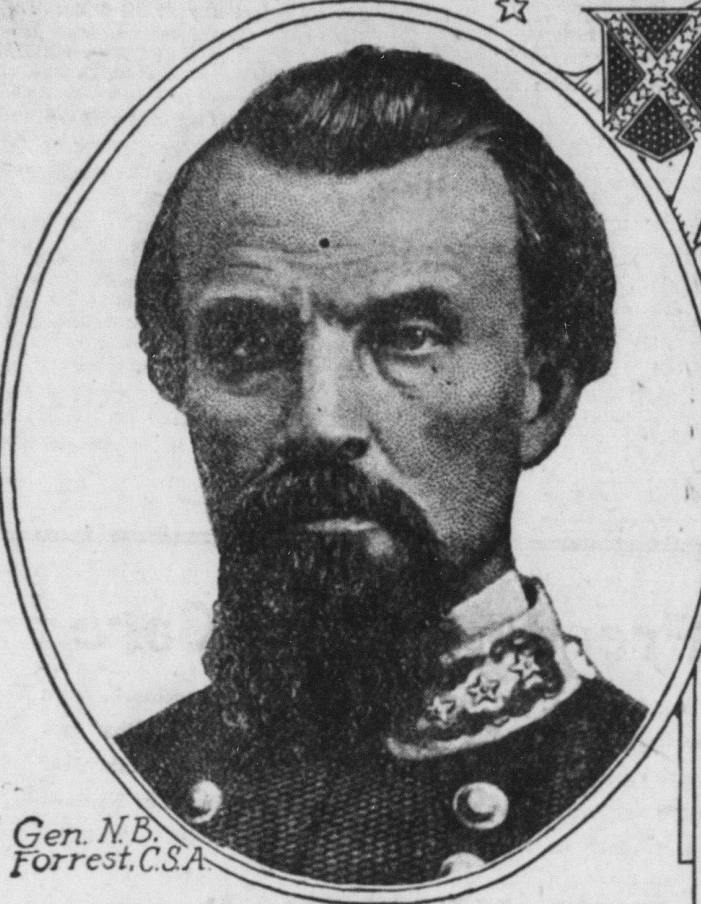
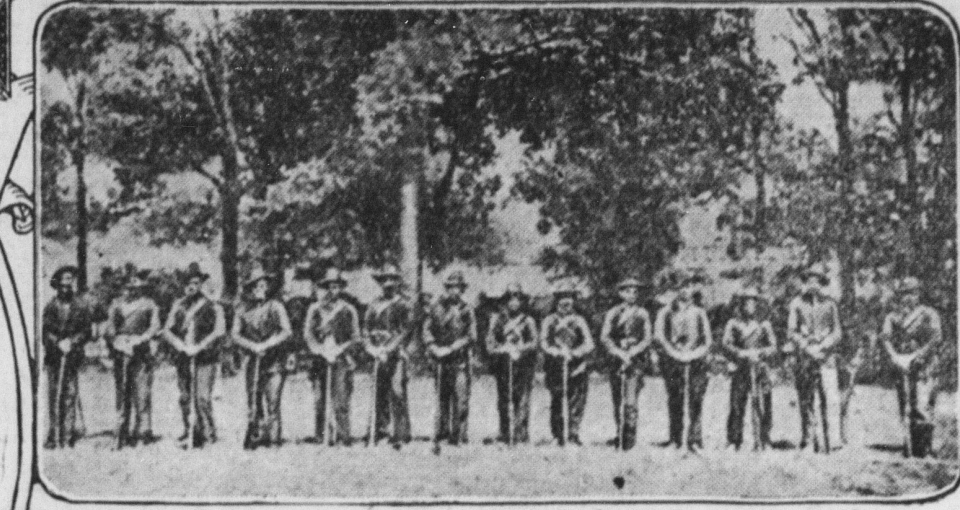


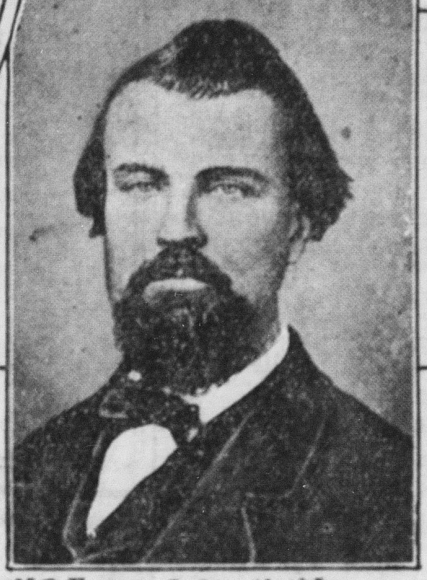
The Man Who Might Have Saved the "Lost Cause"



