

5TH ILLINOIS CAVALRY REGIMENT

The 5th Illinois Cavalry was organized at Camp Butler in November 1861, Colonel Hall Wilson, commanding.

Company B, with a large contingent of Mattoon men was commanded by Captain Thomas McKee, of Mattoon. Captain Benjamin G Glenn, of Mattoon commanded Company I.

The 5th Illinois Cavalry saw much duty in scouting, skirmishing and screening operations. The 5th Illinois Cavalry was often employed with other cavalry units in expeditions to destroy bridges and railroad facilities. It participated in the Vicksburg campaign.

67 men from Mattoon served in the 5th Cavalry, all but a handful in Captain McKee's Company B.

The Regiment was mustered out on 27 October 1865

Losses for the regiment were: 28 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded and 5 officers and 414 enlisted men by disease.



John W Wood was the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Mattoon and served as a Chaplain in the 5th Illinois Cavalry. After the war, he served as the pastor of the Shiloh Presbyterian Church in Pleasant Grove Township.