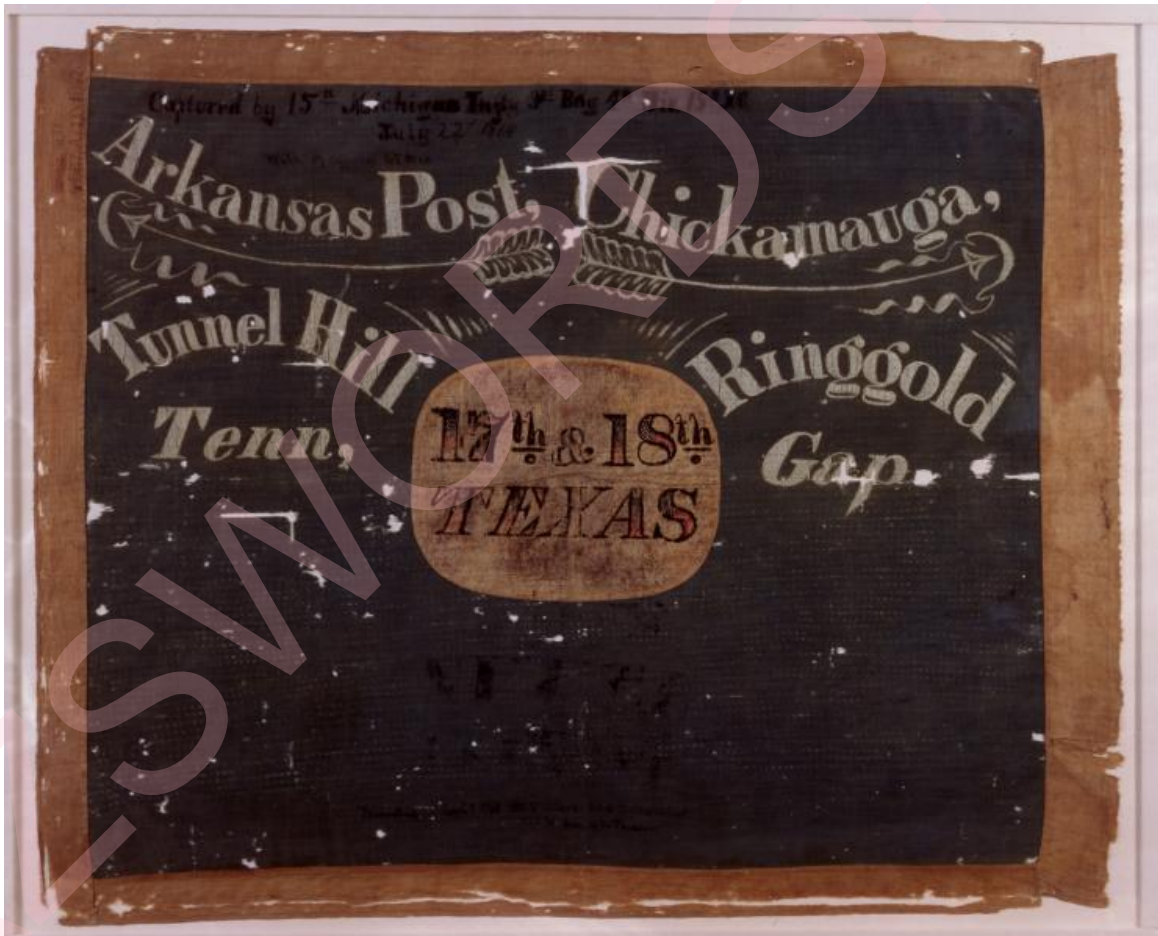


# Thomas F. Ivy



## 17<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry

Enlisted on 2/1/1862 as a Private  
Mustered into "E" Co. Texas 17th Cavalry



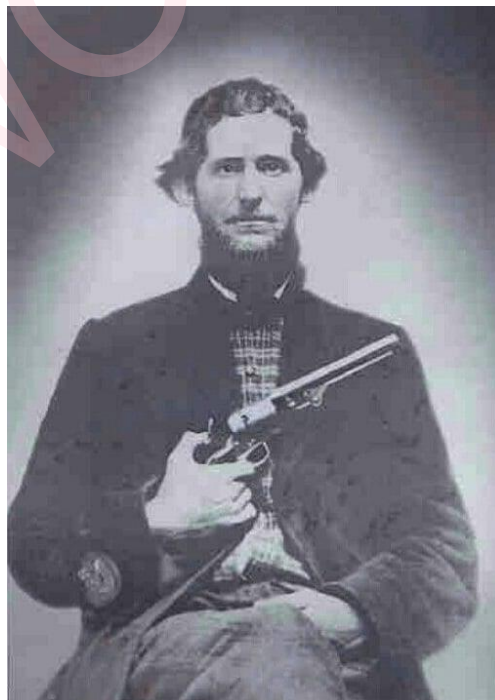
By July 1863, the 17th Texas Cavalry Regiment was consolidated with the 18th Texas Cavalry Regiment, and additional consolidations throughout the war took place with the 24th and 25th Texas Cavalry regiments.

# IDENTIFIED CONFEDERATE AUSTRIAN M-1854 LORENZ RIFLE

This is a wonderful example of the **Austrian M-1854 Lorenz Rifle Musket**, as imported by the Confederacy during the American Civil War, and carried by Texas Cavalry. On the stock is carved two sets of initials; the first is "J D" with an illegible last name and a carving of a bird, which looks like a goose, and a second set "T. F. I." carved over the other initials. It is difficult to identify a soldier just by two letters without additional information, but three initials help narrow the search. It has an original bayonet.

In this case, a search of the Civil War database; Ancestry; and Fold3, found only two Confederates with the initials (T.F.I.): Thomas F. Ivey a Confederate Midshipman and **Thomas F Ivy** of the 17th Texas Cavalry. The Confederate Navy did not use Lorenz Rifles nor is it a weapon carried by a naval officer; where as there is good documentation that Texas cavalry units used Lorenz rifles. This leaves only **Private Thomas F Ivy!**

Confederate records are often incomplete and limited as to the whole history of a Confederate Soldier. We know that Private Ivy was born in Alabama in January 15, 1846, and is listed as being 14 years of age on the 1860 census. Three years later at the age of 17, he enlisted in Company "E" 17th Texas Cavalry (Moore's Regiment) on February 26, 1862; Mustered in on March 15, 1862; and was discharged May 22 1862 for being "Under" 18; however, we know he survived the war because he died on April 13, 1932 at the age of 88. In all likelihood, Private Ivy most likely reenlisted in 1863 after turning 18 and received a Lorenze rifle and carved his initial on the gun when he joined the Seventeenth Texas Cavalry, Consolidated.



