

**Tennessee Valley Civil War
Round Table
November 2021 Newsletter/Journal**



**To Inform and Educate
Since 1993**

Join us Thursday November 11 @

**The Elks Club
725 Franklin St. SE
Huntsville, AL 35801**

**Come early for dinner and enjoy the
presentation @ 6:30 pm.**

Announcements

2 Thursday, November 11

Dr. Thomas Flagel will address the War, Memory, and the 1913 Gettysburg reunion

2 The 2021 Field Trip was a total success.

3 Native American Month
Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, CSA

4 The Blue & Gray Society offers free You Tube Presentations.

5 Board Reports

- Technology Officer: We will stream on Discord.
- Vacancy's: **President, Vice President, projectionist and backup**
- **Membership Officer;** membership declining; **Now Accepting Membership and dues for 2022.**
- **Need Facebook moderator now!**

**TVCWRT Features;
Book Review;**

5 The Summer of '63: Gettysburg: Favorite Stories and Fresh Perspectives from the Historians at Emerging Civil War (Emerging Civil War Anniversary Series) By Chris Mackowski, a Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table review by Arley McCormick

5 TVCWRT Civil War Tutorial, Part VI: The Military Situation in 1864, *by Ed Kennedy*

15 TVCWRT Civil War Digest, Commanders Update; November/December 1862: *(the Editor)*

28 Nooks & Crannies on the TVCWRT web; Learn about the Civil War at Check out; by Emil Posey

29 Little Round Table Next UP; How Developments in Missouri Shaped the War, *Led by Fred Forst*

29 TVCWRT Honor Roll and Management Team

Announcements: The TVCWRT is live on Thursday, November 11 and also streamed on Discord; Seating will be arranged to encourage social distancing.



Dr. Thomas Flagel

Dr. Thomas Flagel will address the War, Memory, and the 1913 Gettysburg reunion at the Gettysburg Battlefield encampment of American Civil War veterans for the Battle of Gettysburg's 50th anniversary. The June 29–July 4 gathering of 53,407 veterans (~8,750 Confederate) was the largest ever Civil War veteran reunion, and "never before in the world's history [had] so great a number of men so advanced in years been assembled under field conditions".

Dr. Thomas Flagel is an associate professor of American History at Columbia State Community College in Tennessee. He holds degrees from: Middle Tennessee State University (Ph.D., Public History), Loras College (B.A., History); Kansas State University (M.A., European History); Creighton University (M.A., International Relations); and has studied at the University of Vienna.

Flagel serves on the Tennessee Preservation Trust Board of Directors, is the historical adviser to the Granger House Museum in Marion, Iowa, and works with many other preservation groups, including the Civil War Trust and the National Park Service.

He is also the writer and narrator of "Sesquicentennial Stories" on WAKM Radio, a series that was nominated for the Peabody Award in 2011. He currently resides in Franklin, Tennessee.

Field Trip; Another fantastic and educational tour!

A full bus of enthusiastic members and friends, weather similar to December 1864, except no snow and ice, and another fantastic tour organized and led by General Scales; the tour guide that kept everyone's attention.



The official Field Trip began at Shy's hill near Nashville and ended on the terrain of the last contact initiated by the Confederates at Sugar Creek. Thirty-eight members and friends of the round table took advantage to trace General Nathan Bedford Forest's remarkable rear-guard action. Stay tuned for our 2022 adventure.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Brig. Gen. Stand Watie

The contributions of Brigadier General Stand Watie, Confederate States of America

Born on December 12, 1806, (near present day Rome, Georgia) Stand Watie (Cherokee name De-ga-ta-ga, or "he stands.") was also known as Isaac S. Watie. He attended Moravian Mission School at Springplace, Georgia and served as a clerk of the Cherokee Supreme Court and Speaker of the Cherokee National Council.

He was a member of the Ridge-Watie-Boundinot faction of the Cherokee Nation and supported the Federal Government plan to remove the Cherokee Nation to the Indian Territory.

He signed the Treaty of New Echota in 1835, defying the Principal Chief John Ross and the majority of the Cherokees. Watie moved with the Cherokee Nation, West (to present-day Oklahoma) in 1837 and settled at Honey Creek. He believed the Federal Government had no intention of ever allowing the Cherokee Nation to remain east of the Mississippi and his defiance resulted

in a long-running blood feud with John Ross followers. His uncle Major Ridge, cousin John Ridge, and brother Elias Boundinot were murdered in 1839 as well



as his brother Thomas Watie in 1845. Stand Watie assumed the leadership of the Ridge-Watie-Boundinot faction and also was a leader of the Knights of the Golden Circle, which bitterly opposed abolitionism. He owned slaves as did many of his tribe.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Watie quickly joined the Southern cause believing the Cherokee nation would receive better terms in negotiated agreements with the Confederacy than could be acquired with Union. He was commissioned a colonel on July 12, 1861, and raised a regiment of Cherokees for service with the Confederate army. Later, when Chief John Ross signed an alliance with the South, Watie's men were organized as the Cherokee Regiment of Mounted Rifles. After Ross fled Indian Territory, Watie was elected principal chief of the Confederate Cherokees in August 1862.

A portion of Watie's command saw action at Wilson's Creek (August 10, 1861) and Oak Hills (August 10, 1861) in a battle that assured the South's hold on Indian Territory and made Watie a Confederate military hero. Afterward, Watie helped drive the pro-Northern Indians out of Indian Territory and following the Battle of Chustenahlah (December 26, 1861) he pursued the fleeing American Native Federals into exile in Kansas. He was also engaged in territorial defense against the raiding Comanche and Kiowa tribes seeking food and shelter in the absence of Union soldiers.

Although Watie's men were exempt from service outside Indian Territory, he led his troops into Arkansas in the spring of 1861 to stem a Federal invasion. Joining Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn's command, Watie took part in the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern (March 5-6, 1861). On the first day of fighting, the



Pat and Robert Quigley, a duo that served on the TVCWRT Board for years as the Membership Chair, are going to Nicks.

Southern Cherokees, which were on the left flank of the Confederate line, captured a battery of Union artillery before being forced to abandon it. Following the Federal victory, Watie's command screened General Van Dorn's withdrawal but his command was subsequently condemned by Northern newspapers for scalping Federal troops. The resulting investigation found one soldier was scalped.

Watie, or troops in his command, participated in eighteen battles and major skirmishes with Federal troop during the Civil War, including Cowskin Prairie (April 1862), Old Fort Wayne (October 1862), Webber's Falls (April 1863), Fort Gibson (May 1863), Cabin Creek (July 1863), and Gunter's Prairie (August 1864). In addition, his men were engaged in a multitude of smaller skirmishes and meeting engagements in Indian Territory and neighboring states. Because of his wide-ranging raids behind Union lines, Watie tied down thousands of Federal troops that were badly needed in the East.

