

David Giesler

"F" Co. Tennessee 5th Cavalry



Residence: Knoxville, Tennessee
Enlistment Date: 14 Aug 1861
Rank at enlistment: Sergeant
Enlistment Place: Knoxville, Tennessee
State Served: Tennessee

Service Record: Enlisted in Company F, Tennessee 5th Cavalry Battalion on 14 Aug 1861.

Sources: Index to Compiled Confederate Military Service Records Tennesseans in the Civil War

Military Unit: Eighth (Smith's) Cavalry

Full Name: Giesler, David

Age: 23

Year: 1863

Conflict Period: Civil War (Confederate)

Born about 1840 [uncertain] in **Sullivan County, Tennessee, United States**

Died 17 Mar 1863 at about age 23 in **Berlin, Marshall County, United States**

David Giesler

Biography

David was born about 1840 in Sullivan County, Tennessee. He was the son of Henry Giesler and Nancy Hicks.

He married Mary Riley and they had one child, Harriet (Giesler) Boy.

He traveled to Knoxville and enlisted as a Private in Captain D. McClelland's Tennessee 5th Cavalry Battalion on August 14, 1861. He was elected Sergeant on March 18, 1862.

He was elected **2nd Lieutenant** on July 1, 1862. On October 27, 1862, he received \$180 pay as a 2nd Lieutenant in Company B of Spiller's Tennessee Cavalry for the period of July 1 to August 31, 1862. He is listed as a 2nd Lieutenant in Company B 4th Regiment of the Tennessee 8th (Smith's) Cavalry on the muster rolls for September 1, 1862 - April 30, 1863.

He died on March 17, 1863 in Berlin, Marshall County, Tennessee from Typhoid and Pneumonia.

Burial location is unknown.

According to the story told to Rob Boy by his mother, Harriet (Giesler) Boy daughter of David and Mary Giesler, David asked his good friend Hanse Arrants to take care of his family if something happened to him during the war and he did not come back home. On September 19, 1869 Hanse married David's widow Mary A. M. Riley Giesler.



2nd LT David Giesler Died of Disease during the United States Civil War.



Colt Navy Revolver

Serial Number 107048

Colt Archive Factory Letter documents Colt Model 1851 Navy Revolver serial number 107048 was in a shipment of 200 Navies sent on 1 July, 1861 to **Mayor George Hatch, Cincinnati, Ohio**. It appears this shipment was quickly smuggled across the border into Confederate Tennessee because the following month this revolver was issued to a Confederate soldier. It is unclear if the mayor was responsible for this, but Hatch did know Southern sympathizers and after his term in office ended, he moved south.

The National Archives retains the Company Book of **McClellan Troop (F) 5th Battalion Tennessee Cavalry CSA** and Colt Navy revolver #107048 is recorded as being issued on August 25 1861, to Private David Giesler (Geesler). After his death on March 17, 1863, the revolver would have been reissued to another Southern soldier.

The revolver had been previously cleaned and now has a light gray patina. It has matching serial number on all parts to include the wedge, and properly cycles. It holds both half & full cock positions.

