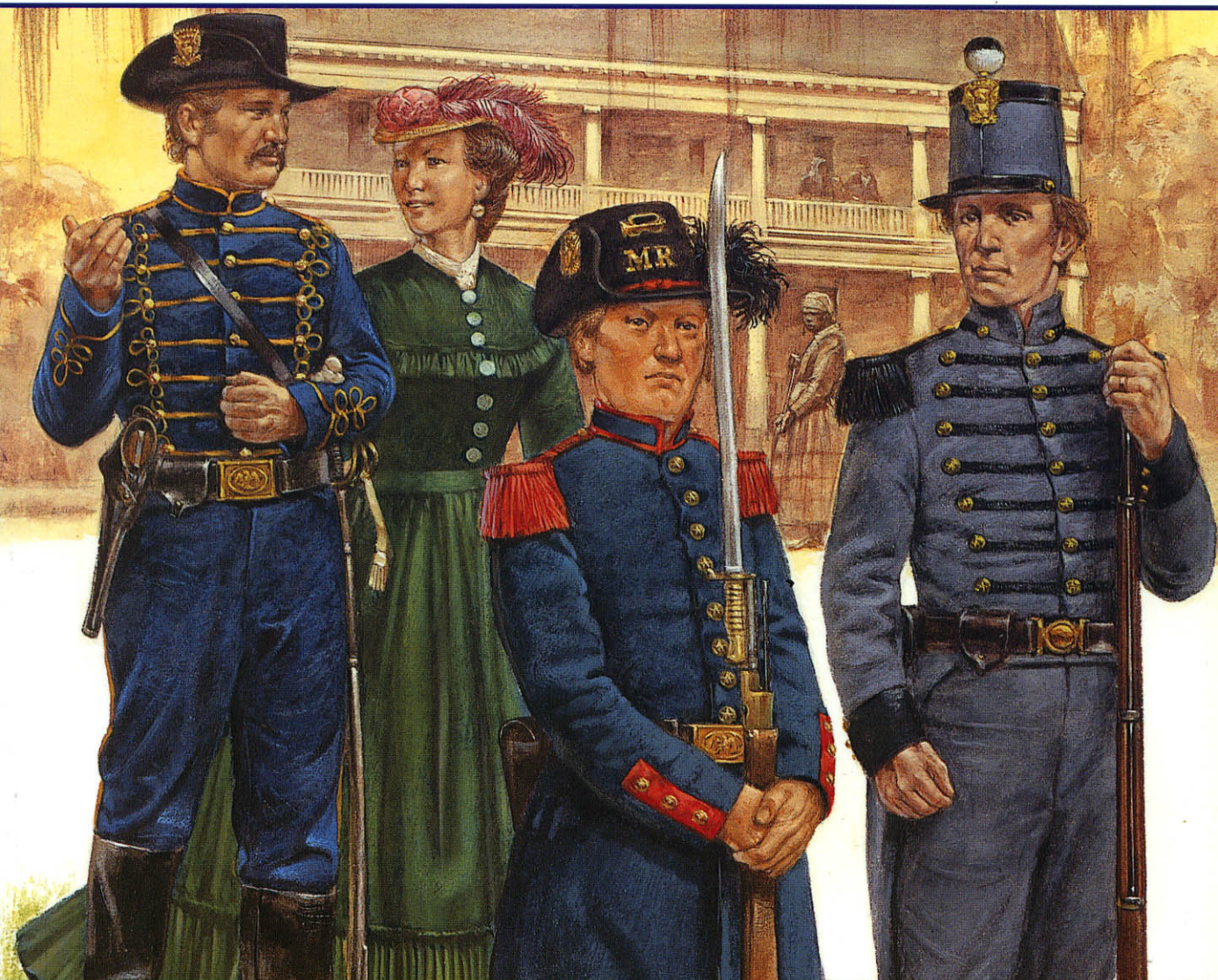


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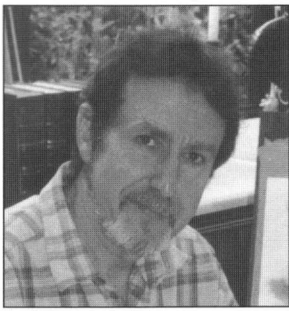
The Confederate Army 1861–65 (1)

South Carolina & Mississippi

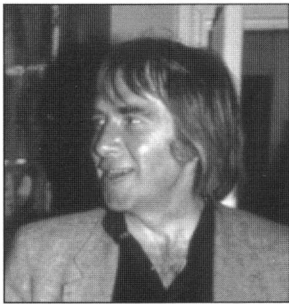


Ron Field • Illustrated by Richard Hook

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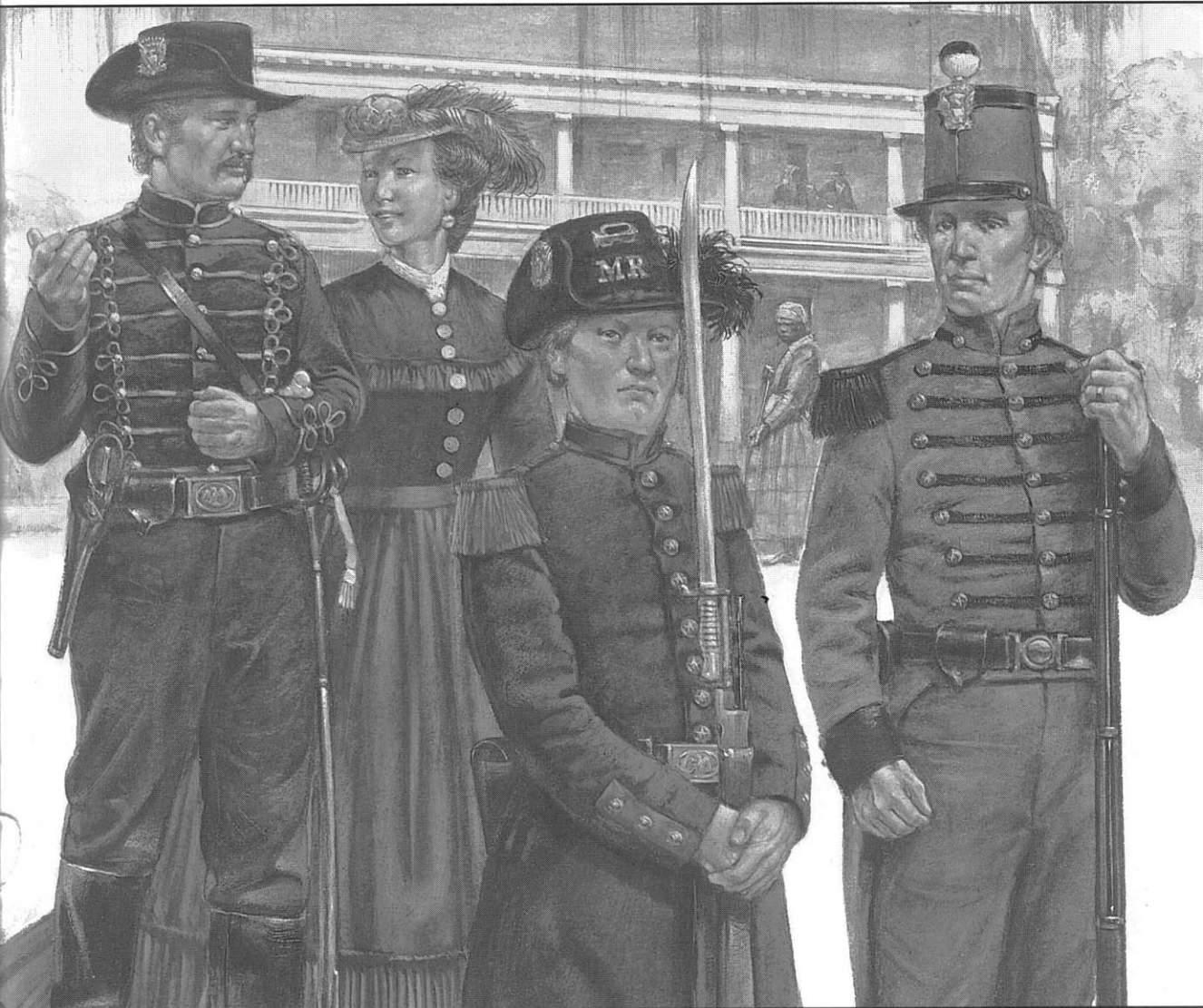


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The Confederate Army 1861–65 (1)

South Carolina & Mississippi



Ron Field • Illustrated by Richard Hook

Series editor Martin Windrow

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Author's Note

This sequence of books within the Men-at-Arms series encompasses six titles, and provides a state-by-state analysis of the uniforms, arms and equipage worn and carried by the Militia and Volunteers who served the Confederate States during the American Civil War, 1861–65. Each of the 14 states that provided soldiers for the Southern cause is dealt with in order of secession, i.e. the order in which they left the Union. This arrangement helps to illustrate how some of the original seven Confederate States of America, formed on February 8, 1861, influenced the military fashion, and supply of weapons and equipment, of those states that later joined the Confederacy.

It is planned that subsequent titles will include:

(2) Florida, Alabama & Georgia; (3) Louisiana & Texas;
(4) Virginia & Arkansas; (5) Tennessee & North Carolina;
and (6) Missouri, Kentucky & Maryland.

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THE CONFEDERATE ARMY 1861-65 (1) SOUTH CAROLINA & MISSISSIPPI

SOUTH CAROLINA

FOLLOWING THE ELECTION of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States on November 6, 1860, on December 20 South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union and establish herself as an independent republic.

That day the news of the unanimous passage of the Ordinance of Secession spread through the city of Charleston like wildfire. The citizen soldiery of the "Palmetto Republic's" local militias donned their uniforms and made haste to their respective muster grounds. The 1st Regiment of Rifles, South Carolina Militia, was already on parade when the news was received. Commanded by Col J. Johnston Pettigrew, and composed of the Washington Light Infantry, German Riflemen, Moultrie Guard, Meagher Guard, Palmetto Riflemen and Carolina Light Infantry, that regiment was formed into a square on the Magnolia Parade Ground, where their commander read them the Ordinance of Secession, to which they responded with tremendous cheering.

A detachment of the Washington Artillery, commanded by Lt James Salvo, was out within ten minutes of the news, and fired a salute of 15 guns. The Charleston Zouave Cadets offered up their cheer of "One - two - three - four - five - six - Tiger!" as they marched past down Broad Street. The Charleston Riflemen halted at the corner of Broad and East Bay streets, and moved "on right by files into line" to the front of the Charleston *Mercury* newspaper office, where the command "Present arms" was given, the colors were dipped and the band played.

The citizen soldiery of the South were to play a major role in preparing the new Confederate States Army to face the inevitable Federal invasion, and the Republic of South Carolina led the way.

Antebellum militia

The militia of South Carolina was originally established in 1784 as a response to the Federal Militia Act of 1782. By 1860 the militia system consisted of five divisions, each composed of two brigades of either five or six regiments of non-uniformed "beat militia" or heavy infantry. The officers wore antiquated full dress uniforms based on that prescribed for the US Army in 1832. Their tailcoats were dark blue, their breeches dark blue

Private Edward T. Legaré was photographed in 1860 wearing the full dress uniform of the Charleston Light Dragoons (see Plate A1). His "Balmoral" bonnet was of civilian origin and not used by the Dragoons as an official forage cap. (Courtesy of the South Carolina Historical Society)



or white depending on the season, and usually tucked into knee-length boots. Staff and field grade officers wore a black chapeau adorned with cock-feather plumes, while infantry and artillery company officers wore pattern 1851 black beaverskin caps. Cavalry officers wore black leather helmets with a solid brass crest and yellow ostrich-feather plume. All buttons, belt buckles and cap or hat plates were decorated with the palmetto tree device. In most cases the rank and file wore citizen's clothing when they were (occasionally) summoned to drill and parade.

Uniformed volunteer militia

Attached to each beat militia regiment were several uniformed companies consisting of either light infantry or riflemen. These units wore expensive and colorful uniforms, and attended drills, parades and target shoots on a regular basis. A regiment of cavalry was also attached to each militia brigade; these riders bore the extra expense of providing their own mounts. Furthermore, the 17th Regt of Infantry, 1st Regt of Rifles, and 1st Regt of Artillery of the 4th Brigade, 2nd Division, SCM, based at Charleston, were composed entirely of uniformed volunteer companies. A small battalion likewise existed at Columbia, the state capital, while a similar unit developed in the small coastal community at Beaufort.

In their choice of uniforms, many Charleston units reflected their Irish, Scottish, French or German immigrant background. The **Irish** companies – such as the Irish Volunteers, Montgomery Guard and Meagher Guard – predictably wore green. In 1854 a Charleston resident writing to the *New York Irish American* mentioned that the uniform closely resembled “the green dress of the United States regular riflemen.” (Established in 1810, the 1st US Regt of Riflemen wore a green coatee with black facings and yellow collar lace, and black leather shakos with green feather plumes.) Later, in February 1861, the *New York Illustrated News* mentioned that “two companies of Irishmen in green and silver” existed in Charleston.

Of several **Scottish** Charleston companies the oldest was the Union Light Infantry, formed at the Carolina Coffee House during 1807. Named in honor of the union of Scotland with England in 1707, this “Lowland” corps maintained a Scottish style of dress throughout its existence. A veteran writing to the *New York Scottish American Journal* in 1870 commented that its pre-war uniform included “the tartan plaid and pants and bonnet of the [British Army's] 42nd Highlanders, and gilt thistle buttons on their coats.” Another company, called the Highland Guard, was established during 1857. Still in existence on the eve of the Civil War, this unit wore a full highland uniform even closer to that of the 42nd (Highland) Regt: a

GLOSSARY of organizational terms

Beat or Common Militia Formed as result of Federal Militia Act, May 8, 1792. Each state in the Union was required to enroll its white male population between the ages of 18 and 45 years into a militia of “Heavy Infantry.”

Volunteer Militia Specialized units of artillery, cavalry, dragoons, light infantry or riflemen; fully uniformed and armed at their own expense, except when called into state service, when the state supplied arms. As such they were exempt from Beat Militia requirements.

Regular Army of South Carolina Authorized for state service by the Convention of the People of South Carolina, January 7, 1861, to relieve Volunteer Militia forces at Charleston harbor. Absorbed into CS service by mid-1861.

Army of Mississippi Established by the State Convention, January 9, 1861; disbanded January 1862.

Six-month Volunteers Organized March 6, 1861, when the CS Congress authorized President Jefferson Davis to call out an unspecified number of state militia for six months' service. Later, on June 6, 1863, 49,500 men were called out for six months' service “within the state.”

Twelve-month Volunteers 10,000 men were called out for one year on March 6, 1861; a further 19,500 on April 8, 1861; and another 32,000 on April 16, 1861.

Twelve-month garrison duty On March 9, 1861, 7,700 volunteers were called out for one year to garrison Southern forts.

Reserves On June 30, 1861, 30,000 volunteers were called out as a “reserve army corps” to serve as needed. On February 17, 1864, the CS Congress authorized the establishment of reserve forces for state defense; these units were organized on various occasions thereafter.

Volunteers “for the war” On February 2, 1862, 500,000 men were called out for three years or for the duration of the war.

Conscripts On April 16, 1862, President Davis was authorized to draft all white males between the ages of 18 and 35 years (with substitutes permitted), and the service of all men already in service was extended to three years.

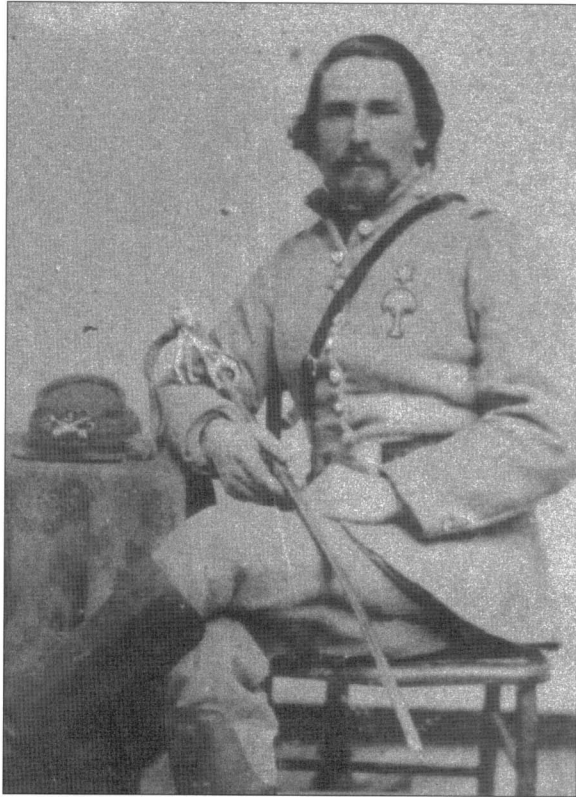


bearskin bonnet with red plume, scarlet doublet with dark blue facings, and kilt of black and green Government sett ("Black Watch" tartan).

The **German** population raised the German Fusiliers, German Artillery, German Riflemen, Palmetto Riflemen and German Hussars. Possibly the oldest military organization in the state, the German Fusiliers were originally formed in 1775, and by 1860 wore a blue coat faced with red, blue pants with triple red seam stripes, and a model 1851 dress cap with black and red feather plume. The German Artillery wore a high-crowned pattern 1842-style Prussian leather helmet with brass spike, single-breasted dark blue frock coat, and light-colored (probably light blue) trousers with wide seam stripes. A drill squad formed within this unit by Maj John A. Wagener adopted "a grey satinet jacket, bound with yellow braid; French undress cap, with glazed cover; and dark pants." On their first public parade in 1858, the Palmetto Riflemen wore "a black coat with white facings and silver trimmings." Their helmet was "black, with silver bands passing up and down", and ornamented with a black horsehair plume and silver skull-and-crossbones. The German Hussars, formed during 1859, chose "a tunic of army blue, with breast trimmings of yellow worsted cord and Palmetto buttons in triple sets. Pantaloons of the same material with triple side stripe of yellow."

