SHINN, JOHN BROGNARD, born at Bordentown, Burlington County, New Jersey, March 6, 1835; son of Joseph Biddle and Rebecca Stratten (Cline) Shinn; married Janet Bryan Street at Beaufort, North Carolina, January 15, 1874; son, John B., and daughter, Mrs. S. D. Cushing.

Removed with his parents to Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, about 1850; Cadet, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, 1852-56; Brevet 2d Lieutenant of Artillery July 1, 1856; appointed 2d Lieutenant, 3d U. S. Artillery, September 1, 1856; served on frontier duty at Fort Yuma, California, 1856-57; at Fort Leavenworth quelling Kansas disturbances, 1857-58; at Fort Ridgley, Minnesota, 1858-59; including march to Sioux Agency; at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, 1859-61; promoted 1st Lieutenant, 3d U. S. Artillery, May 30, 1860; mustering officer for California, August 29 to November 5, 1861; in garrison at San Francisco Harbor, November 1861.

Battery A, 3d U. S. Artillery, was mounted and equipped as Light Artillery under his direction at Benicia Barracks in December and moved to the Presidio of San Francisco with four brass field pieces and 60 horses early in January, 1862; sent to Southern California and was at San Pedro in February; on practice march from Camp Drum to Camp Latham and return March 25 to 28, 1862; crossed the desert late in April and arrived at Fort Yuma May 3, 1862; left Fort Yuma with the following ammunition in the caissons of the Battery: 50 rounds
of 6-pounder shot, 40 rounds of 6-pounder case shot, 10 rounds of 6-pounder cannister shot, 40 rounds of 12-pounder case shot, 30 rounds of 12-pounder shells and 8 rounds of cannister for howitzers; a reserve supply of ammunition was carried in the wagon trains.

Reached Fort Barrett May 31 and left there at 4:15 p.m., June 1, with the Battery, an ambulance, a 600 gallon water tank, 8 transportation wagons, 87 men and 153 animals; marched via Sacaton, Oneida Station, Blue Water Station, Picacho (where a dry camp was made), Point of Mountain and arrived at Tucson at 8:45 a.m., June 5, 1862, total distance, 86.7 miles; left Tucson in the Second Command of the Column from California with the Battery and 73 men, July 21, 1862; marched to the Rio Grande and thence to Albuquerque; promoted Captain, 3rd U. S. Artillery, January 20, 1864; at Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 1862 to October 1865; Brevet Major for arduous and meritorious services in successfully bringing his Battery across the Yuma and Gila Deserts and for faithful services in New Mexico, March 13, 1865; making survey of Indian Reservation at Bosque Redondo on the Pecos River, October 8, 1865 to October 21, 1866; in garrison at Fort Independence, Massachusetts; Fort Monroe, Virginia; and Key West, Florida, 1866 to 1870; honorably discharged at his own request on December 27, 1870.

Draughtsman and Civil Engineer at Newbern, North Carolina, 1871-79; entered on duty as Clerk, General Land Office,
Washington, D. C., August 1, 1879, and served in that capacity until his death; died at his residence, 1755 Church Street, Washington, D. C., November 1, 1904, aged 71; buried, National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia;

Shinn, J. H. - History of the Shinn Family in Europe and America, 1903, p. 260

The Evening Star, Washington, D. C., November 1, 1904

General Land Office - Old files

The Adjutant General of the Army - Official records

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Cullum, C. W. - Biographical Register, U. S. Military Academy, No. 1728

Heitman, F. B. - Historical Register and Dictionary U. S. Army, p. 883

Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men, 1890, p. 62


Bancroft, H. H. - History of Arizona and New Mexico, p. 514

U.S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, W.C. 587, 092