

TENNESSEANS
IN
THE CIVIL WAR

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

In Two Parts

Part I

Published by the
CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION
Nashville, Tennessee

1964

1st (ROGERS') TENNESSEE CAVALRY REGIMENT

Also called 1st (Rogers') East Tennessee Cavalry Regiment: 2nd (McLin's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment: 2nd Tennessee Cavalry Battalion: 13th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion.

Organized January 7, 1862; reorganized May 24, 1862 with eight companies; reduced to battalion August 12, 1862, known as 2nd Battalion, but officially recognized as 13th Battalion; raised to regiment by addition of two more companies on December 16, 1862, and designated as 5th (McKenzie's) Cavalry Regiment.

FIELD OFFICERS

Colonels—John F. Rogers, John B. McLin

Lieutenant Colonels—John F. White,

George W. McKenzie

Majors—John B. McLin, John C. M. Montgomery

CAPTAINS—A. J. Brock, Co. "A". Organized October 19, 1861 at Knoxville. From Union County. Mustered out of service April 12, 1862.

George W. McKenzie, Co. "B". Organized November 1, 1861 at Decatur, Meigs County. Became "C", 5th Regiment.

William L. Brown, Co. "C". Organized November 12, 1861 at Cleveland, Bradley County. Became Co. "H", 63rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

Robert W. McClary, Co. "D". Organized November 13, 1861 at Cleveland, Bradley County. Men from Polk County. Became Co. "E", 5th Regiment.

Thomas S. Gorman, Co. "E". Organized November 20, 1861 at Knoxville, Knox County. Men from Cocke County. Became Co. "F", 5th Regiment.

John F. White, J. L. Blackwell, Co. "F". "The Bird Rangers". Organized August 24, 1861 at Knoxville, Camp Cummings. Men mainly from Hamilton County. Some from North Alabama and North Georgia. Became Co. "A", 13th Battalion, and Co. "A", 5th Regiment.

John B. McLin, Co. "G". Organized October 21, 1861 at Knoxville, Tennessee. Men from Washington and Greene Counties. Became Co. "H", 5th Regiment.

James M. Kincaid, Co. "H". Organized January 27, 1862 at Knoxville, Tennessee. Men from Roane, Meigs and McMinn Counties. Became Co. "B", 5th Regiment.

J. G. M. Montgomery, Alvin W. Beagles,

Co. "I". Organized February 14, 1862 at Cleveland. Men from Bradley County. Became Co. "D", 5th Regiment.

William B. Jones, Co. "K". An independent company mustered into Confederate service at Knoxville, March 31, 1862. Attached to regiment in May, 1862. Became Co. "G", 5th Regiment.

Immediately upon organization the regiment was ordered to the Kentucky border to meet the army on its retreat from the Battle of Fishing Creek, and was kept on duty in East Tennessee and the border counties of Kentucky throughout the balance of the year.

A Federal report from Colonel James P. T. Carter, 2nd East Tennessee Regiment, U.S.A. reported that a force under his command, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel James Keigwin, 49th Indiana Volunteers, numbering about 1300 men, climbed across the Cumberland Mountains on foot during the night of March 13, 1862, and at 6:00 A.M. on the 14th, surprised a Confederate camp at Big Creek Gap, under Lieutenant Colonel John F. White, and after a brisk fight of about five minutes, put it to flight. He reported the Confederate loss at five killed, 15 wounded, and 15 taken prisoner, including Lieutenant Colonel John F. White, and Lieutenant Hoyl. The regimental standard of the 1st East Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, captured in this engagement by the 49th Indiana Volunteers, was returned by the Governor of Indiana to the Governor of Tennessee on May 31, 1862.

On March 15, 1862, Major General E. Kirby Smith reported: "I have the honor to report that the enemy, having passed the Cumberland Mountains, surprised and captured, without the fire of a gun, I believe, the larger number of two companies of the 1st East Tennessee Cavalry near Jacksboro. *** From what I have learned of the character of the troops from East Tennessee in our service, and of their strong Union proclivities, greatly increased by their relationship to, and from intimate association with many citizens who have fled the country to espouse the Union cause, I am satisfied the capture near Jacksboro was the result of treachery."

