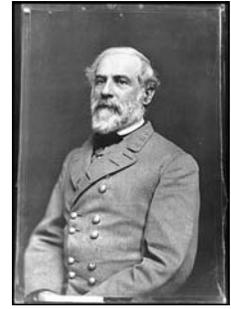


Slang

of the

American Civil War



A

1. **A number 1**: topnotch, the best. From Lloyd's of London's ship classification of the 1800's.
2. **absquatulate**: to take leave, to disappear
3. **aim**: intend
4. **acknowledge the corn**: to admit the truth, to confess a lie, or acknowledge an obvious personal shortcoming
5. **almighty**: huge
6. **air-up**: admit, confess
7. **algerine**: pirate
8. **all creation**: All nature, all wrath: everything or everybody
9. **all in three years**: something goes awry
10. **allow**: to concede, grant, suppose, figure, and expect.
11. **anti-fragmatic**: raw rum or whiskey
12. **Anglo**: white person
13. **Arkansas Toothpick**: a long, sharp knife
14. **Arkansawyer, Arkansan, Arkie**: a resident or native of Arkansas.
15. **argie**: argue
16. **arroyo**: a small valley or gulch, usually with a flat bottom, which is usually dry but liable to experience flash floods during the rains.
17. **artillery**: camp kettles, stoves, posts, tubs, iron foundries.
18. **ask no odds**: ask no favor.
19. **A.W.O.L.**: Absent With Out Leave.

B

20. **bad egg**: bad person, good for nothing
21. **bait**: a quantity of food. Example: "We ate ourselves a bait of collards."
22. **baited for widow**: attractively or well-dressed. Used to refer to men, especially men past the usual marrying age, especially if they are dressed for purposes of finding and courting women.
23. **balderdash**: nonsense
24. **Bam, Bamma, Bammy**: Alabama
25. **bark juice**: liquor
26. **barouche**: An open, fair-weather, four-wheeled vehicle having only small folding hood to protect half of its four passengers in the event of rain.
27. **barrel shirt**: barrel worn by thieves for punishment.



28. **beat the Dutch:** if that don't beat all
29. **beehive:** knapsack.
30. **been through the mill:** done a lot, wore out
31. **bellyache:** complain
32. **big blow:** hurricane
33. **big bugs:** big wigs, important people
34. **biggo:** big and old.
35. **Billy Yank:** designation for any Federal Soldier, especially one, whose name is not known. It was a common name given to privates.
36. **bite the bullet:** to stand firm under attack; stick to one's guns.
37. **bivouac:** the Civil War term defined by the U.S. Army in 1861: "When an army passes the night without shelter, except such as can be hastily made of plants, branches, etc., it is said to be in bivouac."
38. **Black Flag:** no quarter.
39. **blackleg:** A gambler or a swindler.
40. **blow on him:** Tell on him
41. **blowhard:** Braggart
42. **Bluebellies:** Union Soldiers
43. **blue Mass:** Men on sick call; named after blue pill.
44. **bluff:** trick or deceive, cheater.
45. **body:** Person, man or woman
46. **bogus:** false, counterfeit; a stamp or mill for counterfeiting coins.
47. **bombproofs:** A shelter from artillery attack; those not exposed to danger. Also a term for provost guards/commissaries due to soft life.
48. **booze:** Harsh, cheap whisky.
49. **boresome:** Boring.
50. **boss dog:** The head person or person in charge as in "top dog"
51. **botherment:** Something disturbing or distracting.
52. **bottomland:** Low-lying patch of land near a water source
53. **Bragg's body guard:** Body lice.
54. **brass hat:** a high military or naval officer. The reference is not to the braid (scrambled eggs) worn on the hat, but to the cocked hats worn by Napoleon and his officers. When going indoors they carried chapeaux a bras: hats under the arm. Bras was Anglicized to brass
55. **bread bag:** haversack
56. **Bread Basket:** stomach
57. **brevet:** temporary rank assigned, usually to an officer.
58. **brevet eagle:** turkey
59. **brevet horse:** mule
60. **brung:** Brought
61. **bub:** a fellow or guy.
62. **bub and sis:** Nickname for brother and sister, especially given to children
63. **buck and ball:** A close range musket load having 3 large buckshot bound on top of a .69 caliber, smooth bore musket ball, encased in paper. It was most often found in Confederate hands and was not commonly used during the war simply because it was highly inaccurate at a distance.
64. **buck and gag:** A form of corporal punishment used during the Civil War era. The soldier set on the ground, and had his hands and feet bound. His knees were drawn up between his arms and a rod inserted under the knees and over the arms. A stick was placed in his mouth sideways. The offending



