

Civil War Comes to Pulaski County

Post Waynesville
1862-1863
by Terry Primas

The effects of the Civil War that began with the Confederate firing on Fort Sumter on April 12 had been felt some in Pulaski County as early as that spring of 1861.

Many Pulaski Countians were from Tennessee, North Carolina, and Kentucky. Their sentiments were with the South. Lincoln only received seven votes in the county in the 1860 election. Missouri was a slave state and there were some slave holders in Pulaski County. The last slave census was taken in 1860. The count for Pulaski County enumerated 56 slaves. Six of the slaves resided in Waynesville. One of those slaves belonged to Dr. Linigow (Lingo) and was a woman of about forty years. The other five slaves belonged to Jesse Rayl. The slaves, three males and two females, ranged in age from two to forty years old. The Rayl home was next door to W. W. McDonald's stage stop, called "The Waynesville House," which is still standing on the east side of the Waynesville square and known today as the Old Stagecoach Stop. As the oldest publicly accessible building in Pulaski County, it is the most tangible and direct link to this period of our history.

Although certainly most Pulaski Countians owned no slaves, the issue was also of family ties in their ancestral states and a perceived invasion of their land by Federal troops. Confederate sympathizers met at the Pulaski County Courthouse to determine a course of action. A company of volunteers was formed with H. W. Stuart, sheriff of Waynesville, elected captain. However, no call came for service and

this first company disbanded.

War Begins

Union General Nathaniel Lyon and Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson met in St. Louis at the Planter's Hotel on June 10, 1861. Sterling Price, installed by Governor Jackson as commander of the State Guard, hoped to negotiate some terms to prevent Union domination of the state. General Lyon, accompanied by Congressman Frank Blair, evidently had other intentions. The meeting ended badly with Lyon telling Jackson that he "would see every man, woman, and child in Missouri under the sod before he would consent that the State should dictate to his government as to the movement of its troops within her limits, or as to any other matter however unimportant." Lyon then declared "This means war. One of my officers will conduct you out of my lines in an hour." Such was the more or less official beginning of the Civil War in Missouri.

Jackson and Price fled back to Jefferson City. Lyon pursued and Jackson fled the capital. Hamilton Gamble, a Unionist and Supreme Court judge, became Missouri's Union governor. Jackson declared he was the rightful governor, being duly elected by the people. Jackson maintained a government of sorts in exile, while Gamble

settled into the Capitol at Jefferson City. Union or Confederate, Missouri had a government for each taste.

Lyon's pincer movement to pin the disloyal Governor and General brought Colonel Franz Sigel and three regiments of volunteers down the tracks to secure Rolla, which was the railhead of the South West Branch of the Pacific Railroad.

News of the Federals coming to Rolla and surely next into Pulaski County stirred up the southern sympathizers in Waynesville. Those in and near Waynesville, the only village of any consequence in antebellum Pulaski, met at Dr. Lenigow's (or Lingo's) drug store on the northwest corner of the square. Those present and most vocal were Dr. Lenigow, Cyrus Colley, Theodore T. Taylor, B. W. Vaughan, and A. J. McCormick. Lenigow and Colley, like Rayl, were slave owners. A heated discussion centered on whether to leave the Confederate flag flying on the southwest corner of the square. A narrow majority voted to take it down before the Federal scouts arrived.

Two companies were organized under Captain Stuart and Captain V. B. Hill. Hill was a lawyer and served as Sheriff before H. W. Stuart. These two companies headed southwest toward Arkansas and would join Price along a creek near Springfield, Missouri.

The Unionists in Pulaski County held no public meetings or demonstrations but kept silent with positive anticipation for the arrival of the Federal troops. The split in families caused by the war is well known and certainly occurred in Pulaski families. William Walton McDonald's family is a good example.

McDonald, who owned the stagecoach waystation, was one of the Unionists but probably not without some internal conflict. He fought in the Mexican War (1846-48) and his commanding officer was General Sterling Price, who joined the secessionists as commander of the Missouri State Guard.

A person admired very much by W. W. McDonald, lawyer V. B. Hill, formed a company of volunteers and joined the Confederates. Hill was married to W. W.'s sister Nancy. He must have held his brother-in-law in high esteem, even after the war, for he named a son Vandover Berry Hill McDonald. (It does seem that McDonald fancied long names for at least two of his sons. His first son, born in the last year of the war, 1865, at the Old Stagecoach Stop was named Ulysses Sipio Grant James Tyree McDonald.)

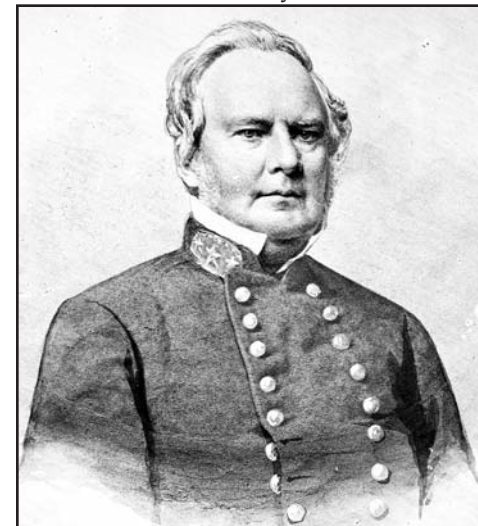
W. W. McDonald married Mary Jane McCortney in 1849. Mary Jane's father, William R., owned a farm that straddled the Big Piney River and the newly married couple lived on the farm for several years before moving to Waynesville and going into business on the square in 1854. William R. McCortney's farm was just upstream from McCortney Spring and Mill, owned by his brother Alexander McCortney. There is little doubt as to the loyalties of Mc-



Captain Nathaniel Lyon received a quick promotion to General of volunteers. With his death at Wilson's Creek in August of 1861, he became the first Union general to die in battle, becoming one of the Union's first heroes. Library of Congress.



The Planter's Hotel in downtown St. Louis was the location of the heated exchange between Union Captain Nathaniel Lyon and Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson with Sterling Price, commander of the Missouri State Guard also present. Most of the heat came from Lyon and the struggle in Missouri followed. The (Old) Courthouse was on the block at lower left. Although there are no trolley cars in the picture, the double tracks for the horse-drawn trollies on Fourth Street are visible. Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.



Major General Sterling Price was a Mexican War hero and former governor of Missouri. As commanding officer of the Missouri State Guard, Price backed Governor Jackson's stand for the state's sovereignty and rights. Library of Congress.



