



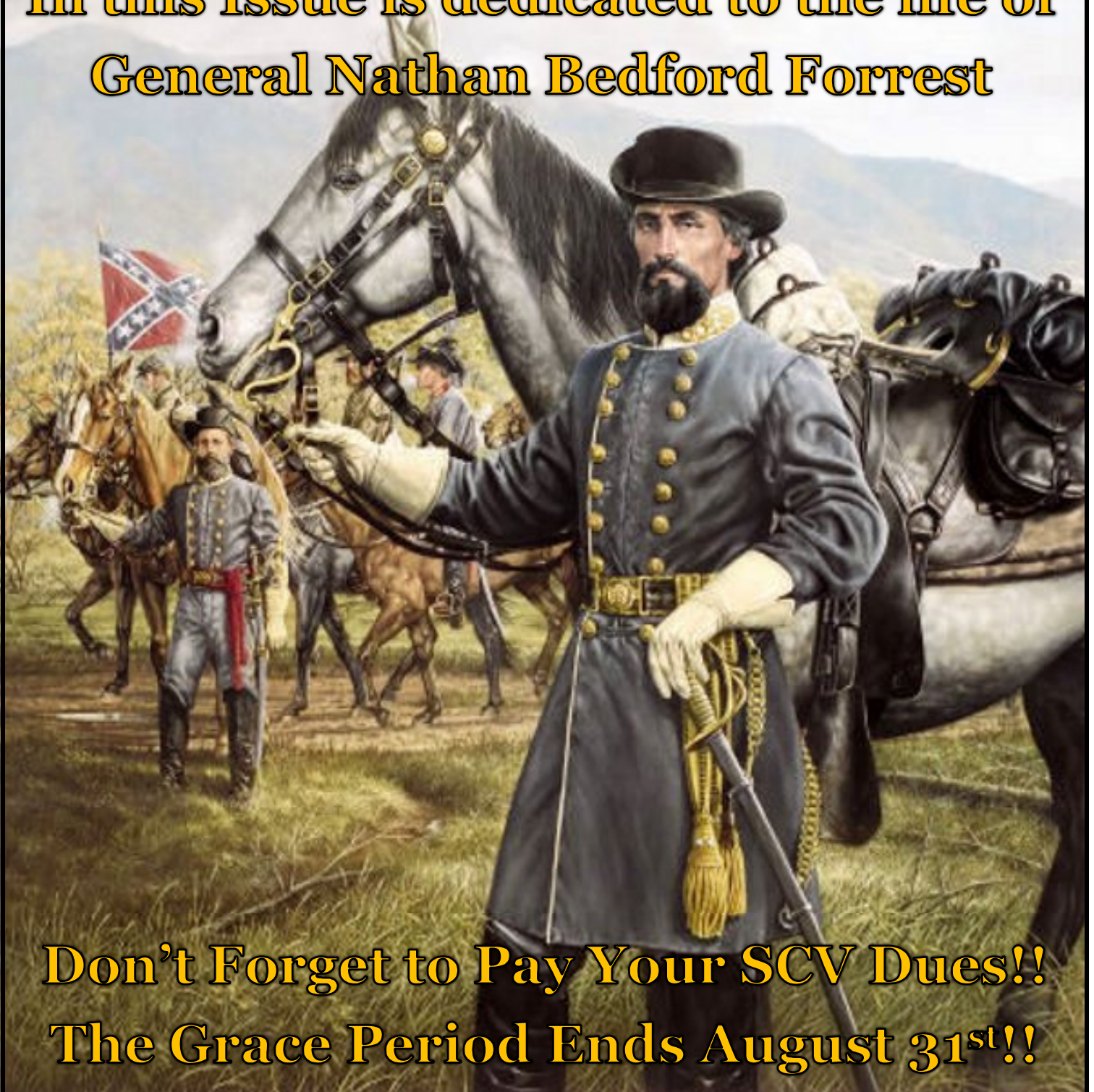
Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)



# *The Delta General*

Richard Dillon, Camp Commander

**In this Issue is dedicated to the life of  
General Nathan Bedford Forrest**



**Don't Forget to Pay Your SCV Dues!!  
The Grace Period Ends August 31<sup>st</sup>!!**

July Issue - 2017, Volume 20, Issue 6

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Meeting – Thursday, July 6, 2017, 7:00 PM at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola
- National Reunion in Memphis, July 20-22, 2017

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Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys  
Camp #1625, SCV  
website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)

## Camp News:

### Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

Compatriots,

I hope each of you had an enjoyable 4th of July, even though it was the worst of times for our Southern ancestors in 1863, with the fall of Vicksburg and the defeat at Gettysburg.

Instead of our regular August meeting, we are going to have a picnic at Belmont Plantation.

We will finalize plans for the picnic at our July meeting, so, please, attend. We welcome your ideas.

Also, I will ask those who attended our Division Reunion last month for a report on the happenings there. It's always interesting to hear of the progress, newly elected officers, arguments, fights, etc that occurred at the reunion.

I hope to see each of you at our July meeting.

## Camp Meeting Minutes, June 2017

### Adjutant's Report – Larry McCluney

There was a small crowd on hand for our June meeting. Salutes to the flags and blessing was given for the meal the Ella Palmer Chapter, OCR provided. Kenneth Ray was our speaker who showed us some artifacts that he has collected and we got to handle them as well. It is always a treat when you get to hold artifacts from the war.

The Camp discussed the State Reunion in Oxford and who the delegates would be. Also, it was discussed about the potential amendments and candidates for election.

The Camp also voted to make a trip to Belmont Plantation in Greenville on August 26 to explore our local history and observe General Humphreys Birthday.

After the meeting, there was no raffle or drawing because of the small crowd.

## July 6, 2017 Camp Meeting

Our July Camp meeting will feature a Division reunion report, preparations for our August Camp picnic to honor General Humphreys on his birthday, and discussing the Camp's Votes on issues for the National Reunion. Please let's make all efforts to attend this important meeting. There will also be a video from Civil War Combat as the program. The videos from Civil War Combat are very interesting, informative, done by progressive reenactors who want to make sure the presentation is done right.

## Mississippi Division News

### Grace Period for Dues is Shortened

Compatriots,

The Membership Renewal Statements have been mailed. You should start receiving them after the 4th. Please remember the Grace Period has been changed to end on August 31st. Please renew your membership as soon as you receive your statement in order to avoid any future late fees.

When you mail in your dues to your Camp Adjutant, please put your current email address on the return portion of the statement. These emails will be used by the Heritage Defense Committee to put out information about any future Heritage violations.

Your Servant,  
Dan A. McCaskill, Adjutant  
Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans



Celebrate the 4th of July, 2017 at Baer House Inn  
**Breakfast with the Generals**  
All you can eat Buffet. \$15/Adult \$7.50/Children  
(\$5 from each meal going to Vicksburg Civil War Roundtable for the preservation of history!)

**8-10:30 AM**

**Rare Opportunity to Re-live History!**  
**Dine with Generals Grant & Pemberton**  
**General Beauregard & More Expected to Attend!**

With Curt Fields	As Gen. Grant
With Morgan Gates	As Gen. Pemberton

## MS DIVISION SCV 2017

### Reunion Report and

#### Awards Winners:

The 122nd Mississippi Division, SCV, and 23rd MSOCR Reunions was held this weekend in Oxford.

Thanks to everyone who traveled to the reunion from across the state. Special thanks to the University Greys Camp for the excellent job hosting this year's outstanding reunion.

Elections were held and the new officers are as follows:  
Mississippi Division Commander - Mr. Jeff Barnes  
1st Lieutenant Commander - Mr. Conor Bond  
2nd Lieutenant Commander - Mr. Carl Ford  
Mississippi Division adjutant - Mr. Dan McCaskill  
1st Brigade Commander - Mr. Stan Rhoda  
1st Brigade Councilman - Mr. Stuart Denman III  
2nd Brigade Commander - Dennis Brown  
2nd Brigade Councilman - Bill Latham  
3rd Brigade Commander - Trent Lewis  
3rd Brigade Councilman - John Evans  
4th Brigade Commander - Bill Hinson  
4th Brigade Councilman - Patrick Charlton  
5th Brigade Commander - Jason Smith  
5th Brigade Councilman - Charlie Schmitz



New Mississippi Division Officers being sworn in at the Reunion, June 10, 2017.

Congratulations to the new leadership. The members of the Mississippi Division look forward to your leadership as we all continue our duty to follow the Charge!

Thanks to the 2017 Division Awards Committee -- Tommy Rainey, Andrew McCaskill, Chris Merck, Drew Lane, Donald Wright, Conor Bond, and (Tie-breaker) Comdr. Louis Foley. It was an arduous task to choose from among so many deserving nominees, but you discharged your duty with impartiality and honor. It was a pleasure to serve with you all!

Thanks, too, to the folks who volunteered to present the individual awards to the winners -- Greg Stewart, Marc Allen, Louis Foley, Dan McCaskill, Larry

McCluney, and Bill Latham. -- Jim Huffman, Chair  
JEFFERSON DAVIS CAMP OF THE YEAR - Rankin  
Rough & Readies  
WALTER R. BIVINS COMPATRIOT OF THE YEAR -  
Daryl Ladner  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT - Dan McCaskill  
JOHN J. PETTUS HERITAGE AWARD - Rep. Richard  
Bennett  
JOHN L. HARRIS HERITAGE AWARD - DeBorah  
Simpson  
J.Z. GEORGE PRESERVATION - Congressman  
Steven Palazzo  
WALTER X. BROOME YOUNG COMPATRIOT  
AWARD - Ian McKay  
BOO WHITE BRIGADE COMMANDER OF THE  
YEAR - Bill Latham  
A.J. FRANZ MEDIA AWARD - WXXV-TV  
FATHER JOSEPH RYAN GRAVES AWARD - Jim  
Huffman  
JEFFERSON DAVIS PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY - Alan  
Spence  
DALE S. FLEMING NEWSLETTER AWARD  
Large Camp: - John Echols  
Small Camp: - Don Green  
DUNBAR ROWLAND SCRAPBOOK AWARD -  
Tippah Tigers  
Gen. WM. D. MCCAIN PUBLICATION AWARD -  
Larry McCluney  
STEPHEN DILL LEE RECRUITER OF THE YEAR (as  
reported from IHQ) - Donald Wright  
VARINA HOWELL DAVIS - Pam Mauldin



Dan McCaskill receives the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Larry McCluney at the Reunion.