soldier was normally placed in full view of the command and had to endure this punishment for hours. It was normally reserve for shirkers, stragglers and drunkards.

- 65. **buckskin**: A Virginian Bug juice: Whiskey
- 66. **bughill**: A rural or rustic place; an insignificant town. Same as bugtown.
- 67. **bugtown**: a rural or rustic place; an insignificant town. Same as bughill.
- 68. **bull pit**: Confederate term for an under-arrest confinement area.
- 69. **bully**: exclamation meaning, 'terrific!' or 'hurrah!'
- 70. **bully for you**: good for you
- 71. **bumblebee**: sound of flying mini-balls.
- 72. **bummer**: malingerer, someone who deliberately lags behind to forage or steal on his own shrift
- 73. **Bummer's Cap**: regulation army cap with a high/deep crown, so-called because it could be filled with gathered foodstuffs
- 74. **bust head**: cheap whiskey
- 75. **buttermilk cavalry**: term infantry had for cavalry.
- 76. **butternut**: many soldiers of the Confederacy wore uniforms colored a yellowish-brown by dye made of copperas and walnut hulls. The term later became a synonym for the soldier.
- 77. **buzzard**: an elderly male, usually single, who is regarded as less than desirable.

C

- 78. **call**: reason
- 79. **camp canard**: tall tale circulating around camp as gossip
- 80. **camp itch**: an itch caused by remaining in a military camp for a long period without proper washing.
- 81. **carriage trade**: rich, upper class
- 82. **carryings-on**: frolicking, partying, etc.
- 83. **carte de visite**: photograph on a small card.
- 84. **cashier**: to dismiss from the army dishonorably
- 85. **cattycorner or cater-corner**: diagonally across a square. From the British slang (cater) for throwing a four on a die, the four dots forming a square.

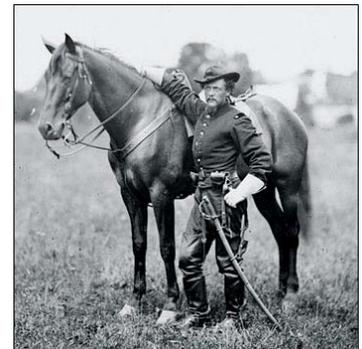


- 86. **cattywampus**: cater-cornered or diagonal
- 87. **charley horse**: a muscle cramp, especially in the leg.
- 88. **cher**: dear one
- 89. **cher bebe**: dear baby
- 90. **chicken bossom**: chicken breast, you never say "breast" in mixed company.
- 91. **chicken guts**: officer's gold braiding on his cuff.
- 92. **chief cook and bottle washer**: person in charge, or someone who can do anything
- 93. **chirk**: cheerful (also means chirp or chirpy)
- 94. **chum**: intimate companion or crony.
- 95. **chur**: chair
- 96. **codfish aristocracy**: a contemptuous term for people who have made money in business
- 97. **come a cropper**: serious setback or ruination.
- 98. **Company Q**: fictitious unit designation for the sick list
- 99. **comrade**: Fellow soldier
- 100. **conniption Fit**: hysterics, temper tantrum
- 101. **contraband**: escaped slaves who sought refuge behind Union lines
- 102. **Copperhead**: Northern person with Southern, anti-Union sympathies

