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to use these documents as they
deem best for the advancement
of common knowledge concerning
STANTON'S MS. BAKER

Rusty Reaves

Bettie-

2-28-99

Rusty stopped by and
gave these to you - he said he
was in here on Friday. He
also has more things to send
you.

Thanks,
Aisha

A Short History of Stanford's Mississippi Battery

Stanford's Mississippi Battery, of Yalobusha County, Mississippi, was organized by Capt. Thomas J. Stanford at Grenada, Mississippi, on May 17, 1861. It was mustered into the service of the Confederate States on November 6, 1861, at Grenada. About that time they received their first two artillery pieces, twelve-pounder howitzers.

The muster roll of November 6 was for twelve months with four commissioned officers, eight non-commissioned officers, and seventy men.

Officers of the First Muster	
Commissioned Officers	Non-commissioned Officers
Captain.....Thomas J. Stanford	Orderly Sgt.....Dr. James S. McCall
First Lt.....Hugh R. McSwine	Sgt.....William A. Brown
Jr. First Lt.....Ansel A. Harden	Sgt.....Stedman D. Carroll
Second Lt.....Dr. Tillman R. Trotter	Sgt.....Benjamin C. Duncan
	Cpl.....W. F. Dubard
	Cpl.....Abner H. Ely
	Cpl.....George Thomas Koon
	Cpl.....David T. Owens

The battery was ordered to Columbus, Kentucky, on November 7, 1861, and remained there with the Army of the Mississippi under the command of Gen. Lucius Polk until the evacuation and the retreat to Corinth, Mississippi, which began on March 1, 1862.

In early March Dr. James S. McCall was elected Jr. Second Lieutenant while the battery was stationed at Humbolt, Tennessee. Sgt. H. N. Bingham was elected Orderly Sergeant. While at Corinth in March, the battery became fully equipped, with two 12-pounder howitzers, three 6-pounders, and one 3" rifle and an appropriate number of horses to draw them. The men were able to practice and drill with the pieces, but they were never able to fire them until April.

At the reorganization of Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston's army into Department No. 2 early in 1862, the battery was attached to Gen. Alexander P. Stewart's Brigade of Gen. Charles Clark's First Division. The battery was reinforced on the third of April at Humbolt, Tennessee, by a detachment of approximately 20 men from the Vaiden Artillery. The men from Vaiden were to take the place of men who were sick and be available as reinforcements for those who were wounded or killed in battle.

On April 5, 1862, the men of the battery saw their first line of battle when the infantry to which they were attached bivouacked in line of battle for the night. That night the guns were first placed "in position." On the morning of the fifth, while in marching formation, Generals Johnston, Beauregard, and Polk came past their line and stopped for a time. This was their first, and only, glimpse of Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston, who was killed early on the afternoon of April 6, and was succeeded by Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard.

At the Battle of Shiloh on April 6 and April 7, 1862, Stanford's Battery was the only Mississippi organization in the division commanded by Gen. Charles Clark (who later became governor of Mississippi.) Gen. Clark was wounded early during the battle and was succeeded by Gen. Stewart.

Gen. Polk reported that, due to the scarcity of ammunition, before going into battle on April 6, Stanford's men had never before heard the report of their own guns, but they fought with the steadiness and gallantry of well-trained troops. As was the case with most artillery units early in the war, Capt. Stanford was left to find his own position and work where he was deemed most needed. He found a Federal battery in action and opened upon and silenced it at 600 yards distance.

On the sixth, during the course of the fight that compelled the surrender of Gen. Prentiss' Federal division, Gen. Ruggles brought up the battery from Col. Robert Trabue's 4th Kentucky and Stanford's Battery to oppose a Federal column that was

advancing and gaining ground. According to Gen. Daniel Ruggles (of Gen. Braxton Bragg's Second Corps), "... and when the conflict was at its height these batteries opened upon the Federals' concentrated forces, producing immediate commotion, and soon resulted in the precipitate retreat of the enemy from the contest. At this moment the Second Brigade and the Crescent Regiment pressed forward and cut off a considerable portion of the enemy, who surrendered."