Many of the **French** community joined the LaFayette Artillery, which originated in 1812 as the *Fusileers Francaise* (sic). By 1861 part of the 1st

William H. Gist, Governor of South Carolina (center), poses with the officers of the Governor's Guards for this ambrotype in 1860. Gist wears the uniform originally prescribed for the commander-in-chief of the South Carolina Militia in 1839, complete with "leaf-pattern" embroidery across the chest. Wearing the full dress uniform of their unit, the Governor's Guards are 2nd Lt Pressley Brown (top right), Capt William H. Casson, 1st Lt Malcolm A. Shelton, and 3rd Lt G.L. Dial. (Courtesy of University of South Carolina, Columbia)



This unidentified member of the Charleston Light Dragoons wears the gray service uniform acquired by his unit in December 1860. Note the crossed sabers badge on his cap, surrounded by the letters "CLD," and the embroidered "palmetto" and six-point star attached to his breast. (Courtesy of Mary Lynn Britt)

Regt of Artillery, SCM, they wore full dress consisting of a mid-thigh length dark blue frock coat trimmed with red piping, full-cut red trousers, and 1851 pattern leather caps.

* * *

The "native" American companies also wore colorful dress uniforms. Founded in 1807, the Washington Light Infantry wore a short, close-fitting, dark blue coatee, with three rows of ball buttons and trimmed with black silk cord; a dark blue, pattern 1856 dress cap bound top and bottom with a leopardskin band; and dark blue trousers with red stripes.

Since 1852, the Washington Artillery had worn "a blue frock coat turned up with red, white [summer] pantaloons, black glazed belt, white cross belt and sword, blue cloth French cap, with red band, crossed cannons, and red pompon." The Palmetto Guard adopted a blue coat with three rows of brass buttons linked by gold cord for officers and yellow for enlisted men, blue pants with gold or yellow stripes, and "Black Hats with Yellow Feather Pompon."

In Columbia, the state capital, the Richland Volunteer Rifle Company wore single-breasted dark blue/green frock coats faced with green velvet, with three rows of gilt buttons, and "the regular army hat" (the pattern 1858 "Hardee") with "palmetto beside the bugle." The Richland Light Dragoons wore a dark blue "hussar style" jacket with black breast cords, a black helmet with white plume, and dark blue pants with wide blue and white stripes.

The Brooks Rifle Guards, organized at Conwaysboro in Horry District in 1859 and attached to the 33rd Regt of Infantry, SCM, wore "blue cloth frock coats and pants, trimmed in white woolen lace for privates, and gold lace for officers, blue cloth cap, army style, Palmetto in front; and on coats three rows of gilt Palmetto buttons in front." (This unit became Co B, 10th South Carolina Infantry.) The "Constitution" of the Pickens Riflemen, raised at Pickens Court House in upstate South Carolina in the same year, stipulated a "Blue frock coat trimmed with green velvet, with standing collar trimmed with gold lace; gilt buttons and blue pantaloons trimmed with green velvet; and glazed cap with green feather." The Marion Riflemen, who entered Confederate service as Co K, 1st South Carolina Infantry (Gregg's), selected a green uniform of "the best South Carolina made jeans" trimmed with black braid, plus a "black cap and white feather."

The Watchesaw Riflemen, raised in All Saints Parish, Georgetown District, in 1860, modeled their uniform on that of the Charleston Riflemen (see Plate A2). Made by C.F. Jackson of 199 King St in Charleston, it was "slightly darker than that of the Charleston Riflemen. The coats, with pantaloons to match, are of dark gray union cassimere, trimmed with green fringe; the coats having three rows of ball buttons, and the pantaloons with green fringe for a side stripe, are

tipped with patent leather leggings.” Made by William Welsh of Charleston, the headgear was also similar to the visorless busby worn by the Charleston Riflemen, except that it was made from “coon skin,” with a plume consisting of “a simple green pine straw.” (This unit volunteered for Confederate service as Co D of the 9th South Carolina Infantry Bn, originally known as the Pee Dee Legion, commanded by LtCol Alexander D.Smith.)

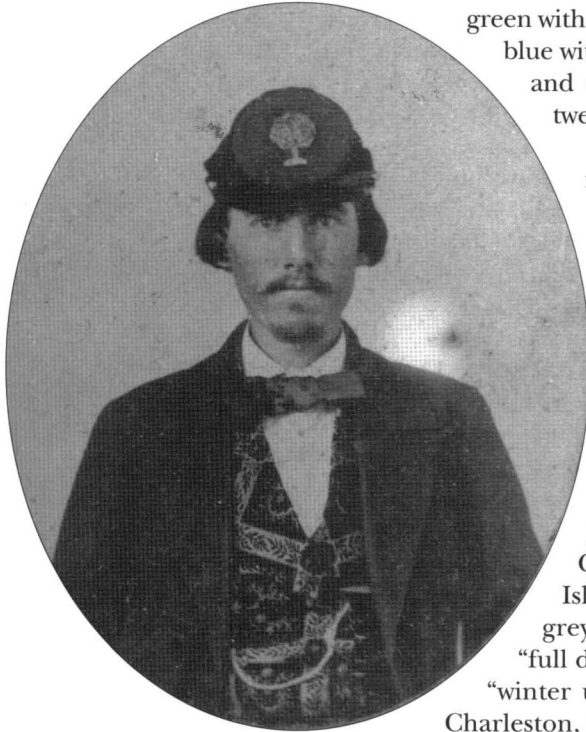
Prompted by the imminent presidential election of November 1860, many volunteer militia companies in Charleston and Columbia began to make ready for secession and possible war by providing themselves with fatigue dress or “service uniforms” as early as October of that year, and military outfitters in both cities were inundated with orders. The clothiers C.F.Jackson & Co of Charleston made uniforms of “North Carolina cassimere” and “English Plains” for companies such as the Palmetto Light Dragoons, Vigilant Rifles, Cadet Riflemen, and Ætna Guards. Herman Koppel, also on King St, supplied “cheap, excellent and serviceable” fatigue uniforms to units including the Charleston Riflemen, Palmetto Guard, Meagher Guard and Washington Light Infantry. In Columbia, the *Daily Southern Guardian* advertised in January 1861 for “two good Coat hands” to cope with the number of orders received by William W.Walker.

In Charleston the “Military Hatters” Steele & Co advertised “Fatigue Caps” priced at “50 cents, \$1 or \$1.25,” adding “There is no use of being killed in a Ten Dollar Hat”... During January 1861, Walter Steele advertised “Blue and Gray Cloth Fatigue Caps,” “Glazed Fatigue Caps,” and “Black and Brown Felt Hats, suitable for Military Companies.” Later, in 1862, J.H.Silverberg established “The Original Confederate Cap Factory” at 382 King St, and advertised a “fine stock of military caps of all descriptions, to suit all kinds of uniform.” In Columbia during the same year, C.P.Remsen advertised “Hats for the Army,” recommending them for “lightness and durability.” By October he was “manufacturing various styles of military caps from the best Cloths of the North Carolina Factories. Also, a waterproof cap for Fall and Winter use.”

Although most of the uniforms supplied by these tailors were made in some shade of gray, the similarity ended there. On April 21, 1861, William H.Russell, correspondent for *The Times* of London, wrote: “At the present moment, Charleston is like a place in the neighbourhood of a military camp where military and volunteer tailors are at work trying experiments in uniforms, and sending their animated models for inspection. There is an endless variety – often of ugliness – in dress and equipment and nomenclature among these companies. The head-dress is generally, however, a smart cap like the French kepi; the tunic is of different cuts, colors, facings, and materials –

Washington Albert “Puts” Williams wears the full dress uniform of the State Guards, of Laurens, SC. Formed in the mid-1850s, this company fielded 77 men who declared themselves “ready at a moment’s warning” in January 1861. Williams has a pattern 1834 US Infantry cap insignia pinned to the brim of his hat. (Courtesy of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Museum)





An unidentified South Carolinian with a large "palmetto" ornament attached to the top of his cap. Volunteer militia often attended meetings and drill wearing citizen's clothing, hence this man's coat and fancy vest. (Courtesy of the South Carolina State Museum)

green with gray and yellow, gray with orange and black and white, blue with white and yellow facings, roan, brown, burnt sienna and olive – jackets, frocks, tunics, blouses, cloth, linen, tweed, flannel.”

The uniformed companies of the Charleston regiments were the first South Carolinians to see active service in the Civil War. The 1st Regt of Rifles, SCM, elements of which occupied Castle Pinckney at Charleston Harbor on December 27, 1860, wore a variety of service dress. Supplied with “blankets, knapsacks and revolvers,” the Moultrie Guards wore a “blue cloth cap, a gray jacket... made of North Carolina (cassimere) goods, with standing collar, one row of palmetto buttons in front, and black pants.” The Carolina Light Infantry were dressed in “Black Pants and Fatigue Jacket.” Also attached to the Regiment of Rifles, the Charleston Zouave Cadets first saw service on Morris Island on January 1, 1861, wearing “a neat undress grey suit, with white cross belts.” They also adopted a “full dress Zouave uniform,” subsequently referred to as a “winter uniform.” Made by Thomas Wiley of 154 East Bay,

Charleston, this consisted of a gray, nine-button chasseur jacket with red collar and cuff facings, narrow red braid on the front and bottom edges, and red shoulder straps. The chasseur-style trousers were gray with red stripes; white canvas gaiters were worn under russet leather *jambières* buckled at the top and laced down the outside. A red chasseur-type cap had a light-colored band; black (or possibly oilskin-covered) caps were required for winter.

Companies of the 17th Regt, SCM, wore an equally diverse range of service uniforms. The Union Light Infantry took command of the US Arsenal in Charleston on December 30, 1860, wearing a “Scotch bonnet, [with] blue hunting shirt and pants.” The “camp suit” worn by the Palmetto Guard on duty near the Morris Island lighthouse was a “grey woollen jacket and pants... of light grey Kersey trimmed with yellow braid,” with “a blue French Cap.”

The Charleston Light Dragoons had their “Measures taken for the Service Uniform” on 28 November, and paraded in “full Fatigue Dress” on December 11, 1860. Their uniform for “outpost duty” on Sullivan’s Island on March 6, 1861 consisted of a gray coat with short skirts and narrow, dark-colored shoulder straps, plain gray trousers, and a chasseur-style cap bearing an embroidered “crossed-sabers” ornament with the letters “CLD”. A visitor to Charleston during January 1861 described a possible member of this unit as wearing a “small French military cap” and fatigue jacket “charily trimmed with red worsted, and stained with the rains and earth of the islands.”

The volunteers and militia also wore secession cockades of various colors and styles. The Minute Men formed in Columbia on October 3, 1860, adopted an “official badge” consisting of a cockade of sky-blue ribbon approximately 2½in in diameter, with a “military button” in the center probably based on the sky-blue “State Rights” rosette worn during the Nullification Crisis of 1832. By November 16, the Charleston *Mercury*

reported "... a number of gentlemen wearing a plain blue silk ribbon on the coat lapel. The Palmetto tree, the lone star and the coiled rattlesnake appear in gold upon the face of the badge." Another type was "a Cockade made of Palmetto leaves, plaited, with a border of blue ribbon." The Edgefield Riflemen adopted "a scarlet cockade and steel button" bearing the motto "Blood and Steel." At a meeting on November 13, 1860, the Union Light Infantry wore "the blue cockade" as part of its uniform as a sign of devotion to South Carolina.

Volunteer Forces, 1861

With the creation of the new republic, a more practical uniform was needed for the officers of the State Volunteer Forces being grafted on to the existing South Carolina Militia system by the act of December 17, 1860. The new regulations, subsequently published by the State Adjutant General as *Uniform and Dress of the Officers of the Volunteer Forces*, stipulated a plain dark blue frock coat of US Army pattern, with dark blue trousers and forage cap. General officers wore gilt buttons bearing the palmetto device and gold lace trouser stripes. Although abandoned as a distinction for US infantry officers in 1851, silver metal, white leather and white facings were revived as the infantry branch color for officers of "Volunteer Forces" in 1861. Hence, field and company grade officers wore silver metal buttons, with a white leather sword belt; field officers' trousers bore an inch-wide silver stripe, while those of company officers were white. Insignia for the "dark blue cloth military caps" of company officers consisted of a "silver palmetto tree on the front, with the figure indicating the number of the Regiment on one side, and the letter R on the other." Full dress headgear for field officers was the plumed cocked hat prescribed for the state militia in 1839. For undress they also wore forage caps, with a silver wreath encircling the regimental number.

The enlisted men of the ten volunteer regiments initially wore a great variety of uniforms. Whether formed from existing uniformed volunteer militia companies, or raised among the beat militia, each company was originally provided with a "service uniform," generally paid for by public subscription and made locally. A style of "hunting shirt" with pleats on the chest and a band of trim around the skirts was almost uniquely associated with South Carolina. The Richland Volunteer Rifle Company left Columbia in January 1861 to become Co A of Col Maxcy Gregg's 1st South Carolina Volunteers; these six months' volunteers wore a dark gray hunting shirt made from cloth produced at the

The son of blockade runner and Confederate Secretary of Treasury George Trenholm, Alfred Glover Trenholm was photographed at the Charleston studio of Quinby & Co, wearing the service uniform acquired by the Rutledge Mounted Riflemen in February 1861 (see Plate B1). He holds a new Model 1859 Sharps carbine, and has a Model 1840 saber secured to his waist belt, its weight distributed by a shoulder belt. Note also his Enfield pattern cap pouch. (Courtesy of Ethel Nepveux)



Rock Island Mills of Charlotte, North Carolina. Pleats embellished the chest, while the trim below the waist was probably green – if based on their militia dress uniform, which was a “dark blue green frock coat, trimmed with three rows of gilt buttons... faced with green velvet.” A chasseur-style forage cap and dark gray trousers completed the service uniform, although they also seem to have worn the Hardee hat of their dress uniform.

The Rhett Guard of Newberry enlisted as Co L of Gregg’s regiment in January 1861 wearing “a fatigue dress, composed of a hunting frock of green, with scarlet sash and oil-silk cap.” During July of the same year this company received new “outfits” – gray pleated hunting shirts and pants trimmed with green velvet, and dark-colored slouch hats with the brim pinned by star-shaped insignia, and black ostrich-feather plumes. The Pee Dee Rifles of Darlington became Co D of Gregg’s reorganized 1st South Carolina Volunteers, and during summer 1861 received a uniform of “dark grey goods manufactured at Salem, North Carolina. The bodies of the coats were pleated, making a neat appearance and proving, in the absence of overcoats, warm and serviceable.”

Other companies volunteered for Confederate service wearing single-breasted frock coats with the distinctive trim around the skirts. The Edisto Rifles of Orangeburg enlisted as Co A of Col Johnson Hagood’s 1st South Carolina Volunteers (12 months’ volunteers) wearing their volunteer militia uniform consisting of a gray frock coat

The Marion Artillery, of Charleston, drilling with one of their two 12-pdr howitzers. They wear a service uniform that includes a gray smock trimmed with dark (possibly red) facings on collar, cuffs, buttoned front and pocket tops. (Courtesy of Robin Stanford)



fastened by eight buttons, with a standing collar faced with green and a wide band of green velvet edging the skirts. Their gray pants had green stripes, and their dark-colored fatigue caps bore a brass "ER." The Morgan Rifles, of Spartanburg, who became Co I, 5th South Carolina, adopted a single-breasted frock coat of cadet gray, with green velvet trimming and fastened by three rows of buttons, matching trousers, and a pattern-1851 gray dress cap with white fountain plume.

Organized at Georgetown in 1860, the Marion Light Troop – also known as the Marion Men of Winyah – adopted coats made of "dark gray Rock Island Cassimere, single breasted, with one row of palmetto buttons in front, and bound round with orange colored military binding." The pants were of "the same stuff and perfectly plain, intended for active service... knee pants, to be worn with top boots." (This troop eventually became Co A, 7th South Carolina Cavalry.)

The companies of the infantry battalion of Hampton's Legion – raised by Wade Hampton III, one of the wealthiest plantation owners in South Carolina and Mississippi – originally wore a variety of uniforms when they left for the war in Virginia during June 1861. That of the Washington Light Infantry Volunteers was "cadet grey, frock coat and pants, with black trimmings; black felt hat, looped up on the left side with a Palmetto cockade." The Gist Riflemen wore a single-breasted green frock coat with three rows of buttons, a green forage cap and trousers. The Davis Guards chose a dark gray or black frock coat and pants, with either brown or black felt hats. Within the cavalry battalion of the Legion, the Beaufort District Troop wore a blue service uniform consisting of a short-skirted coat, trousers and cap. The Congaree Troop adopted "a dark grey Homespun Hunting Shirt, with a black Felt Hat."

Regular Army of South Carolina, 1861-64

Established in late December 1860, this consisted of a battalion of artillery (which was expanded and reorganized into the 1st Regt, South Carolina Artillery); one regiment of infantry (eventually redesignated 3rd Regt, SC Artillery); a squadron of cavalry (later, the Dismounted Dragoon Bn); and a "Corps of Military Engineers."

An 1882 account of the officers of the 1st Regt, SC Artillery stated that the "regulars were very particular as to the good appearance of their guns, their dress, and everything appertaining to them; those who were disposed to be critical, even called them dandies. In summer the officers often wore as an undress uniform, white linen suits, set off and rendered military by their brass buttons and handsome scarlet 'kepis.' This costume was far more suited to a Southern garrison than the heavy padded broad-cloth regulation uniforms which they were obliged to wear on parade." The same source describes Col Alfred Rhett, the second commander of the 1st SC Artillery, as "dressed all in white" while commanding Fort Sumter during summer 1863.

Colonel Micah Jenkins, the first commander of the 5th South Carolina Infantry, wears the dark blue Volunteer Forces uniform prescribed for those who received commissions in the regiments raised by the Palmetto State at the beginning of 1861. Note the silver-wreathed regimental number on the front of his cap. (Library of Congress, no USZ62-62493)



The best evidence for the color and cut of the first uniform worn by the enlisted men of the Artillery Battalion is found in a clothing voucher in the South Carolina Quartermaster Papers, which states that on January 16, 1861, "Capt W.R.Calhoun, Co A, [Regular] Bat[talion] Art[illery]" purchased "602 ¾ yd. Gray Satinet @ 87 ½ cents" from the Charleston firm of Ravenel, Huger & Milliken. Satinet was a mixed cotton and wool cloth that appeared to be all wool on the outside. The uniforms produced from this cloth, and those probably acquired from other sources, were made by the "Clothing Emporium" of C.F.Jackson in Charleston. By February 14, 1861, this establishment was reported in the Charleston *Daily Courier* to have "filled numerous orders for... uniforms for the regular service." Another report in the same journal during April, entitled "Carolina Caps - Williams & Brown," indicates that this firm was "filling a large order for the South Carolina Army of the regular line." Furthermore, C.N.Cohen of 197 King St was contracted to produce "1600 shirts, and other military apparel, for the regular service" during April 1861.

