



ALBUMEN PRINT - REGIMENTAL FLAG, 2ND MASS CAVALRY

This albumen print is a photograph of the regimental silk color presented to the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry at war's end by their outgoing colonel, Caspar Crowninshield. The image retains exceptional clarity with only minor age toning. It remains in its original matte and bears a 3 cent revenue stamp on the verso. The image is approximately 7 1/2" X 6 1/2" and is contained in its original 8" X 10" matte.

Crowninshield personally designed the flag and had it prepared in Boston. It bears the California state seal with ribands containing the words "Eureka" and "2^d Mass. Cavalry." The verso is painted with the seal of the state of Massachusetts. The flag bears twenty five battle honors for actions in which the 2nd Mass Cav participated.

After Appomattox, Crowninshield resigned and returned to Massachusetts. Command of the regiment devolved to a Californian, Archibald KcKendry who served until the muster out in July, 1865. In a letter to Governor Frederick F. Low of California, and quoted in the Alta California newspaper dated February 22, 1866 (pg. 371-372, Their Horses Climbed Trees by Larry Rogers) McKendry laid the groundwork for the presentation of the flag to the golden state.