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# The John H. Crawford Papers: Letters from the Civil War.

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# The John H. Crawford Papers: Letters from the Civil War

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Undergraduate Honors Thesis

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# Table of Contents

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I.	Acknowledgements	3
II.	The Sixtieth Tennessee and Their Involvement in the War	4
III.	Why Did the Sixtieth Tennessee Support the Confederacy?	14
IV.	Forward to the Letters	25
V.	The John H. Crawford Letters	26
VI.	Appendix A	49
VII.	Appendix B	54
VIII.	Bibliography	55

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# The Sixtieth Tennessee and Their Involvement in the War

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The men of the Sixtieth Tennessee were not involved in the war effort for an extended period of time; however, their time spent in support of the Confederacy was valuable nonetheless. The Sixtieth Tennessee was a Confederate Infantry unit from the Jonesboro and Haynesville<sup>1</sup> area of East Tennessee. They were organized October 1, 1862, and officially mustered into Confederate service on November 7. The regiment was originally known as the Seventy-ninth Tennessee Infantry; however, they were officially designated as the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry by the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office. The unit was comprised of ten companies, and commanded by Colonel John H. Crawford, Colonel Nathan Gregg, and Lieutenant Colonel James Alexander Rhea. The Sixtieth Tennessee joined the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Tennessee Infantries to form Vaughn's Brigade under the command of Gen. John C. Vaughn.<sup>2</sup>

Vaughn's East Tennessee brigade often received much criticism on their loyalty to the Confederate cause. Larry Gordon explains the reasoning for this criticism in his book *The Last Confederate General: John C. Vaughn and His East Tennessee Cavalry*. He explains that Vaughn's brigade had technically been "recruited" rather than "conscripted," but the strict Southern enforcement of a new conscription act is what drove a large number of these men to "volunteer." Since they were recruited they were able to stay with their fellow East Tennesseans and maintain a sense of regionalism instead of being assigned to existing Confederate units where those unit veterans would have possibly treated them with disdain. Although many of

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<sup>1</sup> Present-day Johnson City, Tennessee.

<sup>2</sup> *Tennesseans in the Civil War* (Nashville, TN: Civil War Centennial Commission, 1964), 300-301.

these men undoubtedly enlisted out of a sense of duty and commitment to Southern independence, some East Tennesseans joined up in fear or shame to avoid the stigma of being drafted.<sup>3</sup> Gordon describes the negative feelings that some commanders had such as Lt. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, who voiced his negative opinion of many of these East Tennessee volunteers by saying:

The very troops raised here cannot always be depended upon. They have gone into service, many of them to escape suspicion, prepared to give information to the enemy, and ready to pass over to him when an opportunity offers. Would it not be well to remove such of the East Tennessee troops as are suspected to a different section of the Confederacy, where in a purer political atmosphere and removed from their present associations they can do little or no harm and may become loyal and good soldiers?<sup>4</sup>

Despite the doubt that arose concerning the loyalty of many East Tennesseans, the Sixtieth Tennessee joined the Confederate cause and served there throughout the rest of the war.

The Sixtieth Tennessee's direct involvement in the war occurred shortly after they joined the rest of Vaughn's brigade. They were ordered to the Department of Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana arriving at Jackson, Mississippi late in November 1862. Upon hearing that Vicksburg was a possible focus of attack, the Sixtieth Tennessee and the rest of Vaughn's brigade were sent to Vicksburg and arrived there on December 26, 1862.<sup>5</sup> While in Vicksburg, the Sixtieth Tennessee was present or involved in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Champion's Hill, and Big Black River Bridge.

Chickasaw Bayou was a long waterway west of Walnut Hills that ran close to the Yazoo River near Vicksburg. It ran along the edge of the hills and was an effective barrier to movement

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<sup>3</sup>W. Todd Groce, *Mountain Rebels, East Tennessee Confederates and the Civil War, 1860-1870* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999), 91-92.

<sup>4</sup>United States War Department. *War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* [OR]. 128 vols. Washington D.C., 1880-1901. Ser. 1, Vol. 10, Part 2, 320-321.

<sup>5</sup>*Tennesseans in the Civil War*, 300-301.

because it only had three or four natural crossings.<sup>6</sup> William Tecumseh Sherman was confident that he could seize Vicksburg by himself after Grant's attack had failed. This plan would prove to be a difficult and unsuccessful plan because Sherman's men would first have to get through the quandary of woods, marshes, and lakes, and then capture steep bluffs beyond Chickasaw Bayou. Vaughn's Tennesseans, including the Sixtieth Tennessee, and the other Rebel defenders sought to prevent this plan from being successful.<sup>7</sup>

Larry Gordon describes the setup of the Southern forces at the Chickasaw Bayou. He describes that the Southern forces were placed on the road to Snyder's Mill at the base of the bluffs. Vaughn's brigade held the Confederate left; Seth Barton's Georgia brigade was in the center; and Stephen D. Lee's brigade of Louisianans and Mississippians defended the right. General John Gregg's brigade, initially in reserve, was subsequently placed on line between Vaughn and Barton. Like Vaughn's brigade, it was composed entirely of Tennesseans. Each brigade was supposed to draw reinforcements from the brigade on its left, which meant that Vaughn would have to rely on new arrivals for reinforcement.<sup>8</sup> The East Tennesseans, though, were well protected by abatis, felled trees with sharpened limbs, and it appeared that the main Federal effort would be to their right. Early on the 28<sup>th</sup>, responding to a call for reinforcements from S. D. Lee, Vaughn sent him the Sixty-second Tennessee. He kept the Sixty-first Tennessee on line as skirmishers to cover the abatis, and held the Sixtieth Tennessee in reserve.<sup>9</sup>

The attacks began on December 28<sup>th</sup> and carried over onto the 29<sup>th</sup>. As the Union forces progressed towards the Confederates, there were some concerns at the Confederate center, the Sixtieth Tennessee was sent to reinforce Barton's Georgia brigade in the center. That left

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<sup>6</sup> OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 17, Part 1, 672.

<sup>7</sup> Larry Gordon, *The Last Confederate General: John C. Vaughn and His East Tennessee Cavalry* (Minneapolis, MN: Zenith Press, 2009), 51.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid. 666-667, 673; Bearss, *The Vicksburg Campaign*, Vol. 1, 149.

<sup>9</sup> OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 17, Part 1, 677-679.

Vaughn with just one regiment, the Sixty-First Tennessee, to face all of the forces on the Confederate left. The heavy abatis in front of Vaughn and the batteries to his rear, however, helped to protect Vaughn's position in this area, and his alert infantrymen further discouraged the Union soldiers from pressing the attack. Union skirmishers tried to advance from the fallen timber, but 12- and 24- pounders picked them off, causing them to fall back and abandon the attempt. More action was seen in the center than the left as the Northerners in this area attacked Barton's position five separate times, but they were repulsed on each try. The Unionists came closer to success on the right side of the lines; however, even this attack failed resulting in Sherman's withdrawal from the Yazoo a few days later.<sup>10</sup>

Gordon reports the battle results with the Federals suffering about 1,800 casualties, while the Southerners lost less than two hundred. Vaughn's brigade suffered eighteen casualties.<sup>11</sup> According to Civil War historian Edwin C. Bearss, it is doubtful that Pemberton would have been able to hold off Sherman's divisions at Chickasaw Bayou if the two Tennessee brigades had not reached Vicksburg in time to participate in the battle.<sup>12</sup> It is unclear the exact number of these men that were members of the Sixtieth Tennessee, if any, but they effectively performed their assignment at this battle. General Martin Luther Smith said that the Tennesseans at this battle "showed perfect steadiness throughout and gave evidence of reliability."<sup>13</sup>

The next battle the Sixtieth Tennessee witnessed in their service, the Battle of Champion Hill, took place in May of 1863 when Grant turned his focus to Vicksburg. In the Battle of Champion Hill the Sixtieth Tennessee served as spectators stationed away from the action. On

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<sup>10</sup> Edwin C. Bearss *The Vicksburg Campaign*. 3 vols. Dayton: Morningside House, 1985-1986. Vol. 1 193-204 in quoted in Gordon, 51.

<sup>11</sup> Bearss, 224-225; OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 17, Part 1, 678. According to Vaughn's report, he had nine killed and nine wounded, "the majority of which later died."

<sup>12</sup> Bearss, *The Vicksburg Campaign*, Vol. 1, 347 quoted in Gordon, 52-53.

<sup>13</sup> OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 17, Part 1, 674.

May 15, 1863, the day prior to the battle, Vaughn's regiments were sent to Edward's Depot. On May 16, Grant's troops of 32,000 men attacked the Confederates positioned at Champion Hill. The Union forces were slightly driven back from various attacks, but the Confederates eventually were not able to maintain this position when Union reinforcements arrived. The secessionists were forced to retreat back across the Big Black River. The events at Champion Hill make it the decisive battle of the Vicksburg campaign.<sup>14</sup> Even though the Sixtieth Tennessee was not directly involved in the fighting, they were able to hear the battle being fought at Champion Hill from their position at Edward's Depot. After this battle, they were moved to the Big Black River to wait to see what would happen next.<sup>15</sup>

The next time the Sixtieth Tennessee would experience action in Vicksburg would be the next day on May 17, 1862, at the Battle of Big Black River Bridge. The purpose of the troops stationed at Big Black River Bridge was not to hold the bridge but maintain that position until the Rebels that fought at Champion Hill could make it safely across to the other side of the river. There was some concern about the placement of Vaughn's brigade at the bridge because many of the men had been accused as being Union sympathizers at heart. At this point, Vaughn's brigade was placed in the middle of two other battle hardened units because Vaughn's men had not yet been in battle, only used as reserves. The units to Vaughn's left were commanded by Brigadier General Martin E. Green's and Vaughn's right was secured by the Fourth Mississippi Infantry Regiment commanded by General Francis Cockrell.<sup>16</sup>

When the Union forces arrived, Brigadier General Michael Lawler, commander of the brigade on the Union right flank, began taking advantage of terrain features on the Confederate left. Gordon's *The Last Confederate General* describes that Lawler discovered a meander scar

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<sup>14</sup> Gordon, 57.

<sup>15</sup> Gordon, 58.

