

MEDAL OF HONOR

SMITH, Willard M.
Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps
G. O. Navy Department, No. 45
December 31, 1864

CITATION:

On board the U.S.S. BROOKLYN during action against rebel forts and gunboats, and with the ram TENNESSEE in Mobile Bay, 5 August 1864. Despite severe damage to his ship and the loss of several men on board as enemy fire continued to fall, Corporal Smith fought his gun with skill and courage throughout the furious 2-hour battle which resulted in the surrender of the rebel ram TENNESSEE.