

He essentially ceased most overt political activity until 1876. Like many other elite Southerners, Hampton gave *tacit* support to the Ku Klux Klan, which had independent chapters of insurgents arising throughout the South. He helped raise money for legal defense funds after the Federal government started to enforce anti-Klan legislation of 1870 and 1871 to suppress the violence of its members against freedmen and white Republicans. He was not known to have active involvement within the organization.<sup>[8]</sup> Hampton supported Matthew Calbraith Butler in the Union Reform campaign of 1870.

Other insurgent groups rapidly formed to replace the KKK. In South Carolina and other states, groups of men calling themselves "rifle clubs" formed to act as law enforcement in the years after the war. In 1876, an estimated 20,000 men in South Carolina were members of rifle clubs in the state.<sup>[9]</sup> Political campaigns were increasingly violent as whites tried to suppress black voting.

Beginning in the mid-1870s, the Democratic paramilitary group known as the Red Shirts developed chapters in most South Carolina counties (they had originated in Mississippi), and were similar to rifle clubs. These groups acted as "the military arm of the Democratic Party."<sup>[10]</sup> They marched in parades during campaigns, openly disrupted Republican meetings, and worked to suppress black voting in the state by violence and intimidation.<sup>[11]</sup> By 1876, there were estimated to be 20,000 men who were members of rifle clubs in the state.<sup>[9]</sup>

Hampton opposed the Radical Republicans' Reconstruction policies in the South. He re-entered South Carolina politics in 1876, running in opposition to those policies. Hampton, a Democrat, ran against Republican incumbent governor Daniel Henry Chamberlain.

Hampton used Grace Peixotto's "Big Brick House," a prominent brothel located at 11 Fulton Street in Charleston, to assure complete privacy for the Red Shirts' meetings; it mainly served as campaign headquarters.<sup>[12]</sup> The 1876 South Carolina gubernatorial election is thought to be the bloodiest in the history of the state. The Red Shirts had used violence in every county to suppress black Republican voting. "An anti-Reconstruction historian later estimated that 150 Negroes were murdered in South Carolina during the campaign."<sup>[13]</sup>

Both parties claimed victory. For more than six months, there were two legislatures in the state, both claiming to be authentic. Eventually, the South Carolina Supreme Court ruled that Hampton was the winner of the election. The election of the first Democratic governor in South Carolina since the end of the Civil War. The national election of Rutherford B. Hayes as President was settled by a compromise among Democrats, by which the national party agreed to end formally the Reconstruction era. In 1877 Hayes ordered the withdrawal of federal troops from the South, essentially leaving freedmen to deal with whites on their own.

After the election, Hampton became known as the "Savior of South Carolina," and among those Democrats elected who were called "Redeemers." He was re-elected in 1878; the Red Shirts gave support but less violence was required.<sup>[14]</sup> Two days later, he was thrown from a mule while deer hunting and broke his right leg. Several weeks later, his right leg was amputated due to complications arising from this injury.

Despite refusing to announce his candidacy for the Senate, Hampton was elected to the United States Senate by the General Assembly on the same day as his leg was amputated. He resigned from the governorship to serve two terms in the Senate, until 1891. He was among Bourbon Democrats who appealed to some freedmen in support of his win.<sup>[14]</sup> John L. M. Irby won the seat in the state elections of 1890.

## Later years

From 1893 to 1897, Hampton served as United States Railroad Commissioner, appointed by President Grover Cleveland. In 1899, his home in Columbia, was destroyed by fire. An elderly man, he then had limited funds and few means to find a new home. Over his strong protests, a group of friends raised enough funds to build him one.

He was a hereditary member of the South Carolina Society of the Cincinnati.

## Personal life

In 1838, Hampton married Margaret Preston (1818-1852). Their children were: Wade Hampton IV (1840-1879), Thomas Preston Hampton (1843-1864, killed in the war), Sarah Buchanan Hampton (1845-1886), John Preston Hampton (1846-1847), and Harriet Flud Hampton (1848-1853).

