



BUTLER COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Vintage Postcard Presentation

“Lest We Forget”
Decoration / Memorial Day

May 2020

By Brian Smith

The Postcard and Patriotism

The time between 1907 and 1914 has been called the “Golden Age” of postcards, and the American public was enamored with both picture and souvenir cards. Drug stores, five and dimes, and stationary shops across the nation stocked a variety of subjects to satisfy the public’s obsession with these inexpensive and attractive cards. From local street views to humor, and greeting to holiday cards, America mailed these cards daily to friends and family as well as filled albums with collected cards they might receive themselves. During this time, the patriotic themed card reigned supreme. From the 1880s to the 1910s, the American psyche was slowly putting a utterly divisive and horrendous civil conflict behind it. The scars and pains of war were fading and, at least in the North, a resurgence of pride and patriotism, and a driving sense preservation fueled both veterans and business to take advantage of the winds of change. Publishers began filling racks with themed patriotic cards. The saving of the Republic was a feat worthy of praise and now that the majority of the country was getting itself back on stable ground, both economically and psychologically, many northern Americans sensed the darkest days had passed and an optimistic view of the country’s future prevailed. America praised its beginnings, idolized its Fathers, worshipped its Colors, and honored its dead that perished in defending a just and noble cause. The Fourth of July, and Washington and Lincoln’s birthdays supplied publishers with ample reason to supply numerous series of cards commemorating these holidays. However, with its roots reaching back to 1868, a commemoration, most solemn and reflective in nature, created some of the most artistically striking and deeply profound postcards in the history of the medium.

When Gen. John A. Logan of the GAR declared May 30, 1868 as a national day of remembrance of those who died in the fight to preserve the Union and to strew their graves with the freshest of flowers, Decoration Day escaped its local observances and became a national phenomenon. And when the modern picture postcard industry came to be in the early 1900s, it seized upon the emotions of Decoration Day to their full advantage. Beautifully illustrated images of Northern aging veterans, cherubic children, attractive young women, and pensive widows with scenes of gravesites, men marching off to war, American flags, garlands of flowers, cannons and GAR medals coupled with poetic and sentimental verse created a genre of card unlike any other.



Acmegraph Co., Chicago IL
1908



Unknown Publisher
Postmarked 1909

The Postcard and Patriotism



Joseph F. Cockrill
Private
93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Died of Disease on Dec. 18, 1862
Middletown Pioneer Cemetery
Middletown, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith



John O. Winsch Publisher,
Stapleton, NY
1908

Since many of the cards contain vibrant reds and blues, Decoration day cards are some of the most visually striking of the holiday cards. Even though the emotions conveyed in the cards might be somber and reserved, the images abound with color.

Eventually, as time passed, card publishers began to promote and reflect the general public sentiment of reunion. Images showing both Northern and Southern veterans shaking hands and mourning together appeared. English publisher Raphael Tuck & Sons even went as far as publishing two series of Confederate themed Decoration Day cards, a bold move considering the company's American offices were located in New York City. Several series of cards deal with the passing of the torch, where elderly civil war veterans commiserate with soldiers dressed in Spanish American War era uniforms.

All of the cards contained herein are from the “Golden Age” of postcards from 1907 to 1914. After WWI, not only did Decoration Day become essentially replaced with a new title, Memorial Day, but as with immediately following the Civil War, America's disillusion with a new and more technologically destructive war dampened national thoughts of patriotism. The Decoration Day / Memorial Day genre of card would never again reach the height of popularity it experienced before WWI.

There are close to 200 cards from the author's collection included in this presentation. We hope you enjoy this celebration of a time gone by.

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 107 (also available w/ gold border)

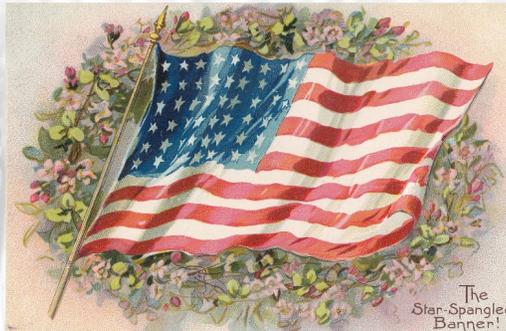
Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



"While above them floats 'Old Glory', boon to all the world oppressed."



"The Star-Spangled Banner!"



"Glory guards the solemn ground, the bivouac of the dead."



"Wherever it floats, on land or sea, no stain its honor mars."



"The flag of our country forever!"



"Freedom smiles, her fate secure beneath its steadfast stars."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 107 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



"Pride, and glory, and honor, all live in the colors to stand or fall."



"In glory underneath the sod, slumber our heroes to-day."



"The clustered stars and the steadfast bars, the red, the white, and the blue."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 107 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



"Nor shall their glory be forgot, while fame her record keeps."



"He lives in endless fame, all honor to his patriot name."



"Honor the brave!"

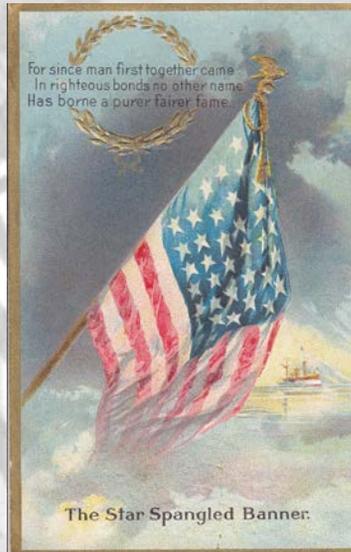
E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 1

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



**“For since man first together
came in righteous bonds no other
name has borne a purer fairer
fame.”**



**“And foremost among the free
their spirits shall be His decree
lead on through eternity.”**



**“The men who in the conflict led
and for the Union fought and bled
tho' passing on are never dead.”**

E. Nash Company New York
Decoration Day Series No. 1 (cont.)
Set of 6 Cards

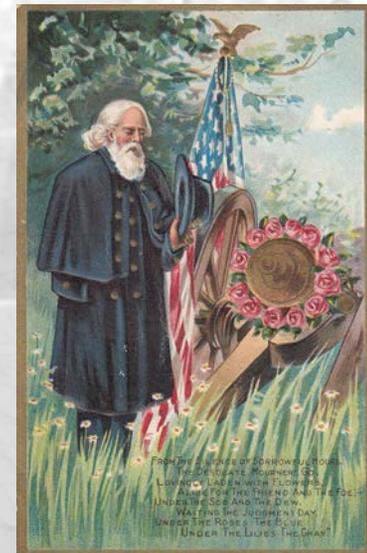
Artist: Unknown
Published: 1908



"For each comrade well has done the meed which will forever run in hallowed melody well done."



"A fame that clusters bright around the brows of leaders laurel crowned and honored heroes 'neath the ground."



"From the silence of sorrowful hours, the desolate mourners go, lovingly laden with flowers, and like for the friend and the foe - under the sod and the dew, waiting the judgement day, under the roses, the blue, under the lilies, the gray."

The Artists

The vast majority of artists for commercial art postcards went unrecognized. However, there were a few that made name for themselves as freelance illustrators for larger publishing companies. The following artists have examples of their work herein:

Ellen H. Clapsaddle (1865 – 1934) – Born in the small farming community of South Columbia, NY, Clapsaddle started her art career by giving art lessons in her home. At the same time, she created her own landscapes and was commissioned to paint portraits of local families. She also submitted her work to publishers in New York City and became a recognized commercial artist. A freelance artist, and her illustrations were often used in advertising and on porcelain goods, calendars, paper fans, trade and greeting cards.

Clapsaddle's greatest success was in the development of her artwork into single-faced cards that could be kept as souvenirs or mailed as postcards and she specialized in designing illustrations specifically for that purpose. Artistic designs had become highly prized particularly during the peak of production of the "golden age" of souvenir/postcards for their great marketing possibilities. Clapsaddle is credited with over 3,000 designs in the souvenir and post card field with most of her work published by the International Art Publishing Co. though she did illustrate for other companies in the US and Germany.

Cyrus D. Chapman (1856 – 1918) – Born in Irvington, NJ to a minister and the daughter of an engraver, Chapman is more well known for his still life paintings of interiors. He also had numerous jobs illustrating for periodicals such as *Scribner's Magazine* and *Ladies Home Journal*. He had extensive art training and later became an art instructor himself. His venture into postcard illustrating, though moderately prolific, appears to be fairly short-lived, and almost exclusively in patriotic themes.

Frances I. Brundage (1854 – 1937) – Brundage was born in Newark NJ. Her father, Rembrandt Lockwood, was an architect and artist who painted murals, portraits and miniatures. Frances received her art training from her father until age 17, when he left his family and she used her art to make a living. She sold her first professional work – a sketch illustrating a poem by Louisa May Alcott – to the author. She illustrated books and ephemera such as paper dolls, postcards, valentines, prints, trade cards, and calendars. Her book illustrations were sometimes published as postcards. She is best known for her depictions of attractive and endearing children on postcards, valentines, calendars, and other ephemera published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Samuel Gabriel Company, and Saalfield Publishing. It was these postcards and fancy die cut valentines that made Brundage the largest presence in U.S. art paper from 1899 to 1910.