<sup>16</sup> Gordon, 58-59.

left in the flood plain by the wandering river that offered a sheltered approach to the center of the Confederate line. In a single, quick rush across the open plain, he led his four regiments into the depression, where they were then hidden from view. There he massed his men along the river's edge on a narrow front, in columns of four, so that he could use them like a battering ram. Without waiting for orders, he prepared to storm the Rebel line. He was ready to proceed within an hour.<sup>17</sup>

Gordon describes the events of the battle. He states that at about 9 a.m., Lawler's men suddenly poured out of the hollow where they had been hiding and double-quickened some four hundred yards, directly across Green's front. This was the area where commanding generals had least expected the Union forces to attack. They headed straight for the junction between Green and Vaughn. Despite the heavy casualties of Lawler's two lead regiments, the Union forces kept coming. Colonels William Kinsman of the Twenty-third Iowa and Samuel Merrill of the Twenty-first Iowa led the assault. Both of them went down quickly in a hail of bullets. Still, Lawler's four fired-up regiments, supported by artillery and two additional regiments from another brigade, began to pick up momentum. These forces quickly reached the Confederate line, where they fired a single volley into the Tennesseans. Then they charged the Confederates with fixed bayonets, yelling like madmen, and slammed straight into the Sixty-first Tennessee. This attack was too much for the Confederate forces, and they laid down their arms and surrendered. The Union charge lasted little more than three minutes, thus making it one of the shortest of the Civil War. Lieutenant Colonel Nathan Gregg personally surrendered the battle flag of the Sixtieth Tennessee along with most of his men, 248 of the 400, who had been cut off from the bridges.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> OR, Ser. 1, Vol. 24, Part 2, 119, 401; Grabau, 329 quoted in Gordon, 59.

<sup>18</sup> Lockett, S.H. "The Defense of Vicksburg." *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, Vol. 3. 488; Bearss, Vol. 2, 667-674; Grabau, 330; Barton, Dick. "Charge at Big Black River," *America's Civil War*, Vol. 12 (September 1999) quoted in Gordon, 59-60.

After the battle, Lawler later reported that the 1,200 prisoners he had taken was a larger number than the number of men that he had brought into battle. The total Confederate losses at the Battle of Big Black River were approximately 200 killed or wounded and 1,751 captured, while the Union total for killed, wounded, and missing came to 279 men.<sup>19</sup>

When the East Tennesseans broke, the rest of the Rebel line gave way as well. At this point, the two turpentine-soaked bridges crossing the Big Black River were set afire. This prevented close Union pursuit and allowed the retreating Confederates who had already crossed the Big Black River time to reach Vicksburg's fortifications. The downside to this plan was that it also cut off the escape route of hundreds of soldiers who had not yet been able to cross the river. General Vaughn fled across the river with more than half of his men, but well over one-third of his brigade had been captured at the battle. Many others drowned trying to swim across the swollen river in their escape. In just two days with the battles of Champion Hill and Big Black River Bridge, the Confederacy had suffered serious damage with more than 5,000 casualties and the loss of 45 cannon, as well as the 6,000 men of one division and one brigade that had been cut off.<sup>20</sup>

After the Battle of Big Black River Bridge, the men of the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry were sent to Johnson's Island Prison Camp in Sandusky, Ohio, located on Lake Erie. The plans and the contract for the prison were approved in November of 1861. The work was to be completed by February of 1862, at a cost of no more than \$30,000. It was constructed upon fifteen acres on the southeast shore of the island and was surrounded by a plank stockade fourteen feet high. In 1864, two mess halls and a wash house were built because of the unsanitary conditions from cooking, eating, storing rations, and washing in living quarters.

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<sup>19</sup>Charles Swift Northen III, ed., *All Right Let Them Come: The Civil War Diary of an East Tennessee Confederate Soldier* (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2003), 20-21.

<sup>20</sup>Gordon, 62.

The prison camp was generally accommodating of soldiers' needs despite the initial concern about them being able to adjust to the differences in weather in Sandusky from that of their homes in the South. Each room in the facilities had a wood burning stove, and for most of their stay the men were provided with numerous amenities such as two blankets, surplus of rations, and straw for their beds to provide warmth. A Confederate prisoner wrote in June 1862 that "the lake breezes rob the summer sun of its heat, the view of the city, lake and neighboring islands is fine... and altogether it is a salubrious pleasant place."<sup>21</sup> The men also partook in baseball games and snowball fights for recreation. The lifestyle at Johnson's Island had become too easy on the men because at one point, rations were ordered to be reduced because they were too ample for the sedentary lifestyle that the prisoners were living causing them to become too fat.<sup>22</sup>

Living conditions became harsher in 1864 when there were not as many rations available and fewer requests were able to be sent home by the soldiers. Despite this temporary time of unfavorable circumstances, the overall conditions of Johnson's Island were substantially better than other prisons at the time, such as Andersonville. Johnson's Island had one of the lowest death rates of any prison camp with only 221 of approximately 12,000 men dying in the course of their time imprisoned. Most of these deaths were a result of disease the soldiers had contracted prior to entering the camp rather than camp conditions. Instead of focusing on the periods of harsh conditions, most of the men at the camp describe the prison as having an acceptable standard of care.<sup>23</sup>

Johnson's Island contained prisoners until July of 1865, when the last prisoners were released to return home.<sup>24</sup> The men of the Sixtieth Tennessee spent almost two years at the camp

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<sup>21</sup> William Best Hesseltine, *Civil War Prisons* (Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 1972), 98-99.

<sup>22</sup> Hesseltine, 98-99, 102, and 104.

<sup>23</sup> Hesseltine, 102, 105.

<sup>24</sup> Hesseltine, 110.

with many of them free to return home in July of 1865 as well.<sup>25</sup> Little information is written on the men of the regiment after the war, but based upon the information available, mostly through Census records, the men appeared to have returned to their homes and tried to live the rest of their lives as completely and fully as possible. W.A. Wash, Captain of Company I, perhaps offers the best conclusion for trying to return to the normality of life after the war. He concludes a book he wrote about his experiences in prison at Johnson's Island by saying:

I would say to those who struggled with me in the Lost Cause: Let us no longer cherish an enmity against those who were our adversaries, simply because they did, and do yet, differ with us in opinion, but, with a generous spirit, give due honor, friendship and kindness to all who were honest, gallant, and faithful. And, though our mutual desires and hopes have been disappointed and we scattered over the earth, let us remember that we should still be as a band of brothers, cherishing an affection for, and a remembrance of each other. And last, but not least, will we, *can we*, forget that we owe a debt of fraternal and paternal sympathy to the helpless widows and orphans of our fallen comrades who sleep on a thousand battlefields and in every burial ground in the Southern land?<sup>26</sup>

Wash's statement shows that he was able to accept the defeat dutifully and find some closure, yet despite the failure of the Confederacy as a whole, he is still proud of the men who were involved in the battle. His statement also acknowledges that he truly does believe that his comrades and he share a special and unique bond linking them together through their support of the Confederacy, a bond that cannot be broken. Even though the views of the men of the Sixtieth Tennessee are not known after the war ended, many of these men dutifully served with their comrades in the Confederate cause to the end and should be remembered for their service.

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<sup>25</sup> Captain W.A. Wash, Sixtieth Tennessee, provides a full account of his experiences at Johnson's Island in his book *Camp, Field, and Prison Life* published in 1870 and available in its entirety for free through Google Books.

<sup>26</sup> William A. Wash, *Camp, Field, and Prison Life* (Southwestern Book Publishing Company, 1870), 347-348.

# Why Did the Sixtieth Tennessee Support the Confederacy?

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The Sixtieth Tennessee's involvement in the war effort is one that should be commended even though they saw little battlefield action. These men all took a stand and joined the Confederate cause for a variety of reasons. There are not any accounts that specifically state the reasons why these men joined the Confederacy; however, effort has been underway to better understand the Confederates of East Tennessee through comparison of their leaders to their Union counterparts in a variety of areas. Even though this does not provide conclusive evidence, these demographics help provide insight into why some of the men in the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry may have chosen to side with the Confederacy instead of serving with the Union forces in the war.

Scholars who study East Tennessee during the Civil War often identify the region as predominantly Unionist. *The Loyal Mountaineers of Tennessee* by Thomas Humes is an example of one of the sources that attempts to justify this claim. Throughout the preface of the book, Humes uses vivid language to describe East Tennesseans' loyalty to the Union despite the hardships the people in this area experienced. He states,

In numerous instances, starvation, like a gaunt wolf, threatened the door, and the hearts of many were sickened by the hope of succor long deferred; but the fire of devotion to the Union still lived and glowed within them strong and bright until the end came.<sup>27</sup>

In addition to his claims in the preface, Humes continues to further emphasize the East Tennessee's loyalty throughout the rest of his work. He accomplishes this by describing various

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<sup>27</sup> Thomas William Humes, *The Loyal Mountaineers of Tennessee* (Knoxville, TN: Ogden Brothers and Company, 1888), 8.

events the Unionists faced, such as severe treatment in their home, the military affairs and war involvement, and bridge burnings.

Oliver Perry Temple's *East Tennessee in the Civil War* also focuses primarily on Union devotion during the Civil War. He states that the purpose of his writing is to "vindicate the course of the Union people of East Tennessee in separating from their friends and kindred in the South, and in adhering to the national government."<sup>28</sup> He begins his book by describing the earliest settlements in East Tennessee and concludes with descriptions of Union devotion as well as their persecution during the Civil War. He records instances similar to the ones that Humes emphasizes like war involvement, bridge burnings, and overall harsh treatment of Unionists in East Tennessee. While these authors do an excellent job describing Union dominance in East Tennessee; their work on their Confederate counterparts is more biased and receives more limited attention.

While most of the focus in historical writing on East Tennessee in the Civil War focuses on the Union forces, other authors have an effort underway to shift the focus to the importance of the Confederacy in East Tennessee as well. W. Todd Groce, in *Mountain Rebels: East Tennessee Confederates and the Civil War 1860-1870*, describes the links between East Tennesseans and other members of the Confederacy. He says that some contributing factors to their push for secession were that they owned slaves, farmed, and wanted to protect their families at home. Groce explains that these were not the only factors that influenced Confederate loyalty but were still extremely important even though they were seen on a more minute scale than in other places in the South. Groce also uses the work of various other scholars such as Bell Wiley, Gerald Linderman, and Reid Mitchell to explain the Confederate reasons for joining the war effort

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<sup>28</sup> Oliver Perry Temple, *East Tennessee and the Civil War*. (Cincinnati, OH: The Robert Clark Company Publishers, 1899), vii.

because of duty, courage, adventure, or a combination of these and other additional factors. Groce argues that the people in East Tennessee were no different in these areas than other members of the Confederacy. Another work by Groce entitled “Social Origins of East Tennessee’s Confederate Leadership,” provides greater detail on how influences such as the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, employment, and age correlate with the loyalty of East Tennesseans. Groce uses all of these explanation to tell the story of “mountain rebels” who are often forgotten amidst the stories of the dominant Unionist beliefs of East Tennessee.

The Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry was comprised some of these “mountain rebels” that Groce’s literature describes. There is no evidence that specifically identifies the reasons that the men of the Sixtieth Tennessee chose to ally with the Confederacy; however, there are several dominating factors and trends that are identified as linking the men of East Tennessee to Confederate support. These factors include geographical location, influence of the railroad, age, occupation, and average wealth. Despite the lack of concrete evidence to verify the precise reasoning for their loyalty, the men, especially the commanders, of the Sixtieth Tennessee exhibit many of these characteristics that scholars correlate with Confederate loyalty.