Seventeenth Texas Cavalry Soldier

# AUSTRIAN M-1854 LORENZ

The Lorenz was the third most used infantry arm on both sides during the war, and somewhere between with the US importing approximately 250,000 of the guns during the war and the Confederates importing at least 100,000, and quite possibly more. The Confederacy was always thought to have purchased most of their Lorenz's after Caleb Huse visited Vienna as the Confederate Ordnance Department purchasing agent 1863, however more recent research indicates that Huse purchased his first Lorenz rifle muskets through S. Isaac, Campbell & Co of London in 1862. It appears that many of the guns that were purchased by the Confederacy were in their original 13.9mm caliber (about .547), while many of the US purchased guns were re-bored to more closely approximate the standard US caliber of .58.

The importance of the .54 caliber Austrian M-1854 Lorenz to the Confederacy might best be illustrated by an invoice from the famous English ammunition manufacturer Eley Brothers. The invoice is contained within the McRae Papers, and is dated July 18, 1863 some two weeks after the Battle of Gettysburg and the fall of Vicksburg, MS. The invoice is for 700,000 paper cartridges. The order included **"600,000 Austrian Rifle Cartridges "Marked A"** and **"100,000 Ball & Buck Short Musket Cartridges "Marked M"**. While the caliber of the Austrian cartridges is not specified, it seems clear that the order would be for .54-caliber ammunition, as the order contains no request for any .58 ammunition. This order implies that the Confederate Ordnance Department laboratories were capable of supplying a sufficient number of .58 caliber cartridges for the guns in the field, but needed assistance in providing enough ammunition for Lorenz's and smoothbore muskets.

This gun is in the classic "Confederate" configuration, often referred to as a "Type I" by collectors. It retains its original 13.9mm (.54) bore, has a block rear sight, and a cheek rest on the reverse of the buttstock. The gun is dated **860** for 1860 on the lock, forward of the hammer and the double-headed Austrian Eagle is stamped to the rear of the hammer at the tail of the lock. The top of the breech is stamped with the name of arms maker, but is hard to read due to the gun power oxidation.

This **Austrian M-1854 Lorenz Rifle Musket** is in **VERY GOOD+ to NEAR FINE** condition. The gun is quite crisp with fine edges present on both the metal and the wood. The gun has a lightly oxidized "salt & pepper" appearance to the metal, which shows a mottled gray-brown over pewter patina on all the metal. There is some scattered light surface peppering and pinpricking over all of the metal surfaces as well. The gun is mechanically excellent and the lock functions crisply on all positions. The original tomb stone block rear sight, front sight/bayonet lug and both original sling swivels are present on the rifle. The bore of the gun rates about **VERY GOOD+ to NEAR FINE**. The original 4-groove Austrian rifling remains crisp, and the bore is mostly bright with some light frosting in the grooves. The original ramrod is in the channel under the barrel and it is full length, with fine threads on the end. The stock of the rifle rates **VERY GOOD+ to NEAR FINE** as well. As noted, the stock is crisp and retains sharp edges and shows no signs of ever having been sanded. The stock is full length with no breaks, cracks or repairs noted. The stock does show the usual bumps and dings from use in the field. The bayonet properly fits and is tight.

Overall, this is simply a wonderfully crisp, untouched, and unmolested **Austrian M-1854 Lorenz Rifle Musket** in the very desirable Type I configuration.











# Alabama 1860 Census Record

Page No. 109

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in Union Peak in the County of Dallas State Alabama enumerated by me, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1860. W. F. Huntington Asst Marshal.  
Post Office \_\_\_\_\_

Dwelling-house number in order of visitation.	Family number in order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year. If not, state how long since he or she attended school.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color.		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1		William C Morgan	4	M					al			
2		L. Hely.	2	F					"			
3	791 778	J. S. Rice	4	M		Courier ✓		4000	nc			
4	792 779	John W Faggard	42	M		Farmer ✓	7400	17200	"			
5		Nancy C "	42	F					al			
6		Ella C "	13	F					al	1		
7		Mary C "	8	F					"	1		
8		John W "	3	M					"			
9		Thomas W "	1	M					"			
10		Eliza Morgan	47	F				1200	nc			
11	793 780	William Gibson	32	M		Courier ✓			Ireland			
12		Levy J "	14	F					nc			
13		Frank "	10	M					al	1		
14	794 781	Hugh Meddum	60	F		Farmer ✓	20100	56550	Ireland			
15		Mary B "	46	F					nc			
16		Robert "	17	M					al	1		
17		Sarah C "	13	F					"	1		
18		Margaret "	6	F					"	1		
19		Geo Weaver	22	M		CC Teacher ✓			Ireland			
20	795 782	Sarah Irij	77	F		Farmer ✓	7200	1325	nc			
21		Thomas F "	14	M					al	1		
22		Mary Fike	40	F					ga			
23		R. J. Fike	16	F					al	1		
24	796 783	Satney Fincher	63	F		Farmer ✓	8000	45000	Ireland			
25		J. William Atkins	33	M		Courier ✓	600		al			
26	797 784	Ina Holland	50	M		Carpenter ✓	2464	"	nc			
27		Matham "	13	F		Farmer ✓	1400	11495	ga			
28		John B Thrash	27	M		" ✓			al			
29		Arthelia "	22	F					nc			
30		William R "	2	M					al			
31		M. E. "	12	M					"			
32	798 785	E. McGuire	18	F		Farmer ✓	1400	6432	ga		1	
33	799 786	J. L. "	35	M		do ✓			al			
34		Arthelia "	31	F					do			
35		Sarah "	12	F					do	1		
36		Misan "	10	F					spk	1		
37		Euna "	8	F					al			
38		L. H. "	2	F					do			
39		Catherine Bennett	32	F				1200	do			
40		J. E. Bennett	11	F					do	1		

No. white males, 16 No. colored males, \_\_\_\_\_ No. foreign born, \_\_\_\_\_ No. blind, \_\_\_\_\_  
No. white females, 24 No. colored females, \_\_\_\_\_ No. deaf and dumb, \_\_\_\_\_ No. insane, \_\_\_\_\_

No. idiotic, \_\_\_\_\_  
No. paupers, \_\_\_\_\_ No. convicts, \_\_\_\_\_

725

# Thomas F. Ivy

## Muster Sheets

760  
Ivy, Thomas F.  
Co. E, 17 Texas Cavalry.

(Moore's Regiment.)