Mary Jane McCortney McDonald, wife of W. W. McDonald, came from a family of southern sympathizers. W. W. came to Pulaski County after the Mexican War in 1848 but his family had been instrumental in opening the north central Ozarks through their pine lumbering operations as early as 1816. W. W.'s uncles, Archibald and John, used slaves to help establish their mills on the Big and Little Piney. Mary Jane witnessed what must have been a loyalty struggle but by his actions, it seems that W. W. was at least a Unionist, if not an abolitionist. Tintype courtesy of Jackie and Alf Raphelson.

Donald's wife's family. McCortney Mill was cited by the garrisoned Federals at Waynesville as a meeting place for secession sympathizers and bushwhackers. A skirmish occurred at the mill in 1865.

It would seem that W. W. McDonald might well exemplify those Pulaski Countians whose families had divided loyalties. McDonald had a civic and professional interest in the county's future, too, as he was not only a businessman but had been the postmaster and was County Clerk when war broke out.

Colonel Franz Sigel left troops to secure the railhead at Rolla and his mostly German volunteers from St. Louis marched down the St. Louis to Springfield Road to join Lyon in southwest Missouri, camping at Waynesville enroute. This was a signal to some of the townspeople to leave. Many families moved to the relatively safe state of Illinois.

A soldier on that march through Waynesville had this to say in a letter to a St. Louis newspaper:

Wednesday evening found us encamped in that vile and uncompromising nest of secessionists, Waynesville; but Col. Woolf, who had preceded us for a few hours only, had most effectively squelched out secession there, and there remained little for us to do but make a sortie or two in the country, to drive the rebels still further from their

homes. On leaving this morning at ten o'clock, Col. Solomon with Co. G, Captain Stark, drew up his men before the court house, raised the Union flag, and the Colonel with his stentorian voice called for 'three cheers for the Union,' which were given with a hearty good will that made the welkin ring with deafening shouts. The command left in good spirits, and the dear old flag, as we took a 'last fond look,' was floating in the breeze, an emblem of comfort to loyalty, but a terrible scourge to wrong-doers.

(signed) "F"

Weekly Missouri Democrat, St. Louis, Mo., July 2, 1861

By August, Lyon determined to give the combined forces of Price's State Guard and Confederate forces under the command of a Texan, General Ben McCullough, one good fight in southwest Missouri, although he was outnumbered at least three to one. After battles at Boonville (Lyon) and Carthage (Sigel), the forces of both sides converged in southwest Missouri.

Lyon and Sigel met the rebels at Wilson's Creek on August 10, 1861. The larger rebel force defeated the Union Army, killing Lyon. Sigel's battalion of mostly immigrant Germans was routed and Colonel Sigel fled, beating his retreating troops to Springfield. The Pulaski County companies of Captains



Franz Sigel, along with his father and three brothers, participated in the failed Revolution of 1848 in Germany. They all immigrated to America. Franz and younger brother Albert operated a tobacco store in New York before they moved west to St. Louis, where Sigel was serving as Superintendent of Schools when the war clouds gathered. He resigned as head of the schools in February of 1861, enlisted in the local military unit, and soon was appointed colonel of the Third Regiment of volunteers. He was very popular among the Germans, less so with native-born Americans. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

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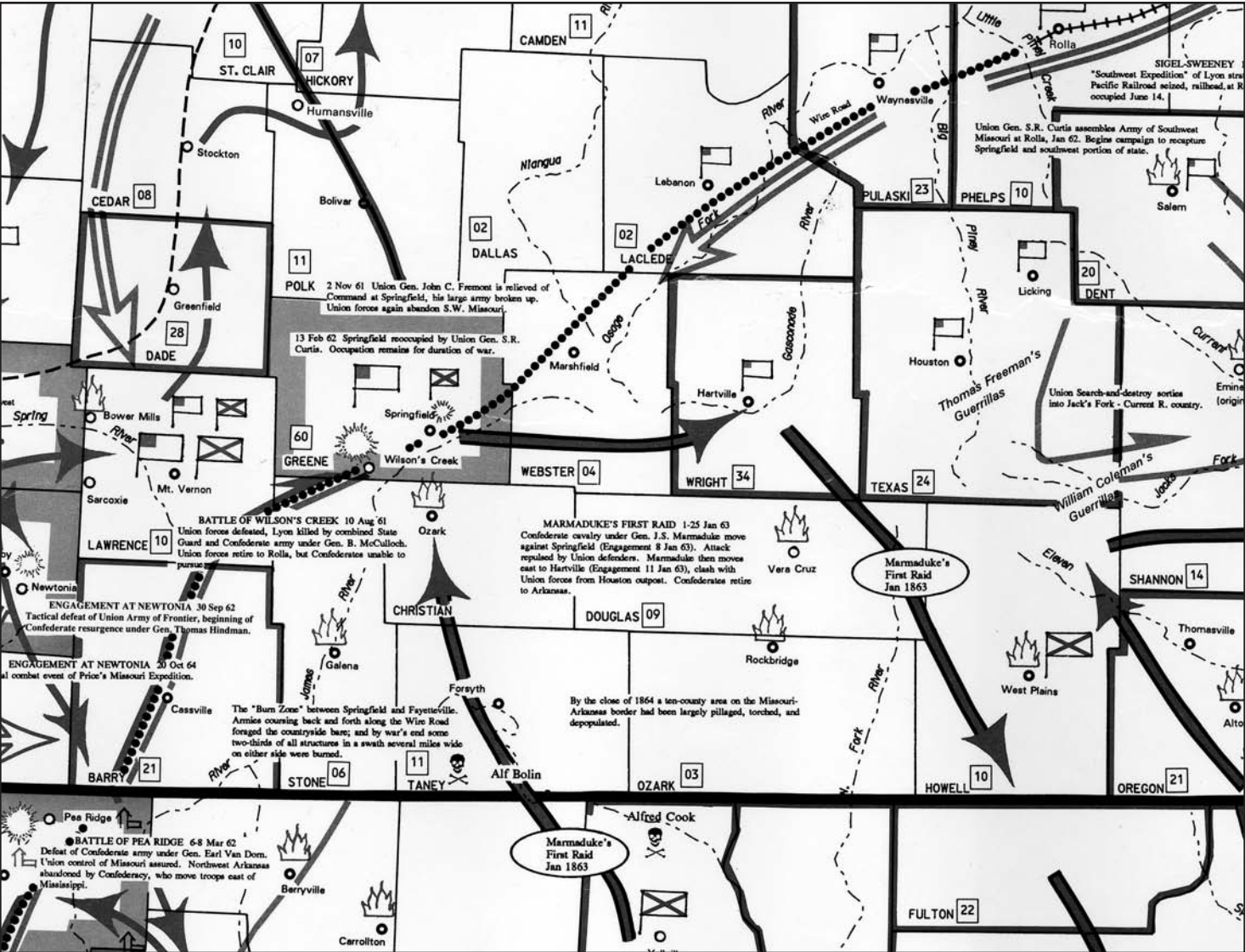
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This southwest section of the map “Civil War and the Ozarks” by John F. Bradbury, Jr. and Richard W. Hatcher, III highlights the action in this part of the state. Although none of the battles by standing armies occurred in Pulaski County, it was on the marching route to and from Wilson’s Creek and Pea Ridge via the Wire Road. The Confederate victory at Wilson’s Creek engendered some panic among the citizens and the Union victory at Pea Ridge effectively secured Missouri for the Union.