- 103. **corduroy road:** an early primitive road comprised of logs and saplings laid side by side, a source of numerous leg injuries to horses.
- 104. **Corncracker:** nickname for Southerners, especially those from Kentucky, a backwoodsman, a poor white Southern farmer.
- 105. **Cracker:** a member of the cracker ethnic groups found in Georgia and Florida.
- 106. **cracker line:** supply line for troops on the move
- 107. **cracker pole:** a Florida Cracker term for a cane fishing pole, usually a bamboo one.
- 108. **Cracker State:** the state of Georgia.
- 109. **croaker sack:** burlap sack, a gunnysack.
- 110. **creeper:** soldier's frying pan used early in the war.
- 111. **curry favor:** to offer fawning service in the hope of ingratiating oneself.

D

- 112. **dashboard:** a board of leather screen located at the front of a carriage to prevent mud from splashing back from the horse's hooves onto the passengers.
- 113. **Davis Boot:** named for Jefferson Davis when he was Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce, this soldier's foot apparel was worn by both North and South. Said to fit most men with a few standard sizes.
- 114. **dead as a wagon tire:** expired
- 115. **deadbeat:** useless person, malingerer
- 116. **deadhead:** a nonpaying customer
- 117. **desecrated vegetables:** Union term for dehydrated (desiccated) vegetables formed into yellowish squares
- 118. **devil is beating his wife:** saying that is used when the sun is shining, yet it is raining.
- 119. **Devil Fish:** term for fish-shaped Confederate torpedo.
- 120. **dog collar:** cravat issued with uniforms, usually discarded
- 121. **dog robber:** soldier detailed from the ranks to act as cook
- 122. **Done:** Used to emphasize the occurrence of something in the past.
- 123. **Doughface:** Northerners who favor slavery
- 124. **Dragoon:** applied to cavalry as they were, with the addition of firearms, doubly able to "set upon their foes" with great force.
- 125. **draughts:** checkers
- 126. **draw your furrow straighter:** tell the truth
- 127. **druthers:** preferences.
- 128. **duds:** clothing.



E

- 129. **egg on:** to urge someone to do something
- 130. **elephant:** battle, seeing the elephant is witnessing a battle
- 131. **embalmed beef:** government issued canned beef.
- 132. **essence of coffee:** form of instant coffee, found in paste form.

F

- 133. **Fairy Fleet:** Boats carrying trade between sides at Fredricksburg.

134. **Fair piece:** A daunting, sizeable, considerable, or long distance.
135. **Fanning:** Euphemism for whipping the horses
136. **Feeling mighty poorly:** Sick
137. **F'ers:** Fellows, compaions
138. **Fighting under the black flag:** Killing lice.
139. **Figure:** To suppose, consider, or plan on something.
140. **Finagle:** to manage by trickery or sharp practice; often applied to a card-sharp.
141. **Fit:** Fight
142. **Fit as a fiddle:** in good shape
143. **Fit to be tied:** angry
144. **Fitten:** Appropriate
145. **Fixen:** Intending
146. **Fixins:** The usual accompaniments; normally, though not necessarily, referring to meals. For example, "turkey and all the fixins" would refer to turkey with potatos, gravy, cranberry sauce, corn, pumpkin pie, and so on. Generally used in a complimentary way.
147. **Flicker:** Coward, as a verb "to retreat"
148. **Flim-flam:** Something that is untrue, false, or not to be believed, someone that is dishonest, tricky, or deceptive, though usually not cruel or dangerous
149. **Flux:** Diarrhea
150. **Forage:** to hunt for food, live off the land; also came to mean plundering enemy property for sustenance



151. **Forty Dead Men:** a full cartridge box, which usually held forty rounds
152. **French Leave:** to go absent without leave (AWOL)
153. **Fresh Fish:** new recruits
154. **Full chisel:** At full speed