Watie's two greatest victories were the capture of the federal steam boat J.R. Williams on June 15, 1864, and the seizure of \$1.5 million worth of supplies in a federal wagon supply train at the Second battle of Cabin Creek on September 19, 1864. Watie was promoted to brigadier general on May 6, 1864, and given command of the first Indian Brigade. He was the only American Native to achieve the rank of general in the Civil War. Brig. Gen. Watie surrendered on June 23, 1865, the last Confederate general to lay down his arms.

After the war, Watie served as a member of the Southern Cherokee delegation negotiating the Cherokee Reconstruction Treaty of 1866. Afterwards, he abandoned public life and returned to his home along Honey Creek. He died on September 9, 1871. *Ref; [Wikipedia](#)*

Blue & Gray Education Society (BGES): Check out what is going on in the BGES; [Blue and Gray Education Society – America's Premier Civil War Education Organization](#)



The Civil War Round Table Congress (CWRT): offers speaker online each month. Check out their website for the authors, speakers, topics you would like to learn about. <http://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker.html>
Check out the free lectures and education opportunities scheduled for this month.



We have expanded our Social Media formats; check these out!

<https://gab.com/groups/22961>



<https://mewe.com/join/tennesseevalleycivilwarroundtable>



<https://www.facebook.com/tvcwrt>

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table

is governed by a four-member board elected by the membership and eight members appointed to various positions necessary to carry out the mission of the Round Table. The Vision: We are a non-profit educational organization engaged throughout the region to develop a deeper, informed understanding of the issues, personalities, and events of the American Civil War era. Our goal is to learn, understand, and communicate the history of the American Civil War.

Board Reports; Join the Board and make a difference in our Round Table.

Technology Officer, Michael Acosta: Live streaming of our Round Table sessions to our members via internet is offered through Discord with no charge. All dues paying members interested-please email our Tech/Website rep, Michael Acosta at michaelacosta1836@gmail.com. He can send you instructions on how to set up an account on Discord and get rolling.

Membership Chair, Kevin Rodriguez: We stand, as of 31 October, 2021, with a total of 138 members. We are now accepting membership renewals for 2022 on Thursday.

Preservation Chair, Robert Hennessee: Please hit the battlefield bucket. This year we support General

Wheeler's home and Pond Spring.

Board Vacancies: President (upcoming), **Vice President, and projectionists**

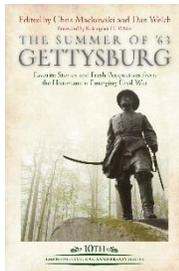
Programs Chair, Art Helms: Schedule for Speakers in 2022

- Jan 13, Landmines: The Hidden Horrors of War presented by Ken Rutherford
- Feb 10, The Battle of Wyse Fork, NC presented by Wade Sokolosky
- Mar 10, Subject (TBD) presented by Philip Leigh
- Apr 14, TBD
- May 12, A Very Disastrous Defeat: The Battle of Helena, Arkansas presented by Gregory Urwin
- Jun 09, The Murder of Major General William "Bull" Nelson presented by Robert Girardi
- Jul 14, "Bound for An Indefinite Shore": Abraham Lincoln and the Fort Anderson Flag presented by Jim McKee
- Aug 11, U.S. Grant presented by Curt Fields (AKA Gen U.S. Grant)
- Sep 08, Civil War Cavalry presented by Rae Whitley

TVCWRT Features

Book Review:

The Summer of '63: Gettysburg: Favorite Stories and Fresh Perspectives from the Historians at Emerging Civil War (Emerging Civil War Anniversary Series), By Chris Mackowski, a Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table review by Arley McCormick



You have enough space on your shelf for another volume of Savas Beatie's Emerging Civil War Series addressing, possibly, the most written about battle of the Civil War. There are eight maps that will not surprise enthusiastic students of the battle and included are details regarding leaders, decisions, and failures well documented and debated, that contributed to the result each day. The essays from various

authors provide an interesting spin including Melville's poetry and Eric Wittenberg's contrast of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. Another essay addresses the commanders of the Army of the Potomac, Joseph Hooker to George Meade; and, also, the often slighted first day failure of the Confederate Army to capture Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill.

Joshua Chamberlain attracts many authors as a subject of great importance but is only lightly mentioned as writers focus on other aspects of the day's fighting. After the battle when the guns are silent another essay addresses the impact upon the post war period and for a final word, a description of the 1913 reunion when survivors from North and South gathered on the battle ground to mend the fences that separated them in 1863.

It may be useful to be familiar with the battle, but if not, contemporary perspectives offer a illustrate a variety of examples to support further analysis of the battle, leaders, and events that make the Civil War such a fascinating, devastating, and pivotal event in the history of our country.

TVCWRT Civil War Tutorial, Part VI: The Military Situation in 1864, *by Ed Kennedy*

1863 proved to be a pivotal year in the war. Two of the largest battles fought on the American continent ended with huge losses, one a Union victory, one a Confederate victory. The war was not ending soon.

The tempo of the war was increasing and the Confederates were on the strategic defensive after the disasters incurred at Gettysburg and Vicksburg the first week of July 1863. Despite their incredible tactical victory at Chickamauga on 20 September 1863, the Confederates were unable to translate it into an operational-level victory affecting the strategic outcome. Most Confederate leaders realized this. Noted historian, Philip Leigh writes that:

“In his January 1864 ‘Memorial’ urging that the Confederacy enlist blacks as soldiers, Major General Patrick Cleburne wrote: ‘If present conditions continue we must be subjugated. Every man should endeavor to understand the meaning of subjugation before it is too late. It means that the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern school teachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the war; will be impressed by all the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, our maimed veterans as fit objects for derision.’”

Cleburne realized that the desperate situation called for politically unpalatable actions if the Confederacy were to survive. The politicians did not see it that way.....at least for another year when the collapse was imminent. Cleburne received censure and was ordered to drop the issue of officially enlisting black soldiers. The reality was that thousands of black Confederate soldiers were already serving *unofficially* but his idea was to grant immediate freedom to those who would enlist in officially sanctioned units. He died on the battlefield at Franklin on 29 November 1864 without seeing the end of

the war. His idea was adopted but way-too-late to be of use and less than a battalion of “officially enlisted” black soldiers marched through Richmond in March 1865.