His strictures as to the quality of the troops from East Tennessee did an injustice to many organizations from that section who had a fine record in the Confederate service, and certainly two companies of cavalry could hardly be expected to stand off an attack by 1300 infantrymen. However that be, instructions were sent to General D. Leadbetter, at Kingston, Tennessee, on March 26; "The Major General directs that the orders regulating the conduct of the cavalry be rigorously enforced. Besides, he wishes you to inspect the companies in that service in your command, especially the First East Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, and report to Headquarters the degree of discipline and efficiency they have attained. If, after making your inspection, it is your opinion that any company, or companies, should be disbanded, you will recommend the adoption of such course and state your reasons in the report you will make. The Department must be purged of every marauding mounted company. If the men cannot be reformed, they must be disbanded."

Shortly after this, on April 12, 1862, Captain Brock's Company "A" was mustered out of service, although it is not known whether or not this was a result of General Leadbetter's inspection. On May 24, the regiment was reorganized under the conscript act with the election of Captain John B. McLin as Colonel, and for the next several months the

regiment was listed in *Official Records* as 2nd (McLin's) Cavalry Regiment. As such, it was placed in Colonel Benjamin Allston's Brigade, along with the 1st Georgia Regiment, 1st, later called 2nd (Ashby's) Regiment, 3rd (Starnes') Regiment and Huwald's Battery; the brigade was in Brigadier General Henry Heth's Division.

On July 15, four companies of McLin's 2nd Regiment were surprised at Wallace's Crossroads, near Clinton, Tennessee, and suffered a number of casualties, and the loss of all their baggage and stores.

On August 12, 1862, by order of General E. Kirby Smith, John B. McLin was relieved from duty as colonel, and the command was designated the 2nd Cavalry Battalion, under Lieutenant Colonel George W. McKenzie. However, there was already one 2nd Battalion, and the battalion was officially designated the 13th Battalion.

In October and December, two other companies were ordered to report to the battalion by General Bragg, and on December 16, 1862, by order of the Secretary of War, the battalion was raised to a regiment, and designated the 5th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment under Colonel George W. McKenzie. For the further history of the organization, see the history of 5th (McKenzie's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment which had a long and honorable record.

1st (CARTER'S) TENNESSEE CAVALRY REGIMENT

Organized November, 1862 by the addition of other companies to what was originally 3rd (Brazelton's), later 14th (Carter's) Tennessee Cavalry Battalion. Brazelton's Battalion was also called the 2nd Battalion and the 5th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion.

FIELD OFFICERS

Colonel—James E. Carter

Lieutenant Colonel—Onslow Bean

Majors—A. M. Goforth, John B. King, Richard S. VanDyke

The 3rd (Brazelton's) Tennessee Cavalry Battalion was organized with six companies in 1861 as a twelve month organization, with Lieutenant Colonel William Brazelton, Jr., and Major James C. Bradford as Field Officers. On March 27, 1862 the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office ordered: "The 3rd

Cavalry Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel William Brazelton, Jr., with companies of Captains McHenry, McCaskill, Bledsoe and Sanders, are hereby organized into a regiment to be known and designated as the 1st Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, with Colonel William Brazelton, Jr. and Lieutenant Colonel James F. Brewer as field officers." This order was apparently never put into effect, for on May 12, 1862, the battalion was reorganized with James E. Carter as lieutenant colonel, and Onslow Bean as major, and was officially recognized as the 14th (Carter's) Tennessee Cavalry Battalion. Finally on November 14, 1862, the battalion was increased to a regiment by the addition of four other companies; two other companies were added in 1863. The company letters were changed at the reor-

ganization as the 14th Battalion, and again at the organization of the regiment. The original companies, with changes in company letters shown, were as follows:

Regi- 14th Original Battalion

- Co. "A" "B" "B" Organized at Sulphur Springs, Rhea County. Captains Burton Lentz, Green B. Keys.
- Co. "B" "C" "C" Organized August 7, 1861 at Cleveland, Bradley County, with men from Hamilton County. Captains William Snow, John B. King, David N. Montgomery.
- Co. "C" "D" "A" Organized August 3, 1861 at Athens, McMinn County. Men from McMinn and Monroe. Captains J. A. Gouldy, Richard S. Van Dyke, Andrew J. Thompson.
- Co. "D" "F" "E" Organized August 5, 1861 at Knoxville, with men from Rhea, Roane and Bledsoe Counties. Captains Tim Bradley, William T. Gass, Weatherston S. Greer.
- Co. "E" "E" "D" Organized August 8, 1861 at Knoxville, with men from Union and Knox Counties. Captains John Robertson, E. Hurst, John J. Jamagin, D. C. Smart.
- Co. "K" "A" "F" Organized July 20, 1861 at Mossy Creek, Jefferson County. Captains John F. Baker, James C. Bradford, Alex M. Goforth, Richard M. Swearingen.
- Additional companies added at organization of the regiment:
- Co. "F" Organized August 10, 1862 from Claiborne County. No muster roll on file. Captain R. Frank Fulker-son.
- Co. "G" Formerly Co. "L", 64th North Carolina Infantry Regiment. Organized September 17, 1862 at

- Maryville, Blount County. Captains A. P. Wiggs, J. M. Kidd.
- Co. "H" Formerly Co. "G", Thomas' North Carolina Legion. Organized September 24, 1862 from Jefferson County. Captains David Neff, T. Coursey.
- Co. "I" Formerly Co. "D", Thomas' North Carolina Legion. Organized September 25, 1862 in Blount County. Captain William C. Wallace. No muster roll on file.
- Later additions to the regiment.
- Co. "L" Organized as six month troops August, 1863, in Claiborne County. Ordered by Lieutenant General James Longstreet into permanent organization March 9, 1864. Captain William A. Blackburn. No muster roll on file.
- Co. "M" Organized September 3, 1863 at Jonesboro, from a number of conscripts enlisted within the enemy lines. Attached to this regiment by Brigadier General John C. Vaughn, March 11, 1864. Men from Washington, Sullivan and Carter Counties. Not accounted for on regimental roster dated February 1865. Captain Edward Gammon.
- Prior to the organization of the regiment, the battalion had been operating in the neighborhood of Cumberland and Big Creek Gaps, along the line of railroad. When the regiment was organized it was assigned to Brigadier General John Pegram's Cavalry Brigade in Lieutenant General E. Kirby Smith's Department. This brigade was composed of Howard's Alabama Regiment, 2nd (Ashby's), 4th (Starnes'), J. E. Carter's Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, and Marshall's Battery. Prior to the Battle of Murfreesboro, on December 29, 1862, Carter's Regiment joined Brigadier General Joseph Wheeler's Brigade, and participated in his raid around the Federal Army from Jefferson Springs to LaVergne, to Nolensville, to Murfreesboro. It was engaged on December 31 along the Murfreesboro Pike. Following this battle, the regiment returned to Pegram's Brigade, in the Department of East Tennessee under Brigadier General D. S. Donelson. On February 20, 1863, this brigade was reported as composed of the 1st Georgia, 1st Louisiana, 1st (Carter's) Tennessee, 2nd

(Ashby's) Tennessee Regiments, the 16th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion, Captain N. C. Langford's Escort, and Huswald's Battery and was near Clinton, Tennessee.

However, Captain R. S. Van Dyke's Company "C" had been detached to Colonel A. W. Reynolds' Brigade in the Department of Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana, and served in the campaign around Vicksburg, and the siege of Vicksburg, until the surrender of that city on July 4, 1863, when it was temporarily attached to Colonel T. N. Waul's Texas Legion.