Geographic location and proximity to railroads are two factors that have been shown to be connected with Confederate support. Many of the men that lived in towns and cities near railroads were more closely affiliated with the Confederacy. The East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad and the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad are the two railroads that linked East Tennessee with the rest of the Deep South by connecting Richmond, Virginia, to Dalton, Georgia, and covering over two hundred and fifty miles in Tennessee.<sup>29</sup> Along the route between these two main cities, the railroads passed through Sullivan, Carter, Washington, Greene,

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<sup>29</sup> Meredith Grant, “Internal Dissent: East Tennessee’s Civil War, 1849-1865.” MA thesis, East Tennessee State University, 2008. <http://etd-submit.etsu.edu/etd/theses/available/etd-0509108-142427/unrestricted/GrantM052108f.pdf> (accessed 4 March 2011), 16-17.

Grainger, and Jefferson Counties in Northeast Tennessee. The railroad provided these counties with a deeper link to the South because they were now able to transport crops and goods throughout the region. In addition, land improvement and agricultural production increased in Northeast Tennessee just prior to the railroad becoming operational in this area. Once the railroad was able to be used to transport these goods, Northeast Tennessee established a deeper financial connection to the South, thus giving it a closer relationship with the Confederate states.<sup>30</sup>

W. Todd Groce also attempts to verify the importance of the railroads in East Tennessee and its link to Confederate sympathy in his essay entitled “The Social Origins of East Tennessee’s Confederate Leadership.” Groce states that in 1861, seventy nine percent of officers commanding units in Tennessee lived in a town or city, and ninety three percent lived on or near a major transportation route, mainly the East Tennessee and Virginia and East Tennessee and Georgia railroads.<sup>31</sup> Despite his focus on Union support in East Tennessee, Oliver P. Temple also emphasizes the importance of towns and railroads for the Confederacy. He states, “Outside of the towns and railroad lines, with the exception of two or three counties, the country became almost a unit, a solid compact body, in favor of the Union.”<sup>32</sup>

The geographical locations that these authors describe as a strong basis for Confederate support are evident in the men in leadership positions of the Sixtieth Tennessee. Most of them, along with some of the soldiers in lesser positions in the regiment, lived in the towns that railroads passed through in upper East Tennessee in Sullivan, Washington, and Greene Counties.

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<sup>30</sup> Grant, 24-25.

<sup>31</sup> W. Todd Groce, “The Social Origins of East Tennessee’s Confederate Leadership,” in *The Civil War in Appalachia: Collected Essays*, ed. Shannon H. Wilson and Kenneth W. Noe (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004), 34-35.

<sup>32</sup> Temple, 200.

Their locations in these counties and the proximity to the railroads that provided a link that could have potentially been a determining factor for explaining their Confederate loyalty.

Jonesboro also held great significance after the introduction of the railroads into East Tennessee. The railroads were bringing in large sums of money to Jonesboro because of the use of the town as the financial and legal base. The East Tennessee and Virginia Company conducted its financial dealings through the Jonesboro banks, while the courthouse was used to mediate legal disputes over the violation of land and property rights by the railroad. This brought an immense amount of focus to Jonesboro as an important railroad center.<sup>33</sup> The railroads in Jonesboro are even mentioned in the John H. Crawford letter collection. In a Confederate States Army Paper transportation ticket dated March 12, 1862, John M. Carmack requests transportation for some of Crawford's men from Jonesboro to New Market, Tennessee, via the railroads. This shows that after the war started the railroads continued to be of great importance to the men of the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry.

Age is another important factor that seemed to distinguish between Confederate and Union loyalties. The Confederate leaders came from a younger population than their Union counterparts. The average age for Confederate leaders in 1860 was 35.2 years. In addition, the percentage of Confederate leaders who were forty years of age or more is only twenty-eight percent versus the seventy-three percent of the Union leaders of the same age bracket.<sup>34</sup>

The captains of the Sixtieth Tennessee generally fit into this younger age bracket that defined Confederate support. The average age for the captains of the regiment is 27.2 years old with the youngest captain being William A. Wash at age 19 and Mark Bacon as the oldest at age 50. Bacon and Pritchett, age 42, were over forty years of age thus not fitting into the younger age

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<sup>33</sup> Grant, 26.

<sup>34</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 38 and 48.

bracket; however, all of the other captains' ages ranged from twenty-one to twenty-three. Even though the majority of the captains fit into the age range that generally supported the Confederacy, Colonel John H. Crawford did not. In 1860, John H. Crawford was forty six years old.<sup>35</sup> His age makes him one of the oldest leaders in the regiment; however, this did not deter him from being one of the strongest supporters of the Confederate cause in the regiment.

Occupation and previous military experience are other trends that seemed to have been significantly different between Union and Confederate leaders. Groce provides the statistics for the various occupations of the Confederate military leaders. Sixty-two percent of the leaders were in the commercial and professional ranks, while thirty-eight percent pursued a livelihood through agriculture. Unionist support was almost the complete opposite with sixty-five percent of their leaders with a profession in agriculture while only thirty-five percent were involved with mercantile or professional businesses.<sup>36</sup>

The statistics for the leaders of the Sixtieth Tennessee are more equalized as far as occupation is concerned. About half of the captains in the regiment were farmers while the other half pursued careers as lawyers, clerks, or ministerial professions. John H. Crawford was the Circuit Court Clerk of Washington County prior to entering the war, so he had one of the most prestigious positions in the regiment.<sup>37</sup> Positions such as this were often important in obtaining leadership positions in the military during the Civil War. Often many of the commanding officers had little or no military experience. While the lack of previous experience is true for Crawford, it is not true for other commanders such as Nathan Gregg and James Alex Rhea who

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<sup>35</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. "1850, 1860, and 1870 Census Records." <http://www.ancestry.com> (accessed 5 January 2011).

<sup>36</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 35 and 48.

<sup>37</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. "1850, 1860, and 1870 Census." <http://www.ancestry.com> (accessed 5 January 2011).

were lieutenants in the Nineteenth Tennessee prior to joining the Sixtieth Tennessee.<sup>38</sup> Leaders, like those of the Sixtieth Tennessee, were elected by the people that they commanded and represented rather than appointed positions by Confederate authorities in Richmond. Because they held a prestigious leadership position in the community, their leadership qualifications in that position often made them a logical choice to be in command of their fellow citizens in the military.<sup>39</sup> This connection between leadership positions and military command could have been one of the primary reasons that Crawford was chosen to raise and command the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. Groce also argues that since these men were often the first to enlist for the war, they were most likely the most enthusiastic in their support of the Southern war effort and therefore represent the true secessionist in East Tennessee society.<sup>40</sup>

Wealth is the final factor that separated many Confederates and Unionists from one another. Generally speaking, secessionist leaders tended to be wealthier members of the general population with sixty percent of them having estates worth more than \$5,000 versus the Unionists where only forty percent of the leaders had more affluent estates.<sup>41</sup> The leadership within the Sixtieth Tennessee also tended to be some of these wealthier members of society. The average household wealth in East Tennessee in 1861 was \$2,830, which was lower compared to the other grand divisions of the state. The leadership within the Sixtieth Tennessee tended to have wealth considerably higher than the average for East Tennessee. The figures for the value of real estate and personal estate of the leaders of the Sixtieth Tennessee are recorded in the following table composed from U.S. census records for either 1850 or 1860:

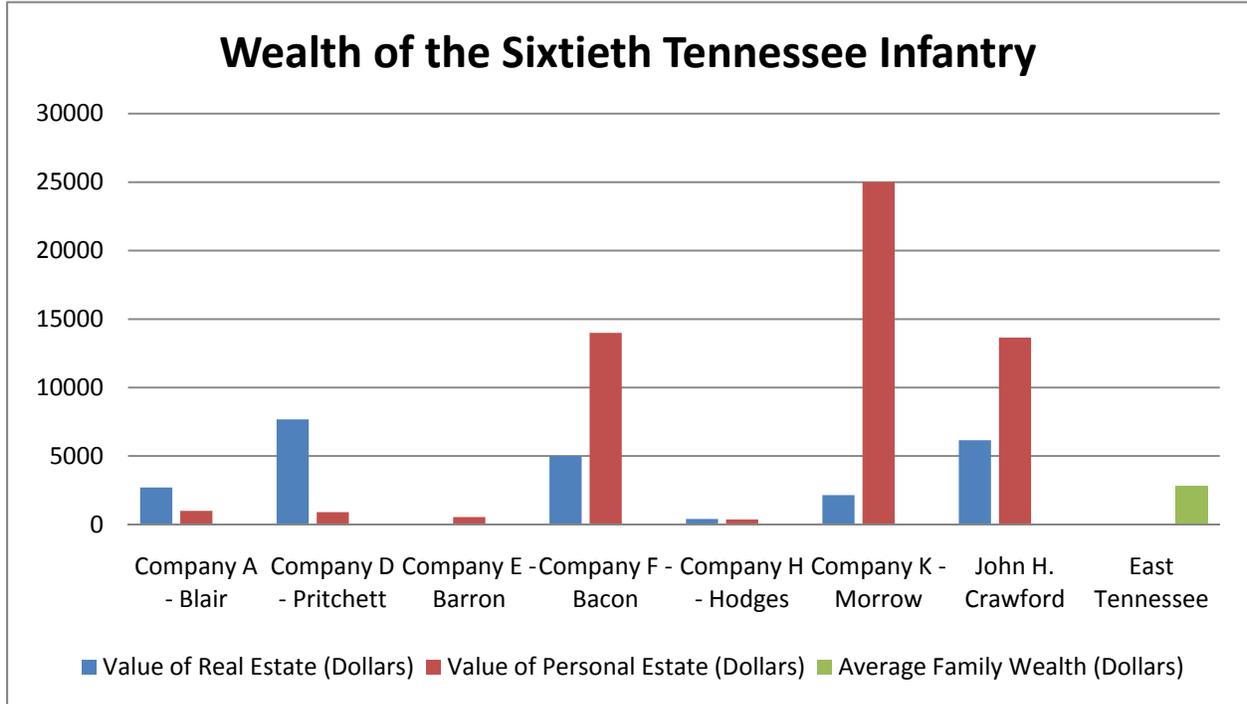
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<sup>38</sup> Groce, *Mountain Rebels*, 92-93.

<sup>39</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 34.

<sup>40</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 34.

<sup>41</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 48.



This table illustrates that while some of the leaders were not wealthier than the \$2,830 dollar average in Tennessee, most of the leaders were more affluent. In addition to the leaders being more prosperous individuals in society, some of the soldiers in the regiment came from more successful families as well. John Guilford Earnest was one of these soldiers. His grandfather had amassed a wealth of \$97,000 and owned fifteen slaves, and his father has a recorded value of \$45,000 and one slave in 1860.<sup>42</sup> All of this data illustrates that many of the men in leadership positions in the Sixtieth followed the traditional wealth model that was present among Confederate sympathizers in East Tennessee.