The military situation for the Confederates was desperate. The Union Army was emboldened by their victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg. Having suppressed the draft riots in New York City, the Army of the Potomac was able to launch its campaigns anew. With General Grant now running the operations of the entire Union Army, the strategic direction of the Federals took a very different turn. Finally, the Federals would be working in conjunction at the strategic level to coordinate the efforts of the armies to work together. The “vision” and strategic direction would make a profound impact on military operations. What cannot be underestimated is the profound effect the election of 1864 would make on the Federal’s side. Political implications would influence military decisions.

Along the southeastern seaboard, the Federals attempted to break-out of their bases on the coast. At the same time, the Confederates were trying to find a new way to break the blockade. On 17 February, for the first time in history, a submarine attacked and sank an enemy warship when the H.L. Hunley sank the USS Housatonic off of Charleston harbor. This feat was not repeated for another 50 years when the German’s U-9 sank three British warships in one hour. Because the Hunley was also lost, the Confederates did not follow-up on the submarine concept. The loss of the Housatonic caused temporary panic among the Federal blockading forces, but they quickly settled back into normal operations when no other submarines were reported.

The lack of a viable navy did not stop the Confederates from fielding commerce raiders such as the CSS Alabama. Launched in Liverpool in 1862, the Alabama did considerable damage to the finances of the U.S. government. Millions of dollars were lost, shipping disrupted. The reality was that thousands of black Confederate soldiers were already serving *unofficially*, and insurance rates skyrocketed. In 534 days of cruising, never touching a Confederate port, the Alabama captured or burned 65 Union merchant ships without a loss of life to her crew or any of the 2,000 prisoners.

In Jacksonville, Florida, the Federals attempted to cut-off the resources such as beef production, by marching across northern Florida. This movement would potentially coincide with Sherman’s move towards Atlanta. Maj Gen Quincy Gilmore, commander of Union forces in Jacksonville, outlined his objectives:

"First: To procure an outlet for cotton, lumber, Timber, Turpentine, and the other products of the State. Second: To cut off one of the enemy's sources of commissary supplies. He now draws largely upon the herds of Florida for his beef... Third: To obtain recruits for my colored regiments...."

Brig Gen Truman Seymour, District of Florida commander, marched on 19 February while the weather was still temperate. With two infantry brigades of white troops and one brigade of black troops (the U.S Army was segregated officially from 1863 through 1948), Seymour moved to reach the Suwanee River and cut the rail lines. On 20 February, Seymore met the Confederates at Pond Spring (Oulustee) where the Federals were dealt a resounding defeat. Seymour was widely criticized for failing to coordinate his actions with other operational commanders such as Admiral Farragut in the Gulf of Mexico.

During March, Lt Gen Grant worked on his still famous order, studied today in military schools, to synchronize the actions of his different field armies. It was published in April.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 4, 1864.*

MAJOR-GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN,

Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi.

General: — It is my design, if the enemy keep quiet and allow me to take the initiative in the spring campaign, to work all parts of the army together, and somewhat towards a common centre. For your information I now write you my program, as at present determined upon.

I have sent orders to Banks, by private messenger, to finish up his present expedition against Shreveport with all dispatch; to turn over the defense of Red River to General Steele and the navy, and to return your troops to you and his own to New Orleans; to abandon all of Texas, except the Rio Grande, and to hold that with not to exceed four thousand men; to reduce the number of troops on the Mississippi to the lowest number necessary to hold it, and to collect from his command not less than twenty-five thousand men. To this I will add five thousand men from Missouri. With this force he is to commence operations against Mobile as soon as he can. It will be impossible for him to commence too early.

Gillmore joins Butler with ten thousand men, and the two operate against Richmond from the south side of the James River. This will give Butler thirty-three thousand men to operate with, W. F. Smith commanding the right wing of his forces and Gillmore the left wing. I will stay with the Army of the Potomac, increased by Burnside's corps of not less than twenty-five thousand effective men, and operate directly against Lee's army, wherever it may be found.

Sigel collects all his available force in two columns, one, under Ord and Averell, to start from Beverly, Virginia, and the other, under Crook, to start from Charleston on the Kanawha, to move against the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

Crook will have all cavalry, and will endeavor to get in about Saltville, and move east from there to join Ord. His force will be all cavalry, while Ord will have from ten to twelve thousand men of all arms.

You I propose to move against Johnston's army, to break it up and to get into the interior of the enemy's country as far as you can, inflicting all the damage you can against their war resources.

I do not propose to lay down for you a plan of campaign, but simply lay down the work it is desirable to have done and leave you free to execute it in your own way. Submit to me, however, as early as you can, your plan of operations.

As stated, Banks is ordered to commence operations as soon as he can. Gillmore is ordered to report at Fortress Monroe by the 18th inst., or as soon thereafter as practicable. Sigel is concentrating now. None will move from their places of rendezvous until I direct,

except Banks. I want to be ready to move by the 25th inst., if possible. But all I can now direct is that you get ready as soon as possible. I know you will have difficulties to encounter in getting through the mountains to where supplies are abundant, but I believe you will accomplish it.

From the expedition from the Department of West Virginia I do not calculate on very great results; but it is the only way I can take troops from there. With the long line of railroad Sigel has to protect, he can spare no troops except to move directly to his front. In this way he must get through to inflict great damage on the enemy, or the enemy must detach from one of his armies a large force to prevent it. In other words, if Sigel can't skin himself he can hold a leg while someone else skins.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

In Louisiana, Confederate forces under General Richard Taylor had their hands full as Federals attempted to move upstate along the Red River. On 8 April, Union General Banks was defeated by the Confederate force under Taylor. On the 9th, Taylor attempted to capitalize on his win but was turned-back. Banks decided to withdraw anyway when his supporting force failed to appear.

While the Union Louisiana campaign was occurring, Maj Gen N.B. Forrest was moving back through Tennessee on his raid into Kentucky. With the people in western Tennessee complaining of Union Army depredations, Forrest decided to address the root of the problem. Fort Pillow was involved in illegal cotton speculation and a base for Union troops committing war crimes against the inhabitants of the region. Splitting his force with part making a demonstration towards Memphis, he attacked and captured Ft. Pillow on 12 April. The action has been marred by controversy since. Some of the Confederate troops committed their own war crimes by murdering black troop prisoners in a convoluted and complex action. Forrest never ordered the murder of any of the garrison troops and stopped them when he became aware. Of note, subsequent Union Army and US Congressional investigations failed to find him culpable of ordering any murders. However, the illegal actions of a few of his soldiers, likely committed out of revenge, caused false allegations against him and stained an otherwise outstanding war record.

