

# TRAVELLER

Award Winning Publication of the General Robert E. Lee  
Camp, #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN  
Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry  
DEO VINDICE!

**January 2019**



## CAMP MEETING

**January 14, 2019**

**Speaker: Steve Cole**

**Topic: "Fort Pillow"**

**7:00 p.m. at the at the Germantown  
Regional History and Genealogy Center**

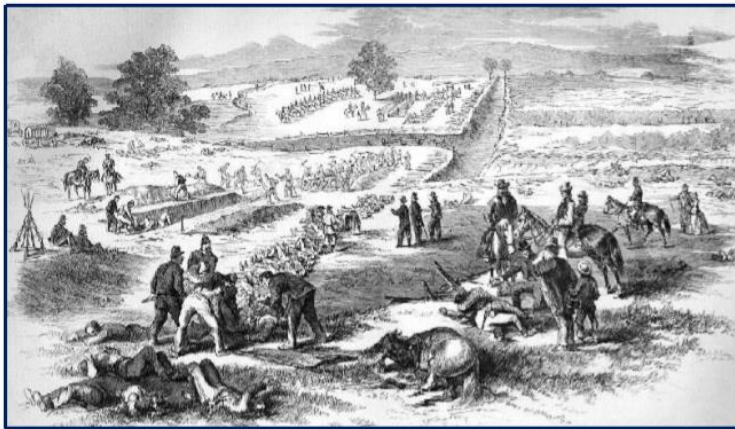
**Don't miss our next meeting!**

for more American deaths than in all other U.S. wars combined and the killing didn't stop with the war.

If you take the 1860 census figures, 8% of all white males aged 13 to 43 died in the war, including 6% in the North and 18% in the South. About 56 thousand soldiers died in prison camps during the War, an estimated 60 thousand men lost limbs in the war. The Union army dead, amounting to 15% of over two million who served is broken down as follows: 110,070 killed in action, 67 thousand of them on the battlefield and later of wounds 43 thousand. Alarmingly 199,790 died of disease, 75% due to the war, the remainder it is claimed would have occurred in civilian life anyway. 24,866 died in Confederate prison camps. However accidental death was

## Casualties of War

At long last we are being offered more accurate figures for casualties in the War Between the States. I have mentioned before that doing just basic arithmetic of casualty figures for all known conflicts, soon produces figures in excess of that accepted by history but then many things about the war have been misrepresented to us. The



truth was given by a statistician many years ago but no one wanted to believe him. The internal conflict, reached out across the oceans and involved people from many different countries, resulting in a staggering figure given as at least 1,030,000 casualties; this amounts to 3% of the total population. It includes the commonly held figure of often quoted 620,000 soldier deaths, two thirds of which were by disease and some 50,000 civilians. Binghamton University Historian J. David Hacker believes the number of soldier deaths alone was approximately 750,000, 20% higher than traditionally estimated, and possibly as high as 850,000. Sir Winston Churchill assessed the overall numbers as being more like a million. The war accounted

high, 9,058 were killed in accidents or drowning. There were 15,741 other/unknown deaths that no doubt includes large numbers of executions, this gives us a total of 359,528 total Union dead. But we can keep adding Union numbers beyond that, there were 4,523 deaths in the Navy, 2,112 of them in actual battle, 460 in the Marines with 148 killed in battle.

Black troops made up 10% of the total Union death toll, however disease killed 15% but that is less than 3% of those killed in battle. Losses among African Americans were very high; in the last year and a half and from all reported casualties, approximately 20% of all African Americans enrolled in the military lost their lives during the war. Notably their mortality rate was significantly higher than that of white soldiers, this indicates they were basically used as cannon fodder by white officers in the Union and seen as disposable. Nowhere is this attitude more obvious than in the story and movie "Glory." Perhaps modern day despots who vilify Confederates,

their monuments and cemeteries, would do well to remember this. African Americans were integrated into Southern ranks. According to the revised official data, of the slightly over two million troops in the United States Volunteers, over 316 thousand died from all causes, or 15.2%. Of the 67 thousand Regular Army (white) troops, 8.6%, or not quite 6 thousand died. Of the approximately 180,000 United States Coloured Troops however, over a staggering 36 thousand died, or 20.5%. In other words, the mortality rate amongst United States Coloured Troops in the war was 35% greater than that among white troops, notwithstanding the fact that the former were not enrolled until some eighteen months after the fighting began.

Confederate records compiled by Historian William F. Fox list 74,524 killed and died of wounds and 59,292 died of disease. If we include Confederate estimates of battle losses, where no records exist, this would bring the Confederate death toll to 94,000 killed and died of wounds. However Fox complained that records were incomplete, especially during the last year of the war and says battlefield reports likely under estimated deaths, many men counted as wounded in battlefield reports but subsequently died of their wounds. Thomas L. Livermore, using Fox's data, put the number of Confederate non-combat deaths at 166,000, using the official estimate of Union deaths from disease and accidents and a comparison of Union and Confederate enlistment records, for a total of 260 thousand deaths. However, this excludes the 30 thousand deaths of Confederate troops in prisons, which would raise the minimum number of deaths to 290 thousand.