## BICENTENNIAL FLAG



The haters of our heritage never give up. After a failure, they not only double down on that strategy but develop a new and innovative ways to destroy the symbols of our heritage. A case study of this strategy is the war against our flag of the great state of Mississippi. You all know the efforts of the past to force removal of our present state flag. Popular votes, court cases, arm twisting of legislatures and proposed constitutional amendments are all examples that have so far failed. These efforts have all been opposed by the majority of the people of the state but a very vocal minority continue to carry the fight against our heritage. Their lack of victories has left, our left leaning cities and universities to lower our beautiful state flag. Now with a very important event to our state, the bicentennial of our statehood, will come a new effort to change our state flag, a flag to celebrate the bicentennial. This flag will fill the empty flag poles around the state and there will be resolutions celebrating our bicentennial and the flag developed to celebrate the occasion. Along with this fell good movement, there will be a continued effort to change our state flag in the legislature. One of the "hate the flag" strategies is to over the year of our bicentennial to gather momentum to have this flag to replace our current flag. My position is as always no compromise no surrender. Contact your Representative and Senator in Jackson and voice your opinion on our state flag. The speaker of the house will continue his effort to erase our proud heritage.

## FLAG RESTORATION

In many cases the old veteran's battle flags are our last physical link to their valor. Many of their flags are in possession of the State of Mississippi Archives and History. There they are rotting away to dust. It is up to us as decedents of these brave men to preserve their battle flags for our descendants to see. There are three funding activities. Direct donations, SCV car tags, and sale of coffee cups. Our camp has a supply of coffee cups. Ask me about cups. You get the SCV specialty tags at the court house, just ask.



## BRICKS FOR BEAUVOIR



The plans are for a brick plaza around the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Each brick would cost \$50.00 and would have the name of a Confederate ancestor of members of the SCV who give to the effort. “The Bricks for Beauvoir” Project is spearheaded by Larry McCluney, Past Commander of the Mississippi Division. Thirteen columns, in a crescent, will represent the 13 States of the Confederacy and will fly the flag of each respective State. The project is drawing near the end. It is projected the project will be

complete by Fall Muster. By all reckoning there are 153 more spaces left in the archway

## UPCOMING MISSISSIPPI DIVISION REUNION LOCATIONS

- 2017 The University Greys camp 1803 and Calhoun Avengers Oxford, Ms
- 2018 Private Samuel A. Hughey camp 1452 Southaven, Ms
- 2019 The Rankin Rough and Ready's camp Brandon, Ms
- 2020 tentative John C Pemberton 1354 Vicksburg Ms

## UPCOMING NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- 2017 Memphis Tennessee July 20-22 2017
- 2018 Franklin Tennessee
- 2019 Mobile Alabama

### State Flag Taken Down in McComb, MS

MCCOMB, Miss. (WJTV) – The Mississippi state flag was removed from McComb city property Thursday...the flag wasn't originally on the agenda but was added before two board members made it to the meeting.

Supporters of the Mississippi state flag lined the street in front of McComb's City Hall...where that state flag is no longer flying. Flag supporter Richard Fortenberry says, “the number one goal for us is to be peaceful number one we want everything we do and say to glorify God, and support our flag and support our state and support our town and to send a message.”

Three of the city's selectmen voted quickly to take it down. One voted for the flag to stay, and two selectmen weren't there for the vote. Some people want the flag, with its confederate emblem, to stay down. Donovan Hill, Ward 4 Selectmen says, “if one group of people is displeased with it, it makes them, if they walk up on a city property and they have this ill feeling about it, then the other side should want to take it down.” Supporters say to them the flag is about history, “it's about heritage, not about hate its about everyone's equal not about one color,” says Anthony Roberts.



## New MS Division Commander Jeff Barnes

Commander Jeff Barnes, new Division Commander of the Mississippi Division, SCV. Commander Barnes has some refreshingly good ideas about being proactive (not reactive) in honoring our ancestors and defending our heritage. He is determined to lead this Division in a positive direction. Commander Barnes has the full support of the MS Division, and we are blessed to have a man of his character leading this Division in these turbulent, anti Confederate times. ( Right)

## New S.D. Lee Dispatch Officer will be Assigned

Compatriots of the MS. Division SCV and Friends,

As of yesterday (June 29) I have resigned my post as MS Division SCV Communications Officer. I have enjoyed serving in this post for many years. I did the best I could to inform you all as much as possible on division updates, news and information. I do not know yet who will replace me and take over this task, so for now there is no **S.D. Lee Dispatch**. I am sure in the coming days someone will be appointed to fill this slot. I wish this person well. I know from experience that it is not an easy task. As for me it is time to turn the page. Thank you all so much for all your support over the years.

I will end by saying. This is my final post from the S.D. Lee Dispatch to you. Please stay tuned and stay informed. We all together will continue "Forwarding the Charge!"

Bill Hinson  
MS Div. SCV 4th Brigade Commander  
Lowry Rifles Camp #1740 Commander/Adjutant

## 2017 Fall Muster October 20-22, 2017

The War Between the States comes to the Last Home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, the weekend of October 20-22, 2017. You can experience the sights, sounds and smells of the 1860's, as you witness the epic struggle that shaped the Nation. Come and Join Us!

You and your unit are invited to participate in this year's Fall Muster Event. We are in need of all branches of service, (North and South) for this weekend engagement.

In this day and time, we must fight even harder to maintain history. You cannot ask for a better opportunity then this. Please help preserve history.

I hope your reenacting schedule allows you to attend this event. Beauvoir needs you!

Artillery will be limited to first, eight (8) full scale guns to register. Please pass this on to others who may be interested.

[ladnerhm@att.net](mailto:ladnerhm@att.net)

or Fall Musters

Daryl Ladner 2244 Beach Blvd.  
9241 Road 232 Biloxi, MS. Picayune, MS 39466  
39531

Or Fax: 228-388-4400

## National SCV News

(Right)

At the Forrest Boyhood Home with CIC Thos V Strain Jr. and Lt. CIC Paul Gramling handling SCV business. I am honored and humbled that these two men are not only friends and brothers, but family as well. Thank you to the men who have allowed me to serve on the GEC for the past seven years as your AoT Councilman and now as your AoT Commander. I hope I will have your prayers and support as I make decisions about my future in the SCV. Please keep myself and my wife in your thoughts and prayers as we make this decision together.

Deo Vindicie my brothers!





# Future Site of *The National Confederate Museum* at Historic Elm Springs



TheConfederateMuseum.com  
f HistoricElmSpringsCSA

The Sons of Confederate Veterans broke ground at Elm Springs for a new building "The National Confederate Museum." The museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. A building fund for this purpose is ongoing. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media. We are invited to make a stand for the future by contributing to this fund.

## The Sunflower Dispersers

The third Mississippi Infantry, Company B, who named themselves the "Sunflower Dispersers" having been raised in Sunflower County shown here in their uniform of 1861. Confederate regiments consisted of companies that were raised in different counties within their namesake states. Each company was allowed to uniform and equip themselves as they wanted (or as available supplies allowed) and the result was a myriad of all conceivable forms of uniform dress, colors and style that would be represented even in one regiment during the early months of the Civil War. In the case of the "Sunflower Dispersers" Photographic evidence shows members of this company dressed in grey battle shirts trimmed in the state regulation color of Red with a sunflower symbol on the right breast of the shirt. The Third was also issued the m1841 Mississippi Rifle. The 3rd Mississippi Infantry was commanded by Colonel John B. Deason and served in the Western Theater initially assigned to the Army of Mississippi. The regiment participated in many of the major combat actions of the western



theater where some of the most ferocious fighting took place including the defense of Vicksburg, the Atlanta Campaign and the disastrous battles of Franklin and Nashville. Survivors of the Third with their ranks shredded from losses, fought against William T. Sherman in the Carolinas under General Joseph E. Johnston in 1865. With it's ranks shattered: containing only a handful of it's original members, the Third was consolidated with two other Mississippi regiments (The 33rd and the 40th) and thus fought-on until the surrender of Johnston's army to Sherman on April 26th 1865. The Third Mississippi was truly one of the proud die-hards that fought-on to the very end of hostilities.

Source - <http://www.maritato.com/third-mississippi-infantry-company-...>

(Editor's Note: I want to highlight Mississippi units and show pictures of their uniforms in coming issues. I hope you enjoyed this first installment)







Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

SCV Camp & number \_\_\_\_\_

(check one) \_\_\_\_\_ AOT \_\_\_\_\_ ATM \_\_\_\_\_ ANV \_\_\_\_\_ OCR

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, ST \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Hm ph \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Guest/spouse name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Registration and meals

Early Registration (Before Apr 1, 2017) (Only SCV members are required to pay registration fees) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 60.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Late Registration (After Mar 31, 2017) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 70.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Extra Reunion medal Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 • Numbered Special Edition Medal (1-75) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$100.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chaplain's Breakfast (Thursday) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Heritage Luncheon (Thursday) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (Friday) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Awards Luncheon (Friday) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gov. Harris Breakfast (Saturday) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Debutante Luncheon (Saturday) (Free for debutantes; female guests only - \$35) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grand Ball and Banquet (Saturday) \$70 single/\$130 couple Qty \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Tours

Shiloh Battlefield w/ guide & lunch (all day Tuesday) (\$55 single/\$100 couple) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 55.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CSS Little Rebel Dinner Cruise (Wednesday evening) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 45.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladies' Victorian Village Tour & Tea (Thursday morning) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 USS Carondelet Civil War Museum and chicken/fish fry (Thursday evening) (\$30/\$50) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladies' Davies Plantation Tour & Tea (Friday morning) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Forrest's Memphis Raid & Civil War sites (Friday) (\$40/\$75) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Historic Elmwood Cemetery & Soldiers' Rest (Saturday afternoon) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fort Pillow field trip (& lunch) (Sunday, 8am to 3pm) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 55.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ancestor Memorial (Recognition in Reunion Program) Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please complete Ancestor Memorial form and include it with your registration. **Deadline is May 15**)

GRANT TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total (check one) \_\_\_\_\_ personal check \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*PayPal \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Amex \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card #, & exp dte \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Dte \_\_\_\_\_ Secur Cd \_\_\_\_\_

(\*\*3% fee will be added for PayPal and credit card pymts) (PayPal/credit card pymts will be accepted online or at the door. Cash accepted at the door. Checks will NOT be accepted at the door.) In the unlikely occurrence that an event is cancelled your cost will be refunded.

