

Praise for the Winter Issue

HUZZAH for the latest issue, especially but not limited to the incredible quality of Dan Binder's images and the by-now-we'reused-to-it fabulous design and production you accomplish in each succeeding issue of *MI*.

Chris "The Fan" Nelson Washington, D.C.

Winter issue was off the chart! Best yet in my opinion. I appreciate y'all keeping these men and women alive through your magazine.

Patrick Stewart Scottsboro, Ala.



I was one of the winners of a Military Images subscription in the Facebook Civil War Faces Giveaway sponsored by editor Doug York. My magazines came this Saturday. I cannot believe the quality of this magazine and stories about the photos. My great-great-great-grandfather was Col. James H. Cawthon from Cedar County. Mo., who fought at Wilson's Creek. Because of him, I've had an interest in the Civil War. (I've got my fingers crossed that my James Cawthon pops up in your magazine.) You've got me hooked! Beautiful job. Thank you again.

Donna Brown Williams Carrollton, Texas MI: You've thrown down the gauntlet, Donna! Calling on the Civil War community to locate a portrait of Col. Cawthon. Born in Tennessee in 1809, he joined the pro-Confederate Missouri State Guard in early 1861. He led a brigade into the Battle of Wilson's Creek, fought at Bloody Hill, and suffered an injury, which resulted in the amputation of a leg. Gangrene set in and he succumbed eight days later.

Mona Lisa and the Confederate Paper Crisis

The Confederate Mona Lisa story states "Whatever the reason, Semmes acknowledged the receipt of the pants on the back of the same card..." There was a serious paper shortage in the Confederacy, ergo the printing of newspapers on wall paper, the use of old printed material on the backs of tintypes, and the back and forth of the same card.

Chris Salerno Bottom Up history buff Sebastian, Fla.

Intriguing Last Shot

The image of the young Confederate featured in "The Last Shot" was very intriguing! Being from West Tennessee, I have been a life-long student of the history of the 7th Tennessee Cavalry, CSA which was organized in this section of our state. Many of my





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own ancestors fought with the 7th under the leadership of generals Frank Armstrong, William "Red" Jackson, and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

The article states that the provenance of the image is the Taliaferro family of Star City, Ark. The Taliaferro family was very prominent in West Tennessee, particularly Haywood County, prior to the War. L.W. Taliaferro was captain of Company D of the 7th—a company organized in that county. B.C. Taliaferro is also listed as a private in this company, known as the "Haywood Rangers."

Company L of the 7th was also organized with men from Haywood County and includes six members with the surname Taliaferro—four privates, one sergeant, and one first lieutenant. This company was known as the "Western Rangers."

The trooper pictured in "The Last Shot" wears the uniform style that was typical of the 7th early in the war. I see no rank insignia on his uniform, but believe he could quite possibly have been one of the privates listed in these two companies. Many people from West Tennessee, an area particularly devastated by the ravages of the war, moved further west at the end of hostilities. Records indicate that this was indicative of the Taliaferro family.

I hope this might help to solve the mystery in identifying this young Confederate. He certainly has a fearless and determined demeanor, which would make him a good candidate for membership in the illustrious 7th! Keep up the good work of publishing these wonderful images—especially the Confederate ones!

Rex Brotherton Hickory Valley, Tenn.

Cooper's Photographers

The third photograph reproduced should be attributed to Minnis & Cowell, or Julian Vannerson, not Mathew B. Brady. The photograph was probably taken in 1861, and is the only known wartime portrait of the general. On a related note, no image of Cooper in Confederate uniform is known to exist.

John O'Brien Charles Town, W.Va.

The Fate of Stonewall's Boat

I found the article "The Boat That Brought Stonewall Home" of interest. I am rather surprised that Maj. Shindle did not include the ultimate fate of the Marshall. Clint Johnson, in his book In the Footsteps of Stonewall Jackson, states, "The iron keel of the Marshall, the last public conveyance Jackson ever took, now rests and rusts in the back of the Lynchburg city park, far out of sight of a public that likely doesn't know it even exists." What a sad ending to such an important relic-sad, but not surprising in these days when everything relating to that era has either fallen into neglect ... or actually fallen.

D.W. Owen Birmingham, Ala.

MI: Thank you for bringing the fate of the Marshall *up to the current*

time. Author Warren "H" Shindle adds, "The hull was placed in the park in 1936. The Marshall had actually served as the home of Corbin Spencer and a sister from around 1881 to 1913 when it was destroyed beyond repair by flooding. It had been located on the banks of the James River. It should be noted that several unsuccessful restoration efforts were mounted during the



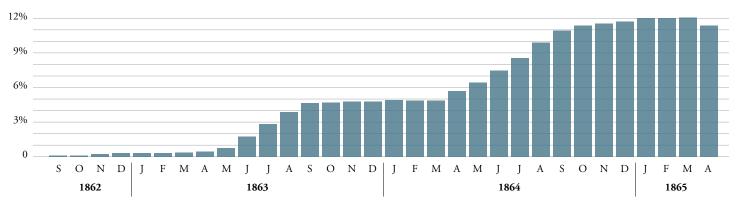
Civil War Centennial and after." Shindle also notes an editing error: "Col. John Jordon's mansion, "Stono," was not destroyed during Maj. Gen. David Hunter's Raid as implied in the story."



Military Anthropologist Data visualizations of Civil War soldier statistics

Colored Troops as a Percent of the Union Army

A post-war study recorded the first enlistments of black soldiers in blue in September 1862. The number grew steadily through the rest of the Civil War. The apex, 12.04 percent, occurred in March 1865—120,000 African American troops out of a total force of 1,056,000.



Note: The Union army is defined as regular army forces, Veteran Reserve Corps and other troops, and volunteers in the loyal states, the District of Columbia and territories excluding the Pacific Coast. Examiners determined that Pacific Coast enlistments had little impact on the main campaigns of the war and decided to omit them from their calculations. Source: *Investigations in the Military and Anthropological Statistics of American Soldiers* by Benjamin A. Gould (Hurd and Houghton, 1869).