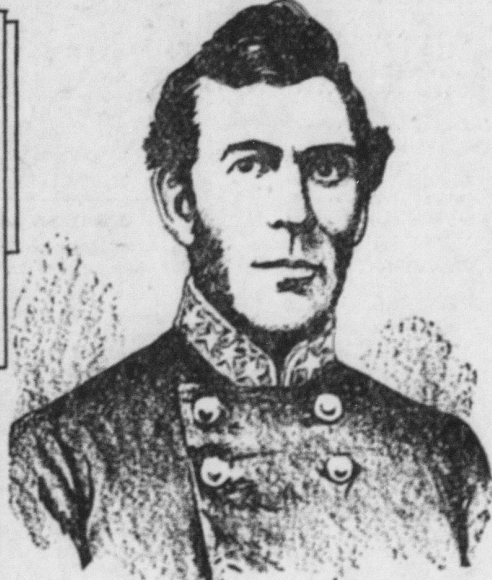
Gen. N.B. Forrest, C.S.A.



Dismounted Confederate Cavalry



N.B. Forrest Before the War



Gen. Braxton Bragg



Forrest and His Critter Company

Pictures from "Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company," Courtesy Minton, Balch & Company.

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

TO MOST Americans the name of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, Confederate cavalry leader, means the synonym for the author of a famous epigram on how to win battles. His method was to "git thar fust with the mostest men." But what they do not realize is that Forrest was more than just the maker of a historic phrase, a picturesque character personally and an unusually successful cavalry leader. If the estimation of a recent biographer is correct, Forrest takes his place among the greatest of all American military leaders, a master strategist as well as a master tactician and the man who, had it not been for the jealousy of a superior officer, might easily have saved the "Lost Cause." The biographer is Andrew Nelson Lytle and his viewpoint is presented in the book, "Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company," published recently by Minton, Balch and company.

Mr. Lytle has ample justification for his estimate of Forrest. Gen. Robert E. Lee had a great cavalry leader with his forces—the dashing "Jeb" Stuart. But at Appomattox, when somebody asked Lee who was the greatest soldier in his command, he answered instantly, "A man I have never seen, sir. His name is Forrest." A similar tribute was paid to Forrest by Jefferson Davis twelve years later. The former president of the Confederacy and Governor Porter of Tennessee were riding in the funeral procession which was carrying "Old Bedford" to his grave. Turning to Davis, Porter said, "History has accorded to General Forrest the first place as a cavalry leader in the war between the states and has named him as one of the half dozen great soldiers of the country." To which Davis, graduate of West Point and a professional soldier before he was called to head a new American republic, replied, "The trouble was that the generals commanding in the southwest never appreciated Forrest until it was too late. Their judgment was that he was a bold and enterprising partisan raider and rider. I was misled by them, and I never knew how to measure him until I read his reports of his campaign across the Tennessee river in 1864. This induced a study of his earlier reports, and after that I was prepared to adopt what you are pleased to name as the judgment of history."

But to realize to the full the greatness of Forrest one should turn to the words, not of his friends, but of his enemies. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman who campaigned against him in the Western campaigns never made the mistake of underestimating his ability and Sherman once exclaimed, "I am going to get Forrest if it costs 10,000 lives and breaks the treasury! There will never be peace in Tennessee until Forrest is dead!" But he never did get him, and the "Wizard of the Saddle," as the adoring Southerners called him, went through four years of spectacular leadership in war without a defeat, a record almost unparalleled in history.

As for "critter company" it is the Tennessee name for Forrest's cavalry. Early in the war, while Union troops were occupying Tennessee Forrest "became overnight their particular ideal of what a soldier could be. They could not understand strategic gains but they could understand his particular kind of fighting. It was as plain and as heartening as sow-belly and corn bread. The women now felt that they had a defender. They began to threaten tyrannical Union officers with 'Forrest will get you for this' and 'I'll tell or Forrest on you.' They soon learned that he was a bogey man they all believed in."

