

The Southern Defender™

Published for the Southern Victory Campaign of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

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We Are Not in a History Debate

Adapted from a *Confederate Veteran* article by Gene Kizer, Jr.¹

Since the 1960s, the interpretation of Southern history and the War Between the States put forth by most of the news media and academia is largely a fraud. It is driven by the racist “identity politics” of the neo-Marxists¹ and the Democrat Party, not on historical truth.

If Southern history was interpreted objectively, as it was before 1960, instead of through the lens of neo-Marxism, nobody would dare remove a monument to soldiers in a war in which 800,000 were killed and more than a million were wounded, half of which were Confederate soldiers who were always hungry, ragged, outnumbered, and outgunned, but exhibited valor such as the world had never seen.

The Wicked Alliance

Neo-Marxists and Democrats are foremost among the political leaders working to remove our Confederate monuments. These people have an axe to grind, and they grind it with a vengeance, ignoring polls showing that 60% of Americans want the monuments left alone. If the neo-Marxists cannot find a legal means to remove the monuments, they simply break the law, cover the monuments with tarps, or call out the vandals. New Orleans mayor, Mitch Landrieu, had to remove our monuments at night while snipers in bulletproof vests stood guard.

Neo-Marxists in academia and the news media are just as dangerous as their political counterparts. In the 2016 presidential election, the 33 wealthiest colleges in America gave \$1,560,000 to Hillary Clinton. They gave \$3,000 to Donald Trump.

Approximately 96% of donation dollars from journalists went to Hillary Clinton. In numbers, 430 journalists gave to Clinton; 50 gave to Trump.

Our Ancestors’ Sacrificial Giving

Confederate monuments in the South were paid for by the pennies of children living in an impoverished region which had been destroyed 35 years prior. Yet these children and their parents found the necessary funds—a little here and there over the years—to honor in bronze and stone their courageous Confederate warriors.

Today, we must realize that we are in a political fight, not a history debate! We must develop creative and comprehensive strategies to defeat our enemies. Our highest priority is to establish cultural and political influence.

The Southern Victory Campaign

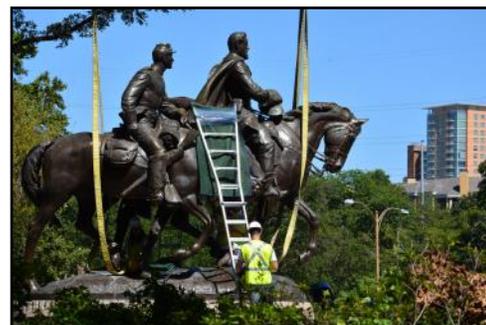
Fortunately, for quite a while now, the Sons of Confederate Veterans have been creating the weapons and tactics necessary for establishing cultural and political influence. It is called the Southern Victory Campaign. You and your organization enlist by joining the Confederate Legion at MakeDixieGreatAgain.com. If you do not have an organization, build one!

Then, together, we raise money to insert thousands of *Southern Defenders*™ in newspapers. We run Radio Free Dixie ads, pass out *Defenders* every day, to everyone, regardless of race. We use direct mail, TV and social media. We establish overwhelming influence to defeat our enemies, which are also the enemies of everyone that loves freedom tied to Judeo-Christian morality, which is Liberty.

¹In May/June 2018, *Confederate Veteran* published *We Are in a Political Fight* by Gene Kizer, Jr. We adapted it to create our article. See “Free Downloads” on right.

²Neo-Marxists: modern proponents of the principles, methods and/or goals ascribed to Karl Marx and other Socialists and Communists.

Neo-Marxists² Wage War on Confederate Monuments



Sept. 2017— Despite pro-South litigation, this monument to R.E. Lee was removed from Lee Park in Dallas and placed into storage, proving again there is no substitute for winning the Culture War. Alamy Photo

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Download the complete *Confederate Veteran* magazine that includes the full, unabridged article featured on the left.

Download these 3 issues of *The New American* magazine to get the unvarnished truth about the Neo-Marxist terrorists that have been destroying American and Confederate monuments, our heritage, and our Judeo-Christian civilization.

People who do not read have little advantage over people who cannot read.