Wilhelm Friedrich Burger (1882 – 1964) – Burger was born in Zurich, Switzerland and was an impressionist painter, graphic artist and illustrator. From 1906 to 1908 he was working in the United States as a graphic designer and illustrator where his short-lived tenure in postcards was developed and abruptly ended though his artwork is unique in that it appears to resemble watercolors. He returned to Europe and it was during the 1920s and 1930s that he became widely noted for his art deco style travel posters of tourist locations throughout the Swiss Alps.

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 2444

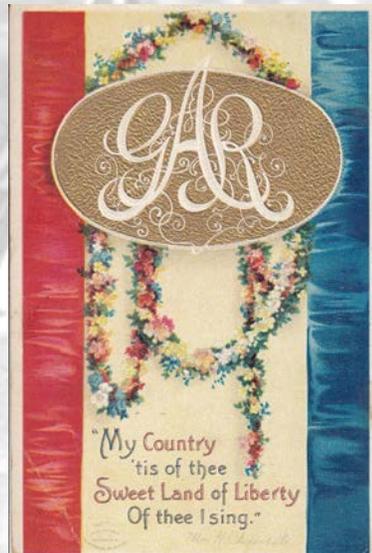
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1911



"Nor shall their story be forgot
While Fame her record keeps."



"My country 'tis of thee
Sweet land of liberty of thee I sing."



"Lest we forget."



"On Fame's eternal camping
ground their silent tents are
spread."

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 2444 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1911

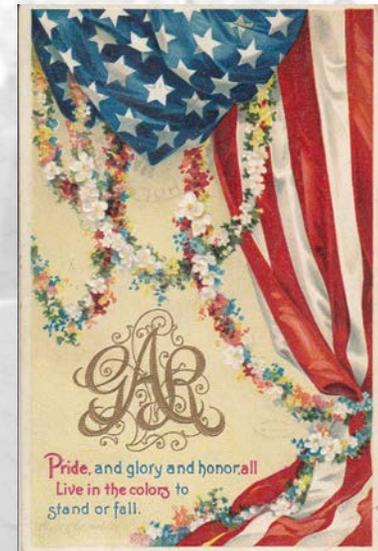


R. Silas Smith
Corporal
83rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Reily Cemetery
Reily, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



"But his soul goes marching on."



"Pride, and glory and honor all live in the colors that stand or fall."

L.R. Conwell Publishing Company

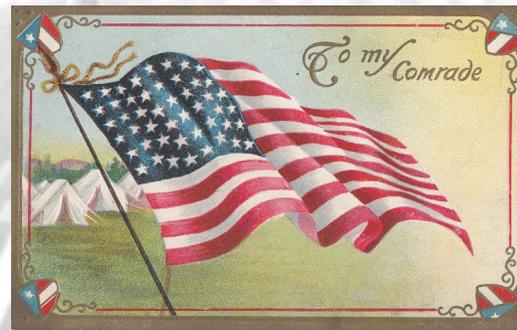
New York

No Series

Individually Numbered Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1910



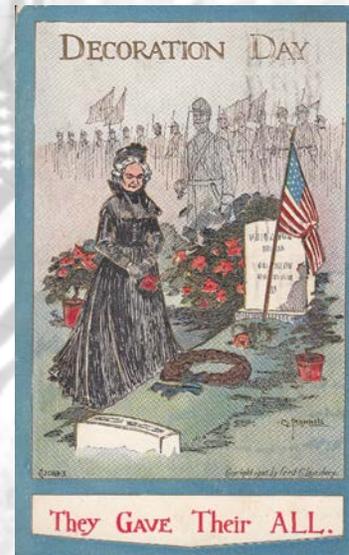
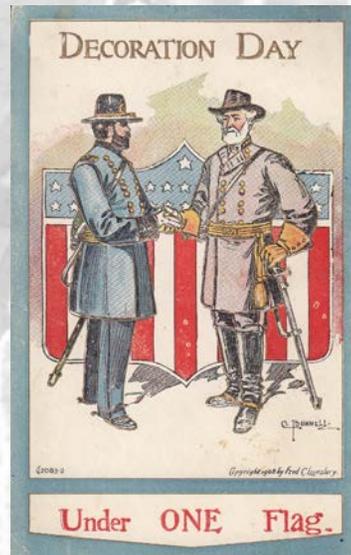
Crescent Embossing Company Plainfield, NJ

Decoration Day Series No. 2083

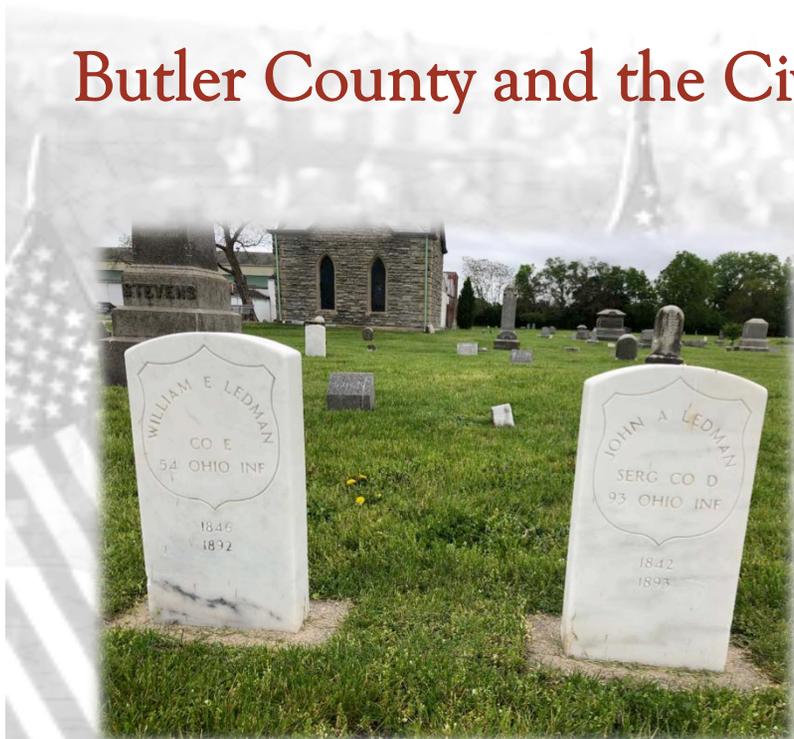
Set of 4 Cards

Artist: C. Bunnell

Published: 1908



Butler County and the Civil War



William E. Ledman
Private
54th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Middletown Pioneer Cemetery
Middletown, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

John A. Ledman
Sergeant
93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

On October 6, 1915 at the Butler County Fairgrounds, former Ohio governor James E. Campbell delivered a speech on “Old Soldiers Day” celebrating Butler County in the Civil War. Campbell was a native of Middletown and had served in the Navy’s Mississippi Squadron aboard the gunboats “Elk” and “Naiad” in 1863 and 1864. His speech contained numerous facts and statistics concerning Butler County in the war including:

- ❑ The total number of men from Butler County who served in the war totaled just shy of 4500.
- ❑ In 1861, the total population of Butler County was 35,848. 6,544 were men of legal recruiting age, so over 12% of the county’s total population and over 66% of her eligible soldiery were at one time or another in the Union ranks.
- ❑ The first call for Ohio troops came on April 15, 1861. The next day, the Hamilton home militia, the Jackson Guards arrived in Columbus and was incorporated into the 1st Ohio Infantry. Within the week, two companies from Hamilton would join the 3rd and the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantries. The 12th Ohio Volunteer Infantry would incorporate a company from Middletown, and a company from Oxford, including numerous Miami University students would be welcomed into the 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.
- ❑ The following Ohio volunteer regiments were organized in Butler County and consisted mostly of county men: the 35th, 69th and 167th.
- ❑ Butler County also contributed companies to the following Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiments: 4 companies to the 93rd, 2 companies to the 83rd, and single companies to the 22nd, 26th, 47th, 74th, 86th and 108th. Companies were also sent to the 2nd and 5th Ohio Cavalries.
- ❑ Large numbers of Butler County enlistments were also made in the 34th and 54th Ohio Volunteer Infantries, the 1st Ohio Cavalry and the 11th Ohio Artillery Battery.

Butler County and the Civil War

- ❑ No other county in Ohio exceeded its enlistment quota percentage by a higher margin than Butler County.
- ❑ By the end of the war, Butler County men had served in 84 Ohio volunteer regiments, 84 regiments recruited by the Federal government or other states, 2 Ohio batteries, the Marines, and aboard 21 naval vessels.
- ❑ Butler County has five Civil War Medals of Honor recipients accredited to it, even though the winners may not have been residents of the county or serving with an Ohio unit. They are: Lt. Col. Henry V. Boynton, 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for actions at the Battle of Missionary Ridge, TN; Corporal Richard W. DeWitt and Private Thomas Guinn, both of the 47th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for actions at the Siege of Vicksburg, MS; Private Benjamin W. Schenck, 116th Illinois Volunteer Infantry for actions at the Siege of Vicksburg, MS; and Private Edward J. Bebb, 4th Iowa Cavalry for actions at the Battle of Columbus, GA.
- ❑ It is impossible to accurately document how many Butler County sons were casualties during the war, however, based on his best calculations, Campbell estimated that no fewer than a total of 1600 Butler County men were KIA, MIA, died of disease, or wounded and discharged.



