

# Day 2: Modern Combat and the Common Soldier

Industrialization of Warfare Colloquium (July 2020)

NCHE / AHEC / TIAH - LOC

## *Lecture: How Americans First Experienced Industrial War*

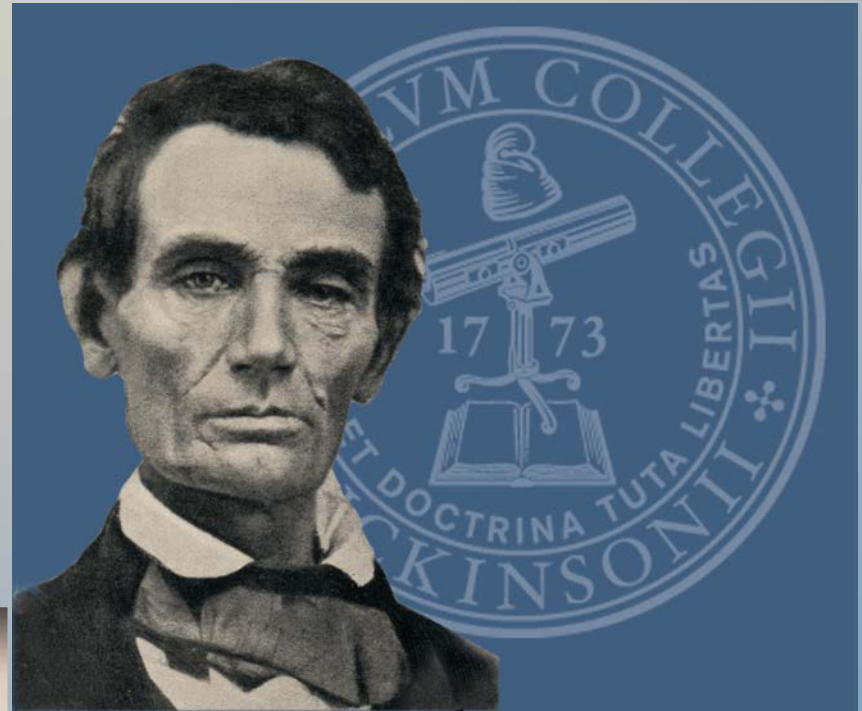


Confederate dead at Antietam, September 1862 by Alexander Gardner

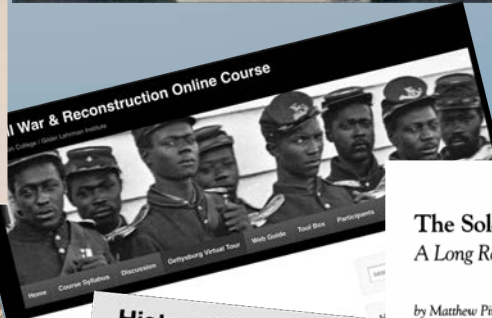


# House Divided Project at Dickinson College

<http://housedivided.dickinson.edu/sites>



## From Carlisle to Andersonville



## The Soldiers' Home A Long Road to Sanctuary

by Matthew Pinsker



# *How Americans First Experienced Industrial War*

**Essential Question:**  
**What were the most challenging aspects  
of modern war for American soldiers?**



Union soldiers in camp by Thomas C. Roche (LoC)

- Seeing the Elephant: Combat
- Visualizing Death: Photography
- Remembering War: Lost Causes and Won Causes



# Seeing the Elephant: Combat



Pvt. John Taylor Cuddy  
(1844-64)

## *Old Abe Done a Bad Thing*

“Old abe done a bad thing  
wen he freed all the slaves  
now the rebels is fighting for  
ther rites dear friend i wish  
that this ware was over and  
i was at home with you all  
again i think that i will not  
go a soldgerning eny more  
for i am tiard of ware”

--J.T. Cuddy to Parents and  
Friends, January 16, 1863

From Carlisle to Andersonville



CSA Pvt. William E. Stoker  
(1837-1864)

## *I am Tierd of this buisness*

“Every thing is still. We dont hear any nuse  
attall. They are seartingly fixing for peace or  
the hardest fighting that every has ben done. I  
am inhops it is for peace for I am tierd of this  
buisness and not onley me but thousands of  
others. I might say all but the big officers. They  
are doing better than if they wear at home.”

--W.E. Stoker to Elizabeth Stoker, April 12, 1863



# Visualizing Death: Photography

## Costs of Civil War

“Mr. BRADY has done something to bring home to us the terrible reality and earnestness of war. If he has not brought bodies and laid them in our dooryards and along the streets, he has done something very like it.”

--*New York Times*, October 20, 1862



Alexander Gardner, "Confederate Soldiers as they fell near the Burnside Bridge" (Sept 1862)



## CASUALTY ESTIMATES, 1861-1865

	UNION	CONFEDERATE	TOTALS
Combat Deaths	110,070	94,000 (est.)	204,000 (est.)
a) Killed in action	67,088	N.A.	
b) Mortally wounded	43,012	N.A.	
Deaths from Disease	249,458	164,000 (est.)	414,000 (est.)
a) Deaths from Dysentery	44,558	N.A.	
b) Deaths from Typhus	40,656	N.A.	
c) Deaths from Pneumonia	19,971	N.A.	
Imprisoned by Enemy	194,743	214,865	
a) Died during confinement	30,218	25,976	
Desertion	200,000 (est.)	104,000 (est.)	
a) Caught and returned	80,000 (est.)	21,000 (est.)	
b) Executed	147	N.A.	
Wounded Survivors	275,175	194,026 (est.)	470,000 (est.)
Civilian war-related deaths	N.A.	N.A.	
Total Combatant Deaths			618,000 (est.)*
Total Troop Strength	2,100,000(est.)	850,000 (est.)	3 million (est.)

Source: Adapted from Thomas Livermore, *Numbers & Losses in the Civil War in America* (1900)

\* Latest estimate based on demographic analysis from David Hacker is approx. 750,000 dead



# Remembering War: Lost Causes and Won Causes



Benjamin Rush statue, Dickinson College, 2020



## Confederate Monument in Mechanicsburg

Posted on April 28, 2015 by Matthew Pinsker



There is a monument honoring Confederate general Albert Jenkins in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania—paid for by donations from local residents and organized by the Camp Curtin Historical Society. It is the northernmost memorial for any Confederate officer and probably the only one paid for by northerners. Yet Jenkins was one of the most controversial Confederate officers, one who destroyed northern civilian property and whose men conducted



Gettysburg College students, 2020



# *How Americans First Experienced Industrial War*

Essential Question:

What were the most challenging aspects of modern war for American soldiers?



- Combat or Camp?
- Dying or Mourning?
- Reconciliation or Reckoning?