Through A Glass Darkly

Adapted from a *Confederate Veteran* article by Ronald T. Clemmons¹

No period in American history has produced as many heroes that are still venerated over a century later than the War Between the States. The pantheon of Confederate heroes is filled with names that signify the best of the American spirit. Southern valor is legendary as are the officers and men who fought for the Confederacy.

None is as ubiquitous, yet enigmatic, as Nathan Bedford Forrest.

An examination of General Forrest's life will prove that he was more than an excellent soldier and patriot: He was a superior man. He is a symbol of the American spirit. Nonetheless, his reputation is clouded in history due to myopic writers who twist the past to fit their Left-leaning views.

Bedford Forrest was born on the frontier, and it shaped his personality. A man matured quickly on the frontier, especially when the head of the household died prematurely as did William Forrest, father of the General, when Bedford was only 16 years old. The responsibility of caring for his ten siblings and mother left him little time for boyish endeavors and school.

Despite such difficulties, or perhaps because of them, the General understood Southern soldiers, enabling him to lead them from victory to victory.

When the South declared independence and the Yankees invaded the new Southern republic, Forrest was one of the wealthiest men in Memphis, Tennessee. He was a socially prominent millionaire and a city Alderman. Even though men of his standing were raising troops across the South, Forrest enlisted as a private. By placing himself last, he allowed others to elevate him to the top based solely on merit. Forrest led because he was worthy.

And he led by example, refusing to ask his men to perform duties that he was unwilling to undertake. Whether it was diving into icy Lick Creek to save his command after the fall of Fort Donelson, or leading his men in the charge at Okolona, Mississippi, General Forrest's battle cry was "Follow me, boys!" Perhaps this attitude explains the fact that he killed 39 Yankee soldiers while 29 horses on which he rode were killed.

Forrest disliked senseless waste and

lost opportunities. On more than one occasion, he took on the hierarchy of the Confederate army, including Generals Joe Wheeler, Braxton Bragg, and Stephen D. Lee.

In March 1865, Forrest ordered the hanging of two men for desertion at Sipsey Bridge, Alabama. Even though the General used stern measures in order to maintain discipline, as did many great generals over the centuries, Forrest's men believed in him. One veteran of his command summed up the soldiers' feelings when he stated, "His commission as general was not only signed by Jefferson Davis, but by the Almighty as well, and his soldiers knew it."

Forrest has been criticized as a violent man. He *was* violent. The Bible says that violence is often necessary, yet some people even criticize the Apostle Peter for being violent. But Jesus Christ did not use sugary words to drive the money-changers from the Temple, nor was it tenderness that the Apostle Paul recommended toward the Cretans in Titus 1:12-13.

Riding in Forrest's funeral procession, Jefferson Davis admitted that he had been misled by his counselors regarding the genius of the "Wizard of the Saddle". Have *you* been misled?

Propaganda and false doctrine can lead *cowardly* men to shy away from General Forrest and the tactics he used in the cause of Liberty and Southern Independence. But the historical and moral truth can inspire *courageous* men to join the Southern Victory Campaign and go on the offensive against the neo-Marxists that are insulting our ancestors, ridiculing their God, and destroying our civilization.

Forrest was the best the South had to offer. He was born of her womb, nurtured at her breast, and finally enveloped beneath her sod. Since the fall of 2020, General Forrest lays at rest with his wife, Mary Ann, at the headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Columbia, Tennessee.

¹In Vol. 33, No. 5, September 1985, *Confederate Veteran* published the full version of this fine article from which we adapted our version. To download the entire magazine, featuring several articles about General Forrest, see Resources on page 3.

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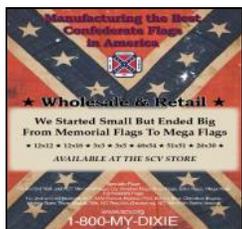


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Nathan B. Forrest Resources

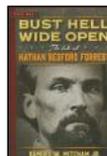
Websites

MakeDixieGreatAgain.com — Our American Hero Initiative brings you:

- Three or more issues of the *Southern Defender*™ dedicated to Gen. Forrest. Buy in bulk to hand out during your daily routine, at festivals, and by the thousands as newspaper inserts.
- Radio Free Dixie ads you & your group can air on the radio, use in social media posts & YouTube videos.
- Videos under *Commander's Comments* and *The Rest of the Story* that you can share and show at meetings.