William Crusan
Private
5th Ohio Cavalry
Miltonville Cemetery
Miltonville, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith

International Art Publishing Company New York

Memorial Day Series (not numbered)

Set of 4 Cards

Artist: Cyrus D. Chapman

Published: 1909



"When can their glory fade."



"Yet who would hold his dearest back,
and who would count his loss but gain."

Decoration Day
(1882)

Sleep, comrades, sleep and rest
On this Field of the Grounded Arms,
Where foes no more molest,
Nor sentry's shot alarms!

Ye have slept on the ground before,
And started to your feet
At the cannon's sudden roar,
Or the drum's redoubling beat.

But in this camp of Death
No sound your slumber breaks;
Here is no fevered breath,
No wound that bleeds and aches.

All is repose and peace,
Untrampled lies the sod;
The shouts of battle cease,
It is the Truce of God!

Rest, comrades, rest and sleep!
The thoughts of men shall be
As sentinels to keep
Your rest from danger free.

Your silent tents of green
We deck with fragrant flowers
Yours has the suffering been,
The memory shall be ours.

-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

International Art Publishing Company New York

Memorial Day Series (cont.)

Set of 4 Cards

Artist: Cyrus D. Chapman

Published: 1909



“Since they kissed the lads they loved so dear, and sent them to the front.”



“Today the thronging millions troop where floats that standard in their view, and ours, dear Flag, join to stand beneath thee loyal to our land.”



Oh Flag beloved forever dear! Oh flag unstained by sordid deeds wide spread thy folds and gather safe, the men of various warring creeds.” (card not part of series)

Arthur Schurer & Company Berlin, Germany

Series 283 (unnamed)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



As a little child in glee
He cried for the red, white and blue,
Its bright colors he loved to see,
When his mother held the flag to view.

“As a little child in glee he cried for the red, white and blue, its bright colors he loved to see when his mother held the flag to view.”



As a schoolboy on the play-ground
He cheered for the red, white and blue,
When his mates stood round,
Waiting to see what he would do.

“As a schoolboy on the play-ground he cheered for the red, white, and blue, when his mates stood round, waiting to see what he would do.”



As a young man he volunteered
To fight for the red, white and blue,
And to this principle adhered,
When of our nation's peril he knew.

“As a young man he volunteered to fight for the red, white and blue, and to this principle adhered when of our nation's peril he knew..”

Arthur Schurer & Company Berlin, Germany

Series 283 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



“As a lover he bade farewell to his sweetheart for the sake of the red, white and blue and went forth to take his part when the proper time was due.”



“As a soldier bold and brave he fought for the red, white and blue knowing it was victory or the grave when to battle on his steed he flew.”



“As a veteran in old age he was loyal to the red, white and blue, which placed his name on the page of heroes the recording angel drew.”

Origins of Decoration Day

When the smoke cleared, and the crack of rifles and the thunder of cannon had ceased, and the ink on the documents signed at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865 had dried, it was estimated that 620,000 soldiers had perished in the War of the Rebellion. New more accurate research of pre- and post-war census materials and other governmental documents, point to a number that could actually be as high as 850,000. Currently, an average of 750,000 dead is used, approximately 4% of the population of the United States in 1860. There was not a community across the land that was not affected by this conflict in terms of loss of life.

The true origins for the creation of a national day of recognizing those who have fallen in the defense of the country are up for debate. There are distinct similarities to the Southern and Appalachian customs of annual grave maintenance and decorating, where numerous generations gather to remember and praise those family members who had preceded them and passed on. These decoration days were community social events involving food, song, religion, and honor where flowers were strewn over the gravesites and markers. It is certainly possible that this tradition goes back to when soldiers first died for a cause. These traditions existed long before the Civil War, but following the conflict, these actions became a national occurrence.

Who first decorated the graves of soldiers after the Civil War? Numerous communities, both North and South, claim to be the birthplace of the ceremony. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, NY as the official location. Others say that is false and means nothing. In the spring of 1865 in Charleston, SC, freed slaves reburied Union soldiers who died at a local prison camp. On May 1 they dedicated the new cemetery on the site and decorated the graves, but this was a one time event. It is true that towns and villages can document small, local and unofficial ceremonies as well as ceremonies that were not an annual occasion.



"Decoration Day," 1885, Carl Hirschberg. Oil on canvas.

Origins of Decoration Day

The general consensus holds as such, on April 25, 1866 a small procession of women in Columbus, MS walked to Friendship Cemetery to place flowers on the graves of Confederate soldiers. One of the women suggested they place flowers on Union graves as well, as they were also someone's father, brother or son. The details of this story were reported widely, and Francis Miles Finch, an Ithaca NY attorney saw the story and memorialized the gesture in his famed poem "The Blue and the Gray" published in 1867. Many believe the poem to be the true inspiration for the development for a national day of remembrance.

General John A. Logan, Commander-In-Chief of the National Headquarters for the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) suggested in a General Order written on May 5, 1868 that, "The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land." Logan's wife reported that the Columbus, MS event and the poem had given Logan the wherewithal to dedicate a national event using his powerful and far-reaching organization as the leading force. Sometime between the summer of 1866 and 1868, Logan must have had a change of heart, for in the summer of 1866 during a speech in Illinois, Logan angrily spoke of "traitors in the South [who] have their gatherings day after day and strew garlands upon the graves of rebel soldiers." Others say it was out of spite. On June 5, 1868, *The New York Times* editorialized, "The ladies of the South instituted this memorial day. They wished to annoy the Yankees; and now the Grand Army of the Republic in retaliation and from no worthier motive, have determined to annoy them by adopting their plan of commemoration." Whatever the motive or sentiment, Logan's plan persevered.

By 1890, all Northern states had made the May 30th celebration a state holiday. It was not until after WWI did many Southern states assume the May 30th date. In fact, nine Southern states still celebrate Confederate Decoration Day on various dates in the spring. It was also after WWI the term Memorial Day became a more common usage for the holiday than Decoration Day, even though Memorial Day was often used interchangeably even soon after the Civil War. It is said that traditionally Memorial Day was the Sunday before Decoration Day, where soldiers would gather in the cemeteries amongst themselves and hear religious sermons. Memorial Day became a Federal Holiday in 1971 and was moved from May 30th to the last Monday in May to create a three day weekend for Federal employees.



**Soldiers and Sailors Monument
Woodside Cemetery
Middletown, Ohio
Dedicated 1902**

Photo – B. Smith

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 179

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1911



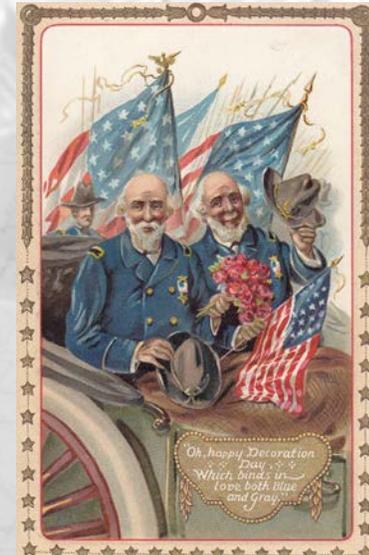
"Let the stars and stripes be waving o'er their generous sacrifice."



"Let us have peace." U.S. Grant. 1822-85.



"Our fairest, choicest flowers shall fall in fragrant showers where you rest."



"Oh, happy Decoration Day, which binds in love both blue and gray."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 179 (cont.)

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Unknown

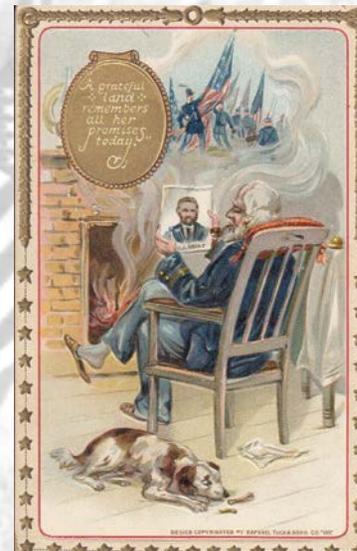
Published: 1911



"Flag of freedom, grand and glorious, 'neath the flag we march victorious."



"Where loyal souls of love and faith are found, thank God that peace is here!"



"A grateful land remembers all her promises today."



"It is little we can do to show our love for you, O warriors blest."

