

**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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composed of the 7th, 12th, 14th and 15th Tennessee Cavalry, Higgs' Company of Scouts and Murchison's Provost Guard. On May 14, Duckworth's and Duff's Regiments were ordered to Grenada, Mississippi; on May 23, Duckworth's Regiment was reported at Oxford, Mississippi.

On May 24, Forrest placed Colonel E. W. Rucker in command of a brigade composed of the 7th Tennessee and 19th Mississippi Regiments, and the 18th Mississippi Battalion. The regiment suffered 54 casualties in the Battle of Tishomingo Creek, where Forrest defeated Major General S. D. Sturgis on June 10. On July 14, it was again with Forrest in the Battle of Harrisburg.

On July 18, Rucker's Brigade was dissolved, and the 7th returned to Neely's Brigade. On August 7, Duckworth and Colonel Kelley (Forrest's Old Regiment) were ordered to Lick Springs, to blockade the road. On the 30th, Rucker's Brigade was reconstituted with the 7th (Duckworth's), 12th (Richardson's) and 13th (Neely's), 14th (Stewart's) and 26th Battalion (Forrest's Old Regiment) as members, and it was known permanently as Rucker's Brigade, in General Chalmer's Division.

As part of this brigade, the regiment was with Forrest in his raid into Middle Tennessee, beginning September 24 with the capture

of Athens, Alabama, and concluding October 6, when Forrest recrossed the Tennessee River. It continued with Forrest when he returned to Tennessee with General Hood, and took part in the Battle of Franklin in Chalmers' Division.

On December 6, Rucker's Brigade was ordered to the Charlotte Pike, outside Nashville, to blockade the Cumberland River, which it did successfully until driven back on December 15, in the Battle of Nashville. The 7th Tennessee was sent down the Hillsboro Pike by General Hood, with orders to report at Franklin.

Under Chalmers, and later under Forrest, it formed part of the rear guard for Hood's Army December 18-28, 1864, then withdrew to North Mississippi with Forrest. On March 1, 1865, it was placed in Brigadier General A. W. Campbell's Brigade, Brigadier General W. H. Jackson's Division, then at West Point, Mississippi. It made contact with LaGrange's Brigade, Major General J. H. Wilson's Corps, U.S.A. near Tuscaloosa, Alabama, March 31, and again on April 1 at Scottsville, Alabama. These actions occurred during General Wilson's raid to Selma, Alabama, which resulted in the final surrender of Forrest's forces at Gainesville, Alabama, May 12, 1865, where the regiment was paroled.

### 8th (BAXTER SMITH'S) TENNESSEE CAVALRY REGIMENT Usually called 4th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment

Organized November 24, 1862, but annulled; organized again January 23, 1863; paroled at Charlotte, North Carolina May 3, 1865.

#### FIELD OFFICERS

*Colonel*—Baxter Smith

*Lieutenant Colonel*—Paul F. Anderson

*Major*—Willis S. Bledsoe

**CAPTAINS**—David W. Alexander, Co. "A". "The Marshall Rangers." Organized June 8, 1861 at Nashville. Men from Marshall County.

Cyrus H. Ingle, Co. "B". "The McClellan Troop." Formerly Co. "F", 5th Battalion (q.v.); then in Spiller's Battalion; then Co. "C", 4th (Murray's) Regiment (q.v.). Men from Sullivan County.

Francis Cunningham, George C. Moore,

Co. "C". Formerly Co. "H", 4th (Murray's) Regiment (q.v.). Men from Smith County.

James M. Phillips, Co. "D" (also called "E"). Formerly in Davis' Battalion (q.v.). Men from Dekalb and Wilson Counties.

H. A. Wiley, Co. "E". Men from Cannon County. Formerly in Davis' Battalion. (q.v.).

James R. Lester, Co. "F". Formerly in Davis' Battalion (q.v.). Men from Wilson County.