The same adoration given him by the people was given by the men who followed him. They referred to him as "the old man" just as Jackson's "foot cavalry" did to that leader. They also called him "Old Bedford" in the same sense that Jackson's men referred to "Old Jack." In return he looked after them as a father looks after his children. Nothing made Forrest more furious than a useless waste of lives in a

battle, especially if the lives were those of "his boys." He was the ideal cavalryman in his judgment of horseflesh and of how to take care of the mounts in his command.

Nathan Bedford Forrest was born in Bedford county, Tennessee, in 1821. Little is known of his life as a boy but what is known is mainly a record of conflict, of fights with wild animals, with bullies of the neighborhood and other evidences to prove that Nathan Bedford was a born fighter. In his early manhood he started to Texas to help fight for Texas independence but arrived there only to find that there was no need for his services. Penniless, young Forrest split enough rails at fifty cents a hundred to pay his way back to Tennessee. Then he became a horse trader and later, moving to Memphis, became a broker in real estate and finally a slave trader, in all of which occupations he prospered.

He next became an alderman in Memphis after he had distinguished himself by daring, as a private citizen, to save the lives of two murderers when a mob threatened to storm the jail and when no one else dared to face the would-be lynchers. Forrest planted himself in front of the jail holding a six-shooter and calling out to the mob in a clear firm voice, "If you come by ones, or by tens, or by hundreds, I'll kill any man who tries to get in this jail." The result of this firm statement was that the mob of three thousand quickly melted away. They knew that Forrest meant exactly what he said.

After serving one year as an alderman Forrest resigned in 1850 and became a cotton planter. He was thus engaged when the Civil war broke out and in June, 1861, instead of using his influence to get a commission he enlisted as a private in White's Tennessee Mounted Rifles. But his friends did what he would not do for himself. They decided that the ranks were no place for Forrest. So they prevailed upon the Confederate authorities to give him a commission as lieutenant colonel and the authority to raise a battalion of mounted rangers. Going up into Kentucky (both because he could secure excellent horses there and because every man which he brought out of that state, which was neutral but was a recruiting ground for both governments, would weaken the enemy's armies just that much) he returned to Memphis some eight weeks later, having raised eight companies, 650 strong. Then began his amazing career as a cavalryman par excellence, as a natural military genius whose exploits far outshone those of many trained soldiers and as a thorn in the side of one Union general after another.

Forrest knew nothing about military tactics and cared less. In that regard he was an ideal leader for the independent-spirited men under his command. Drills and guard mounts were obnoxious to them but their officers managed to get results from them even without the formality of giving commands in the prescribed manner. Such expression as "Men, tangle into four! By turn around! Git!" would shock an army-trained drillmaster speechless, but when such commands were given to Forrest's men they knew what was wanted and they obeyed.

Forrest had a fine contempt for West Point-trained officers who fought according to rule of the thumb. On one occasion, after a battle which had been disastrous to the Southern forces and which had been fought according to a plan to which Forrest had been opposed, Gen. Stephen D. Lee called a council of war. Lee asked Forrest if he had any ideas. "Yes sir," said the cavalry leader. "I've always got ideas, and I'll tell you one thing, General Lee. If I knew as much about West Point tactics as you, the Yankees would whip hell out of me every day."

As for the thesis that Forrest might have saved the Confederacy from defeat, it is based upon the fact that, as Lytle says, "the government which first realized that the war would be decided ultimately on western battlefields would have a decided advantage," and the premise that if Forrest's genius had been recognized soon enough by the Confederate government, if he had been given a sufficient force and had not been thwarted by a jealous superior he might have held the West indefinitely and turned the

scale in favor of the Confederacy. But President Davis and his cabinet, their attention concentrated upon the Eastern theater of war and upon holding Richmond, which was strategically relatively unimportant, failed to see until it was too late that if they lost the West they lost the war. And Forrest, even though he won victory after victory, was forced to see his efforts repeatedly nullified by the inefficient Gen. Braxton Bragg, to whose weakness Davis seems to have been strangely blind even though they were soon enough recognized by other Confederate generals and by the people of the South.

The story of Forrest's campaigns would take a volume for the telling. He served brilliantly at Fort Donelson and led his own forces safely through the encircling Union lines to Nashville. He could have done as much for Buckner's entire army had that general listened to him. But Buckner didn't listen and the result was what Lytle calls "a tragedy of errors"—the loss not only of the fort but of Buckner's entire army. Forrest captured a large Union force at Murfreesboro and made it possible for Bragg to take the initiative away from Buell in the Kentucky campaign.