Stuart and Hill were there. It was “a mighty mean-fowt fight’,” as one participant characterized it.

Sigel led the defeated Union troops in retreat. He left Springfield at 4:00 a.m. on August 11 with a train of 370 wagons. Civilian refugees, loyal to the Union, tagged along, escaping what they feared would be Confederate reprisals in southwest Missouri. If it returned along the same route on the Wire Road as it had followed from

Rolla to Springfield (there was some consideration given to a more northerly route back to Rolla), the seven mile long parade of frenzied civilians and dispirited soldiers would have had a depressing effect on the Unionists still in Waynesville. It would have brought cheer to the southern sympathizers. The column did not reach Rolla until August 19.

The Battle of Wilson’s Creek was the second major engagement of the War of

Rebellion. The first major battle was at Bull Run (Manassas) on July 21, less than three weeks before Wilson’s Creek. The Ozark battle produced casualty rates of 12 percent for the Confederates and 24.5 percent for the smaller Federal force, higher rates than Bull Run. Nathaniel Lyon was the first Union general killed in the Civil War. The ferocity of the fighting and the passion of the participants led many observers to question the most common belief that it would only be a ninety-day war, which was the term of enlistment for most of the volunteers.

The Union soldiers who had retreated to Rolla from Wilson’s Creek in August spent the next several months fortifying the railhead, stocking supplies, and welcoming reinforcements. By the first of the new year, 1862, there were 12,000 troops in Rolla.

The overall Federal goal was to save Missouri for the Union by rejecting General Price’s Missouri State Guard and Confederate allies. One necessary step was to reclaim Springfield and the southwest Ozarks. This required another march down the St. Louis to Springfield Road.

Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis, newly appointed commander of the Southwestern District of Missouri, left



A telegraph construction crew such as this one in the eastern theater of the war would have strung the wire along the St. Louis to Springfield road, on to Pea Ridge, and ultimately Fort Smith, Arkansas. The road became known as the Wire Road and when the telegraph wire disappeared, it was called the Old Wire Road. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

A soldier with Curtis’ troops wrote the following to his hometown newspaper in Woodstock, Illinois, which is northwest of Chicago.

Woodstock Rifles in Motion
From our Special Correspondent
Camp Brackett, Waynesville, MO
Sunday, Jan. 19th, 1862

EDITORS
WOODSTOCK SENTINEL:

The morning of Tuesday, the 14th of January, found us snugly ensconced in our tents, at Rolla, most of us firm in the belief that we should remain there throughout the winter...

Wednesday, we started at 10 a.m. and at 3 o’clock, crossed the Little Piney, near its junction with the Gasconade, where we stopped for the night. On Thursday, we arrived 7 miles distant, on the Big Piney, at 12 o’clock. A bridge was formed with wagons, and at night, all the troops had crossed, and encamped on the bottom land, beyond the creek. Col. Gremmel arrived from Rolla, and assumed command of the Regiment. Friday we reached Waynesville, the county seat of Pulaski County, a small village less in size than Ridgefield, situated on the Roubideaux creek and almost completely encircled with huge, inaccessible granite bluffs. We encamped on a low bottom adjoining a corn field, and pitched our tents in regular military style, as we expect to remain here for several days.

Our camping grounds are wretched indeed. It is the muddiest place in which I ever saw men live. The frost, which was about 4 inches deep, has disappeared, and now the entire camp ground is nothing else than a bed of mud. The boys cut the stalks in the corn field, and spreading them down in their tents, made a passable bed on which to spread their bunks, &c.

The two bodies of cavalry, which recently left Rolla, are now at this place, being about three thousand in number.

Near this place, at the foot of an enormous bluff, is a large spring, 20 feet in diameter, and 15 feet deep, from which flows forth the creek, a rapid stream, at least a quarter size of the Fox River. A rude decayed frame stands over it, and altogether it is a rare and beautiful sight. Our rations thus far have been hard bread, Bacon, Coffee, Sugar and beans, and not enough of these. Hence a great deal of fresh pork has been consumed, which seems to come into camp very mysteriously. One thing is certain, our boys will not starve.

Your truly,
H

Rolla in January, traveling the familiar route, with the intent of driving the Confederates from Missouri. Commanding Curtis' First and Second Divisions was Franz Sigel, now also a Brigadier General.

The din of thousands of troops and hundreds of wagons again split the air as the army rumbled through Pulaski County. Cavalry escorts were on alert for bushwhackers. General Curtis strung a telegraph wire parallel to the route, fostering the name "Wire Road" for the thoroughfare from Rolla to northwestern Arkansas.