With Pegram's Brigade, the regiment took part in operations in Lincoln, Boyle and Garrard Counties of Kentucky, and was engaged March 30, 1863 at the junction of the Stanford and Crab Orchard Roads where it was under the command of Colonel J. S. Scott, of the 1st Louisiana Regiment. General Pegram's comment on this operation is interesting: "For Colonel Scott's operations, I refer you to the accompanying report. Touching this curious document I have only to say that I cannot but admire the ingenuity with which Colonel Scott has attempted to account for disobedience of orders and dilatoriness of action which it is my sincere belief lost us the fight." Colonel Carter reported five officers and 32 men as casualties in this operation.

On April 25, 1863, Colonel J. J. Morrison was reported in command of the brigade, now listed as composed of 1st Georgia, 1st and 2nd Tennessee Regiments, 12th and 16th Cavalry Battalions, and Huswald's Battery. The brigade was at Albany, Kentucky on May 1; at Travisville, Fentress County, Kentucky on May 2. On July 23, the Chief of Staff, at Knoxville, ordered Colonel Scott, then commanding the brigade, to send 300 horses of 1st (Carter's) Regiment to Loudon, Tennessee. On July 31, Pegram's Brigade, consisting of 1st and 6th Georgia Regiments, 7th North Carolina Battalion, 1st Tennessee Regiment, Rucker's Legion, and Huswald's Battery was reported at Ebenezer. On August 15, Carter's Regiment was reported as operating near Clinton. It participated in the fighting around Cumberland Gap which resulted in the capture of that point by the Federal troops on September 9, 1863, but the regiment had escaped up the valley before the surrender, and on September 11 Colonel Carter was reported in command of the brigade near Lee

Courthouse. On September 18, Carter's Regiment was driven from the ford above Kingsport after a severe fight.

Somewhere about this time, the regiment was assigned to Brigadier General John S. Williams' Cavalry Brigade, composed of the 16th Georgia Battalion, 4th Kentucky Regiment, 10th Kentucky Battalion, May's Kentucky Regiment, 1st Tennessee and 64th Virginia Regiments, which on October 31, 1863 was reported at Saltville, Virginia. On the same date, October 31, 1863, Special Order Number 282 of the Army of Tennessee placed 1st (Carter's) Regiment in the 2nd Brigade of Major General Joseph Wheeler's Cavalry Corps, and on November 19, 1863 an order from the Headquarters of the Cavalry Corps near Knoxville ordered: "Brigadier General W. Y. C. Humes will proceed to Dalton, Georgia and report to Brigadier General H. B. Davidson for assignment to a cavalry brigade composed of the following regiments; 1st (6th) Wheeler's, 1st (Carter's), 4th (Baxter Smith's), 11th (Holman's). On November 20, 1863, General Bragg's organization of the Army of Tennessee showed the regiment in Brigadier General Henry B. Davidson's Brigade, Major General John A. Wharton's Division, Major General Joseph Wheeler's Cavalry Corps. This listed the brigade as composed of 1st (Carter's), 2nd (Ashby's), 4th (McLemore's), 6th (James T. Wheeler's), and 11th (Holman's) Regiments.

Despite these orders, Carter's Regiment was reported near Rogersville on November 1, in Williams' Brigade, with Colonel H. L. Giltner commanding. On November 30, and on December 31, Colonel Carter was reported as commanding the brigade. Perhaps the explanation for this apparent contradiction may be found in a statement by Colonel Carter in his sketch of the regiment in *Lindsay's Annals*. He stated that Captain Swearingen's Company "K" was with General Johnston on his memorable march from Dalton to Atlanta, and did some hard fighting. Apparently this company was listed in orders of battle as the 1st Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, for it was mentioned in Federal reports of the fighting around Marietta, Georgia on June 20, 1864, and was shown as a member of Ashby's Brigade, of Humes' Division on June 30, 1864.

In the meantime, Captain Van Dyke's Com-

pany "C" had returned from Mississippi, and on November 24, 1863 was at Charleston, Tennessee with Colonel John C. Carter's 38th Tennessee Infantry Regiment. Colonel Carter highly commended Captain Van Dyke and his 44 men for the part they played in helping his forces to evacuate Charleston without being captured. Captain Van Dyke's Company later rejoined the regiment, and Van Dyke became major, but it is not known whether or not Swearingen's Company was ever reunited with the rest of the regiment.

