bridge. They came across in considerable force and formed a line of skirmishers and battle along the railroad, from which they were speedily driven into their fortifications across the bridge. After a spirited contest by Companies A, B, C, F, and E, of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, who were dismounted and deployed as skirmishers, under command of Maj. D. S. Curtis, and with vigor and bravery drove the enemy in superior numbers double-quick through the woods more than half a mile and down the track toward the bridge, when we came up with a portion of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Colonel Spear, who had drawn up his men along the railroad on our left. Colonel Spear then ordered our skirmishers to be halted and massed with the Eleventh Pennsylvania to charge upon the bridge, which was quickly done; and our men rushing down the track, the bridge was quickly reached, under the sharp fire of the enemy from the shelter of the covered bridge and their breast-works. The bridge was soon fired by the First District of Columbia Cavalry and burnt. . . . The First District of Columbia Cavalry lost 2 killed and 8 wounded. Among the latter was Lieutenant Jackson, a brave and noble young officer.⁵²

Colonel William Tabb, commanding the Confederate forces at the White Bridge, later reported: "Finding myself largely outnumbered, and the enemy having turned my right flank and gained my rear, I had no alternative but to cross the bridge and take a position on the north side of the bridge. This movement involved the loss of the bridge, but was the only one by which I could avoid the unavailing sacrifice of my whole command. The enemy



Battle of the White Bridge, May 8, 1864, showing location of Fort Nottoway, where Lt. Henry Wells Jackson was held captive until a prisoner exchange later that day.

Fig. 9. Map showing location of Fort Nottoway and the Battle of the White Bridge, May 8, 1864, with present-day roads and features. Map by Alex Masterson.

pressed me closely and attempted to follow me. They crossed the bridge and advanced a short distance toward the redoubt, but were driven back, leaving their dead and wounded on the field” (fig. 9).⁵³

The redoubt referred to by Colonel Tabb was known as Fort Nottoway, whose high earthworks can still be clearly seen today. It is located about three hundred yards north of the Nottoway River railroad bridge on the west side of the railroad tracks, next to a dirt road about one mile west of Interstate 95 (fig. 10).



Fig. 10. Fort Nottoway, Virginia (showing large size of outer breastwork walls), May 9, 2013, where Confederate forces retreated to on May 8, 1864, and where Henry Wells Jackson was likely held as a prisoner until exchanged for Confederate prisoners after the Battle of the White Bridge. Photograph by Cindy B. Hoffman.

It is not known if Henry was wounded during the initial assault on the bridge or when the Confederates retreated to Fort Nottoway, but at some point in the battle Henry was shot clear through the left lung and shoulder blade. He likely fell somewhere north of the bridge and was captured by Confederate forces, as reported by Colonel Tabb, held in Fort Nottoway, and was then returned to his comrades through a prisoner exchange.⁵⁴

After the battle, Henry most likely was taken to the Chambliss Plantation house, a little over a mile away, where local custom says that the Union wounded were housed during the night of May 8–9, 1864 (fig. 11). Interestingly, although he had seized the home to house Union wounded after the battle, General Kautz placed the second floor of the house off limits to his troops at the request of Martha Jones Chambliss, whose married daughter, Isabelle Chambliss Feild, was recovering on the second floor along with her first child, born only three days before.⁵⁵

Henry then accompanied his regiment back to City Point and was transferred to Chesapeake Hospital, also known as Officers' General Hospital, Fort Monroe, Virginia, where he died from his wounds a few weeks later on



Fig. 11. Chambliss plantation house where Union wounded were housed overnight after the fighting on May 8, 1864.



Fig. 12. Grave of Henry Wells Jackson, Hampton National Cemetery.