Slavery is considered one of the staple institutions in Southern economy; thus, it is often seen as one of the primary reasons for secessionist support in the South. This is not an

<sup>42</sup> Northen, vi, 5.

overwhelming factor in promoting either secessionist or unionist tendencies in East Tennessee, however. In 1860 only one farm household in ten owned slaves. Slaves made up only 9.2% of the population in East Tennessee, 29% in Middle Tennessee, and 33.5% in West Tennessee. The result was that, while most East Tennesseans probably did not necessarily object to slavery, they had little reason to favor it in the South or new territories. In addition, fighting to preserve this institution did not prove to be a popular cause.<sup>43</sup> Groce furthers this claim by providing data for East Tennessee leaders on both sides that suggests that slavery was not a dominant factor in swaying loyalties one way or the other. The percentage of slaveholders in the population that supported the Confederacy was forty three percent versus the forty one percent of the Unionist population. Also the percentages of slaveholders that owned ten or less slaves were also extremely similar for both groups. Secessionist leaders comprised seventy nine percent of this population while Unionists were at eighty three percent for this category.<sup>44</sup>

Many of the members of the Sixtieth Tennessee owned slaves; however, based upon Groce's conclusion, this had little to no impact on their loyalties to the Confederacy. The Census for Washington County in 1860 actually records the names of many of these slaves. The census taker made an error when he was recording the data for this area because slaves were only supposed to have their ages and race, either black or mulatto, recorded on the slave schedules. This is a unique piece of information that is available for some of the men in the regiment, such as John H. Crawford, that would not be commonly available.<sup>45</sup>

While it is still somewhat of a mystery as to the exact reasons why the members of the Sixtieth Tennessee joined the Confederacy, there are many links that connect them with other

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<sup>43</sup> Bryan, Charles F. "East Tennessee in the Civil War." Ph.D. diss., Univ. of Tennessee, 1978, page 19 quoted in Northen, 4.

<sup>44</sup> Groce, "Social Origins," 48.

<sup>45</sup> A list of the slaves with their name, age, and race that the officers in the regiment owned are recorded in Appendix A.

secessionist sympathizers in East Tennessee. These similarities and correlations create some inferences into possible reasons as to why this regiment may have supported the side that it did. Groce’s data that was used to support this conclusion can best be summarized in the following table:

**Comparison of Selected East Tennessee Unionist and Secessionist Leaders, in Various Categories<sup>46</sup>**

	<b><u>Secessionists (%)</u></b>	<b><u>Unionists (%)</u></b>
<b><u>Occupation</u></b>		
Agriculture	38	65
Merchant-Professional	62	35
<b><u>Wealth</u></b>		
Greater than \$5000	60	40
<b><u>Age</u></b>		
Forty years or more	28	73
<b><u>Slaveholding</u></b>		
Slaveholders	43	41
Holdings of less than ten	79	83

Regardless of the reasoning for their devotion, the men of the Sixtieth Tennessee were loyal to the Confederate and fought throughout the Civil War with the goal of bringing independence to the Confederacy. The men of this regiment fought for a cause that they

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<sup>46</sup> Groce, “Social Origins,” 48.

considered valid, and in this process, they became one of the groups of “mountain rebels” that broke away from the mold of the traditional stereotypical Unionist East Tennessean.

# Forward to the Letters

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The letters in this text can be found in the Archives of Appalachia in the Charles C. Sherrod Library on East Tennessee State University's campus. These letters are all transcribed from their original handwritten form to the best of my abilities. They have been arranged in this document in chronological order, but no changes have been made in spelling or punctuation in an effort to keep the transcriptions as close to the original documents as possible. All of the uncommon terms mentioned in the document were not able to be annotated due to vagueness, but as much information as I was able to find in my research has been provided. The individuals' personal information in the letters is most frequently from the 1850, 1860, or 1870 census accessed through [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

# The John H. Crawford Letters

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Rogersville Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1851

Mr Crawford

Dear Sir/

Enclose you the drawing for the monument propose to you by W. Edmond when at Jonesboro, for your wife and children's grave and one for Mr. Deaderick which you will find your design drawn on a scale of 1 ½ inches to the foot- Mr. Deaderick on a scale of 1 inch to the foot and the prices marked at the bottom of Drawing we will thank you to call and see Mr. Deaderick and consult with him about the monument should the designs meet your approbation and taste we can have them ready without much delay and sent up by Mr Blair waggon- we allow one inscription of 80 to 90 letters all over 4 cent per letter-

Mr. Edmond will be going to 4 miles ford to fix up Mr Preston's 3 monuments (crossed out and) in 3 to 4 weeks and could on his return save much expence in fixing yours- the weight of your monument will be about 15 hundred Mr. Deaderick's about 30 hundred- for particulars of foundation of monuments we can send you in you conclude to have them please tell Mr. Deaderick we will give a credit for 12 months on the monument

On early answer will a great favor on

Yours &cc  
Rice & Edmond

(on side) Please tell Mr Blair we have two head stones for Mr Wyly Leesburg and would be glad for his waggon to call for them.

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PICTURE OF A MONUMENT

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(front)  
10-27-1855

An Act directory to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Washington County

Sec1<sup>st</sup> Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee = That the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Washington County be instructed to retain in his hands the sum of two hundred dollars out of the monies arising from the sale of the lands of Able Wiley which have escheated to the State of Tennessee for the purpose of enclosing and walling up the grave of said Able Wiley & also with tombstones properly engraved=

Sec 2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further enacted that the County Court of said County shall appoint a commissioner who shall draw on the Clerk for said money and appropriate it to the purposes herein specified=  
Sec 3<sup>rd</sup> Be it further enacted that this act shall take effect from its passage  
Passed Oct. 22 1855

Neill S. Brown<sup>47</sup>  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Edward S. Cheatham<sup>48</sup>  
Speaker of the Senate

A true copy from the original in my office  
October 29<sup>th</sup> 1855

W.B.A. Ramsey<sup>49</sup>  
Secretary of State

(back)

Col. John Crawford I send you a copy of the Act passed the Legislature for the walling up the grave of Able Wiley = I only asked in my original Bill seventy five dollars I pressed the passage of the Bill with some zeal & the House struck out seventy five & incisted two hundred dollars I told the House it was more than we asked but the sympathies of the House was aroused and it passed allmost unanimously with two exceptions, We had yesterday a most furious convention of both Houses for the election of state officers. The K.N.<sup>50</sup> elected Burton<sup>51</sup> Secretary of State, Lutrell<sup>52</sup> comptroller, Crozier<sup>53</sup> did not run = The Democrats elected Granville C. Torbit<sup>54</sup> Treasurer against Mat Martin K.N. They killed off [illegible] in “[illegible]” he says he will withdraw from the political guillotine.

The Bills are rolling in very fast I cannot tell when the legislature will adjourn I thought a while we would have a short session I dont think so now. I have never received the memorial from the Core invitations to their road perhaps it will come yet. I do not know that anything can be done for them, there is a disposition to vote against everything in the shape of [crossed out appropri] appropriations.

Yours Truly  
I.G.Y. Harris<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Neill S. Brown served as Speaker of the House of Representatives in Tennessee from 1855-1857. He also served as Governor of Tennessee from 1847-1849. He was a lawyer and a Whig.

<sup>48</sup> Edward S. Cheatham was the Speaker of the Senate in Tennessee from 1855-1857.

<sup>49</sup> W.B.A. Ramsey served as Secretary of State from 1847-1855 in Tennessee.

<sup>50</sup> The Know-Nothing Party.

<sup>51</sup> F.N.W. Burton. Secretary of State 1855-1859.

<sup>52</sup> James C. Luttrell. Comptroller from 1855-1857.

<sup>53</sup> Arthur R. Crozier. Comptroller from 1851-1855

<sup>54</sup> Granville C. Torbett 1855-1857.

<sup>55</sup> Isham G. Harris served as Governor of Tennessee (Democrat) from 1857-1862. He was elected to three terms as governor but was forced to resign after the war ended. Served in the Senate from 1847-1849 and State House of Representatives from 1849-1853. Margaret I. Phillips, *The Governors of Tennessee* ( Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Company, 1979), 73-78.

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Nov 17th 1859

Mr. J.H. Crawford

This is confidential

I suppose you have some desire to know whether I am doing any good or not I do not think that I am doing very much but will say to you I think I am making as much money here as ever I made in the same length of time through life if no bad luck I will have made enough of money against the first day of January next to buy as good a farm as the one I left but not well improved I fear I cannot collect some part of it without sowing I will have one debt of \$575 dollars in that fix though perfectly solvent I dont think that I have made any bad debt yet but I tell you that it is the fastest country I even lived in you must watch every man alike with all of their friendship they will cheat you out of the last dollar you have & still use you well, if your sons ever intends to come to Texas school them well I have thought of Samuel Crawford<sup>56</sup> often times he still said he would go to Texas if I went tell him & Jim<sup>57</sup> I would be quite happy to see them here though I do not think they would like it at present but in some reasonable time it certainly will be one of the foremost states in the Union for everything that a farmer lays his hands to is cash at a fair prise there is farmers here now making from one thousand to five & six thousand dollars per annum out of their cotton they was a great drought here this season past it caused their cotton crops to fall short about one half that being the case it operates against me about the hire of negroes a good negro boy will hire for \$240 a good house girl from \$ 150 to 200 I think a good hand and fair season will make about \$400 per annum.

I wish you to write to me what the general nuse is about me going to to Texas & the manner that I stated & what they would have done provided I had of staid in Tennessee if I did rong you & Maxwell is to blame & if I did right you two is intitled to the honours for I well know I never considered any person els I would like to know if them infernal perjured abolitionists of Washington County feels as bold as what they did since the insurrection took place at harpers ferry.

Now my trip to Texas I started from Hendersons depo March the 25<sup>th</sup> at 4 oclock in the morning ½ past three, on 26, got to Memphis took the boat at 5 same evening lay by 36 hours at the mouth of Redriver<sup>58</sup> get to [illegible] fort at 3 oclock on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April on the 8<sup>th</sup> of same inst(ant) to Henderson on the 9<sup>th</sup> I hire out the Negroes on the 10<sup>th</sup> I was a free man I tell you as a friend I would advise all abolitionists to keep away from Texas I tell you truthfully they would

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<sup>56</sup> Samuel Crawford was John H. Crawford's eldest son. He was 25 years old and a farmer according to the 1860 Washington County Census.

<sup>57</sup> James Crawford was John H. Crawford's second oldest child. He was 20 years old and a farmer according to the 1860 Washington County Census.

<sup>58</sup> The Red River is a major tributary of the Mississippi River. It originates in northern Texas and southwestern Oklahoma.

never take time to hang him if he did not leave on first notice in a case of that sort they would one hundred men volunteer in one hour I have not have seen the first free negro since I have been in the state I think I will move my negroes fifty or one hundred miles so that I can collect my money I will do this so they will be no strife now John I think I have some of the most melancolly times of any mortal upon earth you know how it feels if I had you here just to hunt with it would pass off the time they are plenty of good fellows here but no one that I ever seen before I think you could enjoy yourself here on hunts for it is a daly occurrence with the right sort of men they make up camp hunts take 2 or 3 teems of cattel hunt from 3 to 5 weeks, you will please direct my boys for the best in all this as it will be hily appreciated by me in a distant country you will writ me all of the times and changes yours ever // S.G. Waddill<sup>59</sup> Burn this when you read it.

