2011 Battle of Lexington Reenactment Authenticity Guidelines

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Missouri State Guard Costuming Guidelines

Clothing

Hats: Black or dark colored broad-brimmed hat, wool felt with or without ribbon, crown rounded or blocked. Straw "planter's" or "skimmer" hats are acceptable for summer wear. Straw hats should be sewn, not pressed (woven), with a black band,

Caps: Civilian "wheel" hat with leather visor and fabric crown. Fabric should be black, navy or dark colored wool or oil cloth.

Forage Caps: Dark blue chasseur pattern forage cap.

Insignia: None.

Blouse/Coat: Civilian "sack-coat" pattern with a 4-7 button front, inset pockets or a civilian "frock-coat" pattern, with a 7-9 button front. Fabric should be black, navy, brown, or grey jean, wool broadcloth, flannel or light checked with linen, duck or osnaberg lining. Linen or brown duck unlined coats are acceptable in the summer. Buttons should be fabric-covered, pewter, brass, or finished wood. Buttonholes should be hand stitched.

Vest: Pattern should have either standing or falling collar, inset pockets and fabric as listed above. The rear panel should be made of polished cotton, linen or natural duck. Buttons should follow the above description with buttonholes hand stitched.

Shirt

Pull over: Single top button or placket front closure. The placket front style may be with or without a falling collar. Patch pockets and front pleats are optional. Fabric should be linen, plaid "homespun", plaid, checked or striped shirting cotton, or wool flannel. Buttons should be pewter, bone, tin, japanned metal, shell or glass. Button holes should be hand stitched.

Bib-front: Pull over style with shield or square front pattern. Patch pocket is optional. Fabric should be "home-spun" flannel or wool flannel. Contrasting tape on cuffs, collar, pocket, and shield. Buttonholes should be hand stitched.

Partisan: Pull over, over-shirt with an open front. Patch pocket is optional. Fabric should be plaid "homespun" flannel or wool flannel. Contrasting tape on cuffs, collar, and pocket. Buttons should be pewter, bone or brass. Buttonholes should be hand stitched.

Cravat: Black silk or polished cotton.

Trousers: Pattern should be high waist, full leg, button fly, with side seam or top-opening ("mule-ear") pockets. A Broad Fall pattern is also acceptable. Trousers should include a tie rear adjustment. Fabric should be gray, blue, brown jeans cloth, or gray, dark blue or brown wool. Fine checked, brown duck, or dark colored fine-wale corduroy is acceptable. Waistband and pockets should be cotton duck or linen. Buttons should be of pewter, tin, glass or finished wood.

Drawers: Pattern should be high waist, front yoke or fly opening with button closure and rear tie adjustment. Fabric should be cotton, flannel or bleached muslin. Buttons should be pearl or bone. Buttonholes should be hand stitched.

Socks: Gray, black, or navy wool of cotton.

Shoes: Ankle-high, laced upper, broad or squared toe "brogans". These should be all leather construction, with sewn, pegged or nailed leather soles and heels. Black or dark russet colors. Laces should be leather or cotton with copper or tinned tips. Heel plates are optional.

Boots: Pattern should be two-pieced uppers, all leather construction, with sewn, pegged or nailed leather soles. Black or russet color. Height should not reach above the knee. Heel plates are optional.

Suspenders/Braces: Cotton, linen, webbing, or leather "X" shaped braces with single button attachments. Double button front/single button rear suspenders with adjusting buckles.

Equipment

Waist Belt and Plate: For military weapons; black or white buff leather with inverted U.S. belt plate or plain militia plate. Also acceptable, M1851 mounted service belt and plate and M1839 mounted service belt and plate.

For civilian usage; plain black or russet with brass or iron square framed buckle. "Partisan" belt, russet with double horseshoe buckles.

Cartridge Box and Sling: For military weapons; box and sling appropriate to weapon: M1808, M1841 or M1855 patterns. The M1839 rifleman's pouch and flask is acceptable.

For shotguns: hunting pouch and flask, or shot pouch and flask. Pouches to be made of leather, buckskin with a shoulder strap. Also acceptable are linen or canvas bags with a strap similar to a small haversack.

For hunting rifles: hunting pouch and flask or horn. Pouches should be made of leather, buckskin with a shoulder strap. Also acceptable are linen or canvas bags with a strap similar to a small haversack.

Cap Pouch: U.S. issue in black or home-made of russet leather.