- Medals are available while supplies last. Each registrant receives one medal. The purchase price of extra Reunion medals will be refunded if supplies run out. \*Special Edition Medals are numbered 1-75 and numbers will be assigned on a first-come first served basis, as long as supplies last. If you would like a specific number(s), please make a note on your registration form.
- Meals, tours and numbered Special Edition medals will be available for at-the-door registration on a space-available basis. To **guarantee** meal tickets and tours, registration **MUST** be received by **June 15, 2017**.

Hotel reservations: you can make your own here on the website: [www.scvmemphis2017.org](http://www.scvmemphis2017.org) rooms are \$139 per night.  
 Or call Sheraton Memphis reservations, 901-527-7300. Ask for the SCV Reunion Special Rate. All prices subject to state and local taxes.

N. B. Forrest Camp 215

[www.scvmemphis2017.org](http://www.scvmemphis2017.org)

Mail checks to: ScvMemphis2017, PO Box 11141, Memphis, TN 38111



## Nathan Bedford Forrest by Michael R. Bradley

It has been said that Bedford Forrest was the most effective cavalry commander produced by the Civil War. It has also been said that Forrest is the most controversial figure produced by the war. Both statements have merit. Forrest is considered an outstanding cavalry leader because of his mastery of the technique of deep penetration raids during which his command disrupted Federal logistic networks and because of his victories over superior forces during his defense of a major food producing area in Mississippi in 1864. Controversy swirls around Forrest because of a massacre of United States Colored Troops (USCT) at Fort Pillow in April, 1864, and because of his widely-believed involvement with the Ku Klux Klan following the war. More stories and myths are associated with Forrest than with any other major figure from the Civil War and many of these are uncritically accepted as factual, but the man is more complex than his legend. [1]

Nathan Bedford Forrest was born on July 13, 1821, near the village of Chapel Hill in Bedford County, Tennessee (a redrawing of county boundaries has placed Chapel Hill in Marshall County). He was the oldest son of William and Mary Beck Forrest, and would be one of ten siblings, including a twin sister who died at an early age. William Forrest, the father of this large family, was a blacksmith and small farmer but he died when Bedford (the name he preferred) was 16, so the eldest son became the head of the family. In 1833 the family moved to the vicinity of Hernando, Mississippi, and Bedford went into business with an uncle. When his uncle was killed in a dispute with some neighbors, Forrest inherited the business and soon proved his skill as a businessman. Trading in livestock, land, and slaves he amassed a fortune estimated at 1.5 million dollars by 1860, married, and moved with his wife to Memphis, Tennessee where he was elected as an alderman. From his earliest days Forrest was a person of initiative who took every opportunity to gain an advantage; he always tried to be in control of every situation.

Tennessee voted against secession in February 1861. Forrest was known for his opposition to leaving the Union, but, following the beginning of the war in April when Tennessee again voted on the issue, Forrest supported secession. A war had begun, President Abraham Lincoln had called for volunteers to invade the Confederate States, and sides must be chosen. Forrest enlisted as a private in a company being raised in Memphis but his prominence as a business and local political leader caused Governor Isham Green Harris to send him a commission as a lieutenant colonel with the authority to raise a battalion of cavalry. This unit, which Forrest equipped with his own money, was designated the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Tennessee Cavalry. The unit grew over time to regimental size and became the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tennessee Cavalry. Although designated a Tennessee organization the unit included men from Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Missouri, as well as soldiers from Tennessee.

Following their organization and training, Forrest's command was sent into western Kentucky as part of the army being assembled by General Albert Sidney Johnston. During the late months of 1861 Forrest led patrols as far north as the Ohio River and frequently used his cavalrymen to ambush boats on the river, including the gunboats the federal forces were beginning to use to patrol waterways. In January 1862 Forrest led his men to Fort Donelson near Dover, Tennessee, to become part of the garrison of that place. On February 6, 1862, U.S. forces commanded by Major General Ulysses S. Grant captured Fort Henry, a fortification on the Tennessee River some 12 miles west of Fort Donelson. When Grant moved against Fort Donelson on February 12 and 13 Forrest used his cavalrymen to delay the Union advance. A Confederate counterattack was made on February 15 in an attempt to open an escape route. During this attack, Forrest used his men to probe the Union lines for vulnerable points and then to lead infantry forces to attack these points. In the course of the day, Forrest broke the Union flank three times, captured one six-gun battery, and took two guns from a second battery. At the end of the day, Forrest found that his overcoat had fifteen bullet holes in it.

Although the attack opened a road by which the garrison could have escaped, their commander, Brigadier General Gideon Johnson Pillow inexplicably ordered his men back into their entrenchments. On the night of February 15-16 a council of war decided to surrender the next morning. When he was informed of the approaching surrender Forrest announced his intention of escaping from the fort and led out more men than he numbered in his regiment. This action established Forrest as an uncompromising fighter in the minds of people, South and North. In his first major action Forrest revealed himself to be an independent thinker who was not bound by rigid obedience to decisions made by officers of higher rank; Forrest thought for himself. This characteristic would make him a formidable leader but would make him a difficult subordinate.

Forrest's stature as a leader in a time of crisis was enhanced by his actions in clearing Nashville of most of the military supplies accumulated there before Union forces arrived to occupy the capital city of Tennessee. Forrest also commanded part of the rearguard as the Confederate army fell back into north Alabama and Mississippi.

The weeks between the fall of Fort Donelson and the Battle of Shiloh (April 6-7, 1862) were spent by Forrest in resting, recruiting, and training his men. Although the Confederacy had been dealt a severe blow by General Grant the reputation established by Forrest allowed him to recruit more men so that his command was larger in April than it had been in January.

At the Battle of Shiloh, Forrest was ordered to guard the crossing of a minor creek and it soon became obvious to him that no federal troops were in the vicinity. Without orders, he led his men into the main battle area and helped anchor the right flank of the Confederate attack. During the night of April 6-7 his scouts discovered that Major General Don Carlos Buell had arrived on the east bank of the Tennessee River and that reinforcements were streaming across to support Grant. During the fighting on April 7 Forrest helped repel three attempts to turn the Confederate flank and, when the army began its retreat to Corinth as night fell, he was placed in charge of the rearguard.

On April 8 Major General William Tecumseh Sherman led his brigade of infantry in pursuit of the Confederates. Less than three miles from the battlefield Sherman's pursuit was confronted by Forrest and approximately 600 cavalrymen. As the U.S. infantry crossed a boggy stream Forrest led 300 of his men in a slashing mounted charge into the blue ranks, creating such confusion that the pursuit was halted. During this charge Forrest was seriously wounded by a shot fired at point blank range and was forced to take a medical leave of three weeks. The operation to remove the bullet was not performed until almost a month after the wound was inflicted and was performed in a hospital by a relative of Forrest, Dr. J. B. Cowan.

The rearguard action following Shiloh, sometimes called the Battle of Fallen Timbers, gave rise to a persistent story which illustrates the way legends have clustered about Forrest. According to the story, when Forrest was wounded he reached down from his saddle and seized a U.S. soldier by the collar, slung him up behind him, and used him as a shield as he galloped back through the blue ranks. Such a feat of strength is unbelievable, yet the story appears in many biographies of Forrest. The story appeared for the first time in 1902 in a book written by a man who was not present while five accounts, written by Confederate



Forrest before the war



participants in the engagement, do not mention such a thing happening. The lack of evidence has not prevented the story being widely circulated and believed because the story involves Forrest. Such an account would never have gained credence if the protagonist was Major Generals Joseph Wheeler or JEB Stuart or any Union cavalry commander, but Forrest is a legendary figure, so the legend has taken on a life of its own.

When Forrest returned to the army, now concentrated in and around Corinth, Mississippi, he was told that he had been recommended for promotion to brigadier. In mid-June, 1862, he was sent to Chattanooga to organize a brigade of cavalry and to begin preparations for the move General Braxton Bragg wanted to make into Kentucky. Bragg's proposal was that Confederate forces in Chattanooga should slow the advance of General Don Carlos Buell toward that place while Bragg used the network of railroads to shift his army from Corinth to Chattanooga. Then, before the federal forces in western Tennessee were aware of what was happening, Bragg would sweep into Kentucky, cut all supply routes south, and force the Union armies in Tennessee to fall back to the Ohio to meet the new threat.

Since the Confederate forces in Chattanooga were outnumbered by the advancing army under Buell, Forrest made a typically bold decision; he would attack. His target would not be the soldiers advancing on Chattanooga, the target would be their supply line. This raid against an opponent's logistics network would become a trademark of Forrest for the rest of the war.

Awaiting Forrest in Chattanooga was a band of cavalry from several states who had never served together and many of whom were recent recruits who had neither horses or weapons. Forrest had instructions to organize the 8<sup>th</sup> Texas, 1<sup>st</sup> Georgia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgia, remnants of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kentucky, and Colonel Baxter Smith's Tennessee Battalion into a brigade. The order to organize a brigade of cavalry was an innovation in itself since the Union armies did not have any cavalry organization larger than a regiment. Forrest took only a few days to create the rudiments of a brigade structure and then set off across the Cumberland Mountains by a circuitous route toward Murfreesboro.

The garrison of Murfreesboro consisted of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Minnesota Infantry, five companies of the 9<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry, a detachment of the 7<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Kentucky Battery, all under the command of Brigadier General Thomas Turpin Crittenden who arrived at the town on July 12. Also in Murfreesboro were 150 civilians being held in the town jail, six of them under sentence of death to be carried out on July 13. Crittenden found his new command scattered in three widely separated camps, an arrangement which he meant to change, but events prevented his doing so.

On July 13, 1862, just as it became light enough to see, Forrest's column of cavalry came charging into town along the Liberty Pike. Forrest's men immediately broke into smaller groups to attack previously designated targets. Much of the ensuing fighting took place on the grounds of the Oaklands mansion (now open as an historic house) and at the courthouse in the center of town (still in use today). The 150 civilian prisoners were saved from a gruesome fate by Forrest's men. As the Union troops fell back from the jail someone set fire to the building, intending to burn to death all the prisoners. Troopers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgia broke open the doors of the building before the fire engulfed the structure and released the prisoners. By separating each federal force from the others Forrest was able to capture them in turn, although this took most of the day. Andrew Lytle, in *Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company* recounts the story that one of Forrest's staff officers advised him that federal reinforcements were likely to arrive from Nashville less than forty miles away by rail and Forrest is said to have replied, "I didn't come here to do no half-way job of it, I intend to have 'em all." Lytle provides no documentation for the exchange but whether entirely accurate or not, the quote sums up the fierce determination Forrest brought to any fight.