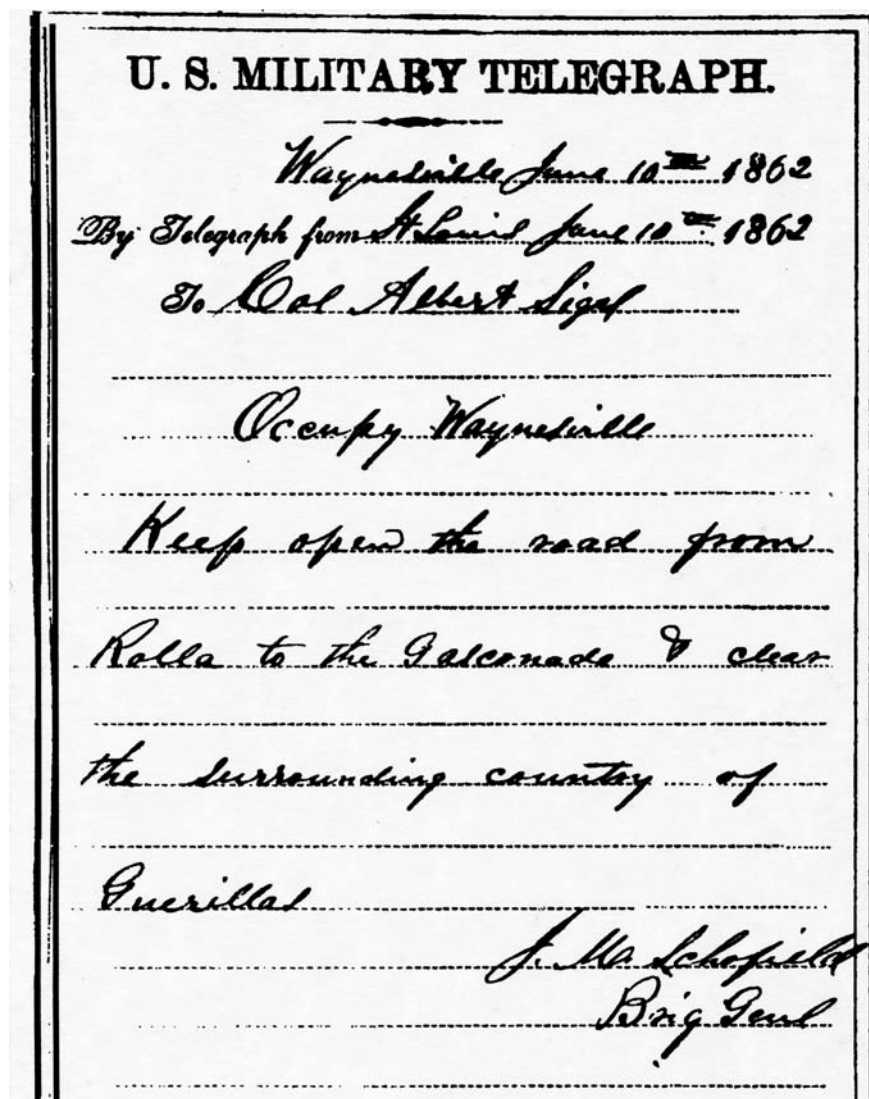
The Union army entered Springfield on February 13. The Confederates had evacuated the town, retreating southwest into Arkansas. The Confederates were, indeed, driven from Missouri but not defeated. Curtis pursued them into Arkansas. There were several skirmishes which led to the Battle of Pea Ridge (or Elkhorn Tavern), March 6-8. General Curtis' Union force of 10,500 was outnumbered by General Earl Van Dorn's 16,200 Confederate troops. However, unlike the outcome at Wilson's Creek, the smaller Union force prevailed on the last day of battle, due largely to superior cannon fire power.

While the Federal success at Pea Ridge put Missouri in Union control, there would be a few more Confederate

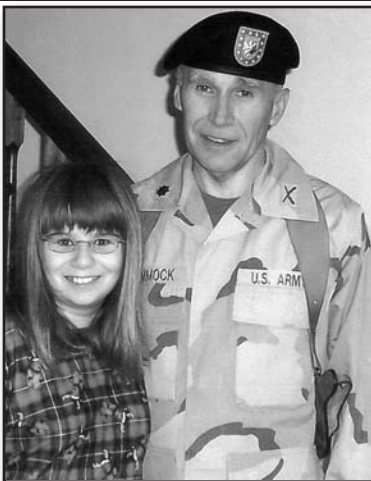
pushes in Missouri (for example, Marmaduke in 1863 and Price in 1864). Continued control required keeping the Wire Road open from the railhead at Rolla to southwest Missouri and that set the stage for a Union presence in Pulaski County. Rebel guerilla warfare and depredations by bushwhackers threatened supply trains, communication, and the civilian population. Wagon trains also carried the payroll for Union troops. Federal leadership determined that several forts along the road were required. The garrisons would guard the supply line and patrol the surrounding area.

To counter the sure-to-be Confederate threat to the region and the immediate bushwhacker activity, the 13th Missouri State Militia at Boonville was ordered to the southwestern part of the state. The regiment was commanded by Colonel Albert Sigel, brother of General Franz Sigel.

Colonel Sigel hired teams to transport his men and supplies to California, Missouri, astride the railroad to await the arrival of more suitable horses and wagons. Along the way, about 20 of the recruits deserted. Not soon receiving the necessary stock and thinking his presence in southwestern Missouri "of great importance," he moved south. On June 6 in Tuscumbia, he communicated



The telegram to Sigel reads, "Occupy Waynesville. Keep open the road from Rolla to the Gasconade & clear the surrounding country of Guerillas. J. M. Schofield Brig. Genl." National Archives and Records Administration.



Cliff Hammock

Republican for State Representative 122nd District



Olivia, Tammy, and Cliff Hammock

My wife and I are life-long residents of Pulaski County and are both members of pioneer families who helped settle this area nearly two centuries ago. I am proud of my heritage and have been honored to serve my community in numerous capacities over the past years. This experience includes:

- Mayor of Waynesville (10 years)
- Retired Chief Financial Mgmt. Officer at FLW (35 years)
- Member and President Waynesville R-VI School Board (9 years)
- Board Member Missouri Regional Planning Commission (4 years)
- Board Member Pulaski Co. Sheltered Workshop (2 years)
- Graduate of Waynesville High School
- Graduate of University of Missouri - Rolla
- Graduate US Army Command General and Staff College

I have also also served in the Armed Forces in active and reserve officer status for 33 years. I am a veteran of both Vietnam and Iraq. This experience gives me a first-hand understanding of issues and concerns related to active duty military, veterans, retirees and their dependents, which are such an important part of our community.

My memberships and affiliations include: the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Missouri Farm Bureau, National Rifle Association, Association of U. S. Army, Disabled Veterans, and the United Methodist Church. I am pro-life, and a fiscal and social conservative. I strongly support the Second Amendment gun owner rights; our public schools and higher education issues; our military, veterans, retirees and their dependents; and senior citizen programs.

With your support, I will work diligently to bring confidence and dignity back to representative government, as well as to preserve the Constitutional principles that made our country and the state of Missouri great.

Paid for by Comm. to Elect Cliff Hammock, Tammy Hammock, Treas.

