

Jan. 25, 1986

Dear Mr. Racker,

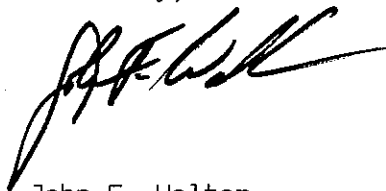
Thank you for your order of the Capsule History of the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. You will find it enclosed and I trust it proves satisfactory.

Preparation of Official Histories generally takes about six to eight weeks. You may expect delivery of the Official History of the Fifty-Sixth Virginia Infantry about that time.

I am sorry to say that I am phasing out my Individual History service. It has just gotten to be too time consuming for me to maintain.

Thanking you again, I remain,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Walter". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John F. Walter

## TWELFTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY

The Twelfth Virginia Cavalry was organized on June 21, 1862 by the transfer of ten companies from the previously organized Seventh Virginia Cavalry. The Seventh Virginia Cavalry had grown to contain twenty-nine companies and nineteen of these companies were detached from it and reassigned to form other regiments.

More detailed information has been found on the various companies of the regiment. This material appears below.

"A"	had been Henderson's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"B"	had been Baylor's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry; a number of men from the Second Virginia Infantry subsequently served in this company
"C"	had been Marshall's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"D"	had been Knott's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"E"	had been J. Marshall's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"F"	had been Gilmor's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry; many men from Maryland and a number of these later transferred to the First Maryland Cavalry Battalion
"G"	had been Willis' Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"H"	had been Sipe's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry
"I"	had been Massie's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry; a number of men from Company "E", Seventh Virginia Cavalry later transferred to this company
"K"	had been Rinker's Company, Seventh Virginia Cavalry

For a brief period in the fall of 1862 an eleventh company served with the regiment. This company, commanded by Captain John C. Blackford, was mustered into Confederate service on October 6, 1862. It had been organized as part of a proposed partisan ranger unit which never completed its organization. While with the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry it served detached, detailed to collect conscripts and deserters. In late October, 1862, fifty-six members of the company were transferred to other organizations by order of the Conscript Bureau. The remaining members of the company were redistributed to the remaining companies of the regiment.

Like almost all Civil War units the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry was often known by an alternate designation derived from the name of its commanding officer. Names of this type used by or for the regiment are shown below.

Asher W. Harman's Cavalry  
Emanuel Sipe's Cavalry  
Thomas B. Massie's Cavalry  
Richard H. Burks' Cavalry  
John L. Knott's Cavalry  
George L. Grandtsaff's Cavalry

Albert C. Swindler's Cavalry  
William H. Morrow's Cavalry  
John H. Ford's Cavalry  
Lewis Harman's Cavalry

The Twelfth Virginia Cavalry was assigned to the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Valley District throughout its career. The list below identifies the specific higher command assignments of the regiment.

Sept. 20, 1862	Robertson's Brigade, Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia
Nov. 10, 1862	W. E. Jones' Brigade, Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia
Dec. 10, 1862	Fourth Brigade, Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia
May 25, 1863	Jones' Brigade, Cavalry Division, Army of Northern Virginia
Sept. 9, 1863	Jones' Brigade, First Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia
Dec. 31, 1863	Rosser's Brigade, Hampton's Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia
Aug. 31, 1864	Rosser's Brigade, Butler's Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia
Oct. 1, 1864	Rosser's Brigade, Butler's Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Valley District
Nov. 30, 1864	Rosser's Brigade, Rosser's Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Valley District
Jan. 31, 1865	Cavalry Brigade, Army of the Valley District
April 1, 1865	Dearing's Brigade, Rosser's Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (detached in the Valley District)

The Twelfth Virginia Cavalry participated in more than one hundred and fifty various type engagements during its career. These are identified below. Numbers after the events locate them on the map following this history.

