

Sgt. Archie Livingston
Co. G – 1st & 3rd Florida Consolidate Infantry

Archie was born October 10, 1836, the oldest son of Daniel and Rhonda Townsend Livingston of Marlboro Cty., South Carolina. The family moved to Madison Cty., Florida, in 1840 where Mr. Livingston was a carriage maker. At the time of the 1860 census Daniel and Rhonda had 11 living children.

Archie and his younger brother Theodore enlisted in Company G (the Madison Gray Eagles) in May, 1862. Their brother Albert was already a member of the Company.

The 1st and 3rd Florida were consolidated after the battle of Perryville, Kentucky in 1862.

On November 1, 1862, Archie was promoted to 1st Sergeant.

From Resaca, Georgia, on April 24, 1863, Archie wrote, “. . . *money is scarce in camps . . . There is no prospect of being paid soon.*”

On May 3rd Archie noted, “*A religious meeting is going on every night with our regt. & . . . many are joining the church & getting baptized.*”

At the battle of Missionary Ridge (Chattanooga) on November 25, 1863, the color bearer for the 3rd Florida was killed. The colors were picked up off the ground by Private Charles Ulmer who stood on top of a stump waving the battle flag to rally the troops. He was killed. Sgt. Livingston “*seized the battle flag of his dead comrade and bore it aloft until the troops fell back*” to a new defensive position.

As General Hood moved the Army of Tennessee toward Franklin and Nashville he wrote home on October 29 1864, near Columbia, TN., “*Snow, ice and mud so freezing cold . . . amid all this some . . . are barefoot. Hundreds indifferently clad & without good blankets.*” On November 13th he comments, “. . . *the President dissents from arming the Negro. Why not do it? Our ranks need filling up . . . I am for anything for success.*”

Archie is captured at Franklin, Tennessee, on November 30, 1864, and sent to Camp Chase Prison in Columbus, Ohio. He will take the Oath of Allegiance on June 12, 1865.

Archie returns to Madison, Florida. He will run a sawmill and act as a commission merchant. He will be a key citizen in forming the Citizens Bank of Madison. On April 26, 1881, Archie married Mary Webb. He will die April 22, 1916, at age 80. He is buried in Madison’s Oak Ridge Cemetery. The Madison, Florida, SCV Camp is named in his honor.

(North & South Magazine, Vol. 6, # 3 of April, 2003, Tollhouse, CA., “*The Letters of Sgt. Archie Livingston, 3rd Florida Infantry*” – John Coski, p76-86; Biographical Roster of Florida Confederate, Wilmington, 1995, p. 330 and 347.)