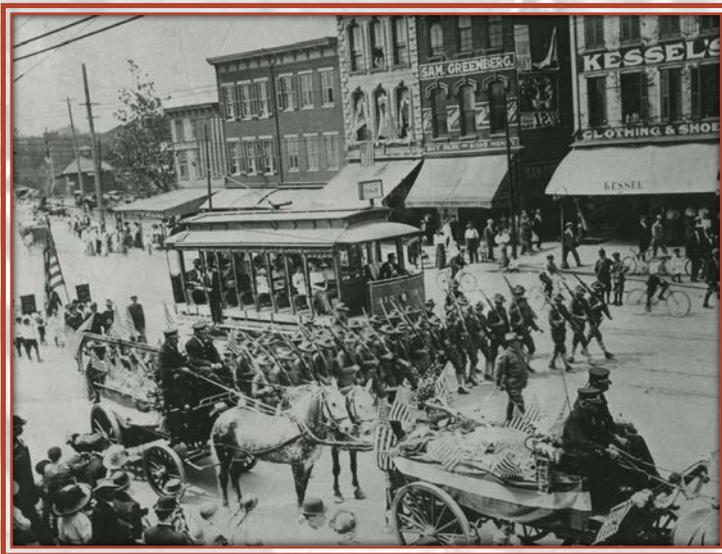
Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 179 (cont.)

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1911



Decoration Day Parade
Hamilton, Ohio
Circa 1900

Photo – Courtesy of Lane Public Library
George Cummins Photo Collection



“Bring bright flowers the graves to
garland, let the sweetest music
rise.”



“Soldier rest! Thy warfare o'er, sleep
the sleep that knows no breaking.”

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 2935

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1912



"Pride and glory, and honor all live in the colors that stand or fall."



"Nor shall their story be forgot."



"Nor shall their story be forgot while Fame her record keeps."

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 2935 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1912



"On fame's eternal camping ground their silent tents are spread."



"Lest we forget."



"My county! 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty! Of thee I sing."

John O. Winsch Publisher Stapleton, NY
Unnamed and Unnumbered Card

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1909



“Under the sod and dew, waiting the judgement-day; broidered with gold, the Blue, mellowed with gold, the Gray.”

The Blue and The Gray
(1867)

By the flow of the inland river,
Whence the fleets of iron have fled,
Where the blades of the grave-grass
quiver,
Asleep are the ranks of the dead:
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day;
Under the one, the Blue,
Under the other, the Gray

These in the robings of glory,
Those in the gloom of defeat,
All with the battle-blood gory,
In the dusk of eternity meet:
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgement-day
Under the laurel, the Blue,
Under the willow, the Gray.

From the silence of sorrowful hours
The desolate mourners go,
Lovingly laden with flowers
Alike for the friend and the foe;
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgement-day;
Under the roses, the Blue,
Under the lilies, the Gray.

So with an equal splendor,
The morning sun-rays fall,
With a touch impartially tender,
On the blossoms blooming for all:
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day;
Broidered with gold, the Blue,
Mellowed with gold, the Gray.

So, when the summer calleth,
On forest and field of grain,
With an equal murmur falleth
The cooling drip of the rain:
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day,
Wet with the rain, the Blue
Wet with the rain, the Gray.

Sadly, but not with upbraiding,
The generous deed was done,
In the storm of the years that are
fading
No braver battle was won:
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day;
Under the blossoms, the Blue,
Under the garlands, the Gray

No more shall the war cry sever,
Or the winding rivers be red;
They banish our anger forever
When they laurel the graves of
our dead!
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day,
Love and tears for the Blue,
Tears and love for the Gray.

-- James Miles Finch

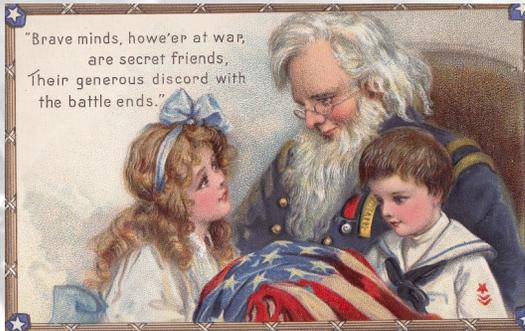
Sam Gabriel & Sons Publishing New York

Decoration Day Series No. 150

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1908



"Brave minds, howe'er at war,
are secret friends,
Their generous discord with
the battle ends."

**"Brave minds, howe'er at war, are secret friends,
their generous discord with the battle ends."**



"One flag, one Land,
one heart, one hand
One Nation, Evermore!"

**"One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one Nation,
evermore!"**



"And summon
from the
shadowy Past
The forms that
once have
been."

**"And summon from the shadowy
past the forms that once have
been."**



"Enough of merit has
each honored name
To shine
untarnished
on the rolls
of fame"

**"Enough of merit has each
honored name to shine
untarnished on the rolls of fame."**

Sam Gabriel & Sons Publishing New York

Decoration Day Series No. 150

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1908



"Glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead."

"Glory guards with solemn!"



from every
mountain side
let Freedom ring!

"From every mountain side let
Freedom ring!"



Alfred B. Weston
Private
69th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Band
Died of Disease on June 9, 1862
Oxford Cemetery
Oxford, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith

Sam Gabriel & Sons Publishing New York

Decoration Day Series No. 150 (cont.)

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1908



"By fairy hands their knell is rung, by forms unseen their dirge is sung."



"In that instant, o'er his soul Winters of Memory seem'd to roll."

How Sleep the Brave
(1746)

How sleep the brave, who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest!
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallow'd mould,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.
By fairy hands their knell is rung;
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;
There Honour comes, a pilgrim grey,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;
And Freedom shall awhile repair
To dwell, a weeping hermit, there!

-- William Collins



"How sleep the brave, who sink to rest, by all their country's wishes blest!"

Official GAR Decoration Day Order

Gen. John A. Logan

General Order No. 11
Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic
Washington, D.C., May 5, 1868

I. The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized, comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose, among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers, sailors, and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foe? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains, and their death a tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the Nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and found mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the Nation's gratitude, -- the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the Commander-in-Chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this Order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use every effort to make this order effective.

By order of

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commander-in-Chief

N.P. CHIPMAN,
Adjutant General

Official:
WM. T. COLLINS, A.A.G.



Gen. John A. Logan

Photo – Courtesy of John A. Logan
College

International Art Publishing Company New York

Unnamed Series (not numbered)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1909



"The Army and Navy forever!"



"Lest we forget."



"Nor shall their story be forgot while Fame her record keeps."

International Art Publishing Company New York

Unnamed Series (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

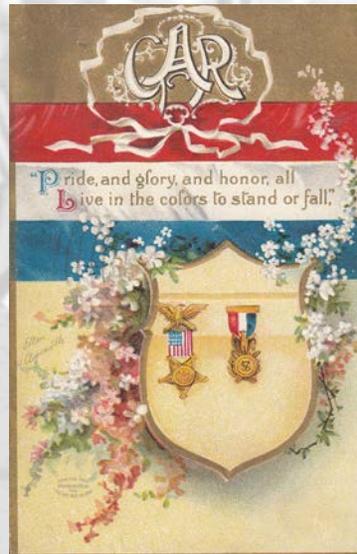
Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1909



John McKerrigan
Sergeant
12th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Elk Creek Baptist Church Pioneer Cemetery
Trenton, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



"Pride, and glory, and honor all
live in the colors that stand or
fall."



"Nor shall their story be forgot."

The Illustrated Postal Card Company New York

Unnamed Series No. 151

Set of 10 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



The Illustrated Postal Card Company New York

Unnamed Series No. 151

Set of 10 Cards (cont.)

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908

The Gettysburg Address

Abraham Lincoln

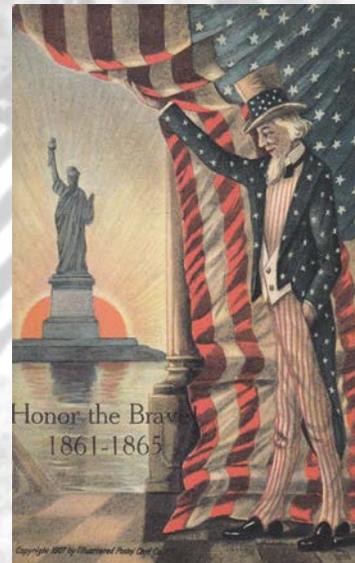
November 19, 1863

Dedication of National Soldier's Cemetery

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.



Butler County and the GAR

Historically, Butler County was the home of seven GAR Posts, some very short-lived and full of contention while others lasted for decades until their last member passed away.

Samuel R. Johns Post 137 (Hamilton) – Named after the first soldier from Butler County killed in the Civil War. Johns was a private with the Third Ohio Infantry and was killed at the Battle of Middle Fork Bridge, located in present-day West Virginia, in July of 1861. The Post was chartered on January 26, 1867. They organized and observed the first national observance of Decoration Day in Hamilton in 1868 by parading from the Court House to Greenwood Cemetery. The Post disbanded in 1870 for probable political reasons.