In 1858, Hampton III married Mary Singleton McDuffie (1830-1874). Their children were: George McDuffie Hampton (1859-1917), Mary Singleton "Daisy" Hampton (1861-1934), Alfred Hampton (1863-1942), and Catherine Fisher Hampton (born and died 1867)

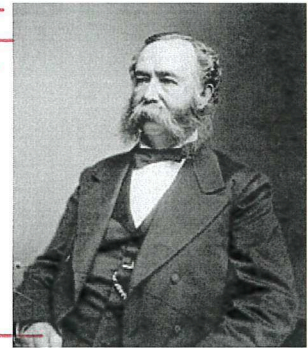
In 1890, Hampton's niece Caroline, an operating room nurse, married William Halsted, later known as the "father of American surgery" for his contributions. He had developed the surgical glove to try to protect Caroline's skin from the harsh surgical sterilization chemicals.<sup>[15]</sup>

Wade Hampton died in Columbia. He is buried there in Trinity Cathedral Churchyard.

## Legacy and honors

Statues of him were erected in the South Carolina State House building and in the United States Capitol. An equestrian statue by Frederick W. Ruckstull was erected on the grounds of the S.C. state capitol in Columbia, in 1906.<sup>[16]</sup>

In the wake of the June 17, 2015, massacre at the Charleston Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church by white supremacist Dylann Roof, there was a push to remove Confederate symbols in the United States Capitol, including the Hampton statue.<sup>[17]</sup> Congressional representatives voted to retain the statues.<sup>[18]</sup>



Wade Hampton

WIKIPEDIA

# Wade Hampton III

**Wade Hampton III** (March 28, 1818 – April 11, 1902) was a Confederate States of America military officer during the American Civil War and politician from South Carolina. He came from a wealthy planter family, and shortly before the war he was one of the largest collectors of slaves in the Southeast as well as a state legislator. During the American Civil War, he served in the Confederate cavalry, where he reached the rank of lieutenant general.

Following the war, he served as a Democratic Party politician in his home state. Near the end of Reconstruction, Hampton was elected as the 77th Governor of South Carolina, serving 1876-1879, and later was elected as a U.S. Senator. His campaign as governor was marked by extensive violence by the Red Shirts, a paramilitary group that served the Democratic Party by disrupting elections and suppressing black voting in the state. They contributed to the Democrats regaining control of the state government in this period.

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- Civil War
- Postwar years
- Later years
- Personal life
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## Early life and career



The Col. William Rhett House, 54 Hasell St., Charleston, South Carolina, the birthplace of Wade Hampton III

Wade Hampton III was born in 1818 at 54 Hasell St. in Charleston, South Carolina, the eldest son of Wade Hampton II (1791–1858), known as "Colonel Wade Hampton", and Ann (née Fitzsimmons) Hampton. His mother was from a wealthy family in Charleston.<sup>[1]</sup> After the War of 1812, his father had built his own fortune on land speculation in the Southeast.

The senior Hampton was an officer of dragoons in the War of 1812, and an aide to General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans. The boy was the grandson of Wade Hampton (1754–1835), lieutenant colonel of cavalry in the American War of Independence, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and brigadier general in the War of 1812. Wade III's uncle by marriage, James Henry Hammond, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and as Governor of South Carolina. In the late 1850s he was elected to the South Carolina Senate.

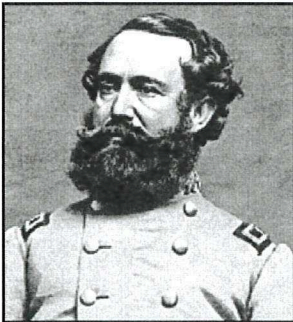
Wade Hampton III grew up in a wealthy planter family, receiving private instruction. He had four younger sisters. His was an active outdoor life; he rode horses and hunted, especially at his family's North Carolina summer retreat, High Hampton.<sup>[2]</sup> The youth was known for taking hunting trips alone into the woods, hunting American black bears with only a knife. Some accounts credit him with killing as many as 80 bears.<sup>[3]</sup>

In 1836 Hampton graduated from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina), and was trained for the law, although he never practiced. His father assigned certain plantations to him to manage in South Carolina and Mississippi.<sup>[1]</sup> The younger man also became active in Democratic state politics.