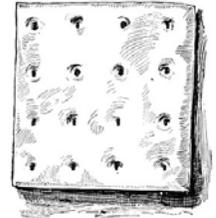
G

155. **Gallinippers:** Confederate term for insects, mosquitoes
156. **Galoot:** a guy, a workingman, an able-bodied lout.
157. **Get your dander up:** angry, irritated
158. **Georgia thumper:** Name for a large, yellow, non-flying grasshopper. Better known as the eastern lubber grasshopper
159. **Gig:** To spear or stab.
160. **Ginned Cotton:** Flower bread.
161. **Giving the vermin a parole:** Throwing away clothing infected with lice.
162. **Go Boil Your Shirt:** take a hike, get lost, bug off
163. **Goober/Goober Pea:** peanut.
164. **Goober digger:** A backwoodsman
165. **Goober grabber:** A Georgian
166. **Goobers:** Georgian troops
167. **Grab a Root:** eat a meal, especially a potato
168. **Grapevine:** Telegraph wire
169. **Gravel:** scurvy
170. **Graybacks:** Southern Soldiers or lice
171. **Gravel:** Condition caused by lack of green vegetables. (also Night Blindness)
172. **Great Scott!:** exclamation of surprise.

- 173. **Greenbacks:** money
- 174. **Grey Backs:** lice, also derogatory term for Confederate soldiers
- 175. **Grit:** courage, toughness

H

- 176. **Hackney:** A cab; a vehicle for hire
- 177. **Hankering:** A desire, wish, or craving to do, have, or experience something.
- 178. **Hard Case:** Tough guy
- 179. **Hard Knocks:** Beaten up, tough breaks
- 180. **Hardtack:** unleavened bread in the form of ¼ inch thick crackers issued by the army
- 181. **Haversack:** canvas bag about one foot square, which was slung over the shoulder and used to carry a soldier's rations when on the march
- 182. **Hayfoot, Strawfoot:** Command used to teach raw recruits difference between left and right (respectively).
- 183. **Heap:** A quantity of something, especially a large quantity.
- 184. **Hear tell:** Variant of "hear it told."
- 185. **High-falutin:** highbrow, fancy
- 186. **High jinks:** festivity, fun and frolic.
- 187. **Hobnob with:** to be on intimate terms with.
- 188. **Hoity-toity:** snobbish, high-falutin.
- 189. **Holler:** Valley
- 190. **Hominy:** Puffed, hull-less corn.
- 191. **Hoofing it:** Marching
- 192. **Hook or crook:** by any means available, by fair means or foul.
- 193. **Hop, step, jump:** Two-wheeled ambulance.
- 194. **Hoppytoad:** A toad.
- 195. **Horse Collar:** Blanket roll
- 196. **Horse Sense:** common sense, good judgment
- 197. **Hornets:** Bullets
- 198. **Hornswoggle:** to be cheated, outdone, or made a fool of..
- 199. **Hospital Rat:** someone who fakes illness to get out of duty
- 200. **Hot Shot:** Solid iron shot, heated in a furnace and fired at wooden vessels of war. Shot furnaces were found aboard ships and at coastal fortifications. The projectile would embed itself in the ship, smolder and then set the vessel on fire.
- 201. **Housewife:** sewing kit
- 202. **Huffed or huffy:** Angry; irritated; offended
- 203. **Humbug:** nonsense, a sham, a hoax
- 204. **Humbugged:** Out smarted
- 205. **Hunkey Dorey:** Great!



I

- 206. **If that don't beat all!:** An expression of amazement or wonder meaning.
- 207. **I heard it through the grapevine:** Hear the message through the telegraph wires
- 208. **Ignoramus:** an ignorant or stupid person.
- 209. **Iron Clad Possum:** Confederate term for An armadillo dinner.

210. **Inexpressibles:** Pants or trousers that is pronounced in mixed company.
 211. **Is all:** "That's all," often used at the end of a sentence to minimize, excuse, or downplay what was done.
 212. **I.W.:** Abbreviation for 'In for the War'.

