

Patrick Canniff, Captain, Co. F, 5 MO Infantry, CS

1837 Patrick Caniff was born in Ireland.

***by 1850 the Canniff family had immigrated to the United States of America and were residing in St. Louis, MO.

1850 August 14: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in St. Louis, MO showed thirteen-year-old Pat Cunniff¹ living in a boarding house and working as a laborer. Living directly in the household next to the Boarding House was a “Kuniffe” family consisting of a forty-six year old woman named Mary and a sixteen year old girl named Mary. It is highly likely this was Patrick’s mother and sister.

1860 July 6: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in St. Louis, MO showed P. Canniff, a harnessmaker, again living in a boarding house.

1861 December 7: Enlisted in the C.S. Army in St. Clair County, MO and mustered into Co. F, 5 MO Infantry.

¹ Spelled Cunniffe

Descriptive Roll from his Compiled Service Record.

Patrick Canniff
Capt. F, 5 Reg't Missouri Infantry.

Appears on a
Descriptive Roll
of officers of 5th Regiment Missouri Infantry, 1st
Brigade, 1st Division, Army of the West.

Roll dated
Not dated, 186 .

Date of election or assignment to duty } *Jan 28*, 186².
Date of Commission *Jan 28*, 186².

Original entry into Confederate service:
Rank *Private*
Date *Dec 7*, 186¹.

Age *23*
Where born *Ireland*
Where appointed from *Ranks*
Remarks: *1" Sp. Sfty. 6"*
Div. Mad. G. S. Co.

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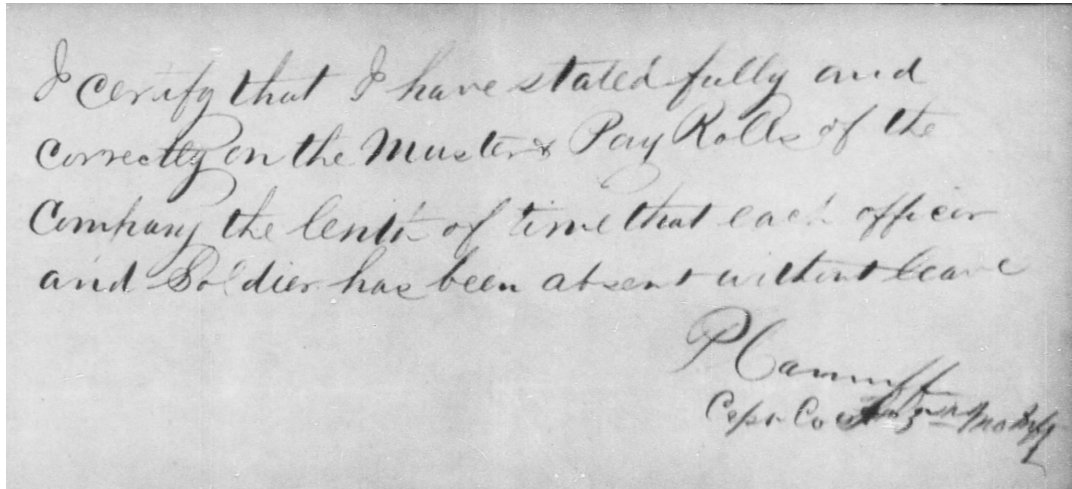
1862 July thru December: Company Muster Rolls. Present.

1863 January thru December: Company Muster Rolls. Present. Note: "Took part in the defense of Vicksburg until July 4, 1863, when the garrison was surrendered by General Pemberton. Paroled on July 8 and

² Canniff, Patrick, CSR, pg. 15 (accessed fold3.com)

marched out July 11, 1863.”

November: P. Canniff signature appeared on pay voucher.



I Certify that I have stated fully and
correctly on the Musters & Pay Rolls of the
Company the length of time that each officer
and Soldier has been absent without leave

P. Canniff
Capt. Co. 3rd - 1863

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1864 January thru August: Company Muster Rolls. Present.