Bayonet Scabbard and Frog: U.S. issue, appropriate for the military weapon used.

Haversack: U.S. issue, tarred with liner. Also acceptable are linen or canvas game bags.

Canteen: U.S. issue, smoothside or "bullseye" pattern with cloth or leather strap with iron roller buckle. Can be used with or without cover. A civilian tin, drum style with a cloth or leather strap and iron roller buckle or a wood, drum style with a cloth strap can also be used.

Blanket: M1851 U.S. issue gray wool with black stripes and "US" in the center or plain wool, dark in color with a solid pattern or simple stripes.

Cup: U.S. regulation, handle attached with a wire and single rivet or a civilian tin cup with a wire handle.

Plate: Tin

Utensils: Fork with three tines and bone or wood handle, knife made of iron with a bone or wooden handle and a spoon of tin or coin nickel.

Weapons

Shoulder weapons: military pattern; M1816 flintlock musket, .69 caliber, percussion conversions of .69 caliber flintlock musket, M1941 rifle "Mississippi", .54-.58 caliber or a M1842 musket, 68. caliber. Civilian pattern; shotgun, 12 gauge, half stock, percussion or hunting rifle, .45-.58 caliber, full stock percussion, flintlock or half stock percussion.

Side Arms: M1851 Colt Navy revolver, .36 caliber, "Pepperbox" revolver, .36 caliber, martial pattern single-shot pistol, .58-.69 caliber or civilian pattern percussion pocket pistols.

Edged Weapons: US M1839 heavy artillery sword and scabbard, US M1839 heavy artillery sword and scabbard, "D" guard bowie knife with leather scabbard or belt knives with hardwood, bone or antler grips.

Union Costuming Guidelines

In many cases the Home Guard would be attired like the Missouri State Guardsmen. Many of the local militia had not received military issued clothing or accouterments. Union troops, under Col. Stifel's command, arrived in July of 1861 to command the Masonic College. By August, 1861, two battalions of the First Illinois Regiment, commanded by Col. Marshall arrived. They were armed with old-fashioned single-barreled dragoon pistols and clumsy sabers. By September 8th Col. Mulligan and the Twenty-third Illinois Regiment joined those gathered at the fort. Within a few days the Thirteenth Regiment Missouri Infantry, under Col. Peabody and the United States Reserve Corps of Maj. Van Horn arrived. These troops were armed with muskets, regulation rifles or carbines and bayonets. Many of the men from other units carried old-pattern smoothbore muskets. Typically these guns were bored to .69 caliber. Springfields and Enfields were also carried. The men in these units were largely from northwestern Missouri, southern lowa and eastern Kansas.

The "Revised Regulations for the Army of the United States, 1861" describes attire and accouterments.

Uniform Coat: The uniform coat for all enlisted foot men shall be a single-breasted frock of dark blue cloth, made without plaits, with a skirt extending one-half the distance from the top of the hip to the bend of the knee; one row of nine buttons on the breast, placed at equal distances; stand-up collar to rise no higher than to permit the chin to turn freely over it, to hook in front at the bottom and then to slope up and backward at an angle of thirty degrees on each side; cuffs pointed according to pattern, and to button with two small buttons at the under seam; collar and cuffs edged with a cord or welt of cloth as follows, to wit: Scarlet for Artillery, sky-blue for Infantry, yellow for Engineers, crimson for Ordnance and Hospital stewards. On each shoulder a metallic scale according to pattern; narrow lining for skirt of the coat of the same color and material as the coat; pockets in the folds of the skirts with one button at each hip to range with the lowest buttons on the breast; no buttons at the ends of the pockets.

All enlisted men of the Cavalry and Light Artillery shall wear a uniform jacket of dark blue cloth, with one row of twelve small buttons on the breast placed at equal distances; stand-up collar to rise no higher than to permit the chin to turn freely over it, to hook in front at the bottom, and to slope the same as the coat-collar; on the collar, on each side, two blind button-holes of lace, three-eighths of an inch wide, one small button on the button-hole, lower button-hole extending back four inches, upper button-hole three and a half inches; tope button and front ends of collar bound with lace three-eighths of an inch wide, and a strip of the same extending down the front and around the whole lower edge of the jacket; the back seam laced with the same, and on the cuff a point of the same shape as that on the coat, but formed of the lace; jacket to extend to the waist and to be lined with white flannel; tow small buttons at the under seam of the cuff, as on the coat cuff, one hook and eye at the bottom of the collar, color of lace (worsted) yellow for Cavalry and scarlet for Light Artillery.

