

17th Regiment Alabama Infantry

Canteen



J. Wilkes

Enlisted as a Priv (date unknown in 1861)

He mustered into "K" Co. Alabama 17th Infantry

Joseph S. Black

Enlisted as a Priv (Feb. 26, 1863)

He mustered into "K" Co. Alabama 17th Infantry

17th Regiment Alabama Infantry Canteen

This Confederate Canteen was carried by two different soldiers from "K" Company, Alabama 17th Infantry: **J. Wilkes** & **Joseph S. Black**. On one side of the canteen is carved "**Wilkes**" above the letter "**J**" and on the other side "**J. S. Blac**" and "**JS.**"

Since there is no identifying unit name or number on the canteen, a deep and thorough search of the Civil War data base and the National Parks records was conducted to see if any Confederate unit had two soldiers with these names. All Southern states were checked and a line-by-line comparison was conducted, and only one match was found: "**K**" **Company, Alabama 17th Infantry**. Both soldiers at different time served in this unit.

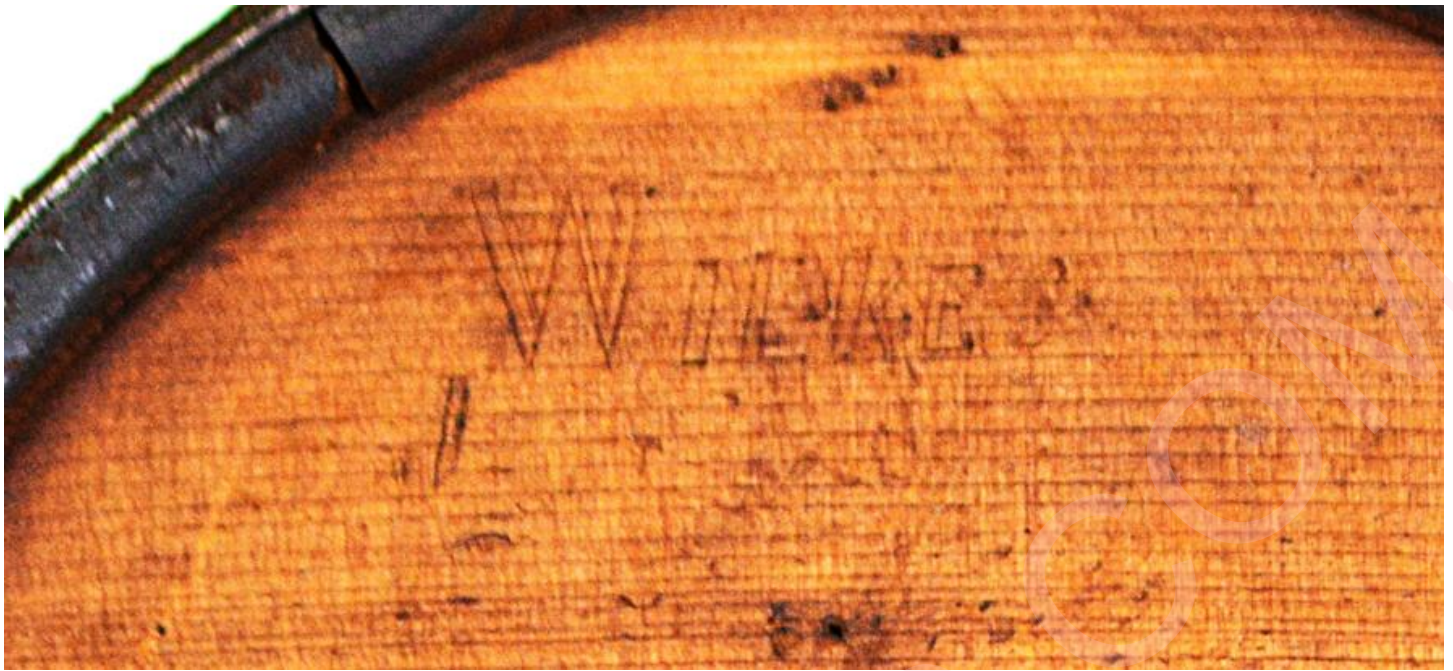
It appears Private J. Wilkes enlisted into for "K" Company, Alabama 17th Infantry when the unit was formed in August, 1861. He was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh and later died at a temporary Confederate hospital located in Macon Mississippi.