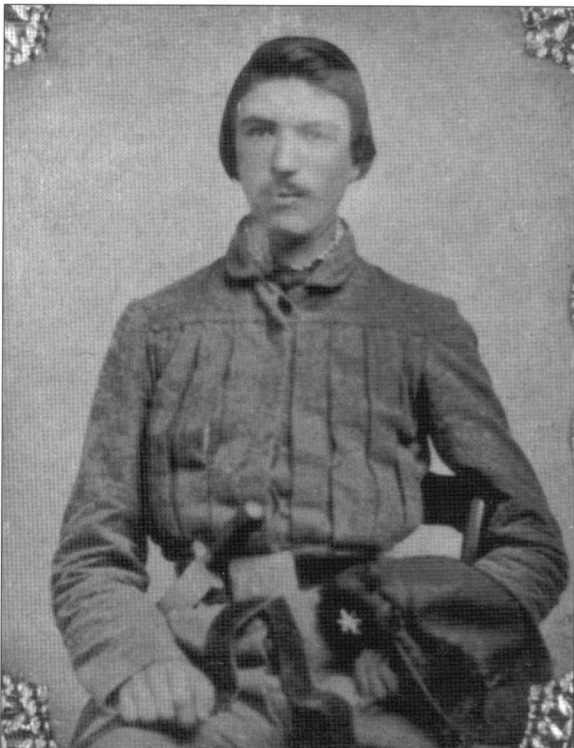
Several local press descriptions of deserters from the Regulars are of value. William Bond of Co C, Battalion of Artillery, was described as wearing his "Uniform Coat, Cap and White Pants" when he went missing from duty at Fort Sumter on August, 8 1861. Private Albert Leildke, of the Third Company (C), 1st Regiment of Infantry, was similarly clad in a "Uniform Coat, and Cap marked 1, C.S.A., and white pants" when he disappeared from Sullivan's Island the next day. Several photographs of enlisted men of the 1st Regiment, South Carolina Artillery from the middle period of that unit's service at Charleston Harbor indicate that by 1863 the unit wore gray frock coats with

two rows of seven buttons, and solid red facings on collar and cuffs. The similarity between these coats, and those prescribed for enlisted artillerymen in the *Uniform and Dress of the Army of the Confederate States*, published in June 1861, may not be a coincidence.

State quartermaster issue uniforms, 1861-64

With the assistance of volunteer aid societies, regimental uniforms were also supplied by the state to its volunteer forces. That received by Gregg's original regiment of 1st South Carolina Volunteers consisted of frock coats and pants of "dark grey cloth," and was made under the direction of the Rev A.Toomer Porter, an Episcopal priest and proprietor of the Industrial School for Girls on Ashley St, Charleston. In his memoir, *Four Years in Rebel Capitals*, Thomas Cooper DeLeon recalled the "dirty gray and tarnished silver" of Gregg's regiment arriving in Richmond during April 1861, which would indicate that they wore white metal state buttons, in line with those prescribed for officers in the *Volunteer Forces* regulations. Based on a photograph

Peterson Borrum Ramage enlisted in the Rhett Guard - Co L, 1st SC Infantry (Gregg's) - on July 27, 1861. His pleated gray "hunting frock" with green velvet trim around the skirts was probably part of the "outfits for the service" furnished by Mrs Robert Stewart during that month. (Courtesy of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Museum)



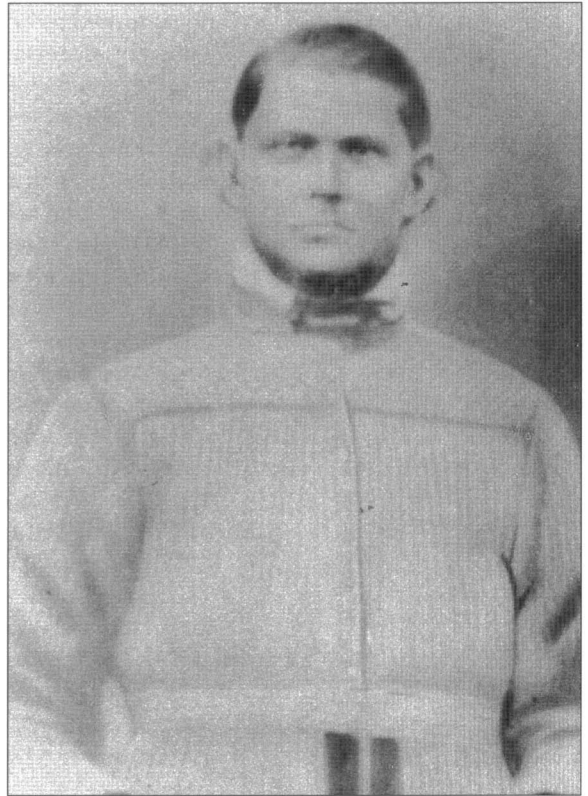
of Pte Joseph Brunson of the Edgefield Riflemen (Co C of Gregg's regiment) the frock coat supplied with this uniform was single-breasted and fastened by nine buttons, and had half-inch dark tape trim around the collar, with plain cuffs. A gray chasseur-style forage cap bore "1" above the letters "SCV" over "ER".

Having established his school in 1858 to teach "plain sewing" to the "poor girls" of Charleston, by April 1861 the Rev Porter had contracted with Col Lewis M.Hatch, Quartermaster General of South Carolina, to supply uniforms for troops in state service. City tailors undertook the "pressing and cutting" of the cloth, while 59 women operated 32 sewing machines on the premises. These labors were supplemented by upwards of 350 "out-workers" who presumably sewed by hand. At the end of July 1861, the Industrial School was taken over by the South Carolina Quartermaster Department. Assisted by Col S.L.Glover, Col Lewis Hatch had "constantly employed... under the foremanship of Messrs H.Koppel ["Merchant Tailor" on King Street] and D.H.Kemme ["Draper and Tailor" on Broad Street], forty experienced cutters, who supply about 1500 needlewomen, who make a fair weekly salary." These two tailors received payment between December 14, 1861, and January 31, 1862, for cutting "3019 frock coats, 1157 overcoats, [and] 113 pair of pants."

Colonel Johnson Hagood's 1st South Carolina Infantry received uniforms including "a short grey blouse" on April 12, 1861. Many members of the 5th South Carolina Infantry, originally commanded by Col Micah Jenkins, were without uniforms of any sort until June 5, 1861, when they received clothing via the state that consisted of "dark Rock Island goods, with red facings, and gilt S.C. buttons."

As chaplain of the Washington Light Infantry Volunteers of Charleston, the Rev Porter also took responsibility for supplying Hampton's Legion with uniforms to replace their original clothing, which was worn out by August 1861. After contacting every factory in Virginia and North Carolina "in vain for a sufficient quantity of cloth of the same color to uniform one thousand men," Porter returned to Charleston, where he purchased from "Messrs Wm.Ravenel and Co... ten different kinds of cloth for the ten companies" of the Legion. This was duly taken to the State Quartermaster's Department situated at his old Industrial School, and turned into frock coats and pants; and by the end of October 1861 these had been delivered to Hampton's Legion.

The state-manufactured clothing issued to the Legion in 1861 received a mixed reception. Private Leonard Williams, of the Brooks Troop, wrote: "We are getting a new uniform. I have recd mine and [it] fits tolerably well. The most of the uniforms are failures and some of them will be useless." Private Charles Hutson, of the Washington Light Infantry Volunteers, received his uniform on October 20, 1861, and was



Probably as a result of the cloth shortage caused by the Federal naval blockade, Alphonzo Burton Hutto, who enlisted on September 3, 1861, in the Johnson Riflemen - Co K, 13th SC Infantry (Edwards') - wears a "hunting frock" made from a striped bed-ticking material. Note the wide dark-colored trim around the skirts and perhaps the cuffs. (Courtesy of descendant Doyle Taylor)

Archibald Vaughn was a 53-year-old farmer from Greenville, SC, when he enlisted as a private in the Davis Guards – Co F of the Hampton's Legion infantry battalion – on June 13, 1861. As he was discharged for being 'over aged' on September 7, he is clearly wearing the first uniform of gray jean cloth acquired by his company before it left Greenville District. Note the gauntlets, which may have been issued for dress occasions, or privately acquired. (Lovonia Vaughn Hendrix/South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Museum)



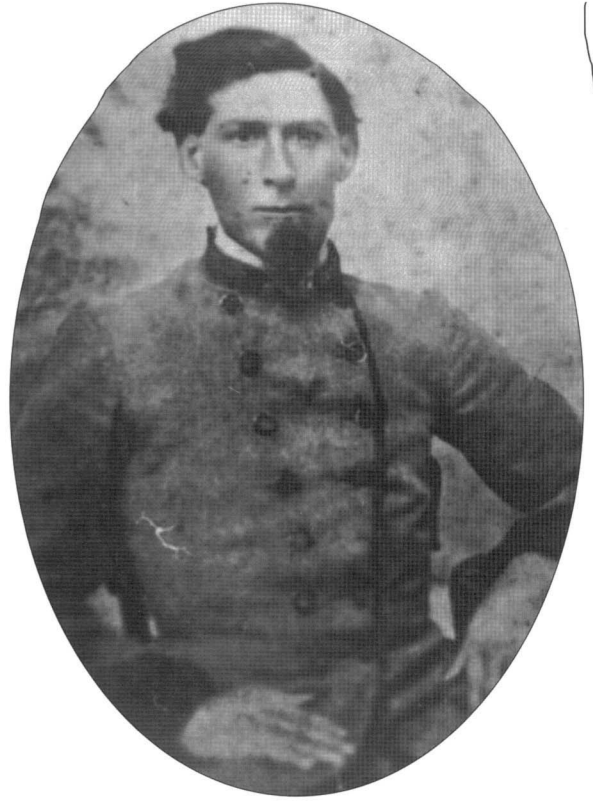
not impressed: "This morning we were furnished with the new uniform coats & pants, two pair of socks & two warm flannel shirts apiece. The stuff of which the coats & pants are made is wretched. They are not as warm as those we have worn through the summer." The next day Sgt James W. Moore of the Beaufort District Troop wrote his sister: "Our new uniforms, that is a portion of them, have come, and they are piled up in heaps on the Capt's camp bed. The pants are blue with a yellow stripe, and the coat a very pretty brown trimmed with green, it looks very well."

The uniforms supplied to the 1st Regt of Rifles, SC Volunteers (not to be confused with the similarly titled Militia regiment) were made for the state by the "patriotic citizens" of the districts from which the companies came. Commanded by James Lawrence Orr and organized during the summer of 1861, this regiment chose to wear a uniform based on a very specific set of regulations published in the contemporary South Carolina newspapers in two slightly different versions.

Field officers were to wear dark blue double-breasted frock coats with two rows of either eight or nine buttons. The green velvet standing collar was edged with gilt lace; cuffs were also faced with green velvet, with two small buttons on the back seam, and skirts were edged with an inch-wide green velvet trim. Described as "full in the legs," trousers were also dark blue, trimmed with inch-wide gold lace on the outer seams. Hats were patterned after 1861 US regulations: broad-brimmed black felts, 6in tall in the crown, with a black ostrich feather, and the right side looped up by a gold cord to a small brass button. A gilt palmetto ornament was specified for the side of the turned-up brim, while a gilt pattern 1834 US Infantry bugle horn adorned the front of the crown.

Officers' rank insignia for Orr's Rifles was influenced by a version of the Confederate States uniform regulations published unofficially in the Southern press during May 1861: sleeves remained plain, while a system of gilt stars decorated the collar. However, those officers in Orr's Regt who chose to follow the official CS regulations issued the following month adopted the stars or bars collar insignia – but misinterpreted the wording, and placed straight bars of gold braid running along the outside seam of the sleeve from the cuff to the elbow (two bars for captain and one for lieutenant), simply including the number of braids but not the officially specified Austrian knot.

Staff and company officers wore single-breasted, nine-button, dark blue frock coats trimmed on collar, breast, skirt and cuffs with green velvet. Pants were also dark blue with green stripes; the surgeon and chaplain were the exception, with black stripes. Hats were the same as those for field officers. The sergeant-major and quartermaster-sergeant wore the same uniform as company officers, minus the green trim on the coat and with gold lace chevrons on each upper arm. Enlisted men wore a "dark blue jeans" frock coat



and pants trimmed in similar style to company officers, but with narrow green worsted braid. Variations in its placement indicate that various volunteer aid societies and “sewing circles” interpreted the regulations in different ways.

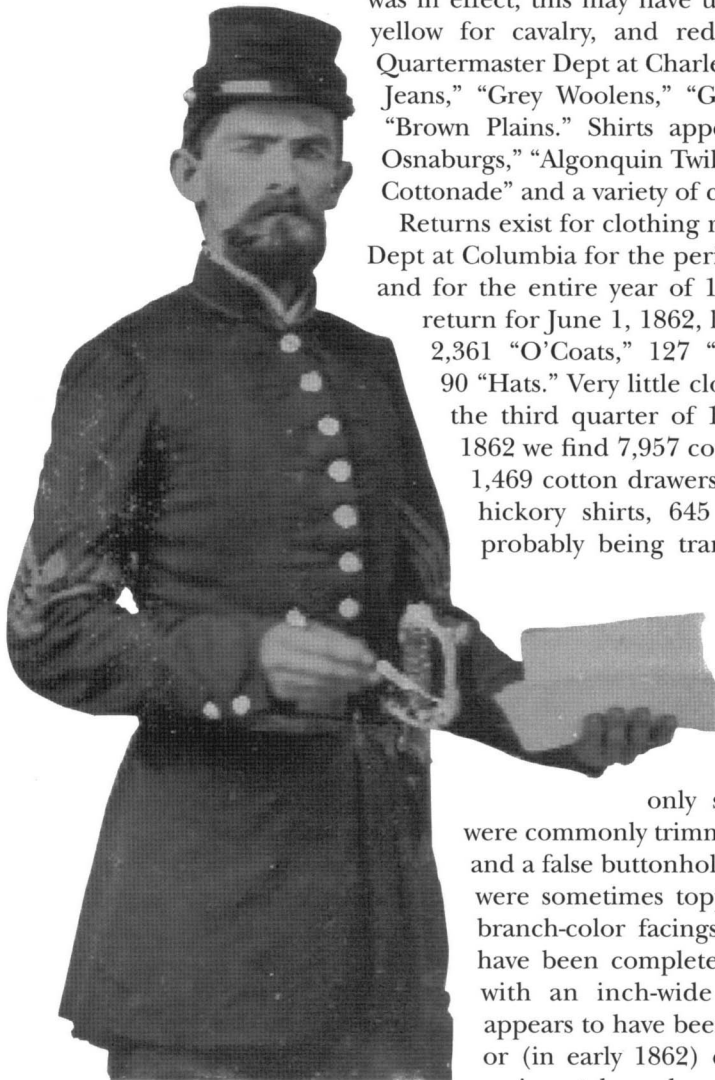
Non-commissioned officers’ chevrons were also green worsted, point down above the elbow for sergeants, “commencing with four for the First Sergeant, and diminishing one for each Sergeant.” Corporals’ chevrons were worn point upwards below the elbow, “four for the First Corporal, and diminishing one for each Corporal.” Hats for NCOs and privates were the same as for officers, minus the feather, with a 2in high gilt palmetto insignia in front, above a one-inch company letter.

For fatigue dress, officers were prescribed frock coats and pants of dark blue jeans trimmed with green velvet, while enlisted men wore a “roundabout coat” or shell jacket of the same material trimmed with narrow green worsted braid. All ranks wore forage caps of “glazed silk or oil cloth.” Each soldier was also requested to provide himself with “a cape of oil or enamel cloth, to be fastened to the collar of the coat with three small buttons, and to extend three inches below the elbow”; plus “one large Bowie knife, knapsacks, haversacks and canteens.”

By mid-August 1861 these uniforms were still being completed and, based on photographic evidence, many sewing groups used gray rather than dark blue cloth, possibly influenced by CS regulations. Realizing that this clothing would be “much worn before mid-winter,” Col Orr appealed on August 23 for a more suitable uniform for the regiment, to consist of “a thick heavy woollen plains or jeans coat, overcoat and pants.” The ladies of Pickens, Anderson and Abbeville Districts were

Both these men wear the uniform adopted by the 1st SC Artillery (Calhoun’s/Rhett’s) in 1862. Robert R.Hains, Co G (left), enlisted on June 26, 1862; his turned-back lapels and cuffs are tinted red in this image. William A.Clarke, Co C, wears his coat buttoned across and showing a line of red facing at the edge. Clarke enlisted at Greenville on March 22, 1862; he was promoted corporal during March 1863, and subsequently to sergeant. He was eventually killed at the battle of Bentonville, NC, in 1865. (Courtesy of South Carolina Confederate Relic Room/Joseph Mattheson)

This first sergeant – note rank badges retouched on the print, just above his elbow – has been identified as Andrew H. Ramsay, who was subsequently elected first lieutenant in the Oconee Rifles – Co E, Orr’s (1st) Regiment of Rifles. In accordance with regulations, he wears an NCO’s sword and red waist sash. (Courtesy of Dave Lewis)



advised to “Dye the cloth brown... from the trees and shrubs of our own forests.” The skirts of these “dress-coats” were to extend to “within three inches of the knee,” with “stand-up collar, one and three fourth inches high; single-breasted... buttons, covered with the same material of the coat.” Overcoats were to be “double-breasted, and to button all the way up; the capes to be fastened by buttons, so that it may be removed from the coat when not needed; the skirt of the coat to extend three inches below the knee.”

The State Quartermaster Dept continued to supply locally made uniforms and clothing to South Carolinian troops until at least the end of 1864. James A. Carter of Charleston made up “1745 frock coats, 131 overcoats and 74 pairs of pants” during January/February 1862. From Horsey, Auten & Co the state purchased 576 “brown round-crown felt hats, 840 brown square-crown, 672 black round-crown and 792 black square-crown” on January 8, 1862. Earlier, during July 1861, the department had paid Porter’s Industrial School “for Making 50 Inft. Uniforms,” which indicates that some kind of branch-of-service system was in effect; this may have used black or dark blue trim for infantry, yellow for cavalry, and red for artillery. The cloth used by the Quartermaster Dept at Charleston for coats and pants included “Cadet Jeans,” “Grey Woolens,” “Grey Satinet,” “Steel mix’d Tweeds” and “Brown Plains.” Shirts appear to have been made from “Striped Osnaburgs,” “Algonquin Twilled Stripes,” “Troy Cottonade,” “Checked Cottonade” and a variety of cotton plaids.