On all occasions of duty, except fatigue, and when out of quarters, the coat or jacket shall be buttoned and hooked at the collar.

For fatigue purposes a sack coat of dark blue flannel extending half-way down the thigh, and made loose, without sleeve or body lining, falling collar, inside pocket on the left side, four coat buttons down the front.

Trousers: For enlisted men, except companies of Light Artillery—dark blue cloth; sergeants with a stripe one and one-half inch wide of worsted lace, down and over the outer seam, of the color of the

facings of the respective corps. Private's pants will be plain without a stripe or welt. For companies of Artillery or Light Artillery pants shall be sky-blue cloth made loose, without plaits and to spread well over the boot, to be re-enforced for all enlisted mounted men.

Overcoat: A cloak coat of dark blue cloth, closing by means of four frog buttons of black silk and loops of black silk cord down the breast, and at the throat by a long loop a echelle, without tassel or plate, on the left side, and a black silk frog button on the right; cord for the loops fifteen-hundredths of an inch in diameter; back, a single piece, slit up from the bottom, from fifteen to seventeen inches, according to the height of the wearer. And closing at will, by buttons and button-holes cut in a concealed flap; collar of the same material as the coat, rounded at the edges, and to stand or fall; when standing, to be about five inches high; sleeves loose, of a single piece, and round at the bottom, without cuff or slit; lining, woolen around the front and lower border, the edges of the pockets, the edges of the sleeves, collar, and slit in the back, a flat braid of black silk one-half inch wide; and around each frog button on the breast, a knot two and one-quarter inches of the same color and material as the coat, removable at the pleasure of the wearer, and reaching to the cuff of the coat-sleeve when the arm is extended; coat to extend down the leg from six to eight inches below the knee, according to height.

Mounted Corps shall wear an overcoat of sky-blue cloth; stand-and-fall collar; double-breasted; cape to reach down to the cuff of the coat when the arm is extended, and to button all the way up.

All other enlisted men shall wear an overcoat of sky-blue cloth; stand-up collar; single-breasted; cape to reach down to the elbows when the arm is extended, and to button all the way up.

Hat: The hat shall be made of black felt. The dimensions of medium size will be 3 ¼ inches for the width of brim, 6 ¼ inches for the height of crown, ½ inch for the oval of tip, ¾ inch for the taper of the crown and 3/8 inch for the curve of the head. The binding to be ½ inch deep, of best black ribbed silk. For enlisted men the hat shall be the same shape and size as for officers, with double row of stitching, instead of binding, around the edge.

Forage caps may be worn for fatigue purposes. They shall be of dark blue cloth, with a welt of the same around the crown, and yellow metal letters in front to designate companies.

Boots: For enlisted men of Artillery, Infantry, engineers and Ordnance; Jefferson, rights and lefts according to pattern.

Cravat or Stock: For all officers; black. When a cravat is worn, the tie is to be visible at the opening of the collar. For enlisted men; black leather according to pattern.

Blanket: Woolen gray, with the letters U.S. in black, four inches long, in the center, to be seven feet long and five and a half feet wide and to weigh five pounds.

Belts: Black leather

Knapsack: Of painted canvas, according to pattern now used by Quartermaster's Department; the great-coat, when carried, to be neatly folded, not rolled, and covered by the outer flap of the knapsack.

Haversack: Of painted canvas, with an inside sack unpainted, according to the pattern now issued by the Quartermaster's Department.

Canteen: Of tin, covered with woolen cloth, of the pattern now issued by the Quartermaster's Department.

Acceptable Clothing

Fabric should be no less than 85% wool. The fabric should be sewn with dark blue thread and buttonholes should be hand stitched.

Hat/Forage Cap: U.S. M1858 uniform hat ("Hardee's" pattern), black wool felt with a flat crown. There should be two rows of stitching on the edge of the rim with a 2 ½ inch red leather sweatband. Another alternative is a black or dark colored broad-brimmed hat made of wool felt with or without a ribbon. Finally a U.S. M1858 forage cap, blue cloth with a black leather visor and chin strap. The lining should be black or dark brown cotton twill lining. The insignia should be a "Hunting Horn" infantry insignia with 1" letter and ¾ inch number. The M1858 hat should include a sky blue worsted hat cord and with a coat-of-arms insignia.