Following the Battle of Shiloh April 6-7, 1862, the injured and wounded were loaded on trains and sent to surrounding communities for care. For a battle which lasted only two days, there were nearly 24,000 dead, wounded, or missing and there were just not enough facilities to care for everyone. Shiloh is not far from Macon just north of Corinth, a little over 160 miles, so many of those wounded men ended up in Macon, Brooksville, Shuqualak, and other towns along the railroad lines. The communities opened their churches, schools, and homes to the wounded setting up temporary hospitals to treat the wounded.

A date of death, or cause, was not given for Private J. Wilkes; however, his personal effect and most likely all his equipment, to include his canteen, were received 2 September, 1862. Since this was early in the war and the supply systems was still being established, most equipment and weapons were retained by the original command for reissue.

A few months after the death of Private J. Wilkes, **Private Joseph S. Black** enlisted on Feb. 26, 1863 into "K" Company, Alabama 17th Infantry. He would be issued a weapon and military equipment to include a canteen. Black would go on to fight at the Battle of Franklin and Battle of Nashville on December 16, 1864 and was captured and sent to Camp Douglas as a Prisoner-of-War. His name would appear on a Muster Sheet Roll of Prisoners of War at Camp Douglas, Ill being mustered into 6th U.S. Vol. Infantry, April 3, 1865.

No doubt the canteen became a war trophy and survived complete with its original Confederate leather strap.



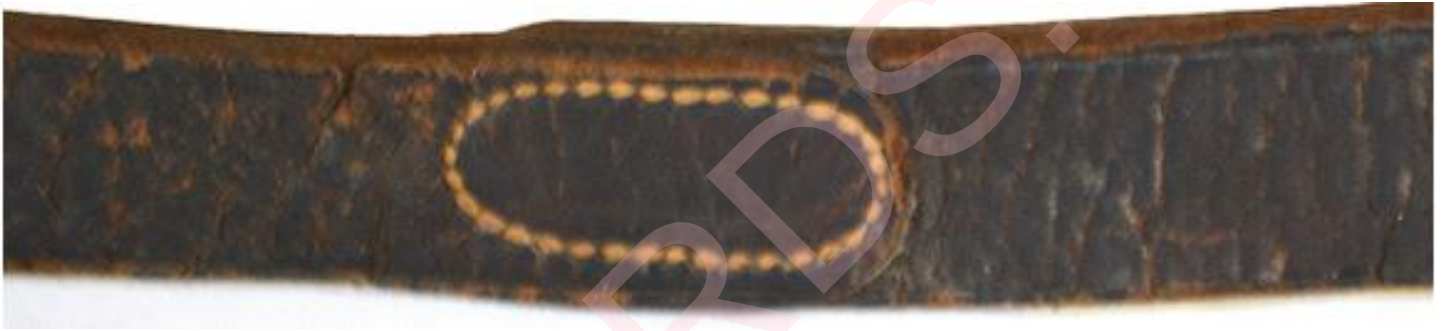
J. Wilkers





J. S. Blac







"K" Company 17th Alabama Infantry Regiment soldier mortally wounded at Shiloh

Private J. Wilkers

Wilkes, J.

Cn. K. 17 Ala. Inf.

(CONFEDERATE.)

See also

GENERAL INDEX CARD.

This card must not be taken from the files.

(382)

6660

2153B

Wilkes, J.

Co. K. 17 Ala. Inf.

(CONFEDERATE)

CARD NUMBERS.

1.....	20.....
2.....	21.....
3.....	22.....
4.....	23.....
5.....	24.....
6.....	25.....
7.....	26.....
8.....	27.....
9.....	28.....
10.....	29.....
11.....	30.....
12.....	31.....
13.....	32.....
14.....	33.....
15.....	34.....
16.....	35.....
17.....	36.....
18.....	37.....
19.....	38.....

Number of personal papers herein.....

Book Mark:.....

See also.....

(CONFEDERATE.)

W *17* *ala*

J. Wilkes
Co K 17 Regt

Name appears on a

Register*

of Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Confederate States who were killed in battle, or who died of wounds or disease.

Where born

When deceased *no date*, 186

Where and from what cause *Hoofe*

Macon Miss.