The United States National Park Service uses the following figures in its official tally of war losses and give us a reliable account:

Union: 853,838 110,100 killed in action  
224,580 disease deaths 275,154 wounded in action  
211,411 captured (including 30,192 who died as POWs)

Confederate: 914,660 94,000 killed in action  
164,000 disease deaths 194,026 wounded in action  
462,634 captured (including 31,000 who died as POWs)

While the figures of 360 thousand army deaths for the Union and 260,000 for the Confederacy remained commonly quoted, they are now clearly seen to be largely incomplete. Many Confederate records are missing, adding to the confusion is that Confederate widows failed to report death of their husbands as it would make them ineligible to collect benefits. Both armies only counted troops who died during their service, and not the tens of thousands who died from wounds or numerous diseases shortly after being discharged. Often death would occur

only a few days or weeks later.

A legendary statistician Francis Amasa Walker (July 2, 1840 – January 5, 1897) was an American Economist, Statistician, Journalist, Educator, Academic Administrator and a military officer in the Union Army. Walker was born into a prominent Boston family, the son of the economist and politician Amasa Walker and graduated from Amherst College at the age of 20. He received a commission to join the 15th Massachusetts Infantry and quickly rose through the ranks as an assistant Adjutant General. Walker fought in the Peninsular Campaign and was wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville but subsequently participated in the Bristoe, Overland, and Richmond-Petersburg Campaigns, before being captured by Confederate forces and held at Libby Prison. In July 1866, he was nominated by President Andrew Johnson and confirmed by the U.S. Senate for the award of the honorary grade of Brevet Brigadier General United States Volunteers, to rank from March 13, 1865, when he was aged 24.

Following the war, Walker served on the editorial staff of the Springfield Republican before using his family and military connections to gain appointment as the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics from 1869 to 1870 and was Superintendent of the 1870 Census where he published an award-winning Statistical Atlas visualizing the data for the first time. He joined Yale University as a Professor of



#### **F. Amasa Walker, an extraordinary statistician and veteran**

Political Economy in 1872 and rose to international prominence serving as a chief member of the 1876 Philadelphia Exposition. He was President of the American Statistical Association in 1882, and numerous other august positions that clearly give credibility to his analysis. He argued that the commonly accepted death toll was inadequate all his life but largely ignored. Francis Amasa Walker used census and Surgeon General data to estimate a minimum of 500,000 Union military deaths

and 350,000 Confederate military deaths, for a total death toll of 850,000 soldiers. No matter how astute was the man, Walker's estimates were originally dismissed because of alleged 1870 Census's undercounting; it was later found the census was only off by 6.5%, and that the data Walker used would be largely accurate. The myth of the lower casualty rate was perpetuated and historians didn't want it any other way after all it was "In all the current history books."

Analysing the number of dead by using census data alone suggests that at least 627,000 and at most 888,000, but most likely 761,000 soldiers, died in the war. This would break down to approximately 350,000 Confederate and 411,000 Union military deaths, going by the proportion of Union to Confederate battle losses.

Deaths among former slaves has proven much harder to estimate, due to the lack of reliable census data at the time, though the numbers were known to be considerable, as former slaves were set free or escaped in massive numbers in areas where the Union army failed to provide sufficient shelter, doctors, or food. University of Connecticut Professor James Downs states that tens to hundreds of thousands of slaves died during the war from disease, starvation, exposure, or execution and that if these deaths alone are factored into the war's total, the death toll would far exceed 1 million.

One reason for the high number of battle deaths during the war was the continued use of tactics similar to those of the Napoleonic Wars at the turn of the century. Charging in tightly packed and formed ranks, with the advent of more accurate rifled barrels, Minié balls, grape and canister shot all combined to bring a harvest of death. This was further compounded towards the end of the war when the Union Army was issued repeating firearms such as the Spencer and Henry Repeating Rifles. Soldiers were mowed down when standing in lines in the open. This quickly led to the South adopting trench warfare, a style of fighting that defined much of World War I although men would still leave the trench and charge the enemy in formed lines.

The wealth amassed in slaves and slavery for the

Confederacy's 3.5 million African Americans, effectively ended when Union armies arrived; they were nearly all 'freed' by the Emancipation Proclamation but the word 'freed' is smeared with ineptitude and down-right racial indifference. African Americans remained in bondage as Contrabands for years under the Union, or were completely abandoned with no help for clothing, food, medical care or housing. Slaves in border States and those located in some former Confederate territory, occupied before the Emancipation Proclamation were freed by State action, or on 6 December 1865 by the 13th Amendment. Unable to cope with the flood of African Americans seeking food and shelter, many were incarcerated in Concentration Camps and died there of hunger and disease.