(Side of front)

You will give no general satisfaction about me to no low lifed devil that tries to pump.

Rheatown Tenn<sup>60</sup>  
Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 1859

Col. John Crawford

Dear Sir:

Without disturbing you with the terms –“Cousins” or “Brother” I hasten directly to tell my business.

My time as Clerk for Messrs Reeve and Ernest will soon expire, and I wish to get into more profitable business. – In view of this fact, I would respectfully solicit you to say a word or so in my favor to Mr. Jno Keys, Sec of the E.T.&.V.R.R.<sup>61</sup> - I understand that Mr K\_ may wish to employ an assistant clerk\_ if so, I would be pleased to avoid myself of this opportunity. – I know of no office on the line which would suit my habits or convenience better. I think I might get a Depot Agency, but would much prefer living in town where I could attend the Lodge punctually: and besides, I want to take the R.A Degrees. Any thing you may do or say in my behalf, shall be thankfully acknowledged by a heart always, I trust, sensitive of the grateful emotions of gratitude.

My love to cousins tell Dollie and all the rest

Yours candidly and fraternally

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<sup>59</sup> S.G. Waddell, age 59, was living in Rusk, Texas according to the 1860 census. He was living with Isaiah, Emily J., Epsey, R.P., Zachariah T., and William Perry. His profession was not listed, but his value of real estate was listed as \$2,900. Note: this value of real estate was somewhat illegible, so this is the best estimate possible from the data given.

<sup>60</sup> Rheatown is located in Greene County, Tennessee, northwest of present day Greeneville.

<sup>61</sup> East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, which was chartered in 1849. It was the first railroad to run through East Tennessee. “Southern Railroad (Presently Norfolk Southern).” [http://www.johnsonspot.com/southern/index\\_so.htm](http://www.johnsonspot.com/southern/index_so.htm) (Accessed 15 January 2011).

Felix A. Reeve<sup>62</sup>

Jonesboro Feb 1862

To his excellency President Davis  
Sir

The undersigned citizens of Washington County Tennessee respectfully request you to grant Commissions to the following named gentlemen for the purpose of raising a Redgement for the Confederate Service their headquarters to be at Jonesborough

J.H. Crawford Col.

Giles S. Cecil L. Col.

John King Maj.

We [crossed out word] would respectfully suggest to your Excellency that the above named Gentlemen are all men of high character & influence in society & if we have any men who could succed in raising a Redgiment in upper E. Tennessee they are the [ones] ones. There are a great many good & brave men here who aught & want to be in the service\_ We would further suggest that the gentlemen we recommend to you are all sound Southern men & have been from the first agitation of the great question.

Jonesboro March 4 1862

Dear Sir

We have concluded to relinquishing the idea of applying to the President for Comm.<sup>63</sup> and make an effort to raise a volunteer Regiment there is about 200- already in here what say you to making an effort to raise a company to join us- let me hear from you

Your friend  
Jon H Crawford  
(back)

John G King Esqr  
Forward by  
Mr J F Deaderick<sup>64</sup>  
Bristol [illegible]

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<sup>62</sup> Born in 1837 to Thomas J. and Rebecca Reeve, Felix Reeve became a lawyer who lived in Greene County during his adult life. He was married to Wilhelmina, and they had two children as of the 1870 census named Jessie and Horace. Marion Buxton, a school teacher age 32, and Aquba Buxton, age 6, from Scotland lived with the family. Kitty and Robert Crawford, a black and mulatto servant, respectively, also lived with the Reeves.

<sup>63</sup> Commissions.

<sup>64</sup> J.F. Deaderick was the Clerk of Chamber Courts in Washington County. He was fifty-three with a value of real estate at \$18,300 and a personal estate value of \$7,200 according to the 1860 Washington County Census.

Decatur Ala March 9<sup>th</sup>/62

Col J Crawford  
Jonesboro Tenn\_

Sir.

You will find me still on hand to give trouble. I have directed several who wish to join my company to call on you for transportation to New Market<sup>65</sup> where Sergeant Moffett will attend to them Sergeant Moffett is stationed at New Market & will send on those who may wish to connect themselves with the Company. Enclosed please find transportation tickets which you can fill out with date & number of men. The number of men (crossed out word) will be placed between the words "Transportation for 62 men recruited for etc." If the tickets are not used you will please burn. We are at Decatur Ala. A large force is being collected here. They are not leaving Tenn for any length of time, but will soon go on to Nashville You will oblige me by attending to the above

Respectfully J. Lynch<sup>66</sup>

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(Confederate States Army paper)

Jonesboro (Knoxville crossed out), Tenn., March 12, 1862.

To the Superintendent of the E. Ten. Va. Railroad

Be pleased to furnish transportation for the men recruited for Capt. Lynch's Artillery Co. in the service of Confederate States on your Railroad from Jonesboro to New Market Ten. In Public Service

Jno M. Carmack

Lieut. Artillery, recruiting for Lynch's Artillery

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(Confederate States Army Paper)

Jonesboro (Knoxville crossed out), Tenn., March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

To the Superintendent of the E. Tenn. Va. Railroad

Be pleased to furnish transportation for men who are recruits for Lynch's Artillery Co. in the Confederate States Service on your railroad from Jonesboro, Ten. To New Market Ten. in Public Service

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<sup>65</sup> New Market is a small town located a few miles West of Jefferson City in Jefferson County, Tennessee.

<sup>66</sup> John Peyton Lynch; Captain of Lynch's Battery, Tennessee Artillery.

Jno M. Cormack  
Lieut Artillery, recruiting for Lynch's Artillery Co.

Correnth Miss<sup>67</sup> April 29, 1862

Col J.H. Crawford

Sir we ar looking out for heavy ingagement Every hour and wish how soon it may com and be over with the trouble for it is not a pleasant thing to be held in suspense on sutch an occasion I had rather have it over and no my fate and the fate of my Co – at the same time I feel very shure of a Brilliant victory when it comes our forces ar all shure of success in stead of them running five miles to shelter in thos holes they will have twenty from this plac thos holes was all that saved them on the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> our loss on that occasion was small comparatetively to that of the iname I have it from a citison of Burnsville who was tacon prisner three weaks before the Battle and hel one weak after he is a Reliable gent he ses without any mistake they admit the loss of twenty three thousand killed, wonded, and misson oures is som where between 3 & 5 thousand from what I can Learn I Learn that Gen Smith<sup>68</sup> is in possession of Huntsville Ala and mooving in this direction Morgan is in that quarter some whar with som cavelry we had some bad luck yesterday Col Forist<sup>69</sup> was on the scout yankeys captured 200 of his men so I Learn this morning John if I had time I could tell you Circumstances and Reports of all times from this till Jan/63 and the most of them be false. But (I marked out)  
the conscript

I meant you to tell all from 18 to 35 that ar good that I want a nough of them to gain my co to make out my n.o. to 125 men for the next 2 yeares Pleas git up a List to that affect and advertice in a small card that you ar ortherised to inrole them for mee any that would be pleased to com and go in with my c.o. do this whether I stay or not I espect though to stay.  
Pleas write

Yours truly,  
R. Roddie<sup>70</sup>

(Back)

P.S. tell Add & Jack Smith that Charly Smith was at our camps yesterday and was well and Belong to arkancis Regt tell Mark Bacon<sup>71</sup> and Akin Crawford<sup>72</sup> that hell is to play hear generly

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<sup>67</sup> The Thirty-seventh Tennessee Infantry was moved here on April 17, 1862, where it was placed in Major General William J. Hardee's Corps, Brigadier General J.S. Marmaduke's Brigade, which was reported to be composed of the Third Confederate, Sixth Mississippi, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirty-seventh Tennessee Infantry regiments, and Baker's Battery.

<sup>68</sup> General Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of the Army of Tennessee.

<sup>69</sup> Colonel Nathan Bedford Forest.

<sup>70</sup> Reuben Roddie, age 46, was listed as a trader who had 8 children and 5 slaves in the 1860 census. He was enlisted as captain and commissioned in Company F, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

and no pitch hot but I heard the cannon belched a while a go bout ½ an hour but all is still at this time but looking out for the Clafant every hour and expect to see him recover.

RR

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Chattanooga  
June 12th 1862

Col Jno Crawford

Dear Sir

I have but a moment to write you so the currier is about starting to the office to mail the letters of our company. You will therefore excuse conciseness.

I learned through Father that you were relative to Genl Fain of Rogersville who in all probability will be Colonel of our Regiment<sup>73</sup> when formed. I am an applicant for Asst Surgeon of the Regiment and would deem it a special favor if you would exert your influence in securing me that post. I have spoken to Hon. L. C. Haynes<sup>74</sup> to exert his influence he promises he will do it. Col Haynes has all the recommendations necessary.

Father writes me you have a notion to make up a company. I say do so and come in to our Regiment and we can elect you Lt. Col. or major. Our company will be the leading company of the Regiment and as a matter of course will control the elections to a very great extent I think our regiment will be a fine opening for you.

You have learned that the Enemy shelled no on Saturday & Sunday. No damage done on our side except two men wounded. Neither of them mortally. Several dogs & cows wounded all however convalescent.

I suppose there were some six or eight homes struck by shells with but little injury. On Sunday we heated their batteries with silent contempt and we did not fire a single shot. The Enemy took alarm at our indifference and crossed over Walden's Ridge into Signal Mtn. We took one prisoner. Their force was about 4 thousand.

Genl Smith was here he would not allow us to fire on Sunday as it was a waste of powder & ball. We found one piece of artillery they had buried and mounted by our guns. The Enemy loss six killed wounded not known. We made the best shots.

Please write to Genl Fain soon and let me hear from you. Jack Morgans command is with us I saw him several times

Yours Truly

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<sup>71</sup> Mark Bacon was captain of Company F, 60<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry. For more personal Information, see Appendix A.

<sup>72</sup> Akin Crawford, also sometimes spelled Aiken, was the brother of John H. Crawford. He was Acting Commissary of Subsistence in Company F, Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry.

<sup>73</sup> This is a reference to the Sixty-Third Tennessee Infantry that was organized July 30, 1862.

<sup>74</sup> Landon Carter Haynes. He was elected to the House of Representatives for Greene, Washington and Hawkins county from 1845-1847; Tennessee Senate in 1847 representing Johnson, Carter, Sullivan, and Washington Counties; Tennessee Speaker of the House in 1849. Haynes also served as a Senator in the Confederate Congress.

D.Y. Blair<sup>75</sup>

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Post Hd Quarters  
Knoxville August 30/62

Col. John H. Crawford

Dear Sir

How are you getting along with your Regt. How may Cos. have you Let me hear from you. Saml. Gammon<sup>76</sup> has written to me to get him authority to swear and muster in a company.

Genl. McCown<sup>77</sup> will be hear next week to take Genl. Smiths<sup>78</sup> place in command of E. Tennessee\_ I would suggest that you come down the middle or last of next week & we see him & see whether he will sanction our movements\_ Let me hear from you

In great haste  
Very Truly yours  
R. G. Fain<sup>79</sup>

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Morristown Sept. 9 1862.