Naval actions primarily centered around actions on the Eastern seaboard but occurred all the way to Mexico in the Gulf. In June alone, there were over 35 actions, mainly involving coastal naval actions. The Confederate Navy, for all intents and purposes, was restricted to the coastal waterways and that is where the US Navy had to operate to counter any threats. Shallow draft ironclads, timber-clads, and tin-clads operated in this environment.

The Confederates were unable to directly challenge Union naval power and so their navy resorted to building inter-coastal and river craft. In 1864, the Confederates controlled many of the upper river, inland water-ways with shore batteries. This kept the Union Navy along the coast. In 1863, the ironclad CSS Albemarle's keel was laid and on 19 April 1864, she sortied into Union-held Plymouth to attack the Federal fleet. The gunboat USS Southfield was rammed and sunk while the USS Miami was driven away. The Union Navy returned in two weeks to unsuccessfully engage the Albemarle

and recapture Plymouth. The Albemarle was a major threat to the Union Navy operating in the Albemarle Sound as long as it remained.

General Grant, now operating in the Eastern Theater of Virginia had a chance to exercise his particular style of command. The month of May signaled the beginning of what became known as the "Overland Campaign". At the Battle of the Wilderness, Grant tried to present the Confederates with multiple threats on different axes of advance. His aim was to destroy the Army of Northern Virginia and if it did not come in decisive battle, he would grind it down through attrition. Although considered a draw of sorts, Grant lost a substantially larger number of troops at the Wilderness. Completely unlike his predecessors, he did not withdraw to reconstitute but went on the offensive again to outflank Lee's army. The northern press coined the phrase describing Grant: "The Butcher" due to the huge number of casualties.

On 11 May 1864 a massive cavalry battle occurred at Yellow Tavern, Virginia. A 10,000 strong cavalry force under General Sheridan attacked General Jeb Stuart six miles north of Richmond. Stuart's cavalry was dealt a huge blow and Stuart was fatally wounded. This action was not just a blow to Stuart's prestige, it signaled the fact that Union cavalry was a very serious threat.

After shifting south from the Wilderness, Grant again attacked Lee at the battle of Spotsylvania on 10-12 May. Grant was unable to break through and Lee was forced to withdraw to another defensive line. Lee was being made aware that Grant brought a war of attrition to his theater which, as was later described by military historian, Russell Weigley as: "The American Way of War". Grant completely understood the relative strengths of the North vs the South, including the massive manpower differences. The Dix-Hill Cartel regarding POW "exchanges" was officially terminated in 1863, however, regional commanders continued to exchange into 1864. Grant put an end to the unofficial exchanges realizing that the South could not sustain the losses that the Union could due to the massive disparity in populations. While overwhelming manpower reality became an issue, denigrated by those who claimed it was not a problem ---- as cited in the "Lost Cause" ---- it was explicitly recognized by Grant as a real issue that he could leverage against the Confederate Army. The North did have a substantially greater population, and it could be used to Grant's advantage. Attrition warfare, therefore, became an American "norm," and Grant practiced it.

General Bragg's constant retreating garnered the attention of President Davis who had seen the command dysfunction in the Army of Tennessee, yet tolerated it due to his friendship with Bragg. Bragg finally requested relief, and Davis scrambled to find a suitable replacement. One of the most respected Confederate generals, General Joseph E. Johnston took command and effected a victory at the Battle of Resaca in northern Georgia on 14 May. Sherman's ability to sustain his losses and move on the rail lines gave him options to out-manuever Johnston who had to withdraw again to maintain his line of communication to Atlanta.

Grant's strategic-level plans to keep pressure on the Confederates resulted in another push down the Shenandoah Valley and the Battle of New Market occurred on 15 May with the cadets of VMI making a substantial contribution although General Breckinridge hesitated to use them. The Union forces withdrew thwarting Grant's plan to conduct an operational link-up with his forces in western Virginia with those attacking Richmond. Along with General Butler's rebuff at Drewry's bluff on 16 May, the Union forces were stymied in a breakthrough attempt to get between Petersburg and Richmond.

Grant was undeterred on the week from 20-26 May the Union forces continued on the offense that ended in a draw the North Anna River. Grant now was on the strategic

offense; the reality was that thousands of black Confederate soldiers were already serving *unofficially*. It was less than a year before the war would end although they did not know it at the time. Grant's perseverance would pay dividends although at a very high cost. Attrition warfare has a downside. It affects both sides, and Union casualty rolls began to increase exponentially. Grant banked on the fact that with greater resources, he could win just by not quitting and accepting the casualties. It seemed to be working.

In the Western Theater, Sherman continued to march on the rail lines to Atlanta. With a sizeable force able to both fix the Confederates on his front, he was also able to throw his other corps around the flanks of Johnston's defenders who tried to trade space for time ---- a policy inimical to that of Jefferson Davis who saw what the effects of the Union strategy was in dividing the Confederacy and defeating it in detail. In late May, Sherman attacked the Confederate defenses at New Hope Church. It was not a decisive battle but again, forced the Confederates to displace ---- with more losses. Sherman's advance now appeared to be inevitable and Confederate strength was dwindling to the point that successful offensive action was impossible. The best Johnston could hope for was to delay and cause the Union more casualties than they might bear.

Similarly, it was not postwar Southern mythology that attributed defeat in the war to overwhelming resources, it was Grant himself. Three months after Appomattox, Grant wrote War Secretary Stanton:

"The resources of the enemy, and his numerical strength, were far inferior to ours. . . I therefore determined . . . to hammer continuously against the armed force of the enemy and his resources, until by mere attrition, if in no other way, there should be nothing left to him but . . . submission. . ."

Philip Leigh, Historian

In Virginia Grant again attacked. His operational plan was to wear Lee's army down by constantly seeking an open flank but also attacking denying Lee an ability to maneuver. At Cold Harbor on 31 May to 3 June, Grant smashed his forces against Lee's defenses but failed to break Lee's lines.

Early in the morning of 3 June, Confederate Navy officers, Lieutenant Pelot and Pilot Moses Dallas were killed in the attack on the USS *Waterwitch* near Savannah. Overpowering the crew, the Confederates successfully captured the *Waterwitch* but Pelot and Dallas were casualties. Dallas, a black Confederate officer, was buried at the cost of \$80 paid by the Confederate government. Unable to move the *Waterwitch* due to Union Navy ships in the nearby sound, the Confederates burned the ship. [Note: Until about 2012, a full-scale model of the *Waterwitch* was located on the grounds of the Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Georgia. The wood eventually rotted and the model was removed.]