J

213. **Jackanapes:** a scoundrel or impertinent rogue.
 214. **Jailbird:** Criminal
 215. **Jawing:** Talking, conversation.
 216. **Jeff Davis' Pets:** Rebel western troops' term for the Army of Northern Virginia.
 217. **Jenny Lind:** An early, four-wheeled buggy with a fixed roof and curtains for privacy.
 218. **Jiminy/by Jiminy:** a mild exclamation.
 219. **Jingo/byJingo!:** a mild expletive.
 220. **Jist:** Just
 221. **John Barleycorn:** beer
 222. **Johnnycake:** a corn meal cake, originally baked on hot stone.
 223. **Johnny-come-lately:** an upstart.
 224. **Johnny Reb:** Designation for any Confederate soldiers, especially one whose name is not know, especially privates.
 225. **Jonah:** Bad luck
 226. **Jot 'em down:** "Write them down."
 227. **Joy juice:** Liquor



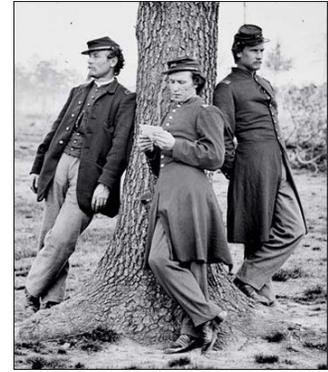
K

228. **Kangaroo court:** a mock court, or being tried on trivial or fanciful charges.
 229. **Keep your britches on!:** Do not be so impatient!"
 230. **Kibosh/put the kibosh on:** put an end to or squelch.
 231. **Kid:** A child pickpocket
 232. **Kid glove boys:** Poor unprofessional soldiers
 233. **Kin to:** Related to
 234. **Kit and caboodle:** all of it, the whole thing.
 235. **Knight of the Ribbons:** Nickname for a stage driver
 236. **Knock into a Cocked Hat:** to knock someone senseless or thoroughly shock him
 237. **Knuck:** A thief

L

238. **Land sakes:** A polite way of saying Lord sakes
 239. **Larking:** To take a person a larking or to go a larking is to play a kind of prank on someone that is similar to snipe hunting.
 240. **Larrapin':** Very good tasting applied to something really yummy.
 241. **Lasses:** Molasses
 242. **Lazy man's load:** A very large load carried in order to minimize the number of trips one must make.

243. **Lead pills:** Bullets
244. **Let 'er Rip:** let it happen, bring it on; go ahead and start
245. **Let Drive:** go ahead, do it
246. **Lickety split:** Very quickly, without delay
247. **Light Out:** leave in haste
248. **Likely:** serviceable, able-bodied
249. **Limb:** A polite way to say "leg"
250. **Lincolmites:** Lincoln supporters
251. **Little Coot:** Confederate
252. **Livermush:** A food similar to scrapple; found in parts of western North Carolina. Made from liver and other "left over parts" mixed with corn meal. Served fried with eggs and grits or in a sandwich or biscuit.
253. **Loaded for bear:** Can mean heavily armed, highly prepared, ready to burst into a fit of rage.
254. **Locofoco:** the first friction matches introduced in England and America around 1810, possibly meaning "crazy fire." From 1835-1900 the term referred to a member of the Democratic party.
255. **Long Sweetening:** Molasses
256. **Looky:** Term used to urge a companion to look
257. **Lucifer:** Match
258. **Lulu/ain't he, she, it a lula::** ain't that something!



