LARRY B. IVY - DAYS IN THE CONFEDERCY

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Larry B. Ivy joined the Confederate Army on Sept. 1, 1861 at Trenton Tennessee under a Capt. Johnston for a period of 12 months. Oliver Ivy joined shortly after that in Nov. also for a period of 12 months. Camp Trenton was about 63 miles from McNairy Co.
(All the distance shown in this story are "as the crow flies").

Larry and Oliver probably managed to be together, as they were both privates in Company G, 31st. regiment, Tennessee Infantry, in the fall of 1861, (according to their military records from the National archives).

From Trenton they moved to Camp Price, some 60 miles away. (In the beginning of the war, most of the men had to walk everywhere they went.) On Nov 29, 1861 they had marched to Columbus Ky.(some 75 miles).

By Feb. 28, 1862, they were in New Madrid, Mo. (They had traveled about 250 miles west by this time.)

By March 17 1862, the 31st was ordered to Fort Pillow, Tennessee, above Memphis. It was reported on April 6, 1862 that the 31st. was well outfitted with "new Enfield rifles, well clothed, arms and accoutrements in satisfactory condition, but that their camp police was in bad order, and discipline and instruction could be improved".
They probably went down the Mississippi River by barge, some 126 miles.

The regiment stayed at Fort Pillow until after the battle of Shilo, then moved on to Corinth, Mississippi at the end of April, 1862. (about 95 miles).

In Corinth the regiment came under the command of General Braxton Bragg. He was a strict disciplinarian. On one occasion in Cornith, when the 31st. Tennessee regiment found its one-year term of enlistment extended by the Confederate conscription act, the men agreed to continue in service but insisted on a brief leave to visit their homes. Bragg held the soldiers in their place by deploying a battery of artillery and threatening to open fire on them. The Ivy's would have been within 30 miles of their home.

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The army next moved from Cornith to Tupelo, and on to Chattanooga, Tenn. Bragg had to move his men by train, so they were sent 800 miles going south to Mobil, Alabama, then east to Atlanta, Georgia, and then northwest to Chattanooga.

The 31st. then started marching to Kentucky. The trek ended in Perryville where the confederates with about 16,000 men faced about 60,000 federal troops.. After some fierce fighting and the loss of at least 100 men from the 31st, Bragg ordered his troops to retreat under cover of darkness and they headed back to Murfreesboro barely getting back to Tennessee before the federal troops cut off their line of retreat.

The 31st. engaged in the battle of Murfreesboro and Stones River on Dec. 31, 1862. Again the confederate army was outnumbered and retreated to Shelbyville to winter quarters. Sometime between Jan. and May, 1863, Warren Oliver Ivy died, according to the Muster rolls dated May 12, 1863. Maybe from wounds received at Stones River. Larry Ivy deserted the army and went home. Oliver was 24 at this time, Larry was 22.

Larry Ivy was my Great-Grandfather. He married Sarah Garner on Dec. 27, 1866. They had 7 children. He moved to Texas and then to Oklahoma where he passed away on Aug. 5, 1905 in Purdy, Oklahoma.

To the best of out knowledge the above story is fact. If we get more information we will update it.

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May copy or contact these people.