Returns exist for clothing received and issued at the Quartermaster Dept at Columbia for the periods June 1 through December 31, 1862, and for the entire year of 1864. The most interesting is a monthly return for June 1, 1862, listing 8,024 “Unif. Coats,” 4,107 “Pants,” 2,361 “O’Coats,” 127 “Woolen Capes,” 645 “Grey Caps” and 90 “Hats.” Very little clothing was issued from Columbia during the third quarter of 1862; but during October to December 1862 we find 7,957 coats, 3,772 pairs of pants, 2,518 overcoats, 1,469 cotton drawers, 531 flannel shirts, 48 tweed shirts, 196 hickory shirts, 645 caps and 22 hats. These items were probably being transferred to Virginia for distribution to South Carolina soldiers in the Army of Northern Virginia. By 1864 the state was not issuing any clothing in Columbia except a few shoes.

The state issues of 1862–63 appear to have consisted of a slightly longer gray frock coat than that of 1861, with only six (sometimes seven) buttons. Collars were commonly trimmed with tape or cord forming the edging and a false buttonhole, and the pointed cuffs in the same style were sometimes topped with an oval loop. Some coats had branch-color facings on collar and cuffs, while others may have been completely plain. Trousers continued to be gray with an inch-wide branch-color seam stripe. Headgear appears to have been “cadet-pattern” forage caps, either gray or (in early 1862) dark blue, to which brass company and regimental numbers and letters were sometimes attached.

The six-button frock coat was replaced by a six-button shell jacket, with or without branch-of-service color trim, which was being issued by mid-1863; all trim was usually omitted. The possible successor to this pattern was the plain five-button jacket issued by the Confederate Clothing Depot in Charleston by 1864.

Volunteer aid societies, 1861-63

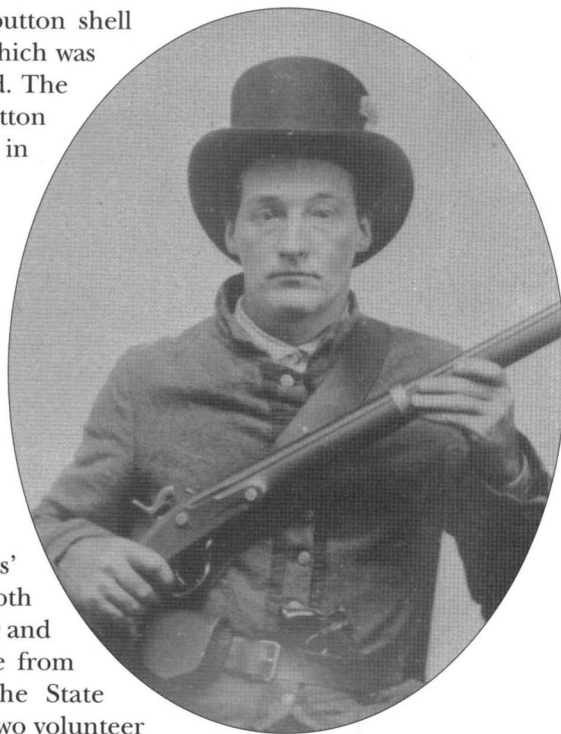
Organized throughout the state, these made a valuable contribution towards the war effort. Raised during the period in 1862 before the Confederate Quartermaster Dept was fully in a position to issue uniforms, these largely female-managed groups produced clothing of all sorts for newly recruited companies as well as for those already in service, whose original uniforms had quickly worn out. They also supplied the State Quartermaster Dept with clothing.

The two main groups in Charleston were the Soldiers' Relief Association and Ladies' Clothing Association, both of which were formed on July 24, 1861. Between July 29 and August 26 the latter produced 2,301 garments made from Graniteville drill, of which 1,676 were sent to the State Quartermaster, while the remainder was delivered to two volunteer companies enlisted "for the war." In their weekly report in the Charleston press on September 16, 1861, the Soldiers' Relief Association stated that they were making "25 suits for the Zouave Volunteers, and 100 overcoats for the soldiers on Sullivan's Island." Before the end of that month the Ladies' Clothing Association had supplied the Quartermaster Dept with 2,160 flannel shirts and drawers.

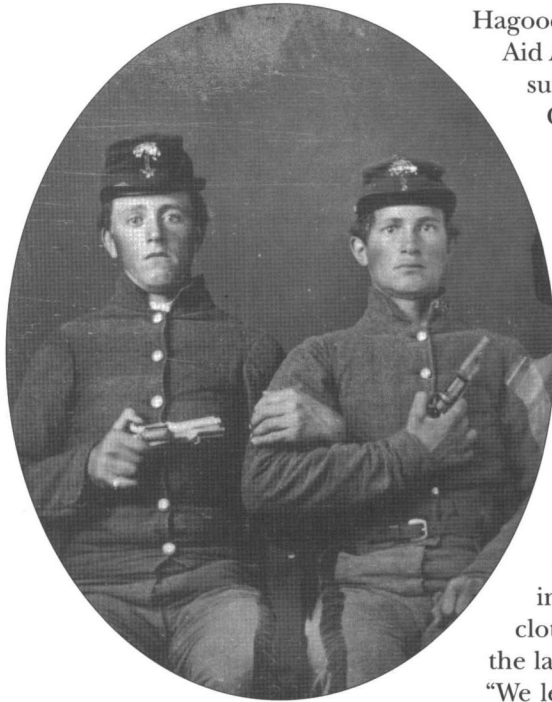
By August 6, 1861, the Ladies' Industrial Association of Columbia was producing clothing for the troops at "the cost of material and making." Shortly after its establishment at Beaufort during the same month, the Soldiers' Relief Association made a service uniform for the Whippy Swamp Guard. Due to a shortage of cloth caused by the Federal blockade, they used bed ticking to make pants, "all blue, except some which looked peppermint candy and were reserved for non-commissioned officers"...

On October 27, 1861, the Brooks Greys - Co G of the 7th South Carolina Volunteers - received a new uniform courtesy of the Ninety-Six Aid Association of Edgefield District. Their "gray cloth" frock coats were fastened by nine "silver Palmetto buttons," with black velvet collars and a narrow black velvet skirt trim. Their gray trousers had black stripes, the gray forage caps black bands and brass palmetto insignia. The Southern Guards, another company in the 7th South Carolina, were supplied with a uniform of "dark grey with brilliant orange stripes" on the same day. (The 7th South Carolina would serve in many of the Army of Northern Virginia's great battles, including Gettysburg, in Kershaw's Brigade of McLaws' Division.)

The Ladies' Georgetown District Aid Association made 107 each of "coats, trousers and overcoats" for the Georgetown Rifle Guard who formed Co A, 10th South Carolina Infantry. The Barnwell Ladies' Aid Association made 270 "regimental badges" for members of Col Johnson



Charles "Tom" LeRoy enlisted in the Oconee Rifles in July 1861, and his uniform is a variation of the regimental dress prescribed for Orr's 1st SC Rifles. Note the broad green trim either side of the buttoned front, which continued around the skirts of the coat. A secession cockade is pinned to the crown of his hat; and he holds a Palmetto Armory musket. (Courtesy of descendant Michael Bramlett)



This 1/6th plate ambrotype shows two members of the Cross Anchor Volunteers. Raised on December 5, 1860, as the Cross Anchor Minute Men, this unit was designated Co F, 3rd SC Infantry when it volunteered for 12 months' state service in 1861. The whole of the 3rd South Carolina received "roundabout [jackets] and pants" during the period July/August 1861, so these men could be wearing some of these uniforms. They appear to be holding Model 1849 Colt Pocket revolvers. (David Wynn Vaughan collection)

Hagood's 1st South Carolina Volunteers. The Fort Mill Ladies' Aid Association, organized at Yorkville, completed "an entire suit of uniform" for the York Guards – Co H, 6th South Carolina Infantry – within two weeks during October 1861. Sometimes help came from out-of-state. On December 3, 1861, the *Western Democrat* of Charlotte, North Carolina, reported that the Soldiers' Aid Society of that town was making "30 prs pantaloons" for the same company.

Towards the end of 1861 a visitor to a volunteer aid society in South Carolina reported: "At Charleston we had the opportunity of visiting one of those societies which are organized throughout the whole South for supplying the army with clothes. The central depot is situated in the middle of the town. In the basement floor we found large packages marked for different regiments, then at the seat of war. Up stairs several ladies were engaged in arranging in lots different kinds of uniform, and measuring out cloth, flannel, linen, cotton, to be made up by the fairest in the land.

"We learnt from those who have the superintendence of this vast establishment, that about one thousand ladies are daily employed at their sewing machines, making different articles of military attire. The work of the week, which had then just elapsed, consisted of two hundred coats, three hundred shirts, besides worsted gloves for the winter, stockings, old linen, and many fancy articles which were sold for the benefit of the society's funds."

Arms and equipage

The foremost manufacturer of arms in South Carolina during the Civil War was William Glaze, proprietor of the Palmetto Iron Works at Columbia. Originally established as the Palmetto Armory in 1850, this had provided the state with 1,000 percussion rifles, 6,000 percussion muskets, 1,000 percussion pistols, and 2,000 dragoon sabers by April 1852. Most of these weapons were still in service in the hands of the volunteer militia by 1860.

The two main state arsenals in South Carolina were at Columbia and Charleston, the latter being at the Citadel. These held only 145 and 66 percussion rifles respectively as of December 31, 1860. This paltry inventory was soon to be supplemented by arms captured from the US Arsenal at Cannonsboro in Charleston on December 27, which amounted to 17,915 muskets and 3,380 rifle muskets. Between January 1861 and July 1862, issue from the Columbia Arsenal included 8,564 smoothbore muskets, 4,165 rifle muskets, 1,125 rifles, 13,031 bayonets, 676 cavalry sabers, and 314 cavalry pistols.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, William Glaze once again offered his services to the state. On January 12, 1861, he received a contract to cast roundshot and shell for the guns that would fire on Fort Sumter exactly three months later. He also received a contract to alter state-owned smoothbore muskets to rifle muskets and, by the end of 1861, had rifled and sighted 5,508 weapons. J.H.Happoldt of

35 State Street, Charleston, also rifled a number of muskets during that year.

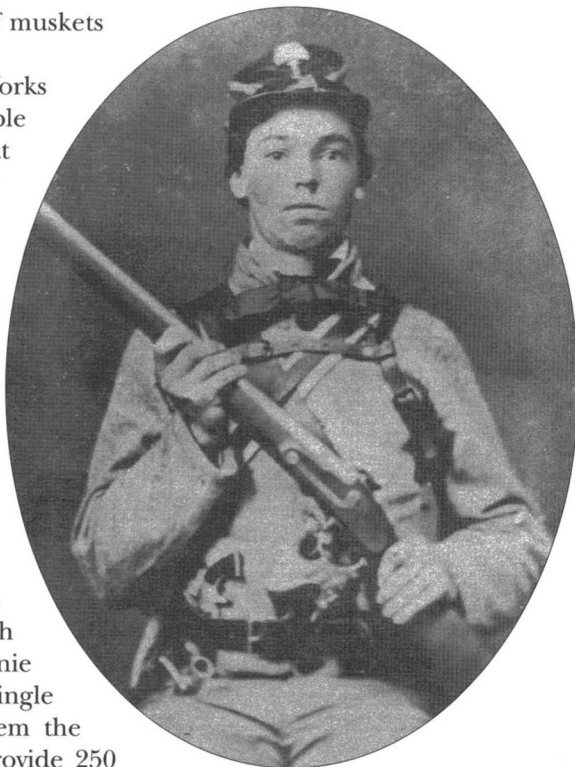
Owned by John Alexander, the Congaree Iron Works in Columbia also provided the state with valuable ordinance. In March 1862 the three churches at Sumter responded to the lack of iron in the South by donating their bells, which were converted by Alexander into "howitzers, carrying twelve-pound balls." These guns were used by the Palmetto Light Battery, which was originally commanded by Capt Hugh R. Garden.

Other small arms suppliers in South Carolina included Graveley & Pringle of 44 East Bay, Charleston, who advertised in December 1860 that they were prepared to "arm and equip" the military organizations of the state. A Charleston *Mercury* correspondent noted on December 11, 1860, that this firm carried in its stocks "the Enfield rifle, with bayonet," "Colt's carbine with rifle, five and six-shooters, with sabre bayonet," "Maynard's breach [sic]-loading rifle and shot guns," and "the famous Minie and Mississippi rifles." By that time, Graveley & Pringle had supplied rifles for two companies (one of them the Rutledge Mounted Riflemen), and was about to provide 250 more rifles and carbines at "manufacturer's wholesale prices."

As the war progressed and small arms became scarce, dealers began to advertise for weapons to buy. On June 7, 1861, John Van Winkle, who ran a hardware store on King Street in Charleston, announced in the *Daily Courier*: "A liberal price will be paid for all sizes Colt's revolvers."

Regarding leather goods, R. & A. McKensie, saddle and harness makers on Broad St, Charleston, supplied the following between April and November 1861: 916 sets infantry equipments complete, 205 sets rifle equipments complete, 1,067 cartridge boxes (some with slings), 1,426 cap pouches, 1,513 waist belts, 783 cartridge box sets, 188 saber belts, 119 pair saddle holsters, 3 belt holsters, 2,164 bayonet scabbards, 200 bayonet frogs, 815 "SC belt plates" (500 large, 415 small), and 35 "sling belts for double barreled guns."

J. & T.S. Heffron of 269 King St in the same city had also "executed large orders for military purposes" by May 17, 1861, including 1,000 cartridge boxes, 1,200 shoulder belts, 1,400 waist belts, 1,300 bayonet scabbards and 1,000 cap boxes. Ninety of these bayonet scabbards were supplied to the Darlington Guards – Co B, 1st SC Infantry (Gregg's). During the same month the Cheraw Tannery & Shoe Factory in Chesterfield District, near the North Carolina border, fulfilled a large contract to supply the state with 1,500 pairs of military shoes and 2,000 sets of infantry equipments. They went on to make a further 2,000 pairs of army shoes during the summer of 1861. Also in Charleston, Michael Bolger, an Irish saddler on Queen St, advertised for "ten or fifteen hands to make cartridge boxes" on September 4, 1861. After successfully supplying the state with leather goods for several months, Bolger lost most of his stock and tools during the fire that ravaged the city on December 11–13, 1861.



A well-armed and accoutered South Carolinian – note the palmetto badge on his cap top. A cap pouch and socket bayonet scabbard are visible on his waist belt, and his cartridge box is suspended from a shoulder belt. He has canteen and haversack slings over his other shoulder, and a militia knapsack with carrying straps correctly fastened. He holds a smoothbore percussion musket and has two Smith & Wesson revolvers tucked in his waist belt. (Courtesy of Cecil Jackson)

Palmetto buttons were a distinctive feature of the uniforms worn by South Carolinian troops. With thousands of new uniforms being made the existing supply of Northern-made buttons was running out by the summer of 1861. Indeed, on June 1, the Keowee Volunteers at Pickens Court House published a request in the local press for members of the defunct volunteer militia company, the Pickens Riflemen, to donate the buttons from their old uniforms to the newly forming company. The shortage was partially met in August 1861, when local businessman Bernard Schur established the Palmetto Button Factory on Market St, Charleston, with “six operatives” manufacturing a “good substantial button.” By September 1862, Charleton D.Carr of Broad St was advertising among other things “Confederate States Regulation Buttons,” plus “Gold Bullion for shoulder straps [and] collars,” “ornaments for caps” and “white military gloves.” During the same period H.W.Kinsman, with premises on the corner of King and Beaufain streets, was selling haversacks, leggings, coats, cloaks, blankets and “haverlocks” – all of which were made from oil cloth.

William A.Peden wears the full dress gray uniform of the Kemper Guard, who were organized in Kemper County on June 13, 1861. This unit was designated Co K, 6th Battalion Mississippi Infantry. His gray cloth pattern 1851 cap, with leather band and top, is based on the “National Guard” shako, which was still popular with volunteer militia in 1861. (Courtesy of Ted R.Rudder)

MISSISSIPPI

Antebellum militia

The second state to leave the Union, Mississippi seceded on January 9, 1861. The enrolled militia system in this state had fallen into decay during the 1850s. In theory, it was divided into five divisions, with a “regiment” allotted to each of the 60 counties. Attached to some of these “paper” regiments were companies of uniformed volunteer militia, such as the Port Gibson Riflemen, Rankin Grays and Mississippi Capital Dragoons.

Following the John Brown raid on Harper’s Ferry in October 1859, the state legislature passed an act to reorganize its militia and volunteer systems, and appropriated \$150,000 for the purchase of arms. A substantial expansion of the volunteer militia resulted; about 65 new companies were formed during 1860, bringing the total to 78, or some 3,927 officers and men by January 16, 1861. A militia act passed in 1859 created a Volunteer Military Board composed of the captains of various volunteer militia companies. This body held a convention at Jackson on May 29, 1860, and established a single militia division with a “commandant” elected as executive officer. This division was sub-divided into two brigades, which were in turn sub-divided into two regiments, each with two battalions.

The uniforms worn by volunteer militia companies during this early period seem to have been varied and colorful. Established at Vicksburg on August 16, 1853, the Volunteer Southrons wore a full dress consisting of a dark blue/gray frock coat with red collar and cuff facings, and light blue trousers. Epaulettes were red worsted, and a pattern 1851 dress cap sported a red fountain plume. Clearly, the Home Guard of Holly Springs also wore dress caps, as a round



white and blue cotton pompon worn by company member William Taylor Watson survives in the Museum of the Confederacy. Formed in Panola County during 1859, the Senatobia Invincibles wore dark blue frock coats and pants with dress caps. The Prairie Guards, organized at Crawfordsville in Lowndes County during the 1850s, adopted a gray frock coat with dark blue or black plastron front and black worsted epaulettes. The trousers were also gray, with broad dark blue or black stripes, and a black Hardee-style hat had the left brim pinned up. Described as “a handsome uniform,” this clothing was made by Harrison Johnston, a “merchant tailor” at Columbus, Mississippi.