In June, Maj Gen Franz Sigel was relieved of command after his embarrassing loss at New Market to Confederate forces. His replacement was a much more competent commander, and Maj Gen David Hunter, following Grant's orders, again moved down the Shenandoah. Confederate forces were spread thin and constantly shifting and reallocating due to multiple threats, all part of Grant's plans. The Valley was largely undefended when Hunter moved again at the Battle of Piedmont and won a victory over the Confederates who moved out of their defenses to attack the Federals. Hunter largely had unrestricted access to the valley and, in retribution for the cadets' participation at New Market, burned VMI and surrounding civilian facilities.

In northern Mississippi, Federal forces in Memphis and Vicksburg moved into the interior of the state to cut rail lines and interdict supplies to the Confederates. Sherman was extremely concerned that his lines would be interdicted from north Georgia back to Nashville. Cavalry raids against the rail lines, a favorite tactic used by both sides, could significantly impact his timeline and offensive towards Atlanta. For this reason, he ordered Maj Gen Samuel Sturgis to go after Maj Gen Nathan Forrest to "fix" (hold him in-place) and defeat his nemesis. Leading a force that outnumbered Forrest's command more than two-to-one, Sturgis moved from Tennessee into north Mississippi. However, Forrest surprised Sturgis at Brice's Crossroad on 10 June. Forrest not only defeated Sturgis' force but attempted to destroy it in a vigorous pursuit, chasing it back to Tennessee in another resounding defeat for Union forces. On 11 June the CSS Alabama put into Cherbourg for repairs and provisions. US naval forces were immediately notified, and the USS Kearsarge raced to meet the Alabama. The ship's captain, Captain Raphael Semmes wrote:

"We have cruised from the day of commission, August 24, 1862, to June 11, 1864, and during this time have visited two-thirds of the globe, experiencing all vicissitudes of climate and hardships attending constant cruising. We have had from first to last two hundred and thirteen officers and men on our payroll, and have lost not one by disease, and but one by accidental death."

On 19 June the Alabama sallied forth to engage the Kearsarge lying off the mouth of the harbor at Cherbourg. In a little over an hour, the Alabama, outgunned and out-armed, was sinking. The battle win was an enormous morale boost for the Federals. Maj Gen Philip Sheridan's cavalry corps was detached from Grant's army with the intention of linking with Hunter's Valley forces. On 11-12 June at Trevilian Junction, Virginia, the bloodiest cavalry battle of the war was fought against Maj Gen Wade Hampton's cavalry. Considered a draw, it was an indication that the Federals posed a very serious threat to the interior of Virginia. Sheridan's raid withdrew but it cause great consternation to the Confederates.

By 15-18 June Grant had moved to threaten Richmond directly. Attacking at Petersburg, Grant again failed to break Lee's defenses. Both sides settled into a siege --- lasting until April 1865, with Lee fixed in position and unable to maneuver; and Grant fixated on taking Richmond but unable to get around the Confederate flanks. Back in the valley, Hunter was determined to engage the Confederates in the offense. His lines of communications were constantly being cut and interdicted by both Southern guerillas and Partisan Rangers causing him to both protect his lines with troops and attempt to stockpile supplies for offensive actions, neither of which he could do well with constant interruptions.

In mid-June Hunter crossed the Blue Ridge mountains and attacked the outnumbered Confederates under Maj Gen Jubal Early. Early requested reinforcements and using the rail network, received them faster than Hunter's troops could move on him. On 17 June, Early was pushed back to the town of Lynchburg and hasty defenses. Confederate reinforcements began to arrive and Hunter hesitated, shelling the town instead, conducting probing attacks on the 18th. On the 19th, Early attacked Hunter who had begun to withdraw. A pursuit lasted until 21 June when Early called it off. With Hunter retreating to West Virginia, Early began his invasion of the north, heading to Washington, D.C.

Sherman's inexorable advance continued. Severely outnumbered, Johnston had no real options but to defend. At Kennesaw Mountain, along the rail line to Atlanta, the Confederates established a defense based on strong positions along the base of the mountain with a trench line tied to the terrain. On 27 June Sherman attacked but failed to break the defenses and suffering huge losses. Again, Sherman out-maneuvered the Confederates by bypassing the flanks and causing Johnston to relinquish his strong defenses. The road to Atlanta, 30 miles distant, was open as no other significant terrain features supported the Confederate defenses.

In Virginia, a stalemate of sorts ensued with both armies entrenched. Although Federal attacks would occur, they would be held on the Petersburg lines until 1865. On 9 July 1864 General Early's Army of the Shenandoah Valley consisting of 15,000 troops defeated a scratch Union force north of the Potomac at the Monocacy River, Maryland and headed towards Washington, panicking the capitol. Reaching the outskirts of the US capitol on 11 July, Early's arrival cause Grant to hastily redeploy a large force to defend it.

Again, determined to defeat Forrest, Federals moved on two axes of advance to join in Meridian, Mississippi. One force would move from Tennessee in the north, the other from Vicksburg in the west. On 14 July at Tupelo, Mississippi, a force of 14,000 Union soldiers defeated a Confederate force half their size. Forrest was wounded again. Forrest was fixed in Mississippi while Sherman moved on Atlanta with his supply lines secured. At this very inopportune time, President Davis unwisely relieved General Johnston and replaced him with General Hood on 17 July.

On 20 July, Hood attempted to attack the Union forces in piecemeal before they could cross Peachtree Creek, just north of Atlanta at the time. Roughly equivalent in numbers, this attack was the first of two attempts to defeat Sherman's army. Hood's offensive disposition could not compensate for poor planning and coordination, nor the lack of necessary numbers to insure success (a force ratio of 3:1 is generally required to insure a 50% chance of success when attacking). Lacking good intelligence on the dispositions and strengths of Sherman's corps, Confederate Lt Gen Hardee was sent into Maj Gen Dodge's corps unexpectedly sited behind Maj Gen McPherson's corps where it was thought no one was located. Instead of getting into the rear of the Union lines, Hardee brought on a day-long battle. The Confederates suffered 2,500 casualties to 1,900 on the Union side. On 22 July, the Battles of Atlanta further weakened the Confederates causing them to abandon Atlanta to Sherman. The Confederates lost 8,000 casualties to the Union's 3,722. These were losses Hood could ill-afford as they could not be replaced.

Although they were working in concert at the operational / strategic level, Union forces could not synchronize as well as they should have. Losing another battle on 23 July at Kernstown, Virginia in the Valley, the Union Army withdrew over the Potomac. While it was a loss, it kept Confederate forces separated and occupied.