Operations against the Reconnaissance to Orange Court House, Va. (1) (detachment)	July 25, 1862
Skirmish, Madison Court House, Va. (2) (detachment)	July 26, 1862
Action, Thornburg (Massaponax Church), Va. (3)	Aug. 5 - 6, 1862

Campaign in Northern Virginia (Second Bull Run Campaign)	Aug. 16 - Sept. 2, 1862
Action, Rappahannock Station, Va. (4)	Aug. 19, 1862
Skirmishes, Stevensburg (5), Raccoon Ford (6), and Brandy Station (7), Va.	Aug. 20, 1862
Action, Faquier White Sulphur Springs, Va. (8)	Aug. 27, 1862
Battle, Second Bull Run, Manassas, Groveton Heights, Va. (9)	Aug. 30, 1862
Action, Germantown, Va. (10)	Aug. 31, 1862
Skirmish, Centreville, Va. (11) (detachment)	Aug. 31, 1862
Skirmishes, Falls Church, Va. (12) (detachment)	Sept. 3 - 4, 1862
Skirmishes, Bunker Hill, W. Va. (13) (detachment)	Sept. 3 - 4, 1862
Maryland Campaign	Sept. 6 - 22, 1862
Skirmish, Darkesville, W. Va. (14) (detachment)	Sept. 7, 1862
Skirmish, Poolesville, Md. (15)	Sept. 7, 1862
Skirmish, Poolesville, Md. (15)	Sept. 8, 1862
Skirmish, Barnesville, Md. (16) (detachment)	Sept. 9, 1862
Skirmish, Monocacy Church, Md. (17) (detachment)	Sept. 9, 1862
Skirmish, Nolensville, Md. (detachment)	Sept. 9, 1862
Skirmish, Middletown, Md. (18)	Sept. 10, 1862
Skirmishes, Sugar Loaf Mountain, Md. (19)	Sept. 10 - 11, 1862
Skirmish, Jefferson, Md. (20)	Sept. 13, 1862
Battle, Antietam, Sharpsburg, Md. (21)	Sept. 16 - 17, 1862
Skirmishes, Williamsport, Md. (22) (detachment)	Sept. 19 - 20, 1862
Stuart's Raid in Maryland and Pennsylvania (detachment)	Oct. 9 - 12, 1862
Skirmish, Charlestown, W. Va. (23)	Oct. 16, 1862
Skirmish, Manassas Junction, Va. (24) (detachment)	Oct. 24, 1862
Skirmish near Bristoe Station, Va. (25) (detachment)	Oct. 24, 1862
Operations in Loudon, Faquier, and Rappahannock Station, Va. (26)	Oct. 26 - Nov. 10, 1862

Operations against the Reconnaissance from Bolivar Heights (27) to Rippon (28), W. Va.	Nov. 9, 1862
Skirmish, Rippon, W. Va. (28)	Nov. 9, 1862
Operations against the Reconnaissance from Charlestown, W. Va. (23)	Nov. 26, 1862
Skirmish, Berryville, Va. (29)	Dec. 2, 1862
Skirmish, Charlestown, W. Va. (23)	Dec. 2, 1862
Skirmish, Winchester, Va. (30)	Dec. 4, 1862
Operations against the Reconnaissance from Martinsburg (31) to Charlestown (23), W. Va. (detachment)	Dec. 25, 1862
Affair, Martinsburg (31), Winchester Road, W. Va. (detachment)	Feb. 5, 1863
Skirmish, Millwood, Va. (32) (detachment)	Feb. 6, 1863
Skirmishes near Smithfield (33) and Charlestown (23), W. Va.	Feb. 12, 1863
Raid on the Northwestern R. R., W. Va.	April 21 - May 21, 1863
Skirmish, Greenland Gap, W. Va. (34)	April 25, 1863
Skirmish, Oakland, Md. (35)	April 26, 1863
Affair, Morgantown, W. Va. (36)	April 27, 1863
Action, Fairmont, W. Va. (37)	April 29, 1863
Skirmish, West Union, W. Va. (38)	May 6, 1863
Affair, Harrisville, Ritchie County, W. Va. (39) (detachment)	May 7, 1863
Affair, Oil Town, W. Va.	May 9, 1863
Operations against the Expedition from Parkersburg (40) into Calhoun County (41), W. Va.	May 15 - 22, 1863
Skirmish, Harper's Ferry, W. Va. (42) (detachment)	July 7, 1863
Skirmish near Bolivar Heights, W. Va. (27) (detachment)	July 14, 1863
Skirmish, Shepherdstown, W. Va. (43) (detachment)	July 15, 1863
Skirmish, Hartwood Church, Va. (44) (detachment)	Aug. 25, 1863
Action, Hartwood Church, Va. (44) (detachment)	Aug. 26, 1863
Skirmish, Rapidan Station, Va. (45)	Sept. 15, 1863
Action, Rapidan Station, Va. (45)	Sept. 16, 1863