May 27, 1864.⁵⁶ His body is buried at Hampton National Cemetery, Virginia (fig. 12).⁵⁷

Report of Henry’s Death and Impact on the Family

On June 1, 1864, James J. Jackson, of Mexico Village, New York, wrote a poignant letter informing Eliza of the death of his brother and her husband.⁵⁸ The letter took many weeks to arrive, and when Eliza received the news, she sat sobbing, surrounded by her three children, who “knelt around her knees and cried because she did.”⁵⁹ James wrote to console her and to encourage her to apply for back pay and a widow’s pension.

Over the next months, Eliza began the lengthy process of documenting her marriage to Henry Jackson. This process was more difficult than might be imagined because the territorial records were disorganized. On October 20, 1864, William Hickenlooper and Foster Curtis signed an affidavit verifying the marriage.⁶⁰ On November 29, 1864, the Adjutant General’s Office at Washington, D.C., acknowledged Eliza’s application for a pension. On April 7, 1865, the Record and Pension Bureau of the Surgeon General’s Office corrected Henry’s death date, and thereafter the pension was approved (fig. 13). This pension of seventeen dollars a month would significantly help Eliza Ann Jackson to provide for her family over several decades.⁶¹ Just two days after the Surgeon General’s report was approved, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant, at Appomattox Court House in Virginia, on April 9, 1865. Sadly, the war ended too late for Henry Wells Jackson, a wandering Mormon hero who was motivated by duty to God, country, and family.

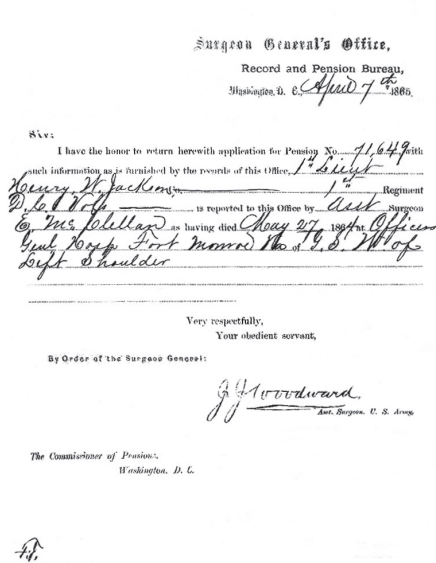


Fig. 13. Report of Henry Wells Jackson’s death date by the Surgeon General’s Office, April 7, 1865, National Archives.

**Appendix A: Henry Wells Jackson to John and Rachel Wright,⁶²
October 27, 1861**

Dear Sister and Brother,

Having written several times to you and receiving no answer, I am almost discouraged about writing, for fear you do not get my letters, but, however, I will try again, for I am anxious to hear from you. My health is good and I hope this finds you the same. After I left Zadoc's⁶³ I went to Java and found Lydia⁶⁴ and family all well. From there I went to Mexico, Oswego Co., N. Y., and found Mary,⁶⁵ Elias and James.⁶⁶ They were all well and glad to see me. From there James and I went to Michigan and made Daniel⁶⁷ a visit. We stayed to Daniel's three days and then went to Orrin Warner's. They were all well. Father wanted to start east in about 2 weeks and spend the winter with James and Mary.

I went to Ohio and could get nothing, and from there I came to this place. I am now to work for the government as assistant wagon master for \$35.00 per month. I had the promise of a train which will pay \$50 per month. I think of staying here all winter, if nothing happens to prevent it. Our business is hauling provisions and forage for different regiments about the City, which is not very hard work. Major Chorpenning has promised to pay me for my service in the mail line in about 4 months. If he does it will start me away from here all right. I have no news, as we are not allowed to write anything about the war. Not knowing whether this will reach you or not I will close by saying God bless you and your families and may we soon meet again.

Source: Location of original letter unknown; quoted in *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble and Her Three Husbands*, Orson Spencer, Henry W. Jackson, and Julius A. C. Austin, comp. Marilyn Austin Smith (n.p., 1995), 63.

