

THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR & HULL

It may come as a surprise to many that 200,000 of the soldiers of the American Civil War were British born. 250,000 were German born, this means about 1 in 6 soldiers of the War were from Britain and Germany as approx 2 million men wore the blue and a million wore the grey.

In my own family George Gillett Collier served with the 52nd Indiana Infantry, and Milton B Chamberlain served with the 4th Ohio Cavalry. The latter surviving wounds and fever only to die falling from a window! My family at that time were from North Yorkshire and had moved to America from the Moors, as life was hard and making a living was incredibly difficult. Ironically their old homes are now worth fortunes and only the rich can afford to live in the area! Even though they didn't come from Hull, many veterans did.

Zachariah Pearson, built and owned blockade runners supplying the South. My wife and I recently found his gravesite lost under a mountain of ivy in the old Spring Bank cemetery.

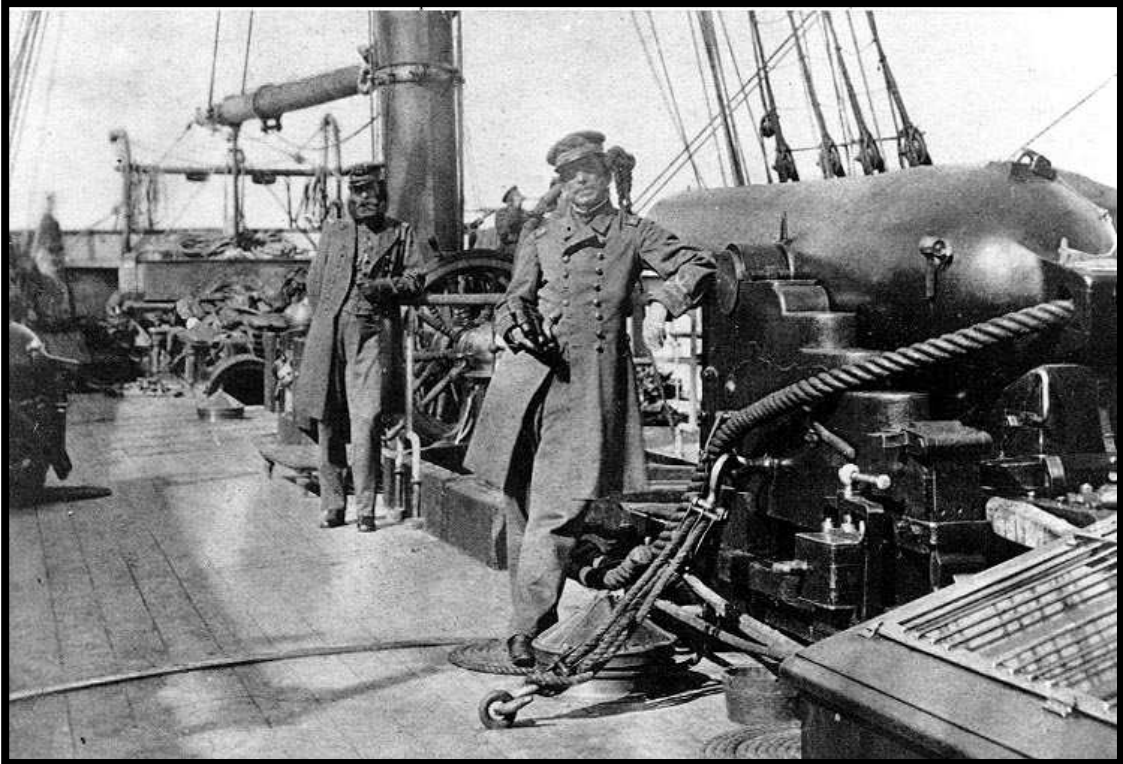
Many saw action too. **George Townley Fullam** and **Edward Heald** both served on the CSS Alabama, the most successful war ship of all time. Other Hull men were **John Thomas Coverdale** who died at the battle of Cedar Mountain in 1862 aged 19. **William Wison** died in the army according to the Hull News of 7 April 1866. **John W Tindall** died at Sabine Pass Texas while serving on the USS Granite City. **George Smedley**, a Beverley man survived the war and later lived in Illinois. Another Beverley man **John Fitzgerald** died in Ohio aged 46 whilst a volunteer in the US Army.



I have details of soldiers who came from Grimsby, Burstwick, Scarborough, Bridlington, and many villages throughout North and East Yorkshire. These are only the ones mentioned in newspapers in archives ... its probably fair to say that between 10,000 and 30,000 of the soldiers of that war came from Yorkshire ... maybe even more.

It is an honour for me to care for the gravesites of the veterans buried here.....a truly great honour.

CSS Alabama (1862-1864)



Captain Raphael Semmes, Alabama's commanding officer, standing by his ship's 110-pounder rifled gun during her visit to Capetown in August 1863. His executive officer, First Lieutenant John M. Kell, is in the background, standing by the ship's wheel.



The final resting place of **Zachariah Pearson**, after being restored by the author and his wife.