

SHARKEY, William L., Jr. Capt., AQM

The National Archives files for Officers contain seventy-two documents for William L. Sharkey. The illustrated National Archives typed career summary contains the basic outline of his service.

William L. Sharkey was appointed on March 18th, 1862, as Capt. & AQM reporting to Gen'l Van Dorn. On April 15th, 1862, Sharkey was ordered to proceed to Brownsville, Texas, to bring back military cloth by order of Gen'l Lovell, and a special order from Col. P. N. Luckett dated July 3rd, 1862, located Sharkey at Fort Brown, Brownsville, Texas. On August 8th Sharkey transferred a horse, saddle, and bridle to Capt. E. C. Wharton, AQM, at Houston, Texas.

At the Head Quarters of the Trans-Mississippi District, South of Red River, San Antonio, Texas, Special Order No. 32 by Brig. Gen'l P. O. Hebert directed Capt. Sharkey to turn over 89 bales of cloth to Maj. J. F. Minter, Chief Quarter Master, and to "safely store the 500 bales in his possession and proceed to ascertain the practicability of transporting it East, across the Mississippi...." A Board of Inquiry was convened on September 1st, 1862, at Houston, Texas, to examine a shipment of Cadet Grey cloth reported as damaged by Capt. Sharkey; the Board determined the damage at 25% of the shipment. By October 12th, 1862, Sharkey was directed by Maj. Gen'l Taylor at Alexandria, Louisiana, to turn over 85,000 yards of government cloth in Sharkey's charge for the use of the soldiers and officers of the Trans-Mississippi Department.

Vouchers dated November and December 1862 located Sharkey in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Several National Archives summary cards refer to

undated vessel papers and blockade papers at unknown locations with reference to Sharkey. He was a bonded AQM.

An invoice dated January 19th, 1863, for 5,852 bushels of corn worth \$5,852.00 was signed by Sharkey as Post Quartermaster at Haynes' Bluff, Yazoo River, Mississippi. At the direction of Maj. L. Mims, Chief Quartermaster at Jackson, Mississippi, the corn was purchased and loaded on board the steamer Scotland at Haynes' Bluff to be delivered to the Post Quartermaster at Snyder's Bluff. Sharkey wrote an interesting letter from Yazoo City, Mississippi, on February 28th, 1863, to Lt. Gen'l Pemberton (at Vicksburg):

I send, per order of Col. Smith, yesterday Comdng Post, but now gone to Greenwood, five Yankees claiming to be deserters. They go in charge of Mr. Metzler who has my order to report to you.

In November 1863 at Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi, Sharkey applied for a leave of absence of 25 days to visit Jackson, Mississippi, on a surgeon's certificate of disability.

On April 17th, 1864, Sharkey was assigned as Post QM at Canton, Mississippi, by Maj. R. M. Mason, Chief Quartermaster, and requested to "give any assistance in your power to the Rail Roads now in course of construction terminating a passing through your station." We have the good fortune to observe Sharkey's responses on August 20th, 1864, to a circular with questions about his career history and duties:

"Sir, I had the honor this morning to receive your Circular and in reply would answer,

To 1st I was assigned to duty by Maj. R. M. Mayson (sic) Ch QM of Lieut. Gen'l Polk's Corps, under an order of April 17th, 1864, a



Snead_Watts
109532 X
15 Dec 1862
images: Crutchfield

copy of which is enclosed and marked exhibit "A"

To 2^o I am performing all the duties of Post Qr Master. Receiving bacon and other commissary supplies from the Northern part of the state, and shipping same East. Impressing teams to haul Gov't supplies around breaks or other obstructions in our Rail Roads, which are frequent from the scarcity of labor and repeated raids of the enemy. Also, in impressing teams to haul Gov't supplies purchased from within the enemy lines, and delivered on the Yazoo River, said purchases being made by our Gov't. I have given great assistance to our Cavalry & other forces by having their horses shoed and mending their Artillery, etc

To 3^d I enclose a full report marked exhibit "B"

To 4th I would state, I have no contracts of any kind whatever

To 5th I buy no supplies, but corn, and pay for that Com(mercia)l prices, which is now \$2.60 per bushel

To 6th I have no office hours, either for myself or employees, my office being open at all times, either night or day, and open each day of the week

To 7th I state, I have no horses at all, nor has any of my employees, nor do I or any of them draw any forage from the Gov't

To 8th I am bonded. My commission bears date March 2nd, 1862, and my bond was accepted on 8th day April following

To 9th I have three Gov't animals, not branded, resulting from the fact of having my branding iron stolen, and there being no money in the Dept and the smiths here refuse to work for certified accounts, and the Gov't has no shop. I have in charge four mules, taken from persons running goods from the enemies lines, awaiting the award of the proper tribunal."

Sharkey was relieved of duty at Canton on October 17th and reported to Maj. J. W. Young, Chief QM of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and

East Louisiana. On November 8th he was reported on sick leave.