**Appendix B: Henry Wells Jackson to Eliza Ann Dibble Jackson,
April 16, 1864**

Deep Creek V.A. April 16th 1864

My Dear Wife & Children

I have just received a letter from you dated february 19th and have perused its contents with Feelings of the most intense greif mingled with joy. I insure you my dear wife that your ltter to me is heart rending. When I think of my past life it makes my heart ache, I acknowldage that I have grossly wronged you in doing As I have. I dare not ask forgiveness from you but God. And I pray God that my life may be spared to attone for All my neglect of you and

my children, I had got an ideah In my head after that I had seen Mr. Harmon in Ohio that It was a contrived plan of your fathers & others to get rid of Me for some reason or another. you are awair that I never was much of a mormon. and I didnot know but There minte be something in that. but how ever I shall Not try to excuse my self for I see that it would be useless. and do justice to you and my self the sin is on My own head and I must suffer the consequenc-es. My dear wife God knows that iff ever a guilty mortal Was sorrow for any thing I am for what I have done and From this time my resolution is formed and I am a Different man my life hence forth shall be devoted in Makeing attonements to you for the wrongs that I have Done you and my children I know that I am a great Sinner but at the same time I can say with a clear conseience that I am not guilty of any mean act as other men [page 2] are that have traveled as much as I have I have not indulged neither in the use of wine nor Women neither have I used bad language or committed Any crime that I am not willing that every one should know. other than what you experience every day and That is my neglect of you and God knows that is bad Enough. my dear wife I am at a loss to know what To write but however I will tell you a little of my Circumstances. my health never was better in my life Than it is at presant although I have been so near The grace that I was given up by the most eminent Sergeons of the army I had the irracyplas of the face And head and I was perfectly senceless for four Weeks. but God has spared my life for some purpose. I am at present a First Lieutenant in Company E in the first Regiment of the District of Columbia Cavalry the first of may I shall have five Hundred dollars and then I will send you some money And iff my life is [s]pared I shall resign my commosion In a few months) my brother talks of going to california And if he does I shall try to go with him and I Pray God that my life may be spared yet a little longer and Believe me cincere in what I have said to you. I hope you Will not think me entirely heartlss my little children as Well as yourself have scarcely even been out of my mind And my heart has ached for you. yet at the same time [page 3 missing]

Source: Copy of original letter in possession of Paul A. Hoffman. "Irracyplas" is probably erysipelas, "an acute febrile disease associated with intense edematous local inflammation of the skin and subcutaneous tissues caused by a hemolytic streptococcus." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 10th edition.

**Appendix C: James J. Jackson to Eliza Ann Dibble Jackson,
June 1, 1864**

Mexico [Village], Oswego Co., NY
June 1st 1864

Dr. Sister

I have to communicate to a very painful piece of Inteligence (to wit) that your Husband & my own Dear Brother is dead. he was very actively engaged in the campaign in Virginia & while at the head of Co. in Charging on a heavy body of the Enemy that were garding a bridge was struck with a Rebel Bullet in left Brest passing through the Lung & out through the shoulder blade. The Rebls were defeated & the Bridge destroyed. He was carried to the Chespeak Hospital at Old Point Comfort near Fort Monroe where he died about 28th [27] May he was wounded on the 8 of May. I have written to the Chaplin to find out where he is buried &c. &c. & will give you any further Infirmination I have be able to.

He probably has some back pay coming to him, & you only be takinge the proper course can get his Back pay & bounty & probably a pension. I sympathize with you & your fatherless children he was a kind free hearted brave Brother.

I remember seeing you frequently in the streets of Nauvoo drawing your fat little Brother around in a little wagon & I also remember your Father Mr. Dibble I recd. two letters written by you to Henry they came from my sister Asenath Williams in Iowa & I forwarded them to him. I would be very Glad to get a letter from you & any Infirmination I can give you I will with pleasure

Your Brother & friend

J. J. Jackson

Mexico

Oswego Co. NY

Source: National Archives, file WC56927.