Skirmish, Summit Point, W. Va. (46) (Companies "A" and "F")	Oct. 7, 1863
Skirmish, Charleston, W. Va. (23) (Companies "A" and "F")	Oct. 7, 1863
Action, Culpeper, Va. (47)	Oct. 9, 1863
Bristeo Campaign (25)	Oct. 9 - 22, 1863
Action, James City (48), Rappahannock, Robertson's River, Va.	Oct. 10, 1863
Skirmish, Bethesaida Church, Va. (49)	Oct. 10, 1863
Skirmish near Culpeper, Va. (47)	Oct. 11, 1863
Skirmish, Jeffersonton, Va. (50)	Oct. 12, 1863
Action, Brandy Station, Fleetwood, Va. (7)	Oct. 12, 1863
Affair, Fox's Fbrd, Va. (detachment)	Oct. 13, 1863
Engagement, Auburn, Auburn's Mills, Auburn Ford, Va. (51)	Oct. 14, 1863
Skirmish, Broad Run, Va. (detachment)	Oct. 15, 1863
Skirmish, Mitchell's Ford, Va. (52)	Oct. 15, 1863
Skirmish, Frying Pan Church near Pohick Church, Va. (53)	Oct. 17, 1863
Skirmish, Berryville, Va. (29) (two companies)	Oct. 17, 1863
Skirmish, Haymarket, Va. (54)	Oct. 19, 1863
Skirmish near Bealeton, Va. (55)	Oct. 22, 1863
Skirmish, Rappahannock Crossing, Va.	Oct. 22, 1863
Skirmish, Rappahannock Station, Va. (4)	Oct. 23, 1863
Skirmish, Fayetteville, Va. (56) (detachment)	Oct. 23, 1863
Operations against the Scout to Martinsbung, W. Va. (31) (detachment)	Nov. 14 - 18, 1863
Mine Run Campaign (57)	Nov. 26 - Dec. 2, 1863
Skirmish, Catlett's Station, Va. (58)	Nov. 27, 1863
Action, Parker's Store, Va. (59)	Nov. 29, 1863
Skirmish, New Hope Church, Va. (60)	Nov. 29, 1863
Skirmish, Sangster's Station, Va. (61)	Dec. 15, 1863
Operations against the Scout from Vienna (62) to Hopewell Gap (63), White Plains (64), etc. and skirmishes (two companies)	Dec. 28 - 31, 1863

