

TENNESSEANS
IN
THE CIVIL WAR

*A Military History
of Confederate and Union Units
with
Available Rosters of Personnel*

In Two Parts

Part I

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Stones River National Battlefield
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Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

armed with shotguns, squirrel rifles and old muskets.

On February 28, 1862, the 46th was reported, not brigaded, in Major General John P. McCown's command at Madrid Bend. On March 17, the forces at Madrid Bend were reported as Stewart's Battery, Hudson's and Wheeler's Cavalry Companies, 1st Alabama-Mississippi-Tennessee, 11th, 12th Arkansas, 1st Alabama, 40th, 46th, and 55th (Brown's) Tennessee Infantry Regiments and Terry's Arkansas Battalion. On the Kentucky shore were the 11th and 12th Arkansas, and 40th and 46th Tennessee Regiments.

On March 26, the 46th reported 374 present for duty, 531 present, 665 present and absent. On April 1, Brigadier General W. W. Mackall, who had just arrived at Madrid Bend to take command, reporting on the condition of his command, stated the 46th had only two companies armed, 400 present for duty, 160 armed. Also present were the 4th Arkansas Battalion, 11th Arkansas Regiment, 40th, and 55th Tennessee Infantry Regiments, and two companies of cavalry. General Mackall stated "One good regiment would be better than the force I have. It never had any discipline. It is disheartened and apathetic. So report my best officers." Here at Island Number 10 and Madrid Bend, began an association between the 46th and 55th Tennessee Regiments which was to last throughout the war.

The 46th, along with the other troops at this point was surrendered at Tiptonville April 8, 1862. Many who were unarmed built rude rafts of logs and loose lumber, escaped across Reelfoot Lake, and returned to their homes. Some of them were rounded up and returned to the regiment after it was released on parole. The enlisted men from the 46th were sent to prison at Camp Douglas, Illinois, the officers to Johnson's Island. The regiment was released on parole at Vicksburg, Mississippi on September 23, 1862. It moved to Jackson, Mississippi, where it was reorganized. On October 26 Major General Sterling Price, commanding the Army of the West, ordered "From General Maury's Division: 49th/55th, 42nd, 53rd, 46th Tennessee Regiments, 9th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion, 1st Mississippi, 27th Alabama Infantry Regiments to report for duty at Meridian, Mississippi."

The regiment moved to Port Hudson, Louisiana, where on January 7, 1863, it was reported in the forces commanded by Major

General Frank Gardner, in Brigadier General Samuel B. Maxey's Brigade, composed of the 42nd, 46th, 48th (Voorhies), 53rd Tennessee Regiments, and 9th Battalion consolidated under Colonel W. A. Quarles, Miles' Legion, the 49th/50th Tennessee/7th Texas, 4th, 30th Louisiana Infantry Regiments, and three batteries. From this time on it remained in the same brigade with Colonel Quarles' 42nd Tennessee Regiment, first in Maxey's Brigade, and later in Quarles' Brigade. See the history of the 42nd Tennessee Regiment for changes in brigade composition and assignments.

While at Port Hudson, the 46th and 55th Tennessee Regiments were permanently consolidated into one field unit, although separate muster rolls were maintained. The 46th/55th was first commanded by Colonel A. J. Brown, of the 55th, and later by Colonel Robert A. Owens of the 46th.

On May 7, the regiment left Port Hudson for Crystal Springs, Mississippi; thence to Jackson, Mississippi, and was with General Joseph E. Johnston in his campaign outside Vicksburg until the fall of that city on July 4, 1863. It fell back to Jackson, Mississippi; from there to Enterprise, Mississippi, where it was camped for about three weeks. It moved to Mobile, Alabama on August 30, 1863, and remained at Camp Cummings, near Mobile, until late in November, 1863, when it was ordered to join the Army of Tennessee near Chattanooga. It arrived at Ringgold, Georgia, on November 25, while the Battle of Missionary Ridge was in progress, and fell back to Dalton, Georgia November 27. On December 14, 1863, the 46th/55th reported 259 effectives out of 270 present, 386 present and absent, with 230 arms.

From Dalton, it was ordered back to Mobile on January 19, 1864; remained at Mobile until May 21, when it was again ordered back to the Army of Tennessee, joining that army at New Hope, Georgia. It was engaged in the daily marching and skirmishing of the Atlanta Campaign without suffering any heavy loss until the engagement on July 28 at Lickskillet Road, where the 46th/55th lost about 150 men out of 250 engaged in about a half hour's time. Here Lieutenant Colonel Wilson was wounded and captured.