Amount of money left *20.00*

Effects

In whose charge

When received *Sept 2*, 1862

Number of certificate *169*

Remarks:

*This register appears to have been compiled in the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office from returns furnished by Hospitals and by Regimental and Company Officers.

Confed. Arch., Chap. 10, File No. 2, page *279*

G. L. West

(CONFEDERATE.)

W

17

ala

J Wilkes

Co K 17 Regt

Name appears on a

Register*

of Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Confederate States who were killed in battle, or who died of wounds or disease.

Where born

When deceased, 186

Where and from what cause

Amount of money left

Effects

In whose charge

When received, 186

Number of certificate

Remarks:

*This register appears to have been compiled in the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office from returns furnished by Hospitals and by Regimental and Company Officers.

Confed. Arch., Chap. 10, File No. 2, page 265

G. B. West

(685)

3014

Copyist.

Private Joseph S. Black

Black, Joseph S.
Co. *K*, 17 Alabama Infantry.
(Confederate.)

Private | *Private*

See also _____

GENERAL INDEX CARD.

 This card must not be taken from the files.

(352)

146
Black, Joseph S
Co. K, 17 Alabama Infantry.

(Confederate.)

Private

Private

CARD NUMBERS.

1	44594542	20
2	46575646	21
3	826626	22
4	868147	23
5	46002403	24
6	039589	25
7	45781924	26
8	908337	27
9		28
10		29
11		30
12		31
13		32
14		33
15		34
16		35
17		36
18		37
19		38

Number of medical cards herein.....

Number of personal papers herein.....

BOOK MARK:

See also

Confederate.

B

17

Ala.

Joseph S. Black

Pvt., Co. K, 17 Reg't Alabama Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for May and June, 1863.

Enlisted:

When Feb. 26, 1863.

Where Mobile, Ala.

By whom Capt. M. Cane

Period War

Last paid:

By whom Capt. M. Cane

To what time Feb. 28, 1863.

Present or absent Present

Remarks:

Book mark:

Confederate.

B 1 1/2 1/2

Jos A Black

Pvt Co K 1st Regt Ala Inf

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

at Nashville, Tenn., captured by forces under Maj. Gen. Thomas, commanding Dept. of the Cumberland, and forwarded to Capt. S. E. Jones, A. D. C., Louisville, Ky., December 19, 1864.

Roll dated Headquarters Dept. of the Cumberland, Office Provost Marshal General, Nashville, Tenn., December 19, 1864.

Where captured Nashville Tenn

When captured Dec 16, 1864.

Remarks:

Hd. Qrs. Prov. Mar. Gen'l, Dept. of the Cumb'd,
Nashville, Tenn.; Roll No. 382; sheet 2.

(639b)

J. Baccant

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

KB 17 Ala
Ans B. Black
Chas K 17 Regt Ala Inf

Appears on a roll of

Prisoners of War
at Military Prison, Louisville, Ky.

Date when received *Dec 24, 1864*
Where captured *Nashville Tenn*
Date when captured *Dec 16, 1864*
Date when discharged *Dec 21, 1864*
Where sent *Camp Douglas*
Remarks, charges, &c.: *Nashville*

Louisville, Ky., Register No. 7; page *163*

J Jacobson

Confederate.

B 17 Ala

Private S Black
Co K 17 Regt Ala Inf

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

who arrived at Military Prison, Louisville, Ky.,
during five days ending Dec. 25, 1864.

Roll dated Louisville, Ky., Dec. 26, 1864.

Where captured Near Nashville Tenn

When captured Dec 16, 1864.

Where from Nashville Tenn

Remarks:

181; sheet

4

Adlerstein
Adjut.

(639b)

(Confederate.)

B 17 Ala.

Jos. S. Black
Priv. Co. K. 17 Regt. Ala. Inf.

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

received at Camp Douglas, Ill., Dec. 24, 1864;
forwarded from Louisville, Ky.

Roll dated *Not dated*

, 186

Where captured *Nashville, Tenn.*

When captured *Dec. 16, 1864.*

Remarks: *17 Ga.*

In pencil on roll.

Number of roll:

60; sheet

E. H. Hamilton

(6275)

Copyist

(Confederate.)

B 17 Dec

Joseph J. Black
Capt. Co. K 17 Regt. Ala. Inf.

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

at Camp Douglas, Ill., mustered into 6th U. S.
Vol. Infantry April 3, 1865.