He served gallantly at Shiloh, at Hog Mountain, and at Chickamauga and in innumerable other actions where he was unhampered by the orders of his "superiors" he proved repeatedly that here was one Confederate leader who knew how to win battles. But always there was the hand of Braxton Bragg to minimize or nullify his success. Finally one day he stamped into Bragg's tent and declared, "You may as well not issue any more orders to me, for I will not obey them. And I will hold you personally responsible for any further indignities you try to inflict upon me. You have threatened to arrest me for not obeying your orders promptly. I dare you to do it, and I say to you that if you ever again try to interfere with me or cross my path, it will be at the peril of your life. And Bragg did not take the dare.

The closing days of the war found Forrest a lieutenant general (a recognition which had come too late) and placed in charge of all the cavalry in the West—the last organized Confederate forces in that section. But by this time his efforts were futile so far as the outcome of the war was concerned. Lee surrendered to Grant and Johnston to Sherman and there was no further need for Forrest to lead his "critter company" on those swift dashes which had made him the nightmare of more than one commander in blue. His men begged him to lead them to Mexico to avoid surrendering. But he knew the game was up and surrendered to General Canby.

After the war Forrest went to Mississippi to become a planter again—taking as his partner a Federal officer! Later he sold his plantation and moved to Memphis. He was a delegate to the first post-war Democratic convention and when he went to New York he "attracted so much attention that he could not move about the streets without drawing a crowd"—such was the fame of "the Wizard of the Saddle" in the North. When the dark days of the Reconstruction period came upon the South and the Ku Klux Klan was organized to save it from the Scalawag-Carpetbagger regime, Forrest was offered the command of the new movement and accepted it. It had previously been offered to Robert E. Lee but although he refused, he approved of the idea, saying that his approval must be "invisible." So the Ku Klux Klan became the "Invisible Empire" and when the name for a commander was brought up some one suggested "Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, the Wizard of the Saddle." So he became "the Grand Wizard of the Invisible Empire."

By 1870 the work of the Ku Klux Klan had saved the South and Forrest disbanded it. There were only a few more years of life left for him. He died in Memphis October 29, 1877, and was buried in Elmwood cemetery. Later his body was removed to a park set aside to his memory in Memphis and an equestrian statue raised over it. So Bedford Forrest still rides in the South—in material form in this statue and in spiritual form in the hearts of the people of Tennessee who still tell their tales of "Old Bedford, the Wizard of the Saddle."

(© by Western Newspaper Union.)

Infatuation of Moment

Cost Monarch Kingdom

It is not for nothing that bathroom windows are usually provided with frosted glass.

David, peering at Bath-Sheba, had trouble enough with Nathan, but his difficulties were largely of a spiritual nature and he bore up under them splendidly. Roderick, king of the Visigoths, was no more guilty, but his curiosity wrecked a kingdom.

Roderick spied a very pretty girl in the pool of the walled garden where his queen's waiting women took the air, and asserted his royal prerogative. The girl told her father, Count Julian, who held Tangier for the Gothic king. Julian was vexed, and took counsel with Tarik, the Arab chieftain in those parts. Tarik crossed the straits to land on the peninsula whose name, Gibraltar, perpetuates his memory and Julian drew to his support the sons of Witiza, whom Roderick had displaced. The combined forces of the Arabs and the malcontents met the Visigoths at Guadalete on the Guadalquivir and crushed them utterly. Roderick was drowned in the blood-stained waters as he fled, and the wave of Saracen conquest rolled to the Pyrenees and beyond.

There is no record of the fate of Julian's daughter, but Julian's revenge served to fill the slave markets of the East with blond Visigothic beauties and it is not unlikely that she was among them. Julian, distressed by the completeness of his revenge, took his own life.

It was more than seven and three-quarters centuries before the Moslems were expelled from Spain.—E. S. Metcalf, in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Warm" Corpse Too Much for Nerves of Ghouls

About one hundred years ago a gentleman, well known for the mad pranks in which he delighted, was walking past a lonely kirkyard in Midlothian when he saw a well-appointed horse and trap standing unattended before the gate. Curious to know what this might mean, he crouched in the ditch by the wall and waited.

