

CIVIL WAR VETERANS

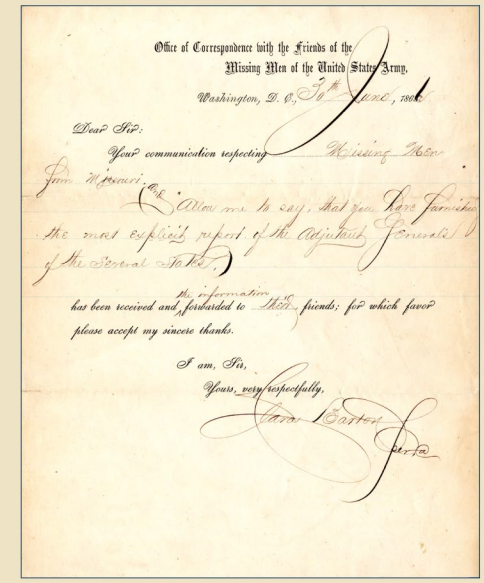
MISSING SOLDIERS

During the Civil War, Clara Barton's work as a nurse on the front lines earned her the nickname "the angel of the battlefield." While Union military officials were reluctant to allow female nurses on battlefields and in military hospitals at the beginning of the war, Barton quickly proved the benefit they could provide. By 1864, Clara Barton was named the superintendent of Union nurses. This position allowed her to organize the Union's massive effort to care for wounded soldiers.

Even before the war ended, Barton recognized the need to organize an effort to find the large number of soldiers who were missing in action. One month before he died, President Abraham Lincoln established the *Office of Correspondence with the Friends of the Missing Men of the United States Army*. As its director, Barton oversaw a massive letter writing campaign that helped locate 22,000 missing men by 1869.



Clara Barton
Library of Congress



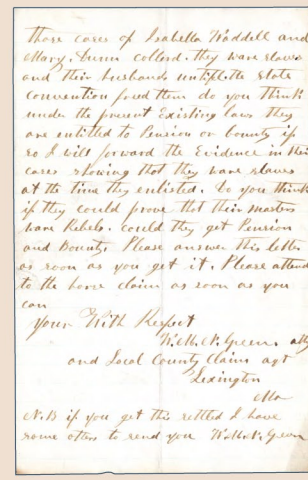
Clara Barton to the Missouri Adjutant General's Office,
June 30, 1866.
Missouri State Archives



Soon after the Civil War began, Congress approved pensions for soldiers who suffered war-related injuries and for widows and orphans of soldiers killed in action. The legislation was passed largely in hopes that it would encourage men to enlist in the Union army. After emancipation, African American veterans were also allowed to collect pensions. The law was updated several times after the war and by 1890 any Union veteran of the Civil War who served for at least 90 days, was honorably discharged, and suffered from a disability was eligible for a pension. Fifteen years later, that provision was extended to include veterans who were not disabled. The last Civil War pensioner, Albert Woolson, died in 1956. As late as the 1990s, there were still 19 dependents of Civil War veterans receiving pension benefits.

Confederate pensions were not handled by the federal government, but by the state in which the veteran had served. While most Southern states enacted pensions for Confederate veterans in the 1880s and 1890s, Missouri did not begin to do so until 1911. Missouri also constructed a home for Confederate veterans and a Confederate memorial in Higginsville.

MILITARY PENSIONS



"They were slaves . . . until the state convention freed them. Do you think under the present existing laws they are entitled to a pension . . . I will forward the evidence in this case showing that they were slaves at the time they enlisted."

Money for Old Soldiers.