Blouse/Coat: The blouse should be a M1858 fatigue blouse, dark blue wool flannel with a single inside pocket on the left side and a falling collar. It can be lined or unlined. Buttons should be a brass eagle pattern, ¾ inch in diameter with hand-stitched buttonholes.

The coat should be a M1855 uniform coat, with a nine button front and two buttons on rear above the pleat. Hidden seam pockets behind the pleat. The coat should be of dark blue wool fabric broadcloth or flannel, with a padded lining of linen, duck, or polished cotton. Cuffs should be piped in sky blue with two cuff button closures. The standing collar should be piped in sky blue.

Shirt: A U.S. regulation, Damat wool flannel with a single button neck closure, falling collar and single button cuff closure. Buttons should be tin. Another alternative would be a pull over with single top button or placket front pattern. The placket front may be with or without the collar and with or without a front pocket. Fabric should be linen, plaid "homespun", shirting cotton or wool flannel. Buttons should be of pewter, bone, tin, shell or glass.

Trousers: U.S. regulation pattern high-waist, full-leg, button fly with a side seam or top-opening ("mule-ear") pockets. They should have a rear tie adjustment. Fabric should be dark blue with duck lining. Buttons should be paper-backed tin.

Drawers: High-waist, with front yoke button front and rear tie back adjustment. Fabric should be cotton, either bleached muslin or cotton ("canton") flannel. Buttons should be of pearl or bone.

Socks: Wool or wool/cotton mix of gray, dark or natural colors.

Shoes: U.S. regulation pattern. Ankle-high, lace up upper, with broad or square toe "brogans". They should be of all leather construction, with sewn, peg or nailed leather soles and heels. The outside finish should be the flesh side of the leather, a black color. The laces should be leather or cotton. Heel plates are optional.

Suspenders: Cotton, linen or leather with single button attachments. Brass adjustment buckles are acceptable.

Equipment

Waist Belt and Plate: U.S. regulation M1855 or M1858, black buff or bridle leather with a "U.S." oval belt plate, standing loop or brass keeper.

Cartridge Box and Sling: U.S. M1855 cartridge box with a "U.S." oval plate with tins. Sling should be black buff leather with a round "eagle" plate. Sling buckles should be japanned iron.

Cap Pouch: U.S. pattern, shield front, black with sheepskin lining.

Bayonet, Scabbard and Frog: U. S. regulation for angular bayonet with a black leather frog.

Haversack: U.S. regulation, tarred with inside liner.

Canteen: U.S. regulation with a cloth strap and wool cover or without cover.

Blanket: A M1851 U.S. regulation made of coarse twill weave, gray wool with a black end stripe and "U.S." hand-stitched in the center.

Cup: U.S. regulation tin "4X4" with the handle attached to the body by wire and a single rivet. Soldered construction.

Utensils: Fork; three tinned iron utensil with a bone or wood handle, knife; iron with a bone or wood handle, spoon; of tin or nickel.

Weapons

Shouldered Arms: M1855 or M1861 Springfield rifle musket, .58 caliber with russet leather sling.

Bayonet: M1855 angular bayonet, .58 caliber.

STATE GUARD UNITS

Macon County Silver Grays, Company G, 1st Infantry, 3rd Division

The "Silver Grays" were organized in and around Macon City, Macon County, Missouri in response to Governor Jackson's Proclamations of May 3rd and 11th, 1861. Little is known about what the "Silver Grays" did for the rest of May and the first part of June, 1861. However, with federal troops patrolling the Missouri River and Union Home Guards organizing across the state, militia companies from Boone, Callaway, Adair and Pike Counties began the march south to join the Missouri State Guard forces under General Sterling Price. Among the companies fleeing south were the Macon "Silver Grays".

A loose organization of companies numbering nearly a thousand camped at the fairgrounds at Columbia, Missouri about June 20th. Captain Halleck's company became Company G, 1st Regiment of Infantry, Third Division, Missouri State Guard. John Q. Burbridge, a 31 year old banker, from Louisiana, Missouri was elected Colonel. Edwin Price, son of General Sterling Price, was elected Lt. Colonel and John B. Clark, Jr., son of General Clark, was elected Major. The ten companies in the regiment totaled about 340.

