

## How the Union avenged Fort Sumter



Union brought great suffering on its own people

This primary document, published about halfway through Lincoln's war against the Southern people, was written for a Northern audience and speaks of the horrible loss of blood and treasure as well as the negative transforming power of invasion and war:

**“One hundred and fifty thousand more of our men have died of disease and wounds, than of theirs... We have spent almost two thousand million more of money than they have spent. We have made two hundred thousand of our women widows. We have made one million of our children fatherless. We have destroyed the Constitution of our country. We have brought the ferocious savagery of war into every corner of society. We have demoralized our pulpits, so that our very religion is a source of immorality and blood.... There is a corpse in every family. The angel of death sits in every door. The devil has removed from Tartarus to Washington. We pretend that we are punishing the rebels, but they are punishing us. We pretend that we are restoring the Union, but we are destroying it... Selling our souls to the devil and taking Lincoln & Co.’s promise to pay. We have it in greenbacks and blood. This is the way we are “revenging Sumpter [sic].”**

-The Old Guard Volume 0001 Issue 5 (May 1863) How We Are Revenging Sumpter [pp.115-116]

## HOW WE ARE REVENGING SUMPTER.

The following are the reported casualties of this war from its beginning to January 1st, 1863:

Federals killed,	43,874
"    wounded,	97,029
"    died of disease and wounds,	250,000
"    made prisoners,	68,218
Total,	459,374
Confederates killed,	20,893
"    wounded,	59,915
"    died from disease and wounds,	120,000
"    made prisoners,	22,169
Total,	222,677

They have killed twenty-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-four more of our men than we have of theirs.

They have wounded, not mortally, thirty-nine thousand, four hundred and fourteen more of our men than we have of theirs.

One hundred and fifty thousand more of our men have died of disease and wounds, than of theirs.

They have made prisoners of forty-six thousand more of our men than we have of theirs.

Our total casualties are two hundred and thirty-seven thousand, two hundred and ninety-seven more than theirs—that is, our casualties have been fourteen thousand more than as much again as theirs.

This is the way we have "revenged the firing on Fort Sumpter."

But this is not all. We have spent almost *two thousand million* more of money than they have spent.

We have made two hundred thousand of our women widows.

We have made one million of children fatherless.

We have destroyed the Constitution of our country.

We have brought the ferocious savagery of war into every corner of society.

We have demoralized our pulpits, so that our very religion is a source of immorality and blood.

Instead of being servants of Christ, our ministers are servants of Satan.

The land is full of contractors, thieves, provost-marshals, and a thousand other tools of illegal and despotic power, as Egypt was of vermin in the days of the Pharaohs.

We are rapidly degenerating in every thing that exalts a nation.

Our civilization is perishing.

We are swiftly drifting into inevitable civil war here in the North.

We are turning our homes into charnel houses.

There is a corpse in every family.

The angel of death sits in every door.

The devil has removed from Tartarus to Washington.

We pretend that we are punishing the rebels, but they are punishing us.

We pretend that we are restoring the Union, but we are destroying it.

We pretend that we are enforcing the laws, but we are only catching negroes.

That is the way we are "revenging Sumpter."

Selling our souls to the devil and taking Lincoln & Co.'s *promise to pay*. We have it in greenbacks and blood.

That is the way we are "revenging Sumpter."