Col. John H. Crawford

Jonesboro Tenn.

Dear Sir:

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<sup>75</sup> David Y. Blair was a private in Company D of the Sixty-third Tennessee. He later became the surgeon for the Sixtieth Tennessee. In the 1860 census he was listed as a physician in the Hamilton County area.

<sup>76</sup> Samuel Rhea Gammon was captain of Company B in the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. For more complete biographical information see Appendix A.

<sup>77</sup> General John Porter McCown, commanding division Department of East Tennessee (summer – December 1862) and commanding the department September 1- 19 and September 27-October 1862. “John Porter McCown.” <http://www.civilwarhome.com/mcCownbio.htm> (Accessed 7 March 2011).

<sup>78</sup> General Edmund Kirby Smith, Commanding the Department of East Tennessee March 8-August 25, ca. October 31 - December 1862, and December 23, 1862 - January 1863. “Edmund Kirby Smith.” <http://www.civilwarhome.com/ksmithbio.htm> (Accessed 20 February 2011).

<sup>79</sup> Richard Gammon Fain was a merchant and bank officer in Rogersville, clerk and master of the chancery court, and president of the Rogersville and Jefferson Railroad before the Civil War. He joined the Confederacy in 1861 as commissary general of the Provisional Army of Tennessee. In September of 1861, he accepted the rank of major as the commander of the Brigade Commissary in Knoxville, Tennessee. In May 1862, he became the organizing colonel of the Sixty-third Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers, but because of ill health he resigned his commission in November 1863. John N. Fain, ed., *Sanctified Trial: The Diary of Eliza Rhea Anderson Fain, a Confederate Woman in East Tennessee* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004), xlv-xlv.

Since you desire a frequent correspondence, I will drop you a line. I am getting along steadily, but not exactly so rapidly in mustering in men as I had expected to do. I have 39 engaged positively, a good proportion of those mustered in, and will be able within three days, I am pretty sure, to muster that entire number. There are as many as an entire company about here who have the matter of joining my company under Serious consideration. Many of them are not exactly satisfied that the Conscription law will be enforced here, and they desire to hold on till they learn definitely that it will be enforced. If orders were published to that effect, I would fill my company within three days. They have heard the matter talked about so much that nothing Short of orders will convince them. My plan with all Such is to get them firmly committed to my company and then let them rest. My material so far is entirely Southern and good fighting men; and I think I will get the entire company of such material. I have several good citizens mustered in and riding for now.

My muster roll or the "better authority" of which you spoke to me, has not yet arrived

Your Obedient Servant

Jas. C. Hodges<sup>80</sup>

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Newport Cocks Co E Tenn.  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1862

Col Jno H Crawford

According to promise I address you a few lines to inform you how we are progressing in this part of the moral vineyard. As yet I have done nothing, except ride about the country getting acquainted with the folks. But I think my prospect for getting a company are flattering as in Washington co the volunteering spirit is very high here just now. A few days ago a company of 80 men was made up in a few days in a union neighborhood and they are coming to their milk about here. Today Captain Smith organized a company here with 40 men. I have several friends who are helping me all they can and the people of the county seem to take an interest in helping me, from the fact that I am a stranger.

I am very much pleased with the people of the county so far as I have been, I cant find a union man. All converted in heart and in mind. God forgive them; for many of them never can be by their fellowmen. By the middle of next week I can form a more perfect idea of what can be

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<sup>80</sup> James C. Hodges was captain of Company H, Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. For more complete biographical information see Appendix A.

done. Col. address me at Newport Tenn tell me how you are progressing the news; [crossed out words] what I can do for you.

Yours Truly  
W.A. Wash<sup>81</sup>

-----  
Strawberry Plains  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup>/62

Sir:

Hearing that you had a Regt. in process of formation I take this method of applying for the adjutancy \_ I am a member of Capt A. A. Blairs<sup>82</sup> company Col Fain's Regt. & previous to my joining this company I had been acting as drill marker for 12 months, having received military instruction at the University Military School of Va.<sup>83</sup> I can bring the best testimonials as to character and qualifications from some of the most prominent men in Va with whom I cannot expect now to refer you. But those to whom I would especially refer you for such information as you may desire are the officers of Col. Fain's Regt who have had an opportunity of informing themselves recently

Either Col's Fain, Fulkerson, or Maj Aiken<sup>84</sup> will (will crossed out) give any information you may desire.

Should you see fit to give me the appointment I shall spare no plans to make the Regt. efficient & worthy the cause you have espoused & with 12 months experience I feel confident in saying that I could be of no little service in preparing the Regt for active service- I would be pleased to hear from you upon the subject at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully  
C.S. Newman<sup>85</sup>

Address  
Strawberry Plains  
Capt Blains Co.  
Col. Fains Regt.

---

<sup>81</sup> William Allen Wash was captain of Company I, Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. For more complete biographical information see Appendix A.

<sup>82</sup> A.A. Blair was Captain of Company D (Kirby Smith's Rifles), Sixty-third Tennessee Infantry.

<sup>83</sup> This is a reference to Virginia Military Institute (VMI).

<sup>84</sup> Colonel Abraham Fulkerson, Sixty-Third Tennessee. Major John Alfred Aiken, Sixty-Third Tennessee, was killed May 16, 1864.

<sup>85</sup> Charles S. Newman was enlisted as a private in Company D, Sixty-third Tennessee. He was later appointed to the adjutancy of the Sixtieth Tennessee per his request mentioned in this letter.

---

Camp Sulpher Springs  
Near Jackson Miss Sept. 11 1862

Dear father

I received your note yesterday. Deaderick came several days ago but did not hand me your note until yesterday. I was glad to hear you are all well. I am well as common the chills have been working on me some but not bad You (crossed out words) say you are raising a Regt and will succeed if you do I want you to do all you can to get me transferred to it. I am sorry you and Sam have both gone in to the service and left no one at home but it pray be for the best. We will certainly move from this place in a day or two and I think the most you hear from us will be from West Tenn about Grand junction<sup>86</sup> I do not want to go that way. They have been promising to take us to East tenn for two months and we have been expecting it until the last few days. I must close as there is no news down here. Tell Jim H. that I would like to see him back one more. Send me my best by him when he comes I will need it before long you must write soon give me all the news give my love to all the family.

Your son,  
James Crawford

P.S. Sept 12<sup>th</sup> we have orders to cook 2 days rations and be ready to march at 8 oclock to night.

(Jas. Crawford)

(In pen on side of letter so looks like an address)

---

Rogersville Tenn.  
Sept. 14 1862

Col Jno Crawford.

Jonesboro Tenn.

Dr. Sir:

I have the honor to report my company, which organized on yesterday. I regard it as being one of the best that has been made in this county.

I hope the Regt will soon be complete.

Let me hear from you soon.

Very Respectfully  
Your friend & cc  
S.R. Gammon

---

<sup>86</sup> Grand Junction is located east of Memphis in West Tennessee just north of the Mississippi border.

---

Knoxville  
Sept. 19 1862

Col. John H. Crawford

Dear Sir

Have you lost the use of your writing hand? Why dont you let me hear from you When will you be ready to organize \_ When you get your 10 cos. You must come down here & get the order for organization from Hd. Quarters.

Sam. Gammon & Nick<sup>87</sup> have organized & I suppose reported the fact to you\_ They have a man in their company, a real business man, who will make you a first rate Qr. master & for whom I beseech your favorable consideration. Make no promises whether or not, nor nothing that can be tortured into a promise, be perfectly free to give your appointments to the best men.

Very Sincerely Yours,  
R.G. Fain

---

Knoxville Tenn Sept 20 1862

Col John H. Crawford

Dear Sir

Your favor of 18<sup>th</sup> instant in regard to the order made by Maj Genl McCown urging the men enlisted by Erwin & Bogart to join Col. Allins Regt at Knoxville is to hard. Col Allin was in my office when your letter was received and I enquired of him about the matter and find it was all done without any knowledge of your proceedings – Col. Fain immediately came in and in a conference about the matter he thought it best to let the matter go on as ordered by Gen McCown \_ Allins Regt goes into the same Brigade and it can make but little difference- moreover it would be difficult to get the order rescinded - Fains advice is to let the men come on to join Allins Regt-

I wrote in much haste- nothing of especial interest but what you will see in the papers

Your friend (and obedient servant abbreviated)

A.E. Jackson<sup>88</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Nicholas Fain joined Company B of the Sixtieth Tennessee with the rank of second lieutenant. He was a cousin of Sam Gammon, Captain of Company B. He was captured in May of 1863 and held prisoner at Johnson's Island until February 1865. Fain, xlvii.

<sup>88</sup> Alfred Eugene Jackson. In 1862, he served in the Department of East Tennessee under Gen. E. Kirby-Smith. He was commissioned to brigadier general in 1863 and commander of the military department of East Tennessee. He had the responsibility to protect the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad.

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Yazoo river<sup>89</sup>  
Sept. 20 1862.

Col. Jno H. Crawford

Dear friend; I am informed that you are appointed Col. to raise a Regt. in E. Tenn. I have been in the 3 Reg. Miss Vols near eight-months, and have tried several times to get home thinking that I could raise a company. If you will be so kind and obliging to an old acquaintance as to give me a commission to raise a company for your Reg. I can get home and accomplish it in a short time. If your regiment should be full there will be ample room for me other places. Let me hear from you immediately.

Yours Truly,  
J.S. Shannon<sup>90</sup>

Address. J.S. Shannon

Vicksburg Miss

Care of Capt. A.H. Johnston<sup>91</sup> 3 Regt. Miss Vols

P.S. If I should leave here before the commission reaches me it will be forwarded.

J.S. Shannon

---

Knoxville  
Sept 23 1862

Col. John H. Crawford

Dear Sir

It is almost ham time & I only have time to say one word. I see yours of 22<sup>nd</sup> this morning but have not time to notice its contents\_ I write to say that you had better come on down & get authority to have your Regt to [illegible] at some point and process the organization as Soon as possible

Capt Thomas who got authority under me to raise a Regt since yours has to day got authority to put his Regt in camp at Murphy Creek\_ I think you had better come right down at once & make report at once of the state of the case

---

<sup>89</sup> The Yazoo River is formed by the Tallahatchie and Yalobusha rivers just north of present day Greenwood, Mississippi. It joins the Mississippi River at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

<sup>90</sup> John S. Shannon; ranked in to Company I as a corporal of the Third Mississippi Volunteer Regiment and ranked out of the unit as a private. It appears that nothing came of his proposal mentioned in this letter because there is no further record of him being involved with the Sixtieth Tennessee.

<sup>91</sup> Abner Johnston was commisional in Company I of the Third Regiment Mississippi Volunteer Regiment.

Sincerely yours  
R.G. Fain

---

Rogersville Tenn  
26 September 1862.

Col. Jno H. Crawford

Dr Sir:

My company is complete. My tents & cc are at R. Junction. I send for them today. I will go in camps on Monday. Between this and that time, I expect to increase my company to one hundred.

