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N. B. Forrest,
Atis. Tenn

Rebellion.

Filed July 19, 1865.

Lt. Gen Rebel Army.

Forwarded by Gen. Sharkey.

Pardoned by order of the
President July 17, 1868

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Received from
Department of Justice
December 18, 1894.
R. & P. 402935.

No.

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

I, *N. B. Forrest* do solemnly swear (or affirm,) in the presence of Almighty God, that I will hereafter faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the **UNITED STATES**, and the union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by, and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves. So help me God.

N. B. Forrest

[L. S.] Sworn to and subscribed before me this *1st* day of *July* 1865.

I CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of an oath sworn to and subscribed before me this *1st* day of *July* A. D., 1865.

Wm E Young
 At the War Genl's Office

(7107)

Application of
M. B. Forrest
for Amnesty

Received from
Department of Justice
December 18, 1904.
R. & P. 402985.

113
To his Excellency - The Presi-
dent of the United States.

The Undersigned, N. B. Forrest, has the honor to state, that in the war, which has just closed he was a soldier and officer in the army of the belligerent known as the Confederate States, and before the termination of the war obtained the rank of Lieutenant General, and is therefore debarred from the rights and privileges of the general amnesty offered in the proclamation of your Excellency bearing date the 29th day of May 1865. Your Petitioner therefore makes this application for special amnesty. Your Petitioner is now and has been since the month of February 1861, a citizen of the State of Mississippi. Prior to that time your Petitioner had been a citizen of the State of Tennessee. In the war, which has just ended your Petitioner only discharged what in conscience he believed to be his duty in the then existing state of affairs, by enlisting in

as a private soldier
 in the army of the Confederate States;
 and as the war has ended, he is now
 equally anxious to discharge his
 duty to his Country - by submitting
 to her laws, and placing himself
 in such a situation, as will en-
 able him fully to discharge the
 duties of a citizen - with fidelity
 to the land of his birth. The under-
 signed has never held political or
 civil office of any kind, but as a
 private citizen, while residing
 in Tennessee, he participated active-
 ly in the political contests of the
 day, belonging to that organiza-
 tion - known as the State rights
 Democratic party, and as such por-
 tioned - the undersigned voted in 1860
 for Wm. Breckenridge for President
 in common with the Democrats of
 Tennessee. The natural and logical
 conclusion, as ^{the} the result of the
 doctrines of his party, led to secession
 as a rightful remedy for impaired
 State rights, and as a States rights
 man, ^{he} felt, that he owed his first
 allegiance to his State, and when
 she chose to claim his services
 as a soldier, he obeyed her call.

1³

In June 1861. I entered the service of the Confederate States as a private soldier, and I made the best fight. ~~He~~ ^{we} could for the cause - which ~~we~~ ^{we} had espoused. I endeavored to discharge my whole duty as a soldier according to the rules of civilized warfare - but I did no more. As long as the Confederate States army, in which I was an officer, remained in the field, I fought the one who were opposed to it - in arms - whenever and wherever I could find them - believing that in so doing - I did my duty as a man and a soldier. When that army determined to surrender - I acquiesced in the fate of war - acknowledged my self whipped - and withdrew to my plantation, willing and anxious to discharge my duties as a citizen - whatever they might be - and I counselled both publicly and privately - all soldiers under my command to pursue the same course - to lay aside all ideas of "guerrilla" warfare - and to return at once to the peaceful

associations of citizens - relying upon the Government - which in the past had protected them - to shield them in the future.

Under the principles - which had been taught me - by the leaders of the Democratic party - and to whom - I had been accustomed to look up - I don't feel - that morally - however in strict law it may be ruled - I have been guilty of treason in yielding my allegiance to my State - ~~and~~ The fact - that a difference has been made between seceders coming from seceding states and those which had not seceded - is an admission - that the circumstances - surrounding the seceder make a difference in his moral guilt - But the arbitrament of arms having established the right and power of the United States to maintain the political integrity of the Union against the rights of the States to secede - I yielded to inevitable destiny - and desire in sincerity and good faith to be restored to all my rights as a citizen in the Union - fully determined to yield a loyal allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the United

States - and to protect and defend
 the same - against all foes - foreign
 and domestic. ~~and~~ In this connection
 I am advised - that it is not im-
 proper to state - that as a believer
 in what is known as the "Know
 nothing doctrine" I have announced - and
 do now - that in the event of a
 foreign war - involving that ques-
 tion - I have always determined to
 draw my sword in behalf of my
 country - against those foreign
 potentates - who - taking advantage
 of our civil feuds - have sought to
 establish institutions dangerous
 alike to republicanism and the
 diffusion of American principles.
 In conclusion - I beg leave to re-
 present - that in the struggle - which
 has just ~~been~~ passed - I have been
 no political leader - but a private
 citizen - taught to believe in the
 doctrine of States rights - and whose
 duty it was - as a citizen to fight
 for his faith - which I did - to the
 best of my ability - honorably
 and fairly - and always in accor-
 dance with the usages of civil-
 ized and Christian warfare -

1^o

2^d. That I was not a leader in this rebellion - but entered it - as a private soldier in the month of June 1861.

3^d. I acknowledge - that I have been fairly whipped. and am now anxious to discharge all my duties as a citizen of the United States - and to that end. I ask - that an amnesty may be granted me - for what I have done in the past - in order - that I may be enabled ~~to do so~~ hereafter to uphold and maintain in good faith - the Constitution and laws of my Country -

A. B. Garrison



OFFICE OF

Tate, Gill & Able,

278 FRONT ROW.

Memphis, July 9th 1866

Mr R C Brinkley, Esq
Washington City
D C

I tried all day at Nashville to telegraph you at Nashville (Sunday) but failed, left there on Monday but found on my arrival at Huntville I was compelled to lay over and make a number of changes on the road and almost totally derange it, hence I did not get home until Friday, I rec^d information on my arrival here that the Gov would not go to New York until the last of this month, and now Brinkley I want to make a request of you, I want you to find out what policy is going to be pursued towards General Forrest, if he is going to be let alone, all right, he is as legal as any man in this Govt, he would raise Port Johnson a division of good troops, as there is in the world in 30 days notice to fight England France Mexico or any body else that Johnson would tell him to fight, he has always been a bloody Democrat, has voted for Johnson

on all occasions is now his friend
personally as well as politically, and
is ready to serve the Govt or administration
in any and all things, and is and can do
as much as any man to keep matters
quiet and peaceable in this country,
If he is not to be allowed to remain at
home quietly, then find out whether
he can have a pass to leave the
Country, His friends are very anxious
about him, and I hope you will be
able to find out something definite
about his case, and let me hear from
you.

Very sincerely
Yours,
Sam. J. Lee

Col. Wright River
Executive Mansion

July 16. Recd July 17, 1868

The President directs the
pardon of N. B. Forrest

Received from
Department of Justice
December 18, 1894.
R. & P. 402985.

Executive Mansion,

Washington, D.C. July 16th 1868

Sir

I am directed by
the President to request
that you will please be
kind to (Annually) pardon
in the case of N. B. Forrest
of Tenn. The papers are
on file in your Dept.

Yours truly
Abigail M. ...
Secy.

To

Mr. O. H. Browning
Adj. Atty General.

Executive Mansion,

Washington, D. C. Sept. 24th 1865

Sir

I am directed by
the President to request that you
will please to forward to this office
(by mail) the application and
other papers recommending R. B. Farnest
of Tennessee for pardon. (Amnesty)

With Respects

Your Obedt^l

Abigail Miller

To
Sey-

Hon^{ble} Wm. M. Evarts

Atty Gen