

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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stated Rice's Battery was the upper battery. Hudson's the middle, and Morton's Battery of Bell's Brigade, the lower. In the action which resulted in the capture of the steamer *J. W. Cheeseman*, six guns were played on her from the batteries mentioned. Also Rice's Battery drove off *Gunboat Number 29*. At the bombardment and burning of Johnsonville on November 4, Rice's Battery, with Lieutenant Colonel Kelley's 26th Cavalry Battalion was stationed opposite Reynoldsburg. Lieutenant Haller said that this section was under the command of Second Lieutenant H. H. Briggs and continued with General Forrest during General Hood's campaign in November and December, 1864.

The other section of the battery had been ordered to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and remained stationed at Corinth for some time. On December 1, 1864, it was reported in Brigadier General George B. Hodge's District of Southwestern Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana, the artillery in the district being listed as Bradford's and Ratliff's Mississippi, Rice's Tennessee, and Thrall's Arkansas Batteries. On March 10, 1865, Rice's Battery, commanded by Captain T. W. Rice, was reported in the Left Wing, Defenses of Mobile, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel L. Hoxton, in Major General Dabney H. Maury's District of the Gulf. Mobile was taken by the Federals on April 12, but the Confederate forces had evacuated it the day

CAPTAIN ARTHUR M. RUTLEDGE'S TENNESSEE LIGHT ARTILLERY BATTERY Also called First Company, Tennessee Artillery Corps; Company "A", First Tennessee Artillery

No muster rolls on this organization were found, so the exact time and place of organization are not known. W. W. Clayton's *History of Davidson County* lists it as one of the units from Davidson County.

A report of July, 1861, listed the battery as part of the forces in East Tennessee, with 110 men, four six-pounders and two howitzers. On July 24, 1861, Brigadier General S. R. Anderson, at Lynchburg, preparing for the Cheat Mountain campaign, reported that Captain Rutledge's Artillery Company of six pieces at Knoxville would come forward as soon as fully equipped.

Plans must have been changed, for on September 24, 1861, Rutledge's Company,

before, and moved to join Lieutenant General Richard Taylor.

In the meantime, at Verona, Mississippi, after the retreat from Tennessee, one section of the battery under Lieutenant Haller was transferred to Morton's Battery and remained with it until the surrender at Gainesville, Alabama, May 9, 1865.

Lieutenant General Richard Taylor surrendered his forces at Citronelle, Alabama, May 4, 1865, and Rice's Battery was included in the surrender. Parole records show that one part of it, under the name of Rice's Light Artillery Company commanded by Second Lieutenant H. H. Briggs, Quattlebaum's Battalion, Smith's Brigade, was paroled at Meridian, Mississippi, May 10, 1865. Another portion, Rice's Light Artillery Battery, commanded by Captain T. W. Rice, also surrendered at Citronelle, Alabama, was paroled at Columbus, Mississippi, May 17, 1865. Why the company should have been paroled in two sections is not known, unless some of the men had been captured when the forts defending Mobile were captured on April 9, 1865, but in this case the place of surrender should not have been shown at Citronelle, Alabama. Parole records show that nine men from Rice's Battery were paroled as part of Morton's Battery at Gainesville, Alabama, May 9, 1865. These were evidently what was left of the section transferred to Morton's Battery at Verona, Mississippi.

with 97 present, 108 present and absent, was reported as part of Brigadier General Felix K. Zollicoffer's forces at Cumberland Ford, Kentucky. On October 16, it formed part of an expedition from Camp Buckner, Cumberland Ford, towards Barbourville, Kentucky.

On November 17 Zollicoffer, at Knoxville, reported that having seen to the fortifications along the Kentucky border in East Tennessee, he was starting the regiments of Colonels Statham, Newman, Cummings and Battle, the First Battalion, 16th Alabama Cavalry, Branner's Cavalry Battalion, and Rutledge's Battery around by Wartburg on the way to Jamestown, Tennessee and Monticello, Kentucky, where he proposed to establish a strong

at Wartburg, with 104 present, 111 present for duty, 126 present, 137 present and absent.