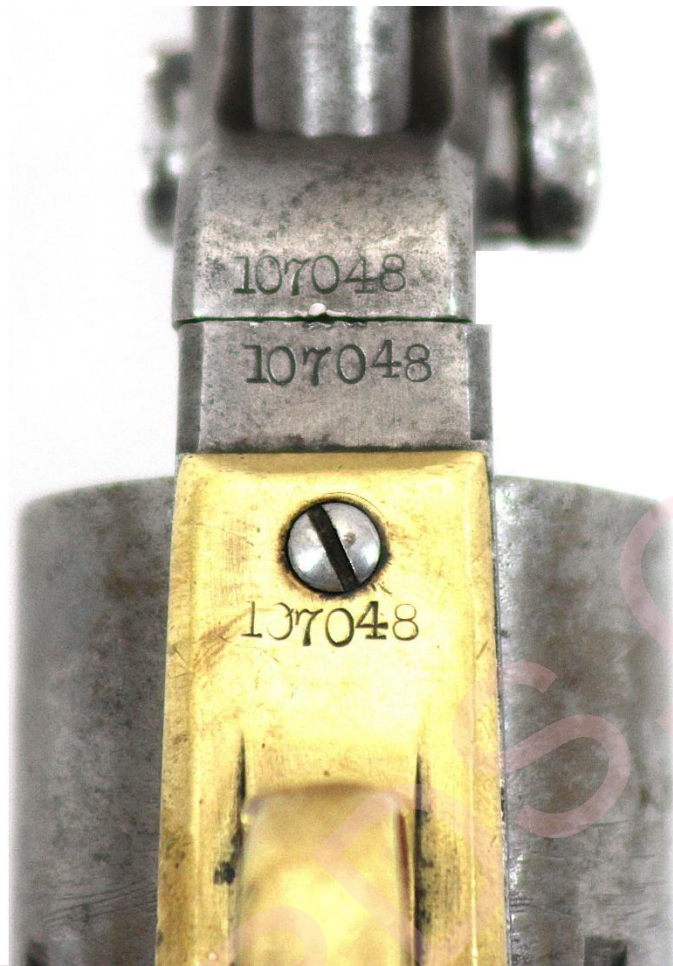


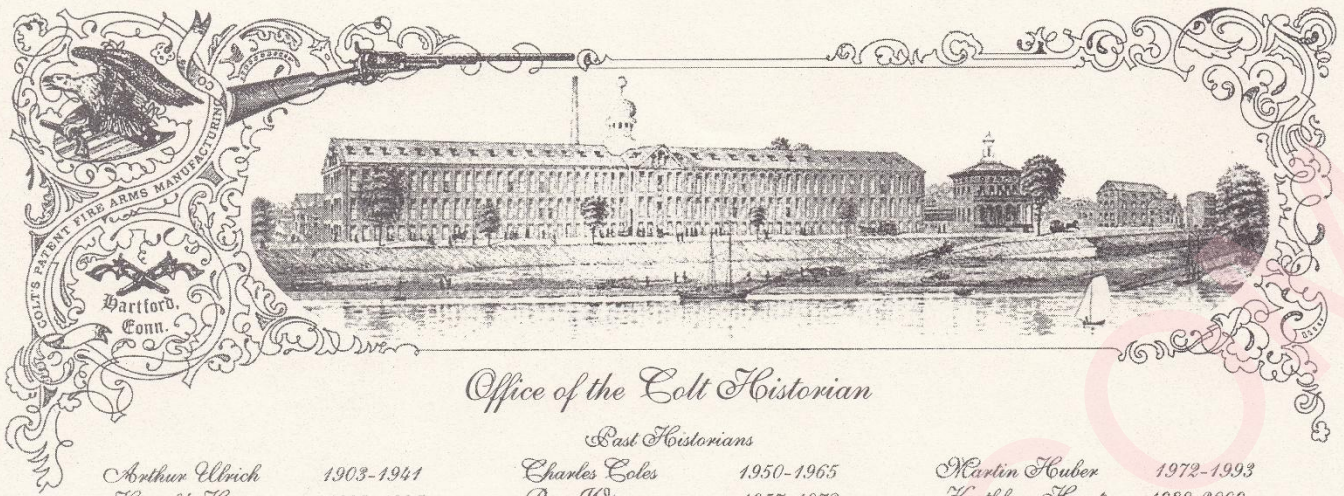












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February 2, 2026

Dear Colt Collector:

Colt, by means of this letter, is proud to authenticate the manufacture of the Colt firearm with the following serial number:

COLT MODEL 1851 NAVY REVOLVER

Serial Number: 107048
Caliber: .36/c
Barrel Length: 7 ½"
Finish: Blue/Brass
Type of Stocks: Wood
Shipped To: Mayor George Hatch
Address: 6 West 4th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
Date of Shipment: July 1, 1861
Number of Same Type
Guns in Shipment: 200

We trust you will find the historical information, retrieved from the original Colt shipping records, to be of interest.

