

William Tecumseh Sherman Quotes

*War, Military, Army, People, Civil War, Country, Peace, Thinking, Men, Tired,
History, Boys, Sacrifice, Crazy, Fields, Politics, Perfect, Political, Pride, Fighting*

If I had my choice I would kill every reporter in the world, but I am sure we would be getting reports from Hell before breakfast.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War is cruelty. There is no use trying to reform it. The crueller it is, the sooner it will be over.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Courage - a perfect sensibility of the measure of danger, and a mental willingness to endure it.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

We can make war so terrible and make them so sick of war that generations pass away before they again appeal to it.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

You people of the South don't know what you are doing. This country will be drenched in blood, and God only knows how it will end.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Grant stood by me when I was crazy, and I stood by him when he was drunk, and now we stand by each other.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Every attempt to make war easy and safe will result in humiliation and disaster.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

After all, I think Forrest was the most remarkable man our Civil War produced on either side.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

If forced to choose between the penitentiary and the White House for four years, I would say the penitentiary, thank you.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I hate newspapermen. They come into camp and pick up their camp rumors and print them as facts. I regard them as spies, which, in truth, they are.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The voice of the people is the voice of humbug.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War is the remedy that our enemies have chosen, and I say let us give them all they want.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I think I understand what military fame is; to be killed on the field of battle and have your name misspelled in the newspapers.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The whole army is burning with an insatiable desire to wreak violence upon South Carolina. I almost tremble for her fate.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I will not accept if nominated, and will not serve if elected.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The carping and bickering of political factions in the nation's capital reminds me of two pelicans quarreling over a dead fish.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

We have good corporals and good sergeants and some good lieutenants and captains, and those are far more important than good generals.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I knew wherever I was that you thought of me, and if I got in a tight place you would come-if alive.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but, boys, it is all hell. You can bear this warning voice to generations yet to come. I look upon war with horror.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

A battery of field artillery is worth a thousand muskets.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

This war differs from other wars, in this particular. We are not fighting armies but a hostile people, and must make old and young, rich and poor, feel the hard hand of war.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

There's many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory but it is all hell.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The scenes on this field would have cured anybody of war.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I make up my opinions from facts and reasoning, and not to suit anybody but myself. If people don't like my opinions, it makes little difference as I don't solicit their opinions or votes.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

In our Country... one class of men makes war and leaves another to fight it out.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

If you don't have my army supplied, and keep it supplied, we'll eat your mules up, sir.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I would make this war as severe as possible, and show no symptoms of tiring till the South begs for mercy.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The only good Indian is a dead Indian

~William Tecumseh Sherman

My aim, then, was to whip the rebels, to humble their pride, to follow them to their inmost recesses, and make them fear and dread us. Fear is the beginning of wisdom.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Grant stood by me when I was crazy.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

...[We] must stop these swarms of Jews who are trading, bartering and robbing.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I begin to regard the death and mangling of a couple thousand men as a small affair, a kind of morning dash-and it may be well that we become so hardened.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

You may as well say, 'That's a valiant flea that dare eat his breakfast on the lip of a lion.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

If the people raise a great howl against my barbarity and cruelty, I will answer that war is war, and not popularity seeking.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

It's a disagreeable thing to be whipped.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

You might as well appeal against the thunderstorm.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

The way to success is strategically along the way of least expectation and tactically along the line of least resistance.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

He belonged to that army known as invincible in peace, invisible in war.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

You people speak so lightly of war; you don't know what you're talking about. War is a terrible thing!

~William Tecumseh Sherman

You cannot qualify war in harsher terms than I will.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I will accept no commission that would tend to create a rivalry with Grant. I want him to hold what he has earned and got. I have all the rank I want.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

If nominated by either party, I should peremptorily decline, and even if unanimously elected, I should decline to serve.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Hold the fort! I am coming!

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I intend to make Georgia howl.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Some of you young men think that war is all glamour and glory, but let me tell you, boys, it is all hell!

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War is too serious a matter to leave to soldiers.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I know I had no hand in making this war, and I know I will make more sacrifices to-day than any of you to secure peace.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I see every chance of a long, confused and disorganizing civil war, and I feel no desire to take a hand therein.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Though I never ordered it, and never wished for it, I have never shed any tears over the event, because I believe that it hastened what we all fought for, the end of the war.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War is cruelty, and you cannot refine it.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War's Legitimate Object Is More Perfect Peace.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

I want peace, and believe it can only be reached through union and war, and I will ever conduct war with a view to perfect an early success.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

Wars are not all evil, they are part of the grand machinery by which this world is governed.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

War is at best barbarism.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

If nominated, I won't run; If elected, I won't serve.

~William Tecumseh Sherman

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