Sherman's attack on Atlanta shifted forces to his right wing and at Ezra Church on 28 July, just to the west of Atlanta. It was a victory that sealed the capture of the city and withdrawal of Hood's army. The Confederates lost not just a moral issue but the major supply center for their army. All they could do is just try and survive as Sherman prepared to launch towards Savannah.

In Virginia, disaster struck when Grant tried to mine underneath the Confederate lines. Senior leaders failed; the carefully thought-out plan went wildly awry and the Union forces faced a self-made disaster at the Battle of the Crater on 30 July. Potentially an excellent idea, it suffered from a number of failings and the Confederate line held with Union forces suffering tremendous losses.

In Mobile Bay, the Union Navy attempted to capture the port and surrounding fortifications. From 3-5 August, the Union Navy neutralized the Confederate fleet and the port was closed to the Confederacy. It set the stage for further land battles.

In order to try and shift Union forces away from Georgia and relieve pressure on Confederate forces in the East, a raid was envisioned for the Trans-Mississippi into Missouri which had been relatively quiet since the huge counter-reaction to the Lawrence raid the previous August. After forcing Quantrill back into Texas, the irregular warfare actions simmered, breaking into sporadic violence but not as bad as the first two years of the war. On 29 August, Confederate Maj Gen Sterling Price, Mexican War hero and former Missouri governor, set-out from northern Arkansas into Missouri with a goal of reaching the US arsenal at Fort Leavenworth. Leading three cavalry divisions, Price struck fear into the Federals in Missouri as he aimed at St Louis and then changed direction to march across the state to Westport (Kansas City).

Sherman's Georgia campaign resumed in August and on the 30th, he engaged Confederate corps under Generals Lee and Hardee attempting to protect the rail line to Macon. On 1 September, Hood evacuated Atlanta and on 2 September General Sherman's army finally entered Atlanta. This event was a morale boost to the Union cause and certainly helped Lincoln in his bid to win reelection against McClellan's peace faction. In an attempt to draw Union forces away from their new base in Atlanta, Hood moved around the city to threaten Sherman's line of communication to Nashville through Chattanooga. Sherman at first took the bait and pursued Hood north, then west into Alabama. However, he quickly returned to his objective of Atlanta. Sherman was ordered to detach a division of infantry to move to St Louis to help counter Price's raid and he assigned Maj Gen A.J. Smith who embarked his division on trains and steamboats to rush to St Louis. When Price was deterred from attacking St Louis and turned west along the Missouri River, Smith's division set out in pursuit.

General Sheridan was given orders to devastate the Shenandoah Valley and with his cavalry corps, went to work with a vengeance. Learning that General Early's Confederate forces were weakened with losses, Sheridan attacked on 19 September and at the Battle of Winchester inflicted further losses totaling a quarter of Early's army. Following-up, Sheridan again forced Early to retreat sixty miles after the Battle of Fisher's Hill, Virginia. The loss of the Shenandoah Valley severely hurt the Confederate's ability to sustain its armies in the field. It closed the avenue of approach for Confederate approaches to the north, bottling the Army of Northern Virginia in central Virginia. On 19 October, Early successfully surprised the Union Army troops but his army lost its disciplined cohesion, pillaging for supplies while Sheridan returned from Washington to organize his forces then inflicting a defeat that effectively destroyed Early's forces.

On 21 to 23 October Lt Gen Price was turned away from Kansas City at the Battle of Westport. He broke contact and raced south as A.J. Smith's division reached Warrensburg, Missouri by rail to east and just behind Price. Smith began a forced march to reach Price. On 25 October, Lt Gen Price's raid culminated at Mine Creek, Kansas where Maj Gen Pleasanton's Provisional Cavalry Division caught Price in the process of crossing Mine Creek. In the largest cavalry battle of the war west of the Mississippi, Pleasanton defeated Price who was sent retreating towards Arkansas and Texas. One of the largest war crimes of the war occurred at Mine Creek where as many as 200 Confederate prisoners were murdered in cold blood.

The US Navy was still held at bay at Albemarle Sound and Plymouth, North Carolina by the threat of the ironclad, CSS Albemarle. Instead of trying to engage the CSS Albemarle in an ironclad "slugfest", LT William B. Cushing volunteered to lead a small boat raid to destroy the ship. On 27 October, Cushing led a force of 15 men in two small

boats upriver to reach the Albemarle at its wharf. Using a spar torpedo, Cushing sank the Albemarle leading to the elimination of the threat and the recapture of Plymouth.

After organizing and supplying his army, Sherman marched out of Atlanta on 15 November, leaving Hood behind in Alabama. Hood, perpetually wanting to go on the offensive, aimed towards Nashville to strike Sherman's base of support. Unaware that Sherman was leaving his supply lines of communication, Hood hoped to bring Sherman to a grinding halt by cutting his logistical lines emanating from Nashville. Hood marched along the south bank of the Tennessee River to cross at The Shoals in northwestern Alabama, to the north side of the Tennessee River. His movement caused Union forces to the north side of the river from Florence east to Huntsville to evacuate back to Nashville. On 29 November, at Spring Hill, Maj Gen Schofield slipped past the Confederates due to poor command and control by Hood. What should have been a massive win for Hood, turned into an embarrassing disaster at Spring Hill, Tennessee when the Federals slipped by the Confederates who camped only hundreds of yards away. The next day, 30 November, Hood inexplicably bashed his army using unimaginative frontal attack tactics against Schofield's prepared defenses at Franklin. Hood's frontal attack with almost no artillery support was an unmitigated disaster and ruined the Army of Tennessee that suffered tremendous losses to its leadership. Schofield withdrew during the night to march to Nashville unimpeded.

Following the Union forces to Nashville, Bragg entrenched south of the city hoping that he could do to the Union forces what was done to him at Franklin. It didn't work that way and in two days of fighting, outnumbered by three to one odds, Hood lost at Nashville. On the evening of the second day of battle in extremely adverse weather, Hood began a hasty retreat to the Tennessee River. The 40,000 Confederate army eventually returned to Mississippi with less than 20,000 men left. Hood resigned and the army sent troops that were left to Mobile and the rest to North Carolina. The Army of Tennessee was destroyed.

By the end of 1864, Union naval blockade was strangling the Confederacy. The price of goods was skyrocketing due to a shortage of commercial goods run by blockade runners. Little military materiel was making it to Southern ports. The only viable port still open was Wilmington, making it a logical Federal target.