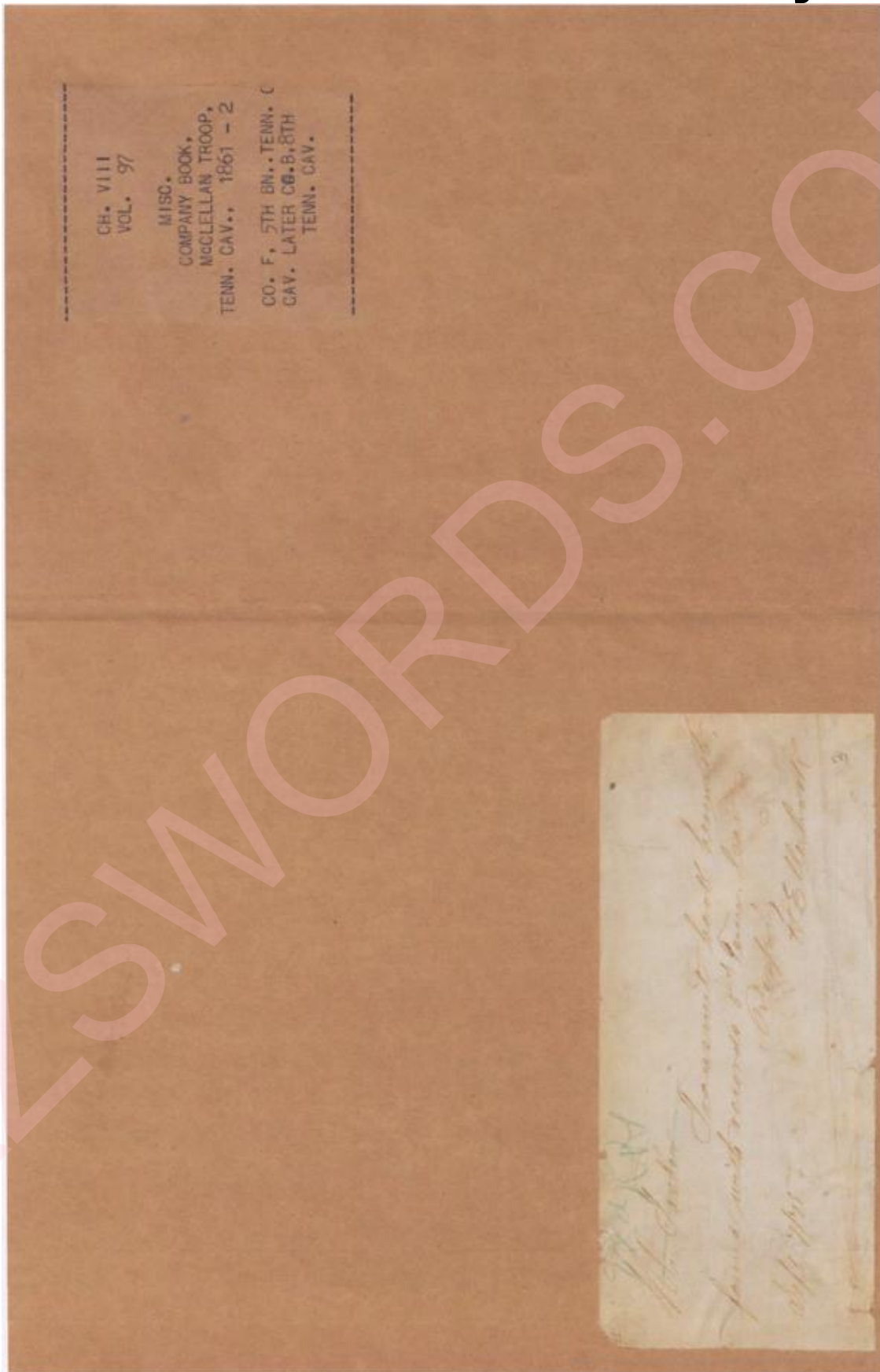
Sincerely,

Beverly Jean Haynes
Beverly Jean Haynes
Historian

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McClellan Troop (F) 5th Battalion Tennessee Cavalry CSA



CH. VIII
VOL. 97

MISC.
COMPANY BOOK,
McCLELLAN TROOP,
TENN. CAV., 1861 - 2

CO. F, 5TH BN., TENN. CAV.
LATER CG. B, 8TH
TENN. CAV.

Handwritten note on a small piece of paper, mostly illegible due to cursive and fading. The text appears to include a name and a date.

List and description of arms received by the McClellan Regt
at camp Cummings up to 26 of Aug 1861.

No.	Name	Rank	Company	Description	Remarks
1st	Capt David McClellan	2nd	Co. D	Colt's Patent	
2nd	Lieut R. J. Cumby	1st	"	"	
3rd	C. H. Ingles	1st	"	"	
4th	J. D. Kilton	2nd	105	"	
5th	Brigadier James P. Delany	1st	Regt	Colt's Patent	(to J. P. Delany)
6th	W. L. Cumby	1st	"	"	
7th	J. S. C. Hale	do	do	"	
8th	J. P. Delany	do	do	"	
9th	J. W. Gray	do	do	"	
10th	J. S. Hicks	do	do	"	
11th	Wm. Mitchell	do	do	"	
12th	W. W. Delany	do	do	"	To W. W. Delany
13th	J. C. Jones	do	do	"	
14th	J. A. McClellan	do	do	"	1 Brevet
15th	J. W. Crofford	do	do	"	1 Brevet
16th	J. J. Cole	do	do	"	
17th	A. H. Anthony	do	do	"	
18th	A. H. Anthony	do	do	"	
19th	W. W. Stewart	do	do	"	
20th	W. W. Stewart	do	do	"	
21st	D. Colman	do	do	"	
22nd	D. Simpson	do	do	"	(lost Sept 1861)
23rd	G. D. Conkling	do	do	"	
24th	G. M. Barnoch	do	do	"	
25th	J. W. Clark	do	do	"	3rd Brevet
26th	Wm. Bullard	do	do	"	
27th	W. W. Craig	do	do	"	3rd Brevet & Corp.
28th	J. A. Corns	do	do	"	
29th	W. W. Corns	do	do	"	
30th	J. F. Erwin	do	do	"	
31st	J. H. Elliot	do	do	"	
32nd	G. R. Faust	do	do	"	
33rd	Wm. February	do	do	"	
34th	Wm. February	do	do	"	
35th	G. S. Fleener	do	do	"	
36th	D. G. Gullett	do	do	"	
37th	J. S. Glavin	do	do	"	
38th	Wm. Glavin	do	do	"	
39th	Wm. W. Bailey	do	do	"	
40th	Jay. Hancock	do	do	"	
41st	J. P. King	do	do	"	
42nd	M. G. Rife	do	do	"	

Camp. Summering August 20, 1861

Boxes. drew. by. McWilliam. Troop.

