

General Order, No. 4

This document outlines the basic command structure of forces under the Kansas Brigade of General James H. Lane, and Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Abram Cutler. In addition, it stresses that Kansas troops must do all in their power to respect the rights and property of fellow Kansans and all other Union supporters they might encounter during their service. Finally, this order warns against the taking of enemy property for personal gain and encourages all Kansas troops to remain vigilant in order to prevent an invasion.

Creator: Kansas. Adjutant General's Dept.

Date: September 1, 1861

Callnumber: Port K 973.73 Kansas Adjutant General

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 213272

Item Identifier: 213272

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HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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2352
Kansas, Sept. 1861.

GENERAL ORDER, NO. 4.

Head Quarters Kansas Brigade, }
FORT SCOTT, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1861. }

To commandants of all corps, whether regular or irregular of the Kansas army now in the Field in Southern Kansas.

The present organization is as follows:

Col. James Montgomery is in command of the cavalry of the 3rd, 4th and 5th regiments, and the twelve pound Mountain Howitzer detached under Capt. Moonlight. Col. H. P. Johnson will assist Col. Montgomery. The two Lieuts. White are detailed and attached to Col. Montgomery's Staff.

The Infantry of the 3rd regiment is under the command of Major Williams. The Infantry and artillery of the 4th regiment are under the command of Col. Weer, assisted by Lieut. Col. Burris. Capt. Bickerton's company of artillery is attached to Col. Weer's command. Capt. De Vecchi and Lieut. Cattania is attached to Col. Weer's command. The two Infantry companies now at Barnesville will be commanded by Capt. Harvey. The Home Guards now stationed at Fort Scott will be under the command of Lieut. Col. Blunt, commandant of Post, assisted by Major Judson.

The company of Infantry of the 4th Regiment, stationed at Fish Creek, will be commanded by Capt. Hayes commandant of the Post at Fort Lincoln, assisted by Capt. Harris. The two companies of Infantry stationed at Fort Lincoln will be commanded by the commandant of the Post, Capt. Hayes.

The 1st Regiment Kansas Reserve Corps, now concentrating at Barnesville, will be commanded by Col. Jennison, assisted by Lieut. Col. Moore. Col. Jennison's command at Barnesville will include Capt. Banes Company of Scouts. The Surgical Department of the entire army will be under the direction of Dr. Rufus Gilpatrick, to whom all reports must be made and all requisitions directed. He is stationed at Fort Scott. Each of these several commandants are directed to report to these Head Quarters the strength and condition of their commands every day if practicable. The following rules for the government of this army are laid down and must be adhered to by every member of the command, whether officer, non-commissioned officer or private.

1st. The rights, persons and property of the people of Kansas must be sacredly observed—not an article of property however trifling must be taken without payment in ready money for the same, or a receipt given by an authorized officer. 2nd. The rights, persons and property of the loyal citizens of other States must be sacredly observed, and every assistance and protection extended to them.

3rd. Such property of those in arms against the Government as can be made useful in the army, may be seized, but when so seized, must at the very earliest moment be turned over to the Quartermaster or Commissary's Departments, the Heads of such Departments giving receipts therefor. He who fails in this, and appropriates or attempts to appropriate any portion of the enemy's property so seized to his own use, is a base robber and shall be punished as such.

4th. As it is proposed to use this army actively, it is expected that each commandant will keep his command in readiness to march at a moment's notice. Vigilance and activity with all is required to save Kansas from invasion.

JAMES H. LANE, Com'dg. Kan. Brig.

By Abram Cutler, Acting As't Adj. Gen.