Before sundown, Forrest "had 'em all" and marched his men, their prisoners, and several tons of military supplies out of town for what proved to be a peaceful trip back to Chattanooga. This raid on his supply line caused General Buell to stop his advance on Chattanooga and send troops to the rear to protect his transportation net. This, in turn, allowed General Bragg time to move his army from Mississippi to Chattanooga and begin his sweep into Kentucky. In the following weeks, as the Confederate army swept north into Kentucky and the Union forces abandoned most of their gains in Tennessee, Forrest continued to harass Union troop movements and to send information of their movement to army headquarters. General Bragg was not pleased with Forrest as a brigade commander with his army, however, although the performance of Forrest in carrying out the role of screening the advance of the army had been quite good. There is no clear reason as to why Bragg was not pleased with Forrest; perhaps it was because of Forrest's lack of military education (or any other sort of education, for that matter), perhaps the more refined Bragg was put off by the lack of civil graces in the unrefined Forrest. At any rate, Forrest was relieved of his command and sent back to Tennessee to raise new troops.

Forrest, somewhat embittered toward Bragg, returned to Middle Tennessee where his reputation soon had recruits flowing to his encampment. As his new command was organized and trained Forrest led them in daily reconnaissance of the isolated Union garrison at Nashville and engaged in frequent skirmishes with foraging parties sent out to attempt to bring in food for the garrison. In November, following the battle of Perryville in Kentucky, the Confederate army returned to Middle Tennessee and Forrest once again took on the traditional role of screening the flank and front of the army. He was assigned to the right flank, watching roads which led south from Nashville, which Major General William Starke Rosecrans had made his base when he succeeded General Buell in command of the Army of the Cumberland. In carrying out this assignment Forrest was literally making a return to the place of his birth since his area of responsibility included Chapel Hill. This allowed him to continue recruiting.

The brigade which Forrest assembled during the autumn of 1862 included some men who had served under his command earlier. The Confederate War Department had established a policy that a unit should be made up of men from the same state. Under that policy the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tennessee, Forrest's original command, had been broken up into smaller units to reflect state origins. The Alabama troops from the former 3<sup>rd</sup> Tennessee had become the nucleus of the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama and that regiment was now part of Forrest's brigade. Rounding out the brigade were the 4<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, 8<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, and 9<sup>th</sup> Tennessee. While veterans provided a nucleus for each regiment, the bulk of the men had only entered the armed service during the Autumn and had never been in major combat. The armament carried by the men was weak, many of the men carrying double-barrel shotguns brought from home (effective range about 20 yards) and 400 men of the brigade having flint-lock muskets left over from the War of 1812.

Braxton Bragg's strategic move into Kentucky had been successful in clearing most of Tennessee and Mississippi of U.S. forces but, as winter approached, Bragg knew he could not support his army in Kentucky without a railroad to deliver supplies. Both rail lines leading from Tennessee to Kentucky were still controlled by U.S. forces. The Mobile & Ohio passed through Corinth and that post had successfully defended itself against a Confederate attack. The Louisville & Nashville line was controlled by the Union garrison in Nashville, and the Confederates did not have the manpower to mount an assault on that city. By November,



Brig. General Forrest



1862, Bragg's Confederates were concentrated near Murfreesboro, some 35 miles southeast of Nashville and forces under Grant had moved out of Memphis and were advancing through central Mississippi in a drive towards Vicksburg.

The strongest force available to the Confederates in the western area was their cavalry. When President Jefferson Davis came west to visit the Army of Tennessee he met General Joseph Johnston, Department Commander, at Chattanooga. There the two men decided to expand and act on an idea which had originated with Field and Line officers in the Texas Cavalry Brigade serving in Mississippi. Simultaneous raids were ordered by Earl Van Dorn, John Hunt Morgan, and Forrest against U.S. lines of supply.

Major General Earl Van Dorn would lead one attack against Grant's base of supplies at Holly Springs, Mississippi. Colonel (promoted to Brigadier just before his raid began) John Hunt Morgan would attack the Louisville & Nashville; and Forrest would move into West Tennessee to wreck the Mobile & Ohio which fed supplies to the Holly Springs base. These attacks were to begin in mid-December but once they were in the field no attempt could, or would, be made to coordinate their day-to-day activities.

Forrest was not happy with his orders. He was expected to lead 1,800 poorly armed men into an area defended by 17,000 federal soldiers; to do so he would have to cross the more than half-mile wide Tennessee River both on entering and exiting the area of his attack, and would have to dodge gunboats as he did so. Forrest informed his superior officers that he considered the mission to be suicidal and that the destruction of his command was likely. Then he rode west toward his target. While Forrest was often critical of higher ranking officers he considered incompetent or stupid, this acquiescence to orders shows that he was willing to take great personal and professional risks when the potential results served the greater good of the Confederate cause.

The village of Clifton was chosen as the place to cross the Tennessee River and Forrest sent word ahead to a band of partisan rangers to build two small flat boats at that location to facilitate his crossing. He also sent instructions to an unknown agent behind Union lines to purchase 50,000 percussion caps for shotguns and to meet him at a specified location. Throughout the war Forrest always seemed to have at his fingertips people who could provide him with the latest information and provide needed goods. In short, Forrest understood the need for an intelligence network and somehow created one. One of the great untold stories of the war, and one which probably never will be told because of a lack of sources, is how Forrest created and maintained his intelligence network. The willingness of men and women to risk their lives to provide information to Forrest says much about the magnetic personality of the man.

On December 15 and 16, 1862, Forrest's command crossed the Tennessee River and marched a few miles northwest. There they rested for about 36 hours while waiting for the needed percussion caps to reach them. At daybreak on December 18 Forrest struck the Union garrison at Lexington, Tennessee, capturing most of the men and scattering the remainder toward the main Union base in the area, Jackson, Tennessee. The commander at Jackson, Brigadier General Jeremiah Cutler Sullivan, thought Forrest would attack his position in an attempt to capture the supplies gathered there, so Sullivan ordered all the small garrisons in the area to abandon their posts along the railroad and concentrate in Jackson. Forrest was delighted since he did not want the supplies; he had come to destroy the Mobile & Ohio Railroad which Jackson had now left largely unguarded.

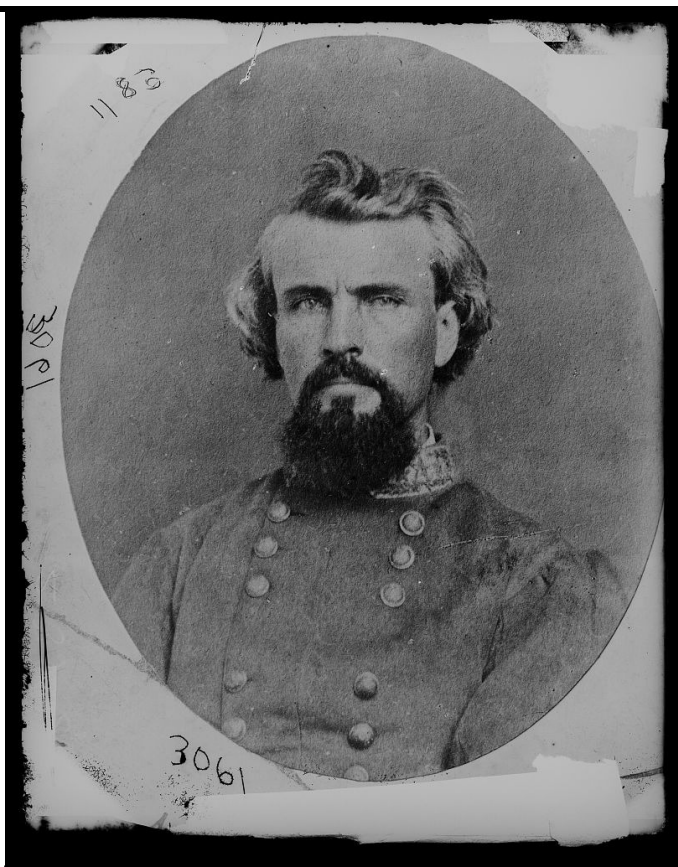
Leaving a detachment of fewer than 200 men to demonstrate against Sullivan, Forrest broke the rest of his command into small parties to capture depots, wreck water tanks, and to burn bridges and trestles along the railroad. For the next week Forrest fought a series of small skirmishes which resulted in the capture of the few small garrisons which remained in the area of operations, largely rearmed his command with weapons taken from captured supplies, and burned over 50 miles of bridges and trestles. The opposition to his attack was so feeble that Forrest allowed his men a holiday on Christmas Day and, on December 26, began his withdrawal towards the Tennessee River.

On the last day of the year, December 31, 1862, Forrest found a brigade of Union infantry commanded by Colonel Cyrus Livingston Dunham blocking his path of retreat at Parkers Cross Roads, Tennessee. This was not unexpected since scouts had informed Forrest of the federal position. Forrest disposed his men for an attack, some mounted and some on foot. This attack was succeeding quite well, with many of Dunham's men surrendering, when another U.S. force under General Jeremiah Sullivan approached from Forrest's rear. Forrest had ordered that road blocked but the officer receiving the order did not understand what was expected of him. When informed of the force in his rear Forrest is said to have ordered "Charge 'em both ways!" This story does not appear in any of the earlier biographies of Forrest but Andrew Lytle recounted it, without attribution, in his *Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company* and it has become a standard part of the Forrest legend. Whether or not these were his actual words, that is what he did. A small force made such a fierce attack on Sullivan that he stopped his advance while Forrest led the majority of his men off the field and continued towards the river crossing.

The battle at Parkers Cross Roads reveals additional characteristics of Forrest. He remained calm under pressure and, despite the loss of some men and supplies, extricated his command from danger. Also, Forrest did not blame the surprise move into his rear on the officer who was supposed to block the road. On review of the matter Forrest agreed that the order given was vague and confusing. His response was to seek out a former railroad executive, Charles Anderson, to whom Forrest dictated orders and Anderson wrote them in a clear and understandable form.

The success of the three Confederate raids in December 1862 was striking. General Ulysses Grant had to retreat from Mississippi to Memphis, Tennessee, giving up his first attempt to capture Vicksburg. Forrest had so thoroughly destroyed Grant's supply line that the Union forces would make no move for the next six months. While the raids were in progress, General William S. Rosecrans had won a tactical victory at Murfreesboro, Tennessee (the Battle of Stones River) but the success of John Hunt Morgan's raid against the Louisville & Nashville Railroad pinned Rosecrans in place for the next six months. With Grant inactive, the Confederates concentrated their cavalry in Middle Tennessee to support General Bragg who had made his headquarters at Tullahoma.