The war destroyed much of the wealth that had existed in the South. All accumulated investment, Confederate bonds were forfeit; most banks and railroads were bankrupt. Income per person in the South dropped to less than 40 percent of that of the North, a condition that lasted until well into the 20th century and still exists in places

like Louisiana. Death continued to haunt the South long after the war with reprisals and criminal abuse by plunderers. Southern influence in the U.S. Federal government, previously considerable, was greatly diminished until the latter half of the 20th century. The full restoration of the Union was the work of a highly contentious post-war era known as 'Reconstruction.' Given that even the casualty rate wasn't accepted, how could any form of reconstruction be a success? That is if you believe it was ever intended to be a success and not a punishment. Part of that reconstruction was the freedom to erect monuments



**"Contrabands" was the name given 'freed' fugitive slaves**

to the fallen. So what is the final tally, with still more not accounted for? It is now acknowledged to be at least one million and thirty thousand, an easy figure for you to remember. The final tally, that would increase this figure, will never be known but no matter how you look at it, this is far too great a price for any one nation to pay and yet in fifty years they will be at it again in France and WW1 but at least they wouldn't be waging war on their own people, in their own country!

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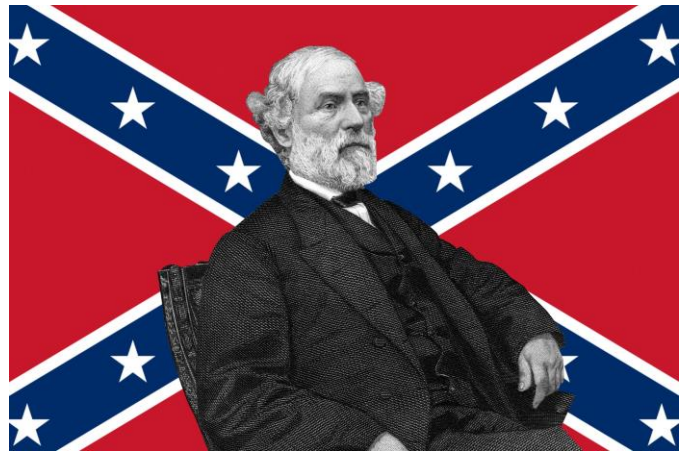
## CONGRATULATIONS!

Drew Chrestman, son of long time member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Ken Chrestman will be promoted to Captain on 15, January, 2019, of the Tennessee Army National Guard, 278 ACR (Armored Cavalry Regiment)

Please watch the video of what they do!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAAPpmhwI74>

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## The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640 Sons of Confederate Veterans

Go to our website:

<http://www.tennessee-scv.org/camp1640/>

Or visit our Facebook pages at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BluffCityGraysMemphis>

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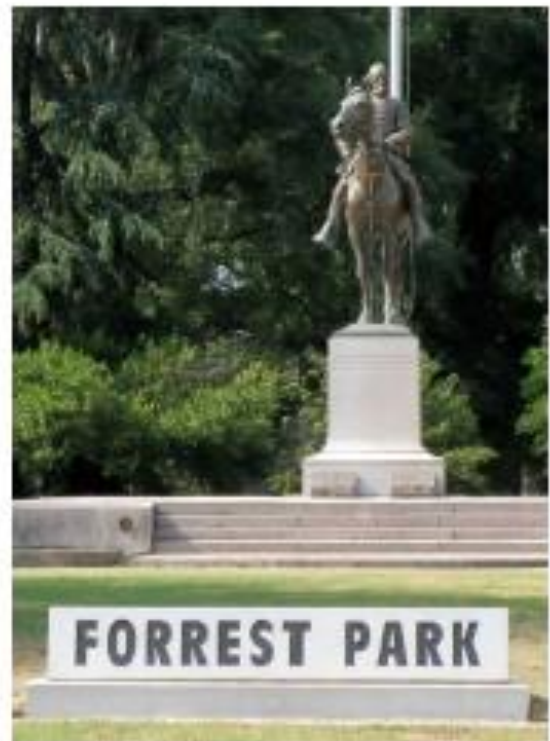
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Osborn Turner, IV	Charles L Vernon
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**SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

# Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

## Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter.      No membership fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

Please donate to our cause:      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_      check number \_\_\_\_\_

### Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875,    Memphis, TN    38124

COLLECTOR'S

# FORREST COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

**\$ 10 each — All proceeds go to**

**Parks Defense Fund**

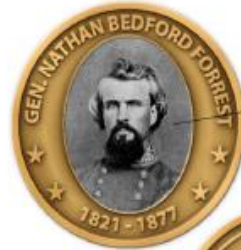
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

[harryadamscsa@gmail.com](mailto:harryadamscsa@gmail.com)

\$10 each, plus \$1 each for shipping. Send your check to

Save the Parks

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



**Traveller** is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans

and

The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,

Order of the Confederate Rose

P.O. Box 171251

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Steve M. McIntyre, Editor

**Next Camp Meeting \*\* January 14, 2019**

**Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**