1st Lt. David McWilliam.

2nd Lt. Capt. F. Crumley, one ball turned over to the lead.

3rd Lt. Geo. W. Jones

4th Lt. Samuel W. Butler.

5th Lt. James P. F. Deane.

6th Lt. William Crumley.

7th Lt. James Fox.

8th Lt. William F. Deane.

At this same time to Capt. Combs, sword belt called by order of the

Both same belt shot pouch ~~from~~ 9.9. 20th 1861 - to Capt. Combs

AZSWORD.COM

17	Mrs. Moss. Land	do
18	J. S. Gleason	do
19	D. S. Guster	do
20	J. S. Glavin	do
21	P. S. Glavin	do
22	Wm. H. Gubler	do
23	J. S. Mousant	do
24	J. S. King	do
25	M. S. King	do

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Orders

Order 1st

Brigade Head Quarters
Knoxville Sep 1st 1861

Capt David M^cClellan will without delay march with his company to Haynesville and thence to where ever the 14th Mississippi Regiment may be and report to its commanding officer for duty it being intended that the Cavalry company shall cooperate with said company

J. H. Zollicoffer
Brig^g Gen^l

Order 2nd

Brigade Head Quarters
Knoxville Sep 4th 1861

Capt David M^cClellan
Haynesville Tenn

Sir

It is probable the Mississippi Regiment at Haynesville will be called off to another service. I will replace it by another regiment for service in Johnson County; but it may be a week before I can place it at Haynesville. Meantime you will act upon your best discretion as to how to employ your company. I have news that Lincoln companies are mistaking in Boone Co. It is difficult to tell how far the news is reliable. It might be well for you to stop ~~your~~ company there a few days and get information. Report to me often - so I will know how to communicate with you.

Very respectfully
J. H. Zollicoffer
Brig^g Gen^l

Order 3rd

Brigade Head Quarters
Knoxville Sep 7th 1861

Capt David M^cClellan
Haynesville

Sir

Col Baldwin who was temporarily halted at Haynesville is now ordered in pursuance of original orders. You will report to him and cooperate with his movements. Very respectfully

J. H. Zollicoffer
Brig^g Gen^l

Research Correspondence

Dear Professor C. Philips.

I am an emeritus professor researching an unusual topic related to Cincinnati Civil War history.

I received a letter from the Colt Firearms Company Archives in response to an inquiry about one of their Civil War era Navy Model revolvers. The revolver in question is recorded in the National Archives, Washington D. C. military records by serial number as having been issued to a Tennessee Volunteer cavalry regiment, CSA on 25th August, 1861.

Information for Colt records indicate it was shipped from their factory among 200 identical revolvers on July 1, 1861 to:

Mayor George Hatch
6 West 4th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

Just beginning to scratch the surface of Cincinnati's complex Civil War history but my background in Medieval Studies in no way prepares me for this undertaking! I borrowed a copy of your excellent *The River Ran Backwards*, a fine source for historic context.

Conflicts and tensions within the city might account for it being a source of prohibited arms shipment to the South. It is less clear what Mayor Hatch was up to 1861 acquiring shipments? A large purchase of quality Colts, would have been very difficult to obtain in 1861. Might the Mayor have intended then for his own police force to serve as a city militia? How would such a large purchase been funded, municipal council approval or a private purchase by the mayor himself? Are Hatch records and papers organized for research?

What was the 6 West 4th Street location to which the revolvers were sent? An 1861 city directory is of no help.

It might be impossible to answer these questions but I am curious to hear any thoughts you might have and appreciate you taking the time to help.

Best wishes,
John J. K*** PhD
Pittsburgh, PA

Response

Hi John – here's what I came up with by searching 6 West 4th Street in William's 1861 city directory. It looks like a commercial building with a number of tenants, including a number of jewelers. They don't appear to be Germans, who would have been the city's most reliable Republicans/Unionist. None of the names jump out to answer why Hatch had the pistols sent there.

But it does raise a lot of questions. Knowing his wartime history and the fact he went South after his Mayorship ended certainly make me wonder whether he was planning to launder these weapons to the CSA. Of course, that would be considered treasonable activity. The river was a real conduit for illicit trade with the Confederacy, and it was shut down at a couple points by and I'm doubtful that the city council purchased them; if so, they would have been sent to the mayor's office which was then a few blocks east. But if so, why would they have included his name on the order? The Board of Trade likely was formed later that spring specifically because of such trade being quite real.

I recommend going to JStor and finding "Cincinnati a Southern Outpost 1861-1865. As for Hatch, I found a public library search a compilation of contemporary 1861 newspaper articles about him that might provide some detail.