From January to July, 1863, Forrest was stationed on the left flank of the Army of Tennessee, under the immediate command of General Earl Van Dorn. The cavalry guarded food supplies and fought a series of sharp engagements with Union probes south out of Murfreesboro. In January, Forrest was part of an abortive expedition to place a temporary blockade on the Cumberland River, the only remaining supply line for the Union forces in Middle Tennessee. An attack was made on the Union garrison at Dover, Tennessee, and Forrest fought hard but the attack failed. Following the battle Forrest informed his commanding



Lt. General Forrest



officer, General Joseph Wheeler, that he would never again fight under Wheeler's command. This confrontation added to Forrest's reputation as a maverick but it also shows his intolerance of poor leadership. Forrest felt the attack against a fortified position should never have been ordered and that lives could have been saved by not fighting at Dover while accomplishing the task of blocking the river elsewhere.

As spring approached Forrest participated in engagements at Spring Hill, Brentwood, and Thompson's Station. His most notable achievement was the pursuit and capture of a U.S. raiding party commanded by Colonel Abel Delos Streight. Forrest used his by now standard tactics of bluff and illusion to convince Streight that Forrest badly outnumbered him when the truth was the opposite; Streight surrendered to inferior numbers. On his return from this success Forrest found himself in charge of all the cavalry on the Confederate left flank, Van Dorn having been killed by a jealous husband during Forrest's absence. Forrest also received promotion to Major General.

In late June, 1863, General William Rosecrans finally had gathered enough supplies and manpower to undertake another forward thrust. The reaction of the Confederate forces was to concentrate in the area around Tullahoma, Tennessee, and to look for an opportunity to defeat Rosecrans. Forrest played a prominent part in this campaign of maneuver and, when Bragg proved unable to hold on to Middle Tennessee, Forrest continued to protect the Army of Tennessee as it fell back to Chattanooga and then continued to retreat into northern Georgia. Finally, in September, Bragg found the opening he had been seeking and moved to sever Rosecrans from his base of supplies at Chattanooga. As this campaign developed the responsibilities given Forrest had increased until he was commanding an entire cavalry corps.

In a short time, Forrest had advanced from leading a regiment to commanding a brigade, then a division, and now a corps. At each stage of his promotions he had to learn the responsibilities and techniques necessary to perform well in his new role. He made mistakes as he learned to handle his new responsibilities but it is notable that he did not make the same mistake twice; Forrest managed a steep learning curve capably.

During the maneuvering around Chattanooga and into North Georgia, as Rosecrans slowly advanced and Bragg gradually fell back, Forrest carried out the traditional role of a cavalry commander, screening the front of his own army and scouting the position of the opponent. Rosecrans advanced too far into Georgia and realized his scattered forces were vulnerable, so he ordered a concentration at Chattanooga. As the Union army fell back toward that town, Forrest led the pursuit and his men fired the first shots of the Battle of Chickamauga at Reed's bridge on September 18, 1863. On September 19 Forrest led his men in a dismounted engagement against the army corps commanded by Union major general George Henry Thomas. During the course of this fighting Confederate Lieutenant General Daniel Harvey Hill, who was new to the Army of Tennessee, asked whose infantry was fighting so well. Hill was astonished to be told the soldiers he was watching were cavalry.

The ability of Forrest's men to fight on foot, which they did on many occasions, might lead to the conclusion that Forrest commanded mounted infantry. Such an assessment would be incorrect. Mounted infantry never fought on horseback, neither did they carry revolvers to allow them to fight mounted. Forrest's men fought on horseback when circumstances demanded and were armed accordingly. It would be more accurate to say that Forrest led men who were cross-trained to fight either as cavalry or as infantry.

Thanks to a blunder on the part of the Union forces, the Confederates won their greatest victory in the western area at Chickamauga and Forrest harried the retreating Union forces as they made their way to Chattanooga. Forrest urgently called on Bragg to attack the Union forces before they could fortify themselves in Chattanooga but Bragg made no offensive move. Disgusted with what he saw as another wasted effort caused by an incompetent commander Forrest sought command elsewhere. According to an account recalled by Dr. J. B. Cowan, Chief Medical Officer of Forrest's command and a relative, Forrest physically confronted Bragg and threatened to challenge him to a duel or to whip him in a fist fight. Some historians doubt that such a physical confrontation occurred, but at any rate, Forrest was sent with a handful of men to take charge of North Mississippi and West Tennessee. Forrest arrived at his new headquarters not far from Memphis in late November, 1863.

Forrest began to collect small units of Confederate cavalry in the area and to combine and train them into an effective force. His major objective was to protect the food producing area of eastern Mississippi which provided much of the food for the Army of Tennessee, then positioned in north Georgia. In February, 1864, Forrest defeated an expedition into this area led by Major General William Sooy Smith in a fight at Okolona, Mississippi. This defeat so crippled Union forces based in Memphis that Forrest was able to lead his command into West Tennessee for several months.

The western part of Tennessee was now no longer a major site of combat operations and had become a largely unoccupied no-man's land. Union garrisons were at Memphis, Tennessee; Columbus and Paducah, Kentucky; at a few small posts were along the Mobile & Ohio Railroad to protect the approaches to the major garrisons. This meant Forrest had free range over the area to collect recruits, horses, and food supplies. With his headquarters at Jackson, Tennessee, Forrest moved against smaller Union posts, capturing men and supplies, and mounted a raid against the larger post at Paducah in which he captured considerable amounts of stores. In April, 1864, shortly before leading his enlarged command back to Mississippi, Forrest led an expedition against an isolated Union post at Fort Pillow.

Fort Pillow is not near a town; it had been built in 1861 by the Confederates in an attempt to block the navigation of the Mississippi River. There was no military reason for a Union garrison to be there and General William Sherman, the Theater Commander, had ordered the post abandoned weeks earlier. The Union garrison did provide protection for the surreptitious trade of cotton being sent north. In April, 1864, the post was manned by white Tennessee Unionists and members of the USCT. Forrest demanded the surrender of the garrison and, when this demand was refused, captured the position by direct assault. The heavy casualties suffered by the garrison led to a Congressional investigation by the U.S. House of Representatives and the report they issued soon caused the results of the battle to be called a massacre. The controversy about how many soldiers were killed in violation of the rules of war and the role of Forrest in the massacre continue to the present day. Most modern historians agree that a massacre did occur. However, the extent of the massacre in violation of the rules of war vs casualties suffered in combat where a position is carried by direct assault, remains unresolved.

Returning to Mississippi, Forrest mounted a campaign to protect the food producing area under his control. This campaign produced a number of victories over superior forces which led to solidifying Forrest's reputation as "The Wizard of the Saddle." In what Edwin Bearss has called "Forrest's Masterpiece" at Brice's Cross Roads on June 10, 1864, Forrest used the oppressive heat of a Mississippi summer to his advantage. [2] He attacked the U.S. cavalry which had reached his defensive position while their supporting infantry was several miles to their rear, knowing the sound of the battle would cause the foot soldiers to march at double time to reach the field. Forrest defeated the opposition cavalry and then his men went after the exhausted infantry arriving on the field. Forrest would win victories and blunt Union drives into the food producing area he was charged to protect for the rest of the summer of 1864, even making a raid into the heart of the Union occupied town of Memphis to disrupt plans for another Union expedition into Mississippi. But, although Forrest won tactical victories, the Union strategic plan was actually served by the events in Mississippi. The great fear of General William Sherman was that Forrest would break into Tennessee and cut his supply line, the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. This was the sole rail line supplying Sherman's forces as they advanced toward Atlanta. Sherman was so aware of the danger of Forrest cutting him off from his base of supplies that he wrote to Edwin Stanton, the Secretary of War, that Forrest must be killed and "it must be done, if it costs ten thousand lives and breaks the Treasury. [3]

It was not until after the federal capture of Atlanta that Forrest was able to leave Mississippi and make a raid against the Nashville & Chattanooga railroad, and by then it was too late to affect the outcome of the Atlanta Campaign. Forrest made a second raid against the route supplying the U.S. garrison at Nashville, Tennessee, in which he captured U.S. gunboats and briefly manned them with cavalymen to assist his raid. Although Forrest destroyed the large supply depot at Johnsonville, Tennessee, he found other duties awaiting him when he returned to safe territory.

At the beginning of November 1864 Forrest took command of the advance guard of the Army of Tennessee as General John Bell Hood led the remains of that force into Tennessee. At the same time, General Sherman was leading his force on the march to the sea. Forrest screened the advance of the Confederate forces but could not prevent the destruction of the Army of Tennessee at the battles of Franklin and Nashville. In the midst of a bitter winter storm Forrest provided an effective rearguard which allowed a fragment of the Confederate force to escape to Mississippi.

In 1865 Forrest led his much weakened command in an attempt to stop General James Harrison Wilson in his sweep through Alabama during which Wilson destroyed Confederate manufacturing centers, including the important arsenal at Selma, Alabama. Selma was Forrest's last battle. He led his men north to Gainesville, Alabama, and surrendered his remaining force on May 9, 1865.

The attitude of Forrest at the end of the war can be seen from his Farewell Address to his command:

Soldiers: By an agreement made between Lieutenant General Taylor, commanding the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, and Major General Dabney, commanding United States forces, the troops of this department have been surrendered. I do not think it proper or necessary at this time to refer to causes which have reduced us to this extremity, nor is it now a matter of material consequences as to how such results were brought about. That we are beaten is a self-evident fact, and any further resistance on our part would be justly regarded as the very height of folly and rashness. The armies of General Lee and Johnson having surrendered, you are the last troops of the Confederate States Army east of the Mississippi river to lay down your arms. The cause for which Chou have so long and manfully struggled, and for which you have braved dangers, endured privations and sufferings and made so many sacrifices is today hopeless. The government which we sought to establish and perpetuate is at an end. Reason dictates and humanity demands that no more blood be shed. Fully realizing and feeling that such is the case, it is your duty and mine to lay down our arms, submit to the "powers that be" and to aid in restoring peace and establishing law and order throughout the land. The terms upon which you were surrendered are favorable, and should be satisfactory and acceptable to all. They manifest a spirit of magnanimity and liberality on the part of the Federal authorities which should be met on our part by a faithful compliance with all the stipulations and conditions therein expressed. As your commander, I sincerely hope that every officer and soldier of my command will cheerfully obey the orders given, and carry out in good faith all the terms of the cartel.