The Army of Mississippi

Following secession, the Mississippi State Convention established a Volunteer Military Board consisting of Governor John J. Pettus and five general officers. This was authorized to create a military force called the Army of Mississippi, which was to consist of one volunteer division of eight regiments of infantry or riflemen, and ten companies each of cavalry and artillery. The 30–40 companies mustered in by mid-March 1861 were organized into the 1st through 8th Infantry Regiments. Although many of the companies within their ranks were newly organized, others were existing volunteer militias.

Since a single militia division had been formed in 1860, it is difficult to understand why the 1861 Military Board duplicated this organization. Unlike other seceded states that formed small “regular” full time state forces, the Army of Mississippi was not conceived as such. After being mustered-in, the men were furloughed and recalled for training when required. When other volunteer militia companies were mustered into the Provisional Army of the Confederate States later in 1861, the Army of Mississippi was bypassed. The eight infantry regiments were eventually disbanded in January 1862, while the cavalry and artillery seem never to have been formed at all.

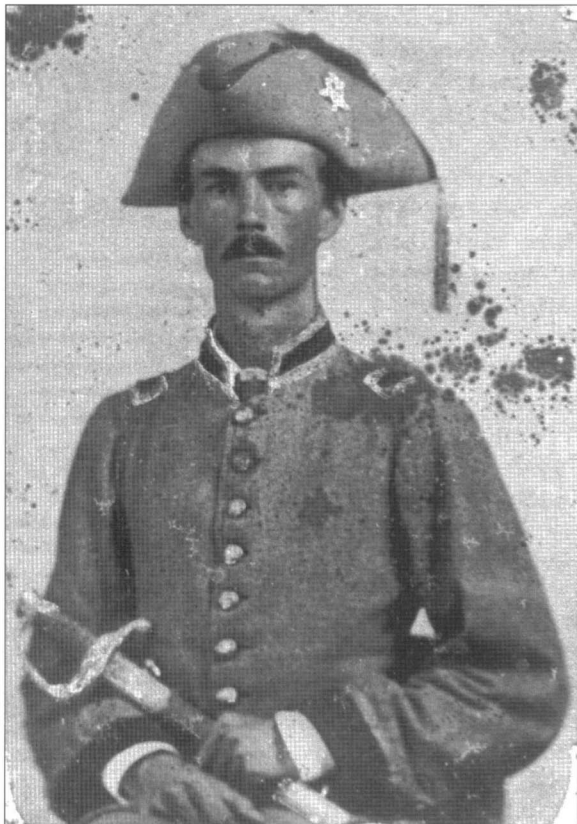
During March 1861 the Military Board also published orders for the organization and maintenance of the Army of Mississippi. These included detailed uniform regulations, which were subsequently reprinted as part of the *Southern Military Manual*; this handbook for officers, published (probably in May 1861) both in Jackson, MS, and New Orleans, LA, contained the collected “military ordinances” of those two states.

Regulation full dress

For full dress, gray frock coats were to be of US regulation cut, although all double-breasted coats, for general as well as field officers, bore two

The Mississippi Rifles were organized in Jackson in early 1858, and escorted President-elect Jefferson Davis on his way to Montgomery, Alabama, on the eve of Civil War. John Charles Rietti wears the dark blue/green full dress uniform of his unit – see Plate E1. (Courtesy of Alan Whitehead).





ABOVE This unidentified officer wears the uniform prescribed by the Military Board for the Army of Mississippi in March 1861. His tricorn hat is complete with cord, tassel and plume. (Mississippi Department of Archives & History)



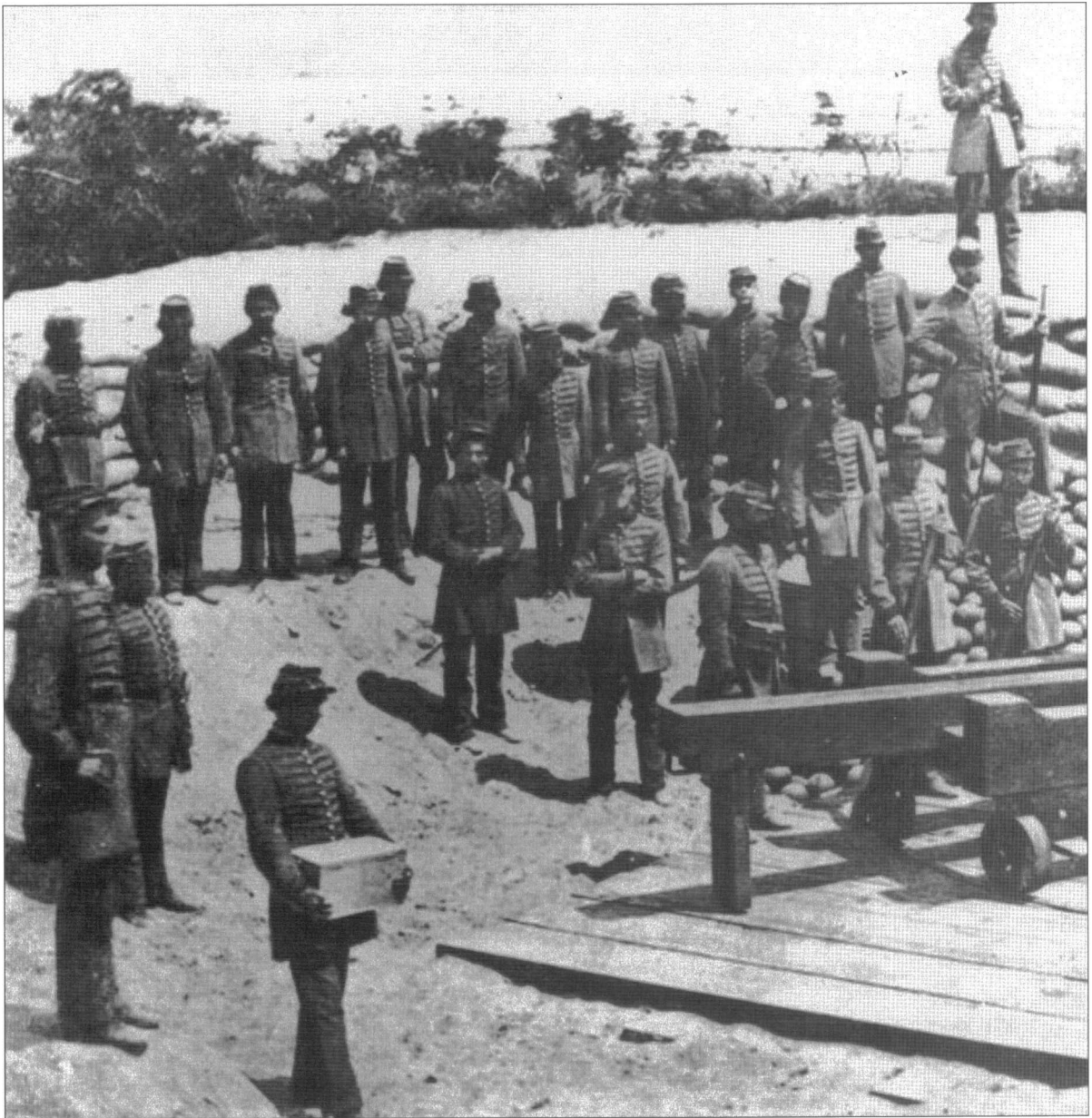
RIGHT An unidentified enlisted man wearing a uniform loosely based on that prescribed for the Army of Mississippi. His coat is fastened with the much-prized Mississippi "star"-pattern buttons. (Mississippi Department of Archives & History)

rows of seven buttons. Generals' cuffs were plain, but their collars were of black velvet, with an embroidered $\frac{3}{4}$ in gilt star either side for major-generals and a silver star for brigadiers. Field officers wore black cloth collars minus the star, and black cuffs, all edged with $\frac{1}{2}$ in gold lace. Staff officers' coats were not braided. Company officers were prescribed collars and cuffs of branch-of-service color, and horizontal silk braid of the same color running across from nine buttons, the top braids being 5in long and the bottom 2 inches. Enlisted men's coats were similar but with worsted braid. Branch colors were originally to be crimson for infantry and riflemen, yellow for cavalry, and orange for artillery.

Gray trousers had black cord stripes for generals and inch-wide cloth stripes for others, in black for field officers and branch colors for the remainder. Broad-brim black felt hats were "looped up on three sides," with cord, tassel and plume for parade. The plume was to be "long flowing" for general, field and staff officers, "short and standing" for all other ranks. Plume colors were white for major-general, white-tipped red for brigadier-general, crimson for regimental field and staff officers, green for the Medical Corps, yellow for the Adjutant General's Corps, blue for the Quartermaster General's Department, and blue tipped with red for the Ordnance Corps. Captains, lieutenants and enlisted men wore pompons of the color of the "facings of their dress." Yellow metal regimental numbers were to be worn below the plume socket for regimental field and staff officers; these were probably to be replaced with company letters for captains and all other ranks. Cords and tassels were to be gold for all officers, and facing-color worsted for other ranks.

Officers' rank was to be indicated by a system of dark blue shoulder straps with gold borders. Like their full dress epaulettes, these bore rank insignia of a gold star for major-general, a silver star for brigadier-general, a gold crescent for colonel, a gold leaf for lieutenant-colonel, a silver leaf for major, two gold bars for captain, one for first lieutenant, and none for second and third lieutenants. Non-commissioned officers' chevrons were basically as per US regulations, in facing colors, of silk for sergeant-major, quartermaster-sergeant and ordnance sergeant, and worsted for first sergeant and below. For fatigue, enlisted men were to wear flannel shirts with a white star on each side of the collar; shirts were to be red for infantry and riflemen, gray for artillery, and blue for cavalry.

Photographed by J.D.Edwards, the Ben Bullard Rifles, from Itawamba County, man heavy artillery at Warrington, near Pensacola, in late April or early May 1861 (see Plate F1). Their uniforms are largely based on that prescribed for the state military forces of the "Army of Mississippi." (Miller's *Photographic History of the Civil War*)





Despite being an ordained minister, Thomas D. Witherspoon enlisted as a private in the Lamar Rifles at Oxford, MS, on May 13, 1861. Here he wears that unit's red-trimmed dress uniform (see Plate F2). After fighting at First Manassas in the ranks of the 11th Mississippi Infantry, he transferred to the 2nd Mississippi and was commissioned as the chaplain of the regiment. (David Wynn Vaughan collection)

After these orders were issued the Military Board apparently had second thoughts about the unusual, and possibly confusing, branch-of-service colors prescribed. On March 14, 1861, the New Orleans *Daily Delta* reported that the “trimmings of the uniform (grey)... for infantry, light infantry and rifles are now green, for artillery red, and cavalry yellow or orange.” In a final version of the regulations these colors were changed yet again, and were included as part of the collected military ordinances of Mississippi in the *Southern Military Manual* – this time the facings were given as blue for infantry and riflemen, orange for cavalry, and red for artillery, while fatigue shirts were changed to gray for infantry, blue for cavalry, and red for artillery.

Actual full dress

While there is considerable doubt that many companies of the Army of Mississippi wore any of the three prescribed versions in their entirety, it is likely that the regulations served as a partial guide for the early war units subsequently organized – especially those who formed the first eight infantry regiments. For example members of the Alcorn Rifles and the James Creek Volunteers, respectively Co F & H of the 1st Mississippi Infantry, both wore horizontal braid on the front of their coats.

The influence was also felt in later regiments that enlisted “for the war.” On May 3, 1861, Capt Robert W. Flournoy, commanding the New Albany Grays, which became Co K, 21st Mississippi, wrote

to Governor Pettus requesting “the description or catalogue of uniform as agreed or adopted by the Military Board.” When Capt Bassett G. Lawrence wrote to the governor 15 days later to request guns and a “place in the field” for the Sam Benton Relief Rifles from North Mount Pleasant, he described his company as being “uniformed as Mississippians,” which indicates that they already wore something based on what the Board prescribed. Ample photographic evidence indicates that other companies did likewise. Private Henry Augustus Moore, of the Water Valley Rifle Guard (Co F, 15th Mississippi), wore a gray coat with short inch-wide strips of braid across the chest. Private Sinclair B. Carter, of the Choctaw Guards (Co I, 15th Mississippi), wore horizontal braid that appears to have been connected by two sets of short ties to secure the coat. The coats worn by all these units had branch-of-service facing color on collar and cuffs.

Although other companies of the 10th Mississippi were variously uniformed, Co B – known as the Ben Bullard Rifles and commanded by Capt James G. Bullard – were photographed by J.D. Edwards manning heavy artillery at Pensacola in late April or early May 1861,

(continued on page 33)



SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1860-61 (FULL DRESS)

1: Charleston Light Dragoons 2: Charleston Riflemen 3: Union Light Infantry



SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1861 (HARBOR DUTY)
1: Rutledge Mounted Riflemen 2: Rhett Guard 3: Washington Light Infantry



HAMPTON'S LEGION IN
CONFEDERATE STATES SERVICE, 1861-62
1: Gist Rifleman 2: Beaufort District Troop
3: Washington Mounted Artillery

SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS, 1861-62

1: South Carolina Zouave Volunteers 2: 1st South Carolina Regt of Rifles 3: Palmetto Riflemen





MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1860-61 1: Mississippi Rifles 2: Adams Troop 3: Jeff Davis Rifles



1
2
3

THE ARMY OF MISSISSIPPI,
1861 (FULL DRESS)

1: Ben Bullard Rifles 2: Lamar Rifles 3: Water Valley Rifle Guard

1

THE ARMY OF MISSISSIPPI, 1861 (FATIGUE DRESS)

1: Natchez Fencibles 2: True Confederates 3: Bolivar Troop



MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS, 1861-62

1: Carroll Guards

2: Adams Rifles

3: Alamutcha Infantry



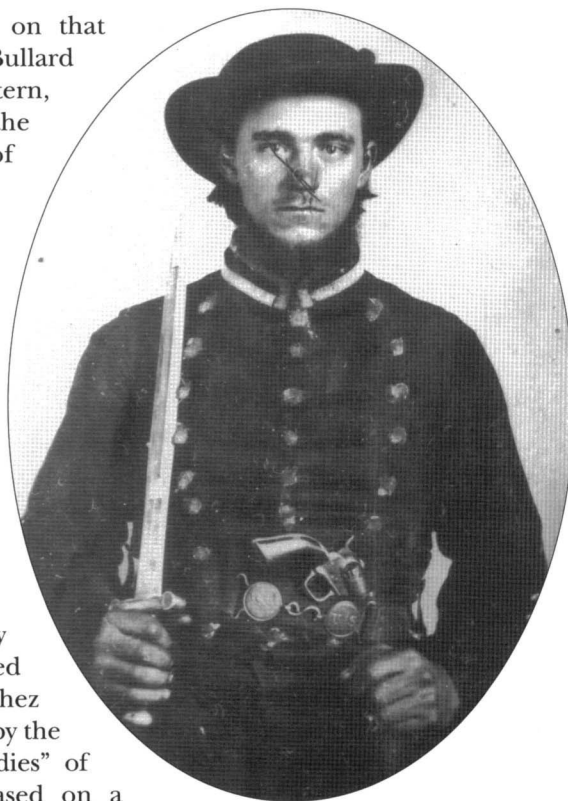
wearing a uniform based in almost every detail on that prescribed by the State Military Board. Captain Bullard wore a nine-button gray frock coat of US Army pattern, with collar and cuffs faced in crimson as per the original regulations for infantry. Thin strips of crimson silk braid adorned the breast, and the coats worn by his company were similarly embellished.

Three identified photographs of Mississippi soldiers show three-cornered hats styled after those prescribed for the Army of Mississippi. Thomas M.Barr of the Quitman Guards (Co E, 16th Mississippi), and Thomas P.Gooch of the Carroll Guards (Co C, 20th Mississippi), both had the popular large white metal star pinning up one side of their hats. William F.Parks of the Confederate Guard (Co G, 17th Mississippi) was photographed holding a hat pinned up on at least two sides.

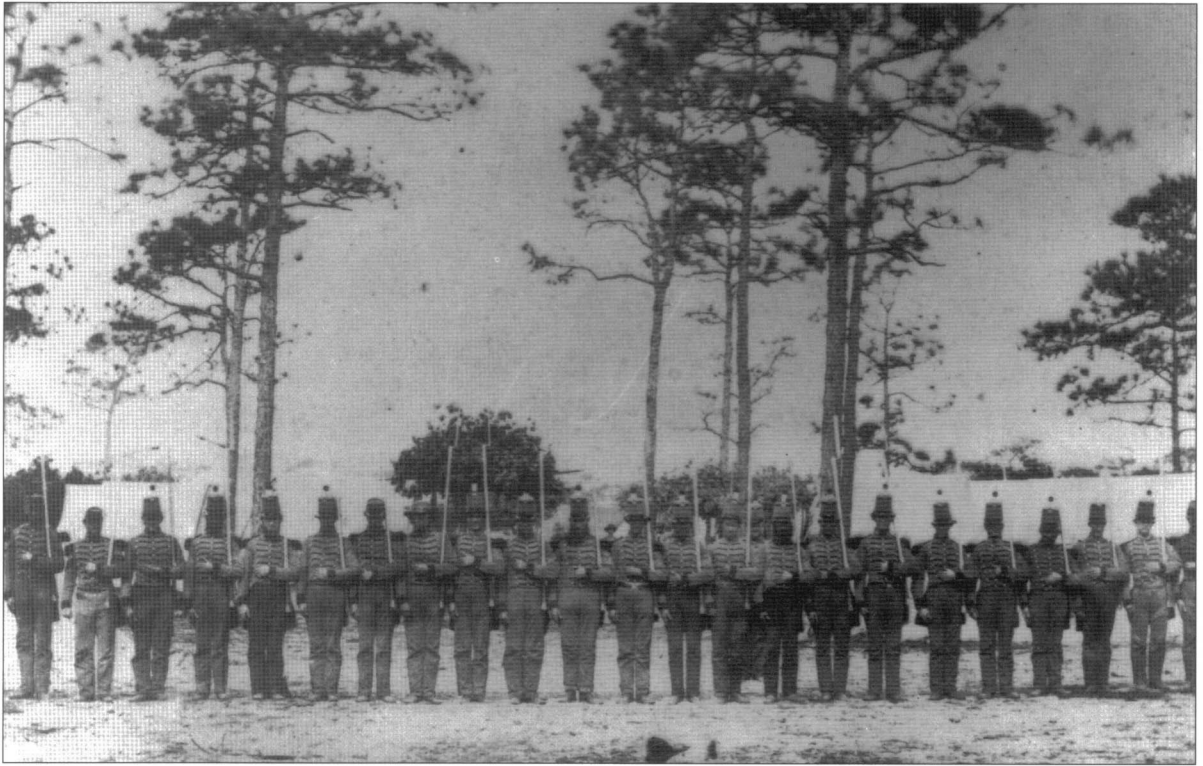
Fatigue dress

Sufficient evidence exists to indicate that many Mississippi companies wore flannel shirts patterned after those prescribed by the Military Board. The Natchez *Daily Courier* reported that the flannel shirts adopted by the Natchez Fencibles were made by the "patriotic ladies" of Natchez during the last week of April 1861. Based on a photograph of Pte Frederick LeCand, these were light gray with a small five-point star embroidered on either side of the downturned collar. Similar shirts were probably made for the Adams Light Guard at this time. The Natchez Cavalry (Co A, 2nd Bn, Mississippi Cavalry) also wore a gray shirt with inch-wide (possibly yellow) trim around the collar and cuffs, down the buttoned front, and along the top of slanting pockets. Both the Burt Rifles (Co K, 18th Mississippi) and the Smith-Quitman Rifles of the 3rd Regt, Alcorn's Brigade, wore gray woolen shirts trimmed with green braid, after the changed regulations of March 14, 1861. The latter company also wore blue cottonade pants with green stripes, and black felt hats pinned up on the left. Two members of the Confederate Guards, an artillery company organized in Pontotoc County in 1861, were photographed wearing gray cotton over-shirts and pants with dark (probably red) facings and seam stripes, and light gray tricorne hats.