**Appendix D: Affidavit of William Hickenlooper, Foster Curtis, and Eliza
Ann Jackson, October 20, 1864**

Territory of Utah
County of Great Salt Lake

On this twentieth day of October A.D. 1864, before the undersigned, clerk of the Third Judicial District Court of the United States within and for the Territory of Utah (duly empowered by law to administer oaths and take

acknowledgements for general purposes) personally appeared Eliza Ann Jackson, a resident of Centreville, in the County of Davis, and Territory of Utah, aged thirty-five years, who, being first duly sworn according to law; doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, approved July 14, 1862: that she is the widow of Henry W. Jackson, who was a Lieutenant in the 1st D.C. Cavalry, in the war of 1861, who died on or about the 28th day of May A.D. 1864 at the Chesapeake General Hospital, near Fort Monroe, from the effects of a shot through the left lung while in action at Garrett's station General Kautz on the 8th day of May A.D. 1864; She further declares that she was married to the said Henry W. Jackson on the third day of February in the year 1850, at the residence of William Hickenlooper in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, by Brigham Young, a minister of the gospel; that there is no record evidence of their said marriage as she verily believes; that their said marriage was celebrated soon after the settlement of the Territory, and there was no Territorial organization then in existence in this region; that her husband, the aforesaid Henry W. Jackson, died on the day above mentioned, and that she has remained a widow, i.e. unmarried, ever since that period; as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. She also declares that she has not in any manner been engaged in, or aided or abetted, the rebellion in the United States.

She further states that her said husband left three children surviving him whose ages respectively are as follows, to wit:

William Henry Jackson, born December 1st, 1850

Laura Ann Jackson, born October 30th, 1858

Mary Ellen Jackson, born December 8th, 1860

and that the said three surviving children are now living with her (this affiant) at the Town of Centreville, Davis County, Utah Territory.

She further states that her late husband the said Henry W. Jackson left this Territory on the 8th day of May A.D. 1861, for the purpose of collecting an Estate belonging to him in the State of New York, but being unsuccessful, and being without funds to return home, he enlisted in the 1st D.C. Cavalry and lost his life as herein before stated.

Eliza Ann Jackson

Also personally appeared William Hickenlooper and Foster Curtis, residents of Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Eliza Ann Jackson sign her name to the foregoing

declaration; and they further swear that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the applicant and their acquaintance with her, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

William Hickenlooper
Foster Curtis

I, Eliza Ann Jackson, an applicant for pension, do solemnly affirm that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States against all enemies, whether domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith, allegiance and loyalty to the same, any ordinance, resolution, or law of any State convention or legislature to the contrary notwithstanding; and, further, that I do this with a full determination, pledge, and purpose, without any mental reservation or evasion whatsoever; and, further, that I will well and faithfully perform all the duties which may be required of me by law. So help me God.

Eliza Ann Jackson

To Your Hon.
The Commissioner of Pensions
City of Washington, D.C.
Sir:—

My Post Office address is “Centreville, Davis County, Utah Territory,” but for safety please forward my pension certificate when issued to care of Wm. Clayton, Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, and oblige

Respectfully yours

Eliza Ann Jackson

Source: National Archives, file WC56927.

Appendix E: Affidavit of Brigham Young, August 30, 1865

County of Great Salt Lake

Be it remembered that on this 30th day of August, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty five, before the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for Great Salt Lake County in the Territory of Utah, (duly empowered by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgements and affidavits for general purposes) personally came Brigham Young, to me well known to be a credible

person, who, being first duly sworn according to law, says, that he is well acquainted with Eliza Ann Jackson, the widow of Henry W. Jackson, deceased, whose maiden name was Eliza Ann Dibble; that he was intimately acquainted with the said Henry W. Jackson, deceased; that he well remembers officiating as a minister of the gospel at the marriage of the said Henry W. Jackson with the said Eliza Ann Dibble, on the third day of February, A. D. 1850, at the residence of William Hickenlooper in Great Salt Lake City; that at the place and on the day above mentioned, the said Henry W. Jackson, and the said Eliza Ann Dibble, were by him legally united in the bonds of holy matrimony, according to the laws and practice of the United States, in the presence of credible witnesses, and that the legality of their said marriage has never been called in question within his knowledge.