The regiment was engaged at the Battle of Carthage, Missouri on July 5th, losing ten men killed and wounded. While Companies A and B were armed with old muskets and Mississippi rifles, all other companies, including Halleck's, were armed with shotguns and squirrel rifles. Through death, wounds and sickness Burbridge's regiment had been reduced to about 270.

On August 10th, 1861, the combined Southern army was attacked by Gen. Lyon's forces. Burbridge's regiment was heavily involved in the fighting on "Bloody Hill", with Halleck's company positioned straddling an old road that led north across the hill towards Gibson Mill. Of the approximately 270 men of Burbridge's regiment who went into the battle, at least 17 were killed and 89 wounded. Colonel Burbridge was shot in the back of the head but survived. According to Thomas Bacon, a soldier in Co. B, Captain Halleck's Company G suffered the heaviest casualty rate of any company in the regiment. Company G lost at least 8 killed, 6 wounded, and 1 missing. With the death of Captain Halleck, 1st Lt. Bond became the Captain and Shad Davis became 1st Lieutenant. Many of the wounded of the regiment were furloughed home before the army left for Lexington, while others had recovered enough to rejoin their companies. Colonel Burbridge, although seriously wounded, led his regiment up to the banks of the Missouri. It would be under this command structure that the "Silver Grays" marched to Lexington, bloodied from two battles and now an experienced company.

Clothing for the "Silver Grays" would reflect the civilian attire of the mid-1800's. This would include various combinations of civilian sack coats, frock coats, tall coats, roundabouts, claw-hammer coats of wool, jeans or linen and smocks of flannel or linen. This would not include hunting frocks nor sky blue kersey pants. Trousers would be plain or patterned of wool, jeans or linen. Headwear would not include forage caps, pattern hats, and Amish style straw hats.

Weapons would include shotguns and hunting rifles. Other guns might include a flintlock musket, a percussion conversion musket, a smoothbore 1842 Springfield or a Mississippi rifle. Belt knives, bowie knives and pistols may have been carried. No military equipment was available so cartridges could have been carried in a leather hunting pouch or coat and vest pockets. Cartridge boxes would not have been available. Powder horns, shot pouches or snakes may have been carried. Gourd canteens, leather or wicker encased bottles, tin drum canteens would be used to carry water. Civilian cloth bags would be carried as a haversack. Civilian blankets or period style coverlet would be used

to ward off the cold. No rubberized groundcloths or ponchos were issued before 1861 but an oilcloth would be appropriate to lay on.

1st Infantry Regiment, 7th Division MSG

The Regiment was under the command of Lt. Colonel Trigg, with the Division commanded by Brig. General James H. McBride. The Division was raised in south central Missouri, including Greene, Christian and Dent counties.

At this time the clothing equipment and weapons would have been largely what the men brought with them from home, or military items they were able to pick up once in the State Guard service. The representation should be a civilian-soldier.

UNION UNITS

23rd Illinois Infantry

The "Irish Brigade" was mustered into service June 15, 1861. On July 14th the regiment was ordered to proceed to Quincy, Illinois and onto St. Louis, where it was assigned to General Fremont's Army of the West. The Sunday before its departure the members of the Brigade attended mass at St. Mary's Church at the corner of Madison St. and Wabash Ave. At that time, the Brigade had 937 men. The Chicago Tribune remarked, "Hard usage had made their single military suit look quite unlike freshness. Although in physical fitness, the men are a credit to any section, but, in outfit, they are a disgrace to Chicago as a city, to Cook as a county and to Illinois as a State.

Frederick F. Cook, in <u>Bygone Days in Chicago</u>, described the departure of the Brigade as follows: "I have heard not a few reliable citizens describe the scenes of enthusiasm that accompanied the departure of the Irish Brigade and the showing they made in their new uniforms with gallant leader, Colonel Mulligan, at their head. No one may question this enthusiasm, for the regiment was largely made up of well known young men about the town, but their appearance is another matter and this surely gives us a good picture of the times, of the hurry and inadequacy with which everything had to be done. From what can be gathered, one uniform article of apparel was a green shirt, and as this had done duty for a month or more in what was euphoniously known as "Fontenoy Barracks", an old brewery on Polk St., the rest may be imagined."

From Reminiscences of Early Chicago Gale states, "On this occasion the Colonel looked the hero that he proved to be, the very beau ideal of a military chieftain, tall handsome, chivalrous, brave and pure of heart. No leader, no regiment, ever made a braver showing as it marched down Wabash Ave., one thousand two hundred strong; the two bright banners floating side by side over the column—one the glorious Stars and Stripes, the other the green flag of Erin—tokens of the devotion and loyalty of the men who marched beneath their folds. The Colonel's characteristic speech upon leaving for the front in which he implored his friends to "Bury me with my comrades, do I in battle fall", will never be forgotten by those who heard him."

