

Nauvoo Legion Officers

The charter for the city of Nauvoo, Illinois, approved 16 December 1840, allowed for the formation of the Nauvoo Legion, a unit of the Illinois state militia. The city council passed an ordinance officially organizing the Nauvoo Legion on 3 February 1841. The first meeting of the legion was held on 4 February 1841, when John C. Bennett, Don Carlos Smith, and other commissioned officers of the Illinois state militia elected the general officers of the legion. Other positions were filled during the following months.

The Nauvoo Legion comprised two brigades, or “cohorts,” each headed by a brigadier general. The first cohort consisted of cavalry and the second of infantry and artillery troops. Officers retained their rank unless terminated by resignation, death, or cashiering out of the Nauvoo Legion. At its largest, the legion numbered between two thousand and three thousand men.

The following chart identifies the staffs of the lieutenant general, major general, and brigadier generals of the Nauvoo Legion, and the men who held the various offices between February 1841 and April 1843. Names are followed by the date of rank; dates of formal commission by the governor, when known, are provided in parentheses. Ending dates are not given except in cases of termination. Positions, dates of rank, and commission dates are taken from returns to the adjutant general of the state and records of the Illinois state militia.

OFFICE

1841

1842

1843

Lieutenant General's Staff

LIEUTENANT GENERAL	Joseph Smith Jr. 5 Feb. 1841 (11 Mar. 1841)	
INSPECTOR GENERAL	John C. Bennett 5 Feb. 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)–12 Apr. 1842	James Arlington Bennet 12 Apr. 1842 (2 May 1842)
DRILL OFFICER	Albert P. Rockwood 9 Mar. 1841	
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Sidney Rigdon 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	John Taylor 6 Nov. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)
AIDES-DE-CAMP	William Law 9 Mar. 1841	
	Robert B. Thompson 9 Mar. 1841–27 Aug. 1841	
	Isaac Morley 6 Apr. 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
	Zenos Gurley 6 Apr. 1841 (16 June 1841)	
	Jefferson Hunt 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)	
		William Hall 15 Apr. 1843
		John Cowan 18 Apr. 1843
GUARDS	James Allred 9 Mar. 1841	
	Thomas Grover 9 Mar. 1841	

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
GUARDS (CONT.)	C. M. Kreymeyer 9 Mar. 1841		
	John Butler 9 Mar. 1841		
	John Snider 9 Mar. 1841		
	Alpheus Cutler 9 Mar. 1841		
	Reynolds Cahoon 9 Mar. 1841		
	Elias Higbee 9 Mar. 1841		
	Henry G. Sherwood 9 Mar. 1841		
	William Marks 9 Mar. 1841		
	Samuel Smith 9 Mar. 1841		
	Vinson Knight 9 Mar. 1841–31 July 1842		
Shadrach Roundy 6 Apr. 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)			
HERALD AND ARMOR BEARER	Edward Hunter 9 Sept. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)		
<i>Major General's Staff</i>			
MAJOR GENERAL	John C. Bennett 5 Feb. 1841–30 June 1842		Wilson Law 13 Aug. 1842 (19 Sept. 1842)

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
ADJUTANT GENERAL	Hugh McFall 9 Mar. 1841		
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL—FIRST COHORT	Hiram Kimball 3 June 1842		
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL—SECOND COHORT	Windsor Lyon 3 June 1842		
SURGEON GENERAL	Robert D. Foster 9 Mar. 1841		
	George Cooke 7 June 1842		
CORNET	George W. Robinson 9 Mar. 1841		Garrett Ivins 15 Apr. 1843 (8 June 1843)
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL	Wilson Law 9 Mar. 1841	Leonard Soby 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)	
COMMISSARY GENERAL	Daniel H. Wells 9 Mar. 1841		
PAYMASTER GENERAL	John Fullmer 9 Mar. 1841		
CHAPLAIN	Hyrum Smith 9 Mar. 1841		
ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL—FIRST COHORT	Carlos Gove 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		Davidson Hibbard 12 Mar. 1842
ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL—SECOND COHORT	David Smith 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	John Bills 13 Nov. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)	
AIDES-DE-CAMP	Carlos Gove 4 Mar. 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
	Lucien Woodworth 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)		

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
AIDES-DE-CAMP (CONT.)	George Schindle 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)		
	Lyman Wight 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)		
	Chauncey Higbee 13 Nov. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)		
	Jacob B. Backenstos 12 Mar. 1842		
	John Eagle 12 Mar. 1842		
	James Gordon Bennett 28 May 1842 (2 June 1842)		
	Amos Dean 7 June 1842		
	Francis Higbee 7 June 1842		
	J. M. Binelo 7 June 1842		
	Windsor Lyon 7 June 1842		
			Robert Ivins 20 Apr. 1843 (8 June 1843)
WAR SECRETARY	James Sloan 12 Mar. 1842		
QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT	James Robinson 9 Mar. 1841–20 Apr. 1841	Benjamin Warrington 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)	
SERGEANT MAJOR	George Wyrick 9 Mar. 1841		

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
CHIEF MUSICIAN	Edward Duzette 9 Mar. 1841		
MUSICIANS	Levi Hancock 9 Mar. 1841		
	Dimick Huntington 9 Mar. 1841		
		Gustavus Hills 19 Mar. 1842	
		William Pitt 2 Apr. 1842	
HERALD AND ARMOR BEARER	Samuel Hicks 6 Apr. 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
<i>First Cohort General Staff</i>			
BRIGADIER GENERAL	Wilson Law 5 Feb. 1841–13 Aug. 1842		George Miller 23 Sep. 1842 (27 Apr. 1843)
ADJUTANT	(no record)		
SERGEANT MAJOR	(no record)		
QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT	(no record)		
AIDES-DE-CAMP	Solon Foster 9 Mar. 1841		
		Erastus Derby 13 Nov. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)	
ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL		Windsor Lyon 1 Feb. 1842	

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
ASSISTANT COMMISSARY GENERAL		Robert Ivins 1 Feb. 1842	
SURGEON	John F. Weld 9 Mar. 1841		
ASSISTANT CHAPLAINS		Brigham Young 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
		Heber C. Kimball 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
		Parley P. Pratt 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
		Orson Pratt 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
		Orson Hyde 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
		John E. Page 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)	
HERALD AND ARMOR BEARER		William Whitmarsh 1 Feb. 1842	
<i>Second Cohort General Staff</i>			
BRIGADIER GENERAL	Don Carlos Smith 5 Feb. 1841– 7 Aug. 1841	Charles C. Rich 4 Sept. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)	
ADJUTANT		(no record)	
SERGEANT MAJOR		Alanson Ripley 3 June 1842	
QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT		Joseph B. Noble 3 June 1842	

OFFICE	1841	1842	1843
AIDES-DE-CAMP	Alexander McRae 9 Mar. 1841–1 Sept. 1842		
	Amasa Lyman 1 May 1841 (15 June 1841)–1 Sept. 1842		
ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL			John P. Greene 1 Mar. 1842
ASSISTANT COMMISSARY GENERAL			Joseph Young 1 Mar. 1842
SURGEON	James Kelly 9 Mar. 1841	Samuel Bennett 13 Nov. 1841 (14 Dec. 1841)	
ASSISTANT CHAPLAINS	John Taylor 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)–6 Nov. 1841		
	Wilford Woodruff 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
	William Smith 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
	Willard Richards 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
	George A. Smith 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
	William Marks 3 July 1841 (16 Oct. 1841)		
HERALD AND ARMOR BEARER			Philo Dibble 1 Mar. 1842