On December 1, General Zollicoffer, at Mill Springs, ordered: "Colonel W. S. Statham and Major Landis, with their commands, will march so as to reach a position opposite the enemy camp near Waitsborough before day to-morrow morning. They will take with them and give support to four pieces of Artillery from Captain Rutledge's Artillery, under the command of Lieutenants Falconnett and Wheeler." On December 31, 1861, the artillery at Beech Grove, Kentucky, consisted of McClung's and Rutledge's Batteries with 14 guns.

On January 7, 1862, the battery reported 135 men present for duty, 157 present and absent. On January 19, 1862, at the Battle of Fishing Creek, the battery was in General Zollicoffer's Brigade. Major General George B. Crittenden reported that, due to the nature of the ground, he was not able to use his artillery to advantage, and that on the retreat from Fishing Creek to Beech Grove, one of Rutledge's guns mired up and had to be

CAPTAIN WILLIAM L. SCOTT'S TENNESSEE LIGHT ARTILLERY COMPANY

Formerly Captain Smith P. Bankhead's Battery; Company "B" Tennessee Artillery Corps; Company "B", Tennessee Light Artillery Regiment.

This battery was enlisted by Captain S. P. Bankhead in May, 1861 at Memphis. It was first stationed at Fort Pillow, where it manned a battery of heavy artillery. It returned to Memphis, where it was equipped as light artillery with four field pieces. It then moved to New Madrid, Missouri, where it was mustered into Confederate service by Colonel John P. McCown on August 9, 1861, with Bankhead as captain. It was mustered on November 1, 1861 as Company "B", Tennessee Light Artillery Regiment, Colonel Milton A. Haynes commanding. By this time it had moved to Columbus, Kentucky, where it remained until February, 1862. While there a number of men from Arkansas were added to the company, some enlisted in December, 1861 by a Captain McCowan, some in March, 1862 by a Captain Harris.

sink the steamboat which was the only means of getting across the Cumberland River to Mill Springs. In the evacuation of Beech Grove that night, the guns and horses had to be abandoned for lack of transportation.

The battery was next reported on February 23, at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, attached to Colonel W. S. Statham's Brigade of Crittenden's Division. It moved from Murfreesboro to Corinth, and in the Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862, it was attached to Statham's Brigade in Brigadier General J. C. Breckinridge's Reserve Corps. Brigadier General Daniel Ruggles listed it as one of the concentration of batteries which he assembled, which struck Prentiss' Division with an enfilading fire on his right flank, throwing his force into confusion and precipitate retreat. Brigadier General S. A. M. Wood also spoke of Rutledge's Battery holding in check for over half an hour large masses of the enemy who were coming up and pressing his right.

Following the Battle of Shiloh, the battery was consolidated with McClung's Battery about May 1, 1862.

On September 7, 1861, at Columbus, it was reported as attached to McCown's Brigade, along with Stewart's Battery. On October 24, McCown had been promoted to brigadier general commanding a division, and the battery was in Colonel S. F. Marks' Brigade. During the Battle of Belmont, November 7, 1861, the battery was on the Kentucky side of the river, and not engaged.

By February 27, 1862, it was back at New Madrid, Missouri, where the 5th Tennessee, 40th Tennessee, and First Alabama-Mississippi-Tennessee Infantry Regiments and Bankhead's Battery, under the command of Colonel Travis, of the 5th Tennessee, were engaged in fortifying the mouth of Bayou St. John. On March 7, a strong attack by the enemy was driven back by the fire of Confederate gunboats, Bankhead's Battery, and R. A. Stewart's Parrott guns. On March 13, General McCown found it necessary to evacuate the position, and brought off all the guns and ammunition except the ammunition

in the caissons and limbers of Bankhead's Battery which were thrown into the river. The battery remained a few days at Madrid Bend, across the river from its previous post, but when McCown turned over the command at that point to Brigadier General L. M. Walker, Bankhead's Battery was a part of the forces he took with him to Fort Pillow. Captain Bankhead was commended by General McCown for his efficient handling of his battery during this period. The battery at this time had been increased to six pieces.