Became Co. G, Granbury's Consol'd Texas Brig. about  
April 9, '65.

(Confederate.)

Private Private

### CARD NUMBERS.

1	50320559	20
2	0962	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 medical cards herein 0

Number of personal papers herein 0

BOOK MARK:

See also



(Confederate.)

*J* | 17 Cav. | Texas.

*Thomas F. Ivy*  
*Pvt.* { Capt. Sterling B. Hendricks' Co.,  
17 Regiment Texas Cavalry.\*

Age *17* years.

Appears on

Company Muster-in Roll  
of the organization named above.

Roll dated

*Not dated*, 186

Muster-in to date

*Feb. 15*, 1862.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When , 186

Where *Elizian Fields Tex*

By whom

Period

Valuation of horse \$*25* 100; equipments \$*35* 100

Remarks:

\*This company subsequently became Company E, 17th Regiment Texas Cavalry.

The 17th (also known as Moore's) Regiment Texas Cavalry was organized and accepted into the service of the Confederate States March 15, 1862, with ten companies, and re-organized May 22, 1862, with nine companies, (1st) Company I having been transferred to the 25th Regiment Texas Cavalry April 21, 1862 and became Company H. (1st) Company K, 14th Regiment Texas Infantry, was transferred to this regiment soon after the muster of October 31, 1862, and became (1d) Company L. A part of this regiment was captured at Arkansas Post, Ark., January 11, 1863, and exchanged east of the Mississippi River in April and May, 1863, when it was consolidated with similar remnants of the 18th, 24th and 25th Regiments Texas Cavalry. This consolidation was broken up in March, 1864, when these parts of the 17th and 18th Regiments Texas Cavalry were united to form one field organization, but each appears to have been mustered separately. About April 9, 1865, this portion of the regiment was consolidated with the remnants of other regiments in Granbury's Texas Brigade and paroled at Greensboro, N. C., about May 1, 1865. That part of the regiment which was not captured January 11, 1863, remained west of the Mississippi River and was consolidated with similar remnants of other Texas regiments about July 1, 1863, forming the 17th Consolidated Regiment Texas Dismounted Cavalry.

Book mark:

*Fred Snyder*



(Confederate.)

*I.* | **17 Cav.** | **Texas.**

*Thos. F. Ivy.*  
*Priv.*, Co. *E.*, 17 Reg't Texas Cavalry.

Appears on

**Company Muster Roll**

of the organization named above,

for *Feb. 26 to June 30*, 186*2*.

Enlisted:

When *Feb. 26*, 186*2*.

Where *Chysian Fields*

By whom *Capt. T. J. Johnson*

Period *1 yr.*

Last paid:

By whom

To what time, 186*2*.

Present or absent

Remarks: *Discharged May 22*  
*by Conscription. Under 18 years.*

The 17th (also known as Moore's) Regiment Texas Cavalry was organized and accepted into the service of the Confederate States March 15, 1862, with ten companies, and re-organized May 22, 1862, with nine companies, (1st) Company I having been transferred to the 28th Regiment Texas Cavalry April 22, 1862, and became Company B. (1st) Company K, 14th Regiment Texas Infantry, was transferred to this regiment soon after the muster of October 31, 1862, and became (2d) Company I. A part of this regiment was captured at Arkansas Post, Ark., January 11, 1863, and exchanged east of the Mississippi River in April and May, 1863, when it was consolidated with similar remnants of the 18th, 24th and 25th Regiments Texas Cavalry. This consolidation was broken up in March, 1864, when these parts of the 17th and 18th Regiments Texas Cavalry were united to form one field organization, but each appears to have been mustered separately. About April 9, 1865, this portion of the regiment was consolidated with the remnants of other regiments in Granbury's Texas Brigade and paroled at Greensboro, N. C., about May 1, 1865. That part of the regiment which was not captured January 11, 1863, remained west of the Mississippi River and was consolidated with similar remnants of other Texas regiments about July 1, 1863, forming the 17th Consolidated Regiment Texas Dismounted Cavalry.

Book mark:

*Fred Snyder.*

# Thomas F. Ivy

## Death Certificate

1. PLACE OF DEATH		TEXAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH		BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS		Registrar's No. <u>8</u>	
STATE OF TEXAS		COUNTY OF <u>Garland</u>		STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		<u>17617</u>	
CITY OR PRECINCT NO. <u>Forney</u>		No. <u>1</u> Street <u>1st</u>		Length of residence in city where death occurred yrs. <u>1</u> mos. <u>1</u> days		How long in U. S. if foreign born? yrs. <u>1</u> mos. <u>1</u> days	
2. FULL NAME OF DECEASED <u>Thomas F. Ivy</u>		Residence: No. <u>1</u> Street <u>1st</u>		If non-residence give city, or town and state.			
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS				MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH			
3. SEX <u>Male</u>		4. COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>		5. SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED DIVORCED <u>Married</u>		21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) <u>4-14-</u> 19 <u>32</u>	
5a. If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of <u>Amanda Ivy</u>		6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) <u>June 15 1846</u>		7. AGE <u>86</u> Years <u>2</u> Months <u>29</u> Days		22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>2-10-</u> 19 <u>32</u> to <u>4-14-</u> 19 <u>32</u>	
8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. <u>Retired</u>		9. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc.		10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year)		11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation	
2. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <u>Gla</u>		13. NAME <u>Curtis D Ivy</u>		14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <u>Gla</u>		15. MAIDEN NAME <u>Amant Know</u>	
16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <u>"</u>		17. INFORMANT <u>Mr Amant Ivy</u>		18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL Place <u>First Cent Cemetery</u> Date <u>4-15</u> 19 <u>32</u>		19. UNDERTAKER <u>Anderson Clayton &amp; Co</u>	
20. FILE DATE AND SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR <u>5-1-1932</u> <u>P. A. Loyd</u>		23. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: Accident, suicide, or homicide? <u>no</u>		24. Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? <u>no</u>		If so, specify <u>no</u>	
21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) <u>4-14-</u> 19 <u>32</u>		22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>2-10-</u> 19 <u>32</u> to <u>4-14-</u> 19 <u>32</u>		I last saw him alive on <u>4-13-</u> 19 <u>32</u> ; death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at <u>12 noon</u>		The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows: <u>Inters-colitis</u>	
Other contributory causes of importance: <u>no</u>		Name of operation <u>no</u> date of <u>no</u>		What test confirmed diagnosis? <u>no</u> Was there an autopsy? <u>no</u>		23. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: Accident, suicide, or homicide? <u>no</u>	
Date of onset <u>no</u>		Date of injury <u>no</u>		Where did injury occur? <u>no</u> (Specify city or town, county, and State)		Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.	
Manner of injury <u>no</u>		Nature of injury <u>no</u>		24. Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? <u>no</u>		If so, specify <u>no</u>	
(Signed) <u>D. H. Hudgins</u> M. D.		(Address) <u>Forney Tx</u>					

SI485-931-150m



# Seventeenth Texas Cavalry (Dismounted)

Chickamagua after battle report:

Report of Col. F. C. Wilkes, Twenty-fourth Texas Cavalry, commanding Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth Texas Cavalry (dismounted).