November 30: Killed in action during the Battle of Franklin.

“Capt. Patrick Canniff desperately tried to get his men up to the Federal works and spurred his horse forward, hoping to inspire those around him. About ten yards from the ditch at the outside of the works, a bullet ripped Canniff from his horse. Trembling with shock and pain, as blood poured from the wound to his right shoulder, Canniff tried to rise up on his left elbow. Before he was able to even get his head high enough to see what was in front of him, another bullet crashed into the top of his skull and exploded out near his chin.”⁴

1865 August 10: T.W. Parks, a Missouri newspaper man, visited Franklin and enumerated the graves of the Missouri soldiers on the battlefield. Capt. P. Canniff was in grave number one. His grave was not marked in the McGavock Confederate Cemetery.

³ Canniff, Patrick, CSR, pg. 37 (accessed fold3.com)

⁴ Jacobson, Eric & Richard A. Rupp, For Cause & For Country, pg. 354

FIRST ROW FROM THE PIKE LOOKING SOUTH.

No. 1,	Capt. P. Canniffe, co. F, 5th Mo. vols., C. S. A.
" 2,	Lieut. W. Marnell, " " "
" 3,	(Body removed.)
" 4,	R. Williams, " " "
" 5,	Capt. M. Townsend, co. E, 5th Mo. vols.
" 6,	E. Dyson, " "
" 7,	Capt. S. G. Hale, co. F, 3d & 5th inf.
" 8,	Illegible.
" 9,	"
" 10,	"
" 11,	"
" 12,	A. Plaster, co. B, 3d Mo., U. S. A.
" 13,	Barney Lewis, "
No. 14,	R. B. Davis, co. E, 3d Mo. inf.
" 15,	J. Burnes, co. G, 3d Mo. inf
" 16,	L. Quinine, co. G, 3d Mo. inf.
" 17,	Edward Davis, co E, 3d and 5th Mo. inf.
" 18,	J. W. Duncan, co. C, 3d Mo. inf.
" 19,	Thomas D. Young, co. F, 3d Mo. inf.
" 20,	B. S. Atkisson, Capt. co. B, 3d and 5th Mo. infantry.
" 21,	Lt. J. Hayden, co. G, 5th Mo. inf.
" 22,	S. Ellison, co. H, 5th Mo. inf.
" 23,	J. Moore, co. G, 5th Mo. inf.
" 24,	Capt. Bat——, co. A, 5th Mo. inf.
" 25,	B. H. Gill, co. B, 3d and 5th Mo. inf.
" 26,	(Body taken up.)
" 27,	(No boards.)
" 28,	F. M. McGee, co. B, 3d and 5th Mo.
" 29,	S. W. Nichol, co. B, 3d and 5th Mo.
" 30,	James Peague, co. K, 3d Mo.
" 31,	(Body taken up.)
" 32,	A. M. Nuckals, co. C, 3d Mo. inf.

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Note Canniff was buried next to W. Marnell on the battlefield, graves one and two. A history of the First and Second Missouri stated "I found poor Caniff and Wat Marnell: the former lying close up to the breastworks, the dead body of his horse being near by. Marnell had fallen midway between the lines and must have been killed instantly, for the flush of excitement was still on his face, and he looked as natural as he did in life. He had received many wounds, there being eleven holes in his blanket, which I took off to put around his body. But I imagine the wound in the left breast was the first received, and the others were made by those terrible

⁵ Daily Missouri Republican, St. Louis, MO, Thursday, 10 Aug 1865, pg. 2 (accessed newspapers.com)

volleys that swept over the field after our lines were forced to retire to the outer works. Captain Caniff was knocked from his horse by a shot in the right shoulder, and it must have been while lying on the ground, that he was struck in the top of the head, the ball coming out under the chin.”⁶

⁶ History of the First and Second Missouri Confederate Brigades.