Those who neglect the terms and refuse to be paroled may assuredly expect when arrested to be sent North and imprisoned. Let those who are absent from their commands, from whatever cause, report at once to this place, or to Jackson, Mississippi, or, if too remote from either, to the nearest United States post or garrison, for parole. Civil war, such as you have just passed through, naturally engenders feelings of animosity, hatred, and revenge. It is our duty to divest ourselves of all such feelings, and so far as it is in our power to do so, to cultivate friendly feelings towards those with whom we have so long contested and heretofore so widely but honestly differed, neighborhood feud, personal animosities, and private differences should be blotted out, and when you return home a manly, straightforward course of conduct will secure you the respect even of your enemies. Whatever your responsibilities may be to government, society, or to individuals meet them like men. The attempt made to establish a separate and independent confederation has failed, but the consciousness of having done your duty faithfully and to the end will in some measure repay for the hardships you have undergone. In bidding you farewell, rest assured that you carry with you my best wishes for your future welfare and happiness. Without in any way referring to the merits of the cause in which we have been engaged, your courage and determination, as exhibited on many hard-fought fields, has elicited the respect and admiration of friend and foe. And I now cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the officers and men of my command, whose zeal, fidelity, and unflinching bravery have been the great source of my past success in arms. I have never on the field of battle sent you where I was unwilling to go myself, nor would I now advise you to a course which I felt myself unwilling to pursue. You have been good soldiers, you can be good citizens. Obey the laws, preserve your honor, and the government to which you have surrendered can afford to be and will be magnanimous. [4]

Forrest returned to his home in Memphis broken financially and physically. Despite efforts to recoup his personal finances Forrest was a poor man the rest of his life. His lands in Mississippi were lost to unpaid mortgages or because of unpaid taxes. He died at the home of his son, Willie on October 29, 1877. The post-war years of Forrest's life have produced an enduring controversy concerning his widely-believed connection to the Ku Klux Klan. Although it is often stated that Forrest founded the Klan this is false. The Klan was founded in Pulaski, Tennessee, in early 1866 by six young men whose names are known. Forrest was never in Pulaski following the war, had no connection to Pulaski, nor did he ever correspond with the founders of the Klan. It is also commonly stated that Forrest was the head of the Klan. On June 27, 1871, Forrest testified before a committee of the U.S. Congress which was investigating Klan activities. While his responses to questions were sometimes rambling and he often could not remember details about which he was interrogated, the Committee did not charge Forrest with Klan connections or activity and it did praise him for having used his influence against the Klan. While it is often stated that Forrest was involved with the Klan, the actual role he played is not clear and remains a matter of debate among historians. Generally ignored are the numerous documented incidents on which Forrest advocated economic and political opportunities for all citizens of his state since he viewed this as the best path to regain economic prosperity and political stability. In August 1868 Forrest participated in a meeting in Memphis to protest the lynching of four African Americans in the town of Trenton, Tennessee. While this expression of support for the rights of the formerly enslaved was met with scorn in many Northern papers some of the Radical press defended Forrest. Another public expression of this attitude was made on July 5, 1875, when Forrest, by invitation, made a speech to the Independent Association of Pole Bearers, an African American social and political organization. In his address Forrest said "I shall do all in my power to elevate every man, to oppress none... I want to elevate you to take positions in law offices, in stores, on farms, and wherever you are capable of going. . . You have the right to elect whomever you please, vote for the man you think best. . . When I can serve you, I will do it. We have one flag, one country; let us stand together. When you are oppressed I'll come to your relief. . . I am with you in heart and in hand. [5]

Forrest was not a 21<sup>st</sup> Century man who believed in racial equality; he remained a man of his time, sharing the almost-universal view of white Europeans and Americans in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century that Anglo-Saxons were superior to other peoples, but neither was Forrest a reactionary racist who sought a return to slavery. Forrest worked to accept the end of slavery and the social changes resulting from the war as indicated by his words to his men in his 1865 farewell address. A recent biographer of Forrest says "The reality is that over the length of his lifetime Nathan Bedford Forrest's racial attitudes probably developed more, and more in the direction of liberal enlightenment, than those of most other Americans in the nation's history." [6]

## Notes

[1] The event at Fort Pillow, April 12, 1864, became a matter of controversy almost immediately. Newspaper reports of the fighting emphasized the heavy casualties among the garrison, especially among the USCT while the Confederates pointed out that the fort was captured by direct frontal assault and that the garrison never surrendered as a group. A Congressional investigating committee published a report which was calculated to rouse support for the war effort at a time when the fortunes of the Union were low. This matter is discussed in Brian Steel Wills, *The River Was Dyed With Blood: Nathan Bedford Forrest and Fort Pillow* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2014), 148-61. It is generally assumed that Forrest was the head, or Grand Wizard, of the Ku Klux Klan. An anecdote included by Andrew Lytle in *Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company* (New York: Minton, Balch and Company, 1931) relates that Forrest was selected as Grand Wizard in a meeting held at the Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville in 1867. However, Lytle provides no documentation for this anecdote, does not give the names of any of those said to have been present, does not give a date for the event. The identification of Forrest as the head of the Klan has now been repeated



in so many secondary sources that it has become accepted as historical fact, but the truth is there is no primary source material to show Forrest was the Grand Wizard of the Klan. There are many anecdotes and some circumstantial evidence that Forrest was involved with the Klan but primary source documentation is absent. In the most recent book on the history of the Klan, *Ku-Klux: The Birth of the Klan During Reconstruction* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016), Elaine Frantz Parsons writes on page 50 "There is also no compelling contemporary evidence to establish that Forrest ever exercised any leadership functions." The chapter entitled "The Roots of the Ku Klux Klan" is quite compelling in demonstrating the lack of evidence for the idea that Forrest was the first Grand Wizard of the Klan. Because similar local vigilante groups and organizations spread throughout the South in the reconstruction period it is difficult to determine what the Klan was responsible for and how effective it was. That it existed and operated during Reconstruction from 1866 to about 1877 is clear. That it was an effective, monolithic, South-wide organization with bureaucratic leadership is less certain. In common with historians such as Allen Trelease in *White Terror: The Ku Klux Klan Conspiracy and Southern Reconstruction* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1979) and Ben H. Severance in *Tennessee's Radical Army: The State Guard and its Role in Reconstruction, 1867-1869* (Knoxville, University of Tennessee Press, 2005), Parsons discusses this issue and the various vigilante organizations that operated at that time.

[2] Edwin C. Bearss, *Forrest t Brice's Cross Roads and in North Mississippi in 1864* (Dayton, OH: Morningside Bookshop, 1987), 1.

[3] United States War Department, *War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 vols. (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), Series I, volume 36, part 2, p. 121,141.

[4] John Allan Wyeth, *That Devil Forrest: Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest*. (New York and London: Harper & Brothers, 1899), 613-4.

[5] Jack Hurst, *Nathan Bedford Forrest: A Biography* (New York: Alfred A Knopf, 1993), 366-7.

[6] *Ibid.*, 385.



## IRISH-AMERICANS IN CONFEDERATE SERVICE

**S**adly this year the *American Civil War Round Table of Queensland* wasn't able to participate in the *St Patrick's Day Parade in Brisbane*. This is disappointing because the Irish involvement during the War Between the States was so significant that their memory, on both sides, deserves representation in the march and at our public displays. Irish found themselves on both sides during the war and sometimes facing an enemy who came from the same village in Ireland and towards whom no animosity, or political difference, was felt but who now became deadly enemies. Although significantly fewer Irish lived in the South, six Confederate Generals were Irish-born. Units such as the *Charleston Irish Volunteers* attracted Confederate Irish-Americans in South Carolina, the *24th Georgia Volunteer Infantry* followed General Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb, while Irish Tennesseans could join the *10th Tennessee Infantry Regiment*. The *10th Tennessee* was one of only two Irish Catholic regiments fighting for the Confederacy (while many of their officers were Irish Protestants.) Initially entering service armed with outdated flintlock muskets, the regiment went on to do magnificent service, ultimately as sharpshooters until the end of the war.



A company of Washington Blues regiment of Missouri Volunteer Militia (later the Missouri State Guard,) commanded by Colonel Joseph Kelly, was the subject of a Confederate version of a Union song, "Kelly's Irish Brigade." The Louisiana Tigers, first raised by Major Chatham Roberdeau Wheat, had a large number of Irish American members. In Company E, Emerald Guard, 33<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Infantry of Stonewall Brigade were Irish immigrant volunteers who may have initiated the first "Rebel Yell" at 1st Manassas (Bull Run) attacking 14th New York guns on Henry Hill. The first two casualties of the war were Irish.

Contemporary Civil War scholarship has brought to light the importance of ethnic groups in the war. The expression, "Winners of wars write the histories," while especially valid in regard to the story of African Americans in the South, is equally discriminatory against Irish who fought for the Confederacy from 1861–1865. Throughout the course of the war, Irish Confederates made invaluable contributions to all aspects of the war, yet Irish have largely been the overlooked soldiers of the South. In *"Irish Confederates: The Civil War's Forgotten Soldiers,"* Phillip Thomas Tucker focusses on these participants.

While the "Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>" on the Union side is the most famous "Irish Brigade," it's estimated (Philip Tucker) that more than 30 thousand Irish fought on the Confederate side. Much of the enlistment being due to where they lived and conscription. For many Irish, the South was a more natural association than a Northern government that was perceived as being anti-Catholic, pro "WASP" (an acronym used in America at the time to indicate White Anglo Saxon Protestant.) Apart from being perceived as anti-Irish, Yankees were perceived as the big bully neighbour attempting to exert its will on the little guy, making the North and South reminiscent of the English-Irish relationship.

Probably, the best known Irish soldier on the Confederate side was Cork born Patrick Cleburne who was killed in the slaughter at Franklin. General Cleburne is recognised as one of the most effective leaders on either side during the conflict. Patrick Cleburne was without doubt the "Stonewall of the West." Robert E. Lee referred to Cleburne as "A meteor shining from a clouded sky."



In "Co Aytch," Confederate soldier

Sam Watkins describes the gory scene at the Battle of Ringgold Gap and Cleburne's actions. "Cleburne

had the doggondest fight of the war. The ground was piled with dead Yankees; they were piled in heaps. The scene looked unlike any battlefield I ever saw. From the foot to the top of the hill was covered with their slain, all lying on their faces. It had the appearance of the roof of a house shingled with dead Yankees. They were flushed with victory and success, and had determined to push forward and capture the whole of the Rebel army, and set up their triumphant standard at Atlanta—then exit Southern Confederacy. But their dead were so piled in their path at Ringgold Gap that they could not pass them. The Spartans gained a name at Thermopylae, in which Leonidas and the whole Spartan army were slain while defending the pass. Cleburne's division gained a name at Ringgold Gap, in which they not only slew the victorious army, but captured five thousand prisoners besides. That brilliant victory of Cleburne's made him not only the best general of the army of Tennessee, and covered his men with glory and honour of heroes, but checked the advance of Grant's whole army- Sam Watkins, Company Aytch."