HDQRS. 17TH, 18TH, 24TH, AND 25TH TEXAS CAVALRY,  
October 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on Saturday, September 19, about 4. 30, my regiment, numbering 735 rank and file and 29 officers of the line, together with 3 field officers, crossed the Chickamauga Creek, and after moving forward about 2 miles formed in line of battle about sundown. The regiment occupied the position on the right of Gen. Deshler's brigade, the right of which brigade rested on the left of Gen. Wood's brigade. We immediately moved forward, passing over the brigade of Gen. Preston Smith, and at a distance of about 600 yards we met the enemy. My company of skirmishers, which had been instructed to keep well to the front, being misled by the darkness of the night, had come unexpectedly upon the enemy's line of battle and had been captured. After a short engagement with the enemy, especially upon the right of my command, he was routed with considerable loss in killed and wounded, and about 100 prisoners, principally from the Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Regt.'s, together with the colors of each of these regiments and most of their field officers; also about 150 stand of small-arms, during which time the company of skirmishers made their escape.

In the engagement I lost 4 killed and 7 or 8 wounded.

The honor of capturing the colors belongs to Private L. Montgomery, of Company B, and Sergt. C. Martin and Private Phippen of Company K.

Sergt. J. H. Griffin, of Company I, distinguished himself by his gallantry and coolness in taking command of his company when the only commissioned officer in it was absent and could not be found. I recommend that he be promoted to lieutenant.

During this engagement I received a slight wound which partially disabled me, in consequence of which the command devolved on Lieut.-Col. Coit and Maj. Taylor.

Having driven the enemy from the field, the action closed about 8 o'clock, and we bivouacked on the battle-field.

On Sunday morning, an hour before daylight, we reformed our line of battle and threw up temporary breastworks. Between 9 and 10 o'clock we were again ordered to the front. After advancing about 600 yards through the timber, we came upon an open field completely commanded by the enemy's batteries, and we made our way at a double-quick step across this field under a most terrific fire of shot and shell, grape and canister. During this movement we lost 8 or 10 men in killed and wounded.

Having advanced near the enemy's lines, and finding a brigade already in front of us engaging the enemy, the command was ordered to halt, lie down, and await further orders. Just at this juncture, I received a contused wound upon the right leg which completely disabled me, and in consequence of which I was separated from the command until the close of the action.

The officers and men of the command up to this time, with a few dishonorable exceptions already reported, displayed remarkable gallantry. Maj. Taylor, now in command of the regiment, and who was with it during the entire action of the 19th and 20th, will add to this a supplemental report.

I have the honor to be, yours, very respectfully, &c.,

F. C. WILKES,  
Col., Comdg. Regt.

Capt. J. T. HEARNE,  
Assistant Adjutant-Gen.

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Report of Maj. William A. Taylor, Twenty-fourth Texas Cavalry, commanding Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth Texas Cavalry (dismounted).

[OCTOBER 6, 1863]

SIR: Being upon the right of the regiment at the time Col. Wilkes was wounded, I was ordered by Gen. Deshler to move the regiment by the right flank. After proceeding about 300 yards, I was ordered by Gen. Cleburne to front and advance, which I did immediately. The regiment met a regiment of Gen. Wood's brigade retreating from before the enemy (opening our lines to give it egress), and then closing up again, advancing steadily to the crest of the hill immediately in front of the enemy's breastworks, the enemy hastily retiring from before them. Upon arriving at the crest of the hill, we were ordered to halt. It was here the regiment suffered terribly, losing about 200 in killed and wounded, and remained undaunted for three or four hours under a galling and continuous fire of grape, canister, and small-arms until it was ordered order, still keeping a line of sharpshooters near the crest of the hill. Soon after the regiment assumed its new position, it was discovered that the enemy's skirmishers were flanking us on the right. Immediately upon discovering this movement of the enemy I ordered a company out as skirmishers to drive them back, which was done effectually. In a short time the enemy was routed, and the regiment was ordered to bivouac upon the field from which the enemy had been driven.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. TAYLOR,  
Maj., 17th, 18th, 24th, and 25th Regts. Texas Cav.

Capt. J. T. HEARNE,  
Assistant Adjutant-Gen.

Source: Official Records  
CHAP. XLII.] THE CHICKAMAUGA CAMPAIGN. PAGE 194-51  
[Series I. Vol. 30. Part II, Reports. Serial No. 51.]

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Report of Maj. William A. Taylor, Twenty-fourth Texas (dismounted) Cavalry, commanding Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth Texas (dismounted) Cavalry.



HDQRS. 17TH, 18TH, 24TH, AND 25TH TEXAS REGIMENTS., Camp near Tunnel Hill, Ga.,  
December 2, 1863. CAPT.: About 4 a.m. on November 26, orders to retreat from Chickamauga were given, and the line of march was taken up for the rear and continued to Ringgold; encamped near the ford west of the town.

Early on the morning of the 27th, a line of battle was formed a short distance east of the fronting the town of Ringgold. Company K, Capt. Manion, was thrown forward as skirmishers, with orders to conceal themselves, and not to fire until the enemy were very near to them.