Cheers, Chris

During the **American Civil War (1861–1865)**, Cincinnati, Ohio played an important economic and logistical role for the **Union** — but because of its location right on the **Ohio River** across from the slave state of **Kentucky**, it also sat at the edge of *borderland commerce* that could blur lines between legal supply and illicit trade.

Cincinnati's Trade Context During the War

- Cincinnati was a major supply and transportation hub for the Union war effort — shipping food, military supplies, and manufactured goods to Union armies, and producing vessels and equipment along the Ohio River.
- The city's commerce was deeply tied to Southern markets before the war; many merchants had longstanding commercial relationships with Kentucky and other Southern states.

Contraband and Smuggling Concerns

- **Border Trade With Kentucky:** Because Kentucky initially remained neutral and then was a Confederate-leaning border state, there was *continued trade across the river early in the war*. Some local officials, merchants, and civic groups tried to suppress or regulate movement of *arms, provisions, and other "contraband of war"* southward, but it was difficult to fully stop river commerce crossing into Kentucky and onward to the Confederacy. JST...
- **Official Regulation Attempts:** Ohio and Union authorities tried to enforce inspections of freight and travelers bound for Kentucky, seizing contraband like *weapons and supplies*. Despite these efforts, **goods often still moved across the Ohio River** to places that could serve as staging points for further distribution.
- **Broader Civil War Smuggling:** Across the war, the Union naval blockade of Confederate ports was intended to cut off supplies to the South. Still, blockade runners and smugglers found ways to get arms, food, and other materials into the Confederacy by sea and overland. While Cincinnati itself was inland and not part of the naval blockade, the region's commerce and proximity to secretive trade routes meant goods could sometimes find indirect paths to Confederate markets.

The Nature of Illicit Trade

- *Smuggling* during the Civil War was not always formalized or widespread in large quantities from cities like Cincinnati into the Confederacy, especially compared to coastal blockade running.
- Much of the controversial trade around border states involved *legal ambiguity* and negotiation rather than straightforward criminal smuggling — for example, moving food or manufactured goods into neutral Kentucky or transiting through that border region.

In Summary

While Cincinnati was firmly in Union hands and a major supplier of goods for the Northern war effort, its **geographic and commercial ties to Kentucky created situations where goods could move southward in ways that authorities worried might indirectly benefit Confederate forces**. Efforts were made to regulate and prevent "contraband" trade across the Ohio River, but the complexities of border commerce meant smuggling and illicit movements — especially early in the war — were ongoing concerns.

5th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion (McClellan's)

The 5th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion (McClellan's), a Confederate unit, was organized in Knoxville in May 1862 (though some sources say Aug 1861) under Lt. Col. George R. McClellan and Maj. Thomas J. Campbell. It was also known as the 1st or 4th Battalion and served in East Tennessee and Kentucky before merging into the 2nd (Ashby's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment in May 1862.

Key Details regarding McClellan's Command:

- Structure: Comprised six companies, with "The McClellan Group" (Company F) commanded by Captain David McClellan.
- Service: The unit served under General Zollicoffer with 540 effectives in September 1861.
- Merger: Following its service, it was merged into the 2nd (Ashby's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment in May 1862.
- David McClellan (1814–1862): Captain David McClellan was a prominent member, often associated with the unit, who passed away in April 1862.

Note: This unit is distinct from the 5th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment (Union), which was formed later, or the 5th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment (McKenzie's) (Confederate)

Company "F" armed with Navy pistols. Attached to Zollicoffer's Brigade. Had four Skirmishes prior to Fishing Creek. Engaged in that battle as advance guard, in the retreat as the rear guard. Lost all horses crossing the river (ordered by Colonel Cummings, commanding brigade to leave horses on north side of the river). Severe skirmish near McMinnville March 25, 1862, lost four killed, three wounded. Remained on border until September, 1862 when ordered to join General Bragg on march to Kentucky, being attached to Colonel Murry's regiment. Skirmished at Munfordsville, Sheperdsville, Salt River, Bardstown. Also, engaged and charged the enemy at Perryville; two wounded, seven horses killed. In rear during retreat under General John A. Whatton. Had five Skirmisher while on picket duty in the vicinity of Brentwood between December 1st and 25th. On that day engaged the enemy as advance pickets on McCooks march to Nolensville. Skirmished with enemy every day until December 31, when as part of Wharton's Brigade were on the different engagements and charges made on the enemy's rear and wagon trains during the battle. Engages again at LaVergne January 1, 1863.

*COMPANY BOOK, McCLELLAN TROOP, TENNESSEE CAVALRY. 1861-62. 1 vol. (ch. VIII, vol. 97). 1/2 in.

Contains clothing and provision accounts, a roll of the troop, and copies of orders and circulars issued from superior commands. The contents of the volume are arranged by type of material. McClellan Troop was the popular name for Company F, 5th Battalion of Tennessee Cavalry, afterward Company B, 8th Tennessee Cavalry.