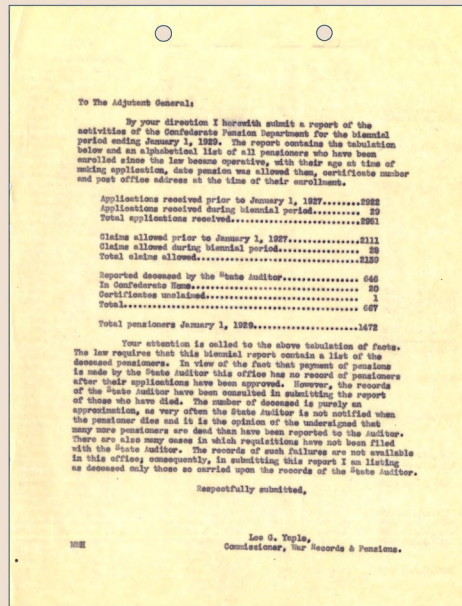
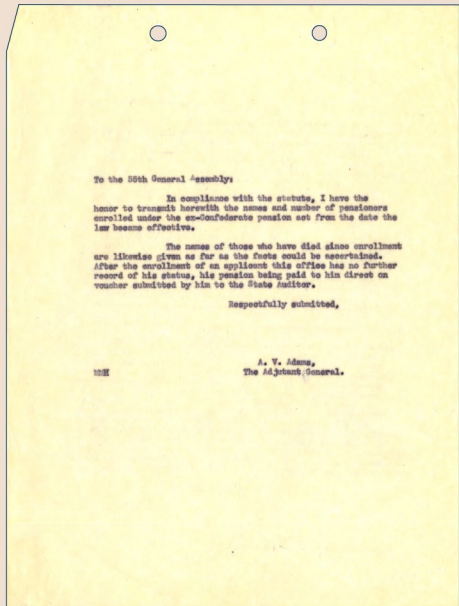
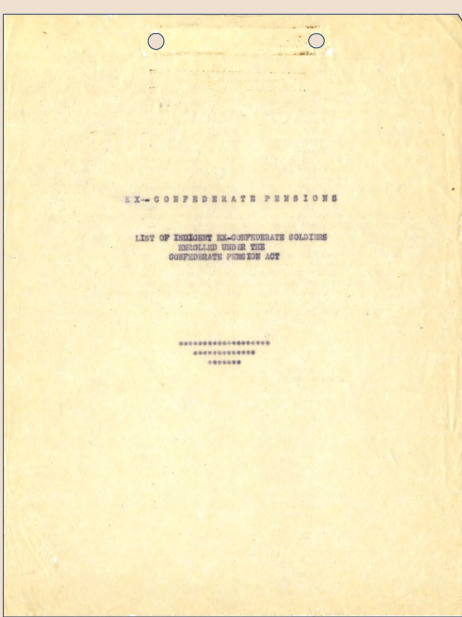
Their heirs even if they are over 75 years of age or their widows or widowers.

Wanted to Purchase

The Additional Honorable Claims of all 500,000 or more of the Union Army or Navy during the War of the Rebellion, who made a Honorarium of less than the amount of their pay for 30 days of service. . . .

R. K. KELLEY, Land Attorney,
5th Floor DeWitt Building,
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Above: Undated broadside advertisement.
Left: Pension Agent W. M. N. Green inquiring whether U. S. Colored Troops are eligible for pensions, no date.
Missouri State Archives



Letter from Missouri Adjutant General A. V. Adams, transferring a list of Confederate veterans who were eligible to collect pensions, 1929. Missouri State Archives