The battery then moved to Corinth, Mississippi, where Captain Bankhead was appointed Chief of Artillery, First Corps, Army of the Mississippi, but served with his own battery in the Battle of Shiloh. In this battle, the battery was attached to Colonel R. M. Russell's Brigade, of Brigadier General Charles Clark's Division. Colonel Russell reported: "Captain Bankhead deserves great praise for the promptness, bravery, and energy with which he maneuvered his battery." Bankhead's Battery was one of those collected by Brigadier General Ruggles which poured an enfilading fire on Federal General Prentiss's Division, resulting in its rout. The battery reported 93 engaged, two killed, 18 wounded; 82 horses in service, lost 37; six guns used, lost two caissons and one gun; guns captured, seven.

The battery was reorganized in May, 1862, with Bankhead as captain; and William L. Scott as first lieutenant. Captain Bankhead was soon after promoted to major, and Lieutenant Scott succeeded him as captain about July 1, 1862. On July 8, the battery was attached to Colonel (later Brigadier General) Preston Smith's Brigade of Major General B. F. Cheatham's Division. Captain Scott, in *Lindsley's Annals*, stated that during General Bragg's Kentucky Campaign in the fall of 1862, the battery was temporarily detached from Smith's Brigade, and placed on duty with Stewart's Brigade of Cheatham's Division, and remained with it until after the Battle of Perryville on October 8, 1862. However, no record was found of this in the *Official Records*, and on August 18, Scott's Battery was reported in the Right Wing, Army of the Mississippi, in Preston Smith's Brigade. Smith's Brigade was detached about this time to Brigadier General P. R. Cleburne's Division of Major General E. Kirby

Smith's Command, fought at the Battle of Richmond, August 30, and rejoined Cheatham's Division before the Battle of Perryville, but was not engaged.

At the Battle of Murfreesboro, December 31, 1862-January 2, 1863, Bankhead's Battery was attached to Preston Smith's Brigade, commanded on the first two days by Colonel A. J. Vaughan, Jr. The battery was not actively engaged until Friday, January 2, when, along with Carnes', Stanford's, and Smith's batteries it was posted on Stone's River, on the right of the Nashville Pike, and twice drove back Federal infantry columns. On the morning of January 3, Carnes' and Scott's batteries were ordered to shell the cedar woods "toward the hospital." The battery reported four officers, 77 men engaged, with one killed and two wounded, and the expenditure of between 200 and 250 rounds of ammunition.

On May 19, Lieutenant Colonel Marshall T. Polk, reporting on the artillery in Polk's Corps, reported Scott's Battery, with 101 present, 113 present and absent, armed with two six-pounders and two 12-pounder howitzers, with 53 horses, and in need of 20 horses.

At Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863, the artillery attached to Cheatham's Division was commanded by Major Melancthon Smith, and consisted of Carnes' and Scott's Tennessee Batteries, Scroggin's Georgia, and Smith's and Stanford's Mississippi Batteries. Scott's Battery was attached to Preston Smith's Brigade, again commanded by Colonel A. J. Vaughan, Jr. The battery was first commanded by Lieutenant John H. Marsh, who was wounded about 2:00 P.M. on the 19th; then by Lieutenant A. T. Watson, and finally by Captain Scott, who had been sick, but took command about 11:00 A.M. on the 20th. Colonel Vaughan reported that the battery in the action on the 19th was so disabled by loss of men and horses as to be unfit for further action that evening, losing 15 men and 14 horses. One of its 12-pounder howitzers was disabled by the bursting of a cap square. On the 20th, it was not heavily engaged, and reported total casualties of two killed, 14 wounded, 16 horses killed.