Brigham Young

Source: National Archives, file WC56927.

Notes

The authors acknowledge the kind assistance and encouragement of Patsy Ellinger, Sherman L. Fleek, William G. Hartley, Cindy B. Hoffman, Patty Jensen, Don Smith, Marilyn Austin Smith, Celia Smith Summers, Brad Westwood, and Gary M. Williams.

1. Don Smith, “Hidden Personalities among Mormon Battalion Members,” <https://familysearch.org/photos/stories/1079244/daniel-browett-hidden-personalities-among-mormon-battalion>.

2. Henry Wells Jackson’s life story is briefly summarized in Robert C. Freeman, “Latter-day Saints in the Civil War,” in *Civil War Saints*, ed. Kenneth L. Alford (Provo, UT: Religious Studies Center; Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2012), 280–81.

3. The causes of the war and the Mormon Battalion’s involvement are detailed in Sherman L. Fleek, *History May Be Searched in Vain: A Military History of the Mormon Battalion* (Spokane, WA: Arthur H. Clark, 2006).

4. John Steele, “Extracts from the Journal of John Steele,” *Utah Historical Quarterly* 6, no. 1 (1933): 6–7, cited in Fleek, *History May Be Searched in Vain*, 54.

5. Jesse C. Little’s report as cited in B. H. Roberts, *A Comprehensive History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, 6 vols. (Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press, 1930), 3:67.

6. On May 13, 1846, Kane attended a Mormon conference in Philadelphia where Jesse C. Little was speaking. Thus began Kane’s lifelong advocacy for the Mormons’ cause. See Matthew J. Grow, “*Liberty to the Downtrodden*”: *Thomas L. Kane, Romantic Reformer* (New Haven, CT: Yale, 2009), 47–56.

7. See David L. Bigler and Will Bagley, eds., *Army of Israel: Mormon Battalion Narratives* (Logan, UT: Utah State University Press, 2000), 31–37.

8. Daniel B. Rawson, as cited in Norma Baldwin Ricketts, *The Mormon Battalion: U.S. Army of the West, 1846–1848* (Logan, UT: Utah State University Press, 1996), 13.

9. This telling of Henry Jackson’s life story relies heavily on an unpublished family history: *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble and Her Three Husbands*, Orson Spencer; *Henry W. Jackson, and Julius A. C. Austin*, comp. Marilyn Austin Smith (n.p., 1995).

10. Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke, Order No. 1, quoted in Bigler and Bagley, *Army of Israel*, 17.

11. See Michael N. Landon and Brandon J. Metcalf, *History of the Saints: The Remarkable Journey of the Mormon Battalion* (American Fork, UT: Covenant Communications, 2012), 7.

12. For more detail, see Fleek, *History May Be Searched in Vain*, 321–23.

13. Robert S. Bliss, “The Journal of Robert S. Bliss, with the Mormon Battalion,” *Utah Historical Quarterly* 4 (July/October 1931): 96.

14. Although Col. Stevenson, 7th New York Regiment of Volunteers, was glad when some of the battalion members agreed to reenlist, he privately confided to Col. Mason, military governor of California, worries that they might try to take over southern California to aid their Utah settlement. See confidential letter, Col. J. D. Stevenson to Governor Mason, July 23, 1847, Records of the 10th Military Department, 1846–1851, National Archives Microfilm Publication, microcopy 210, roll 2.

15. John F. Yurtinus, “The Mormon Volunteers: The Recruitment and Service of a Unique Military Company,” *Journal of San Diego History* 25, no. 3 (Summer 1979): 242–61.