Operations in Hampshire (65) and Hardy (66) Counties, W. Va.	Jan. 27 - Feb. 7, 1864
Action, Medley, W. Va, (67) (detachment)	Jan. 30, 1864
Skirmish, Springfield, W. Va. (68)	Feb. 2, 1864
Skirmish, Moorefield, W. Va. (69)	Feb. 4, 1864
Engagement, Morton's Ford, Va. (70) (detachment)	Feb. 6 - 7, 1864
Wilderness Campaign	May 4 - June 12, 1864
Battle, Wilderness, Va. (71)	May 5 - 7, 1864
Action, Brock Road, Va.	May 6, 1864
Combat, The Furnaces, Va.	May 6, 1864
Engagement, Todd's Tavern, Va. (72)	May 7 - 8, 1864
Action, Corbin's Bridge, Va. (73)	May 8, 1864
Operations against the Expedition from Todd's Tavern (72) to the James River, Va.	May 9 - 24, 1864
Engagement, Haw's Shop, Va. (74)	May 24, 1864
Operations on the line of the Totopotomoy River, Va. (75)	May 28 - 31, 1864
Action, Aenon Church, Va. (76)	May 28, 1864
Action, Hanover Court House, Va. (77)	May 30 - 31, 1864
Engagement, Hanover Court House, Va. (77)	May 31, 1864
Engagement, Ashland, Va. (78)	June 1, 1864
Battles about Cold Harbor, Va. (79)	June 1 - 7, 1864
Operations against Sheridan's Trevillian Raid, Va.	June 7 - 24, 1864
Engagement, Trevillian Station, Central R. R., Va. (80)	June 11 - 12, 1864
Action, Newark (Mallory's Cross Roads), Va. (81)	June 12, 1864
Actions, Black River (Tunstall's Station) (82), and White House (83) (St. Peter's Church), Va.	June 21, 1864
Action, Jones' Bridge, Va. (85)	June 23, 1864
Engagement, Samaria Church, St. Mary's Church, Va. (86)	June 24, 1864
Engagement, Sappony Church (Stony Creek), Va. (87)	June 28 - 30, 1864
Engagement, Ream's Station, Va. (88)	June 29, 1864

Engagement, Stephenson's Depot, Carter's Farm, Va. (89)	July 20, 1864
Sheridan's Campaign in the Shenandoah Valley	Aug. 7 - Nov. 28, 1864
Engagement, Strasburg, Va. (90)	Aug. 15, 1864
Skirmish, Halltown, W. Va. (91) (detachment)	Aug. 22 - 23, 1864
Skirmish, Halltown, W. Va. (91) (detachment)	Aug. 24, 1864
Skirmish, Halltown, W. Va. (91) (detachment)	Aug. 25, 1864
Affair Williamsport, Md. (22)	Aug. 26, 1864
Engagement, Martinsburg, W. Va. (31)	Aug. 31, 1864
Engagement, Berryville, Va. (29)	Sept. 3 1864
Battle, Opequan (92), Winchester (30), Va.	Sept. 19, 1864
Action, Strasburg, Va. (90)	Sept. 21, 1864
Battle, Fisher's Hill (93), Woodstock (94), Va.	Sept. 22, 1864
Action, Brown's Gap, Va. (95)	Sept. 26, 1864
Skirmish near Brock's Gap, Va. (96)	Oct. 6, 1864
Skirmish, Luray Valley, Va. (97) (detachment)	Oct. 8, 1864
Engagement, Tom's Brook, "Woodstock Races", Fisher's Hill Hill (93), Strasburg (90), Va.	Oct. 8 - 9, 1864
Action, Cedar Creek, Va. (98)	Oct. 13, 1864
Skirmish, Cedar Run Church, Va. (98) (detachment)	Oct. 17, 1864
Battle, Cedar Creek (98), Middletown (99), Belle Grove (100), Va.	Oct. 19, 1864
Operations against the Expedition from New Creek (101) to Moorefield (69), W. Va.	Nov. 6 - 8, 1864
Skirmish near Kernstown, Va. (102)	Nov. 11, 1864
Action, Nineveh, Va. (103)	Nov. 12, 1864
Skirmish, Piedmont, Va. (104)	Nov. 28, 1864
Operations against the Expedition from Kernstown (102) to Lacey's Springs (105), Va.	Dec. 9 - 12, 1864
Action, Lacey's Springs, Va. (105)	Dec. 21, 1864
Capture, Beverly, W. Va. (106)	Jan. 11, 1865