Wetzel-Compton Post 96 (Hamilton) – Named after two Butler County natives who served with the 69th Ohio Infantry. Jacob Wetzel from St. Clair Township, a private, was killed in November 1863 at the Battle of Missionary Ridge at Chattanooga, TN and Sgt. John Compton of Hamilton was killed at the Battle of Resaca, GA in May 1864. The Post was born out of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Association in July of 1881. There were 30 charter members to the group, and by the 1880s, membership had peaked at over 500. One of the first acts of the Post was in securing a gift of land at Greenwood Cemetery, Hamilton for a “Field of Honor” to bury local war veterans. Annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies are still held in this area today. However, the greatest contribution of the Post was its role in the creation of the Soldiers, Sailors and Pioneers Monument sitting along the Great Miami in Hamilton. In 1893 and again in 1918, the Post orchestrated the State of Ohio Encampment where thousands of Ohio veterans descended upon Hamilton to relive old glories and reacquaint with comrades. The Post lost its charter in 1936 when membership fell from three living members to one and all required officer positions could not be filled. The last surviving member of Post 96 was Jacob Inman of Somerville, Ohio. Inman enlisted in 1865 and served with the 83rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He died on September 15, 1941 at the age of 99. The Post’s flag of 60 years was retired at Inman’s funeral and placed within the monument building he and his Post built.



Soldiers, Sailors and Pioneers Monument
Hamilton, Ohio
Dedicated 1906

Photo – J. Armstrong

Butler County and the GAR

Millikin Post 228 (Oxford) – Named after Colonel John Minor Millikin, Jr. who was killed at the Battle of Stones River, TN in December of 1862 while serving with the First Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. Though a native of Hamilton, the Post formed in Oxford as Millikin's widow had moved there after the war. Chartered in May of 1867, the Post was finally dissolved when its last living member, William H. Overholtz, a Preble County native and Oxford resident who served with the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, passed away in April of 1933.

Old John Brown Post 450 (Oxford) – Named after abolitionist John Brown who was executed after his involvement in the raid of Federal munitions stores at Harper's Ferry, VA in 1859. Organized in May of 1884 with 22 charter members, the Post was only the second GAR Post in Ohio for African American veterans at the time of its founding. At its peak membership, the Post totaled 65 members. Peter Bruner, an escaped slave at age 19 from Kentucky was the last surviving member of the Post. He served with the 12th Regiment Heavy Artillery U.S. Colored Troops. After the war, he settled in Oxford and was a long-time custodian at Miami University. He died at the age of 93 in April 1938 and with him, so did the Post. He was active in organizing Decoration and Memorial remembrances in Oxford even in the last years of his life.

Jacob Banker Post 70 (Middletown) – Named after Jacob Banker, a Madison Township resident who served as a private with the 12th Ohio Infantry Regiment. Banker was one of five from the Ohio group killed in the unit's first skirmish on July 17, 1861 at the Battle of Scary Creek near present day Point Pleasant, WV. The Post was chartered in January of 1883. Continual internal strife eventually led to the dissolution of the Post in December of 1892 after approximately 50 members left to create a new Post. Butler County's oldest surviving member of the Civil War, DeWitt Clinton Orr was a former commander of this Post. Orr served with the 195th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, mustering in at age 15 in 1865. He died on November 14, 1943 at the age of 94.



Richard W. DeWitt
Sergeant
47th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Siege of Vicksburg, MS
Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient
Oxford Cemetery
Oxford, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

Butler County and the GAR



Daniel L. Herron
Private
39th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Greenwood Cemetery
Hamilton, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

Deardorff-Brock Post 506 (Middletown) – Named after two members of the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Captain Joel K. Deardorff of Middletown died on October 8, 1863 of wounds received at the Battle of Chickamauga and Private John Brock, a resident of Warren County died of disease in Paris, Kentucky on November 1, 1861. The Post was chartered on February 2, 1891.

Ferd VanDerveer Post 70 (Middletown) – Named after General Ferdinand VanDerveer, a Butler County native and beloved commander of the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry which was organized and mustered in at Hamilton, Ohio on September 20, 1861. Created after the Jacob Banker Post rift, this Post was originally named the General VanDerveer Post when it came about on February 2 of 1893, but the name was altered on March 1, 1893 for unknown reasons. Butler County's last surviving Civil War veteran, DeWitt Clinton Orr was a member of this Post after leaving the Jacob Banker Post.



**35th O.V.I. Reunion
Butler County
Fairgrounds
Hamilton, Ohio
1890**

General Ferdinand VanDerveer is center, third row (bowler hat and cane). To his right, in the white dress, is his daughter Emily.

Photo – Courtesy of Lane Public Library
George Cummins Photo Collection

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 173

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1910



"In token of the love we bear, our offerings 'round we strew."



"The day's oration is in flowers, sing ye gardens! Speak ye bowers!"



"Strew their fair garlands where slumber the dead."



"A grateful land remembers all her promises today."



"Sound o'er the brave the refrain of the sea."



"May thy sweet blossoms never cease to bloom in love and trust and peace"

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 173 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1910



"Nobly they died in Freedom's name."



"Cover their graves with laurel and palm!"



"Honor the living for life's consecration gives to many their pierced hearts love's healing balm."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 173 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1910



**"The bravest are the tenderest,
the loving are the daring."**



**"And every patriot's dust shall claim
affections tenderest tears."**



**"For him that died for his country,
glory and endless years."**

John O. Winsch Publisher Stapleton, NY
Memorial Day Souvenir Series (not numbered)
Set of 4 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1908



"Betsy Ross making the first flag with stars and stripes."



"Revolutionary heroes at Bunker Hill, fighting under our country's first flag, the Rattlesnake flag."



"The Monitor's great victory."



"The capture of San Juan Hill."

E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 2

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

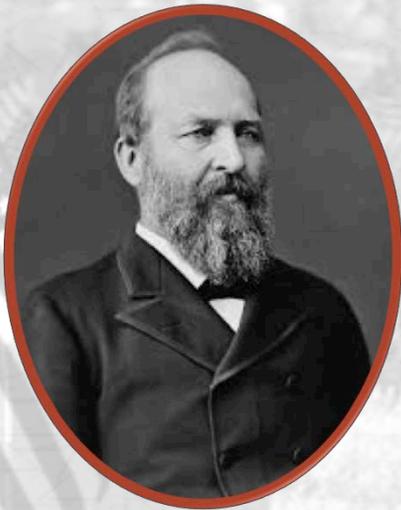
Published: 1909



E. Nash Company New York
Decoration Day Series No. 2 (cont.)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1909





Congressman James A. Garfield

Photo – Courtesy of Getty Images

Inaugural National Decoration Day Speech

James A. Garfield
May 30, 1868
Arlington National Cemetery

“I am oppressed with a sense of the impropriety of uttering words on this occasion. If silence is ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of fifteen thousand men, whose lives were more significant than speech, and whose death was a poem, the music of which can never be sung. With words we make promises, plight faith, praise virtue. Promises may not be kept; plighted faith may be broken; and vaunted virtue be only the cunning mask of vice. We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke; but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue. For the noblest man that lives, there still remains a conflict. He must still withstand the assaults of time and fortune, must still be assailed with temptations, before which lofty natures have fallen; but with these the conflict ended, the victory was won, when death stamped on them the great seal of heroic character, and closed a record which years can never blot...

I love to believe that no heroic sacrifice is ever lost; that the characters of men are molded and inspired by what their fathers have done; that treasured up in American souls are all the unconscious influences of the great deeds of the Anglo-Saxon race, from Agincourt to Bunker Hill. It was such an influence that led a young Greek, two thousand years ago, when musing on the battle of Marathon, to exclaim, “the trophies of Miltiades will not let me sleep!” Could these men be silent in 1861; these, whose ancestors had felt the inspiration of battle on every field where civilization had fought in the last thousand years? Read their answer in this green turf. Each for himself gathered up the cherished purposes of life—its aims and ambitions, its dearest affections—and flung all, with life itself, into the scale of battle...

What other spot so fitting for their last resting place as this under the shadow of the Capitol saved by their valor? Here, where the grim edge of battle joined; here, where all the hope and fear and agony of their country centered; here let them rest, asleep on the Nation’s heart, entombed in the Nation’s love!”

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 973
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle
Published: 1911



"The Army and Navy forever!"



"But his soul goes marching on."



"Lest we forget."



"Nor shall their story be forgot."

International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 973 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1911



"Pride and glory, and honor all live in the colors that stand or fall."



"Nor shall their story be forgot while Fame her record keeps."