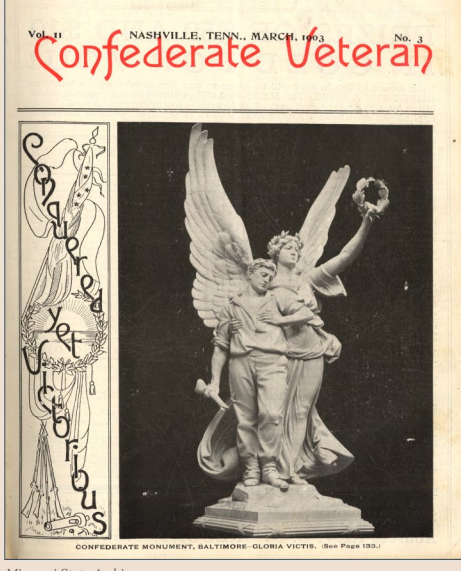
Name	Service	Address	Age		
Abdington, William B.	56	June 20, 1864	165	Parsons, Mo	Head Aug 10, 1910
Adams, William	70	July 1, 1865	180	Jefferson City	Head
Adams, James M.	70	Sept. 1, 1864	180	Adrian, Mo	Head
Adams, James P.	70	Sept. 1, 1864	180	Adrian, Mo	Head
Adams, James P.	70	Sept. 1, 1864	180	Adrian, Mo	Head
Adams, James P.	70	Sept. 1, 1864	180	Adrian, Mo	Head
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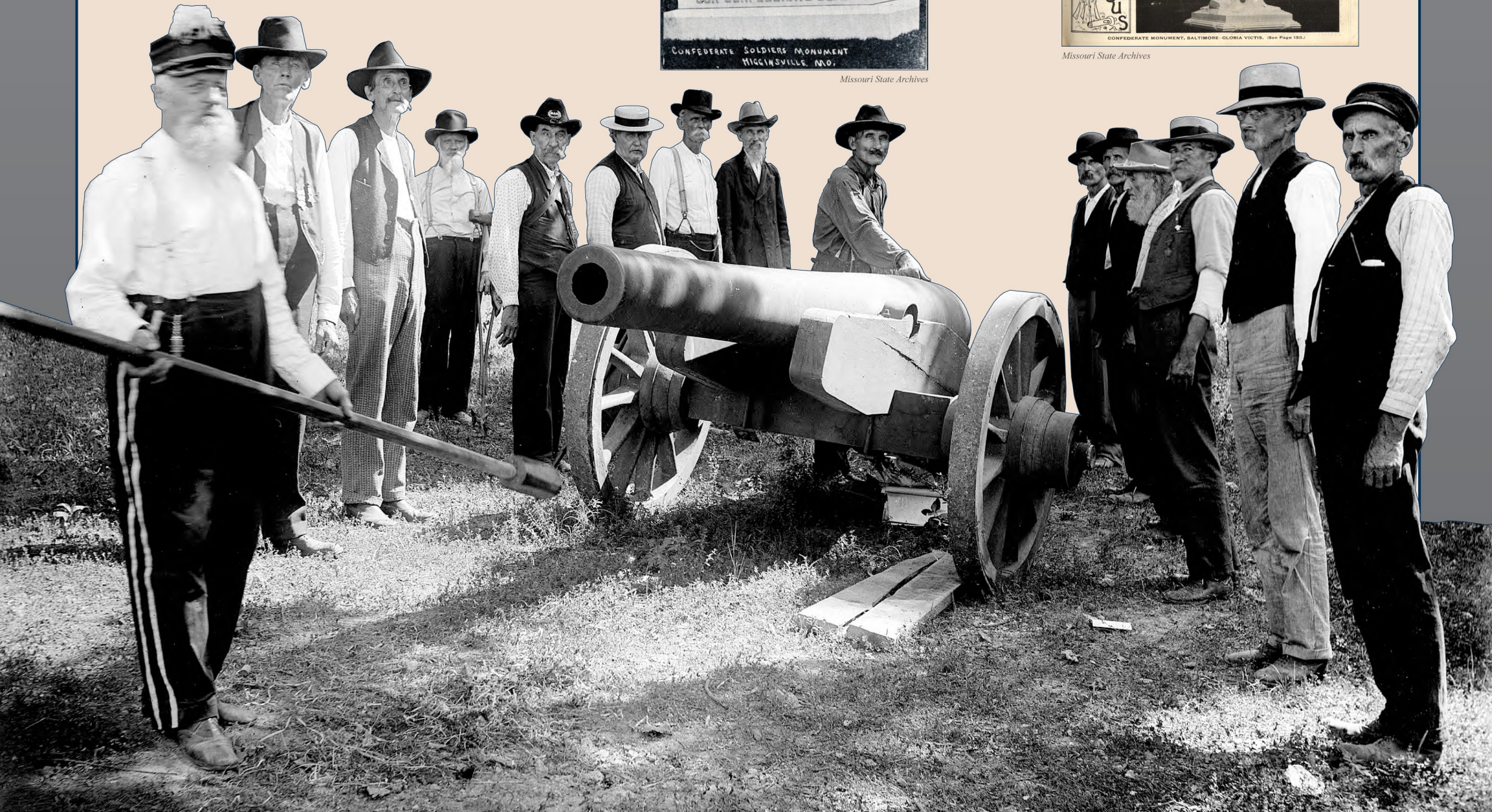
Grand Army of the Republic reunion in Cole County, c. 1880s.
Missouri State Archives



CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS MONUMENT
HIGGINSVILLE, MO.
Missouri State Archives



Missouri State Archives



Old soldier's reunion, Mammoth Spring, Arkansas, 1910
Photograph by Charles Elliot Gill, Missouri State Archives

1865 - 1956