There was a popular Confederate Chaplain John Bannon (born Roskey, County

Roscommon) and a Confederate Colonel Joseph Kelly (born Ireland.) Joseph Kelly would rise to the rank of Colonel in the Confederate army, but would never command an "Irish Brigade." However, there is the famed Confederate ballad about him. While the ACWRTQ missed out on the parade there is a resolve to see Irish veterans are represented at the next Living History Event at Fort Lytton-Editor.

### "Kelly's Irish Brigade."

Three cheers for the Irish Brigade, three cheers for the Irish Brigade  
And all true-hearted Hibernians in the ranks of Kelly's Irish Brigade!  
You call us rebels and traitors, but yourselves have thrown off that name of late.  
You were called it by the English invaders at home in seventeen and ninety-eight  
The name to us is not a new one, though 'tis one that never will degrade.  
Any true-hearted Hibernian in the ranks of Kelly's Irish Brigade."





# THE WAR'S IRISH GENERALS

Ireland produced more American Generals than any other foreign country. In all, 18 Irishmen acted as serving generals during the war; 12 Federal and 6 Confederate. They range from the Confederacy's *Patrick Cleburne*, the highest ranking Irishman on either side, who advocated arming the slaves in return for their freedom, to the Union's *James Shields*, who almost fought a duel with *Abraham Lincoln* before the war and took on *Stonewall Jackson* in the *Shenandoah Valley*. This is a very brief coverage of these brave men's wartime activities-Editor.

## Browne, William Montague C.S.A.



Georgia 28th April 1883. Buried in unmarked grave at *Oconee Hill Cemetery, Athens, Georgia*.

## Busteed, Richard U.S.A.

Born *Cavan* on 16th February 1822. Moved with family to *St. Lucia* back to Ireland and eventually returned to the United States. Admitted to *New York* bar in 1846. Appointed Brigadier-General of volunteers 7th August 1862. Served occupation forces at *Fort Monroe* on the *Virginia Peninsula*.

Appointment expired 4th March 1863 and not ratified by Senate. Appointed judge of the *U.S. District Court for Alabama* in 1863. Died *New York* 14th September 1898, buried in *Woodlawn Cemetery*.



## Cleburne, Patrick Ronayne C.S.A.

Born *Bride Park Cottage*, near *Ovens*, *County Cork* 16th March 1828. Patrick served as Corporal in the *British 41st Regiment of Foot*. Emigrated to United States 1849. Elected Colonel of the *15th Arkansas Regiment* 1861, promoted Brigadier-General 4th March 1862. Commanded a Brigade at the *Battles of Shiloh and Perryville*. Promoted Major-General 13th December 1862, the highest rank achieved by an Irishman on either side during the war. Commanded a division at battles such as *Murfreesboro (Stone's River)*, *Chickamauga*, *Chattanooga* and during the *Atlanta Campaign*. He received a vote of thanks from Confederate Congress for his actions in halting Federal advance at *Ringgold Gap* after debacle of *Chattanooga*, saving the rear of *Army of Tennessee*. His hard fighting reputation earned him title '*Stonewall of the West*'. Although occasionally acted up to the position of *Corps Commander* he was never promoted to this rank, principally as a result of his proposal to enlist slaves into Confederate armies in return for their freedom. Killed at the head of his division during assault on Federal breastworks at *Franklin, Tennessee*, 30th November 1864.

## Connor, Patrick Edward U.S.A.

Born *County Kerry* 17th March 1820, Patrick emigrated with family to *New York* as a child. Appointed Colonel of *3rd California Infantry* 4th September 1861, assigned command *District of Utah* with headquarters at *Salt Lake City*. His role to keep the central mail road open to *California*, which principally involved actions against native tribes such as the *Bannocks*, *Shoshones*, *Sioux*, *Cheyenne* and *Arapaho*. Promoted Brigadier-General of volunteers 30th March 1863 following victory over the *Bannocks* and *Shoshones* at *Bear River, Idaho*. Brevetted Major-General at end of war. In late 1865 he defeated *Arapaho* at *Tongue River*. Gen Patrick Connor died at *Salt Lake*, 17th December 1891, buried in *Fort Douglas Cemetery*.





## Corcoran, Michael U.S.A.



**B**orn *Garrowkeel, County, Sligo* on 21st September 1827 Michael emigrated to United States 1849. Rose to Colonel 69th *New York Militia*, which he refused to parade on the occasion of the visit of the *Prince of Wales* to New York in 1860. He was court-martialled but the trial hadn't taken place at the outbreak of war. Michael commanded the 69th at *Bull Run (Manassas)* where he was wounded and captured but not exchanged until August 1862, meanwhile being held for potential execution, if Federal authorities executed crews of so called Confederate privateers. Promoted Brigadier-General dating back to the *Battle of Bull Run* following release. Participated in *Suffolk* campaign in southeast *Virginia* as Division Commander early 1863. Transferred to *Department of Washington* with his '*Irish Legion*' after *Gettysburg*, succeeded to Division command October 1863. Killed when his horse fell on him while riding with *Thomas Francis Meagher* near *Fairfax Court House* 22nd December 1863. Buried *Calvary Cemetery Long Island City, New York*.

## Finegan, Joseph C.S.A.

**B**orn *Clones, County Monaghan* 17th November 1814. Emigrated United States in early twenties. Member of *Florida* secession convention 1861. Put in charge of military affairs for the state and 5th April 1862 commissioned Brigadier-General. Commanded the District of *Middle and East Florida* until after *Battle of Olustee*, where he nominally commanded Confederate troops. Transferred to *Virginia*, May 1864 with a brigade of *Florida* troops, took part in *Battle of Cold Harbor*. Remained with *Army of Northern Virginia* until 20th March 1865 when he returned to duty in *Florida*. Died at *Rutledge, Florida* 29th October 1885. Buried *Old City Cemetery, Jacksonville, Florida*.



## Gamble, William U.S.A.

**B**orn *Duross, County Tyrone* 1st January 1818. Emigrated United States around 1838. Appointed Lieutenant-Colonel 8th *Illinois Cavalry* September 1861, appointed Colonel of the regiment on 5th December 1862. Regiment first saw action at *Warrenton, Virginia* where it remained until the commencement of the *Peninsular Campaign*. Gamble was wounded in the chest at *Malvern Hill*, re-joining his command at *Fredericksburg*. He was commanding a Brigade 31st January 1863. At *Gettysburg* his old regiment fired the first shot of the engagement. Relieved from duty *Army of the Potomac* May 1864, assigned Commander of cavalry division in *Department of Washington*. Brevetted Brigadier-General of volunteers from 14th December 1864. Honourably mustered out of service 17th July 1865. Mustered back into service and in July 1866 appointed Major of the 8th *Cavalry*. Died while on route to *California* with his regiment at *Virgin Bay, Nicaragua* 20th December 1866. Buried *Virgin Grove Cemetery*.



## Hagan, James C.S.A.

**B**orn *County Tyrone* 1822. Emigrated with family to United States as a child. Served *Mexican War*. When war commenced became Captain in a cavalry company from *Mobile, Alabama*. Commissioned Major in proposed regiment to be commanded by *General Wirt Adams*. Appointed Colonel 3rd *Alabama Cavalry* following *Battle of Shiloh*. Served during war in *Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia* and the *Carolinas*, and the majority of last two years of war commanded a cavalry brigade under *General Wheeler*. Wounded at *Franklin* and *Kingston, Tennessee*, and *Fayetteville in North Carolina*. Commissioned Brigadier-General February 1865.





## Jackson, Richard Henry U.S.A.

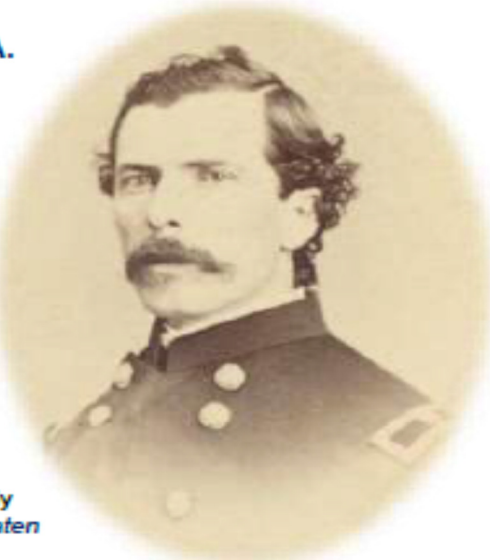
**B**orn Kinnegad, County Westmeath 14th July 1830. Emigrated United States in his youth. Career soldier, First Lieutenant in *4th U.S. Artillery* at outbreak of war. Served in defence of *Fort Pickens* and the capture of *Pensacola, Florida* in 1861. Served with *X Corps* in *Department of the South*. Stationed *Folly Island, Charleston Harbour* during operations against *Fort Sumter*. Reached the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Inspector General in the volunteer forces, acted *Chief of Artillery for X Corps*. Moved to *Army of the James* at *Petersburg* and commanded 2nd Division of *Weitzel's XXV Corps* until the end of war. Advanced to Brigadier-General of volunteers 19th May 1865. In 1866 reverted to rank of Captain *4th Artillery*. Died *Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Georgia* 28th November 1892 holding rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Buried *National Cemetery at West Point*. (Image courtesy Finda Grave site-Editor)

## Jones, Patrick Henry U.S.A.

**B**orn County Westmeath in November 1830. Emigrated United States aged 10. At the outbreak of war became a Second Lieutenant in the *37th New York 'Irish Rifles'*.

Was in reserve at *Bull Run (Manassas)*. Promoted First Lieutenant in November 1861, and Major in January 1862. Fought during the *Peninsular Campaign* and *Second Bull Run*. Promoted to Colonel of the *154th New York* on 8th October 1862. Fought at *Chancellorsville* where he was wounded and taken prisoner, exchanged October of 1863. As part of *Howard's XI Corps* was ordered to *Chattanooga* and present at *Missionary Ridge*. Fought as part of the *XX Corps* from *Chattanooga to Atlanta* through to the *Carolina Campaign* and the eventual Confederate surrender. Promoted to Brigade command on 7th June 1864, and to the rank of Brigadier-General of volunteers on 8th April 1865 backdated to the previous December.

