

NASON, ROBERT PARIS

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NASON, ROBERT PARIS, born in York County, Maine, January 26, 1820; said to have attended Harvard College; was divorced from his first wife, Susan S., at Boston, Mass., February 8, 1860; married Sarah Caroline Elliott, (1844-1912) daughter of Patrick and Ann Elliott, at San Francisco, Calif., March 27, 1862; children, Ferris Forman, Francis M., Ezra Davis, Winfield Robert, Lodowick Updyke, Hattie Ann (Mrs. Ernest E. Leffler), Carrie Alice (Mrs. M. H. Shaeffer) and Mary Lulu (Mrs. James Merz and afterwards Mrs. David A. Johnson).

Enrolled at Nevada City, October 17, and mustered in at Camp Sigel, near Auburn, November 18, 1861, to serve 3 years as Private, Company I, 4th California Infantry; ^{Commissioned as 1st Lieutenant, January 8, 1862;} went with the Company to Camp Drum, afterwards known as Wilmington, near San Pedro, California; arrived at Fort Mohave late in May, 1863, where he performed the additional duties of quartermaster and commissary of subsistence; in a report written on February 20, 1864, Captain Atchisson, the Post Commander, said that there had been complaints of depredations by Pi-Ute and Chimahueva Indians in California along the wagon road leading to Fort Mohave and stated:

On the return of the express, on the 16th instant, I received a letter from Derough, the recorder of the Rock Spring district, stating that four horses and a bullock had been killed and eaten by Indians at Marl Spring on the 10th instant, and twenty-four head of horses, owned by Mr. Moody, had been driven off from Rock Spring, and their property and personal security were seriously threatened. The expressman, William Furlong, confirmed the report contained in this letter.

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On this information I ordered Lieutenant Nason with a detachment of fifteen men to march to Rock Spring. The detachment crossed the river on the 17th and marched to Pi-Ute Creek on the 18th. On the afternoon of the 18th Mr. Nichols, of Silver Hill, in the vicinity of Rock Spring, brought a third letter from Derough, the recorder, stating the cause of alarm he had given was removed; that the twenty-four head of horses had been recovered, and animals owned by miners, all except one or two, had been found.

I learned from Mr. Nichols, who had been stopping at Silver Hill during the winter, that no trouble has been had with the Indians and none is expected. At dusk on the 18th I sent an express to Lieutenant Nason for him to return with his detachment to the garrison. He returned on the 19th.

His wife and son, Ferris F., age 1, were with him when the Territorial Census was taken at Fort Mohave in April, 1864; in February, 1865, he went to Drum Barracks, California, where he was honorably discharged on the 28th of that month.

Returned to northern California and was Justice of the Peace at Linden, San Joaquin County, in 1867; said to have been employed for a time in the United States Mint in San Francisco; acquired a farm of 120 acres near Waterloo, 7 miles east of Stockton; Comrade, Rawlin Post No. 23, G.A.R. at Stockton; died at his farm in O'Neil Township, San Joaquin County, California, July 11, 1889, aged 69; buried, Rural Cemetery, Stockton.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Records of the Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. 50, Part 2, pp. 424, 761-762.
Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion,
Sacramento, 1890, pp. 598, 600, 656, 660.
Lewis Pub. Co. - Illustrated History of San Joaquin County, p. 624.
Tuttle, E. D. - Arizona Historical Review, July, 1928, p. 62.
Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records.
U. S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, W.C. 443,112.
San Joaquin County Records - Book of Deeds, August 5, 1889.
The Daily Independent, Stockton, Calif., July 12, 1889, 3:4 (death notice).

WANTED

Any references to him in the newspaper indexes. *nothing.*