

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 183.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 23, 1863.

I. Before a General Court Martial, which convened in the city of Washington, D. C., March 10, 1863, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 105, dated December 26, 1862; No. 108, dated December 29, 1862; No. 4, dated January 6, 1863; No. 25, dated January 30, 1863, Headquarters, Defences of Washington, and Special Orders, No. 11, dated February 20, 1863, and No. 22, dated March 5, 1863, Headquarters, Department of Washington, and of which Colonel C. M. ALEXANDER, 2d District of Columbia Volunteers, is President, was arraigned and tried—

Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery.

CHARGE I.—“Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.”

Specification 1st—“In this; that he, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, commanding Fort Staunton, did, on or about January twentieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, draw, on a provision return, signed by himself, rations for three women of his company for eleven days, commencing January twenty-first, and ending January thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three; the said three women, laundresses, being the wife and two daughters of the said Captain *Middleton*. This at Fort Staunton, near Washington city.”

Specification 2d—“In this; that he, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, commanding Fort Staunton, did, on or about January thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, draw, on a provision return, signed by himself, rations for two women of his company for ten days, commencing February first, and ending February tenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three; the said two women (laundresses) being the wife and daughter of the said Captain *Middleton*. This at Fort Staunton, near Washington city.”

CHARGE II.—“Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.”

Specification 1st—“In this; that he, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, did, during the inspection of his company

by Colonel Alexander Piper, 10th New York Artillery, hand to the said Colonel Piper a list purporting to represent the strength of his company, in which list Corporal Asil Spicer of his (Captain *Middleton's*) company was represented as present 'for duty' when he, the said Corporal Spicer was not present, but was absent from the post by permission of him, the said Captain *Middleton*. This at Fort Staunton, near Washington city, on or about January thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

Specification 2d—"In this; that he, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, did allow a certain private of his company named Spicer to wear the uniform of a corporal at inspection, and, when the name of Corporal Asil Spicer was called, did allow the said private to answer 'here!' thus conniving at and assisting in the attempt of a private to deceive the Inspecting Officer—Corporal Asil Spicer being absent, and his absence being known to the said Captain *Middleton*. This at Fort Staunton, on or about January thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

To which charges and specifications the accused, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, pleaded "Not Guilty."

FINDING.

The Court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, as follows:

CHARGE I.

Of the 1st *Specification*, "Guilty."
 Of the 2d *Specification*, "Guilty."
 Of the CHARGE, "Guilty."

CHARGE II.

Of the 1st *Specification*, "Guilty."
 Of the 2d *Specification*, "Guilty."
 Of the CHARGE, "Guilty."

SENTENCE.

And the Court does therefore sentence him, Captain *Samuel Middleton*, 10th New York Artillery, "*To be dismissed the service of the United States.*"

II.. Before a General Court Martial, which convened at the Headquarters, 1st Connecticut Volunteer Artillery, near Fort Richardson, Virginia, April 29, 1863, pursuant to General Orders, No. 30, dated Headquarters, Defences of Washington south of Potomac, near Fort Ward, Virginia, April 21, 1863, and of which Lieutenant Colonel N. L. WHITE, 1st Connecticut Volunteer Artillery, is President, was arraigned and tried—

Private *Frederick E. Blanchard*, Company "B," 34th Massachusetts Volunteers.

CHARGE.—"Desertion."

Specification—"In this; that said *Frederick E. Blanchard*, Private, of Company 'B,' 34th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, did desert the same, and did remain absent, without leave, until he was arrested at Alexandria, Virginia, on the 17th day of April, 1863. This at or near Fort Lyon, Virginia, the eleventh day of April, 1863."

To which charge and specification the accused, Private *Frederick E. Blanchard*, Company "B," 34th Massachusetts Volunteers, pleaded "Not Guilty."

FINDING.

The Court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, Private *Frederick E. Blanchard*, Company "B," 34th Massachusetts Volunteers, as follows:

Of the *Specification*, "Guilty."

Of the CHARGE, "Guilty."

SENTENCE.

And the Court does therefore sentence him, Private *Frederick E. Blanchard*, Company "B," 34th Massachusetts Volunteers, "*To be shot to death with musketry at such time and place as the reviewing power may direct: two-thirds of the members concurring.*"

III..The proceedings of the Court in the case of Captain Samuel Middleton, 10th New York Artillery, have been forwarded for the action of the President of the United States. On account of certain irregularities in the proceedings of the Court, the sentence in the case is inoperative; but as the offences of the accused were of such a grave character, the President directs that he be dismissed the service, and he accordingly ceases to be an officer in the United States service from the 15th day of June, 1863.

The proceedings of the Court in the case of Private Frederick E. Blanchard, Company "B," 34th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, have been approved by the General Commanding the Department of Washington, and forwarded for the action of the President of the United States, who directs that the sentence be commuted "*To loss of all pay, dishonorable discharge, and hard labor on the public works for the remainder of the prisoner's term of enlistment.*"

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General.