On arriving at St. Louis, the regiment was thoroughly armed and equipped at the Arsenal. There they received 1,000 M1855 rifle muskets. They were also issued haversacks and canteens. On July 23rd it was ordered to Jefferson City, Missouri to protect the Legislature then in session. The Irish Brigade remained at Jefferson City until the last of August. A Jefferson City correspondent, of the Missouri Democrat, described the Brigade and it's surroundings: "Stationed on a commanding hill with the town and country at the will of their field guns, and surrounded by broad, smooth parade grounds are the gleaming tents of the gallant Irish Brigade under Colonel James A. Mulligan. They present a beautiful appearance with the Stars and Stripes intermingling its folds with the Green flag and both waving their colors over the white encampment. It is surely a regiment of bold disciplined and willing men, who upon occasion, will make themselves rivals of the favored 69th. Their officers are gentlemen of large experience, educated and courageous. The Brigade seems to be the favorite of the town, and its officers are courted by the first circles. Well they may be, for one rarely meets such gallant gentlemen as Captains Moriarity, Philips, Quirk, Simison and Pease. Adjutant Cosgrove's breast blazes with medals for the leading Crimean engagements. Lieutenant Colonel Quirk is an accomplished tactician and Major Moore is his worthy rival in the art. The Colonel, who has gathered about him this capital display of arts and arms, is a young, cool, daring officer, possessing the respect and confidence of his men in an unusual degree." On the last day of August, Colonel Mulligan was ordered to proceed to Lexington, Missouri, which place he was to hold and occupy.

1st Illinois Cavalry

The First Cavalry was mustered into the United States service July 3, 1861 in Alton Illinois. The Regiment consisted of seven companies, A,B,C,D,E,F and G. From Alton the Regiment moved to St. Charles, Missouri, where U.S. Grant was in command. After remaining at this point a few days drilling and receiving arms and uniforms the Regiment moved to Jefferson City, Mexico, Hannibal and Lexington. While on the way to Lexington, Company C, commanded by Captain Mitchell, encountered a rebel force under the command of Colonel McGoffin, at Georgetown, where the command lost one man with four wounded. Captain Mitchell was among the wounded. The rebels retreated but Colonel McGoffin was captured and held as a prisoner of war until after the Battle of Lexington.

The Battle of Lexington commenced on Monday, September 11th at which time an advance force of 3,000 men under General Harris advanced upon the place. The first Cavalry and the 13th Missouri were ordered to meet them. A decisive action occurred which resulted in considerable loss to the southerners. After this there was little action until the 18th. Colonel Mulligan met the attack of the enemy with undaunted bravery and almost overwhelmed with a greatly superior force surrendered the place on September 20th. Colonel Mulligan's force all told, numbered less than 3,500 men while that of the enemy was 10,000 or more.

The officers were put on parole while the privates were given their choice of taking an oath to not again take up arms until they were exchanged or to remain prisoners of war. They chose to take the oath and they were escorted to the railroad where they took passage for Quincy and from there to St. Louis where they remained until they were joined by the officers of the Regiment, a week later.

The Regiment was paid off at St. Louis about the last of September and returned to their homes to await an exchange. In November, however, the Governor having failed to effect an exchange of the non-commissioned officers and privates, ordered them to Springfield and discharged them.

The commissioned officers were exchanged in December and were ordered to re-organize the Regiment. It was also ordered that non-commissioned officers and privates who wished could return to their respective companies and draw pay as if they had remained in continuous service. With this understanding the Regiment was re-organized at Benton Barracks in June, 1862.

Kelly's Brigade/ "Washington Blues"

This unit served with the 6th Division of the Missouri State Guard at Carthage, Wilson's Creek and Lexington. Kelly's Brigade refers to the prewar State militia units of St. Louis, which had pro-southern sympathies. These were rich, well to do men, with both Irish and Scots-Irish, who united in the common cause of defending their native territory from outside invaders. Kelly's original, the "Washington Blues" militia, had the highest concentration of Irish Catholic recruits. Joseph Kelly wounded at Wilson's Creek had recovered enough to see action at the Battle of Lexington.