ConfederateHistory.wixsite.com/forrest
Here you'll find a treasure trove of concise, well organized & documented, information under these headings: Introduction, Early Life, War Years, Fort Pillow Report, Later Years, Pole Bearers Speech, Forrest Trial, The Klan Myth. Share links to the site with everyone you know.

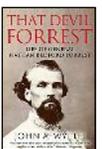
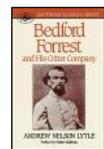
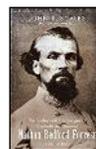
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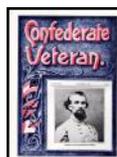
Bust Hell Wide Open by Dr. Samuel Mitcham— During the last 100 years, a few books were written on Forrest that will still be sought by readers in the next 100 years. This is one of them. Use a search engine or buy autographed copies while they last at VictoryFlagsAndMore.com.

360 pages
Maps
Photos
Notes
Bibl.
Index

Average prices are \$17 - \$30.



1. *Battles & Campaigns of Nathan Bedford Forrest* by John R. Scales
 2. *Top 5 Confederate Generals* by Charles River Editors
 3. *Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company* by Andrew Nelson Lytle
 4. *That Devil Forrest* by John A. Wyeth
- Use a search engine to find these 4 books.



At MakeDixieGreatAgain.com
This entire 1985 issue is devoted to the memory of Gen. Forrest. It's at the *Southern Defender*™ page beside Issue No. 3.

Visit the HQ of the S.C.V. in Columbia, Tennessee,

where Gen. & Mrs. N. B. Forrest are buried.

Forrest's Late Night Visit to Memphis

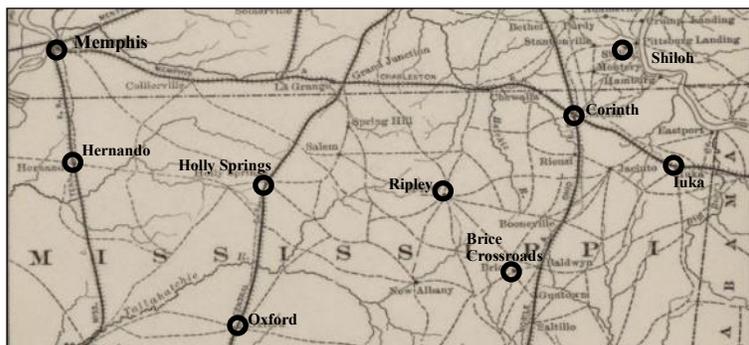
Condensed from a *Confederate Veteran* article by Edward F. Williams III

It was a typical hot August night in Memphis as the commander of Union forces in west Tennessee, Major General Cadwallader Washburn, and his wife prepared for bed. They felt secure in their assumption that the closest Confederates were outnumbered 6 to 1 and trapped south of the Tallahatchie River over 60 miles away near the college town of Oxford, Mississippi. Union forces under Major General A. J. "Whiskey" Smith had moved there to confront Lieutenant General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his force of 3,500 Confederates.

General Washburn lacked military field credentials but his political credits were impeccable. Three times prior to 1860 he had been elected as a Republican member of Congress. He had amassed a fortune; his flour milling business would become the General Mills Company. After the war he would be Governor of Wisconsin. His brother Elihu was an intimate friend of Abe Lincoln, and he was General Grant's personal sponsor in the early stages of the war when political connections were crucial. Washburn had replaced Major General Stephen Hurlbut in west Tennessee because Hurlbut had failed to keep Forrest pinned down. As he slept that Sunday morning, surrounded by 6,000 of the 25,000 troops based out of Memphis, Washburn depended on old soldiers like Whiskey Smith and others to do the real work.

North of Oxford, despite overwhelming odds, General Forrest divided his troops and took less than half on a daring raid upon the Yankee base at Memphis. Forrest planned his visit well. On August 20 in Hernando, he received reports from scouts that gave him information about Yankee troop dispositions in Memphis and the sleeping quarters of all the principal Yankee officers.