Died at *Port Richmond, Staten Island* 23rd July 1900. Buried in *St. Peter's Cemetery, Staten Island*.



## Kiernan, James Lawlor U.S.A.

**B**orn Mount Bellew, County Galway 26th October 1837. Emigrated United States 1854. Assistant Surgeon to *69th New York Militia* at *First Bull Run*. Appointed Surgeon of *6th Missouri Cavalry*, serving *Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern)*. May have subsequently been appointed Major of *6th Missouri* but this is unclear. Was badly wounded at *Port Gibson, Mississippi* and left for dead but successfully escaped. Resigned as Surgeon *6th Missouri* 24th May 1863 commissioned Brigadier-General of volunteers on 1st August 1863. Commanded the post at *Milliken's Bend* on the *Mississippi*. Resigned due to poor health 3rd February 1864. Died 26th November 1869 on *West 33rd Street, New York*. Buried *Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York*.

## Lane, Walter Paye C.S.A.

**B**orn County Cork, 18th

February 1817. Emigrated United States with family 1821. Served

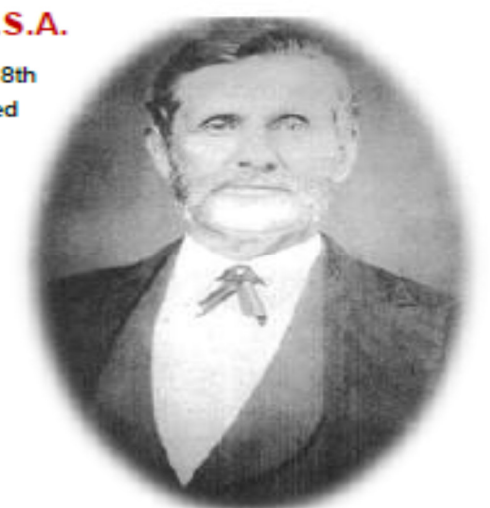
*Mexican War*. Elected Lieutenant-

Colonel *3rd Texas Cavalry* 1861, fighting at

*Battle of Wilson's Creek* and *Elkhorn Tavern (Pea Ridge)*. Operated in *Louisiana* 1863 and during *Red River Campaign* 1864. Severely wounded at *Battle of Mansfield*.

Recommended for promotion by *General Kirby-Smith* commissioned Brigadier-General to rank from 17th March 1865. Promotion confirmed on the last day *Confederate Senate* met. Wrote and published post war memoirs.

Died at *Marshall, Texas* 28th January 1892 where he's buried.





## Lawler, Michael Kelly U.S.A.



**B**orn *County Kildare* 16th November 1814. Emigrated United States with family 1816. Fought during *Mexican War*. Commanded *18th Illinois Regiment*, mustered into service by then *Captain U.S. Grant*. Court-martialled for extreme disciplinary methods but acquitted. Wounded on assault of *Fort Donelson*.

Promoted Brigadier-General 1863 (ranking from 29th November 1862), commanded Brigade at *Port Gibson* during *Vicksburg Campaign*. Captured over 1100 Confederates during siege of *Vicksburg*.

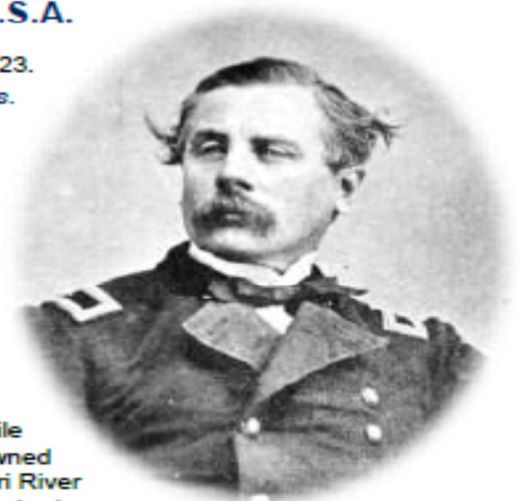
Served as a Brigade and Division commander in *Louisiana* and *Texas* for much of the remainder of the war, finally appointed to command the *District of East Louisiana* based at *Baton Rouge*. Brevetted Major-General from 13th March 1865. Died *Equality, Illinois* on 26th July 1882. Buried *Equality, Illinois*.



## Meagher, Thomas Francis U.S.A.

**B**orn *Waterford, Ireland* 3rd August 1823.

Banished to *Tasmania, Australia* in 1849 for activities with *Young Irelanders*. Escaped to the United States in 1852. Organised a Zouave company in 1861 which formed part of the *69th New York Militia*. Fought as a Major at *First Manassas (Bull Run)* with the regiment commanded by *Michael Corcoran*. Organised the '*Irish Brigade*' in New York and appointed Brigadier-General of volunteers 6th February 1862, ranking from 3rd February. Participated with the brigade in all subsequent battles of the Army of the Potomac to *Chancellorsville*, most famously at *Marye's Heights, Fredericksburg* in December 1862. Was denied permission to recruit reinforcements for the brigade and submitted his resignation effective from 14th May 1863. His resignation was rejected and cancelled on 23rd December 1863. Served in various capacities in 1864 and 1865 behind *Sherman's* forces.



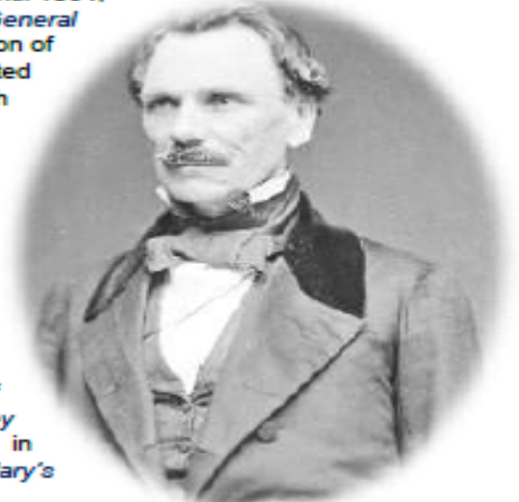
Again resigned 15th April 1865 while stationed at *Savannah*. Drowned subsequent to falling into the *Missouri River* from a steamboat 1st July 1867. His body never recovered.

## Moore, Patrick Theodore C.S.A.

**B**orn *Galway* 22nd September 1821. Emigrated *Canada* with family 1835. Moved to *Richmond* 1850. Commissioned Colonel of *1st Virginia Infantry* at outbreak of war. Commanded regiment at *First Manassas (Bull Run)* under *Longstreet*, wounded in the head, preventing further service with the unit. Acted as volunteer aide to *Joseph E. Johnston* until *Johnston* was wounded at *Seven Pines*, served on *Longstreet's* staff during *Seven Days* battles. Assigned to court-martial duty until 1864.

temporarily assigned to *General Kemper* to assist in the organisation of reserve forces of *Virginia*. Promoted Brigadier-General to rank from 20th September 1864. At war's conclusion in command of a Brigade of *General Ewell's Richmond* local defence troops.

Paroled at *Manchester, Virginia* 30th April 1865. Died *Richmond, Virginia* 19th February 1883. Buried *Shockoe Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia*.



## Shields, James U.S.A.

**B**orn *County Tyrone* 10th May 1810. Emigrated United States 1826. Served as *Senator* for three States, came close to fighting a duel with *Abraham Lincoln*. Served *Mexican War*. Commissioned Brigadier-General of volunteers 19th August 1861, fought *Stonewall Jackson* in *Shenandoah Valley* as Division Commander. Resigned from service 28th March 1863. Died in *Ottumwa, Iowa* 1st June 1879 while on a lecture tour. Buried at *St. Mary's Cemetery, Carrollton, Missouri*. (See page 14 *The Lincoln Duel*.)



# The Delta General

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## Smyth, Thomas Alfred U.S.A.



**B**orn Ballyhooley, County Cork 25th December 1832. Emigrated United States in 1854. Formed a company of infantry in Delaware 1861 which became part of the 24th Pennsylvania, a three-month regiment. Subsequently appointed Major of the 1st Delaware Infantry, becoming its Lieutenant-Colonel in December 1862 and Colonel in February 1863. Fought at the *Battle of Antietam* where the regiment lost almost one-third of its strength. Other notable engagements included *Fredericksburg*, *Chancellorsville* and *Gettysburg*, where Smyth commanded a Brigade of Hays' Division, Hancock's Corps that helped repulse Pickett's Charge. Continued service in the Army of the Potomac promoted Brigadier-General of volunteers 1st October 1864. Wounded by a Confederate sharpshooter at Farmville, Virginia on 7th April 1865 during Appomattox Campaign and died two days later, the last Federal General killed during the war. He's buried at Wilmington and Brandywine Cemetery, Wilmington.



## Sweeny, Thomas William U.S.A.



**B**orn County Cork the 25th December 1820. Emigrated to the United States at age 12. Served in the Mexican War, losing his right arm at the *Battle of Churubusco*. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in the 2nd U.S. Infantry, served until the outbreak of war in 1861. Served at St. Louis and commanded the 90 day Missouri Militia at Carthage. Badly wounded at the *Battle of Wilson's Creek*. Appointed Colonel of the 52nd Illinois Infantry January 1862. Served at Fort Donelson and commanded a Brigade at the *Battle of Shiloh*, where he was wounded again. At the *Battle of Corinth* in October 1862 he succeeded to Brigade command following the death of General Hackleman. Promoted Brigadier-General 16th March 1863 ranking from 29th November 1862. Spent most of 1863 in garrison duty in Tennessee and Mississippi before being promoted Division command in the XVI Corps that he led during the Atlanta Campaign. Was arrested following this

campaign as a result of charges put forward by the commander of the XVI Corps but was acquitted. Never restored to command, in December 1865 dismissed from the regular army for being absent without leave but restored in 1866. Heavily involved in the Fenian Invasion of Canada in 1866 and arrested by the U.S. Government, though later released. Placed on the retired list of the army with the rank of Brigadier-General 11th May 1870. Thomas died at his home in Astoria, Long Island on 10th April 1892. Buried at Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn. N.B. Harriet Busteed provided information regarding the combination of pension records relating to General Richard Busteed and Captain Richard Busteed the two men have led to confusion regarding their respective careers. There were numerous Irish serving in other officer ranks. The amount serving as privates was disproportionate to any other ethnic group, amongst these illustrious names is our Queensland veteran buried at Pimpama Historic Cemetery, a mere trooper, Irish born James Latimer who served with the Missouri Militia. Your editor strongly urges ACWRTQ to participate in the next Irish Day Parade in Brisbane to honour the Irish who fought on both sides in the War Between the States in America.