On the seventh Stanford and his gunners were sent to the support of a column commanded by Gen. John C. Breckinridge and, at the direction of Gen. Thomas C. Hindman, engaged a Federal battery at a range of some 500 yards, keeping up the battle gallantly. Although Breckinridge's charge failed, Capt. Stanford held his position until almost surrounded, and then he brought off as much of the battery as he could. Meanwhile, his persistent stand had enabled the infantry to rally before falling into complete rout. After the battle, Capt. Stanford gave an honorable mention to Lieutenants McSwine, Hardin, Trotter, and McCall. He also gave an honorable mention to Lt. Dunlap, a former West Point undergraduate, who was temporarily attached.

In the battle at Shiloh the battery had 131 men engaged, of whom six were killed or mortally wounded, 15 were wounded, and two were captured.

Battle of Shiloh		
KILLED	WOUNDED	CAPTURED
Pvt. John J. Bowen	Sgt. William A. Brown	Pvt. James W. Granberry
Pvt. Charles J. Quinn	Sgt. George W. Jones	Pvt. Samuel P. Lacock
Pvt. William B. Rose	Cpl. John T. Moore	
(3 more unknown)	(12 more Unknown)	

They also lost fifty horses and four of their six guns, but this was through no fault of their own. The guns were later recaptured but could not be brought away from the field, as there were no teams to draw them away.

Following the battle of Shiloh, Gen. Beauregard, commanding, moved the army to the rail center at Corinth, Mississippi. The roads were wet and marshy and almost impassable. During the siege of Corinth, (April 29 - May 29) the battery was re-fitted with four 3" brass cannons. After the Federal forces gathered to the north the Confederates abandoned Corinth and moved south to Tupelo, Mississippi, on May 30, 1862.

Following the retreat to Tupelo the battery set out on the march to Chattanooga, Tennessee, on July 23. They arrived at Chattanooga on August 7. After another reorganization on August 18, with Capt. Stanford still commanding the battery, it became attached to Stewart's Brigade of Cheatham's Division of Polk's Right Wing of the Army of the Mississippi, commanded by Gen. Braxton Bragg who had taken command during June.

The battery accompanied Bragg's army to Kentucky, crossing the Cumberland Mountains for the first time. This was a feat they were to accomplish several times during the next two years, using as many as sixteen horses to each gun in the more difficult passages. In Kentucky they were involved in the capture of Federal soldiers at Munfordville on September 17 and were heavily engaged in the Battle of Perryville on October 8. During this battle the battery lost, from a single shot by a distant Federal battery, one killed and two mortally wounded. When the infantry charged the Federal line the battery advanced and aided materially in the battle won on that part of the field.

Battle of Perryville		
KILLED		CAPTURED
Pvt. J. C. Roycroft	Pvt. Calvin P. McCall	Pvt. Henry T. Hemphill
	Pvt. John W. Wakefield	

After Perryville they marched back through Cumberland Gap to Knoxville and across the mountains to Tullahoma, Tennessee. Since leaving Tupelo in July the battery had marched more than 1200 miles when they reached Tullahoma on November 10.

At Murfreesboro, Tennessee, the battery was attached to Brig. Gen. Alexander P. Stewart's Second Brigade of Maj. Gen. B. F. Cheatham's First Division of Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk's Corps. On Tuesday afternoon, December 30, 1862, Gen. Stewart was asked for artillery to support Gen. Manigault's Brigade (of Maj. Gen. Jones M. Withers' Second Division). "Knowing that Stanford, his officers, and his men were always ready to go wherever needed, two pieces were promptly dispatched, in charge of Lt. A. A. Hardin. On their return I was informed that they were not properly supported; but that they were required to engage, at a distance not exceeding six hundred yards, guns that were throwing shell, canister, and spherical case; that accomplished no useful purpose but sustained some loss, one or two men being wounded, and Lt. A. A. Hardin, a most

estimable and gallant young officer, being killed."

Capt. Stanford reported that Lt. Hardin had performed the object of his mission and was returning to the battery when he was killed by a cannon shot. In the great Battle of Murfreesboro on the thirty-first, Capt. Stanford was employed under the immediate orders of Gen. Polk, fighting effectively from the old field on the right replying to the fire of the Federal artillery, protecting the Confederate columns when repulsed, and checking the Federal advances. The battery advanced as far as the Cowan house on the Nashville Pike and gave material aid to the Confederate advance, although exposed to a galling fire, which killed two of his gunners.

