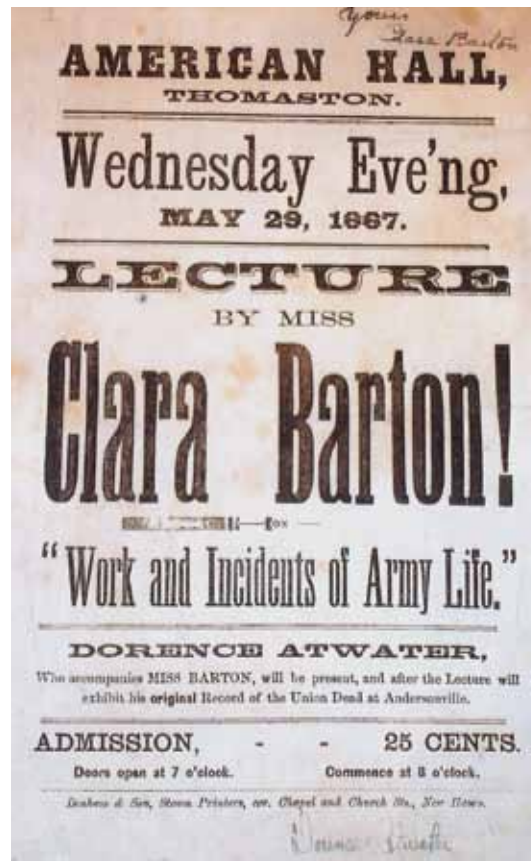


# Dorence Atwater

- Feb. 3, 1845 - Born in Terryville. Third child of Catherine Fenn Atwater and Henry Atwater.
- 1861 - Enlists in Union Army. Assigned to 2nd NY Cavalry.
- May 1863 - His mother, Catherine, dies.
- July 1863 - Captured by Confederates, sent to Belle Isle, Richmond, VA, POW camp.
- Feb. 1864 - Sent to Andersonville, GA, POW camp.
- Feb. 1865 - Released from Andersonville with secret list of 13,000 dead.
- March 1865 - Returns to Terryville.
- April 1865 - His father, Henry, dies.
- Travels to Washington, D.C. Meets Clara Barton.
- July 1865 - Goes to Andersonville with Clara Barton.
- Sept. 1865 - Court martialed in dispute over ownership of the Death Records. Sent to Federal prison in Auburn, NY, at hard labor.
- Nov. 1865 - Released from prison after Clara Barton intercedes.
- July 1866 - "A List of the Union Soldiers Buried at Andersonville" is published by the New York Tribune.
- 1866-1867 - Atwater and Clara Barton work in the Missing Soldiers Office. They travel, giving lectures to raise funds for their project.
- 1868 - Appointed Consul to Seychelle Islands.
- 1871 - Appointed Consul to Tahiti.
- 1875 - Marries Princess Moetia Salmon in Tahiti.
- Late 1800s - Owns shipping business, vanilla plantation, pearl business, works with lepers.
- 1906 - Original copy of Atwater's Death Records destroyed in Great Fire of San Francisco.
- 1907 - Atwater monument installed at Baldwin Park.
- 1908 - Returns to Terryville to see his monument.
- Nov. 26, 1910 - Dies in San Francisco.
- 1912 - Buried in Tahiti in a ceremony reserved for royalty.



Courtesy of Chris Foard



Courtesy of General Services Administration

# The Legacy of Clara Barton and Dorence Atwater

Clara Barton and Dorence Atwater were able to account for 20,000 missing soldiers and provide their families some comfort in knowing what happened to their loved ones.

This was the first time in U.S. history that a concerted effort was made to notify families about their fathers, brothers, and sons who were Missing In Action.

The Andersonville Prison Historic Site is managed by the National Park Service. It is the home of the National Prisoner of War Museum. According to the Park Service, Atwater may have been the most important enlisted man to serve in the Union Army.

*For the record of the dead, you are indebted to the forethought, courage, and perseverance of Dorence Atwater.*

Clara Barton