5th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion

Also called 1st Battalion; also 4th Battalion

Organized August 29, 1861 at Knoxville, Tennessee; reorganized May 1862, and with the exception of two companies merged with 4th (Branner's) Battalion to form 2nd (Ashby's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment.

FIELD OFFICERS

- *Lieutenant Colonel*-George R. McClellan
- *Major*-Thomas I. Campbell

CAPTAINS

- S. W. Eldredge, Co. "A". "The Lancers." Organized August 10, 1861 at Cleveland, Bradley County. Men mostly from Bradley County with some from Polk County. Became Company "A", 2nd Regiment.
- C. C. Spiller, Co. "B". Organized August 11, 1861 at Chattanooga. Men mostly from Hamilton County with some from North Alabama. Later served in Spiller's Battalion; then as Company "I", 4th (Murray's) Regiment; finally as Company "H", 8th, -usually called 4th- (Baxter Smith's) Cavalry Regiment.
- Henry C. Gillespie, Co. "C". Organized August 12, 1861 at Camp Cummings, near Knoxville. Men from Knox, Union, and Claiborne Counties. Became Company "B", 2nd Regiment.
- Henry C. Legg, Co. "D". Organized August 12, 1861 at Knoxville. Men from Hawkins and Hancock Counties. Became Company "C", 2nd Regiment.
- William C. Holland, Co. "E". Organized August 13, 1861 at Knoxville. Men from Blount County. Became Company "K", 2nd Regiment.
- David McClellan, Co. "F". "**The McClellan Troop**". Organized August 14, 1861 at Knoxville. Men from Sullivan County. Became Company "C", 4th (Murray's) Regiment; later Company "B", 4th or 8th, (Baxter Smith's) Regiment.

Immediately after the organization, Brigadier General Felix K. Zollicoffer, at Knoxville, advised Colonel Baldwin, enroute to Fish Springs, near the Johnson County line, "I expect to start tomorrow Captain McClellan's Cavalry Company by land to overtake and co-operate with your regiment. He knows the people and roads in Johnson and Carter Counties, and you will employ his company in scouting, getting information, and otherwise as you may deem proper."

On September 15, Zollicoffer, in listing the troops in his command, estimated **McClellan's Battalion** at 540 effectives, 570 present, 600 present and absent. On September 30, a list published by the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office of the organizations mustered into Confederate Service listed McClellan's Battalion as the 1st Tennessee Battalion in Zollicoffer's command.

On October 14, Zollicoffer ordered McClellan with three companies to Cumberland Ford, Kentucky, leaving the other companies at Knoxville. On October 18, two companies were ordered to Jamestown, Tennessee. Upon their return on the 21st, McClellan, with three companies was ordered back to Jamestown, with instructions to keep scouts out on the road to Kentucky, and promptly report anything of importance, as the enemy was reported to be moving toward Cumberland Gap, but might turn toward Jamestown.

In November, Captain Eldredge's Company "A" was at the bridge at Loudon, Tennessee, Captain McClellan's Company "F" was at Watauga Bridge, Washington County, and McClellan, with the balance of the battalion at Camp McGinnis, near Jamestown. On November 20, Zollicoffer, making plans for the crossing of the Cumberland River, ordered Colonels Stanton and Murray, and Lieutenant Colonel McClellan "to make a rapid and stealthy movement to capture the ferryboats at four or five crossings of the Cumberland." However, they failed to secure any ferryboats, and Zollicoffer prepared to build boats or rafts. On November 28, Captain McClellan's company was reported at Elizabethton, Carter County, "to hold the disaffected in check."

By December 1, Zollicoffer was concentrating his forces at Beech Grove, Kentucky, and on that date, ordered McClellan with three companies, and Captain Rowan's squadron to act as reserve for a force moving against an enemy camp at Waitsborough. On the 26th, he ordered McNairy, Branner, and McClellan, with 650 men, on a scouting expedition down the North side of the Cumberland River towards Burkesville, Kentucky. On the 31st, the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Battalions, and two Independent Companies of Tennessee Cavalry, totaling 1795 effectives, were reported as comprising the cavalry forces at Beech Grove, Kentucky.

On January 7, 1862, McClellan's Battalion, five companies, reported 315 present for duty, 469 present and absent, at Beech Grove, Kentucky. Company "F" was still at Elizabethton. At the Battle of Fishing Creek, January 18, 1862, McClellan's Battalion was listed as part of the Cavalry Reserve, and does not appear to have been actively engaged.

Company reports show the individual companies stationed at Cleveland, Kingston, and Clinton, Tennessee, during the months of March and April. The last record of the battalion was on April 26, when Major General E. Kirby Smith reported: "Branner's and McClellan's Cavalry, 700 men, are under orders for General Crittenden's Command." A company report for the months of January-February 1862, from Company "F", was dated June 29 at Loudon, Tennessee.

For the further history of the organization, see the history of the 2nd (Ashby's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment.

4th (Branner's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment.

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",

4th (Murray's) Regiment (q.v.). Men from Fentress County.