On January 1, 1863, the batteries of Stanford, Carnes, and Smith were posted near the railroad, where they went into action on January 2. To assist with the attack by Gen. Breckinridge at four in the evening, Capt. Stanford was instructed to open on the left of the woods to draw their fire from our right. "This I evidently succeeded in doing," Stanford reported. "They turned all their batteries on me, producing a concentration of shot and shell such as I have ever witnessed." The artillery forces that Gen. Rosecrans massed to repel the attack by Gen. Breckinridge was the greatest known to that time during the war in the west, and was only equaled by the artillery battle in the same month at Fredricksburg, VA.

Capt. Stanford cared for his men so well that in the battle only three men were killed and four wounded, and seven horses were killed. He complimented the conduct of Lt. McSwine and Lt. McCall. "The whole company acted bravely, doing no discredit to their reputation gained at Shiloh and Perryville." Pvt. Richard H. Elliott was chosen to represent this command on a Roll of Honor for this battle.

In February, 1863, Capt. Stanford wrote:

Camp Near Shelbyville

February 9, 1863

In compliance with General Order No. 10

Headquarters of the Army of Tennessee, I

beg to report the name of Private Richard H.

Elliott one of the chosen fell by vote of the

company as "this soldier best entitled to receive

a 'badge of distinction':

"From the "officers" I cannot discriminate.

Each one did his duty- They could do no more."

I have the honor to be

your obedient

Capt. T. J. Stanford

Capt.- Light Artillery

This was sent to: Brig. Gen. A. P. Stewart, First Brigade, Cheatham's Division, P. C. A. T.

Battle of Murfreesboro	
KILLED	WOUNDED
Lt. A. A. Hardin	Pvt. Malcomb Hartsfield
Pvt. William C. Brooks	Sgt. Benjamin G. Duncan
Pvt. Richard H. Elliott	Pvt. Printis L. Shumate
	Cpl. John E. Magee
	Pvt. Charles A. Phillips
	Pvt. Thomas C. Rosamond
	(1 more unknown)

After Murfreesboro the army went into its winter camp near Shelbyville, TN. Stanford's Battery was placed on the pike between Murfreesboro and Shelbyville. On April 22, 1863, at this camp, Orderly Sgt. William A. Brown was elected as Jr. Second Lieutenant to take the place of Lt. Hardin.

Stanford's Battery was assigned to Gen. Otho H. Strahl's Tennessee Brigade of Gen. Benjamin F. Cheatham's Division of Polk's Corps of The Army of Tennessee during the Chickamauga campaign which took place in September, 1863. At the Battle of Chickamauga on September 19 Strahl's Brigade suffered heavy losses against Gen. Thomas' wing of the Union army. The forests of Chickamauga's valley did not permit much use of Capt. Stanford's new 3" rifles, and they were not engaged until after Gen. Strahl had been driven back. Gen. Strahl wrote, "My battery was at all times immediately in my rear and ready, at a moment's notice, to go into position had the opportunity offered where it could have been used with effect."

Battle of Chickamauga	
KILLED	WOUNDED
	Pvt. Robert F. Burt
	Pvt. William C. Chatham
	Pvt. James R. Heath
	Pvt. John H. McNeill

Following the siege of Chattanooga and the Battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, the company was transferred to Gen. A. P. Stewart's Division. Capt. Stanford commanded the battery with 116 men and officers present and armed with four 12-pounder Napoleon guns.

Battle of Missionary Ridge		
KILLED	WOUNDED	CAPTURED
		Pvt. James D. Beston
		Pvt. Samuel C. Wilson

The winter of 1863 was spent in camp near Dalton, GA. On December 2 Gen. Braxton Bragg was relieved of duty as commander of the Army of Tennessee, and on December 27 Gen. Joseph E. Johnston assumed command. In March, 1864, the battery had 125 men and officers present and absent.

During the Atlanta Campaign Major John W. Eldridge assumed command of the artillery battalion assigned to Stewart's Division of Gen. John Bell Hood's Corps, Gen. Hood assuming command beginning on March 10. The battalion consisted of Stanford's Mississippi Battery, the Eufaula Battery under the command of Capt. McDonald Oliver of Eufaula, Alabama, and Fenner's Louisiana Battery under the command of Capt. Charles E. Fenner.