The *New York Times* of August 2, 1861, stated that the 2nd Mississippi Infantry, commanded by Col William C.Faulkner, were "uniformed exactly like one of the Minnesota regiments, occasioning a mistake in the late battle" at First Manassas on July 21. As the 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry wore red shirts at First Manassas, this would indicate that by the time they reached Virginia the 2nd Mississippi were still wearing the red flannel shirts prescribed for fatigue by the Military Board in March. One of ten Mississippian prisoners of war to be taken to Washington, DC, after the battle, LtCol Bentley B.Boone, of the 2nd Mississippi, was described as "a splendid officer in appearance, though clad in rough gray cloth, trimmed in faded cotton velvet facings."



Joseph Henry Mitchell enlisted in the J.W.Thompson Invincibles, and was subsequently mustered in at luka during the autumn of 1861 as a member of Co E, 23rd Mississippi Infantry. His brown uniform with black chest braids may have been influenced by the "Army of Mississippi" regulations. He holds a foot artillery sword, and has a .44cal Colt Army revolver tucked into his belt, which is fastened with a US Army pattern 1834 general service clasp. (Courtesy of the Tippah County Historical Society)



The Jeff Davis Rifles, from Holly Springs, enlisted into Confederate service as Co D, 9th Mississippi Infantry. They paraded at Pensacola, Florida, for photographer J.D. Edwards wearing their full dress uniform (see Plate E3): gray tail coats trimmed with black, and pattern 1851 dress caps. (Mississippi Department of Archives & History)

Many companies volunteered for both state and Confederate service in fatigue uniforms that owed little to the regulations of 1861. During February of that year the Mississippi Rifles (Co A, 10th Mississippi) acquired 100 fatigue uniforms at \$5 each from the Ladies' Soldier Sewing Society of Jackson; these consisted of a seven-button gray coat with dark facings on collar, pointed cuffs and shoulder straps, plain gray pants and a gray cap with dark band. The Lauderdale Springs Grays (Co C, 5th Mississippi) adopted a "Round Jacket & pants of gray." The shell jacket had two rows of buttons in front, and two buttons on each cuff, while the trousers had "strips of yellow braid" on the outer seams. Headgear was the "military black glazed cap." The Raymond Fencibles (Co A, 12th Mississippi) wore "new uniforms of gray made by the patriotic ladies of Raymond" when they were presented with a flag on April 18, 1861. The Van Dorn Reserves, from Aberdeen, were mustered into service as Co I, 11th Mississippi, in a uniform of "red jeans." The Prairie Guards (Co E of that regiment) originally wore a dress uniform of a gray frock coat with dark-colored plastron front and epaulettes, gray pants with broad stripes, and black Hardee hat with ostrich plume and brim looped up on the left. A member of this company later informed his parents that he had sold his "red jeans pants for four dollars," possibly indicating that more than one company of this regiment was clad thus for war service.

State issue clothing

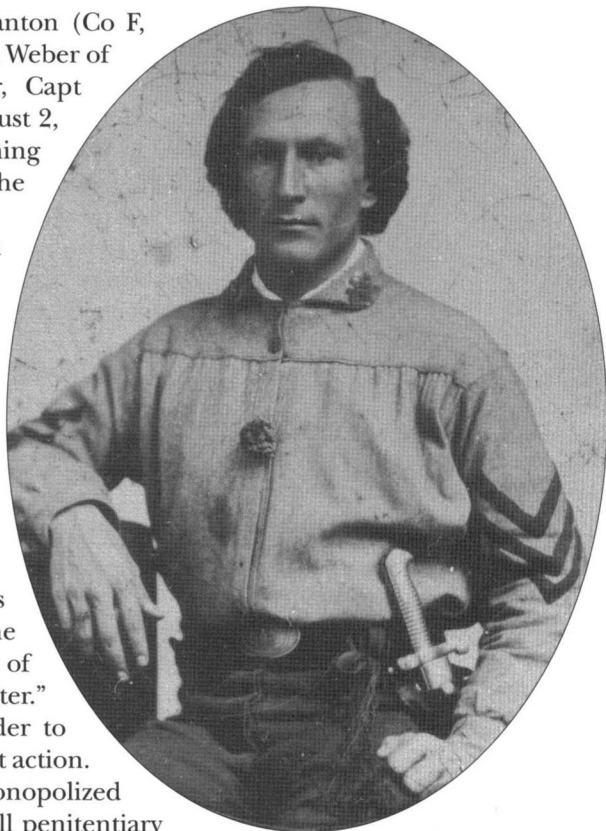
Predominantly agricultural and with few facilities to process cloth, many counties in Mississippi were virtually destitute of material for uniforms by February 1861, and a number of companies went out-of-state in order

to acquire clothing. The Beauregard Rifles of Canton (Co F, 14th Mississippi) had uniforms made up by William Weber of Canal St, New Orleans. Surprisingly, however, Capt W.N. Munroe wrote Governor Pettus as late as August 2, 1861, that he could purchase material for uniforming the Columbus Light Artillery, and "save the state the expense of having them made."

The shortage of clothing manifested itself in various ways, and Mississippi troops often took clothing off Federal dead and wounded. Following the action at Santa Rosa Island in Florida on October 9, 1861, Capt Humphrey Peake, commanding the Yazoo Minute Rifles (Co K, 10th Mississippi), recorded that "a small Irishman of a quaint turn shot down a fellow with a nice coat upon him. He deliberately took the coat off him and transferred it to his own back with as much evident composure as he would have tried a fit in a furnishing tailor's shop. This last incident is mentioned in order to say, that under the cuff of the fellow's coat sleeve were found the ace and knave of spades — a significant commentary upon his character."

The Mississippi legislature realized that in order to clothe their troops they would have to take stringent action. By the summer of 1861 the government virtually monopolized the state's textile industry, and had directed that all penitentiary labor be employed, as far as possible, in producing supplies for the state's soldiers. Workshops had been established in the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Jackson in 1849; by 1860 this facility boasted 2,304 spindles, 24 cotton-carding machines, 76 looms for weaving osnaburg (a coarse type of plain fabric), four mills for producing cotton twills, and machinery for making cotton batting and "linsey-woolsey" (a coarse, plain weave material with a linen warp and woolen or cotton weft). When Mississippi belatedly began to arm after secession, the entire penitentiary facilities were diverted to the manufacture of military goods. The extent of its services to the state's war effort can be gauged from the fact that its output during the last 12 months of its existence (July 1862 to July 1863) was valued at \$172,608.

The Mississippi Manufacturing Company, established in 1848 by James Wesson near Drane's Mill in Choctaw County, was the second largest textile factory, with 1,000 cotton spindles, 500 woolen spindles, 20 looms, and a large wool-carding machine. The labor force consisted of 85 well-trained white mill workers, comfortably housed in homes provided for them in the company-owned village of Bankston. The isolation of the Bankston factory, chosen originally to keep the labor force away from the temptations of the city "grog shops," later paid unexpected dividends. According to a letter written to Governor Pettus by James Wesson, by August 1861 this firm had provided samples and prices of cloth for uniforms, and was investigating the cost of dyeing on a large scale. By spring 1862 it was in full swing and supplying whole regiments with cloth for uniforms. Raiding Union cavalry did not chance upon the Bankston factory until almost a year after the state's



This unidentified sergeant wears the flannel shirt prescribed as fatigue wear for the "Army of Mississippi." Note the stars on each side of his collar, and the secession cockade attached to the front of his shirt. (Courtesy of Bill Gillespie)

more accessible factories had been burned down. Towards the end of April 1863 the *Mobile Register and Advertiser* reported that the establishment had suspended operations and was being fortified in preparation for the approach of Union troops.

Other textile mills turned over to wartime production included the "Green factory" on the Pearl River in Jackson, and the Wilkinson Manufacturing Company at Woodville in Wilkinson County. Established in 1851, the latter was owned by plantation-owner and entrepreneur Judge Edward McGehee, and consisted of 4,000 spindles and 80 looms driven by a wood-burning steam engine of 80 horse power manufactured in Cincinnati. This factory continued to produce cloth for uniforms until burned down by Union cavalry in July 1863. By May 1864 the Choctaw Factory, near Columbus in Lowndes County, was producing 18,000 yards of jeans and linsey per month for jackets, pants and coats being made at the nearby Confederate Quartermaster Depot.

It is difficult to ascertain exactly what type of uniforms these establishments produced for the men who volunteered for service in mid-1861. Such clothing would probably have been issued to units such

as the Satartia Rifles, who were mustered-in during April as Co I, 12th Mississippi Infantry. This company wore very neat nine-button gray frock coats with dark trim around the collar, shoulder straps and cuffs; pants and hats were plain gray. Other units may have included the Long Creek Rifles (Co A, 15th Mississippi), who adopted plain gray frock coats, gray pants with wide black stripes, and black felt hats. Worn by Pte Taylor B. Worthington of the Brown Rebels (Co H, 18th Mississippi), a double-breasted gray wool broadcloth frock coat, with seven buttons in each row and plain collar and cuffs, survives in the Museum of the Confederacy.

The Mississippi regiments in Virginia were very poorly supplied. According to the diary of Robert A. Moore, a member of the Confederate Guards camped near Leesburg, Virginia, during August 1861, the 17th Mississippi purchased "for the Reg. goods for a uniform" which was taken "back to the homes of the different companies" to be made up by the ladies of Mississippi. Received by the end of October, these uniforms consisted of gray ten-button shell jackets with a single small button on either side of a black-trimmed collar; cuffs were decorated with black cord forming a distinctive single loop, and the front and bottom edges were also trimmed with black cord. Some jackets had a single pocket on the right breast. Pants were also gray with 2in stripes.

During October 1862, Pte Leander Huckaby of the Prairie Guards (Co E, 11th Mississippi), who was wounded at Second Manassas, wrote his father how he lost his knapsack after the battle:

Valentine Delmas enlisted in the Rosin Heels - Co B, 27th Mississippi Infantry - at Pascagoula in Jackson County in 1861. His shell jacket or "roundabout" was probably adopted as part of the service uniform worn by his company at the beginning of the war. (Courtesy of George Esker)



"I lost my close [sic] that was in it and the suit I had on was so bloody and dirty they was not worth cleaning and I threwed them away. They giv me a pair of drawers and a shirt. I bought a pair of pants... if you hav the chance... send me a good round coat [shell jacket] and a pair of pants... and father send me a good wool hat if you can."

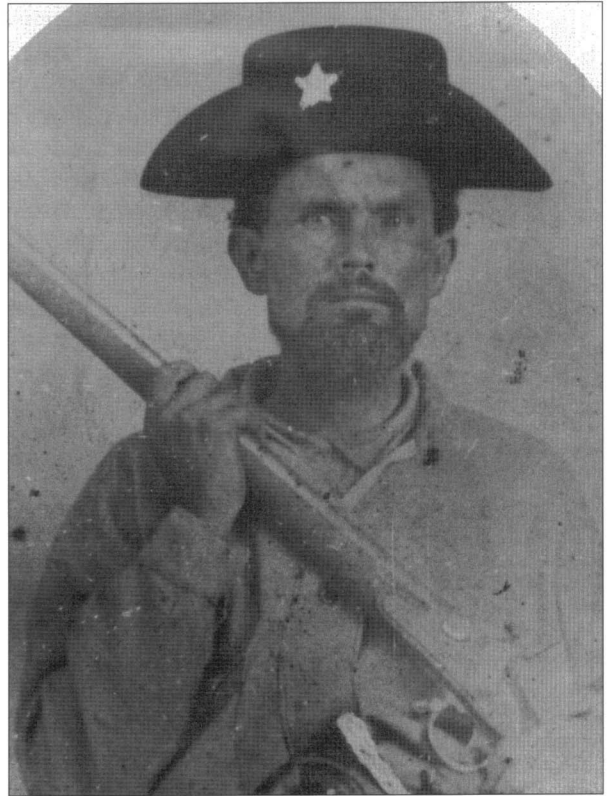
An attempt was made to overcome the shortage of good quality military overcoats in August 1861, when Landy A.Lindsey of Jackson recommended making "comfort cloaks" out of blankets. Instructions, plus a diagram, were published in the local press on August 25, 1861.

As 1861 drew to a close the lack of clothing began to affect Mississippi troops closer to home. The 1st & 3rd Mississippi were described as "the poorest clad, shod and armed body I ever saw" by BrigGen Floyd Tilghman, commanding Camp Alcorn in Kentucky on November 2 of that year. Although widespread, however, this shortage was not universal. One survivor of the 2nd Mississippi, often reported as one of the worst dressed regiments, recalled 1861 as a time of plenty. By 1862 the mills, factories, and suppliers of Mississippi were at least providing the local forces with most of their uniforms.

In Jackson, the "clothing manufactory" of J.M.McAlleny at Armory Hall was producing uniforms at a rapid pace in December 1862. A reporter from the Memphis *Daily Appeal* visited this "extensive workshop," and stated: "His arrangements are so complete that he can, by extra exertion, equip a regiment weekly, and besides accomplishing this benefit for the soldiery, he is giving employment daily to hundreds of industrious ladies, many of whose friends are absent in the ranks..." On the same occasion, McAlleny himself claimed that he was "prepared to manufacture five hundred complete army suits per week."

Merchants throughout the state also provided a wide range of military goods. The dry goods company of Taylor & McEwen, at Grenada, sold gray and blue military cloths, military caps, cavalry boots, army shoes, scarlet and green sashes, blue and gray army blankets, homespun jeans and a variety of civilian cloth goods. Forced to sell their stock off due to non-payment of bills in July 1862, this firm stated that they would consider as payment "CS bonds, treasury notes, Mississippi notes, Arkansas war bonds, rye, hides, dried fruits, butter and eggs."

The firm of Blackmar & Brother advertised for sale in the *Mississippian* "Bass Drums, Snare Drums, Fifes, Cavalry Bugles, Eagle Buttons, Silk Sashes, Gold Lace, Cord and Tassels, Gold and Silver Stars, &c..." in their Vicksburg store. Also at Vicksburg, the "Clothing Emporium" of B.Askew Jr & J.R.Askew advertised on December 11, 1861, that they had "\$25,000 worth of goods suitable for the army." This consisted of overcoats, cassimere coats, pants and vests, plus "Seamless coats, gotten up expressly for army use."



John D.Jones of the Burt Rangers - Co I, 39th Mississippi - wears a version of the "Army of Mississippi" fatigue shirt. Note the star ornament on his turned-up hat brim, a feature often seen in early war Mississippi images. (Courtesy of George Esker)

The state pattern buttons, bearing a five-point star encircled by the legend "Mississippi," were in great demand and soon in short supply. On May 14, 1861, Capt J.Z.George commanding the Carroll Guards of Carrollton complained to the Adjutant General, Col William H.Brown: "I wrote for Buttons – *Please send them at once.* Don't forget this. We need them now." Buttons for Mississippi troops were purchased in two sizes from Keller & Hoerner of New Orleans, LA, during July 1861.

In Columbus, MS, Sherman & Ramsay were reported in the *Mobile Register and Advertiser* during May 1864 as making shirts for the nearby Confederate Quartermaster depot from cloth "woven by ladies in the country." This firm supplied about 6,000 yards of shirting on a monthly basis. Also based in Columbus, Hale & Sykes manufactured hats and caps for the same outlet. Meanwhile, during the same period more than two-thirds of the shoes required by the same Quartermaster depot were manufactured in Lowndes, Oktibbeha, and Choctaw counties, of which from 2,500 to 3,000 pairs were received monthly.

Volunteer aid societies

The volunteer work of the intrepid ladies of Mississippi – or "Needle Regiments," as a correspondent of the *Natchez Daily Courier* called them in September 1861 – was essential to the war effort. A Military Aid Society was established at Clinton, near Jackson in Hinds County, on June 14, 1861. By October this organization had made 1,113 items of clothing, which included "104 pair of gaiters, 102 hickory striped shirts, 135 flannel shirts, 204 pairs of drawers, 200 pairs socks, 97 pairs pants, and 86 coats" for the Mississippi College Rifles. Raised at Clinton during

Members of the 9th Mississippi Infantry encamped at Pensacola, Florida, in April 1861; they wear civilian clothing. Under magnification, a man wearing a fireman's shirt bearing the numeral "4" on its plastron front is visible in this group. (Miller's Photographic History of the Civil War)



January 1861, this company became Co E, 18th Mississippi, and were encamped near Leesburg, VA, when they received this clothing. The Military Aid Society at Clinton also provided the Mississippi Rifles (Co A, 10th Mississippi) with "40 shirts, 26 pairs of pants, 20 pairs of drawers." The Ladies of Louisville, in Winston County, had "spun, wove and made up full suits" for the Winston Guards (Co B, 13th Mississippi) by December 1861.

