

George W. Fisher, Lieutenant, Co. K, 37th GA Infantry, CSA

- 1829 (abt)George Washington Fisher was born to Charles and Mary Fisher in Georgia.
- 1840 The US Federal Census enumerated in Talbot County, GA showed a ten-year-old George Fisher living with his parents and four siblings. The Fisher family owned 43 enslaved people.
- 1850 October 5: The US Federal Census enumerated in Muscogee, GA showed a twenty-one-year-old George was living with his parents, Charles and Mary Fisher, along with his older brother, Charles, and younger sister Martha. George's father, Charles, and George were both listed as planters. Charles was worth \$24,000 and owned 79 enslaved people.
- 1851 June 5: George W. Fisher married Frances A. Wimberly in Muscogee, Georgia.
- 1860 July 18: The Federal Census was enumerated in Chattahoochee, GA showed a twenty-nine-year-old George Fisher was living with his wife, Francis, and three children: Ella, eight; Chas, four; and George, two. George Sr. was listed as a farmer and was worth \$32,400 and owned twenty-two enslaved people.
- 1862 March 26: George Washington Fisher enlisted as a private into Co. H of the 3rd GA Infantry, for three years or the war in Columbus, Muscogee County, GA.

April 22: George Washington Fisher was elected 2nd Brevet Lieutenant, Co. H, 3rd GA Infantry.

June 27: A very interesting letter printed in the Augusta Chronicle was written by Charles Fisher's slave Lewis Boyer. We can gather from his letter that he was taken off to war as a body servant to George Fisher, was captured and briefly in prison. He was then released and was put to work serving an US Army officer. Letter's like this are rare and amazing, therefore it is being included in this biography. The introduction to the letter I am also including, as it misses Lewis' intent. It was published to discourage enslaved people in the South from running away. Lewis' intent was to keep his wife and children home and safe till he could get home to them again.

I enclose for publication a letter written by a negro, the property of Chas. Fisher, Sr., of Chattahoochee City, to his wife. The circumstances are these: He was hired by a mess in our company as a cook, and came on with us from Columbus. Being a shrewd fellow, he managed to give our pickets the go-by at the Gap, and went over to the Yankees at Cumberland Ford. A day or two since a flag of truce came through and brought this letter, which, I trust, will amuse your readers and afford reasonable advice to the colored population.

LETTER.

CUMBERLAND GAP, June 27, 1862.

MY DEAR SARAH: I have requested my master to write to you, and inform you that I am well, and now employed here. I am waiting on one of the officers of Gen. George Morgan's staff at this place. While I was employed at the Gap, by Lieut. George Fisher, I was picked up by the pickets of the Federal army, and carried to Cumberland Ford. After remaining in the Provost prison one day, I was employed by the officer then acting Provost Marshal, to wait upon him. He has treated me kindly so far, although he has the reputation of being a stern and severe man. I am doing quite well. I am very anxious about you, my little boy, and Nancy. I do hope you will be able to send me word or write to me, how you are all doing, and that I may be able to hear that you are well and happy.

I long to come home and see you. I could not leave here at this time, if I should try, as the pickets and guards of this army extend for miles in every direction. Yesterday I took my master's horse out to pasture, and had to slip quite near the camp, as the guards would not let me pass. I do not expect to be able to come home until the war is ended. Every body about here, white and black, have to get a pass to leave camp. I would much like to come and see you. I love you more and more every day. I think of you all the time,

and more every day. I think of you all the time, but still I am quite unable to come to you. As soon as I can safely come home, I will start at once. Give my respects to old master Charles Fisher, young master Charlie, Charles and Francis. Remember me kindly to all the boys and girls. Tell them I remember them with much kindness and affection. I forgot to mention Mrs. Fisher and master George. I intend to get some pretty things to bring home to you. I especially enjoin you all to stay at home. Do not try to run away and leave home; you are better off where you are than I am here.

You are all amongst those whom you know, and have a regard for you, and here you would know nobody and everybody is too busy to attend to the affairs of the poor black man or woman, and you don't know the ways of these people. I have been very kindly treated here, but still this is not home. I have seen much of the people and the army here, and many things I do not understand. When I get home I will tell you all about the wonderful things I have seen. I hope you will try and send me a letter or word. My master says if a letter was sent to master George, it might be sent here with some of the letters which are permitted to pass with a flag of truce. I am sure master George would do what he could to send it on to me. Remember me always.

Your husband, Lewis Boyer.

Nov – Dec: Company Muster Roll: Present

1864: November 1: The 37th Regiment of GA Volunteers, Tyler's Brigade, Bate's Division, Cheatham's Corps, Army of Tennessee; organized May 6, 1863, from the 3rd and 9th Georgia Battalions.

November 30: The 37th Georgia was heavily fighting on the far southwest side of the battlefield. They were along the Carter's Creek Pike. Lieutenant George Washington Fisher was killed in action and was buried on the Franklin Battlefield.

1866 In the spring George Fisher's remains were moved to the McGavock Confederate Cemetery. He was buried in section 81, grave number 64.

October 25: Francis A. Fisher married Thomas J Moorefield in Chattahoochee, GA. She never filed a Widows Pension.

¹ Augusta Chronicle, Augusta, GA, Wednesday, 16 July 1862, pg. 1 (accessed genealogybank.com)