Civil War Veterans
Main Street
Hamilton, Ohio
Circa 1890s

Photo - Courtesy of Lane Public Library
George Cummins Photo Collection

E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 3

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Frances I. Brundage

Published: 1910



Rees H. Evans
Corporal
5th Ohio Cavalry
New London Cemetery
Shandon, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith

E. Nash Company New York
Decoration Day Series No. 3 (cont.)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1910



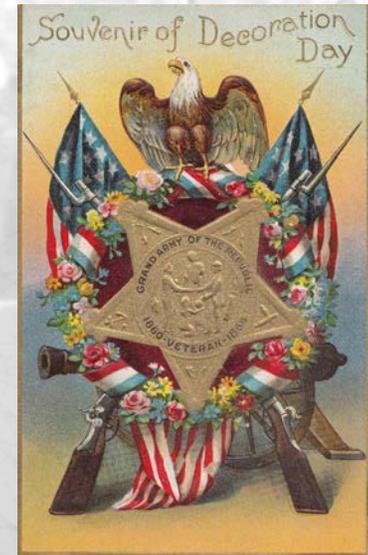
A.W. Santway Company New York

Decoration / Memorial Day Souvenir Series No. 157

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1911



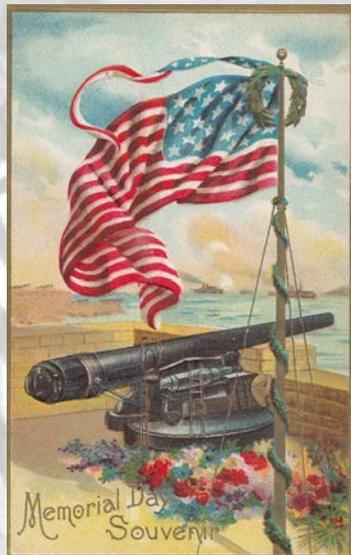
A.W. Santway Company New York

Decoration / Memorial Day Souvenir Series No. 157 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1911



Arthur Livingston Publisher New York

Series No. 250

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1907



David Cornthwaite
Private
93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Somerville Cemetery
Somerville, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



"Nobly the flag flutters o'er us to-day, emblem of peace, pledge of liberty's sway."



"And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Decoration Day Speech

Frederick Douglass

May 30, 1871

Arlington National Cemetery

“Tarry here for a moment. My words shall be few and simple. The solemn rites of this hour and place call for no lengthened speech. There is, in the very air of this resting-ground of the unknown dead a silent, subtle and all-pervading eloquence, far more touching, impressive, and thrilling than living lips have ever uttered. Into the measureless depths of every loyal soul it is now whispering lessons of all that is precious, priceless, holiest, and most enduring in human existence.

Dark and sad will be the hour to this nation when it forgets to pay grateful homage to its greatest benefactors. The offering we bring to-day is due alike to the patriot soldiers dead and their noble comrades who still live; for, whether living or dead, whether in time or eternity, the loyal soldiers who imperiled all for country and freedom are one and inseparable.

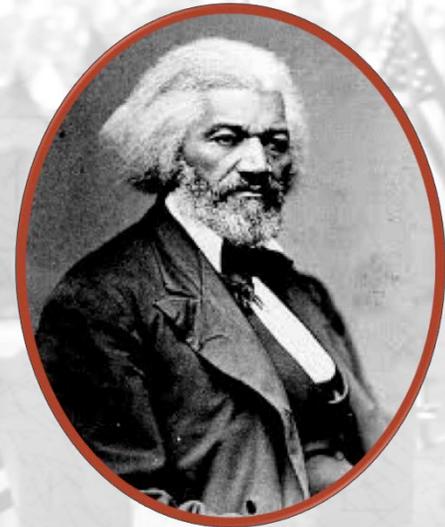
Those unknown heroes whose whitened bones have been piously gathered here, and whose green graves we now strew with sweet and beautiful flowers, choice emblems alike of pure hearts and brave spirits, reached, in their glorious career that last highest point of nobleness beyond which human power cannot go. They died for their country.

No loftier tribute can be paid to the most illustrious of all the benefactors of mankind than we pay to these unrecognized soldiers when we write above their graves this shining epitaph...

If we ought to forget a war which has filled our land with widows and orphans; which has made stumps of men of the very flower of our youth; which has sent them on the journey of life armless, legless, maimed and mutilated; which has piled up a debt heavier than a mountain of gold, swept uncounted thousands of men into bloody graves and planted agony at a million hearthstones -- I say, if this war is to be forgotten, I ask, in the name of all things sacred, what shall men remember?

The essence and significance of our devotions here to-day are not to be found in the fact that the men whose remains fill these graves were brave in battle. If we met simply to show our sense of bravery, we should find enough on both sides to kindle admiration. In the raging storm of fire and blood, in the fierce torrent of shot and shell, of sword and bayonet, whether on foot or on horse, unflinching courage marked the rebel not less than the loyal soldier.

But we are not here to applaud manly courage, save as it has been displayed in a noble cause. We must never forget that victory to the rebellion meant death to the republic. We must never forget that the loyal soldiers who rest beneath this sod flung themselves between the nation and the nation's destroyers. If today we have a country not boiling in an agony of blood, like France, if now we have a united country, no longer cursed by the hell-black system of human bondage, if the American name is no longer a by-word and a hissing to a mocking earth, if the star-spangled banner floats only over free American citizens in every quarter of the land, and our country has before it a long and glorious career of justice, liberty, and civilization, we are indebted to the unselfish devotion of the noble army who rest in these honored graves all around us.”



Frederick Douglass

Photo – Courtesy of the
Baltimore Sun

John O. Winsch Publisher
Decoration Day Series (not numbered)
Set of 6 Cards

Stapleton, NY

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1909



"Let them be quiet here where birds and blossoms be, and hail to you who bring the tear and the rose of memory."



"Their's is a deathless heritage: their deeds blossom like flowers upon the field of time and whether told in prose or glowing rhyme, seem writ in shining gold to him who reads."



Daniel Coleman
Private
83rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Darrtown Cemetery
Darrtown, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith

John O. Winsch Publisher

Stapleton, NY

Decoration Day Series (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1909



Bring garlands of gay flowers
to deck the heroes' grave,
and let their country's starry flag
in memory o'er them wave."



"Bring the good old bugle, boys, we'll sing
another song. Sing it as we used to sing it, fifty
thousand strong, as we are marching through
Georgia."



"All quiet along the Potomac to-night."



"We're tenting to-night on the old camp ground."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Memorial Day Series (Confederate Theme)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



"The hands that grasped them, and the hearts that fondly clasped them, cold and dead are lying low."



"Gen. Robert E. Lee"



"Gen. Thomas J. 'Stonewall' Jackson"



"For though conquered, they adore it! Love the cold dead hands that bore it! Weep for those that fell before it! Pardon those who trailed and tore it."



Jonathan Bressler
First Lieutenant
Alabama State Artillery
Ketchum-Garrity's Battery
Confederate States Army
Bunker Hill Universalist Pioneer Cemetery
Riley Township, Ohio

There is a Lt. Jonathan Bressler Camp 1536
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Photo - B. Smith

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Memorial Day Series (Confederate Theme)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



"The warrior's banner takes its flight to greet the warriors soul."



"Twill live in song and story, though its folds are in the dust."



"In Memoriam 1861 - 1865."



Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Memorial Day Series (Confederate Theme)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1908



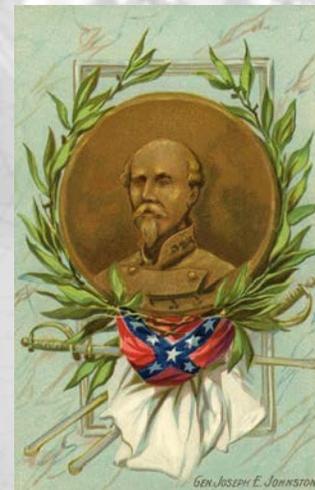
"Furl that banner! Furl it sadly, once ten thousand hailed it gladly! And ten thousands wildly, madly, swore it should forever wave. Swore that foeman's sword should never hearts like theirs dis sever, til that flag should float forever o'er their freedom or their grave!"



"Lee's farewell letter to his troops"



"In memoriam. Deo vindice 1861-1865"



"Gen. Joseph E. Johnston."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 158

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Unknown

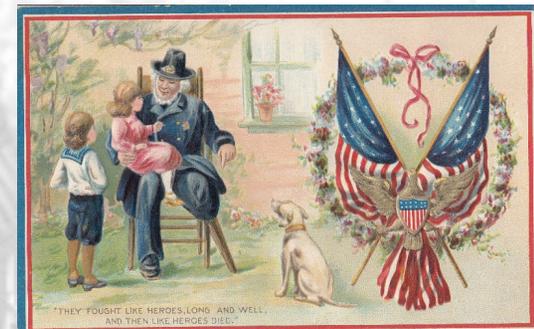
Published: 1909



"Honor points the hallowed spot where valor proudly sleeps."



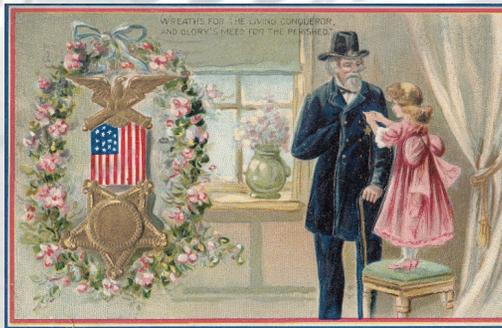
"Let flora's rarest banners wave and fold about the soldier's grave."



"They fought like heroes, long and well, and then like heroes died."



"And blazoned on the scroll of fame shall shine each martyred soldier's name."



"Wreaths for the living conqueror and glory's meed for the perished."



"Their memory shines like a radiant star o'er the land they died to save."

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 158 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1909



“Ah! Never shall the land forget how gushed the life-blood of the brave!”



“Forever sacred be their fame and green their honored graves.”



“The stars and stripes be waving o'er their generous sacrifice.”



