

James W Bowie, born about 1838 in Arkansas.

Son of John Jones Bowie and his 3rd? wife America A Watkins, widow of Richard Kirkland. Listed in 1850 census Issaquena County, Mississippi at age 12 and 1860 census Chicot County, Arkansas at age 23.

Biography found in "The Bowie's and their Kindred", WW Bowie 1899. pages 264-264, source is not given. Repeated and cited to WW Bowie in "The Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana", Virginia Lobdell Jennings, 1998.

Col James Bowie, born 1835 (*abt 1838*)

When twenty one years old was elected sheriff of Chicot, the largest and wealthiest county in Arkansas. In 1861 was elected captain of a company of men which he raised, and entered the Confederate Army at Memphis under Forest, who attached him to his staff.

Was badly wounded at the battle of Shiloh (*April 1862*), and forced to return home. Later recovered, raised another company of men in Chicot County, and was assigned to General Price's command, and with it invaded Missouri. (*Fall of 1864*)

For gallant conduct on the field of battle was commissioned colonel. When near Jefferson City, Colonel Wright, his immediate commander, asked for an officer who would undertake the difficult and dangerous task of making a reconnoissance within the enemy's lines, Colonel Bowie volunteered, succeeded in successfully passing the pickets, and was returning, when fired upon from ambush. Both arms and shoulders were shattered, and his body pierced by fourteen balls. Though almost helpless, he did not fall from the saddle, but catching the reins in his teeth, galloped back to his command with the desired information.

He died in great agony some hours later, and his body was sent to Arkansas and buried near his father. He was unmarried. Colonel Wright, the ranking officer who sent Colonel Bowie on his fatal errand, was a nephew of that Major Wright who fell in the famous Sandbar duel with Col. James Bowie, uncle of the subject of this sketch.

<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-soldiers.htm>

Bowie, J.W. Confederacy, Tennessee, 3rd Regiment, Tennessee Cavalry (Forrest's), as Cavalry. 3rd Regiment, Tennessee Cavalry organized at Memphis in October 1861.

<https://tngenweb.org/civilwar/3rd-forrests-tennessee-cavalry-regiment/>

In the Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862, Forrest's regiment was unattached to any brigade, but kept under the direct command of Brigadier General 3. C. Breckinridge. Most of the regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Kelley, was assigned to the duty of escorting to the rear the Federal prisoners from General B. M. Prentiss' Division. Forrest, with a squadron which he had retained with him, led a brilliant cavalry charge during the withdrawal, in which he was wounded.

I've forgotten/lost sources for these military records of James W Bowie

now (Jan 2025) included in Wikipedia.org and Encyclopedia of Arkansas.net

Wright's 12th Arkansas Cavalry, CSA. Company F.

This company enlisted at Lake Village, Arkansas, on November 10, 1863, comprised mostly of men from Chicot County, Arkansas. There is one extant muster roll for Company F, covering the period January 1 to February 29, 1864, when the company was stationed at Cut Off, Drew County, Arkansas. The following endorsement accompanied the muster roll: "This Company is composed of parts of several commands now East of the Mississippi river and of men that were subject to conscription West of the same. It was raised by James W. Bowie, and was organized and mustered into the service on the 10th day of November 1863, at which they and other Companies was formed into a battalion, Col. J. C. Wright Comdg, and now belong to Col. J. C. Wrights Reg't. Our duty has Principally been of an outpost nature, picketing, scouting, &c. Has been in no engagements up to this time. /s/ BELFIELD W. MATHIS."

Bowie, James W Captain—Enlisted in Co. F, 12th Arkansas Cavalry, at Lake Village, Arkansas, November 10, 1863; elected captain, November 10, 1863; elected major, December 17, 1863; elected lieutenant-colonel, February 15, 1864; present, February 29, 1864; born in Arkansas, c1836; listed in Chicot county 1860 census; occupation farmer.

Wright's 12th Arkansas Cavalry, CSA.

John Crowell Wright, lieutenant-colonel of the 26th Arkansas Infantry, resigned from that regiment to take command of a newly-organized battalion of cavalry. On December 17, 1863, the 2nd Battalion Arkansas State Troops, was organized with seven companies from southern Arkansas, and Wright was elected lieutenant-colonel.

By mid-January, 1864, three additional companies had been attached to Wright's battalion, and, on February 15, 1864, the battalion was officially enrolled in Confederate service as the 12th (Wright's) Regiment Arkansas Cavalry. The regiment was assigned to Colonel Crawford's Brigade of Brigadier-General Fagan's Cavalry Division in Major-General Price's cavalry corps of the Confederate Army of the Trans-Mississippi Department. The other units assigned to this brigade were Crawford's 10th Arkansas Cavalry, and Poe's and McMurtrey's Arkansas cavalry battalions.

*Wright's Cavalry was engaged in the battles associated with the Camden Expedition in the Spring of 1864, particularly in the battles at Poison Springs and Marks' Mills. **Later that year, the regiment took part in Price's Missouri Campaign in the Fall of 1864, and was engaged in the battles of Pilot Knob, Independence, and Marais des Cygnes.** Returning to southwestern Arkansas in November, 1864, it served in that area to the end of the war, and was included in the general surrender of Confederate forces in the Trans-Mississippi Department on May 26, 1865.*

The Field and Staff was organized at Camden, Arkansas, on December 17, 1863, as the 2nd Battalion Arkansas State Troops. It was reorganized as the 12th Regiment Arkansas Cavalry, CSA, on February 15, 1864. There is one extant muster roll for the Field and Staff, covering the period January 1 to February 29, 1864, when the regiment was stationed at Cut Off, Drew County, Arkansas.

Bowie, James W

Lieutenant-Colonel—Enlisted in Co. F, 12th Arkansas Cavalry, at Lake Village, Arkansas, November 10, 1863; elected captain, November 10, 1863; elected major of battalion, December 17, 1863; elected lieutenant-colonel of regiment, February 15, 1864; present, February 29, 1864; born in Arkansas, c1836; listed in Chicot county 1860 census; occupation farmer.

Wright, John Crowell

Colonel—Elected lieutenant-colonel of battalion, December 17, 1863; elected colonel of regiment, February 15, 1864; present, February 29, 1864; previously served as lieutenant-colonel of 15th (Johnson's) Arkansas Infantry, and lieutenant-colonel of 26th Arkansas Infantry; born in Georgia, c1835; married Mary Alabama Newton; he filed Arkansas pension application #13133 from Union county, August 11, 1914; listed in Union county 1860 census; occupation farmer.

See Also "Kiry Smith's Confederacy, The Trans-Mississippi South, 1863-1865"

by Robert L Kerby pages 338 -363+

and "Price's Lost Campaign: The 1864 Invasion of Missouri"

by Mark A Lause 2011