He was elected to the South Carolina General Assembly in 1852 and served as a state Senator from 1858 to 1861. After Hampton's father died in 1858, the son inherited his vast fortune, the plantations, and his slaves.

## Civil War

### Wade Hampton III



Wade Hampton during the Civil War

#### United States Senator from South Carolina

##### In office

March 4, 1879 – March 3, 1891

**Preceded by** John J. Patterson

**Succeeded by** John L. M. Irby

#### 77th Governor of South Carolina

##### In office

December 14, 1876 – February 26, 1879

**Lieutenant** William Dunlap Simpson

**Preceded by** Daniel Henry Chamberlain

**Succeeded by** William Dunlap Simpson

#### Member of the South Carolina Senate from Richland District

##### In office

November 22, 1858 – October 8, 1861

**Preceded by** John Smith Preston

**Succeeded by** Edward John Arthur

#### Member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from Richland District

##### In office

November 22, 1852 – November 22, 1858

##### Personal details

**Born** March 28, 1818 Charleston, South Carolina

**Died** April 11, 1902 (aged 84) Columbia, South Carolina

**Political party** Democratic

**Alma mater**



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# Wade Hampton

CONFEDERATE GENERAL

WRITTEN BY: The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica

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**Wade Hampton**, (born March 28, 1818, [Charleston](#), S.C., U.S.—died April 11, 1902, [Columbia](#), S.C.), Confederate war hero during the [American Civil War](#) who restored Southern white rule to [South Carolina](#) following Radical [Reconstruction](#).

Born into an aristocratic plantation family, [Hampton](#) graduated from [South Carolina College](#) in 1836 and studied law. He never practiced, however, instead devoting himself to the management of his family's landholdings in [Mississippi](#) and South Carolina.

From 1852 to 1861 Hampton served in the South Carolina legislature. He consistently upheld a conservative position on slavery and secession. When the South seceded, Hampton gave unstintingly of himself and his fortune to the [Confederacy](#). Though lacking military experience, he organized and commanded "Hampton's Legion" of South Carolina troops. He rose from colonel to lieutenant [general](#) and saw combat in many key battles. He served as second in command to General J.E.B. Stuart and, after Stuart's death, led the [cavalry](#) corps. Wounded three times, he survived to become a military hero to the defeated South and a symbol of the nobility and gallantry of the "Lost Cause."

Hampton backed Pres. [Andrew Johnson's](#) plans for Reconstruction and sought reconciliation between North and South. But with the imposition of Radical policies, Hampton took the lead in South Carolina in the fight to restore [white supremacy](#). With the Republicans firmly in control from 1868 to 1876, however, he devoted himself primarily to restoring his greatly depleted fortune. In 1876 he campaigned vigorously as the Democratic candidate for governor. His triumph was largely attributable to systematic efforts by his backers to prevent blacks from voting.

Reelected in 1878, Hampton resigned the following year when elected to the U.S. [Senate](#). He served until 1891, defeated for reelection the previous year by "Pitchfork Ben" Tillman. The transition from Hampton to Tillman



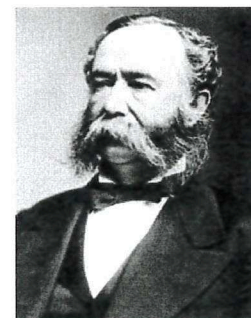
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## Wade Hampton

