JOHN WOOL - DESCRIBING BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA

Camp
Buena Vista
6th August 1847.

General,

In my report of the battle of Buena Vista 4th March last I intended to name all the Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons, who were on the field of battle during the two eventful days of the 22d & 23d Feby. It appears that I omitted the name of Capt Surgeon Prevost. At the time I was not personally acquainted with him, and was as I supposed in Saltillo when we had been stationed. From Statements since recently it appears that he was not only on the field attending to the Wounded, but that he rendered me important and gallant service during the battle. Being me alone, my staff all being absent in endeavoring to rally the flying troops from the field, he came to me, when I made use of him on several occasions to hasten up the troops in order to attack the heavy column of Mexican Lancers and infantry which had turned in falling to our left and rear. He also carried my orders to the Mississippi and 3d Indiana Regiments to charge upon the enemy under the most trying circumstances, a Terrible fire from the Mexicans not only from the Lancers and infantry, but from their pieces of Artillery which had been brought to bear on right flank from the plain in front of our

of our Country. At this time I supposed he was an Officer, who had just arrived and belonged to the Staff of General Taylor, and called him Captain. It is therefore that I would recommend Act Lieut Prevost to the favorable notice of Genl Taylor for his daring courage and gallant bearing on the fields of Buena Vista.

I have the honor
to be
Very respectfully
Your most Obt
John E Wool
Maj Genl

To / Brig Genl R Jones
Adjt Genl
Washington
City.

(MEXICAN WAR). JOHN ELLIS WOOL (1784-1869). Union Major General. Organized (1846) and led volunteers in Mexican War; second in command (although the commanding general on the field due to Zachary Taylor's absence at the time of the beginning of the battle (February 22-23, 1847) of Buena Vista; brevetted major general for his service there. Commanded Eastern military division (1848-53), department of the Pacific (1854-57), department of the East (1857-61); sent reinforcements in time to save Fortress Monroe for the Union (1861); major general (1862); retired (1863). The battle of Buena Vista was the final engagement of the northern campaign of the Mexican war. Autograph Letter Signed, Camp, Buena Vista, 9 August 1847, 1½ pages 4to. To Gen. R. Jones, Adjt. General, Washington, D.C. "In my report of the battle of Buena Vista 4th March last I intended to name all the surgeons and assistant surgeons, who were on the field of battle during the two eventful days of the 22nd & 23rd Feby. It appears that I omitted the name of asst. surgeon Prevost. At the time I was not particularly acquainted with him, and was as I supposed in Saltillo where we had been stationed. From statements received recently it appears that he was not only on the field attending to the wounded, but that he rendered me important and gallant services, during the battle. Seeing me alone, my staff all being absent in endeavoring to rally the flying troops from the field, he came to me, when I made use of him on several occasions to hasten up the troops in order to attack ..." Much more. Superb content on Provost's role in this great battle. Wool comments that Provost "also carried my orders to the Mississippi and 3rd Indiana Regiment to charge the enemy under the most trying circumstances ..." Much further description of the battle. Mention of General Zachary Taylor.

Camp Buena Vista 9 August 1847

General,

In my report of the battle of Buena Vista 4th March last I intended to name all the surgeons and assistant Surgeons, who were on the field of battle during the two eventful days of the 22nd and 23d Feby. It appears that I omitted the name of Asst. Surgeon Prevost. At the time I was not personally acquainted with him, and was as I supposed in Saltillo where we had been stationed. From statements received recently it appears that he was not only on the field attending to the wounded, but that he rendered me important and excellent services during the battle. Seeing me alone, my staff all being absent in endeavoring to rally the flying troops from the field, he came to me when I made use of him on several occasions to hasten up the troops in order to attack the heavy columns of Mexican lancers and infantry which had succeeded in getting to our left and rear. He also carried my orders to the Mississippi & 3rd Indiana Regiments to charge the enemy under the most trying circumstances, a tremendous from the Mexicans not only from the Lancers and infantry, but from their pieces of Artillery which had been brought to bear on right flank from the plain in front of our center. At the time I supposed he was an officer, who had just arrived and belonged to the staff of General Taylor, and called him Captain. It is therefore that I would recommend Ast. Surgeon Prevost to the Secretary of War to his special notice for his daring courage and gallant bearing on the fields of Buena Vista.

I have the honor
To be
Very respectfully
Your obet. Servt.
John E. Wool
Brig. Genl

To Brig Genl. Jones
Adgt. Genl
Washington City

Wonderful ALS
Gen'l Wool re the famous
battle.