About 9 a.m. the enemy advanced a heavy line of skirmishers. When within about 20 yards of my line of skirmishers, and on the right of the regiment, they were fired upon and the engagement commenced, our fire slightly checking their advance. The enemy, heavily re-enforced, advanced steadily and with the intention of flanking my right. Informing Col. Granbury, commanding brigade, of this fact, I immediately withdrew Company K, Capt. Manion, from the front, and ordered First Lieut. Basye, Company E, to take his position; ordered Capt. Manion to deploy his company a little in advance and at right angles with the regiment, and ordered Capt. Speir, Company B, to support him. The enemy being close upon my flank, rapid soon commenced, which told with terrible effect upon the enemy, owing to the coolness and the accuracy of the aim and the bravery of the men. Seeing the enemy again heavily re-enforcing, I ordered Capt. Marsh, Company I, to deploy his company, take command of the skirmishers, to advance, and drive the enemy back, which he did, charging them with a shout and drive the enemy back, which he did, charging them with a shout in gallant style, routing the enemy and driving them back in confusion, killing quite a number, capturing a stand of colors (Twenty-ninth Missouri), and between 60 and 100 prisoners, among them a number of officers.

I would call attention to the gallantry of Capt.'s Marsh, Manion, and First Lieut. Basye, of Companies I, K, and E. In this engagement, as at Missionary Ridge, with but few exceptions, the men and officers behaved as men and soldiers should fighting for their homes and country.

The enemy making no farther advance, about 2 p.m. orders to retreat were given, which was done in good order.

Your attention is respectfully called to list\* of casualties, marked B, accompanying this report.

W. A. TAYLOR,  
Maj., Comdg. 17th, 18th, 24th, and 25th Texas Regiments.

Capt. J. T. HEARNE,  
Assistant Adjutant-Gen.

Source: Official Records  
CHAP. XLIII.] THE CHATTANOOGA-RINGGOLD CAMPAIGN. PAGE 778-55  
[Series I. Vol. 31. Part II, Reports. Serial No. 55.]

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Report of Capt. William H. Perry, Eighteenth Texas Cavalry, commanding Seventeenth and Eighteenth Texas Cavalry (dismounted), of operations July 20-22.

ATLANTA, August 2, 1864.

Report of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Texas Cavalry in the engagement of the 20th, 21st, and 22d of July before Atlanta.

July 20, we did not participate in the engagement, being in reserve for Gen. Cheatham's division. We were exposed to some extent to the shells of the enemy. Loss of the regiment 2 men wounded. 21st, at daylight we formed our line within 250 or 300 yards of the enemy's pickets, and some 500 or 600 yards from the main line of the enemy's works, they having previously built works. We at once began throwing up works under a heavy fire from the pickets of the enemy. The regiment sustained some loss while building our works. About 9 a. m. the enemy advanced with two or three lines of battle, driving our pickets and rushing on to get possession of our line. They were met with a volley of bullets and turned their course. After rallying and making several faint charges they disappeared. The loss of the enemy was heavy. The regiment did not suffer but little from the minie-balls, but suffered heavily from shells, the enemy having an enfilading fire upon our lines.

The regiment had 184 rank and file. Loss during the day-killed, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 10 non-commissioned officers and privates; wounded, 3 lieutenants, 36 non-commissioned officers and privates. I suppose the enemy must have had 6,000 or 8,000 in the engagement. No captures were made.

July 22; the regiment went into the action with about 160 men. The cook detail having been ordered in, and the picket that had been left on the line some two or three days previously having come up, we advanced rapidly upon the enemy and in good order, notwithstanding the thick undergrowth and the marshy ravines we had to pass through. We drove the enemy about a mile, taking two lines of works. We then emerged into an open field and advanced to the third line on double-quick, the enemy pouring musketry into us from our front and right flank, playing on us at the same time with cannon. The right of the brigade, having engaged the enemy, failed to move forward with us and left our flank exposed. Not until we had reached the third line did we discover that we had no support on our right with the exception of the left wing of the Fifth Confederate Regt. We were separated from the left of the brigade by a marshy ravine and an angle in the works. The brigade received orders to move out by the left flank as soon as our position was ascertained, but the orders failed to reach our regiment. Captain Manion; commanding the regiment at that time; sent Lieutenants McKnight and Little to Gen. Smith for orders and to know what to do; but before they could return the enemy made several charges upon us and had succeeded in getting in our rear. We fought the overwhelming forces of the enemy in almost a hand-to-hand encounter until further resistance would have been folly. Thus, it was that many of our gallant men fell into the hands of the enemy. I know nothing of the killed and wounded after the occupation of the third line. We captured several pieces of artillery, wagons, ambulances, horses, and several hundred stand of small-arms. I saw some five or six pieces of artillery, several wagons, and ambulances our regiment ran over; also, many horses and mules. As soon as it was ascertained that Maj. Person (senior officer) had surrendered us, many made their escape by running. We made a second charge upon the enemy's works late in the evening, but did not succeed in taking the works, the brigade on our right not coming up and the enemy having an enfilading fire upon us. Many of our regiment went to the works on the left, it being put on the left of the brigade late in the evening.

Loss, so far as I can ascertain, was-killed, 1 captain, 3 non-commissioned officers and privates; wounded, 2 officers, 4 non-commissioned officers and privates. Many others may have fallen victims to the enemy's missiles, but we not being able to hold the ground we took, I could not learn anything of the number.

W. H. PERRY,  
Capt., Cmdg. Regt.



# Seventeenth Texas Cavalry

By: Matthew K. Hamilton

**SEVENTEENTH TEXAS CAVALRY.** The Seventeenth Texas Cavalry was organized in the spring and early summer of 1862 and mustered into service in the Confederate Army on March 15, 1862. The regiment was arranged into six companies of about 1,000 men from Cherokee, Smith, and Red River counties and from the towns of Jimtown (Jamestown) and Douglas, Texas. The Seventeenth Cavalry's original commander was Col. George F. Moore, and its other field officers included Sterling B. Hendricks (lieutenant colonel), John McClarty (major), Sebron M. Noble (major, lieutenant colonel), James R. Taylor (colonel), and Thomas F. Tucker (colonel). On April, 24, 1862, the regiment transferred to Arkansas where it was assigned to First Brigade, Second Division, Trans-Mississippi Department.

On May 24, the unit was reorganized into nine companies, and the commanding officer, George F. Moore, was relieved of command and was replaced with James R. Taylor. By August 1862, the Seventeenth Cavalry dismounted prior to the engagement at **Arkansas Post** on January 11, 1863. At this battle, the majority of the unit's members were captured. The men that were taken prisoner at Arkansas Post were transferred to Fort Delaware via Camp Chase in Ohio. On April 29, 1863, they were exchanged for Union prisoners and returned to service in the Confederate Army.