Operations against the Expedition from Edenburg (107) to Little Fort Valley (108), Va. and skirmishes	Feb. 13 - 17, 1865
Skirmish, Mount Crawford, Va. (109)	Feb. 28, 1865
Skirmish, Mount Crawford, Va. (109)	March 1, 1865
Evacuation, Staunton, Va. (110) (detachment)	March 2, 1865
Engagement, Waynesborough, Va. (111)	March 2, 1865
Skirmish, Harrisonburg, Va. (112)	March 5, 1865
Skirmishes near Mount Jackson (113) and Rude's Hill (114), Va.	March 7, 1865
Skirmish, Duguisville, Va. (115) (detachment)	March 8, 1865
Skirmish near Charlestown, W. Va. (23) (detachment)	March 13, 1865
Skirmish near Harper's Ferry, W. Va. (42) (detachment)	March 21, 1865
Operations against the Scout from Winchester (30) to Woodstock (94), Va.	March 27 - 30, 1865

Although the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry was officially included among the Confederate troops surrendered at Appomattox Court House, it had never left the Shenandoah Valley, serving detached there. The regiment disbanded in mid-April, 1865, once it heard of the surrender of Lee's forces and when it became clear that it would not be able to reach Johnston's forces in North Carolina.

(Confederate.)

*W* | *12 Cav.* | *Va.*

*George Hilbert*

*Co. B, 12 Reg't Va. Cav.*

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

captured by the 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry at  
Charlestown, West Va., from Jan. 1 to Feb. 18,  
1865.

Roll dated *Not dated*, 186

Where captured *Berryville Va.*

When captured *Jan 29*, 1865.

Remarks: *Turned over to Maj. G. Pratt  
Provost Marshal Military District of  
Washington, Jan. 30, 1865.*

Number of roll:

*2*

(689b)

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

*A* | *12 Cav.* | *Va.*

*George Hilbert*

*Co. B, 12 Reg't Virginia Cavalry.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for *Roll of P.O.*, 186 *4*

Joined for service and enrolled:

When \_\_\_\_\_, 186

Where \_\_\_\_\_

By whom \_\_\_\_\_

Period *2 yrs or war*

Mustered into service:

When *Aug 1*, 186 *2*

Where *Harrisonburg*

By whom *Capt. Baylor*

Last paid:

By whom *Carle*

To what time *Dec. 31*, 186 *3*

Present or absent *not stated*

Remarks: *✓*

The 12th (also known as the 10th) Regiment Virginia Cavalry was organized June 21, 1862, with ten companies, A to K, which had previously served in the 7th Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

Book mark:

*A. J. Osbourne*

(642)

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

*A* | *12 Cav.* | *Va.*

*George Hilbert*

*Co. B, 12 Reg't Virginia Cavalry.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for *Feb 1 to 31*, 186 *4*

Joined for service and enrolled:

When \_\_\_\_\_, 186

Where \_\_\_\_\_

By whom \_\_\_\_\_

Period *2 yrs or war*

Mustered into service:

When *Aug 1*, 186 *2*

Where *Harrisonburg*

By whom *Capt. Baylor*

Last paid:

By whom *Carle*

To what time *Dec. 31*, 186 *3*

Present or absent *Present*

Remarks:

The 12th (also known as the 10th) Regiment Virginia Cavalry was organized June 21, 1862, with ten companies, A to K, which had previously served in the 7th Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

Book mark:

*A. J. Osbourne*

(642)

Copyist.

(Confederate.)

*A* | *12 Cav.* | *Va.*

*George Hilbert*

*Co. B, 12 Reg't Virginia Cavalry.*

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for *Jan. & Feb.*, 186 *4*

Enlisted:  
When *Aug. 1*, 186 *2*

Where *Harrisonburg*

By whom *Capt. Baylor*

Period *2 yrs or war*

Last paid:  
By whom *Capt. Carle*

To what time *Dec. 31*, 186 *3*

Present or absent *absent*

Remarks: *With leave*

The 12th (also known as the 10th) Regiment Virginia Cavalry was organized June 21, 1862, with ten companies, A to K, which had previously served in the 7th Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

Book mark:

*A. J. Osbourne*

(642)

Copyist.