16. Col. J. D. Stevenson, 7th New York Regiment of Volunteers, wrote to Col. R. B. Mason, July 23, 1847, stating that the reenlisted members of the Mormon Battalion were dressed “from cap to shoe, in the uniform of my Regiment.” In Charles Hughes, ed., “A Military View of San Diego in 1847: Four Letters from Colonel Jonathan D. Stevenson to Governor Richard B. Mason,” *Journal of San Diego History* 20, no. 3 (September 1974): 33–43.

17. Richard B. Mason to General R. Jones, Sen. Exec. Doc. 18 (31-1), Serial 557, 318–22, in Bigler and Bagley, *Army of Israel*, 394–95.

18. Henry Jackson’s deposits to the Utah gold accounts are listed by amount in J. Kenneth Davies and Lorin K. Hansen, *Mormon Gold: Mormons in the California Gold Rush*, 2nd ed. (North Salt Lake City, UT: Granite Mountain, 2010), 83–84, 153. For a discussion of Mormon Battalion involvement in the gold rush, see Kenneth Owens, “Far from Zion: The Frayed Ties between California’s Gold Rush Saints and LDS President Brigham Young,” *California History* 89, no. 4 (2012): 5–23.

19. Eliza Ann Dibble was born on August 16, 1829, in Claymore, Cayuga County, Ohio, to Philo Dibble (1806–95) and Celia Kent (1803–40). Eliza was briefly married to Orson Spencer, though Brigham Young later canceled the marriage.

20. The Youngs and the Jacksons were indeed well acquainted. Brigham Young performed their wedding, and Henry Jackson paid fifty dollars in California gold dust to Brigham’s wife Mima for providing the wedding party. Over the years at various dances, Brigham Young sometimes asked Henry to play the fiddle while he (Young) danced with Eliza. Smith, *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble*, 49, 60.

21. Smith, “Hidden Personalities among Mormon Battalion Members.”

22. Archival records show him as a private in J. Ferguson’s Company from April 23 to May 1 and in W. McBride’s Company from June 14 to 27, 1851. Territorial Militia Service Cards, Utah State Archives and Records Service, Series 6195, reel 1. We appreciate the research assistance of Tony Castro and Doug Misner at the Utah State Archives.

23. Smith, *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble*, 49–50.

24. Smith, “Hidden Personalities among Mormon Battalion Members.”

25. Laura A. Jackson Barlow (daughter of Henry Wells Jackson), “A Short Sketch of the Life of Henry W. Jackson” (n.p.); <http://allenbutlerhistory.com/blog/2012/07/henry-w-jackson-life-sketch/>.

26. Sherman L. Fleek, “The Church and the Utah War, 1857–58,” in *Nineteenth-*

Century Saints at War, ed. Robert C. Freeman (Provo, UT: Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 2006), 95.

27. A man named Henry Clark Jackson also served in the Echo Canyon campaign.

28. For a history of the Utah War and Kane's intervention between the Saints and the federal army, see Grow, "*Liberty to the Downtrodden*," chaps. 9–10.

29. Durwood Ball, *Army Regulars on the Western Frontier, 1848–1861* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001), 166.

30. John M. Townley, "Stalking Horse for the Pony Express: The Chorpenning Mail Contracts between California and Utah, 1851–1860," *Arizona and the West* 24 no. 3 (Autumn 1982): 246–47.

31. Townley, "Stalking Horse for the Pony Express," 248–52.

32. Smith, *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble*, 63.

33. See Appendix A: Henry Wells Jackson to John and Rachel Wright, October 27, 1861.

34. Smith, *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble*, 63.

35. Brigham Young, in *Journal of Discourses* (London: Latter-day Saints' Book Depot, 1854–86), 8:325, cited in Richard E. Bennett, "We Know No North, No South, No East, No West," in *Civil War Saints*, 95.