On November 20, 1863, the battery, commanded by Lieutenant John Doscher, was reported in Major Alfred R. Courtney's Artillery Battalion, attached to Major General T. C. Hindman's Division of Hardee's Corps. In

the Battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863, the battery was overrun and captured by General John B. Turchin's Federal Brigade. The men stood to their guns to the last, and many of them were either killed or mortally wounded while attempting to discharge their guns. Many were taken prisoner, and the few who escaped were not sufficient to form the nucleus of an attempt to recruit a new company. On December 31, 1863, Scott's Battery, Hindman's Corps, was ordered to Atlanta, and somewhere about this time the battery was disbanded. Lieutenant

CAPTAIN J. M. SPARKMAN'S TENNESSEE LIGHT ARTILLERY COMPANY Also called Captain Robert P. Griffith's Company—Captain R. R. Ross's Company—Maury Artillery—Maury Light Artillery. Company "C", Monsarrat's Battalion in November, 1861

Although this company was organized as light artillery, it spent its entire active service in manning batteries of heavy artillery, first at Fort Donelson, and later at Port Hudson. The company was recruited in Maury County in September, 1861 by Jesse M. Sparkman, who discouraged any attempt to elect him captain because of his lack of military experience. It assembled at Sante Fe, Maury County, and on October 3, 1861 left for Camp Weakley, near Nashville. Here it was mustered into Confederate service on October 26 by Captain Monsarrat. Monsarrat's Battalion was a sort of informal organization, which lasted only a short time. Robert P. Griffith became the first captain of the company with R. R. Ross as drillmaster.

On November 1, 1861 General Albert Sidney Johnston directed Brigadier General Lloyd Tilghman, commanding at Hopkinsville, to draw back to Clarksville, and advised him "A battery of Artillery (Maury's) has been ordered to Clarksville for you." From Clarksville the battery moved to Hopkinsville, Kentucky, where it was armed with six light guns. Here Captain Griffith resigned because of lack of experience, and R. R. Ross, who had been trained in the artillery at West Point, was elected captain in his place, and took command January 7, 1862. On January 31, 1862, the battery was reported in Brigadier General Charles Clark's Brigade, Brigadier General John B. Floyd's Division of Major General Hardee's Central Army of Kentucky.

Watson and most of the survivors were transferred to L. G. Marshall's Tennessee Battery, a few to Swett's Mississippi Battery, and Captain Scott to the Ordnance Department, Wheeler's Cavalry Corps. Lieutenant Marsh, who was wounded at Chickamauga, with his arm so badly shattered the surgeon advised amputation, refused a proffered discharge for disability, served later as Chief of Artillery on Brigadier General O. F. Strahl's staff, and was killed in the Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864.

On February 8, following the Federal capture of Fort Henry, the battery moved to Clarksville, and from there by boat to Fort Donelson, arriving there February 9, 1862. Here Brigadier General Gideon J. Pillow advised that he had no heavy artillerists, and asked for volunteers to man the river batteries. Captain Ross immediately asked for the place for his battery, and it was so assigned, even though it had had no experience in handling heavy artillery. Its light battery was turned over to others, without ever having been used in actual combat. Colonel Milton A. Haynes, Chief of Tennessee Corps of Artillery, reported: "Captain Ross, and his company, just arrived from Hopkinsville, voluntarily gave up their light battery, and took charge of the half moon battery, containing the rifled gun and two carronades, furnishing a detachment, under the charge of Lieutenant Stankiewitz, to man the 8-inch howitzers, and two nine pound nondescripts. ***The columbiad was not remounted until the day before the battle began, and the rifled gun was repaired just in time to place in working order." The columbiad was a 120-pounder, 10-inch gun, requiring 16 pounds of powder for a charge. The carriage had been injured in testing the gun a few days before, and the new carriage had just been received the evening before Ross' Battery arrived. The rifled gun was a sixty-four pounder and the pintle and pintle plate for this gun too had arrived only the evening before, with no opportunity for testing. With guns which