After wintering in Dalton, GA, on May 12 through May 15 in 1864, the battalion was engaged in the Battle of Rocky Face Ridge just north of Dalton. On May 12 the Army of Tennessee had begun a move toward Atlanta, moving a few miles and then digging in and skirmishing, and then repeating the process many times over the next several months.

In his report of the Battle of Resaca on May 15, 1864, Gen. Stewart wrote (Report Number 654), "During the advance Stanford's Battery was of material assistance, and I deeply regret the loss of that skillful and brave officer, Capt. T. J.

Stanford, with whom it has been my good fortune to be associated with little interruption since March, 1862." Stanford's Battery was posted along the line of Gen. Henry D. Clayton, who also mentioned Captain Stanford's death in Report Number 663. He wrote "... nor must I omit the gallant T. J. Stanford, whose battery was posted along my line, and who fell during the charge of my brigade. This battery rendered valuable assistance in enabling me to regain my position, and it was under these circumstances that I learned, with deepest grief, that its brave captain had yielded up his life."

After Capt. Stanford was killed at about 4:00 PM, Lt. Brown ordered the gunners at one of the guns to bear his body to the rear. Gen. Clayton and Gen. Stewart both commended Pvt. John S. McMath. Gen. Clayton wrote that "... Pvt. John S. McMath, of Stanford's Battery, continued to serve the gun alone until the infantry began to retire to the breastworks, when at his solicitation they aided him, and I am informed by officers who witnessed the firing that it was done with fine effect."

At dark, Lt. McCall, who had been away from the battery for several days because of illness, returned and assumed command of the battery.

Battle of Resaca	
KILLED	WOUNDED
Capt. Thomas J. Stanford	Cpl. John W. Mooney

On May 25, Eldridge's Battalion, with Stanford's Battery in the center, was "... admirably posted, well-served, and did great execution at the Battle of New Hope Church. The battalion had 43 men and 44 horses killed and wounded. Stanford's Battery had 2 men killed and 17 men wounded. They also lost 13 horses killed and wounded.

Battle of New Hope Church	
KILLED	WOUNDED
Pvt. Rubin T. Dollar	(17 Unknown)
Pvt. James M. Whittle	

Following the Battle of New Hope Church the battalion marched toward Atlanta and on June 22 was engaged in the Battle of Kolb's Farm.

On July 16, Sgt. Jackson Martin elected Jr. Second Lt., to replace Lt. McSwine, who had been transferred to the Quartermaster Department of Gen. Otho Strahl's Brigade. On July 17 Gen. Joseph E. Johnston was relieved of command of the Army of Tennessee, and on July 18 Gen. John Bell Hood assumed command.

On July 22 the battalion took part in the Battle of Atlanta, Stanford's Battery being positioned just to the east of the city near the Decatur wagon road.

Siege of Atlanta	
KILLED	WOUNDED
Pvt. Thomas C. Rosamond	Pvt. Levi O. Crowder
D. L. Weed	Pvt. John B. Singleton
Pvt. Malcomb Hartsfield	Pvt. John S. Shimpock
	Pvt. J. B. Stanton
	Pvt. W. J. Strickland
	Pvt. John W. Vance
	Pvt. John W. Wood
	Lt. James S. McCall

Gen. Stephen D. Lee assumed command of Hood's Corps on July 27, after Gen. Hood had been promoted to Commander of The Army of Tennessee.

On September 21, 1864, the Army of Tennessee left Atlanta, GA, and went to Palmetto, GA. They left Palmetto on September 30 and marched to Florence, AL, by way of Dallas, Van Wert, Cedartown, Cave Spring, Coosaville, west of

Rome, Sugar Creek, Dalton, Villanow, Cross Roads, and west of Summerville (all in Georgia) to Gaylesville, Gadsden, south of Guntersville, Decatur, Courtland, and Tuscombua (all in Alabama).

The army camped near Florence from October 30 to November 19, when they began the march north toward Spring Hill, TN. On November 28, most of the artillery (including Stanford's Mississippi Battery) from Hood's army was posted on the south side of the duck River at Columbia and orders were given to keep up a noisy demonstration while Hood attacked the Federals at Spring Hill.