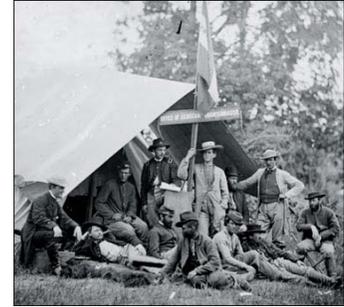
M

259. **Macadam:** A gravel-paved road
260. **Mannerable:** Polite
261. **Manure Spreaders:** Cavalry
262. **Mare's nest:** a mess or hopeless situation.
263. **Maverick:** originally an unbranded range animal.
264. **Mealy-mouthed:** one who is not straightforward or is hypocritical.
265. **Mess:** A large quantity.
266. **Might:** A quantity of something.
267. **Mighty:** Used as an intensifier like "very."
268. **Mollygrubbing:** To rest, lay about, recline, relax, and dawdle.
269. **Mon:** Money
270. **Mooch:** to wheedle or get without paying.
271. **Mooley:** to amble about.
272. **Mosey:** To walk in a casual, leisurely, or sauntering manner.
273. **Much obliged:** Used to indicate a condition of indebtedness or to express thanks.
274. **Muckety-muck/muck-a-muck/high muckety muck/ etc.:** mock title of dignity for a pompous person.
275. **Mudsill:** Yankee
276. **Muggins:** a scoundrel
277. **Mule:** Meat rations
278. **Mustered Out** – wry term meaning killed in action

N

279. **Nary:** Never
280. **Nearabout:** Almost

281. **Nigh:** Near
 282. **Night blindness:** Scurvy
 283. **No 'count:** " Of no account," i.e., shoddy, run-down, worthless.
 284. **Nokum Stiff:** Liquor
 285. **Not born in the woods to be scared by an owl:** Refers to one who is experienced and therefore unafraid.
 286. **Not by a jugful:** Not at all.
 287. **Notions:** A wide range of miscellaneous articles for sale.
 288. **Nullification:** Early proclamation by Southern States to declare null and void Federal laws within state boundaries
 289. **Nuss:** To hold or cuddle a child
 290. **Nuts for us boys:** Easy for us



O

291. **O.K.:** a generalized expression of affirmation, approval, assent.
 292. **Old Man River:** The Mississippi River.
 293. **Old Red Eye:** Liquor
 294. **On His Own Hook:** on one's own shrift, without orders
 295. **Opening the Ball:** starting the battle
 296. **Opine:** be of the opinion
 297. **Ornery:** Base, cantankerous, coarse, common, cranky, irritable, mean, and stubborn.
 298. **Out of kilter:** Out of alignment, misadjusted, disorganized, broken

P

299. **Paleface:** New recruits, fresh fish.
 300. **Pard:** Best buddy
 301. **Parlor Soldiers:** Poor soldiers
 302. **Parole:** Prisoners take an oath not to fight anymore and were released.
 303. **Partisan Rangers:** Civilian military units.
 304. **Patent Bureau:** Knapsack.
 305. **Peacock About:** strut around
 306. **Peaked:** pronounced peak-ed; weak or sickly
 307. **Peas on a trencher:** Breakfast call.
 308. **Pepperbox:** Pistol
 309. **Picket:** Sentries posted around a camp or bivouac to guard approaches
 310. **Piddlin':** Small or inferior
 311. **Pie eater:** Man from rural area.
 312. **Pig sticker:** Bayonet
 313. **Piney woods rooter:** Wild pig
 314. **Play Old Soldier:** pretend sickness to avoid combat
 315. **Played Out:** worn out, exhausted
 316. **Play off:** Shirk duty
 317. **Playing possum:** Pretending to be asleep, dead or laying low
 318. **Plug-ugly:** A Baltimore rowdy; any rowdy or ruffian.
 319. **Plunder:** personal belongings; baggage.
 320. **Podunk:** A way of disparagingly referring to small, isolated, or insignificant.

- 321. **Poke:** Bag
- 322. **Pone, cornpone:** Cornbread
- 323. **Pop a cap:** Shoot a gun
- 324. **Pop Skull:** Cheap whiskey
- 325. **Porch baby:** A child too small to be allowed to run free; one that must not be allowed to go beyond the porch.
- 326. **Possum:** A buddy or pal
- 327. **Privateers:** Letters of marque are given to privately owned ships, which are authorization to attack enemy vessels on the high seas.
- 328. **Pumpkin Rinds:** gold lieutenant's bars
- 329. **Puny feelin':** Sick
- 330. **Puny list:** Sick call
- 331. **Putting on style:** Putting on airs.

