

**THE YANKEE CONSCRIPT;
OR, EIGHTEEN MONTHS
IN DIXIE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649178285

The Yankee conscript; or, Eighteen months in Dixie by George Adams Fisher & Willism Dickson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

GEORGE ADAMS FISHER & WILLISM DICKSON

**THE YANKEE CONSCRIPT;
OR, EIGHTEEN MONTHS
IN DIXIE**

THE
YANKEE CONSCRIPT;

OR,

EIGHTEEN MONTHS IN DIXIE.

BY GEORGE ADAMS FISHER.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY REV. WILLIAM DICKSON.

PHILADELPHIA:
J. W. DAUGHADAY, PUBLISHER,
1308 CHESTNUT STREET.
1864.



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1864, by

J. W. DAUGHADAY,

in the Clerk's Office of the District Court in and for the
Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

PREFACE.

My design in presenting the following narrative is to give to the public a brief, plain, and unpretending account of what I know respecting the treatment which Union men receive from the hands of the Secessionists; the sentiments and feelings of the soldiers of the Confederate States respecting the war; and my own escape after having been conscripted and forced into the ranks of the Rebel army. I shall narrate facts simply. I shall tell the reader how I was first foiled in my attempt to escape to the lines of the Union army; how, after some weeks, I obtained possession of a miller's certificate of exemption, and traveled upwards of two hundred and forty miles on it; how I was taken, put under arrest, and guarded all night by six provost guards, tried, and in great danger of being recognized as a deserter and shot. I shall give some account of my subsequent adventures in the army of General Raines, of my escape and safe arrival, after enduring many hardships, within the lines of the army of General Schofield.

For some time I hesitated to write the following

pages, for the reason that being a citizen of Texas, and intending to return to that State after the war, I feared the consequences which might result from publishing this narrative. But being frequently and earnestly solicited to write, I finally determined to do so.

Some apology is due for the style of the book. Being engaged in teaching school during the time that I was preparing the following pages for publication, I did most of my writing in the evening, amidst the annoyance of family reading and conversation. Sometimes I became so discouraged in the preparation of my story, which was to me an arduous undertaking, that I would probably have abandoned my task, had it not been for the hope that it might be the means of convincing some honest men who are led astray by designing and unprincipled politicians, who claim to be "Constitutional Union" men, but who do more to baffle the Government and encourage the rebels than any other class.

These remarks are not made to deprecate criticism, but in order to bespeak the candor of that large class of readers who are willing to be pleased with the best efforts that can reasonably be expected from one who has labored under so many difficulties.

GEORGE A. FISHER.

Calcutta, Ohio, May, 1864.

CHAPTER III.

New Excitements—Raiding—Bereavements—Change of Location—Mob Law again—Movements of Troops—Conscript Law Passed—Opposition to the Law—A Union Man and his Mode of Reasoning—Other Unionists of Note—Droving—Fright of the Rebels at Little Rock—Sickness in the Rebel Army. . . . 53—75

CHAPTER IV.

Martial Law in Arkansas—Hunting Conscripts with Bloodhounds—Arrival of Troops from Texas—Buying Leather—Major Lewis and his Negro Wife—Southern Slanders of Northern Women—Amalgamation—Jim Lane—Suspicious Characters—Return to Texas—Martial Law in Texas—Passes—Plans of Union Men to Escape—Oath of Allegiance—In a Trap, and how to get out of it. . . . 76—89

CHAPTER V.

Still in the Trap—Captain Schneider—Captain Wells—Conscripts vs Volunteers—Captain Welch—Marching—Dallas Fair Grounds—Arrest of a Volunteer—Prejudice against Foreigners—Comanche and Texan Feats of Horsemanship—Preference for the Cavalry Service. . . . 90—107

CHAPTER VI.

Volunteering at the Beginning of the War—More Calls for Men and less Inclination to Respond—Plans to Prevent an Outbreak in Texas—Filling Requisitions for Men—Speeches to Encourage the Conscripts—Guarding against Mutiny—Rebel Destitution—Negroes—Their Sentiments—Their Number. - - - 108—119

CHAPTER VII.

Plans of Escape—Dangers of the Attempt—Send for my Brother—Miller's Certificate of Exemption—Feign Sickness—Interview with Captain Schneider—Obtain a Furlough—Set out for Denton—The Journey—Meet my Brother again—Sell the Remainder of my Property—Troubles and Dangers of Enrolling Officers—Speculation—Letter to Captain Schneider—Reflections—Discussion about the Miller's Certificate—Schemes to obtain Possession of Luginbyhl's Certificate—My Brother's Adventure. - - - - - 120—136

CHAPTER VIII.

A Race and a Hunt—Guarding against a Surprise—The Miller's Certificate Secured—Farewell—The Journey Begun—Value of Liberty known when Lost—Date of Furlough changed—Final Parting—A Lonely Pilgrim—Acting Rebel—Tricks of Negroes—A Hunter's Paradise—A big Corn Crop—Farewell to Texas. - 137—151