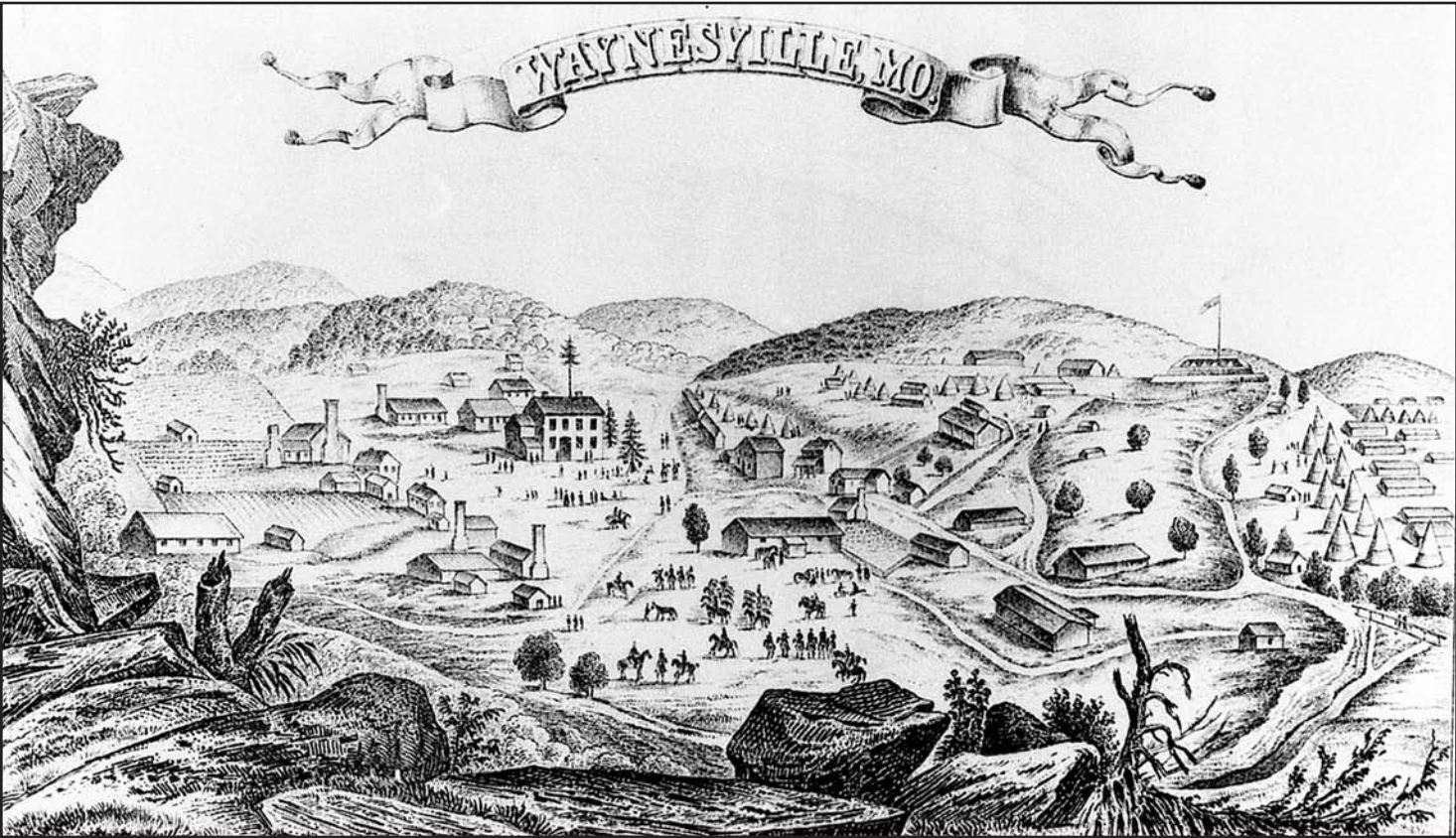
to General Totten in Jefferson City that “notwithstanding the delay caused by the deficiency of horses, and by broken down miserable mules I will try to be at Waynesville tomorrow and then report for further orders.”

On June 9, 1862, Colonel Sigel informed General Schofield in St. Louis that he had arrived in Waynesville with four companies under his command and was awaiting further orders. He also remarked that he would have arrived a week earlier if he had been furnished with the necessary wagons and horses. The fateful reply came from Schofield the next day, June 10, 1862. Colonel Sigel was ordered to occupy Waynesville (see telegram on page 35).

Also on June 10, Sigel informed Colonel Boyd, commanding the post at Rolla, of his arrival and requested “necessary supplies, such as horses, tents, provisions...the mules we received are in a very bad condition, and are hardly fit for use.”

The troops camped in the creek bottom along the Roubidoux and on the hill south of the square. Colonel Sigel occupied the town and prepared to carry out General Schofield’s orders.

Colonel Sigel had three concurrent matters to attend to in the first few months at Waynesville. The first prior-



Waldemar Fischer Jan 1, 1863

CAMP OF THE 5th (formerly 13th) REGIMENT CAVALRY M.S.M.

Albert Sigel, Colonel, Joseph Eppstein, Lt. Colonel, John B. Kaiser, Major, Waldemar Fischer, Major

This drawing was done by Major Waldemar Fischer in January of 1863. His vantage point was atop Bell Bluff, the site of the annual Nativity Scene, looking southeast. It shows a dozen or so homes with outbuildings, about the same as reflected in the 1860 census for the 96 inhabitants. The large building at left center is the courthouse, built in 1840. The one-story structure with a tall chimney to the left of the courthouse is W. W. McDonald’s stagecoach stop. The fort was situated on the hill overlooking the town. The conical shapes were Sibley tents that housed some of the soldiers. A few tents were located behind the row of stores across from the courthouse. The majority of the men were in tents at the extreme right. This was the strip of floodplain along Roubidoux Creek that is now Laughlin Park. The bridge across the Roubidoux at right marks the stream.



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ity seems to have been suitably equipping his men. He complained of the lack of horses (his was a calvary regiment) and the inferior quality of the arms and ammunition. The Austrian rifles were undependable and too long for mounted soldiers. Secondly, his troops were busy escorting wagons between Rolla and Lebanon. There was guerrilla activity in the neighborhood, requiring patrols and pursuits. There were several skirmishes that resulted in several rebels being captured and killed. Rebel activity had increased in Schofield's Department of Missouri and there was some justification for Sigel's sense of urgency. Schofield sent the following telegram the month after Sigel arrived in Waynesville.