The Ladies' Military Aid Society of Natchez and Adams County was formed at Natchez on June 17, 1861. Working daily at the courthouse from 6am to 7pm, they were making clothes for volunteers in both state and Confederate service by the following September. A Confederate Sewing Society was formed in Natchez about June 20, and met at the brick schoolhouse at the corner of Commerce and Jefferson streets. On September 20, 1861, the *Daily Courier* reported that this group had made, among other things, "100 Fatigue Jackets" and "650 Check Shirts." At that time these ladies were making up "400 Over Coats" and "100 Pair Winter Pants." This society was assisted with donations in material, money and credit from Meyer, Deutsch & Co, dry goods merchants of Natchez.

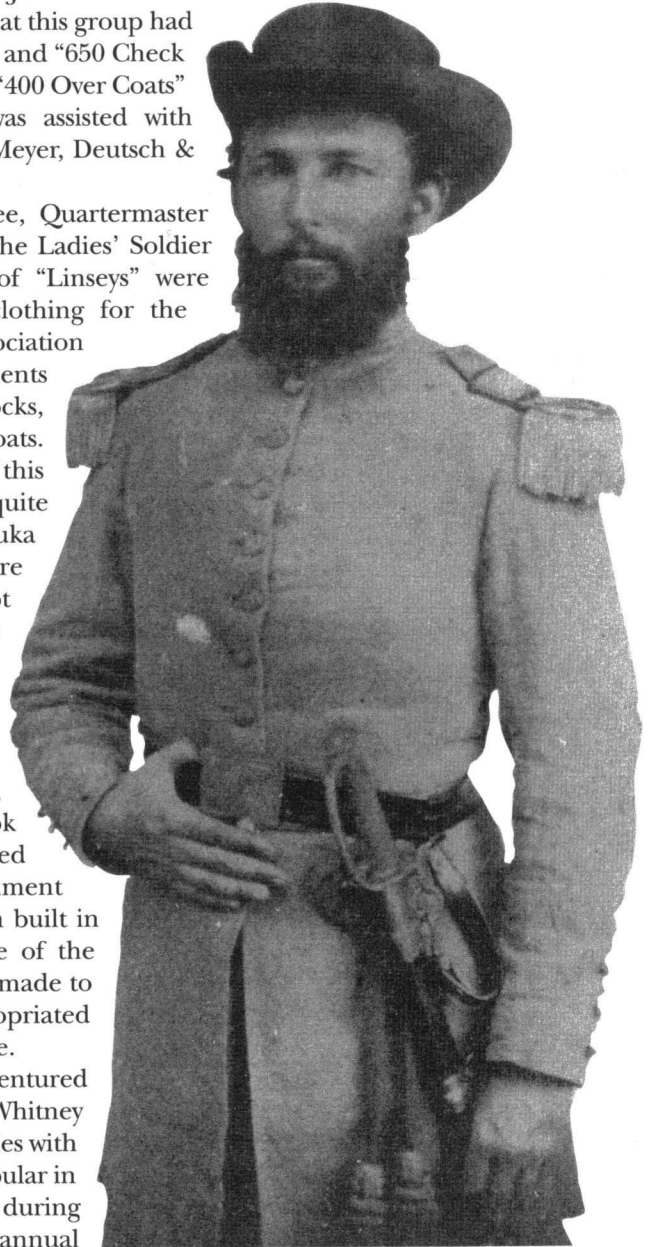
On October 24, 1861, Col Madison McAfee, Quartermaster General of the Army of Mississippi, informed the Ladies' Soldier Sewing Society at Jackson that 5,000 yards of "Linseys" were available at his department "to make into clothing for the soldiers of Virginia." By December 1861 that association was supplying numerous companies and regiments with winter clothing, including overcoats, socks, shoes, India rubber caps, talmas and blanket coats. The system for the collection and distribution of this clothing for Mississippi troops in Virginia was quite complex. Depots were established at Jackson, Iuka and Meridian by September 1861. From there clothing was transported to the Mississippi Depot in Richmond for final distribution to troops in the field.

Arms and equipage

There were no Federal arsenals in Mississippi when that state left the Union in January 1861, and Adjutant General Walter L. Sykes had to look farther afield. The state legislature had received limited arms quotas from the Federal government during the 1850s, and a state arsenal had been built in Jackson to house these weapons. In the wake of the "John Brown Rebellion" of 1859 attempts were made to improve preparedness, and \$150,000 was appropriated in order to buy arms for the defense of the state.

During May 1860, Adjutant General Sykes ventured north and, on June 6, placed an order with Eli Whitney Jr at New Haven, Conn, for 1,500 Model 1842 rifles with saber bayonets. This weapon was particularly popular in Mississippi because of its use by Mississippians during the Mexican War, 1846-48. Indeed, in his annual

Captain James R. Bell was mustered into service as first lieutenant of the Sartatia Rifles - Co I, 12th Mississippi Infantry. After recovering from a wound taken at Seven Pines, he was promoted to major and went on to serve in the Petersburg defenses in 1864. Note that his original rank is indicated by both his epaulettes and the shoulder straps under which they pass. (Confederate Veteran, Vol. XIV, May 1906)



report for 1860–61 Sykes stated that this arm, “being renowned for the brilliant victories achieved upon the battle fields of Mexico, in the hands of the First Regiment of Mississippi Riflemen, has derived the appellation of ‘Mississippi Rifle,’ and is the principal arm called for by the Volunteer corps.” However, none of this contract was delivered, and Sykes had to look elsewhere.

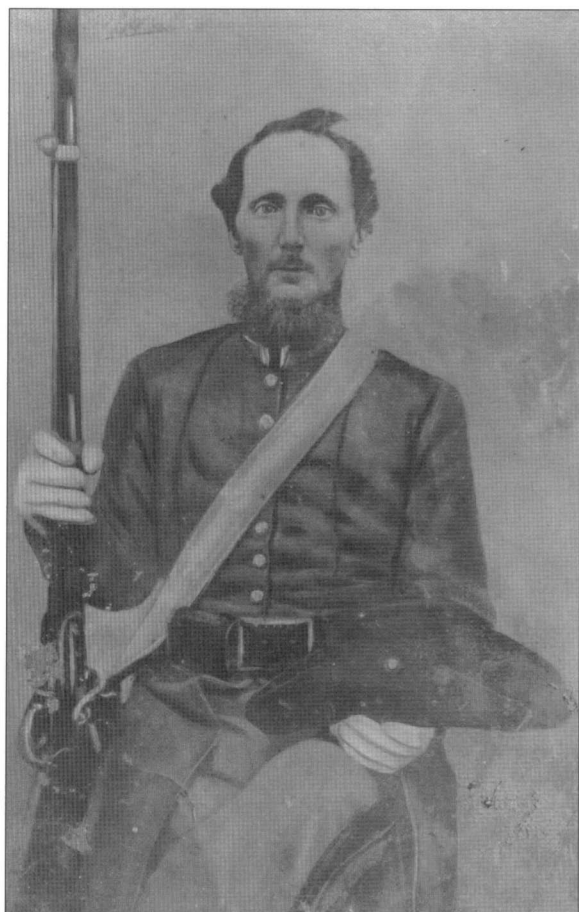
The Adjutant General had slightly better fortune with the War Department in Washington, DC. Still under the authority of pro-southern President James Buchanan, it agreed to advance the state’s quota for 1860, and 212 Model 1855 rifles with sabre bayonets were duly received. Thus, by the beginning of 1861, the volunteer militia of Mississippi had in their possession 1,256 M1841 or M1855 rifles, 391 M1842 or converted muskets, 60 flintlock muskets, 462 single-shot pistols and 360 sabers.

Still in urgent need of more small arms, Sykes visited Louisiana in early 1861 and attempted to purchase 7,000 Belgian rifles from the Direct Trade Company of New Orleans, under the auspices of the Belgian vice-consul J.Noblum. Although this plan was frustrated by the US State Department, the Adjutant General did manage to purchase 5,000 flintlock muskets, 3,000 percussion muskets, 1,000 Hall rifles, and six 24-pounder guns and carriages from the Baton Rouge Arsenal, which had been captured on January 10, 1861.

Nonetheless, Mississippian troops continued to suffer from a shortage of arms. The Bolivar Troop, at Prentiss, had only “Sixty Rifles & pistols and twenty rounds of ball cartridges [each]” when faced with the possibility of going into service in defense of Arkansas on May 31, 1861. Captain James Gordon, commander of the Chickasaw Rangers and later colonel of the 2nd Mississippi Cavalry, requested of Governor Pettus on June 16, 1861, “anything of any kind for a horse man to kill a Yankee with.” On July 10 the Scotland Guards (soon to be Co K, 5th Mississippi) reported themselves “ready uniformed,” but with “no arms.”

In response to this shortage, Mississippians offered to supply their own small arms. According to a report in the *Memphis Daily Appeal* in February 1861, the Chickasaw Rangers, of Okolona, purchased “Maynard’s carbines, Colt’s naval pistol, and the French sabre.” On June 12 Capt William J.Rankin, commanding Marion’s Men (later, Co F, 7th Mississippi), informed the authorities: “Nearly every man of us is an excellent marksman with the ‘Rifle Gun,’ such as we have shot deer and other game with from early boyhood – and we honestly believe we could use our rifles on the Yankees if we had a chance at them.” On July 29, Capt James Huddleston, commanding the Piney Wood Rangers of Pass Christian in Harrison County, informed the governor that his men would provide their “own

William F.Parks of the Confederate Guards – Co G, 17th Mississippi Infantry – wears an unusually trimmed frock coat and pants; the former seems to have vertical lines of dark piping, and the latter have a stripe flanked by two pipings. He holds a Model 1822 musket converted to percussion. (Museum of the Confederacy)



guns, principally double barrel shot guns; weapons which the men have been used from boyhood." The Kemper Guard, raised at Kellis Store in Kemper County during June 1861, also armed themselves with "Shot Guns & rifles." The Sunflower Guards (Co I, 21st Mississippi) journeyed to New Orleans to purchase 50 Enfield pattern rifles and saber bayonets from Cook & Brother during August 1861.

Faced with such difficulties Mississippians turned to domestic production, and eventually contracted with Jones, McElwaine & Co at Holly Springs in Marshall County. Founded as the Marshall Manufacturing Company in 1859, this firm was officially incorporated under state charter in order to produce small arms in July 1861. Ostensibly, Jones, McElwaine & Co only managed to repair and convert weapons for the state and, during the spring of 1862, sold their facilities to the Confederate government, after which the factory was renamed the Holly Springs Armory. This establishment continued to alter and repair muskets, and to alter sporting rifles into military rifles, until the fall of 1862.

Owned by Beckett & Tindall, a cotton gin factory and iron foundry at Aberdeen in Monroe County was converted into a gun and cannon factory in 1861. This establishment also mainly converted sporting rifles. According to a later account, "Hammers and percussion cap tubes were put on old 'flint and steel' guns and all the rifles bored out to a uniform size to carry Minie balls. They were distributed, first to the State troops, and the overplus to the regular army, and were used at Vicksburg and in the Mississippi campaigns. A few cannon, six-pounders, had been cast, when a number of cannon and a large quantity of small arms were destroyed by the burning of the factory by incendiaries about March 1, 1862."

Numerous Mississippians were photographed brandishing large Bowie knives at the beginning of the war. Named after James Bowie, the Alamo hero, who is reputed to have originated the type, these knives were usually forged by local blacksmiths, although many were made in Southern factories. The blades varied between 6in and 18in long, and many came complete with D-shaped knuckle guards. Although rarely used as weapons later in the war, it seems that Mississippi volunteers involved in the fighting at First Manassas on July 21, 1861, may have used them with devastating effect. According to an account called "The Bowie Knife Fighters" published in the Jackson press on August 7, 1861, a Union zouave was reported to have stated that "the Mississippians came up and met them hand to hand, throwing away their muskets, going in with bowie-knives. These terrible instruments, fifteen to twenty inches long, were attached to a lasso, some four feet in length, fastened round the wrist. It was no uncommon thing to see these Mississippians plunge their bowie-knives by throwing them harpoon fashion, through and through the bodies of their antagonists, jerk them out again with terrible ferocity, and repeat the experiment until they themselves were slain."



1st Lt Israel Spencer, Issaquena Artillery (Capt Rice E. Grave's Co, Mississippi Artillery). This unit was among those captured at Fort Donelson, Tennessee, in February 1862. Note the unusual background panel to the crossed cannon cap badge, which may have been red in keeping with branch-of-service color. (Alice F.Sage Collection, USAMHI/photo by Jim Enos)



The frock coat worn by this unidentified enlisted man of the Moody True Blues – Co D, 8th Mississippi – has star-pattern buttons. Under magnification, there appears to be a three-letter device – “MTB”? – on the cap band. Most of this unit, which was raised in Clarke County, was wiped out at the battle of Murfreesboro on December 31, 1862. (David Wynn Vaughan collection)

As for personal equipment, C. Jackson, a merchant based in the state capital, contracted to produce 643 cartridge boxes, 836 cap pouches, 1,183 waist belts and 400 shoulder belts between May 18 and June 3, 1861. William Beatty of Vicksburg produced 165 cap pouches, 60 gun slings and 85 waist belts during the same year. R.A. Smith, a coppersmith at Algiers across from New Orleans, made 100 canteens for the Army of Mississippi during June 1861. A shot pouch and powder horn surviving in the collection of the Museum of the Confederacy, and carried by Sgt Maj William M. Thornton of the 6th Mississippi, indicates that flintlock muskets were used by some Mississippi troops during the Civil War.

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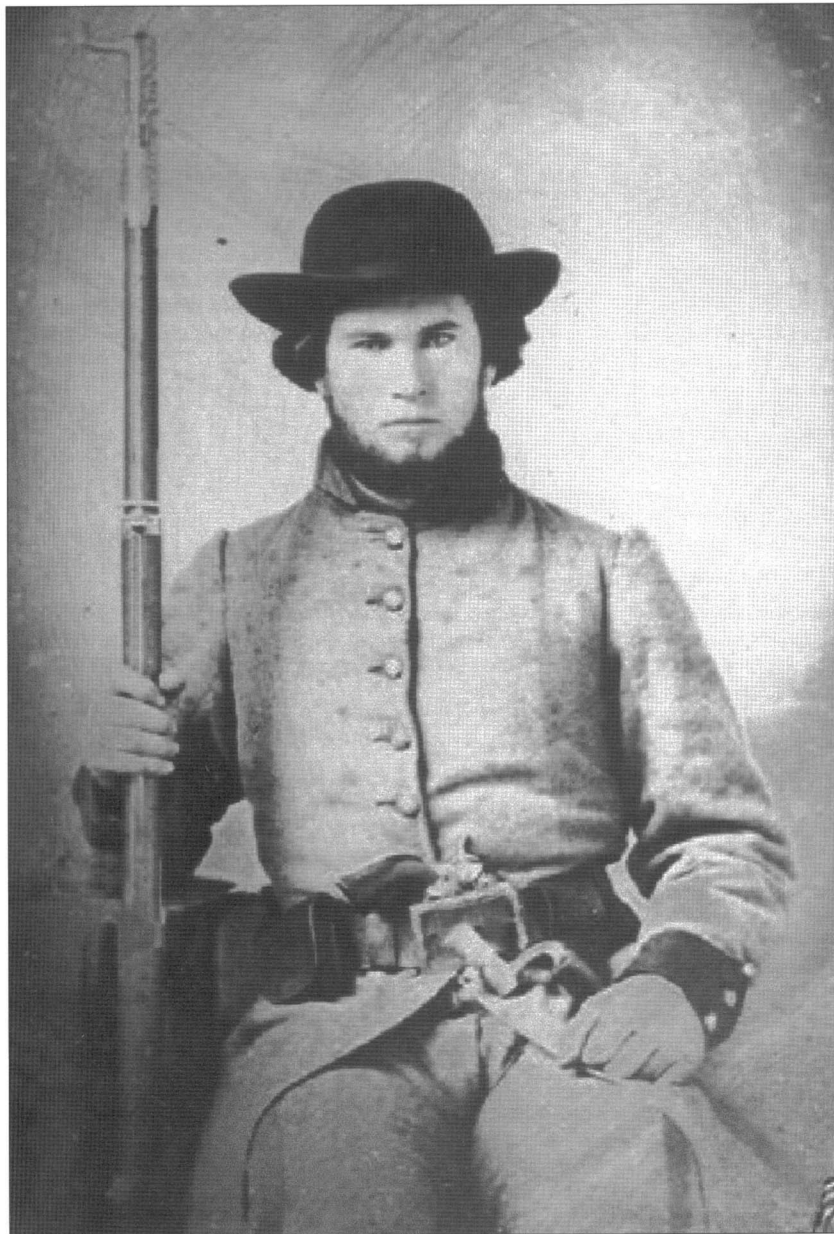
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Titled “Camp Life in the Confederate Army – Mississippians Practicing with the Bowie-knife,” this engraving was published in *Harper's Weekly* on August 31, 1861, and supports other newspaper claims that the weapon was used with devastating effect at First Manassas. (Author's collection)



THE PLATES

Our purpose is to illustrate the variety of state Militia and Volunteer uniforms and equipage worn by Confederate forces during the earlier stages of the war, before Confederate States Quartermaster issue became more readily available in 1863. In some cases, this colorful and unusual clothing was worn during later stages of the conflict as CS supplies dwindled or failed altogether. The campaign history of the Confederate armies during the war is too complex to include in such a study as this, as is a complete record of the units into which all Volunteer companies were mustered. For reasons of space, only representative examples of later higher formations and battles are given.



A: SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1860-61 (FULL DRESS)

On December 20, 1861, the volunteer militia of Charleston celebrate the news of the secession of South Carolina from the Union.

The **Charleston Light Dragoons (A1)** wore their bottle-green full dress uniform faced with red cassimere, which had remained relatively unchanged since 1835. Their brass-furnished helmets of black patent leather were adorned with a crescent-shaped plate bearing a spread eagle. The strap across the white horsehair plume was designed to prevent it from blowing over the wearer's face. Mounted in pattern 1851 Grimsley, or "St Louis pattern" saddles, they carried the US Model 1860 light cavalry saber with buckskin sword knot. Part

of the Upper Squadron, 4th Regt of Cavalry, SC Militia, this unit enlisted in Confederate service as an independent company in March 1862; in December 1862 it became Co K, 4th SC Cavalry.