Roll dated

Not dated, 186

Where captured Nashville, Tenn.

When captured Dec. 15, 1864.

Remarks:

Number of roll

250; about

West Cullins
Appra.

(689b)

(Confederate.)

B

17

Ga.

Jos. S. Black
Pri. Co. K, 17 Regt Ga. Inf

Appears on a Register of

Prisoners of War

received at Military Prison, Louisville, Ky.

Where captured Nashville, Tenn.

When captured Dec. 16, 1864.

Discharged:

Terms C. Douglass

When Dec. 7, 1864.

Remarks:

Louisville, Ky., Register No. 3; page 49

J. N. Dowell

Confederate.

93

17

ala
1a

Pos S B Lock
Capt. Co. K. 17th Regt. Ala. Inf.

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

at Louisville, Ky., transferred to Camp Douglas,
Ill., Dec 21, 1864.

Roll dated Louisville, Ky., Dec. 21, 1864.

Where captured

Nashville Tenn.

When captured

Dec 16, 1864.

Remarks:

ala

Number of roll:

531; sheet

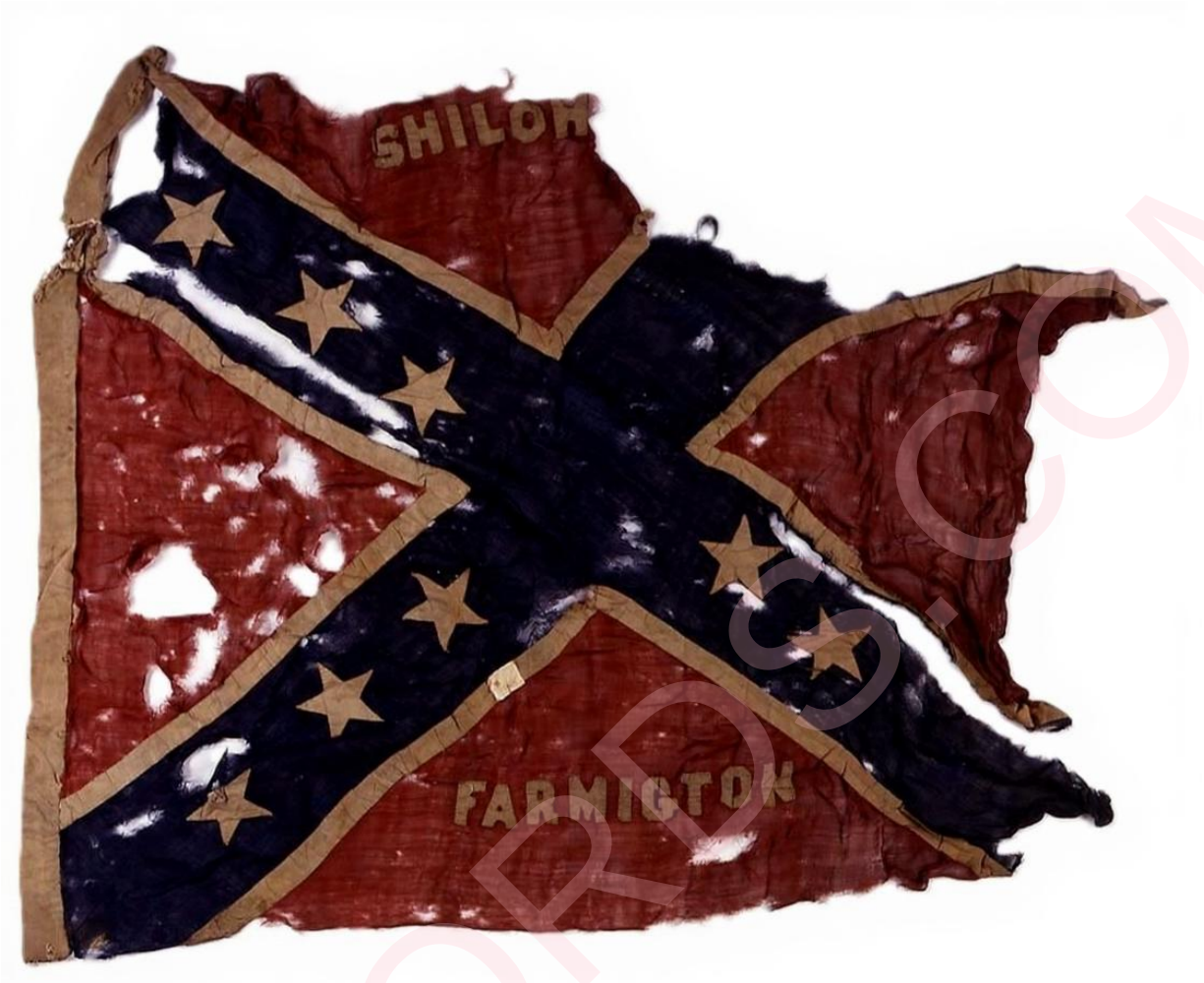
3

J M K

(639b)

Copyist.

17th Alabama Infantry Regiment



The 17th Alabama Infantry Regiment was an infantry regiment that served in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War.

Service

The 17th Alabama Infantry Regiment was mustered in at Montgomery, Alabama in August 1861 under Colonel Thomas H. Watts. Watts organized the 17th Infantry and led it at Pensacola and Corinth, but resigned as its colonel to serve as the Confederacy's attorney general in President Jefferson Davis' cabinet.

The regiment surrendered at Greensboro, North Carolina in April 1865.

When regiment was organized at Montgomery, Alabama, it took 900 men hailing from Coosa, Lowndes, Montgomery, Pike, Randolph, Monroe, Butler, and Russell counties.

The regiment sustained particularly heavy losses in 1864 after it joined the Army of Tennessee.

Engagements

- Battle of Shiloh
- Battle of Nashville
- Battle of Franklin
- Battle of Bentonville

CONFEDERATE ALABAMA TROOPS

17th Regiment, Alabama Infantry

Overview:

17th Infantry Regiment was organized at Montgomery, Alabama, in August, 1861, with men from Coosa, Lowndes, Montgomery, Pike, Randolph, Monroe, Butler, and Russell counties. With 900 men the unit moved to Pensacola, then in March, 1862, it was sent to West Tennessee and assigned to J.K. Jackson's Brigade. After fighting at **Shiloh** and **Farmington**, the 17th was ordered to Mobile. Here it served under the Generals Slaughter and Cantey, and various companies were trained as heavy artillerists. Early in 1864 it joined the Army of Tennessee, still serving under General Cantey, and was active in the **Atlanta** Campaign, Hood's expedition into Tennessee, and the **Battle of Bentonville**. The regiment reported 125 casualties at Shiloh and 130 at **Peach Tree Creek**. It lost two-thirds of its force at **Franklin** and a number were captured at **Nashville**. Very few surrendered in April, 1865. The field officers were Colonels J.P. Jones, Virgil S. Murphey, and Thomas H. Watts; Lieutenant Colonels Robert C. Fariss, Edward P. Holcombe, and John Ryan; and Majors Thomas J. Burnett and S.A. Moreno.

Overview:

The Seventeenth Alabama infantry was organized at Montgomery, August, 1861.

Serving first at Pensacola, it was present at the bombardment of that place October 9, 1861. The Seventeenth was distinguished in the battle of Shiloh, taking a prominent part in the capture of Prentiss' division; served at Mobile from the autumn of 1862 to March, 1864; then joined the army of Tennessee, and, under the command of Gen. E. A. O'Neal, afterward governor of Alabama, fought during Sherman's campaign from Dalton to Lovejoy's Station.

It was engaged in the battles of Resaca, May 8th, May 13th to 15th; Cassville, May 19th to 22nd; Kenesaw Mountain, July 8th to 30th. At Peach Tree Creek its commander, Major Burnett, was severely wounded, and Captain Ragland was killed at Atlanta.

The regiment was engaged in the battle of Atlanta, July 22nd; at Jonesboro, August 31st to September 1st; and Lovejoy's Station, September 2nd to 6th. The Seventeenth regiment lost heavily at Franklin, November 30th, and at Nashville, December 13th to 16th.

Its field officers were Col. Thomas H. Watts, who became attorney-general of the Confederate States; Col. Virgil S. Murphy; Col. J. T. Jones, temporarily assigned; Lieut.Cols. Edward P. Holcombe, Robert C Farris, and John Ryan, temporarily assigned, and Maj. Thomas J. Burnett.