It was not engaged at Jonesboro, but as part of Major General E. C. Walthall's Division, it returned with General Hood to Tennessee. The 46th/55th, along with other

troops, captured a blockhouse and a freight train loaded with grain at Big Shanty, Georgia, on this march back. On September 30, 1864, the 46th was reported in Maney's Brigade, in consolidation with the 34th Tennessee Infantry, but this was evidently a clerical error, for on the same date it was reported as the 46th/55th in Quarles' Brigade, where it properly belonged.

It was in the first line of assault troops at Franklin, November 30, 1864, and suffered terrible loss. Here Major Cooper was wounded, and Edwin H. Rennolds, in his *History of Henry County Commands*, stated that Major Cooper told him the regiment went into battle with 125 men and came out with 25.

What was left of the regiment took part in the Battle of Nashville, December 15, 1863, and, with Walthall's Division, formed part of the rear guard for Hood's Army on its retreat into Mississippi. Again quoting Rennolds "As an example of the depletion of the regiment during the campaign of 1864, it is related by Lieutenant M. V. B. Valentine that Companies "D" and "E" entered the campaign at New Hope, Georgia in May with

47th TENNESSEE INFANTRY REGIMENT

Organized December 16, 1861; reorganized May 8, 1862; consolidated with 12th Infantry Regiment October, 1862; formed part of Company "D", 2nd Consolidated Tennessee Infantry Regiment. Paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina May 2, 1865.

FIELD OFFICERS

Colonels—Munson R. Hill, William M. Watkins.

Lieutenant Colonels—B. E. Holmes, Vincent G. Wynne.

Major—Thomas R. Shearon

The 47th Regiment was a West Tennessee organization, organized at Camp Trenton, Gibson County, December 16, 1861, from 10 companies which had been enrolled during November and December.

CAPTAINS—James R. White, William Stacy, Thomas B. Moffat, Co. "A". Enrolled at Troy, Obion County.

James H. Sinclair, Robert B. Patterson, Co. "B". Men from Gibson and Dyer Counties.

Vincent G. Wynne (to lieutenant colonel), Peter Marchant, Co. "C". Enrolled at Dyers-

burg, Dyer County.

W. M. Watkins (to colonel), James N. Watkins, Co. "D". Enrolled at Dyersburg, Dyer County.

George B. Miller, Franc G. Sampson, Co. "E". Enrolled at Dyersburg, Dyer County.

Jesse L. Branch, George R. Booth, Co. "F". Enrolled at Humboldt, Gibson County.

Thomas J. Carthel, James O. January, Co. "G". Enrolled at Camp Trenton, Gibson County.

John A. Duncan, B. E. Holmes, W. H. Holoman, Co. "H". Men from Obion and Gibson Counties.

W. S. Moore, James R. Oliver, Co. "I". Enrolled at Troy, Obion County.

T. E. Cummings, Co. "K". Enrolled at Camp Trenton, Gibson County.

At the reorganization Captain Vincent G. Wynne replaced Holmes as lieutenant colonel. Colonel Hill resigned in 1863, and Captain William M. Watkins succeeded him as colonel.

The regiment remained at Camp Trenton, unattached to any brigade, until just before the Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862. The

72 men, and came out of it at Nashville, in December, with only two men and one officer fit for duty."

In 1865, it moved to North Carolina to join General Joseph E. Johnston, and participated in the last battle of the war at Bentonville, North Carolina. On March 31, 1865, in the order of battle for Johnston's Army, the 46th was again listed in error in Palmer's Brigade, and in the same report in Quarles' Brigade, commanded by Captain Sol Jones, consisting of the 1st/17th/29th Alabama Regiments and the 42nd/46th/48th/49th/53rd/55th Tennessee Regiments with the Tennessee Regiments commanded by Captain Joseph Love.

The Tennessee Regiments in Quarles' Brigade were not accounted for in the final reorganization of Johnston's Army on April 9, 1865, but a comparison of the names on the muster rolls shows that the remnant of the 46th Regiment was paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina May 1, 1865 as part of the Fourth Consolidated Tennessee Infantry Regiment commanded by Colonel Anderson Searcy.

burg, Dyer County.

W. M. Watkins (to colonel), James N. Watkins, Co. "D". Enrolled at Dyersburg, Dyer County.

George B. Miller, Franc G. Sampson, Co. "E". Enrolled at Dyersburg, Dyer County.