36. Brigham Young, in *Journal History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, January 26, 1862, Church History Library, Salt Lake City.

37. Barlow, "A Short Sketch of the Life of Henry W. Jackson."

38. See 1st District of Columbia Cavalry Recruitment Poster, Heritage Auctions, Lot 35067, 1st District of Columbia Cavalry: Daniel S. Curtis Archive; <http://www.liveauctioneers.com/item/9734952>.

39. Samuel H. Merrill, *The Campaigns of the First Maine and First District of Columbia Cavalry* (Portland, OR: Bailey & Noyes, 1866), 228. Merrill's book is a firsthand account published shortly after the war ended. He was a chaplain who personally rode with the 1st D.C. Cavalry and Henry Wells Jackson and is listed with Henry among the officers of the regiment (232). Merrill, along with the other officers of the 1st D.C. Cavalry, would have personally known Henry as a result of their several months of service together. In fact, he refers to Jackson's actions at the Battle of the White Bridge as "gallant" (236).

40. James L. Swanson, *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer* (New York: Harper Perennial: 2007), 281–85, 357–58.

41. See Springfield Armory Museum—Collection Record, Rifle—Henry Rifle Repeater .44 SN#3950; <http://www.rediscov.com/spring/VFPCG>.

42. Merrill, *The Campaigns of the First Maine and First District of Columbia Cavalry*, 233–34.

43. Merrill, *The Campaigns of the First Maine and First District of Columbia Cavalry*, 229–30.

44. Merrill, *The Campaigns of the First Maine and First District of Columbia Cavalry*, 230–31, 235.

45. Appendix B: Henry Wells Jackson to Eliza Ann Dibble Jackson, April 16, 1864, copy obtained by Celia Summers from original in possession of a Jackson family descendant who wishes to remain anonymous.

46. This division was more commonly known as Kautz's Cavalry Division because of its commanding officer, Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz.

47. Along with the 1st District of Columbia Cavalry under the temporary command of Lt. Col. Everton C. Conger, the 3rd New York Cavalry was also assigned to the 1st Brigade of Kautz's Cavalry Division, under the overall command of Col. Simon H. Mix. Col. Mix

was killed two months later at the Battle of Petersburg. Lt. Col. Conger later personally negotiated with John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln's assassin, at Garrett's Farm in April, 1865, before Booth was shot to death. Swanson, *Manhunt*, 327–31. The 2nd Brigade of Kautz's Cavalry Division, consisting of the 5th and 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry regiments, was commanded by Colonel S. P. Spear of the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry.

48. Henry's regiment personally participated in the Stony Creek raid, which burned the 110-foot frame bridge over Stony Creek, three freight cars loaded with lumber, two wood sheds, two water tanks, a large lot of extra bridge timber, a culvert, and some railroad turnpits. They also captured a large quantity of corn and bacon, which they heartily consumed. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Series 1, vol. 36, part 2 (Washington, D.C.: Gov't Printing Office: 1891), No. 76 (Report of Brigadier General August V. Kautz, U.S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations May 5–17), and No. 79 (Report of Maj. J. Stannard Baker, First District of Columbia Cavalry, of operations May 5–17).

49. Gary M. Williams, *Sussex County, Virginia: A Heritage Recalled by the Land* (Petersburg, VA: Dietz Press, 2012), 140–41.

50. Williams, *Sussex County, Virginia: A Heritage Recalled by the Land*, 141.

51. Contrary to popular myth, Civil War cavalrymen typically used their mounts only for transportation from one location to another and did not typically employ their horses in battle because of the risk of harm to their only source of rapid transportation. Thus, Civil War cavalrymen most often fought dismounted and deployed in a skirmish line (see fig. 8).

52. *The War of the Rebellion*, No. 79 (Report of Maj. J. Stannard Baker, First District of Columbia Cavalry, of operations May 5–17).