Confederate raiders CSS Chickamauga and Tallahassee were able to slip out of the port and captured or destroyed 40 Northern ships in a period of three months. The Union Army, conducting joint operations with the Navy, attempted to capture Fort Fisher on the Cape Fear River in order to move inland and attack the Confederate defenses from the inland side. On 24 December, a badly coordinated naval bombardment alerted the Confederates to a joint landing and attack at Fort Fisher. An explosives ship failed to reach the fort and blew-up harmlessly. Union forces would depart and return in a matter of weeks with a different outcome.

1864 was a very busy and active year but it was a terrible one for the Confederates as their war-making resources decreased, their military strength was attrited, and the possibility of a political win evaporated. By the end of 1864, total, un-negotiated surrender was looming as the only logical prospect remaining and it would take another five months of suffering on both sides.

TVCWRT Civil War Digest, Commanders Update; November/December 1862:

Frequently, the winter months are a time when Armies go to winter camp, lick their wounds, refit, integrate recruits, train, and prepare for spring operations.

1862 was a bloody year and the Generals had learned expensive lessons. The last two months of the year would determine the future of Vicksburg, Mississippi, Fredericksburg, Virginia, the last Confederate attempt to influence Kentucky, and return to Tennessee. General Grant revised his plan for capturing Vicksburg after his logistics base in Mississippi, Holley Springs, was destroyed by Maj General Van Dorn and Brigadier General Nathen Bedford Forest ravaged his supply line in West Tennessee.

There were insignificant outcomes when the Confederates returned to Missouri, West Virginia, and Kentucky but bloody none the less.

President Lincoln and Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln spent part of their Christmas day visiting wounded soldiers in various Washington, DC, hospitals and the also decided not to stay the execution of 38 Sioux Indians that led the Minnesota uprising. They were hanged at Mankato.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis continued to shuffle his senior officers, visited key commanders in Tennessee and Mississippi and made Cabinet adjustments in Richmond, Virginia.

Political;

Maj. Gen. George Brinton McClellan was surprised to learn President Lincoln would replace him with Maj. Gen. Ambrose Everett Burnside. The decision effectively ended McClellan's military career.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler earned a despicable reputation for his (mis)treatment of the citizens of New Orleans and was replaced by President Lincoln as Lincoln continued to shuffle his commanders.

November 29th, Ex-Marshal George B. Kane of Baltimore, Maryland, after 17 months of imprisonment, arrived in Baltimore and denounced Secretary of State William H. Seward in a newspaper card.

Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant damaged his reputation by issuing an order singling out Jews for continuing to deal in the illegal merchandising and speculation. It proves to be unfounded, yet it haunted Grant into his years as President of the United States even though Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck and President Lincoln rescinded the order on January 4, 1863.

Due to constant bickering between the US Secretary of State and Treasury, Seward and Chase, Seward offered to resign but Lincoln refused to accept his resignation.

The Confederate Secretary of War, George W. Randolph, unexpectedly resigned his cabinet post and President Davis appointed Maj. Gen. Gustavus Woodson Smith as Acting Secretary of War and later in the month the President appointed James A. Seddon replaced Acting Secretary General Smith. It was (presumed) General Smith had ordered an unauthorized retreat but it was never confirmed.

Because of his treatment of New Orleans citizens while the Union Military Governor there, President Jettison Davis declared Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, a felon, punishable by death, if captured by the Confederates.

United States Army Major General Appointments;

James Barnes.	Theophilus Toulmin Garrard,
John Beatty,	Charles Kinnaird Graham,
Samuel Beatty	David McMurtrie Gregg,
Hiram Gregory Berry,	George Lucas Hartsuff,
Francis Preston Blair, Jr.,	Winfield Scott Hancock,
James Gillpatrick Blunt,	Francis Jay Herron,
Daniel Butterfield,	John Alexander Logan,
Egbert Benson Brown,	George Gordon Meade,
Robert Christie Buchanan,	Robert Huston Milroy,
Ralph Pomeroy Buckland,	Richard James Oglesby,
Charles Thomas Campbell,	John McCauley Palmer,
Stephen Gardner Champlin,	Benjamin Mayberry Prentiss,
Joseph Tarr Copeland,	John Fulton Reynolds,
Marcellus Monroe Crocker,	Joseph Jones Reynolds,
Lysander Cutler,	John McAllister Schofield
George Washington Deitzler,	Daniel Edgar Sickles,
Napoleon Jackson Tecumseh Dana,	David Sloane Stanley,
Elias Smith Dennis,	Frederick Steele,
Charles Cleveland Dodge,	George Stoneman,
William Dwight,	George Sykes,
Hugh Boyle Ewing,	Cadwallader Colden Washburn
William Henry French,	

Deaths:

Maj. Gen. Israel Bush Richardson died at the Pry House, Sharpsburg, MD, from wounds received on September 17, 1862, at the Battle of Antietam.

November 29 became, by far, the largest single day for Union General appointments, other than April 15, 1865 when officers were frequently given the rank of Brevet General. Brevets were appointed, more in celebration of the final Union victory over the Confederacy, and most were mustered out of the service of the Federal Volunteer Army rather than serving at that rank.

United States Army Brigadier General Appointment;

Richard Arnold,	Lysander Cutler,
James Barnes.	George Washington Deitzler,
John Beatty,	Elias Smith Dennis,
Samuel Beatty,	Charles Cleveland Dodge,
Egbert Benson Brown,	William Dwight,
Robert Christie Buchanan,	Alfred Washington Ellet,
Ralph Pomeroy Buckland,	Hugh Boyle Ewing,
Charles Thomas Campbell,	Clinton Bowen Fisk,
William Passmore Carlin,	Theophilus Toulmin Garrard,
Stephen Gardner Champlin,	Charles Kinnaird Graham,
Joseph Tarr Copeland,	David McMurtrie Gregg,
Marcellus Monroe Crocker,	William Hays,

Andrew Jackson Hamilton,
 James Allen Hardie,
 Edward Harland,
 William Harrow,
 Isham Nicholas Haynie,
 Alexander Hays,
 Charles Adam Heckman,
 Edward Winslow Hincks,
 Edward Henry Hobson,
 Lewis Cass Hunt,
 John Haskell King,
 Edward Needles Kirk,
 Joseph Farmer Knipe,
 Vladimir Krzyzanowski,
 Michael Kelly Lawler,
 James Hewett Ledlie,
 Albert Lindley Lee,
 Mortimer Dormer Leggett,
 William Haines Little,
 George Francis McGinnis,
 Nathaniel Collins Mclean,
 James Winning McMillan,
 John McNeil,
 Gilman Marston,
 John Sanford Mason,
 Charles Leopold Matthies,
 Sullivan Amory Meredith,
 William Hopkins Morris,
 James St. Clair Morton,
 Thomas Hewson Neill,
 Franklin Stillman Nickerson