Jesse L. Branch, George R. Booth, Co. "F". Enrolled at Humboldt, Gibson County.

Thomas J. Carthel, James O. January, Co. "G". Enrolled at Camp Trenton, Gibson County.

John A. Duncan, B. E. Holmes, W. H. Holoman, Co. "H". Men from Obion and Gibson Counties.

W. S. Moore, James R. Oliver, Co. "I". Enrolled at Troy, Obion County.

T. E. Cummings, Co. "K". Enrolled at Camp Trenton, Gibson County.

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action report for that engagement stated the 47th, unattached, arrived on the field April 7. No reports of its activity were found, but the *West Tennessee Whig*, of Jackson, Tennessee, dated April 25, 1862, published a list of casualties from the 47th Regiment in the Battle of Shiloh totaling five killed, 61 wounded, one missing, so the regiment must have done some fighting after its arrival.

On May 26, at Corinth, Mississippi, it was reported in Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk's Corps, Brigadier General Charles Clark's Division, Brigadier General Bushrod R. Johnson's Brigade, composed of the 12th, 13th, 22nd and 47th Tennessee Infantry Regiments, and Bankhead's Battery. On June 15 Brigadier General Preston Smith was reported in command of the brigade; June 30, Colonel R. M. Russell, with the 22nd Regiment merged into the 12th, and the 154th Senior Regiment added; but on July 8, General Preston Smith was again reported in command of the brigade, in Major General B. F. Cheatham's Division. These four regiments remained together for the rest of the war; first in Preston Smith's Brigade; later with Brigadier General Alfred J. Vaughan in command.

The regiment left Corinth May 29 for Tupelo, Mississippi where it remained until July 25. Company reports show much sickness in the regiment while at Tupelo. It left Tupelo via Mobile, and Chattanooga, for Knoxville, to join Major General E. Kirby Smith for his invasion of Kentucky. From Knoxville, it marched on foot, many of the men barefoot, over the Cumberland Mountains to Barbourville, to London, to Richmond, Kentucky, where it was engaged in the battle on August 30, 1862. Here the 47th reported eight killed, 24 wounded.

From Richmond it marched to Lexington, Paris, Cynthiana, Frankfort, to Hays Pond, 30 miles from Cincinnati, Ohio; to Shelbyville, 28 miles from Louisville, Kentucky; to Perryville, where it was present, but not engaged in the battle fought at that place on October 8, 1862. From Perryville it retreated through Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, to Knoxville, where it took the railroad to Chattanooga. It left Chattanooga November 1, 1862, marching via Bridgeport, Alabama to Manchester, to Tullahoma, to Murfreesboro, where it arrived December 5, 1862.

It did picket duty at LaVergne for about

two weeks; returned to Murfreesboro December 22, and was engaged in the Battle of Murfreesboro. In this battle the 47th was commanded by Captain W. M. Watkins, and reported 86 casualties out of 263 engaged.

Following this battle, the regiment retreated to Shelbyville, arriving January 14, where it was on Provost Guard duty. On April 1, 1863, the 12th/47th was reported as one unit under Colonel T. H. Bell of the 12th Regiment, and from this time on the two regiments acted as one field unit, although separate muster rolls were maintained. It left Shelbyville June 27 for Tullahoma; left Tullahoma July 1 for Chattanooga, where it arrived July 7. Company reports describe this as a very fatiguing march, with heavy rain every day, and only half rations. On July 31, Colonel W. M. Watkins, of the 47th, was reported in command of the 12th/47th, and he remained in command until July, 1864.

On September 7, the regiment left Chattanooga for LaFayette, Georgia; to Rock Spring Church on the 14th; back to LaFayette on the 17th; crossed Chickamauga Creek on the 19th, and attacked the enemy in the Battle of Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863. Here the 12th/47th reported the expenditure of 14,350 rounds of ammunition, and the loss of 87 killed and wounded, including two captains and three lieutenants killed.

Following the battle it remained in Chattanooga Valley until October 29, when it moved to Sweetwater, but returned to Missionary Ridge November 7, 1863, where the brigade was transferred to Major General T. C. Hindman's Division. The regiment was engaged in the Battle of Missionary Ridge November 25, and retreated to Dalton, Georgia, where it arrived November 27, and went into winter quarters with no tents, and scanty rations. Crude shelters were erected, which were not as comfortable as they might have been made, "due to a shortage of axes." On December 14, the 12th/47th reported 281 effectives, 373 present, and 220 arms. On January 18, 1864, the 47th re-enlisted for the war, along with Strahl's Brigade, and the 13th and 154th Regiments, which moved General Hindman to issue a proclamation, reading in part: "The spirit in which these brave men enlisted is an eloquent rebuke to the despondent.*** With men who thus prefer duty to ease and comfort nothing is impossible in war."