Thereafter, the Seventeenth Cavalry had a unique dual identity, as the larger portion of the regiment that was captured and paroled served east of the Mississippi River, while a smaller portion, composed mainly of men not captured, continued to serve west of the Mississippi River. However, the portion of the unit that remained in the east was consolidated with the Eighteenth Texas Cavalry from July 1863 to April 9, 1865. In July 1864 the Seventeenth was further consolidated with the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Texas Cavalry regiments.

The consolidated regiment serving east of the Mississippi River saw its first action at the battle of **Chickamauga** as part of James Deshler's, J. A. Smith's, and Granbury's Texas Brigade, Army of Tennessee. The Seventeenth Cavalry and its consolidated regiments reported over 200 casualties at Chickamauga. The regiment serving east of the Mississippi remained with the Army of Tennessee until December 1864. During this time, the unit took part in such notable engagements as the siege of **Chattanooga**, the assault and capture of **Lookout Mountain** and **Missionary Ridge**, the assault on **Kennesaw Mountain**, the battle of **Peach Tree Creek**, and the battle and siege of **Atlanta**. From September to November 1864 the regiment participated in Gen. John Bell Hood's operations in northern Georgia and northern Alabama before returning to Tennessee to take part in the battles of **Franklin** and **Nashville**. Later, the eastern portion of the regiment served in defense against Gen. William T. Sherman's campaign

of the Carolinas, including the battle of **Bentonville** in North Carolina. On April 9, 1865, the eastern unit was further consolidated with the Sixth, Seventh, and Tenth Texas Infantry regiments and the Fifteenth Texas Cavalry regiment at Smithfield, North Carolina, and designated the First Texas Consolidated Infantry. On April 26, 1865, the eastern unit surrendered to Union forces at Durham Station, North Carolina.

The western portion of the Seventeenth Cavalry served as part of the Trans-Mississippi Department until the end of the war. From October to November 1863 the western unit of the regiment participated in the defense of western Louisiana and the Tech Country including actions as Opelousas, Barre Landing, Grand Coteau, Bayou Bourbeau, Carrion Crow Bayou, and Buzzard's Prairie. Beginning in March 1864 Union Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks launched his Red River campaign to sever Texas from the Confederacy and disrupt the Trans-Mississippi cotton trade. The Seventeenth Cavalry took part in operations against Bank's offensive including participation in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, and numerous minor skirmishes.

Later, from April to May 1864, the western unit took part in operations against Union Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele's Camden campaign. Steele's objective was to move south from Little Rock towards Camden in an effort to link up with Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks's forces that were moving north from New Orleans. The western unit was included among the Trans-Mississippi Department forces that surrendered at Galveston, Texas, on June 3, 1865.

# CONFEDERATE TEXAS TROOPS

## 17th Regiment, Texas Cavalry (Moore's)

### OVERVIEW:

17th Cavalry Regiment was organized during the spring of 1862 with men from Nacogdoches, Cherokee, Smith, and Red River counties. The unit was soon dismounted and sent to Arkansas where it was captured at Arkansas Post in January, 1863. After being exchanged it was consolidated with the 18th, 24th, and 25th Texas Cavalry Regiments (dismounted), and served in Deshler's, J.A. Smith's, and Granbury's Brigade.

This command fought with the Army of Tennessee from Chickamauga to Nashville, then was active in North Carolina. The 17th contained about 1,000 men when it was organized. The 17th/18th/24th/25th reported 200 casualties at Chickamauga and totaled 690 men and 520 arms in December, 1863. Only a handful surrendered on April 26, 1865. The field officers were Colonels G.F. Moore, James R. Taylor, and Thomas F. Tucker, and Lieutenant Colonels Sterling B. Hendricks, John McClarty; and Sebron M. Noble.

# Seventeenth Texas Cavalry Consolidated

SEVENTEENTH TEXAS CAVALRY, CONSOLIDATED. In July 1863 the Seventeenth Texas was formed at Shreveport, Louisiana, with men who escaped from the surrender of seven Texas dismounted cavalry and infantry regiments at Arkansas Post in January. Col. James R. Taylor received command of the new regiment, which became part of Polignac's Brigade. The brigade in October joined Gen. Richard Taylor's army in southern Louisiana. During the winter the Seventeenth Texas and the brigade skirmished with Federal forces at Vidalia in February 1864 and at Harrisonburg in March. The regiment rejoined General Taylor to meet the Union Red River campaign that spring. At Sabine Crossroads and at Pleasant Hill on April 8 and 9 the Seventeenth Texas joined in successful attacks that halted the Federal advance. Col. James Taylor died in the fighting. The regiment and the brigade then harassed the Union withdrawal down the Red River. All of the field officers of the Seventeenth Texas had been killed or wounded in the campaign, leaving Capt. M. M. Singletary in command. A summer attempt to cross the Mississippi River failed, followed by a move of the regiment and brigade into Arkansas during the fall. After a return to Louisiana in December, the Seventeenth Texas had Col. Thomas F. Tucker appointed as its new commander. In March 1865 the regiment returned to Texas where it disbanded in May.





# **Granbury's Texas Brigade - 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry (dismounted), Consolidated**

This is the finest Hardee pattern battle flag still in existence. Like the 6th Infantry and 15th Texas Cavalry (dismounted), the 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry (dismounted) were allowed to retain this flag even after the adoption of the well-known Confederate battle flag, as a mark of respect. The units were organized in East Texas in early 1862 and deployed to Arkansas in summer 1862. On January 11, 1863, they were taken prisoner at Arkansas Post and held for three months in prison camps in Illinois. After being exchanged, the 17th and 18th were consolidated along with two other units as Smith's Brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Preston Smith, and placed in Cleburne's division.

They fought with distinction at Chickamauga and suffered over 200 casualties. Following Smith's death in battle, the units became part of the command of Hiram Granbury and shared the credit for saving the Army of Tennessee from destruction at Chattanooga. In November of 1863, the 17th and 18th Texas received this flannel Hardee flag inscribed with the battle honors of the previous campaigns: "Arkansas Post," "Chickamauga," "Tunnel Hill," and "Ringgold Gap." On July 22, 1864 at the Battle of Atlanta, the 17th and 18th Texas were cut off by Federal troops of the 15th Michigan Regiment under the command of General William T. Clark. Many men were taken prisoner, and the flag was captured. In 1914, the flag was returned to the state of Texas by the widow of General Clark.