“And may they never rest unsung while liberty can find a tongue.”



Robert Joyce
Major
93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Venice Cemetery
Ross, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

Raphael Tuck & Sons London, New York and Paris

Decoration Day Series No. 158 (cont.)

Set of 12 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1909



William Harris
Corporal
75th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
POW Florence Stockade, SC
Died February 1865
Darrtown Cemetery
Darrtown, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith



"For us their precious lives they gave, for freedom's sacred cause they died."

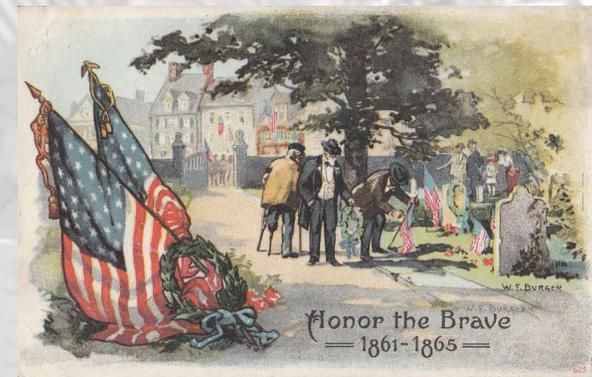
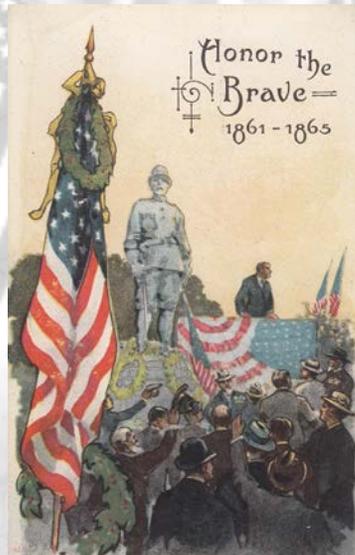


"There honor comes a pilgrim gray, to bless the turf that wraps their clay."

Unknown Publisher

Decoration Day Series (not numbered)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Wilhelm Friedrich Burger
Published: 1908



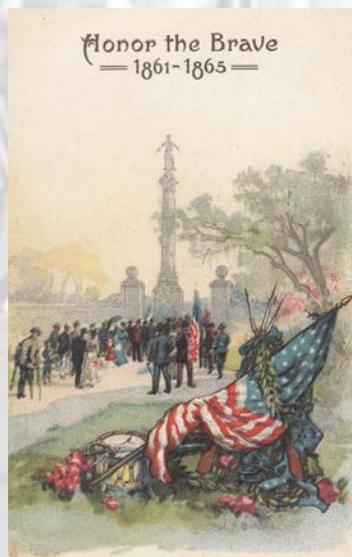
Unknown Publisher

Decoration Day Series (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Wilhelm Friedrich Burger

Published: 1908



BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD

(1858)

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On Fame's eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead.

No rumor of the foe's advance
Now swells upon the wind;
Nor troubled thought at midnight haunts
Of loved ones left behind;
No vision of the morrow's strife
The warrior's dream alarms;
No braying horn nor screaming fife
At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shriveled swords are red with rust,
Their plumed heads are bowed,
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,
Is now their martial shroud.
And plenteous funeral tears have washed
The red stains from each brow,
And the proud forms, by battle gashed
Are free from anguish now.

The neighing troop, the flashing blade,
The bugle's stirring blast,
The charge, the dreadful cannonade,
The din and shout, are past;
Nor war's wild note nor glory's peal
Shall thrill with fierce delight
Those breasts that nevermore may feel
The rapture of the fight.

Like the fierce northern hurricane
That sweeps the great plateau,
Flushed with the triumph yet to gain,
Came down the serried foe,
Who heard the thunder of the fray
Break o'er the field beneath,
Knew well the watchword of that day
Was "Victory or death!"

Long had the doubtful conflict raged
O'er all that stricken plain,
For never fiercer fight had waged
The vengeful blood of Spain;
And still the storm of battle blew,
Still swelled the gory tide;
Not long, our stout old chieftain knew,
Such odds his strength could bide.

T'was in that hour his stern command
Called to a martyr's grave
The flower of his beloved land,
The nation's flag to save.
By rivers of their father's gore
His first-born laurels grew,
And well he deemed the sons would pour
Their lives for glory too.

For many a mother's breath has swept
O'er Angostura's plain --
And long the pitying sky has wept
Above its moldered slain.
The raven's scream, or eagle's flight,
Or shepherd's pensive lay,
Alone awakes each sullen height
That frowned o'er that dread fray.

Sons of the Dark and Bloody Ground
Ye must not slumber there,
Where stranger steps and tongues resound
Along the heedless air.
Your own proud land's heroic soil
Shall be your fitter grave;
She claims from war his richest spoil --
The ashes of her brave.

Thus 'neath their parent turf they rest,
Far from the gory field,
Borne to a Spartan mother's breast
On many a bloody shield;
The sunshine of their native sky
Smiles sadly on them here,
And kindred eyes and hearts watch by
The heroes sepulcher.

Rest on embalmed and sainted dead!
Dear as the blood ye gave;
No impious footstep shall here tread
The herbage of your grave;
Nor shall your glory be forgot
While fame her records keeps,
Or Honor points the hallowed spot
Where Valor proudly sleeps.

Yon marble minstrel's voiceless stone
In deathless song shall tell,
When many a vanquished ago has flown,
The story how ye fell;
Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's blight,
Nor Time's remorseless doom,
Shall dim one ray of glory's light
That gilds your deathless tomb.

-- Theodore O'Hara



John M. Bressler
Corporal
26th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Wounded at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain
Died July 3, 1864
Bunker Hill Universalist Pioneer Cemetery
Reily Township, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith

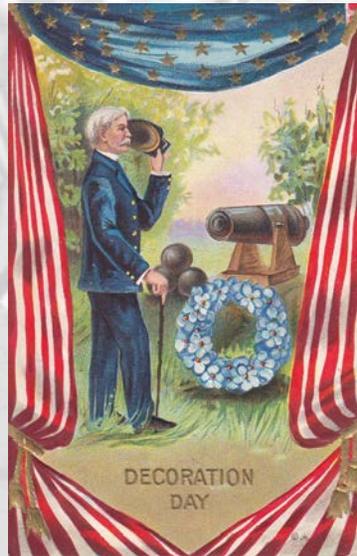
E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 4

Set of 6 Cards

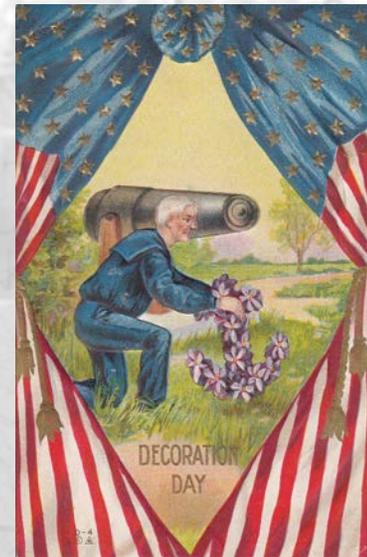
Artist: Unknown

Published: 1910



E. Nash Company New York
Decoration Day Series No. 4 (cont.)
Set of 6 Cards

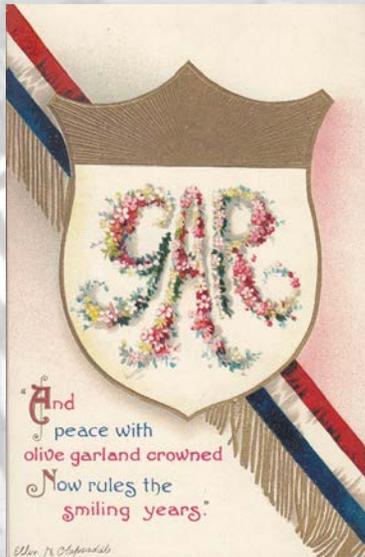
Artist: Unknown
Published: 1910



International Art Publishing Company New York

Series No. 4397
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle
Published: 1912



“And peace with olive garland crowned now rules the smiling years.”



“May the wreaths they have won never wither nor the star of their glory grow dim.”



“Lest we forget.”

International Art Publishing Company

New York

Series No. 4397

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Ellen H. Clapsaddle

Published: 1912



**"Independence be your boast,
ever mindful what it cost."**



**"How sleep the brave who sink to rest, by all their
country's wishes blest."**



**"My Country, tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of
thee I sing."**



Jefferson Trembley
Private
68th Indiana Volunteer Infantry
Wounded at the Siege of Chattanooga, TN
Died October 22, 1863
Bunker Hill Universalist Pioneer Cemetery
Reily Township, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

Memorial Day, 1889
(1889)

Twine laurels to lay o'er the Blue and the Gray,
spread wreaths where our heroes rest;
Let the song of the North echo back from the South for the
love that is truest and best!
Twine wreaths for the tombs of our Grant and our Lee,
one anthem for Jackson and Meade.
And the flag above you is the banner for me –
one people in name and in deed!