On February 20, the brigade was transferred back to Cheatham's Division, where it remained for the duration. The regiment was part of an expedition which started to reinforce General Polk, in Mississippi. It left Dalton, Georgia, on February 16, reached Demopolis, Alabama, and was ordered back to Dalton. The last company report was dated aboard the train at Atlanta, Georgia, on February 29, where the regiment was awaiting shipment to Dalton. It stated "The men regretted the return to Dalton to eat poor beef and cornbread, having been assured by General Polk there was plenty of pork and bacon in the Confederacy if commissaries would do their duty."

No further details of regimental activities were found, but as part of Cheatham's Division, the regiment went through the Atlanta Campaign under General Joseph E. Johnston, the return to Tennessee under General John B. Hood, and the final move to North Carolina and the Battle of Bentonville, North

Carolina.

On July 31, 1864, the 12/47th was reported commanded by Captain William S. Moore, of the 12th; on August 31, by Lieutenant Colonel Josiah N. Wyatt, of the 12th; on September 20, by Lieutenant Colonel V. G. Wynne, of the 47th; on December 10, by Captain C. N. Wade, of the 12th; and finally, at Smithfield, North Carolina on March 31, 1865, by Captain James R. Oliver of the 47th. On this date the 11th/29th/12th/47th/13th/51st/52nd/154th Tennessee Regiments were all consolidated into one unit under Captain Oliver.

In the final reorganization of General Joseph E. Johnston's Army April 9, 1865, the 47th was reported in the Second Consolidated Tennessee Infantry Regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel George W. Pease, composed of the 11th/12th/13th/29th/47th/50th/51st/52nd/154th Tennessee Infantry Regiments. As part of this regiment it was paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina May 2, 1865.

48th (NIXON'S) TENNESSEE INFANTRY REGIMENT

Organized April, 1862; consolidated with 48th (Voorhies') July, 1864.

FIELD OFFICERS

Colonel—George H. Nixon.

Lieutenant Colonel—T. R. Hughs.

Major—Joseph T. Younger.

CAPTAINS—O. T. Plummer, Co. "A". Most men from Companies "B" and "D" of Voorhies' Regiment.

W. C. Blanton, Co. "B". Most men from Captain Sowell's Company, Voorhies' Regiment.

Carlos C. Harris, Co. "C". Most men from Voorhies' Regiment.

John L. Griffin, Co. "D". Most men from Voorhies' Regiment.

McKinney Dooley, James C. Cooper, Co. "E". Formerly Dooley's Company, 54th Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

T. R. Hughs (to lieutenant colonel), E. J. Benham, Co. "F". Most men from Companies "A" and "H", 54th Regiment. Few from 53rd Regiment.

Lewis Miller, Co. "G". Formerly Co. "B", 54th Regiment.

James N. Curry, Newton A. Carrell, Co. "H". Formerly Co. "C", 54th Regiment.

John D. Ives, Henry G. Evans, Co. "I". Formerly Ives' Company, 54th Regiment.

James M. White, Jeremiah B. Lindsey, Co. "K". Consolidation of "E" and "G", 54th Regiment.

The regiment known as Nixon's 48th was organized at Corinth, Mississippi April, 1862. Four companies, "A" to "D", were composed mainly of men from Voorhies' 48th Tennessee who were not captured at Fort Donelson, plus a few additions from other regiments. Companies "E" to "K" were composed mainly of men from the 54th Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

The regiment was placed in Major General W. J. Hardee's Corps, Brigadier General Patrick R. Cleburne's Brigade composed of the 15th Arkansas, 2nd, 35th (B. J. Hill's 5th), 23rd, 24th, and 48th Tennessee Infantry Regiments and Clarkson's and Trigg's Batteries. The 48th, on April 26, reported 353 effectives. As part of the brigade, the 48th was involved in the engagement on Farmington Road May 28, just before the evacuation of Corinth. By June 30, the 23rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment had been transferred and Calvert's Battery had replaced the two previous batteries.

The brigade moved to Knoxville in June,