Jonathan W. Nichol, Co. "G". Formerly in Davis' Battalion (q.v.). Men from Cannon and Rutherford Counties.

Samuel H. Glover, Co. "H" (also called "D"). Formerly Co. "B", 5th Battalion, then in Spiller's Battalion; then Co. "I", 4th (Murray's) Regiment (q.v.). Men from Hamilton County and Alabama.

R. H. Anderson, Co. "I". Formerly Co. "F",

Davidson, DeKalb, Sumner and Wilson Counties. Formerly Escort Company for General Wharton, July 1 to September 1, 1862. Later Escort Company to General Hood, March 1864.

These were the original ten companies. On August 1, 1863, another company was assigned as Co. "L", Captain John J. Parton (or Partin). Organized September 20, 1862 at Knoxville. Men from Blount and Knox Counties. Formerly part of Hardy's Squadron, Escort to General John P. McCown.

Colonel Smith was captured May 9, 1863 while on patrol on the Caney Fork River, and Lieutenant Colonel Paul F. Anderson was in command of the regiment for the remainder of the war. Colonel Smith was not exchanged until February 1865, and upon return to duty was given command of Harrison's Brigade, Brigadier General W. Y. C. Humes' Division, of which his regiment was a member.

Captain Alexander's Company "A" had a wide and varied experience before joining this regiment. On July 17, 1861 it moved to Bristol, Virginia, under orders from Brigadier General S. R. Anderson; engaged in the Cheat Mountain Campaign under Generals Lee and Loring; in April, 1862 was ordered to report to General E. Kirby Smith in East Tennessee; spent May and June scouting in Middle Tennessee; under Colonel Starnes, took part in an engagement at Readyville, Tennessee in which "69 Yankees were captured, and a few killed"; returned to Knoxville July 1; to Clinch Mountain under General Taylor July 10; to Kingston, Tennessee August 1; crossed the Cumberland Mountains again under General Forrest August 18, fought at Morrison's Depot August 19-21; marched for Kentucky under General Bragg; engaged at Munfordsville, Bardstown, Perryville; returned to Middle Tennessee and engaged in Battle of Murfreesboro, December 31, 1862.

A regimental report dated June 30, 1863, gives an account of the regiment's activities up until that time; "The regiment marched from Shelbyville to Fort Donelson via Franklin, Triune and Charlotte, a distance of 125

rounded, losing about 10 killed wounded and missing, the killed and captured about 80 men. (sic). From there to Hadley Bend on the Cumberland River where we aided in destroying a train of cars. From there to Sparta, thence to Trousdale where we remained on picket four weeks: several skirmishes with the enemy. From this place to Beech Grove, from there to Fosterville, where we remained on picket till Bragg's retreat, when we were marched to Rome, Georgia, for the purpose of recruiting horses and men, the whole being a distance of about 500 miles."

The attack on Fort Donelson took place on February 3, at which place the regiment was in Brigadier General Wharton's Brigade; while at Woodbury, the regiment was with Brigadier General John H. Morgan in skirmishes at Milton, March 20; at Woodbury, March 27, and at Readyville, April 2.

On July 31, after the withdrawal from Tennessee, the regiment was reported in General Joseph Wheeler's Cavalry Corps, General Wharton's Division, Colonel Thomas Harrison's Brigade, where it remained, with brief exceptions, for the rest of the war. The brigade at this time was composed of the 3rd Confederate, 1st (3rd) Kentucky, 8th Tennessee, and 8th and 11th Texas Regiments. As part of this brigade, the regiment took part in the Battle of Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863.