## **Consolidated Regiment of the 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry Battle Flag**

The 17th Texas Cavalry was organized during the spring of 1862 and consisted of around 1000 men from Cherokee, Smith, and Red River counties. The regiment was mustered into service on March 15th, 1862, and then transferred to Arkansas on April 24th and assigned to the Trans-Mississippi Department. By August of 1862, the 17th Texas Cavalry was dismounted and assigned to the 5000-man garrison at Fort Hindman in Arkansas Post to defend the fort. Similarly, the 18th Texas Cavalry was also organized and mustered into service in Dallas on March 15th, 1862 with men from Bastrop, Bell, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Harris, Henderson, Johnson, Travis, and Williamson counties. The 18th was first assigned to duty in the Indian Territory but in July was also dismounted and sent to Fort Hindman in Arkansas Post. From January 4th – 11th 1863, in what is known as the Battle of Arkansas Post, Union forces totaling around 30,000 men equipped with ironclad gunboats and some 40 cannons, attacked the fort compelling the badly outnumbered Confederate defenders to surrender as the walls of the fort were destroyed from the heavy cannon fire. With the exception of the very few that were able to escape, nearly the entire garrison was captured. Three months later, most of the men were paroled on a prisoner exchange, including the 17th and 18th Texas Cavalries. Because of their significantly reduced numbers, they were consolidated into one regiment known as the 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry. They remained dismounted and were combined with six other

units to comprise what became known as “Granbury’s Brigade” commanded by Brigadier General Hiram Granbury. The brigade was assigned to Major General Patrick Cleburne’s division in the Army of Tennessee. Granbury’s Brigade soon distinguished itself as one of the hardest fighting regiments in the Army of Tennessee’s best division. Cleburne’s Division was responsible for saving the Army of Tennessee during their retreat from Chattanooga and fought Sherman’s Army to a stalemate on multiple occasions during the Atlanta Campaign. In 1863, the men of Cleburne’s Division resisted orders to replace their Hardee pattern battle flags with standard red battle flags. Because of their reputation as fighters, they became the only division in the Army of Tennessee allowed to keep their distinct Hardee-style battle flags. This was considered an honor. The 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry received their new battle flag in November of 1863 which replaced their old and tattered one. It was a Hardee pattern flag inscribed with the previous battle honors “Arkansas Post”, “Tunnel Hill”, Chickamauga”, and “Ringgold Gap”. “17th & 18th Texas” appears on the white ellipse in the center of the flag. On July 25th, 1864, the 17th and 18th Texas was fighting on the front lines during the Battle of Atlanta where they were surrounded and cut off by Union forces, and a large number of the men as well as their battle flag was captured. The flag was retained by Union General William T. Clark. In 1914 General Clark’s widow returned the flag, and it is now in the possession of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

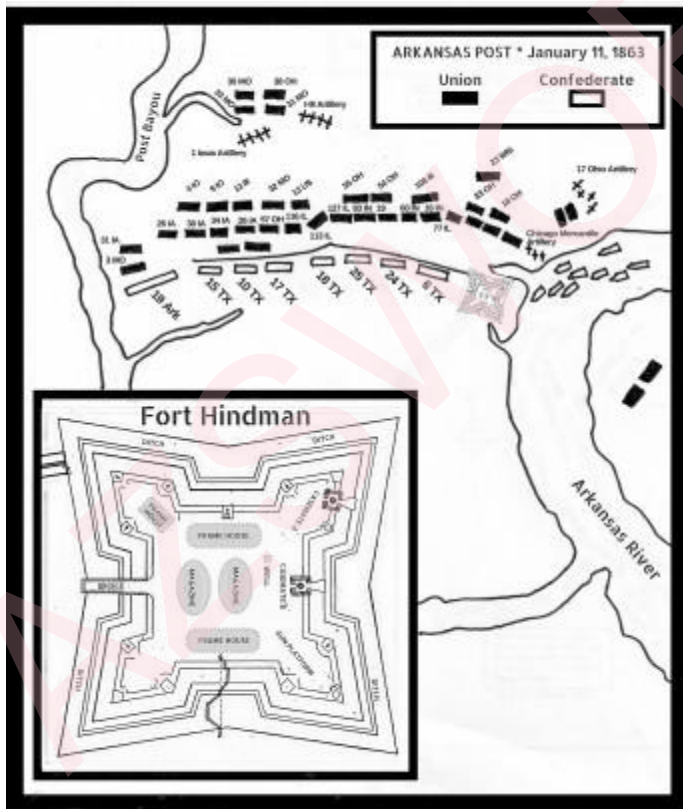
## **“Discombobulated Command: the ‘Other’ 17th Texas Consolidated Dismounted Cavalry, C.S.A.”**

During the winter of 1861-62, any number of battlefield disasters in the Confederacy, caused the War Department to call upon the states to furnish additional regiments of all arms to be rushed to various fronts to forestall a forced reunification of the states. Out in Texas several infantry and cavalry regiments underwent hurried organization: This included the 6th and 10th Texas Infantry, and 15th, 17th, 18th, 24th and 25th Texas Cavalry. When the Sec. of War ordered the Dept. commander of the “Lone Star” State to furnish fifteen regiments, of which this seven would constitute the largest segment. Ordered to Arkansas and Mississippi, the latter did not transpire because the U.S. seized the various crossings of the Mississippi River; leaving these regiments to initially see service amongst the citizens of Arkansas, which the Texians often derisively referred to as “rackensackers.” The infantry commands enlisted for three years (or the war), while the cavalry joined up for just twelve months! While the former mostly had uniforms and military arms, the latter mostly entered the service supplying their own mounts, tack, clothing, etc. The infantry had several months of military discipline exposure, while the cavalry seldom knew more than a very limited amount of drill before going off to fight.

In Arkansas the cavalymen of the 15th, 17th, and 18th Texas, unfortunately, were the first to “smell smoke,” these being small unit attacks upon Union troops in the northeast who were steadily pushing south in an effort to take Little Rock; knocking Arkansas out of the war. By mid-July, these regiments had accomplished their mission and were moved to just east of the capitol. But as with the other new regiments reaching Arkansas, diseases, and infirmities had already made huge inroads in reducing these regiments, who suffered from poor rations, and

scant medical care upon becoming sick. The 15th, 17th and 18th Cavalry were now thrown into a brigade centered on the well-drilled 10th Texas Infantry. Then, to the mortification of the cavalymen, they were dismounted, their horses sent home and their service extended to a full three years! Additionally, all men over 35 or under 18 were discharged under the first Conscript Act; the regiments all reorganized, and to make matters seemingly worse their pay was reduced to that of their web-foot counterparts!