U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH

Waynesville July 24th 1862

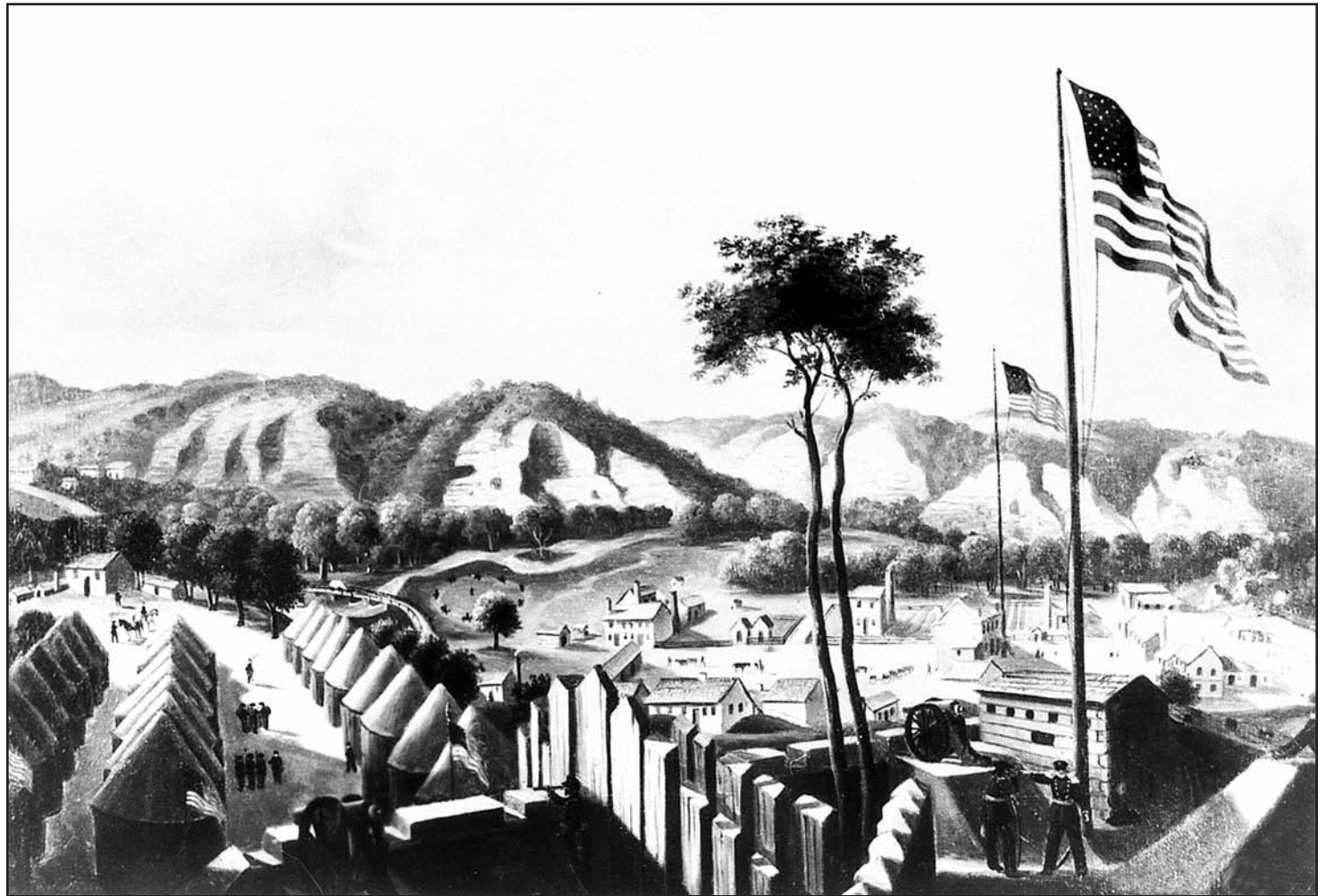
By Telegraph from St. Louis July 22nd 1862
To All Military Posts in Missouri

An order will be published tomorrow calling out all the loyal men of Missouri to exterminate Guerrillas.

Send notice to everybody to assemble at the nearest post without delay & bring in all the arms and ammunition.

Seize immediately all the arms & ammunition of which you can get information.

Commanding officers on the telegraph line will forward this dispatch by express to



This oil painting was produced by a German painter, F. Leuteritz. Nothing else is known of the artist but his rendering of Waynesville in 1864 gives us the only other likeness besides Fischer's drawing (page 36) of the town during the Civil War. The view is from inside the fort, looking north northwest. The courthouse is center right, at the smaller flag. Roubidoux Creek can be seen coursing along the base of the bluffs in the center background. According to Goodspeed Publishing's *History of Pulaski County* (1889), the courthouse was replaced in 1873, due to "damages to the courthouse during and by reason of the late war." The Old Stagecoach Stop sits directly across the street (faintly to the right) from the courthouse and Jesse Rayl's two-story house is to its right. Courtesy of Missouri Historical Society.



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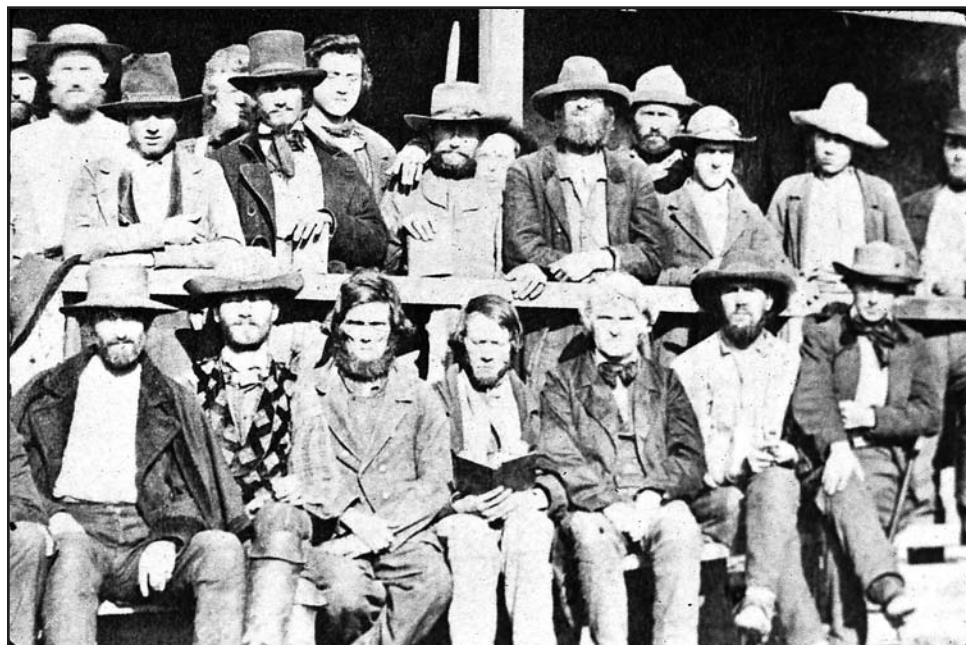
J. M. Schofield
Brig. Gen

The 13th MSM's third task was to construct a fort on the hill overlooking the town square. Colonel Sigel reported on this last accomplishment to Colonel C. W. Marsh, Assistant Adjutant General, in St. Louis on September 11, 1862.