CONFEDERATE GENERAL



### BORN

March 28, 1818  
Charleston, South Carolina

### DIED

April 11, 1902 (aged 84)  
Columbia, South Carolina

### TITLE / OFFICE

Senate, United States (1879-  
1891)  
Governor, South Carolina  
(1876-1879) X

### POLITICAL AFFILIATION

# Battle of Vienna, Virginia

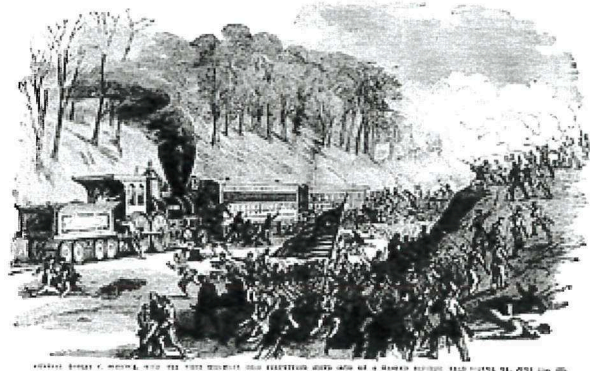
**The Battle of Vienna, Virginia** was a minor engagement between Union and Confederate forces on June 17, 1861, during the early days of the American Civil War.

The Union was trying to protect the areas of Virginia opposite Washington, D.C., and established a camp at Vienna, at the end of a 15-mile railroad to Alexandria. As Union Brig. Gen. Robert C. Schenck was transporting the 1st Ohio Infantry to Vienna by train, they were overheard by Confederate scouts led by Colonel Maxcy Gregg, who set up an ambush. They hit the train with two cannon shots, inflicting casualties of eight killed and four wounded, before the Union men escaped into the woods. The engineer had fled with the locomotive, so the Union force had to retreat on foot. The Confederates briefly attempted a pursuit in the dark, but it was called off.



Compared with later operations, the battle involved only small numbers, with the Union fielding 274 infantry, and the Confederates about 750 of infantry, cavalry and artillery. But it was widely reported by an eager press, and it worried the government, whose 90-day regiments were due to be disbanded. It was the first case of troop movement by train in the Civil War.

## Battle of Vienna, Virginia

## Part of the American Civil War



1st Ohio Infantry in action at Vienna, Virginia  
June 17, 1861

<b>Date</b>	June 17, 1861
<b>Location</b>	Vienna, Virginia Fairfax County, Virginia
<b>Result</b>	Confederate Victory
<b>Belligerents</b>	
 United States (Union)	 CSA (Confederacy)
<b>Commanders and leaders</b>	
Irvin McDowell Robert C. Schenck	P. G. T. Beauregard Maxcy Gregg
<b>Strength</b>	
274	750
<b>Casualties and losses</b>	
8 killed 4 wounded	none reported



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## Background

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In the early morning of May 24, 1861, the day after the secession of Virginia from the Union was ratified by popular vote, Union forces occupied Alexandria, Virginia and Arlington, Virginia, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. Union troops occupied the area up to distances of about 5 miles (8.0 km) from the river.<sup>[1]</sup> On June 1, 1861, a small U. S. Regular Army patrol on a scout as far as 8 miles (13 km) from their post at Camp Union in Falls Church, Virginia rode into Fairfax Court House, Virginia and fought a small and brief battle with part of a company of Virginia militia (soon to be Confederate Army infantry) at the Battle of Fairfax Court House (June 1861).<sup>[2]</sup> The patrol brought back to the Union Army commanders an exaggerated estimate of Confederate strength at Fairfax Court House. Together with an even smaller affair the same night at a Union outpost in Arlington, the Battle of Arlington Mills,<sup>[2]</sup> the Fairfax Court House engagement made Union commanders hesitate to extend their bridgehead into Virginia.<sup>[3][4][5]</sup>

On June 16, 1861, a Union force of Connecticut infantry under Brig. Gen. Daniel Tyler rode over about 17 miles (27 km) of the Alexandria, Loudon and Hampshire Railroad line between Alexandria, Virginia and two miles (3 km) past Vienna, Virginia. They reported the line clear, although one soldier had been wounded by a shot from ambush.<sup>[6]</sup> Confederate forces were in the area, however, and it was apparent to Union Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell who was in charge of the department that the railroad would not remain safe without a guard force, especially because he had received information that the Confederates planned to obstruct it.<sup>[7][8]</sup> On June 17, 1861, McDowell sent Brig. Gen. Schenck with the 1st Ohio Infantry under the immediate command of Col. Alexander McDowell McCook<sup>[9]</sup> to expand the Union position in Fairfax County.<sup>[5]</sup> Schenck took six companies over the Alexandria, Loudon and Hampshire Railroad line, dropping off detachments to guard railroad bridges between Alexandria, Virginia and Vienna, Virginia. As the train approached Vienna, about 4 miles (6.4 km) north of Fairfax Court House and 15 miles (24 km) from Alexandria, 271 officers and men remained with the train.<sup>[9][10][11][12]</sup>