In a few moments two men came out of the kirkyard carrying in a sack a long object which they propped up on end on the seat next to the driver's. Then they said something about tools and went back. Quick as thought the watcher pulled down the sack, emptied its grisly contents into the ditch, climbed into the trap, got into the sack, and braced himself stiffly into position.

Hardly had he done so when the two men returned and threw some tools into the trap, after which one got up in front and the other on the back seat. "Wud" as he was, our adventurer now began to repent of his hastiness, reflecting that one corpse was as good as another on the dissecting table, where, in those days, questions were by no means always asked. Suddenly the driver turned to his mate, and in accents of crawling horror gasped, "Mon, Jamie, the corp's warm!" The "corp" had presence of mind enough to moan in a hollow tone, "We're all warm where I come from."

There were two wild yells, the springs of the trap bounced furiously, the horse broke into a gallop, and when he got out of his sack the

DON'T SUFFER WITH BOILS
Why suffer intense agony of boils or eruptions when application of CARBOL stops pain, ripens and heals boil often overnight. Get Carboll today from druggist. Quickest relief known. 50c. Spaullock-Neal Co., Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. Peery's Dead Shot for WORMS Vermifuge
At druggists or 873 Pearl Street, New York City

PROTEKS CONES FOR FEMINE HYGIENE
They are safe, reliable and effective. Remove all feminine ailments necessary. Write for prices on other sizes. JOHN W. BERRYHILL, LAKELAND, FLA.

PARKER'S HAIR BALM
Removes Dandruff—Stops Hair Falling—Imparts Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair—60c and 1.00 at Druggists
FLORESTON SHAMPOO—Ideal for use in connection with Parker's Hair Balm. Makes the hair soft and fluffy. 50 cents by mail or a druggist. Hissoc Chemical Works, Patheon, N.Y.

FANCY COMB HONEY, 5 lb. bottle 12c, 15 lb. 24c, 25 lb. 36c, 50 lb. 60c, 100 lb. 100c. Write for prices on other sizes. JOHN W. BERRYHILL, LAKELAND, FLA.

WELCOME TO NEW YORK and The HOTEL GOVERNOR CLINTON
317 ST. AND 7TH AVE. opposite PENNA. R.R. STATION
1200 Rooms each with Bath, Servidor and Circulating Ice Water
ROOM AND BATH 3.00 UP

W. N. U., BALTIMORE, NO. 30-1931.

gentleman found himself alone, heading for Edinburgh at a great pace. The horse, trap, harness and tools served him well for many years and no one ever claimed them.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Mail Collector's Car
The British postal department is experimenting with a car designed to facilitate the collection of mail matter. It is built low and open on both sides and has the appearance of being a cross between a small car and a dairy delivery wagon. The tests so far have shown that it speeds up the work very greatly.

Harsh Critic
Daughter—Snucks, mother, you know you kissed some of the boys when you were young.
Mother—Certainly dear, but a kiss was a short story in those days. Now it's a whole serial.

Shampoo Regularly with Cuticura Soap
Freed by applications of Cuticura Ointment
This treatment will keep the scalp in a healthy condition and the hair soft and lustrous.
Soap 25c, Ointment 25c and 50c, Talcum 25c. Preparation: Potter Drug & Chemical Corporation, Malden, Mass.

Immortal "Will's" Father Feared Process Servers
Prosecution of Councillor Cox, of Manchester, for not attending church on Sunday, was founded on the Sunday Observance act of 1677. But the law of England about compulsory church observance was the same a hundred years earlier, when Shakespeare's father was reported to the Stratford authorities "for not comming monethlie to Church" according to hir Majesties lawes." But it was not lack of piety so

much as lack of pelf that kept John Shakespeare away from the parish church. For in the record, there is this note appended to his name and the names of eight other offenders: "It is sayde that these laste nine com not to Church for feare of process for debte."
It was on September 25, 1502, that this record was made—just a year before the publication of "Venus and Adonis," described by Shakespeare in his dedication as "The first heire of my invention."—London Morning Post.

WE GUARANTEE TO YOU
A ROOM & BATH (For Two) at \$4.00
A ROOM & BATH (For One) at \$2.50
at the Hotel
BRISTOL
48th STREET - WEST OF BROADWAY
NEW YORK
One of New York's best Hotels. Convenient to all shops and theatres—where courteous attention is the watchword.
A HOTEL OF KNOWN REPUTATION