

By Mike Evans

A snapshot of available miniatures

REBS AND YANKEES IN SCALE

As a period, the ACW is very well covered by many manufacturers in all scales, so at best we can only take a quick look at what is available. The differences lie in accuracy, size and the degree of completeness of the various ranges.

Starting with 25/28mm, a good question to ask is whether there is a perfect range to buy to the exclusion of the rest? The simple answer is no for various reasons. Not all manufacturers have done their homework, so for those who want only historically accurate figures, some shopping around is necessary.

PERRY MINIATURES

This is an extensive and growing range that, generally speaking, is historically good. They mix well with many of the ranges mentioned here and they have enough different poses to mix into your collection and add a lot of variety. For those requiring strict historical accuracy, a few of the miniatures may make you scratch your head. However, if these are in your price range, they deserve a big consideration. The Perrys also sculpted the Foundry ACW range, but these are slightly smaller than their current range and more expensive.

The Perry plastics are a very inexpensive



Perry ACW Infantry, Cavalry and Zouave

way to build forces. Their current box of infantry was the first foray into historical multi-part plastics and is to be highly applauded for that. The box allows you to build both sides for the conflict but if you want complete historical accuracy, they probably will not be your

first choice. Their cavalry, however, are excellent as is the newest box set of Zouaves, which is a real gem. For those who wish to wait, we are promised army specific boxes (confederates) that should be every bit as good as the Zouave set.

OLD GLORY 2ND GENERATION

These are a newer, although less complete range by Old Glory. They are more historically accurate, being sculpted by the same designer as Sash and Saber with the very latest information on what the infantrymen at the time would have worn and how they would have worn it. They mix and match very well with the Perry miniatures and Sash and Saber's line. You can't complain here of inaccurate miniatures.

OLD GLORY

Now considered the 'first' generation. They are much older than many on this list of lines. Some of the sculpting and historical details are not as contemporary as other lines, but it's a huge line, covering much of what you might want and then some! For anyone with the Old Glory army card, they are also keenly priced.

SASH AND SABER

Somewhat larger than the OG 2nd Generation models but only by a very small bit. They are accurate historically and nice sculpts. They also have very good personality. Again, as with many other lines, this is not as complete as you'd like although they have added a few bags along the way. Similar to the 2nd Generation line, the drummer boys are

sculpted to look like boys and not men. It is a very nice touch.

DIXON

A manufacturer that divides opinions; for some they have outsized heads and short legs but many gamers love this line so beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The historical accuracy is excellent, amongst the best on offer. Dixon is one of the few lines to have some rarely found (for ACW miniatures) equipment and uniform changes. They



Dixon ACW Infantry and Cavalry

are about right with the above lines, although they have a tad 'thicker' bodies, but not enough to cause problems. They also have an extensive accessory range worth looking at.

REDOUBT

A very large line with another good selection of troops and equipment. The miniatures are accurate enough and the sculpting is good. This line is more or less popular depending upon where you live strangely, although perhaps that is in part due to their expense in the US. They can usually be mixed in with regiments without any issues unless you require exact size matching.



Recently released Redoubt fleeing and casualty figures

Another interesting feature is their separate head range, which allows a variety of head and body combinations.



A selection of the Redoubt heads – useful for conversion

RENEGADE

These miniatures are probably the tallest ACW line available, as such they don't match up well in the same unit with any other line. These are nice miniatures if you wanted to do a little diorama, because the sculpting is very nice. The line isn't very complete and not terribly accurate, but on the plus side they are very competitively priced.

CRUSADER

The size of these models are average and can fit with most other lines. The sculpting is fine but they lack some of the historical accuracy of other manufacturers. The range currently consists of infantry.

1ST CORPS

Similar to the issues with the Redoubt line, these miniatures are seldom seen in the US and popular in the UK. The size is suitable with the other lines and the accuracy is good as well. One minor issue is the sculpting of the hands. They can stand out as being noticeably large.

On the whole, most ranges are compatible with each other. Redoubt and Renegade are on the larger end of the scale with Foundry and the old Newline Design ranges being the smallest. There are a number of other manufacturers such as Essex and Irregular Miniatures who provide ranges.

OTHER SCALES

There are several companies offering ACW miniatures in a variety of scales from 20mm, 15mm, 10mm and 6mm.

Space prohibits us from doing an extensive review, so here is a brief overview.

In 15mm, the Peter Pig 'Civil War Battles' range offers an extensive range of over one hundred packs. There are several other companies who have Civil War miniatures in this scale such as Battle Honours, Old Glory, Freicorps and Essex to name a few.



15mm Peter Pig infantry painted by Kev Lowth



Redoubt, Redoubt, Perry, Perry, Dixon and Crusader



Crusader American Civil War infantry

In 10mm, both Magister Militum and Pendraken offer good ranges for both sides including infantry, cavalry, artillery and higher command. Magister also have casualty packs.

6mm offers the 'grand scale' and allows for the collection of armies at very reasonable prices. In this scale, both Baccus and Adler offer good ranges to name but two.