There seems to be some doubt here as to whether yr Regt will be received. I hope you will advise me immediately in regard to this matter. There are several new companies in this county, reported to Shields & Thomas. If you can [crossed out word] allow me, I would like to go in camp here for several weeks, in order that my men may have time sufficient to procure their apparel and bed-clothes. Furthermore, I want to be advised as to the procurement of my provisions. Is it better to get them from Knoxville, or purchase them here? Please inform me fully on this point at once. If convenient and agreeable, I would be pleased to have you over here to see my company. and I think they will compare favorably with any company in your Regiment. I have a meeting here on Saturday.- Cant you come over and be with us at that time? Let me hear from you soon.

Respectfully  
Yr. friend & cc  
S.R. Gammon

---

Clear Branch, Ten.  
Sept, 26<sup>th</sup>/62

Col. John H. Crawford

Dear Sir after my respects to you. I can say that I have been making preparation to make the hat as ordered and amidst the pressure of work in my line I have succeeded in procuring the necessary materials for coloring etc. and I will try to have your work done in ten days if possible: also Lieutenants Craford's<sup>92</sup> hat.

Respectfully yours,  
E.K. Blanton

Col J.H. Craford

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<sup>92</sup> This is a reference to either the second lieutenant of Company D or first lieutenant Joseph Craford of Company E, Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry.

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Surgeon's Office Morristown Tenn

Sep 28 1862

Col Crawford  
Jonesborough Tenn.

Sir

Pardon my presumption in writing you. But my business requires me to speak frank by I am a plain man, not ashamed to tell my business or ask for what I wish I want. The place of surgeon or Asst Surgeon in the Regiment you are going to organize at Jonesborough I could have addressed you through many friends but I much prefer you hear me speak. They would perhaps lead you to think too highly of my merits and if you would rather know me better I will be happy to call on you at Jonesborough. I came into the service with the first Regiment from this state. I am a native Tennessean born in the county of Robertson, twenty miles from the city of Nashville at which place I graduated in my profession. I have been detailed in the medical dep. in which I have been serving for twelve months.

I now wish to enter on field duty and would be pleased to see you and talk of you on the subject of my nomination for the places either of which I mentioned above. I will give you satisfactory references as to my moral character or my professional ability I will refer you men of your own part of the State in Congress at home & in the army. And to gentlemen with whom I have been associated during my time in the army, and in the medical as well as other departments. You shall be fully satisfied with highest references.

I am here asst surgeon in the Morristown Hospital. I think my experience in the army gives me many advantages over any man who just entering the services. Please drop me a line at Morristown. I will be pleased to meet you and confer on the subject at any time.

Respectfully

A.M. Alsbrook<sup>93</sup>

Asst Surgeon Morristown Hospital

[Illegible: most looks like Alsworth]

---

<sup>93</sup> Alfred M. Alsbrook was age 13 in the 1850 Robertson County Census. He lived with his father Samuel Alsbrook, age 34, who was a farmer.

Rogersville Te. 29 Sept 1862.

Col. Jno H. Craford.

Jonesboro Tenn.

Dr Sir:

I understand that you have received positive assurance that your Regt will be received. If this is so, I wish you to inform me immediately, for it will relieve my mind, and that of my company of a painful suspense. And if you are certainly received, you would greatly oblige me by going to Knoxville and procuring my tents and camp equipage & co- I was disappointed and was misinformed with regard to my tents being at R. Junction. I promised my men that I would have the tents to here by Thursday next. and ordered them all to report here ready to go in camps. It will be a disappointment if I dont have them. Uncle Richard<sup>94</sup> says that I cannot procure them, except it is through you. My men are all exceedingly anxious to get in camp and are becoming restless and dissatisfied.

Advise me of what you intend doing in this matter as early as possible. Let me know the position of my company in the Regt. according to the report of organization. I would like to be company B. I suppose Capt. Blair<sup>95</sup> is company A.

Let me hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours & cc  
S.R. Gammon

-----  
Morristown Tenn  
September 29<sup>th</sup> 1862

Col John H Crawford

Jonesboro Tennessee

Dear Sir:

As we had so short a time to talk this evening, I thought I would write you a line. I will be able to organize on wednesday with at least sixty men sworn. My men all depend upon going in your Regt. and for reasons to me important I prefer to do so myself.

You have, or rather the law has adopted a rule to determine the precedence of companies. That is 'The first organized Company reported shall be the first received. Just let that rule work in strictness and as it should work and I will be all right. I will be the 10<sup>th</sup> Co. since the rule is adopted and sanctioned by the authorities I think I may claim to abide, and have other Captains to abide by its workings.

---

<sup>94</sup> Richard Gammon Fain was S.R. Gammon's Uncle

<sup>95</sup> This is a reference to Captain Frank S. Blair of Company A, Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. For more complete biographical information see Appendix A.

I got five men this evening after I saw you.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
Jas. C. Hodges

---

Richmond Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 1862

Col. John H. Crawford

Your letters received: a bill<sup>96</sup> has passed the senate to allow volunteer regiments and battalions organized by the day the law passes which will be about Monday the 6 of October. Organize by Saturday or you are out. Tell Mr. McClure.<sup>97</sup> This is the best that can be done. You must therefore be in a hurry. The bill provides that the regiments or battalions may be received at the discretion of the President. But the President & secretary of war both ask that they shall be received when organized at the date of the law. Companies are not included.

Yours truly  
Landon C. Haynes

---

Newport Tenn Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1862

Col J H Crawford \_

We organized today. we had seventy three men present We have over 80 men\_ We meet again on Saturday & by that time we expect to from 90 to 100 men perhaps more.

I know that Capt Hodge will use every exertion to get in instead of my self. You know my situation, and my former ill luck in elections etc. We have elected an excellent set of officers and have a No 1 Company. I shall not use any underground means to get in but hope you will do my case justice. Dr Earnest<sup>98</sup> can represent to you the matter as it stands. I hope at least you will not decide against me before next Monday – when I will come to Jonesboro. If anything of great interest occurs let me know

---

<sup>96</sup> The Confederate House proceeded on October 6, 1862 to consider the unfinished business of the day before, which was a bill of the Senate to authorize the President to accept and place in the service certain regiments and battalions heretofore raised. The question was on agreeing to the amendments of the committee; which are as follows: Insert after the words "in good faith" the words "prior to the first day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," and also, by striking out in the proviso the words "military organizations raised after this time" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "regiments or battalions organized after the said first day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," The second amendment was agreed to. On agreeing to the third amendment the vote was Yeas: 38 and Nays: 25. Records of the proceedings for the previous day were not available. *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-37), 5:495.

<sup>97</sup> This is a reference to John F. McClure, Assistant Quarter Master, Sixtieth Tennessee.

<sup>98</sup> This is a reference to J. Tate Earnest, Assistant Surgeon, Sixtieth Tennessee.

Yrs truly  
W. A. Wash.

-----  
Head Dr Maby Artillery  
Knoxville Tenn.  
October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862

Col. Jno H. Crawford  
Sir:

Having been apprised that you are now engaged in enlisting a Regiment for Confederate service: I respectfully beg leave to confer with you by mail, relative to a subject of some interest to me.

I hereby respectfully make application for appointment as Serg't Major of your command now in process of formation.

And in presenting my claims, would state as an evidence of capacity for efficiency in administering the antics of the position that I have been in service since Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1861- partially in Infantry, but, for the most part in artillery acting in a similar capacity to the one in question.

I can bring you references of the best character and would refer you for testimonials to Maj. A.E. Jackson or Capt. W.G. Gammon<sup>99</sup>: am a native of Wash, Co. and would prefer going with men from the same section. I am son of Rev'd Samuel G. Wyly<sup>100</sup>, with whom you were doubtless acquainted. Please reply by return mail intimating whether your views correspond with my application. And you will confer a great favor

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
Reed H. Wyly<sup>101</sup>

-----  
Col Jno H Crawford  
Dear Sir

I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the efficiency and superior gratifications of Reed H. Wyly for the position he asks at your hand and I would ask it as a personal favor if you would promise his wishes by appointing him to the office he seeks.

---

<sup>99</sup> Captain William G. Gammon, who served in General and Staff Officers, Non-Regimental Enlisted Men, CSA.

<sup>100</sup> According to the 1850 Washington County Census, Samuel G. Wyly, age 35 was a clergyman who had a real estate value of \$2000.

<sup>101</sup> Reed H. Wyly could not be found in the 1850 census with Samuel G. Wyly and there was nothing listed for the 1860 census. The closest name is Rutherford A. Wyly, age 5, who is listed in the 1850 census as the son of Samuel Wyly.

He is a young man of good habits and in every way thoroughly qualified for the position  
of Seargent Major  
Knoxville Tenn A.E. Jackson  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>/62

---

Morristown Octo. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862

Col. J.H. Crawford  
Jonesboro

Dear Sir most of my Co will be ready to leave for Hainsville<sup>102</sup> tomorrow by 3 P.M. We would -  
prefer voting for Regimental officers here- Can we do it legally? If so telegraph me.

Our Co. is full.

---

Newport Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862.

Capt Hodges  
Dear Sir

Yrs received, and contents considered\_ The reply I can only say that I cannot comply  
with the requirements. Last night I received a telegram from Col Crawford calling for me to  
come to Haynesville to organize on Monday. Its a matter of impossibility. My men are scattered  
over 20 miles square and I could not possibly get them together before monday morning. I  
telegraphed to Col Crawford that I would bring my men up on mondays mail train. Its utterly  
impossible to come sooner. let the result be as it may. I cannot see any special reason why the  
election could not be delayed a day or so\_ in a case so full of necessity\_ It is entirely impolite to  
organize so soon after the men come together. The election of field officers is a very responsible  
thing\_ and the men should know who they are voting for. If I could\_ I would not take the sense  
of my company in a matter they know nothing about. I try to teach them to think for themselves  
and know what they are doing before they act. If I cannot get my whole company there and have  
a fair representation and showing we will stand aloof\_ I hope and believe that organization will  
be delayed a day or two in such a case as this where nothing can be affected sooner. I will go up  
myself Sunday and have all my men there Monday. Make known to Col C- the contents of my  
letter. and oblige yours\_

W.A. Wash

---

<sup>102</sup> Haynesville, Tennessee refers to present day Johnson City, Tennessee.

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Morristown Octo 4<sup>th</sup> 62

Col Crawford

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a letter first read from Capt Wash. in answer to one I sent him yesterday. I sent him your Telegram to me, this morning; which he will receive by 3 oclock pm to-day. I also wrote him again. So that I have no doubt he will vote at home monday and Send in returns properly. I have mustered 8 men this morning.

Your Obt Servt<sup>103</sup>  
J.C. Hodges

---

Rogersville Te 9<sup>th</sup> October 1862

Col Jno H. Crawford

Jonesboro Te.

Dr Sir:

On my arrival here I found that my Lts in command of my company, had furloughed more than half of my men. Under such circumstances, I found it would be impossible almost to gather them up in a state of readiness for moving on Saturday. I therefore issued orders for all of them to report to me on Saturday and Sunday. I will start on monday Evening and reach Haynesville on Tuesday next.