Clasp hands o'er the graves where our laurelled ones lie -
clasp hands o'er the Gray and the Blue;
To-day we are brothers and bound by a tie that the years
shall but serve to renew;
By the side of the Northman who peacefully sleeps where
tropical odors are shed
A son of the South his companionship keeps –
one flag o'er the two heroes spread.

Weave tokens of love for the heroes in blue, weave wreaths
for the heroes in gray;
Clasp brotherly hands o'er the graves that are new –
for the love that is ours to-day;
A trinity given to bless, to unite - three glorious records to keep,
And a kinship that never a grievance shall sever renewed
where the brave are asleep!

Spread flowers to-day o'er the Blue and the Gray –
spread wreaths where our heroes rest;
Let the song of the North echo back from the South for the
love that is truest and best!
Twin wreaths for the tombs of our Grant and our Lee,
one hymn for your father and mine!
Oh, the flag you adore is the banner for me and its folds
our dead brothers entwine.

-- Samuel Ellsworth Kiser



Stephen Mullen
Landsman
US Navy
Ironclad River Gunboat
USS Benton
Macedonia Cemetery
Morgan Township, Ohio

Photo – B. Smith

L. Beard Publishing Company Atlantic City, NJ

Series No. 15
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1911



L. Beard Publishing Company Atlantic City, NJ

Series No. 15 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1911



E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 5

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1910

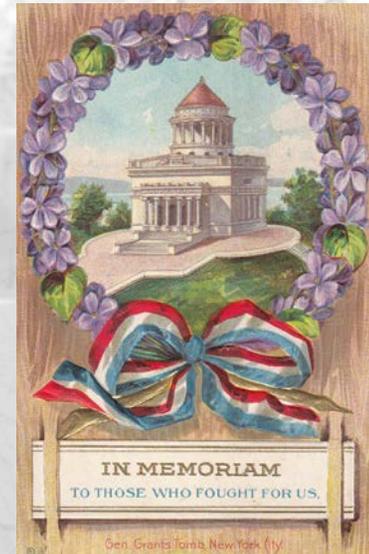


Lincoln's Monument, Springfield IL



John W. Williams
Private
93rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry
Springhill Cemetery
Liberty Township, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



Gen. Grant's Tomb, New York City

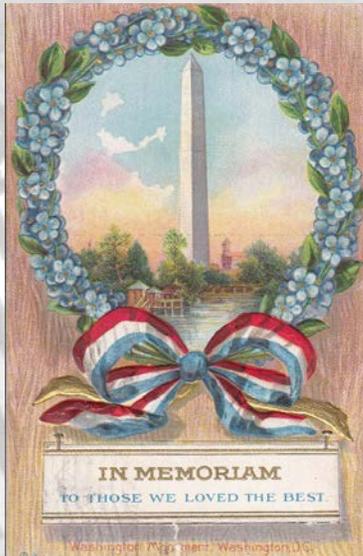
E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 5

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1910



Washington Monument, Washington, D.C.



Garfield's Tomb, Cleveland, OH



Washington's Tomb, Mt. Vernon, VA



McKinley's Monument, Buffalo, NY

M.W. Taggart Publishing New York

Unnamed Series No. 603

Set of 6 Cards

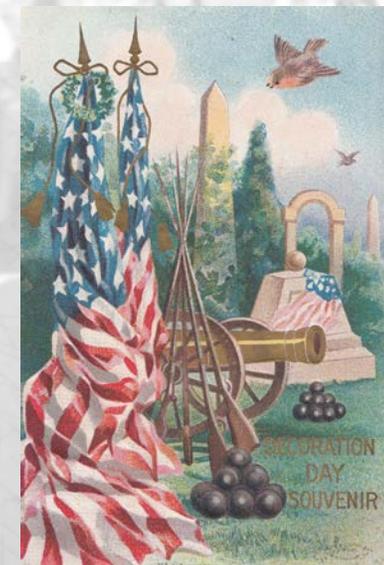
Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



Edward Burkhalter
69th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
Died of Disease on May 22, 1862 (not March)
Hickory Flat Cemetery
St. Clair Township, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



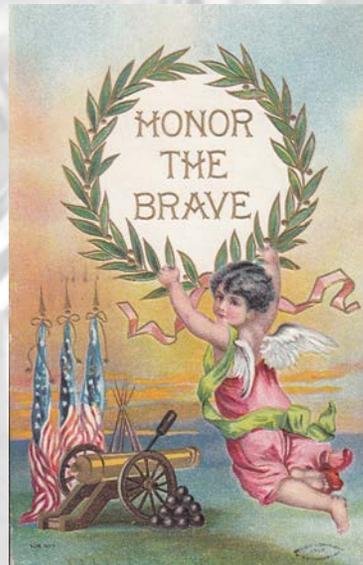
M.W. Taggart Publishing New York

Unnamed Series No. 603 (cont.)

Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown

Published: 1908



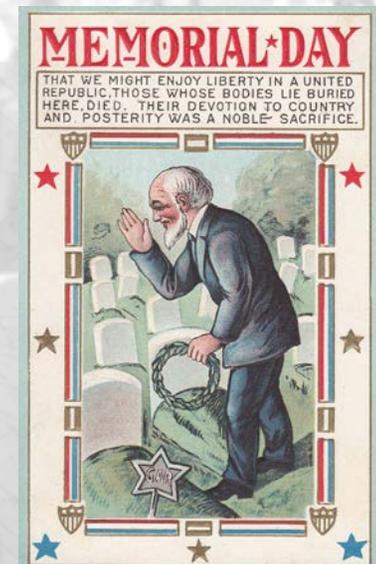
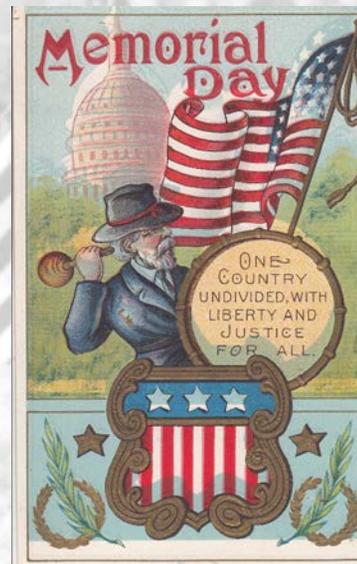
John O. Winsch Publisher Stapleton, NY
Decoration / Memorial Day Series (unnumbered)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1910



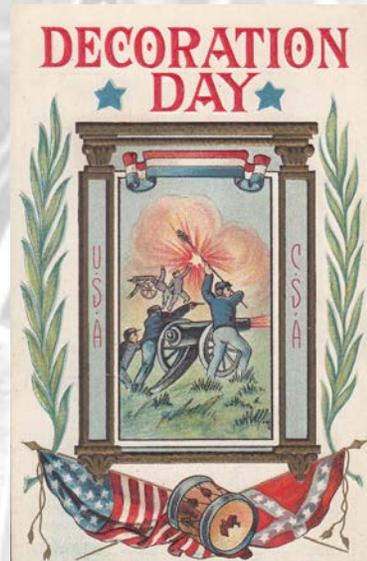
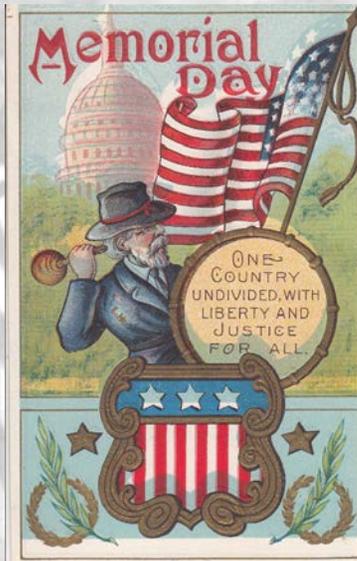
Alton Taylor
Private
31st U.S. Colored Infantry
Woodside Cemetery
Oxford, Ohio

Photo - B. Smith



John O. Winsch Publisher Stapleton, NY
Decoration / Memorial Day Series (unnumbered)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1910



10th O.V.I. Reunion
Poverty Flats
Woodsdale, Ohio
Circa 1915

Photo – Courtesy of Lane Public Library
George Cummins Photo Collection

E. Nash Company New York

Decoration Day Series No. 6

Set of 6 Cards

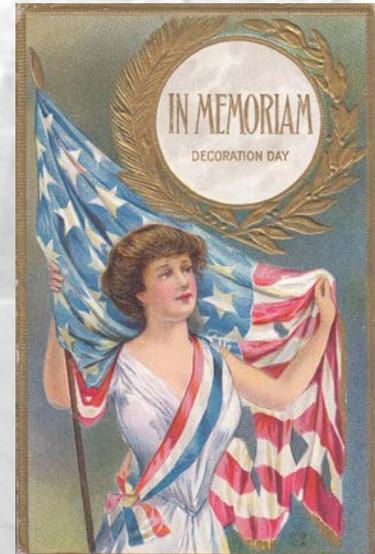
Artist: Unknown

Published: 1912



E. Nash Company New York
Decoration Day Series No. 6 (cont.)
Set of 6 Cards

Artist: Unknown
Published: 1911



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