Q

- 332. **Quartermaster Hunter:** shot or shell that goes long over the lines and into the rear.
- 333. **Quick-step:** Diarrhea

R



- 334. **Rat:** A new cadet
- 335. **Reckon:** To guess or think
- 336. **Red Eye:** liquor
- 337. **Red tape:** the finicky and often exasperating procedures of bureaucrats in handling papers.
- 338. **Ride out on a rail:** To be forced to leave town
- 339. **Rigmarole:** long-winded gobbledygook.
- 340. **Right smart:** Great in quality, quantity, or number. "
- 341. **Rio:** Coffee.
- 342. **Road agent:** A criminal who robbed
- 343. **Roast Beef:** Noon Meal
- 344. **Robber's Row:** the place where sutlers set up to do business
- 345. **Rocks:** Money
- 346. **Row:** a fight

S

- 347. **Sacred soil:** Virginia, knee deep in the sacred soil is what Virginia is when it rains
- 348. **Salt Horse:** salted meat
- 349. **Sam Hill:** Euphemism for the devil (What in the Sam Hill...?)
- 350. **Sardine Box:** Cap box
- 351. **Sashay around:** Frolic
- 352. **Sawbones:** surgeon
- 353. **Scalwags:** A person who betrays important values or who has caved in under pressure to do the wrong thing. Southern Unionist
- 354. **Scarce as Hen's Teeth:** exceedingly rare or hard to find

355. **Secesh:** derogatory term for Confederates and Southerners: secessionists
356. **See The Elephant:** experience combat or other worldly events
357. **Shakes:** malaria
358. **Sham Fight:** Mock Battle.
359. **Shanks Mare:** on foot
360. **Sheet Iron Crackers:** hard tack
361. **Shirker:** A soldier who does not do his work or duty, lazy, coward
362. **Shoddy:** trashy, worthless. The term was applied to that well known inferior cloth used by unscrupulous suppliers during the American Civil War
363. **Shooting iron:** A gun
364. **Short-handle dog:** A bob-tailed dog.
365. **Shortsweetin':** Sugar
366. **Shot in the neck:** Drunk
367. **Shuck:** To remove the edible parts of something, such as shellfish or ears of corn, by stripping away or stripping them away from the inedible part.
368. **Sinkers:** Biscuits
369. **Sing Out:** call out, yell
370. **Skedaddle:** run away, escape
371. **Skillygaloo:** Hardtack soaked in water then fried in pork grease
372. **Skinner:** Primarily one who made a living skinning buffaloes but also meant a mule-driver.
373. **Skirmishin':** Picking lice out of clothing
374. **Slap your pappy:** To pat your stomach.
375. **Slouch Hat:** a wide-brimmed felt hat
376. **Smart aleck:** a wise guy (who sometimes out-smarts himself), a practical joker.
377. **Smile:** A drink; to take a drink.
378. **Smoked Yanks:** Confederate term for Union soldiers cooking over a fire.
379. **Snug as a Bug:** very comfortable
380. **SNY:** Supposed to mean "State of New York" since it was on many buckles of New York troops but more than one rebel wit said it really meant "Snot Nosed Yankee".
381. **Soaplock:** A rowdy. Named after a hairstyle worn by a rowdy: cut short behind and long in front and parted to fall below the ears on the side.
382. **Sockdologer:** A powerful punch or blow.
383. **Somebody's Darling:** comment when observing a dead soldier
384. **Southron:** A Southerner, from the way "Southern" is sometimes pronounced
385. **Sound on the goose:** Well-off; wealthy.
386. **Sour-milk:** Buttermilk
387. **Sour on:** To get sick of someone or something; to give up something out of disgust.
388. **Sparking:** courting a girl
389. **Spell:** For a time.
390. **Spondulix:** Money
391. **Stage:** The section of road between relays of animals, usually from ten to twelve miles
392. **Star route:** A mail route contracted to an individual or firm by the government
393. **Station:** Home of a stationmaster, stage driver or other employee
394. **Stragglers:** Soldiers who fall behind in a march, late-comers
395. **String:** A mount.
396. **Study on it:** Think about it



397. **Stump liquor:** Corn liquor
 398. **Sunday Soldier.** Poor or non-professional soldiers
 399. **Sutlers:** Businessmen, appointed by the service to be camp vendors.
 400. **Swamp cabbage:** The heart of the sable palmetto and is cooked like cabbage and seasoned with pork.
 401. **Swimmy-headed:** Disoriented, dizzy, confused.