On April 16, 1864, the regiment was transferred to Vaughn's Brigade, of Brigadier General J. C. Vaughn's Division, and reported 248 men present. It remained in this brigade until the end of the war. As part of Vaughn's Brigade, the regiment moved into Virginia in

2nd (ASHBY'S) TENNESSEE CAVALRY REGIMENT

Reported as First Tennessee Cavalry Regiment until December, 1862. Organized May 24, 1862 by consolidation of 4th (Branner's) and 5th (McLellan's) Battalions; last reported April 9, 1865 in General Joseph E. Johnston's Army.

This regiment is not to be confused with another 2nd Tennessee Cavalry Regiment commanded by Colonel E. S. Smith, nor with Barteau's 22nd Regiment which was sometimes mustered as the 2nd Tennessee Cavalry Regiment.

FIELD OFFICERS

Colonel—Henry M. Ashby

Lieutenant Colonel—Henry C. Gillespie

Major—Pharaoh A. Cobb

Captain John H. Kuhn was later major, and then lieutenant colonel. Captain William M. Smith later became major.

CAPTAINS—John H. Kuhn, Co. "A", formerly "H", 5th Battalion.

Henry C. Gillespie (to lieutenant colonel). John R. Rogers, John H. Burke, Co. "B", formerly "C", 5th Battalion.

William F. Ford, James Ford, Co. "C", formerly "D", 5th Battalion.

William P. Owen, Co. "D", formerly "C", 4th Battalion.

William M. Smith, Co. "E", formerly "D", 4th Battalion.

Spencer C. Stone, Co. "F", formerly "F", 4th Battalion.

early 1864, fought at the Battle of Piedmont, or New Hope Church, and in the subsequent campaign in the Valley of Virginia under General Early. On August 22, 1864, Major General Ransom recommended the consolidation of the 12th and 16th Tennessee Cavalry Battalions with the 1st Tennessee Regiment under Colonel Carter, whom he called "a fine officer." This recommendation was not accepted and these units continued in the same brigade, as separate organizations.

The last record of the regiment on February 28, 1865, showed it still in Vaughn's Brigade, with Brigadier General John Echols in command of the Department. Echols disbanded his forces upon learning of the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Courthouse.

William L. Clark, Co. "G", formerly "B", 4th Battalion.

Clark Rhodes, Co. "H", formerly "A", 4th Battalion.

N. C. Langford, Co. "I", formerly "E", 4th Battalion.

Will Wallace Gillespie, Co. "K", formerly "E", 5th Battalion.

For date and place of organization of these companies see the histories of the 4th and 5th Tennessee Cavalry Battalions.

The regiment was placed in the 1st Cavalry Brigade, Major General E. Kirby Smith's Department of East Tennessee. The brigade was commanded by Colonel Ben Allston. The other member of the brigade was listed as 2nd Tennessee Cavalry, commanded by Colonel J. B. McLin. On June 12, Captain Owen's company was ordered to Maynardsville, to observe and report on crossings of the Clinch River. On June 20, Colonel Ashby took command of Allston's Brigade, and was instructed to have his cavalry to give information to Headquarters at Knoxville of everything of importance that transpired on his front.

On July 3, 1862, Colonel Benjamin Allston was again in command of the brigade, which was reported in Brigadier General Henry Heth's Division, and was composed of the 1st Georgia Regiment, 1st Tennessee (Ashby), 2nd Tennessee (McLin), 3rd Tennessee (Starnes) and Huwald's Battery. On

instructions were issued that "Captain Owen's Company, constituting the escort of the Commanding General, must be withdrawn from Maynardsville, and be replaced by other troops."