Paul F. Anderson (to lieutenant colonel), James H. Britton, Co. "K". "Cedar Snags." "Paul's People." Organized July 1, 1862 at McMinnville, Warren County. Men from 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

miles, the men suffering greatly both to and from the place. The fight resulted in our losing 26 men killed and wounded. Back to Shelbyville, then to Woodbury (60 miles); engaged several times with the enemy, being on picket duty there we were twice surrounded, losing about 70 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 Foster ville, 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'

Mustered into "B" Co. Tennessee 8th Cavalry

231

Geisler, David

Co F, 5 Batt'n (McClellan's)
Tennessee Cavalry.
(Confederate.)

Private Sergeant

REFERENCE SLIP.

Cards filed with

Geisler, David.

232

Geisler, David
Co. 7.5 Batt'n (McClellan's)
Tennessee Cavalry.
(Confederate.)

Private | Sergeant

CARD NUMBERS

1	48296989	20
2	7079	21
3	7149	22
4		23
5		24
6		25
7		26
8		27
9		28
10		29
11		30
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17		36
18		37
19		38

Number of medical cards herein 0

Number of personal papers herein 0

BOOK MARK:

See also

(Confederate.)

g | 5 Batt'n Cavalry. | Tenn.
(McClellan's.)

David Geesler

Pr^t, { Capt. D. McClellan's Company,
5 Battalion Tennessee Cavalry.*

Age _____ years.

Appears on

Company Muster-in Roll

of the organization named above. Roll dated

Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 14, 1861.

Muster-in to date Aug. 14, 1861.

Joined for duty and enrolled:

When Aug. 14, 1861.

Where Knoxville

By whom J. H. Key

Period 12 mos.

Remarks:

*This company subsequently became Company F, 5th (McClellan's) Battalion Tennessee Cavalry.

This battalion was formed August 29, 1861, with six companies of twelve months men which had been organized for the Provisional Army of Tennessee and afterward transferred to the Confederate States' service. The battalion was re-organized May 24, 1862, and, with the exception of Companies B and F, was then consolidated with the 4th Battalion Tennessee Cavalry to form the 2d (Ashby's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry, Companies A, C, D and E becoming Companies A, B, C and K, respectively, of that regiment. Companies B and F formed the nucleus of Spiller's Battalion Tennessee Cavalry and subsequently became Companies I and C, respectively, of the 4th (Murray's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry.

Book mark:

D. J. Dismall

(655)

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

g | 5 Batt'n Cavalry. | Tenn.
(McClellan's.)

David Geesler

Pr^t, Co. F, 5 Batt'n Tennessee Cav.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Aug. 14 to Oct 31, 1861.

Enlisted:

When Aug. 14, 1861.

Where Knoxville

By whom J. H. Key

Period 12 mos.

Last paid:

By whom

To what time _____, 1861.

Present or absent Present

Remarks:

This battalion was formed August 29, 1861, with six companies of twelve months men which had been organized for the Provisional Army of Tennessee and afterward transferred to the Confederate States' service. The battalion was re-organized May 24, 1862, and, with the exception of Companies B and F, was then consolidated with the 4th Battalion Tennessee Cavalry to form the 2d (Ashby's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry, Companies A, C, D and E becoming Companies A, B, C and K, respectively, of that regiment. Companies B and F formed the nucleus of Spiller's Battalion Tennessee Cavalry and subsequently became Companies I and C, respectively, of the 4th (Murray's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry.

Book mark:

D. J. Dismall

(612)

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

9

5 Batt'n Cavalry.
(McClellan's.)

Tenn.

David Geisler

5th S^t, Co. F, 5 Batt'n Tennessee Cavalry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Jan. & Feb., 1862.

dated Jan. 29. 1862.

Enlisted:

When Aug. 14, 1861.

Where Knoxville

By whom J. M. Key

Period 12 mos.

Last paid:

By whom J. Sullivan

To what time Dec. 31, 1861.

Amount due for horse, \$ 23 ⁶⁰/₁₀₀

Present or absent Present

Remarks: Selected 5th S^t. March. 18.
1862.

This battalion was formed August 29, 1861, with six companies of twelve months men which had been organized for the Provisional Army of Tennessee and afterward transferred to the Confederate States' service. The battalion was re-organized May 24, 1862, and, with the exception of Companies B and F, was then consolidated with the 4th Battalion Tennessee Cavalry to form the 2d (Ashby's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry, Companies A, C, D and E becoming Companies A, B, C and K, respectively, of that regiment. Companies B and F formed the nucleus of Spiller's Battalion Tennessee Cavalry and subsequently became Companies I and C, respectively, of the 4th (Murray's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry. They later became Companies H and B, respectively, of the 8th (Smith's) Regiment Tennessee Cavalry.

Book mark :

D. J. G. Driscoll

276-a

Geisler, David

Co. B, 4 (Murray's)

Tennessee Cavalry.