The **Charleston Riflemen (A2)**, formed in 1806, still wore their elaborately fringed full dress at the beginning of the Civil War. This consisted of a gray "hunting shirt" trimmed with dark green chest cords and raveled fringes on collar, cuffs, waist and skirt edges. The shoulders bore "puff wings" also fringed with dark green; and three green cord chevrons on the forearms may be a badge of rank. The pants were trimmed at the side seam and ankles with the same green fringing. The bearskin cap was adorned with a green "brush" or tuft, and a short green tasseled cord. Note the secession cockade pinned to his chest. This unit was possibly armed with the Model 1852 Palmetto Armory rifle musket by 1860. The "Right Flank" company of the 17th Regt, SCM in 1861, it became Co A, 1st SC Infantry Bn from March 15, 1862 until October 1, 1863, when it was reorganized as Co I, 27th SC Infantry.

James W. Edwards joined the Choctaw Guards - Co I, 15th Mississippi Infantry - in 1861. He was captured at Atlanta on August 3, 1864, and ended the war as a prisoner at Camp Chase in Ohio. Here he wears a possible example of a Mississippi state issue frock coat and trousers. Note the large size frame belt buckle. (Courtesy of George Esker)



John LeRoy Williams of the Sardis Blues – Co F, 12th Mississippi – wears a plain gray fatigue shirt, and is armed with an M1842 Musket and hunting knife. Note, again, the large frame buckle on his waist belt. (Massachusetts Commandery Military Order of the Loyal Legion & US Army Military History Institute/photo by Jim Enos)

The volunteer of the **Union Light Infantry (A3)**, established in 1807 by the Scottish residents of Charleston, wears “trews” or trousers, and a plaid, in Black Watch tartan – that worn by the British 42nd (Royal Highland) Regt; his fur bonnet is also based on that worn by the 42nd Highlanders. He carries a Model 1842 smoothbore musket. Also part of the 17th Regt, SCM before the war, this became Co F, 1st SC Infantry Bn until 1863, and thereafter Co C, 27th SC Infantry.

B: SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1861 (HARBOR DUTY)

Most of the Charleston volunteer militia saw harbor service between secession and the fall of Fort Sumter in April 1861. The **Rutledge Mounted Riflemen (B1)** adopted a gray coat with rounded skirts, trimmed with half-inch orange braid around collar, front and skirt edges. Designed for riding, the trousers were made “small at the ankle and fastened by a strap of tape.” The blue caps worn by this unit were made by Williams & Brown of King St, and bore the brass letters “RMR.” They were armed with Colt Navy revolvers, Sharps carbines and US Model 1840 sabers. Also part of the Upper Squadron, 4th Regt of Cavalry, SCM, this unit expanded on April 30, 1861, into an independent squadron of two



An officer's cap made at “The Original Confederate Cap Factory” owned by J.H.Silverberg; it is black with gold trim and wreathed “SC” device. The only Charleston-based unit known to wear black caps for winter wear was the Charleston Zouave Cadets. (Courtesy of Doby Pilgrim)

companies. On March 18, 1864, it was reorganized for Confederate service as Cos B & G, 7th SC Cavalry. The **Rhett Guard (B2)** was raised at Newberry, SC, and originally volunteered for six months’ service as Co L, 1st South Carolina Infantry, commanded by Col Maxcy Gregg. It later reorganized “for the war” as Co B of that regiment; among other battles, it would fight at Fredericksburg in December 1862 in Jenkins’ Brigade of Pickett’s Division. This unit originally wore “a hunting frock of green,” with four pleats each side of the concealed button-up front opening. Cap and pants were gray. A five-point star is seen embroidered on the cap top in photos of several members of this company. The Rhett Guard received 60 Model 1842 muskets and bayonets, plus 60 sets of accouterments, on January 14, 1861.

One of the most prestigious units, the **Washington Light Infantry (B3)** was attached at the outbreak of war to the 1st Regt of Rifles, SC Militia. Expanded into a two-company battalion on February 24, 1862, it became Cos A & B, 25th SC Infantry for the rest of the war (a third company raised in 1862 was assigned to the 1st Regt of Charleston Reserves). In 1861 the original company wore a service uniform of cadet-gray cassimere, with black pants stripes, and buckled leggings of whitened calfskin. A plain felt hat was looped up on the left side, as per 1858 US Army regulations for dismounted troops. Our figure represents one of a squad of 18 men of the unit who armed themselves at their own expense with Model 1855 Colt revolving rifles and saber bayonets. The crescent-shaped 2 quart gutta percha water canteen was field tested by the US Army in the mid-1850s and found to be unsatisfactory, but a number of militia units carried them, including the Washington Light Infantry.

C: HAMPTON'S LEGION IN CONFEDERATE STATES SERVICE, 1861-62

The Legion of volunteers raised by Wade Hampton III in 1861 included infantry, cavalry and artillery, each company responsible for providing its own uniforms. The infantry would fight in many key engagements of the war, including both battles of Manassas. Reorganized into Jenkins' Bde of Longstreet's corps, they were ordered west to Tennessee in 1863 and fought at Lookout Mountain and Knoxville. They finished the war as the Hampton Legion Mounted Infantry, in Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry division of the Army of Northern Virginia. The cavalry battalion of the Legion would join the 2nd SC Cavalry (Butler's), and by 1864 were also part of Hampton's cavalry corps with the ANV.

The **Gist Riflemen (C1)**, Co D of the infantry battalion, were described as wearing a "green, hunter-like, loose-fitting coat" during a parade near Richmond in July of 1861. Captain Henry Julius Smith, the original company commander, was photographed wearing this version of the uniform before he left for Virginia. His single-breasted green frock glittered with three rows of seven "palmetto" buttons, and his collar was trimmed all round with gold braid; in the photo his beard obscures what may be an inner line of braid. His rank was indicated both by pattern 1851 epaulettes and three inverted chevrons on his lower sleeves. His green chasseur-style cap had a woven band in a chain pattern, bearing at the front the brass letters "GR." He carries a militia-type officer's sword and scabbard; the natural leather belt with gilt "palmetto" clasp is worn over a crimson sash.

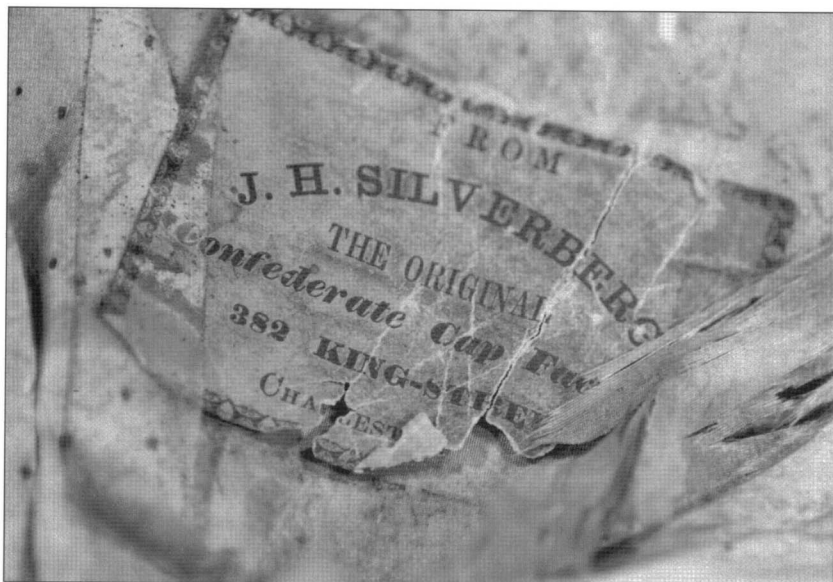
Like the rest of the Legion, the **Beaufort District Troop (C2)**, which mustered as Co C of the cavalry battalion, received a new uniform during the fall of 1861. This consisted of a brown frock trimmed around the standing collar with green, mid-blue trousers with yellow stripes, and black felt hats. Serving as mounted infantry, they carried the Model 1841 rifle and two Colt Navy revolvers per man. The flag of the Edgefield Hussars, Co A of the cavalry battalion, is seen in the background.

The **Washington Mounted Artillery (C3)**, Co A of the artillery battalion, wore plain gray shell jackets and pants with red stripes. Their light brown felt hats were turned up on the right, as per Federal regulations for mounted troops. This corporal carries a Model 1840 light artillery saber. After re-organization in July 1862 this unit became known as Hart's Battery, Washington Horse Artillery, SC Volunteers, serving as an independent command for the remainder of the war.

D: SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS, 1861-62

Described as wearing "a real rough and tumble uniform," the **South Carolina Zouave Volunteers (D1)** formed Co H of the infantry battalion of Hampton's Legion. They adopted a gray jacket trimmed with dark blue, yellow woolen pantaloons, and white canvas gaiters. Their red fez, with dark blue tassel, was lined inside with gray so it could also be worn inside out. The Zouaves were armed with the .69cal Model 1852 Palmetto rifle musket.

The **1st South Carolina Regiment of Rifles (D2)**, commanded by Col James Orr, was one of the few Confederate units to adopt a regimental uniform based on a detailed set of regulations. Although frock coats and pants were prescribed as dark blue trimmed with green worsted lace, a number of period images of enlisted men of this unit show them as gray trimmed with green. Besides being influenced by CS uniform regulations published in June 1861, the color change was probably due to a lack of sufficient blue cloth in the South. The unusual rank insignia for NCOs included inverted chevrons on the lower sleeve; this figure is a 2nd Corporal. Although the old US Infantry bugle horn was prescribed for the black felt hat, images show company letters below a brass palmetto badge. Orr's Rifles were originally armed with the Model 1841 rifle musket. During 1862 the unit served at Fair Oaks, Antietam and Fredericksburg in Gregg's Brigade of A.P.Hill's Division.



The label attached inside a cap made by J.H.Silverberg for Gerard Bull Lartigue, MD, of Blackville, SC, who was appointed quartermaster of the 1st South Carolina Volunteers, commanded by Col Johnson Hagood, in February 1861. (Courtesy of the South Carolina Relic Room and Museum)

The **Palmetto Riflemen (D3)** were raised in Anderson, SC, and were designated as Co B, 4th SC Infantry. Much reduced in strength by 1862, the regiment was reorganized as the 4th SC Bn, but by the end of that year it had been consolidated into two companies that became Cos I & K of Hampton's Legion. Local womenfolk made the dark gray frock coats and trousers during February 1861. An entry in the "Minute Book" stated that the brass "PR" should be worn on the Hardee hats they acquired during the same month; however, the period photo upon which this figure is based shows only a brass palmetto badge pinning up the left side of a hat with a domed crown. They were armed with .54cal Model 1841 Whitney rifles.

E: MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEER MILITIA, 1860-61

Raised in 1858, the **Mississippi Rifles (E1)** would form Co A, 10th Mississippi Infantry; that regiment would fight at Shiloh, April 1862, in Chalmers' Bde of Withers' Division. This company had originally adopted a full dress composed of dark blue/green frock coats and pants with red trim and facings, and red worsted epaulettes. Their waist belt plates bore the state "eagle" seal, and their sword bayonet scabbards were attached to their belts by a buff leather frog. Hardee hats were pinned up on the right side with a pattern 1851 US "eagle," or "Jeff Davis," hat ornament. They were also decorated with a red worsted cord and an ostrich-feather plume; a brass stamped US Mounted Riflemen bugle badge above "MR" were pinned to the front. Appropriately, their weapon was the Model 1841 "Mississippi" rifle.

The cavalryman of the **Adams Troop (E2)**, raised at Natchez, wears a blue coat and pants trimmed with orange braid, which had been the branch-of-service color for the US Dragoons since 1851. Brown or black felt hats were pinned up on the right side with an "eagle" plate. They carried .36cal Model 1851 Colt Navy revolvers, and Model 1840 sabers with buff leather sword knots. This troop became Co A of the Jeff Davis Legion, which served (alongside the South

Carolina cavalry from Hampton's Legion) in J.E.B.Stuart's cavalry division during the Gettysburg campaign and the defense of Richmond.

The **Jeff Davis Rifles (E3)**, organized at Holly Springs in Marshall County, would become Co D, 9th Mississippi – another unit of Chalmers' Bde at Shiloh. At the outbreak of hostilities they wore a gray tailcoat with black cuffs, braid and epaulettes, and matching pants with black stripes; the gray pattern 1851 dress cap had a black leather band, top and visor, and black-and-white pompon; a photo suggests that some men wore the 1851 "eagle" plate. They carried Model 1842 smoothbore muskets without slings.

F: THE ARMY OF MISSISSIPPI, 1861 (FULL DRESS)

The **Ben Bullard Rifles (F1)** would muster into CS service as Co B, 10th Mississippi, which served in Chalmers' Bde at Shiloh. In 1861 they adopted a uniform based closely on that prescribed for infantry in the "Army of Mississippi"; the choice of crimson trim on their frock coats and pants indicates that it was based on the first version of these regulations. This officer is distinguished by "dead and bright" bullion epaulettes with captain's bars in the crescents (one photo seems to show these fixed by gold-embroidered, dark blue cloth US Army-style transverse shoulder straps.) Collar and cuffs are crimson, as are the silk braid bars across the chest, decreasing in length from 10in to 4 inches. His black felt hat is looped up on three sides, with a gold cord and tassels at the front. He carries a Model 1850 foot officer's sword.

The enlisted man of the **Lamar Rifles (F2)** also wears a very similar uniform influenced by "Army of Mississippi" regulations. Looped up on the right, his black felt hat displays a pattern 1858 brass bugle horn. He holds a Model 1842 smoothbore musket. This unit mustered into CS service as Co G, 11th Mississippi, in Bee's Bde of Joseph E. Johnston's Army of the Shenandoah.

The **Water Valley Rifle Guard (F3)**, of Yalobusha County,



Charles D.Carr & Co, a Charleston-based clothier, sold a wide variety of military goods by 1862, including wooden drum canteens. (Courtesy of Trevor J.Vaughan-Williams)

became Co F, 15th Mississippi; that regiment would serve in Statham's Bde of Breckenridge's "reserve corps" at Shiloh, and in Loring's Div at Nashville in December 1864. They originally chose a uniform that mixed red with dark blue facing colors, the latter appearing on the cuffs and trouser stripes, and as trim at the base of the gray standing collar, which seems in a photo to bear a V-shape of red braid. Two red chevrons on the forearms each have three buttons, at the ends and points. The six-point metal star, pinned to the underside of his hat brim, was popular among Mississippi volunteers. He is fully equipped, with a tin drum canteen, and a militia-style rigid-frame knapsack with a dark gray blanket roll secured to the top.

G: THE ARMY OF MISSISSIPPI, 1861 (FATIGUE DRESS)

The **Natchez Fencibles (G1)** adopted a gray pull-over style fatigue shirt closely modeled on the second version of that prescribed for infantry of the "Army of Mississippi." Note the regulation yellow metal stars pinned either side of the collar. This enlisted man wears an oilskin-covered cap. Accouterments include a pattern 1855 rifle belt with frogged saber bayonet for his Model 1841 Mississippi rifle; he has tucked into it a personally acquired knife and pocket pistol. These volunteers became Co B, 12th Mississippi; the regiment served at Seven Pines, May 1862, in Rode's Bde of Hill's Div; in Featherstone's Bde of Wilcox's Div at Second Manassas that August; at Fredericksburg that December, in Featherstone's Bde, Anderson's Div; and at Chancellorsville, May 1863, in the same brigade, which was then commanded by Carnot Posey.

The **True Confederates (G2)**, of Smith County, became Co C, 8th Mississippi. They wore a gray fatigue shirt with two patch pockets, heavily trimmed with dark blue braid, and an inch-wide stripe on the matching pants. Again, note the six-point metal star on his archaic-looking full dress hat. A rectangular plate bearing the state "eagle" device (hidden here) fastens his waist belt, and his weapon is a Model 1842 smooth-bore musket without sling.

The First Sergeant of the **Bolivar Troop (G3)** – Co H, 1st Mississippi Cavalry – is portrayed wearing a light blue/gray fatigue shirt with orange trim, in keeping with the second and third versions of the uniform regulations for the "Army of Mississippi." Mid-blue pants with an inch-wide yellow

stripe are tucked into high cavalry boots. His gray felt hat, with a black ostrich plume, is pinned up on the right with the pattern 1851 brass "eagle," and bears "BT" on the front. He is armed with a Maynard first model carbine, a .36cal Whitney Navy revolver, and (hidden here on his left hip, supported by a belt over his right shoulder) a US Model 1840 saber with white or buff knot. His carbine belt is locally made and narrower than Army-made ones. This troop used the 1860 patent Jenifer saddle, with brass-bound pommel and rawhide seat.

H: MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS, 1861-62

The **Carroll Guards (H1)** – who became Co C, 20th Mississippi – wore a single-breasted, eight-button gray frock, with dark blue facing on standing collar and cuffs, and wide shoulder straps edged with dark blue trim. His tricorne hat still echoes the influence of the short-lived "Army of Mississippi"; in this case the source photo shows a five-point star device.

The **Adams Rifles (H2)** – later Co E, 20th Mississippi – wore a nine-button coat with sky-blue trim on the gray collar, around the shoulder straps and in an inch-wide stripe above the cuffs. The unusual light-colored tricorne hat has the ubiquitous metal star. Both of these men are armed with Model 1822 flintlock muskets without slings. The 20th Mississippi would serve as mounted infantry with Loring's Division at Baker's Creek before Vicksburg in May 1863.

The **Alamutcha Infantry (H3)**, of Lauderdale County, wore gray jean-cloth frock coats with mid-blue collar and cuff facings and pants stripes, and black wide-brimmed hats of various styles. A portrait photo is the source for his waist belt with its large, rectangular, fork-tongued brass frame buckle, probably locally made. He carries a Model 1842 musket. These volunteers became Co A, 13th Mississippi, which served at Malvern Hill in June 1862 in

Barksdale's Bde of McLaws' Div; the regiment went on to serve at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg.



This rigid-framed militia-style leather knapsack was carried by Pte Conrad K. Williams of the Jasper Light Infantry – Co E, 5th South Carolina Infantry. (Courtesy of the South Carolina State Museum)

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