On November 30 Gen. Hood's army marched from Spring Hill to Franklin with Gen. S. D. Lee's corps bringing up the rear. By the time the front of the corps began arriving at Winstead Hill at 4:00 PM the Battle of Franklin was underway, but they received no orders which could get them into action before dark.

Following Franklin, and in the final campaign of The Army of Tennessee under Gen. John Bell Hood, Lt. McCall commanded the battery, with Eldridge's Battalion being commanded by Capt. Fenner of Louisiana. They were heavily engaged at the Battle of Nashville on the fifteenth and sixteenth of December.

Col. Hoxton, Chief of Artillery for Lee's Corps, reported that the eight guns of Stanford's and Eufaula Batteries were posted on Overton Hill near Nashville to the right of Franklin Pike on Gen. Clayton's line on the morning of December 16. When the charge was made, Stanford's guns "... did most splendid execution upon them with canister, ..." repulsing three separate assaults, and capturing the battle flag of the 13th Colored Regiment (given by the colored ladies of Murfreesboro),

During the whole day the two batteries were subjected to a terrible artillery fire, which killed many horses, and exploded two limber chests. When the infantry gave way around them, the artillerymen did their best to save their guns, and succeeded in limbering up nearly all of them, but the horses were shot down before they could get away.

Stanford's Battery was unable to save any of the artillery equipment. Gen. Holtzclaw reported that the battery "... was so crippled as to be immovable, scarce a whole wheel remaining in its carriages, sustaining, without works, a fire from eighteen of the enemy's guns for seven hours." Lt. McCall lost all of his guns. The loss of men in the artillery was small, said Hoxton, "... except in Stanford's Mississippi Battery, which lost twelve men killed and wounded."

Capt. Aaron P. Baldwin of the Sixth Ohio Battery reported, "December 16, battery was placed in position to the left of the Franklin Pike, fronting Overton Hill, which was held by the enemy infantry and Stanford's Mississippi Battery. Battery opened fire and expended 696 rounds of ammunition. This line of works was carried with the capture of Stanford's Battery about 4 PM."

The officers and men who escaped rode south, along the Franklin Pike on the few remaining horses. The rode and marched in the rain for two days before they stopped and rested. There were only one caisson and two ordinance wagons remaining from the battery when they regrouped along the Franklin Pike. Capt. Fenner was able to bring away three pieces, but they were abandoned at Columbia.

Battle of Nashville		
KILLED	WOUNDED	LEFT ON FIELD
Pvt. John J. Gable	Pvt. J. E. Allen	Edwin M. Coe
Pvt. Daniel J. P. Crowder	Pvt. Robert P. Brooks	Pvt. Samuel E. Ebbert
	Pvt. Joe Burk	Pvt. L. M. Reims
	Pvt. Francis H. McLean	Pvt. John W. Thomas
	Pvt. W. B. Ramsey	Pvt. Marshall C. Bond
	Pvt. John S. Shimpock	Pvt. J. W. Crowder
	Pvt. Robert P. Tarpley	
	Pvt. John W. Vance	

MORTALLY WOUNDED -
BURIED @ MCGAVOCK CEM.

EDITORS NOTE. FROM THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH TO THE END OF THE DOCUMENT, THIS IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF BEING COMPLETED.

The battery came to within four miles of Florence, Alabama, on December 25, and they camped at Bainbridge for the night. They marched on and camped half a mile west of Iuka, Mississippi, on December 31. They continued the march through north Mississippi, reaching Tupelo on January 10, 1865. Gen. Hood resigned as commander of the Army of Tennessee on January 18 and was replaced by Gen. Richard Taylor. There the army went into bivouac until they marched north to Corinth on ().

On January 18(19?) most of the remainder of the Army of Tennessee was sent to North Carolina to rejoin Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, but three brigades, including Gen. Gibson's Brigade, to which Stanford's battery was attached, was sent to Mobile, Alabama, to reinforce Maj. Gen. Dabney H. Maury:

The battery was ordered to Choctaw Bluff on the Alabama River on () to man the heavy guns placed there.

On April 11, the battery was ordered to spike the guns and move toward Meridian.