(Confederate.)

2 St.

2 St.

REFERENCE SLIP.

Cards filed with

Geisler, David
Co. F, 5 Battn. (McClellan's)
Tenn. Cav.

VOUCHER No. 655 to the treasury

Paid 27 day of October, 1862.

Genl. S. D. Miller

Co. 1st Regt. Ill. Inf.

From the 1st day of July, 1862

To the 1st day of August, 1862

Pay, - - \$ 180.00

Forage, -

Amount, \$ 180.00

[Faint, mostly illegible text from the reverse side of the document, including names and dates.]

4 (Murray) Regt
1st Cav

[Small handwritten notes or stamps at the bottom right.]

I certify that David Giesler was duly
elected 2nd Lt of my Co on the 1st
day of July 1862 (the day my Co was
reorganized) and that he served faithfully
in that office to the time of his death Mar
17 1863, never having absented himself without
proper authority. That he was last paid by
Capt Sharp paymaster Brig Gen J A Whartons
Brigade to include the 30 day of Nov 1862
Given at Yallicoff this 16th day of July 1863
C. H. Ingles Capt Com C^o B,
4th Regt Tenn Cav.

I certify that David Giesler was duly
elected 2nd Lt of my Co on the 1st day
of July 1862 the day my Co was reorganized
and that he served faithfully in that office
to the time of his death on Mar 17th 1863
never having absented himself without proper
authority. That he was last paid by Capt
Sharp paymaster Brig Gen J A Whartons
Brigade to include the 30 day of Nov 1862
Given at Yallicoff this 16th day of July 1863.
C. H. Ingles Capt Com
C^o B, 4th Regt Tenn Cav

State of Tennessee

Anderson County, to-wit: On this the 10th day of March 1868, personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County aforesaid, Mary M. A. Giesler - who after being sworn according to law depose and says that she is the wife of David Giesler deceased, who was a Second Lieutenant of Capt. C. B. Anger's company of the 4th Regiment of Tennessee Cavalry Commanded by Col. Baxter Smith in the service of the Confederate States in the present war with the United States, that the said David Giesler entered the service at Knoxville in ~~Anderson~~ Anderson County Tennessee on or about the 17th day of August 1861 and died of disease at Becken Branch Co. Tenn. on the 17th day of March 1868 leaving a wife. That she makes this deposition for the purpose of obtaining from the Government of the Confederate States what ever may have been due the said David Giesler at the time of his death for pay, bounty or other allowance for his service as a Second Lieutenant aforesaid.

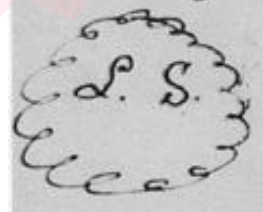
Sworn to and subscribed before me } Mary M. A. Giesler
W. C. Coving J. P. }

And on the same day and year aforesaid, appeared before me a Justice of the peace as

aforsaid, William D. Harkroad who is well known
to me and, whom I hereby certify to be a person
of veracity and credibility and, who having been
by me, duly sworn, says, on oath that he
is well acquainted, with Mary M. A. Geister - the
claimant - and, also well knew for years
David Geister - the, deceased, Soldier - here in
mentioned, and, that the statement made under
oath by the said Mary M. A. Geister - the claimant
as to her relationship to the deceased, Soldier
is true and, correct, in every particular - to the
best of his knowledge and belief, and, that
the said W. D. Harkroad, is wholly disinterested,
Sworn to and, Subscribed,

before me } W. D. Harkroad
H. W. Ewing, J. P.

State of Tennessee } I, John C. Rutledge Clerk of the County
Sullivan County } Court for said County hereby Certify that
H. W. Ewing Esqr. whose genuine official
signature appear to the foregoing instrument is now and was
at the time of signing the same an acting Justice of the peace
in and for said County duly elected Commissioner and sworn



Given under my hand and private seal (having no
office seal) at office in Blountville this 16th
day of March 1865

John C. Rutledge Clk.

Page No. 137

SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in Ward Dist. No. 16 in the County of William State
of Tempe enumerated by me, on the 10th day of August 1860. S. A. Dryden Asst Marshal
Post Office Ward District

Dwelling houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	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.	Persons over 21 years of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
		Age.	Sex.	Color, White, black, or mulatto.		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.					
1	1	3				8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2	2	3	17	M	H. Taylor			10				
3	3	3	40	M	Samuel	800	600	"				
4	4	3	44	F	Stowdeman			"				
5	5	3	14	F				"				
6	6	3	11	M				"				
7	7	3	11	M				"				
8	8	3	7	M				"				
9	9	3	5	F				"				
10	10	3	12	F				"				
11	11	3	20	M	Day laborer		80	"				
12	12	3	20	F	Housekeeper			"				
13	13	3	70	M	Farmer	2200	1000	Me de				
14	14	3	37	M	do			Pa				
15	15	3	38	F	do			"				