I have the honor to inform you finally that I have with the assistance of some of our dismounted men have constructed a fieldwork at this post which is nearly completed. It is large enough to hold 5 or 6 companies and strong enough to resist even 6 pounder balls. It was constructed with a view to the military importance of Springfield, and the apparent need of a permanent protection of the route from Rolla to Springfield and may perhaps be of use at no distant time.

Another account from a contemporary Iowa soldier adds a little more detail to the scene in Waynesville. Signed simply "Jeff," it appeared in the *Iowa City Republican* on November 9, 1862.

At 4 P.M. on Tuesday, we reached Waynesville and pitched our tents for the night. We were here relieved by a cavalry escort. The town is situated in a deep mountain gorge, with high rocky bluffs on either side. It has about -- inhabitants. It has been taken possession of by the army. The houses were occupied by the quartermaster, sutler, hospital, and commissary store rooms. The place is defended by eight companies of the 13th MO. cavalry under Col. Sigel. They have a small fort or bastion erected here on a high hill overlooking the town. There is one cannon mounted, it is used for infantry protection, and was built by the labor of Secesh prisoners, a few of whom were still at



This rough looking group of men were accused secessionists in St. Charles. Secessionists were persons who advocated their state seceding from the Union. They were commonly called "secesh." It was such a group that caused "Jeff" to remark, "They were a hard looking crowd—a man would feel for his money at the first sight of them." In Pulaski County, some secesh went south, some enlisted in the Confederate army, some joined guerilla bands, and a few became bushwhackers. When detained, a man could sign a loyalty oath to the Union and post bond for his release.

work under guard digging a trench outside the fort. They were a hard looking crowd—a man would feel for his money at the first sight of them.

Jeff

The soldiers at the Waynesville Post were kept busy with wagon escorts and numerous reports of guerilla bands in the neighborhood. Wagon trains did get ambushed, as did the Southwestern stagecoaches that changed teams at McDonald's stage stop. What was worse, bushwhackers would get lucky and hit the payroll wagon. The following communication from the district headquarters at Rolla points to the poverty of the soldiers.

U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH By Telegraph from Rolla Sept 10th 1862

Will send back Capt. Avery and command from that place. His company has not been paid for four months. Paymaster is here. Also furnish escort to paymaster in Lebanon. I can't spare my cavalry from this place.

J. M. Glover
Col Comdg Dis

In the last month of 1862, a month after Jeff's letter, Colonel Sigel reported that there were 642 men under his command in the 13th Regiment of the Missouri State Militia. Since this was a cavalry regiment, there were also 523 horses. No cannon was reported in

1862 but Lieutenant John Sanger, officer of the Light Artillery Battery, reported in 1864 that his inventory included two 12 pounder Howitzers (one 2 inch bore, one 2 1/4 inch bore) and 375 rounds of ammunition.

Civil Affairs

With the Federal occupation of the town and violence in the countryside, what of the lives of the citizens? With the troops of the 13th MSM outnumbering Waynesville inhabitants by at least seven to one, what manner of law and county government existed? We have no direct testimony from the townspeople but what accounts do exist point to a bleak existence.

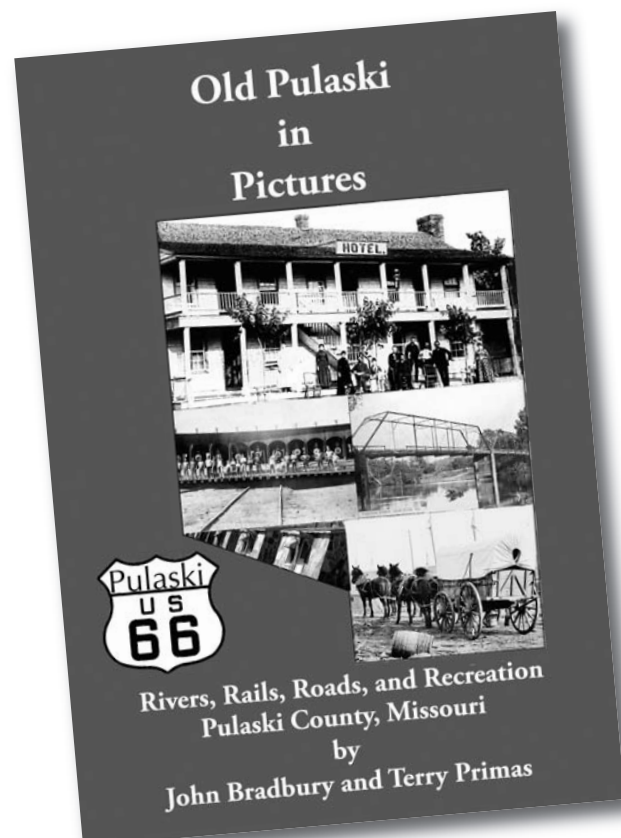
Goodspeed Publishing Company's *History of Pulaski County*, published in 1889 and privy to firsthand reports, relates that "little of no farming done in the county, excepting a very little carried on by the women and children."

Commerce had practically ceased. Iowa troops frequently marched the Wire Road and camped in the field along Roubidoux Creek. Two of them recorded observations of Waynesville.

Waynesville is one of these necessary little towns which are needed in certain counties as a place for horse racing, quarrels & fights and where bad whiskey and poor tobacco is offered for sale at reasonable prices for approved credit or country produce.

We received orders today prohibiting all jayhawking and no shooting allowed.

I shall leave this camp on Rubido Creek with pleasure, for through the town and a mile around it seems selected as a vast cemetery for Uncle Sam's dead horses and mules for they are spread broadcast over considerable an extent of country and through the town. The air is foul with the



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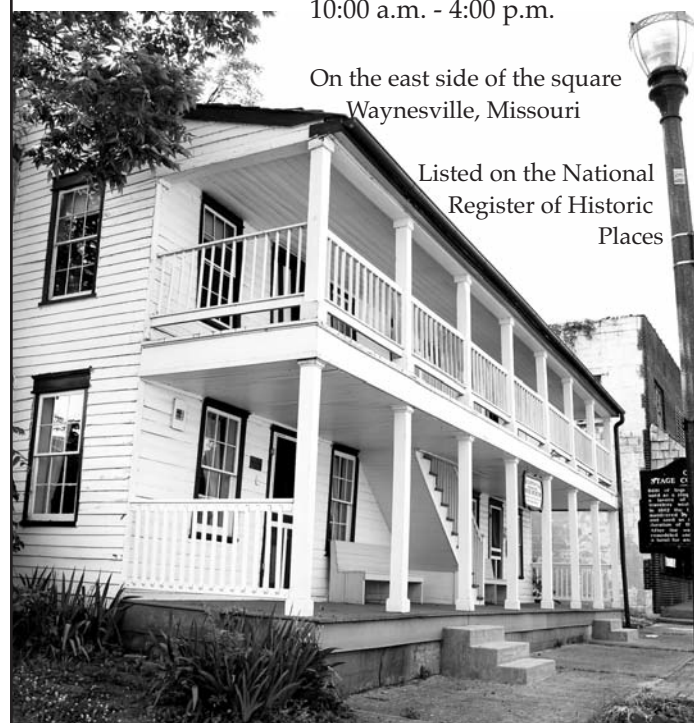
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stench arising from them and you can imagine that your very victuals are contaminated with the decay of animal matter..."