H. | 12 | Va

George Hilbert  
Pvt. 12 Regt. Va

Name appears as signature to an

**Oath of Allegiance**

to the United States, subscribed and sworn to at  
Elmira, N. Y., June 27, 1865.

Place of residence Charlestown, Va  
Complexion Fair; hair Auburn  
Eyes Blue; height 5 ft. 9 in.

REMARK: Released June 27th, 1865, under G.  
O. No. 109, from A. G. O., dated June 6, 1865.

Remarks:

Number of roll:  
67; sheet 5  
D. J. Harris  
(665) Copyist.

H. | 12 Cav | Va.

George Hilbert  
Pvt. Co. A, 12 Regt. Va Cav

Appears on a roll of

**Prisoners of War**

received at Elmira, N. Y., March 3, 1865, from  
Old Capitol Prison, Washington, D. C.

Where captured Jefferson Co. Va  
When captured Jan. 27, 1864.

Remarks, charges, &c.: Released June 27, 1865

Elmira, N. Y., Register No. 3; page 331

(689) B. J. D. Mearns Copyist.

G. | 12 Cav. | Va

Geo Hilbert  
Pvt. Co. A, 12 Regt. Va Cav

Appears on a register of

**Prisoners of War**

at Old Capitol Prison, Washington, D. C.

When committed Feb. 3, 1865-  
Where captured Jefferson Co. Va  
When Jan 28, 1865-

By whom forwarded

Remarks: Sent to Columbia Mar 1 - 65

Old Capitol Prison, Washington, D. C., Register  
No. 304, part 783; page 170

(689) G. H. Taylor Copyist.

G. | 12 Cav. | Va.

George Gilbert  
Pvt. Co. B, 12 Regt. Va Cav

Appears on a

**Roll of Prisoners of War**

at Harper's Ferry, West Va., captured by the 12th  
Pa. Cav. Scouts, and forwarded to Washington,  
D. C., Feb. 3, 1865.

Roll dated Office Provost Marshal, Military Dis-  
trict of Harper's Ferry, West Va., Feb. 3, 1865.

Where captured Berryville Va

When captured Jan 29, 1865.

Remarks: Forwarded to Washing- ton D. C. July 3, 1865.

Number of roll:  
29  
(689b) J. T. Brown Copyist.

818

*Hilbert, George*

**Co. B, 12 Virginia Cavalry.**  
(10 Virginia Cav.)

Composed of ten companies which had previously served in the 7th Reg't Va. Cav.

**(Confederate.)**

*Private* | *Private*  
CARD NUMBERS.

1	50846181	20
2	6069	21
3	6292	22
4	6389	23
5	47530395	24
6	6439	25
7	419251	26
8	45733111	27
9	45744127	28
10		29
11		30
12		31
13		32
14		33
15		34
16		35
17		36
18		37
19		38

Number of medical cards herein 0  
Number of personal papers herein 0

BOOK MARK: \_\_\_\_\_

See also \_\_\_\_\_

(Confederate.)

*A*

12 Cav.

Va.

*Geo. Hilbert*

*Re*, Co. *B*, 12 Reg't Virginia Cavalry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for *Nov. & Dec.*, 186*3*.

Joined for service and enrolled:

When \_\_\_\_\_, 186*3*.

Where \_\_\_\_\_

By whom \_\_\_\_\_

Period *2 yrs*

Mustered into service:

When *Aug 1*, 186*2*.

Where *Harrisonburg*

By whom *Capt. Baylor*

Last paid:

By whom *Capt. Carle*

To what time *Nov 1*, 186*3*.

Present or absent *Present*

Remarks:

The 12th (also known as the 10th) Regiment Virginia Cavalry was organized June 21, 1862, with ten companies, A to K, which had previously served in the 7th Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

Book mark: \_\_\_\_\_

*B. F. Russell*