About this time the veteran 6th Texas Infantry had been halted outside Pine Bluff, where they began to drill anew, where it was joined by the 14th and 25th Texas Cavalry (the latter had been ordered dismounted as well), and the three commands organized in a second Texas Brigade. It was charged with preventing the enemy's employing the nearby Arkansas River as a means to send naval gunboats and land forces up to reach Little Rock from the southeast. As had their counterparts near Little Rock, these new cavalymen had likewise struggled with their share of mumps, chicken pox, and Small-pox. Many a man went home feeble, never to or worse, went into shallow graves that surrounded their camps. In September this latter brigade moved by forced marches downstream to Arkansas Post, just back of the Mississippi, where a military post (dubbed "Ft. Hindman") had undergone construction. Surrounded by swamps and exposed to millions of mosquitos, not surprisingly, sicknesses proliferated. In late November they were joined at the Post by the remaining, by now fairly-trained infantry brigade that incorporated the 10th Texas Infantry, and the 15th, 17th, and 18th Dismounted Cavalry.



#### Arkansas Post

As Volume I of "A Force:" covered extensively the resulting Battle of Arkansas Post, this piece will focus on the consequences of that fight. One entire company of the 17th Texas Cavalry Dismounted had been out as skirmishers down Post Bayou and escaped completely the debacle suffered by their comrades. They were joined for many days thereafter by soldiers from the 6th and 10th Infantry, and 15th, 18th, 24th and 25th Cavalry Dismounted. Some had gone back to Little Rock, but a plethora returned to their Texas homes. Throughout the spring of '63 the various complements of men were temporarily organized and ordered to camps before being ordered in early summer to

Shreveport, La. On July 1st, these survivors were enrolled in the newly created 17th Texas Consolidated Dismounted Cavalry, with Col. James Taylor of the 17th selected to command the



regiment (of just eight companies), two days later receiving a presentation flag presented by Miss Emma Watson.

Here they were re-brigaded with the 22nd and 31st Texas Dismounted, and soon after by the 34th Texas Dismounted. Following several months of intensive drill, the brigade gained a new commander in the form of a diminutive Frenchman by the name of Camile Armand Jules Marie, Prince de Polignac. The Texans noted his short stature and, coupled with the fact he spoke French more often than not, designated him their "Polecat." They were ordered to Alexandria, where they entrenched that city, where they were to be supplied with "Enfield and Springfield rifles and accoutrements" recently captured from the enemy recently at Brashear City. The brigade reached Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor's army in late October 1863, to serve alongside Taylor's former brigade of Louisianans. After a mid-winter campaign to northeast Louisiana, many men having no shoes (and Pneumonia taking many lives), the brigade returned to Taylor's army near Alexandria, reaching Pineville on March 14, 1864. Here they entered into the west Louisiana "Red River" campaign that would witness them achieving perhaps the most significant victory over the enemy they were to experience.

Polignac's and Gray's La. Brigade became a new division, during which time they retired northward through Ft. Jessup, reaching Pleasant Hill On April 1st. On the 3rd the brigade made it to within six miles of Mansfield, a day later marching through and beyond the town where they rested several days, awaiting reinforcements from Texas. On the 8th, the army marched back through Mansfield, their band playing "Dixie." Then continuing southeast three miles to reach the Sabine Crossroads, the band struck up the "Bonnie Blue Flag," the martial music signifying the opportunity had arrived to "see the elephants," as the soldiers realized they were about to fight. Turning their column to the left and moving north, they were halted and the La. Brigade moved beyond them to become the new left flank (Texas Confederate cavalry brigades would be advanced to their left thereafter, all to take their guide from Taylor's army.) Near 4:00 P.M., Taylor Road past Polignac, calling forth: "Little Frenchman, I am going to fight (Maj. Gen. Nathaniel) Banks here if he has a million men."

Having been moved to a new position just north of a rail fence that ran east and west, the division was ordered to advance in-echelon, left in front, which would see Polignac's Brigade strike the enemy's troops posted behind the fence, it turning out that the 17th Texas Consolidated confronted the 130th Illinois Infantry of Brig. Gen. Landrum's 13th Corps Division. Here the enemy line had turned south and the right wing of the 17th Texas exploded through the interval between the 130th and the 77th Illinois on the former's left. Maj. Gen. Alfred Mouton having been already been killed, Polignac assumed division command, with Col. James Taylor of the 17th taking over "Polecat's" Brigade. The latter had already lost Lt. Col. Sebron Noble, killed early on in this charge, Maj. Tucker taking over the regiment. The 17th Texas pivoted upon its left flank to the enfilade the ranks of both the 49th Ohio and 19th Kentucky Infantry from the rear. Sweeping everything before them, the Texans next struck a second line of the Federals a couple of miles beyond, capturing artillery, wagons, and hundreds of enemy soldiers.

Near dark, three miles further along, the winded Texans struck a new line composed of troops from the 19th Corps, which had been rushed forward to stem the rebel advance. Struggling to drive the enemy away from the only fresh water available to the adversaries, Col. Taylor of the 17th Texas led the men in a final charge but was shot dead in the melee near the water course. A post-event analysis of the casualties in the regiment noted twenty-three killed and forty-five wounded. Among those killed in the initial charge was Lt. Jose de la Garza, formerly of the 6th Texas Infantry, who apparently died along with five others in the explosion of a shell which struck the regimental colors as they moved across the field in front of the fence. Afterward, the brigade withdrew to their former camps above Mansfield, where the men of the 17th received issues of Federal canteens, cartridge, and cap-boxes, bayonets, and belts from the immense trove of material that fell into rebel hands.

The brigade was again called to the front the following day at Pleasant Hill, and while they saw some action, it was minor when compared to the previous afternoon. The colors of the 17th Texas Consolidated Cavalry were brought back to Texas at war's end and ultimately preserved by Ensign W. H. Parker, who had borne it through the war. The September 1903, Athens Review, carried an article written by a Dallas newspaper reporter Dallas who traveled down to the parson's abode to view it and get the story behind it. And that very same flag made an appearance at the 1929 reunion of the regiment in Lufkin, where an image was made of Capt. Fears of Co. A, 17th, along with Ensign W. H. Parker holding it aloft. One can clearly observe the bullet and shell piercings still present across its face after all those years. Dismounted cavalry units from Texas made up a large proportion of the infantry commands that served in that deadly conflict and for that reason, their stories need to be related to every generation that considers themselves to be "real Texans."