Sgt. Benjamin F. McIntyre
19th Iowa Infantry September 1862

Capt. Chester Barney of the 20th Iowa Infantry also made a diary entry about the town on September 18, 1862.

Our march on the 18th brought us to Waynesville, a small village containing fourteen houses. This town was remarkable for having in it a 'school house,' the only institution of the kind we had yet met with in the State. The enterprising projector of such a novel scheme in that region of the country must have found it rather an unprofitable investment, for from its appearance it was then mortgaged to a flock of sheep, which had evidently occupied it unmolested for a long time. There was a postoffice too, in that flourishing place, or rather had been, but as mails were like 'angels visits,' the enterprising postmaster had now converted it into a whiskey shop and tavern, and was doing a thriving business.

It seems that as many of the buildings were commandeered by the military, they became the only customers for what businessmen remained. A comment by an anonymous soldier adds to the forlorn image painted by the Iowa

infantrymen.

I wandered around the town, and could find no private residences. The former inhabitants were secesh, and have skedaddled.

Civil government seems to have only partly continued. H. W. Stuart, elected sheriff in 1857, had joined the Confederates in the early summer of 1861. The sheriff's position was not filled until May 15, of 1862 by James Carson. Normally a two year term, R. W. Vaughan took over the office a little over a year later, August 4, 1863. Vaughan was sheriff only seven months when James V. Hudgens took over in March of 1864. Hudgens was sheriff until May of 1865 when George W. Colley assumed the office for less than three months. Benjamin R. Moore became sheriff in August of 1865, after the Union army had abandoned the Waynesville post and fort in July, and was the first to serve a full two year term since the war began. The rapid turnover in the sheriff's office might have been due to the diminished role of local law enforcement with the Federals present, some question by the army as to the loyalty of the sheriff, or a combination of both.

There were elections during the war years for the positions of County Court Justices, now called County Commis-

sioners. There was less turnover in those positions than the sheriff's office but no one served a second term. The offices of Assessor, Surveyor, and Probate Judge do not reflect any elections.

The most stalwart public official during the war appears to have been William W. McDonald. McDonald was elected Circuit Clerk and Recorder in 1852, titles he held until May of 1865. W. W. was also County Clerk, also elected in 1852, and served until 1864

when Caleb C. McMillen took the office. During that year, \$150 was taken by bushwhackers from the public funds in the hands of C. C. McMillen. McDonald was also postmaster from 1856 until 1859, when Benjah G. Lingo garnered that concession for his drug store. Lingo, an outspoken secessionist, relinquished the postmastership shortly before he left Waynesville in 1862.

The main tasks of patrols and wagon



Although this photograph was probably taken in the eastern theater of the war, this was a recurring scene in Pulaski County and elsewhere in the Ozarks. Meager family belongings piled in a wagon signaled a skedaddle by hill folk family from marauding forces on both sides. Library of Congress.

Terri Mitchell

**Pulaski
County Collector**

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escorts by the Union troops garrisoned in Waynesville did not decrease in 1863. The following dispatch from the post highlights some of the activity.

Waynesville, MO, May 3, 1863
Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Davies
Commanding Rolla District, Rolla, MO

General:

For the last few weeks, as you are aware, this section of country has been infested with thieves, who have committed many depredations, and who have as yet eluded our utmost vigilance. I have kept out all my available men constantly in the saddle. Many I sent out daily in disguise, both on horseback and in wagons, to represent farmers and movers, but as yet to no purpose. The stage has been stopped several times, and once the horses and mail carried off. I immediately send detachments out in all directions, leaving the post almost deserted. I now furnish an escort to the mail going both ways, but my men and horses are fast giving out under the daily amount of work they have to perform..."

Waldemar Fischer
Major, Commanding Post

The guerilla warfare became more intense in the countryside. Structures and homes were burned and Unionists terrorized (or worse) by bushwhackers. There were also charges by civilians of mistreatment by Union soldiers. A telegram from Headquarters in St.

Louis to Colonel Sigel at Waynesville in 1863 stated:

A family of Thompsons living in Miller County Big Wood Township have three men in the service. They hear that their families have been abused and their youngest brother made go into the service. I wish you would tell the military commander or Capt Hart that families ought to be kindly treated and must be respected while their husbands are serving their country.

H Z Curtis
AAG

A report written by Sigel in August of 1863 on the history of the regiment up to that point sums up the establishment and activity of the 5th Missouri State Militia pretty well. It says, in part:

Soon after organization of the regiment the regiment received marching orders to march from Boonville to Waynesville, Mo. On arriving at that point June 7, 1862 the Commander of the regiment reported to the Commander of Rolla District from whom he received orders to encamp at Waynesville and act under his direction. The duties of the regiment were principally escorting, scouting, and post duties at Waynesville. As the county in which the regiment has been operating is mountainous and much cut up by ravines and for that reason very sparsely populated, it has been the principal thoroughfare for bush-



Not all the thieves were secesh. Here a Union company plunders a Missouri family's farm stock. Both armies "lived off the land" by foraging the locals livestock and stored supplies. As "H" said (page 34), fresh pork mysteriously appeared at mealtime at the camp on the Roubidoux. This field drawing by Alfred R. Waud depicts the stealing of wooden rails by Union troops to use for firewood. If there was any livestock left on the farmstead, there would be no fence to keep them from wandering off. Library of Congress.

whacking and recruiting parties to slip in and out of our line. The command had many a brush with bushwhackers and recruiting parties for the Southern Confederacy with but few casualties which have been promptly reported as will be seen by

our monthly returns.

The health of the regiment as a general thing has been good.

[The remainder of the war, 1864-65, will be covered in a future issue of the Old Settlers Gazette.]



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Community Leader: Over 30 years of community involvement, service, and leadership.

Church Leader: Over 30 years in God's ministry as pastor, deacon, and Sunday school teacher.

Family Leader: Married over 40 years to Deborah, three children, and nine grandchildren.

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State Representative

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