On the same day, Confederate Col. Gregg took the 6-month 1st South Carolina Infantry Regiment, about 575 men, two companies of cavalymen (about 140 men) and a company of artillery with two artillery pieces (35 men), about 750 men in total, on a scouting mission from Fairfax Court House toward the Potomac River.<sup>[5][7][12][13]</sup> On their return trip, at about 6:00 p.m., the Confederates heard the train whistle in the distance. Gregg moved his artillery pieces to a curve in the railroad line between the present locations of Park and

Tapawingo Streets in Vienna and placed his men around the guns.<sup>[5][14][15]</sup> Seeing this disposition, an elderly local Union sympathizer ran down the tracks to warn the approaching train of the hidden Confederate force. The Union officers mostly ignored his warning and the train continued down the track.<sup>[5]</sup> In response to the warning, an officer was placed on the forward car as a lookout.<sup>[16]</sup>

## Battle

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The Union soldiers were riding open gondola or platform cars as the train backed down the track toward Vienna.<sup>[5]</sup> As the train rounded the curve, one of the men spotted some Confederate cavalymen on a nearby hill. As the Ohio soldiers prepared to shoot at the horsemen, the Confederates fired their cannons from their hiding place around the curve. The Union force suffered several casualties but were spared from incurring even more by the slightly high initial cannon shots and by quickly jumping from the slow-moving train and either running into nearby woods or moving into protected positions near the cars.<sup>[16]</sup>

Schenck ordered Lieutenant William H. Raynor to go back to the engine and have the engineer take the train out of range in the other direction. Schenck quickly followed Raynor. Raynor had to help loosen the brakes. Because the brakeman had uncoupled most of the cars, the engineer left them. He did not stop for the Union soldiers to catch up but continued all the way back to Alexandria. Schenck now had no means of communication and had to have the wounded men carried back to their camp in blankets by soldiers on foot. The regiment's medical supplies and instruments had been left on the train.<sup>[16]</sup>

Many of the Union infantrymen took shelter behind the cars and tried to return fire against the Confederate force amid a confusion of conflicting orders.<sup>[16]</sup> McCook reorganized many of them in the woods.<sup>[17]</sup> The two forces were slightly out of effective musket range and few shots were taken by either side.

As darkness fell, the Union force was able to retreat and to elude Confederate cavalry pursuers in the broken terrain. The Confederate pursuit also was apparently called off early due to apprehension that the Union force might be only the advance of a larger body of troops and because the Confederate force was supposed to return to their post that night.<sup>[17][18]</sup> Confederates took such supplies and equipment as were left behind and burned a passenger car and five platform cars that had been left behind.<sup>[18][19]</sup> When the Union commanders at Arlington got word of the attack, they sent wagons to bring back the wounded and the dead but these did not reach the location of the fighting. The next day, a Union sympathizer picked up the bodies of six of the Ohio men and brought them into the Union camp.<sup>[19]</sup>

## Aftermath

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The Union force suffered casualties of eight soldiers killed and four wounded.<sup>[14][16][18]</sup> The Confederates reported no casualties.

The Union officers were criticized for not sending skirmishers in front of the train which had moved slowly along the track and for disregarding the warning given to them by the local Union sympathizer.<sup>[20]</sup> The Battle of Vienna followed the Union defeat at the Battle of Big Bethel only a week earlier and historian William C. Davis noted that "the press were much agitated by the minor repulse at Vienna on June 17, and the people were beginning to ask when the Federals would gain some victories."<sup>[21]</sup>