Federal reports indicate that four companies of the 1st Georgia, with one company of Ashby's Regiment surprised a force at Lead Mines Bend on the Powell River on June 30, capturing a number of prisoners. Again on August 17, a Federal force at Cumberland Ford reported the loss of 60 men as the result of an attack by Ashby's Cavalry, 600 strong. On August 29, Captain Rhodes' Company was surprised at Rogers' Gap, and suffered the loss of six killed, six or eight wounded, and 19 taken prisoner, including Captain Rhodes.

On October 22, Major General John P. McCown, at Cumberland Gap, was instructed to send Smith's Legion, together with the commands of Colonel Ashby and Major Slaughter to Flat Lick, Kentucky. On October 31, Ashby's Regiment, together with Carter's 1st, Starnes' 3rd, the 3rd Confederate Regiment, and Huwald's and Kain's Artillery were reported in Brigadier General John Pegram's Cavalry Brigade of Heth's Division. Heth's Division was reported at Cumberland and Big Creek Gaps, and along the line of railroad on November 20, 1862, but shortly thereafter Pegram's Brigade moved to join the Army of Tennessee at Murfreesboro.

Here Ashby's Regiment was detached to Brigadier General John A. Wharton's Brigade of General Joseph Wheeler's Cavalry Corps. As part of Wharton's Brigade it operated in the rear of the Federal Army, and participated in an attack upon Federal cavalry along the Nashville pike, Tuesday, December 30, 1862, capturing a wagon train and several pieces of artillery as a result of the charge. Ashby's Regiment was then ordered to report to General Pegram "early Thursday morning."

On February 20, 1863, Pegram's Brigade was reported as consisting of the 1st Georgia, 1st Louisiana, 1st Tennessee (Carter's), 2nd Tennessee (Ashby's), 16th Tennessee Battalion, Huwald's Battery, and Captain N. C. Langford's Company of the 2nd acting as Escort. As part of the brigade it moved in March on a raid into Kentucky to gather cattle and supplies, and participated in a raid

and in an engagement near Stanford on March 29. Colonel Ashby was commended by General Pegram for his conduct in this action.

On April 25, Colonel J. J. Morrison was in command of a brigade with headquarters at Albany, Kentucky, composed of the 1st Georgia, 1st (Carter's) Tennessee, 2nd (Ashby's) Tennessee Regiments, and the 12th and 16th Tennessee Cavalry Battalions. The Brigade was at Travisville, Fentress County, Kentucky on May 2nd.

Shortly thereafter, the regiment was transferred to Colonel John S. Scott's Brigade, composed of the 10th Confederate, 1st Louisiana, 2nd (Ashby's), 5th (McKenzie's) Tennessee Regiments, 5th North Carolina Battalion, and Marshall's Battery. As part of this brigade it took part in a raid into Eastern Kentucky from July 25 to August 6, 1863. The raid started from Big Creek Gap, and reached Irvine, Richmond, and Winchester.

At Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863, Scott's Brigade was in General Pegram's Cavalry Division. The regiment suffered 19 casualties, including Captain Ford and Lieutenant Crozier, who were killed.

On November 20, the regiment was reported in Wheeler's Corps, Major General John A. Wharton's Division, Brigadier General H. B. Davidson's Brigade. The brigade was composed of the 1st (Carter's), 2nd (Ashby's), 4th (McLemore's), 6th (Wheeler's) and 11th (Holman's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiments. Certainly not all of the 1st (Carter's) Regiment was in the brigade, although it is possible that one company was. On January 20, 1864, the 5th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment had been added, and 11th was no longer included. The 2nd at this time was commanded by Captain William M. Smith. On April 30, the brigade, commanded by Colonel James T. Wheeler, was reported as Humes' Brigade, of Brigadier General W. Y. C. Humes' Division. At this time it was reported as composed of the 1st (or 6th), 2nd, 5th (McKenzie's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiments, and the 9th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion. Captain Kuhn was in command of the 2nd.

On June 30, the brigade was reported as Ashby's Brigade, and was so known during the rest of the war, with Colonel H. M. Ashby in command. At this time, the 4th was no longer listed as a member of the brigade, but