I will send to Knoxville (crossed out words) and have cars brought up on Tuesday. I suppose I will have no difficulty in obtaining Transportation for my men.

Hoping that this arrangement may meet yr approbations\_

I remain yr friend  
S.R. Gammon

---

Camp Fain Sept 6<sup>th</sup>/62

Col. Crawford

I was informed today that your Brother Aiken Crawford was raising or trying to raise a company for your Regiment I want to apply to him through you to let me help him to raise it. If

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<sup>103</sup> Your Obedient Servant

he will I will get a detail and come immediately to Jonesboro & join him. I donot like the way things are working in our company or regiment and therefore want to leave it if possible and come to the one you are now raising. We are still here but expecting orders to move every minute. Some say to Loudon and I think it is correct as the Col was up here yesterday and I understand that he gave orders to that effect as for me I am glad to leave the place for it is the last place in the world Rheatown not accepted. Every thing is too high for a poor soldier that is getting 11 and 15 dollars per month. Some of the mens hearts are as black as a crow while others have none. I wish you would attend to this for me and let me hear from you as soon as possible. I can get a detail as soon as I hear from you. Remember me to all and be sure to see your brother Aiken

Your best friend  
G.A. Jenks<sup>104</sup>

I will advise you by telegraph if we leave here before I hear from you

G. A. Jenks

-----  
(Pen Side)<sup>105</sup>

Through me by Maj Genl E. Kirby Smith commanding Dept of E. Ten. "to name one or more Regts of troops for the Confederate Lines \_ I hereby authorize & empower John H. Crawford of Wahington County and (Blank) of (Blank) County to raise a Reg. of Infantry for Line service. And as soon as raised report the same to Genl. Smith. Head Quarters.

R.G. Fain

(Pencil Side)  
Knoxville

By virtue of authority granted to me by Genl E. K. Smith commanding dept. of E. Ten. to name one or more Regts of troops for the Confederate Lines I hereby authorize & empower John H. Crawford of Jonesboro to raise a Reg for Line service  
And as soon as raised he will report the same to Genl Smiths Hd Quarters.

---

<sup>104</sup> Girard A Jenks served in Company I, Sixty-third Tennessee Infantry. He ranked out of the service as a second lieutenant.

<sup>105</sup> The following writing is found on a small piece of torn paper that was most likely used as a scrap piece of paper to have something to write on. One side of this paper was written in pencil while the other was written in pen. The text on both sides is similar.

# Appendix A

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Appendix A contains more biographical information about Colonel John H. Crawford and the captains of the different companies in the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. The information presented in this appendix is found in the 1860 census in the Washington, Hawkins, Sullivan or Greene county area unless otherwise specified.

## **Colonel John H. Crawford**

- Age: 46
- Occupation: Circuit Court Clerk
- Value of Real Estate: \$6,160
- Value of Personal Estate: \$13,648
- People in the Household:
  - o Brunetta Crawford    Age 31
  - o Samuel Crawford    Age 25
  - o James Crawford    Age 20
  - o Sarah M. Crawford    Age 18
  - o Elizabeth Crawford    Age 16
  - o Mary E. Crawford    Age 12
  - o Susan B. Crawford    Age 6
  - o John A. Crawford    Age 4
  - o Charles K. Crawford    Age 2
  - o Kitty V. Crawford    Age 1/12
- Slaves owned according to the 1860 Census and Slave Schedules
  - o Rheachael            Age 43
  - o Richard             Age 29
  - o Harry                Age 20
  - o Esau                 Age 19
  - o Julia                Age 10
  - o Bob                  Age 3

## **Company A – Frank S. Blair**

- Age in 1870: 31
- Occupation: Lawyer
- Location: Wythe, Virginia
- Value of Real Estate: \$2,700
- Value of Personal Estate: \$ 1,000
- People in the Household:

- Sally R. Blair           Age 29
- Alex P. Blair           Age 4
- John C. Blair           Age 2
- William Pierce         Age 18
- African American Servants in the Household
  - Wm. Dawson           Age 40
  - Rebecca Dawson      Age 21

**Company B – Samuel Rhea Gammon**

- Age in 1850: 13
  - Note: In 1850 Sam Gammon was living with his extended family after the death of his mother.
- Occupation: Attended school in the past year
- Value of Real Estate (Listed for Wm Gammon): \$3,000
- Value of Personal Estate: Not Listed
- People in the Household:
  - Wm Gammon           Age 47
  - Rebecca Gammon     Age 36
  - George Gammon      Age 18           Attended school in the past year
  - Odley Gammon        Age 16           Attended school in the past year
  - Nancy Gammon        Age 14           Attended school in the past year
  - Sarah Gammon         Age 12           Attended school in the past year
  - Elizabeth Gammon     Age 10           Attended school in the past year
  - Wm Gammon            Age 8            Attended school in the past year
  - Frances Gammon      Age 6            Attended school in the past year
  - Abram Gammon        Age 4
  - Ann Gammon           Age 1/12

**Company C – J.C. Crouch**

- No information on J.C. Crouch was found in any of the census records that were able to be searched.

**Company D – Mark M. Pritchett**

- Age: 42
- Occupation: Farmer
- Value of Real Estate: \$7,680
- Value of Personal Estate: \$900
- People in the Household:
  - Amanda Pritchett:    Age 32
  - Wm T. Pritchett:     Age 12

- James S. Pritchett: Age 5
- John A. Pritchett: Age 2

**Company E – William P. Barron**

- Age: 23
- Occupation: Not Listed
- Location: Marshall, Tennessee
- Value of Real Estate: Not Listed
- Value of Personal Estate: \$550
- People in the Household:
  - Mary Barron Age 25
  - Catharine T. Barron Age 3
  - Louiza M. Barron Age 8/12

**Company F – Mark Bacon**

- Age: 50
- Occupation: Farmer
- Value of Real Estate: \$5,000
- Value of Personal Estate: \$14,000
- People in the Household:
  - Eliza Jane Bacon Age 39
  - Mary W. Bacon Age 7 Attended school in the past year
  - Robert T. Bacon Age 5 Attended school in the past year
  - Jesse D. Bacon Age 4 Attended school in the past year
  - Manerva E. Bacon Age 1
- Slaves owned according to the 1860 Slave Schedules:
  - Male Age 16 Mulatto
  - Female Age 16 Mulatto
  - Female Age 14 Mulatto
  - Female Age 10 Mulatto
  - Female Age 6 Black
- 1850 Census Information:
  - Mark Bacon was a thirty-nine year old farmer. He lived alone and owned one twenty year old black slave. His total value was listed as \$2,500.

**Company G – Jonathan Waverly Bachman**

- Age: 23
- Family: Jonathan and Frances Rhea Bachman
  - He was the youngest of six sons and four daughters

- Education:
  - o Fall Branch Academy
  - o Blountville Academy
  - o Took a course at Emory and Henry College in Virginia
  - o Union Theological Seminary, of New York, in 1860.
- Other Duties During the War:
  - o In October, 1864, by his own request, he was appointed chaplain of his regiment and served thus to the end.
- Family and Children:
  - o Evalina Dulaney- Married in 1863
    - Mrs. Bachman died in 1898
  - o They had 10 children in their union but at the time of Mrs. Bachman's death only 4 were surviving.
    - Mrs. Frances Magill
    - Mrs. Charles R. Hyde
    - Mrs. C. E. Buek
    - Judge Nathan Bachman, former justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court.
- For at least 10 years, Dr. Bachman served as Chaplain General of the United Confederate Veterans, being first appointed by the late Gen. B. H. Young, and reappointed by his successors as Commander in Chief.
- Died: September 26, 1924.

Information for Bachman was taken from The Confederate Veteran, Volume XXXII, November 1924 No. 11, Broadfoot's Bookmark, Wendell, N.C. pages 413-414.

### **Company H – James C. Hodges**

- Age: 23
- Location: Claiborne County, Tennessee
- Occupation: Farmer
- Value of Real Estate: \$400
- Value of Personal Estate: \$370
- People in the Household:
  - o Elizabeth Hodges     Age 26
  - o William S. Hodges     Age 2
  - o Thomas B. Hodges     Age 5/12

### **Company I – William Allen Wash**

- Age: 19
- Location: Anderson, Kentucky
- Occupation: Farmer

- Value of Real Estate: Not Listed
- Value of Personal Estate: Not Listed
- People in the Household:
  - o Allen Wash                      Age 56                      Farmer
  - o Susan M. Wash                      Age 23
  - o Martha Wash                      Age 1/12
  - o Allen Street                      Age 18
  - o John L. Street                      Age 17

**Company K – John M. Morrow**

- Age: 21
- Occupation: Clerk in Store
- Value of Real Estate (Listed for Father): \$2,150
- Value of Personal Estate (Listed for Father): \$25,023
- People in the Household:
  - o Dury Morrow                      Age 63                      Farmer
  - o James H. Morrow                      Age 23                      Farmer
  - o Benjamin F. Morrow                      Age 18                      Farmer
- African American Servants in the Household
  - o Rebecca Morrow                      Age 55
  - o Tom Morrow                      Age 50
  - o Ben Morrow                      Age 43
  - o Amos Morrow                      Age 35
  - o George Morrow                      Age 30
  - o Joseph Morrow                      Age 27
  - o Doc Morrow                      Age 25
  - o Andy Morrow                      Age 23
  - o Mary Morrow                      Age 23
  - o Will Morrow                      Age 15
  - o Jim Morrow                      Age 22
  - o Sandy Morrow                      Age 22
  - o Tony Morrow                      Age 15
  - o Minia Morrow                      Age 16
  - o Dick Morrow                      Age 6
  - o Mary Morrow                      Age 6
  - o Becca Morrow                      Age 2

# Appendix B

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*This letter is an additional letter that was found regarding the formation of the Sixtieth Tennessee Infantry. It is from James C. Hodges, Captain of Company H. This letter is located in the East Tennessee Historical Society Archives.*

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Morristown, Tennessee Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1862

Col John H. Crawford  
Jonesboro, Tennessee

Sir:

By your card I learn that you are raising a regiment of infantry for Genl. Fain's brigade. I write you to know whether ten companies have reported. If there have not so many reported, I propose with others, to raise a company for your regiment which I think I can do in a short time. I was till the re-organization first Lieut. Co. K 19<sup>th</sup> Tenn. Vol. (Col. Cummings), was wounded at Shiloh, and now just getting so I feel able for service again.

Be kind enough to write at once.

Very respectfully  
J.C. Hodges

(Reverse)

P.S. If I can have the chance of putting a company into your regiment, and you have the power to authorize me to raise it, send me the necessary information and documents containing authority at once. Send them by Wednesday evening's mail if you can, so that I can use them on Thursday, as there is an important public meeting near here that day.

Respectfully & cc  
J.C. Hodges

## **Citation:**

J.C. Hodges, manuscript letter to John H. Crawford, 2 September 1862, acc. No. MM-2009-003, East Tennessee Historical Society Archives, Knoxville, TN.

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