Sharkey was surrendered at Citronelle, Alabama, on May 4th, 1865, as a ward of Surgeon I. W. Thompson, and paroled at Meridian, Mississippi, on May 13th, 1865. He listed his residence at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

McNeil

Haynes Bluff, Yazoo River.
January 19th 1863.
To Post Quartermaster
at Snyder's Bluff-
Yazoo River-

W. L. Sharkey's
signatures from the
National Archives.

1863 JACKSON, MISS.
Issued April 5th 1863
W. L. Sharkey Capt
Capt & A. Q. M.

W. L. Sharkey for
Capt & A. Q. M.

The earliest known
example, signed on
July 18th, 1862, at
Houston, Texas, as
"Capt & A.Q.M."

W. L. Sharkey for a 2^d M.

Signed on January
19th, 1863, at
Haynes' Bluff,
Yazoo River,
Mississippi, as
"AQM."

W. L. Sharkey for Capt. Depot Quartermaster C. S. Army.

Signed on February
1st, 1864, at Canton,
Mississippi, as
"Depot
Quartermaster C. S.
Army."

No. 589.

I, the undersigned, Prisoner of War, belonging to the Army of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana, having been surrendered by Lt. Gen. R. Taylor, C. S. A., Commanding said Department, to Maj. Gen. S. B. S. Canby, U. S. A., Commanding Army and Division of West Mississippi, do hereby give my solemn **PAROLE OF HONOR** that I will not hereafter serve in the Armies of the Confederate States, or in any military capacity whatever, against the United States of America, or render aid to the enemies of the latter, until properly exchanged in such manner as shall be mutually approved by the respective authorities.

Done at Meridian Miss-
this 18th day of May, 1865.

Approved:
Henry Beckman, Col. 20th W. Vol. U. S. A., Com'g.

W. L. Sharkey Capt.
for A. Q. M.

The above named officer will not be disturbed by United States authorities, as long as he observes his parole, and the laws in force where he resides.

Henry Beckman
Col. 20th W. Vols., Commissioner for the U. S.

Signed on his
parole document on
May 13th, 1865, at
Meridian,
Mississippi, as
"Capt & AQM."

images: Fold3.com

Sharkey, Wm L. Jr. S10

Sharkey, Wm L., Jr.,
Capt. & A.Q.M.

Van Dorn's comd
Johnston's (J.E.) Comd
Fost Canton, Miss.
Taylor's (R.) Comd.

vanDorn's comd.

March 18, 1862. Apptd. Captn. & A.Q.M.; to rank March 11, 1862; to report to Gen. VanDorn (Report, A.O.)
April 15, 1862. Addressed as Captn. & A.Q.M., and ordered by S.O. 85(23) Hdqrs. Dept. No. 1 -N.O. La., to proceed to Brownsville, Tex., and bring back stores-by order Gen. Lovell comdg. (F.F.)
July 4, 1862. Mentioned as Captn. & A.Q.M., at Ft. Brown, Tex., in receipt for public property. (F.F.)
Nov. 16, 1862. Mentioned as Captn. & A.Q.M., Vicksburg, Miss., in receipt for Q.M. Supplies (F.F.)
Dec. 6, 1862. Captn. & A.Q.M., to report to Gen. J.E. Johnston, at Vicksburg, Miss. (S.O. 286(3), A.G.O.)
May 5, 1863. Signs as Captn. & A.Q.M., Post Zeeo City, Miss. (W-304, W.D.)
May 5, 1863-----April 17, 1864. Nothing found.
Fost of Canton, Miss.

April 17, 1864. Captn. & A.Q.M., assgd. to duty as Fost Q.M. at Canton, Miss. x x x and assume duties of Q.M. (S-455-Bk. 11, Q.M.G.O.)
Aug. 21, 1864. At Canton, Miss., signs as Captn. & Fost Q.M. (S-595, Q.M.G.O.)
Oct. 17, 1864. Captn. & A.Q.M. relieved from duty as Fost Q.M. at Canton, Miss. and report to Maj. J.W. Young, Chief Q.M. Dept. Ala., Miss. & E. La. (M-636, Q.M.G.O.)
Nov. 8, 1864. Captn. & A.Q.M., reported on sick leave from Office of Chf. Q.M. Dept. Ala. Miss. & E. La., Selma, Ala. (Y-13, Q.M.G.O.)
Nov. 8, 1864-----Jan. 14, 1865. Nothing found.

Taylor's (R.) Comd.

Jan. 14, 1865. Captn. & A.Q.M., assgd. to duty with Engr. Dept. of Ala., Miss. & E. La., Gen. R. Taylor, comdg. (S.O. 11(16) A.G.O.)

Memo.- Nothing further found.

Fareled-----1865 at---

Prepared by *[Signature]* Examined by *[Signature]*

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