On May 4, 1865, the Army of the Department of Mississippi, Alabama and East Louisiana was surrendered by Gen. Richard Taylor to Gen. Canby at Citronelle, AL. The battery was stationed at Cuba Station, Alabama, at this time. They were paroled at Meridian on May 10.

Gen. Maury wrote "After the little army of Mobile reached Meridian, ... 4500 veteran infantry and 20 field pieces..., ...three brigades ... prepared to march eastward and join Johnston. ... (Johnston's) capitulation ... capture of Mr. Davis, ... Gen. Dick Taylor proceeded to make the best possible terms with Gen. Canby. ... very liberal and kindly on Canby's part, who gave free transportation over the railroads to the Confederates of all our armies who were making their way to their unhappy people.

(The) "... final day of our service for the Confederacy was one of the deepest gloom to us. The little army of Mobile had held steadfastly together with the dignity of men who had risked all to a higher motive, and we stood by each other to the last. ... noble men ... Gibson's Louisiana brigade had been especially active and enduring in the defence (sic) of Spanish Fort ...

"On the evening of May 14th, our surrender was complete. A train loaded with prisoners of war ... was going up the road as far as West Point ..."

Edited by W. T. Dixon, III

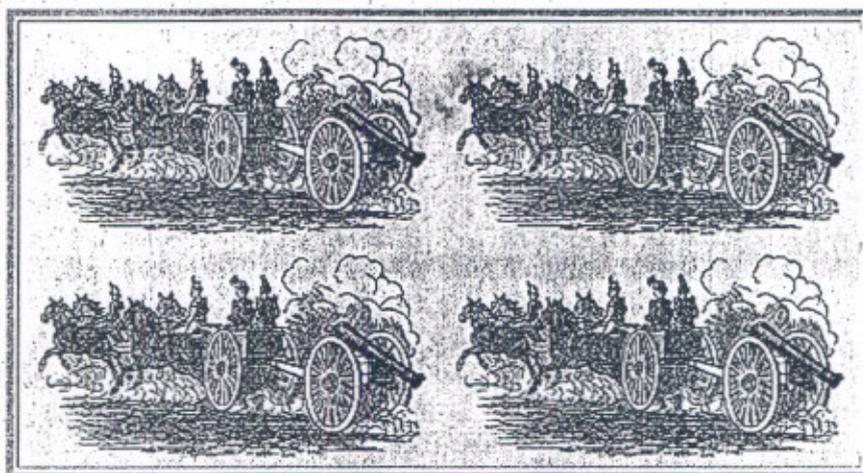
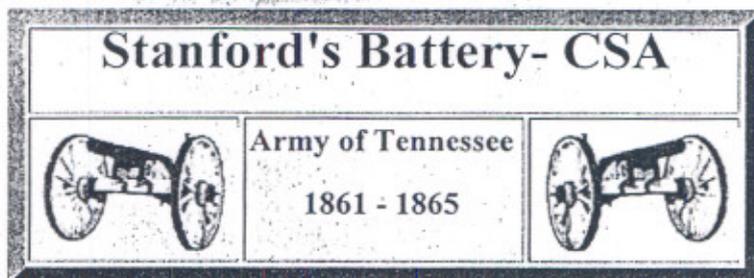
Most of the information in this short history came from:

- Dunbar Rowland's "Military History of Mississippi, 1803 - 1898"
- William Alexander Brown's Diaries and Note Book
- The Official Record of the War of the Rebellion
- Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War

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↳ **Stanford's Battery- [Constantly Under Construction]**

- ▣ --History of Stanford's Battery of Mississippi (in progress)
- ▣ --Roster of Stanford's Battery
- ▣ --The Civil War Travels of William A. Brown
In progress; check back periodically.
- ▣ --Excerpts From The Civil War Travels of William A. Brown

↳ **Other Units of our Ancestors [CLICK HERE]**

↳ **Links to other Civil War Sites on the Web**

- **Civil War Artillery**

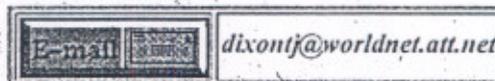
- The Civil War Art of John Warr
- Sons of Confederate Veterans Home Page
- The U. S. Civil War Center at LSU
- Blue and Gray Trail
- Tenny's Civil War Page
- War for Southern Independence Links
- The Dixieland Ring



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