T

402. **Take an Image:** have a photograph taken
 403. **Tar Water:** Liquor
 404. **Tarnation:** Used to indicate surprise, shock, displeasure, or censure. origin: Euphemism for "Damnation" (i.e., Hell). Example: "What in tarnation did you kids think you were doing?"
 405. **Teeth Dullers:** Another name for hardtack.
 406. **Tennessee or Virginia Quick Step:** diarrhea
 407. **That dog won't hunt:** That proposition (or argument) won't work.
 408. **Tight:** drunk



409. **To be mustered out:** To be killed in action.
 410. **To have brick in one's hat:** To be drunk
 411. **Toad stabber:** Sword or bayonet
 412. **Toad-strangler:** A very heavy rains; i.e., a rain so heavy that it could cause toads to drown, an amazing or intense thing.
 413. **Toady:** one who will do anything to ingratiate himself, a sycophant.
 414. **Toe the Mark:** do as told, follow orders
 415. **Tom and Jerry:** a hot grog of whiskey, milk or sugar water, and beaten eggs seasoned with nutmeg.

416. **Top Rail:** first class, top quality
 417. **Tore up:** Broken, damaged, non-functional.
 418. **Tote:** To carry
 419. **Tote the mail:** To run away quickly.
 420. **Tother:** The other
 421. **Traps:** Gear, equipment, belongings
 422. **Tree frogs:** US Sharpshooters
 423. **Tuckered Out:** exhausted
 424. **Tump:** To knock something over.

U

425. **Unmentionables:** Underwear
 426. **Unreconstructed:** Unrepentant Confederate who will not accept defeat.
 427. **Up side the head:** Strike on the side of the head.
 428. **Uppity:** arrogant
 429. **Used to could:** Used to be able to

V

430. **Veal:** Raw recruits

431. **Vidette:** a sentry same as Picket but usually on horseback
 432. **Virginia fence:** A staggering drunk was said to make this zig-zagging motion when he walked. Also it meant anyone or anything that meanders.
 433. **Vittles:** Food

W

434. **Wake snakes:** To raise a ruckus
 435. **Wag:** Joker
 436. **Wallpapered:** drunk
 437. **Web Feet:** Term cavalry had for infantry.
 438. **What the dickens:** mild exclamation "what the devil."
 439. **Whip one's weight in wild cats:** To defeat a powerful opponent
 440. **Whipped:** beaten
 441. **Whitewash:** To gloss over or hide one's faults or shortcomings
 442. **Widder:** Widow
 443. **Worm castles:** Hardtack
 444. **Worth a Goober:** Something that amounts to a lot.
 445. **Wrathy –** angry

X

Y

446. **Yahoo:** A boorish, brutish, uncouth, uncultured person or, more generally, any person referred to in a disparaging manner
 447. **Yaller Dog:** A cowardly person, a staff officer or courier in the Confederate army.
 448. **Yamacraw:** A person of "poor character" or "of no good."
 449. **Yankeedom:** A disparaging term for the North.
 450. **Yankee Brains:** Horse manure
 451. **Yankee notions:** Things made in New England made widely known by traveling Yankee peddlers
 452. **Yonder:** There
 453. **Young'un:** "Young one;" i.e., a child or young adult. Example: "Them young'uns are wild!"
 454. **Your druthers is my ruthers:** "Your preferences are mine," "We agree," "Your wish is my command"

Z

455. **Zu Zu:** Zouaves, soldiers whose units wore colorful uniforms in a flamboyant French style with baggy trousers, known for bravery and valor



Sources:

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