After midnight, a fog began to creep around Memphis out of the creek and river bottoms. At 3 a.m. the few sentries that were still awake surely sensed the eerie conditions, but the lone man on the Hernando Road north of the Nonconnah and Cane creeks must have felt particularly alone in the pitch black mist that not only obscured vision, but also muffled sounds. He could not know that riding toward him were 1,500 Confederate horsemen who had crossed three rain-swollen rivers and nearly 80 miles in the last 50 hours to arrive in the Memphis outskirts well before dawn on August 21, 1864.



Gen. Forrest's area of operations in Mississippi.

Campaigns of the American Civil War, West Point, N.Y., 1914. Library of Congress.

Once ready, Captain William H. "Bill" Forrest, the General's youngest brother, led ten men forward. Their job was to overwhelm the sentries, race to the Gayoso House Hotel and there capture General Hurlbut. "Who comes there?" was the challenge from one of the sentries. Captain Bill replied, "A detachment of the Twelfth Missouri Cavalry with Rebel prisoners." The captain knew the Twelfth was a unit with General Smith near Oxford.

"Advance one," came the sentry's reply. Captain Forrest rode forward, quietly followed by his men. He found the sentry astride his horse in the middle of Hernando Road. Bill felled him with one shot from his Colt Navy revolver. The Rebels rushed forward and captured the remaining 12 sentries.

The shot may have aroused the next sentry post about a quarter of a mile further north because the Confederates were greeted by a volley when they reached it. A quick charge scattered those Federals but destroyed all chances for total surprise.

According to General Forrest, his troops then began to shout lustily. He directed his bugler, Gaus, to sound the charge, which was repeated by all the regimental buglers. Amid the yelling and cheering, an irrepressible, though disorganized, charge descended upon the Yankees holding Memphis hostage.

Captain Bill Forrest's troops did not halt until they drew in their reins in front of the Gayoso House. Inside they went, horses and all, searching for General Hurlbut. But, the General was not to be found. Away from his hotel in the middle of the night, his carousing prevented his capture.

On the north side of Union Avenue, a messenger brought word of the raid to General Washburn. Leaving everything behind, including his wife, he escaped with only his nightshirt. He followed an alley to the river front and worked his way south to the safety of Fort Pickering and its 97 cannons.

Confederate raiders under the leadership of Lieutenant Jesse Forrest, another of the General's brothers, captured General Washburn's uniform, but left his wife, unmolested.

Soon the Yankees began to rally, obliging General Forrest to mount a general engagement to maintain an escape route so his troops could head south with their prisoners and spoils of war. Joel Chandler Harris in his 1907 novel described Forrest's demeanor during this portion of the battle. "I wish you could'a see'd Genral Forrest as I see'd him then. His face was right purple, an' the veins in the side of his neck stood out like they was swelled, and his eyes was red as blood. I know'd then why ever'body was afear'd o' him; if ever a man looked like a demon, he did. I believe if he'd a blowed out a long breath you could'a see'd it smoke!" [Edited slightly to make readable.]

Around 9 a.m. Forrest decided that his point had been made so he ordered a recall. Parties of Confederates began to drift south on familiar Memphis streets. One soldier wrote years later of the thrill he felt when he saw his mother and sister in his own front yard. However, his relatives almost did not recognize his faded, tattered brownish figure. Two years prior, they had said goodbye to a neat young soldier in gray.

By noon, Forrest's soldiers of Southern independence were well on their way out of town. Washburn sent word to General Smith to stop him. Smith said he did not receive the message until early the next morning—too late. In a series of letters, Washburn criticized him for dropping the ball. Perhaps the truth was that Smith did not really want the ball if Forrest came with it. Smith simply pushed into Oxford and committed atrocities, burning down the courthouse and 39 stores and homes.

Major General Stephen Hurlbut summed it up best. He said, "They removed me from command because I couldn't keep Forrest out of West Tennessee, but apparently Washburn can't keep him out of his bedroom."

¹In Vol. 33, No. 5, September 1985, *Confederate Veteran* published the full version of this fine article. We condensed it to create our version. To download the entire magazine, featuring several articles about General Forrest, see Resources on page 3.