On November 5, Major General Wheeler ordered: "Brigadier General H. B. Davidson will proceed with 1st, 2nd, 4th Tennessee Regiments to take post about ten miles west of Dalton. Colonel Harrison will order 4th Tennessee (Smith's) to report to Brigadier General Davidson." On November 19 the Cavalry Corps Headquarters at Knoxville ordered: "Brigadier General W. Y. C. Humes will proceed to Dalton, and report to Brigadier General H. B. Davidson for assignment to a Cavalry brigade composed of the following Regiments: 1st (Carter's), 2nd (Ashby's), 5th (McKenzie's), 6th (Wheeler's), 8th (Smith's). But on November 20, Humes'

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Brigade, of Armstrong's Division, was reported as consisting of Smith's 8th, McKenzie's 5th, Dibrell's 13th or 8th, Biffle's 9th, and Cox's 10th Regiments, with a note that all but McKenzie's were detached with General Wheeler. On November 30, the same brigade, with McKenzie's Regiment no longer included, was reported as part of Lieutenant General James Longstreet's forces in East Tennessee.

On December 10, Davidson's Brigade was listed as composed of Carter's 1st, Ashby's 2nd, Wheeler's 6th, Smith's 8th and Holman's 11th Regiments: on January 20, 1864 of Ashby's 2nd, McKenzie's 5th, Wheeler's 6th and Smith's 8th. On April 30, 1864 Colonel James T. Wheeler was in command of this brigade, with the 9th Battalion added, with General Humes now in command of the Division. On June 30, Smith's Regiment was transferred back to Harrison's Brigade, where it remained for the rest of the war. The permanent members of the brigade were the 3rd Arkansas, 8th Tennessee, and 8th and 11th Texas Regiments.

No reports were found from the regiment during this period, but from the above it would seem the regiment went with General Wheeler on his raid into Middle Tennessee in October, then moved with Longstreet into East Tennessee in November, and returned to the Army of Tennessee in December, 1863; and took part in the campaign from Dalton to Atlanta in the first half of 1864.

In August, 1864, General Wheeler made another of his sweeping raids into Tennessee, wrecking bridges and destroying railroad tracks on Sherman's line of communications. Smith's regiment started with him on this raid, but got cut off from the main body with other troops under Colonel George G. Dibrell, and moved with him up into East Tennessee and Virginia. In Dibrell's account of his activities, he described the engagement at Saltville, Virginia, on October 2, 1864, which saved the salt works from destruction. He reported: "My brigade, the 13th Tennes-

see, six companies of McLemore's Fourth, and Colonel Paul Anderson's 8th, occupied the extreme right, and fought about 2500 Yankees and negroes, making a most desperate fight, killing in front of our lines over 200, and wounding a great many."

The regiment was next specifically reported on January 23, 1865, when Major General D. H. Hill at Augusta, Georgia, advised General Wheeler: "I had ordered a detachment from Colonel Anderson's Regiment to Shell Bluff, but as he appeared adverse to the separation of his command, I have sent a local company down. I know nothing of his efficiency."

On January 31, General Humes, at Hickory Hill, South Carolina, reported: "Colonel Paul Anderson and Colonel Colcock are on the Salkehatchie Road. \*\*\* I have ordered Colonel Anderson to retire in the direction of Crockettville, as forced by the enemy." On the same date, the regiment was still reported in Harrison's Brigade, with the same members. On February 3, another report stated: The 8th Tennessee and 8th Texas under Colonel Anderson, 250 strong, have just crossed Buford's Bridge near Barnwell, South Carolina."

On April 9, 1865, the regiment was listed in Lieutenant General Wade Hampton's Cavalry Corps, of General Joseph E. Johnston's Army. Finally, on April 17, Colonel Baxter Smith, now Commanding Harrison's Brigade, wrote General Wheeler: "Various rumors have just come into camp regarding the surrender of the army, which has already induced some men to leave, and it is probable that others will do so in the course of the night, and I therefore desire that you will be kind enough to furnish me by return courier the latest authentic intelligence on this subject."

The regiment was included in the forces surrendered by General Joseph E. Johnston on April 26, 1865, and paroled at Charlotte, North Carolina May 3, 1865.