53. *The War of the Rebellion*, No. 105 (Report of Col. William B. Tabb, Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 8).

54. Colonel Tabb reported, "After the action Lieutenant Colonel Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was sent under a flag of truce to propose an exchange of prisoners. . . . Under this agreement, I recovered Lieutenant Talley, Fifty-ninth Virginia, and 4 men, and liberated [i.e., exchanged] Lieutenant Jackson, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and the same number of men, all the prisoners I had." *The War of the Rebellion*, No. 105. Although Colonel Tabb identified Lt. Jackson as being from the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, this is merely an error on his part, since there was no Lt. Jackson from the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry wounded or captured that day. This reference is clearly to Lt. Henry Wells Jackson, of the 1st D.C. Cavalry, because he was the only known Union officer of that name who was wounded at the Battle of the White Bridge and the custom was to exchange officers man-for-man. Accordingly, Henry was very likely held for a short period of time in Fort Nottoway, since that was the last known position occupied by Confederate forces (see note 53 above).

55. Williams, *Sussex County, Virginia: A Heritage Recalled by the Land*, 143.

56. There is some disagreement in the records regarding the date of Henry's death. His brother James Jackson, in his letter to Eliza (see Appendix C), states that Henry died around May 28. Some of the pension files appear to rely on this date. The Adjutant General's report of November 29, 1864, states that Henry died on May 24, 1864. However, the records of the Surgeon General's office show that Henry died on May 27, 1864. See official report addressed to Commissioner of Pensions by J. J. Woodward, Asst. Surgeon, U.S. Army, Surgeon General's Office, Record and Pension Bureau, Washington, D.C., dated April 7, 1865, reporting that Asst. Surgeon E. McClellan stated that Henry Wells Jackson died on May 27, 1864, at Officers' General Hospital, Fort Monroe, Virginia, as a result of injury to his left shoulder (fig. 13). Thereafter, several pension records reflect May

27, 1864 as his date of death and show that Eliza's pension benefits were calculated as of May 27, 1864, indicating that the Commissioner of Pensions had accepted May 27, 1864, as the correct date of death.

57. Henry Wells Jackson is buried in Section B, Site 4028, Hampton National Cemetery, Virginia (see fig. 12).

58. See Appendix C, James J. Jackson to Eliza Ann Dibble Jackson, June 1, 1864, National Archives, file WC56927, located by Michael Benning; copy in Church History Library, donated by Paul A. Hoffman. For an account of locating this document, see Carol Kostakos Petranek, "Are There National Treasures in Your Family History?," *Meridian Magazine*, January 21, 2011; <http://www.ldsmag.com/article/7368>.

59. Smith, *The Story of Eliza Ann Dibble*, 67.

60. See Appendix D, Affidavit of William Hickenlooper, Foster Curtis, and Eliza Ann Jackson, October 20, 1864, National Archives, file WC56927.

61. Widow's Pension, June 11, 1882, National Archives. It is interesting to note that a belated affidavit verifying the Jacksons' marriage was signed by former territorial governor Brigham Young on August 30, 1865. See Appendix E, Affidavit of Brigham Young, August 30, 1865, National Archives, file WC56927.

62. Henry's sister Rachel Jackson (1822–66) married John Wright (1818–66).

63. Zadoc E. Williams (1825–1914) married Henry's sister Asenath Jackson (1828–1923), and they were then living in the village of Java, New York.

64. Henry's sister Lydia D. Jackson (1831–91) married Wesley Catlin (1825–75).

65. Henry's stepsister Mary Elizabeth Jackson (1820–69) married Elias D. Loomis (1803–63).

66. Henry's brother James (1819–98) married Mary Elizabeth Wade (1818–51) and later Mary Ann Benner (1830–1908).

67. Henry's oldest brother, Daniel Madsen Jackson (1815–82), married Mahala Haynes (1842–92).