William Ward Orme, USA
 Joshua Thomas Owen, USA
 Thomas Gamble Pitcher, USA
 Orlando Metcalfe Poe, USA
 Edward Elmer Potter,
 Thomas Edward Greenfield Ransom,
 Thomas Algeo Rowley,
 Thomas Howard Ruger,
 David Allen Russell,
 Adam Jacoby Slemmer,
 John Eugene Smith,
 John Dunlap Stevenson,
 Edwin Henry Stoughton,
 George Crockett Strong,
 David Stuart,
 Frederick Shearer Stumbaugh
 Thomas William Sweeny,
 Davis Tillson,
 Alfred Thomas Archimedes Torbert
 Robert Ogden Tiler,
 William Vandever,
 Israel Vogdes,
 George Day Wagner,
 Joseph Dana Webster,
 Thomas Welsh,
 Frank Wheaton,
 David Henry Williams,
 Nelson Grosvenor Williams,
 Isaac Jones Wistar,
 Samuel Kosciuszko Zook,

Deaths;

Brig. Gen. George Dashiell Bayard was mortally wounded by a shell fragment while at Brig. Gen. William Buel Franklin's Headquarters during the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA. He died the following day.

Brig. Gen. Conrad Feger Jackson was mortally wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA. He died instantly after being shot in the head with a Minnie ball, while leading his troops.

Brig. Gen. Charles Davis Jameson died aboard a steamboat near Boston, MA. He died from typhoid fever contracted during the June, 1862, Battle of Seven Pines.

Brig. Gen. Edward Needles Kirk was mortally wounded while leading his command at the Battle of Stone's

River, TN. He died months later at home on July 29, 1863.

Brig. Gen. Francis Engle Patterson, USA, died near Fairfax Court-House,

VA, in his tent from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his head. He was under investigation for a possible act of cowardice by ordering (presumably) an unauthorized retreat. It was never determined whether the wound was accidental or intentional.

Brig. Gen. Joshua Woodrow Sill, was killed instantly while leading his men at the Battle of Stone's River, TN. Rumors suggest he was wearing Brig. Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan's overcoat when he was shot.

Confederate Lieutenant General Appointments: None

Confederate Major General Appointments;

Patrick Ronayne Cleburne,
Franklin Gardner,
Martin Luther Smith,

Arnold Jones Elsey,
John George Walker,
Ambrose Ransom Wright,

Confederate Brigadier General Appointments;

John Adams
George Thomas Anderson,
William Robertson Boggs,
Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb.
John Rogers Cooke,
Montgomery Dent Corse,
William George Mackey Davis,
Zachariah Cantey Deas,
George Pierce Doles,
John Brown Gordon,
Archibald Gracie, Jr,
Roger Weightman Hanson,
Alfred Iverson Jr.,
William Hicks Jackson,
Stephen Dill Lee,
James Henry Lane,
Evander McNair,

Dandridge McRae,
John Sappington Marmaduke,
William Thompson Martin,
John Hunt Morgan,
John Pegram,
Lucius Eugene Polk,
Edward Cary Walthall,
John Austin Wharton,
Marcus Joseph Wright,
Elisha Franklin Paxton.
Mosby Monroe Parsons,
Carnot Posey,
James Edward Rains,
Stephen Dodson Ramseur,
Jerome Bonaparte Robertson,
James Camp Tappan,
Edward Lloyd Thomas,

Deaths;

Brig. Gen. Thomas Reade Cobb was mortally wounded defending the "Sunken Road," at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA. He bled to death after having his thigh shattered by a rifle shot.

Brig. Gen. Johnson Kelly Duncan, died at Knoxville, TN, from camp fever.

Brig. Gen, Maxey Gregg, was mortally wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA, after his men had stacked their rifles, fearing no attack from the Federals, who thereupon charged, firing into the unprepared Confederates; Gregg died three days later.

Brig. Gen. James Edward Rains was mortally wounded while leading his men in a charge against a Federal battery. He died instantly from a rifle shot at the Battle of Murfreesboro, TN.

Brig. Gen. John Bordenave Villepigue died at Port Hudson, LA, from camp fever.

Changes in Districts and Commands:

Union Actions;

Maj. Gen. McClellan, was with Maj. Gen. Burnside to command the Army of the Potomac. "Little Mac" bid farewell Warrenton Virginia.

The new Commander reorganized the Army of the Potomac into three grand divisions with the following commanders:

- a) Right Grand Division - Maj. Gen. Edwin V Sumner
- b) Center Grand Division - Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker
- c) Left Grand Division - Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin

Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker replaced Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter to command the 5th US Army Corps. It ended Porter's military career, as he was cashiered from the army in 1863 after being blamed for the Union failure at the 2nd Battle of Manassas or Bull Run, August 29th-30th, 1862.

Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, was assigned to command the Dept. of the Gulf, Louisiana, replacing Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler "Beast Butler", who earned a despicable reputation for his (mis)treatment of the citizens of New Orleans. General Banks assignment also included command of the 19th Army Corps.

Brig. Gen. John H. Martindale assumed command as Military Governor of the District of Columbia as President Lincoln traveled to Aquia Creek, Virginia to meet with Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside where declined to use Lincoln's suggested strategy of using a three-pronged attack south of the Rappahannock River. General Burnside chose instead, a direct assault on Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia lines.

Brig. Gen. Julius Stahel was temporarily in command of the a US Army Corps, the Army of the Potomac and the US Army of the Tennessee had the following commanders assigned:

- a) Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand, USA, - 13th US Army Corps,
- b) Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, USA, - 15th US Army Corps,
- c) Maj. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut, USA, - 16th US Army Corps,
- d) Maj. Gen. James B. McPherson, USA, - 11th US Army Corps, (the 15th, 16th, and 17th US Army Corps are newly created)

Maj. Gen. Robert C. Schenck, replaced Gen. John E. Wool to command the Middle Military Dept, Virginia and the 18th US Army Corps was constituted under the command of Maj. Gen. John Cray Foster the Dept. of North Carolina.

Maj. Gen. George G. Meade assumed command of the 5th US Army Corps, Army of the Potomac and Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick, replaced Gen. Darius N. Couch to command the 2nd US Army Corps, the Army of the Potomac.

Confederate Actions;

Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard's Confederate command was extended to the Choctawhatchee River, South Carolina and Gen. Braxton Bragg resumed command of the Confederate Dept. No. 2, Tennessee. The command was extended over the troops in the Dept. of East Tennessee. (On Oct. 24, 1862, the command was temporarily transferred to Lieut. Gen. Leonidas Polk).

Brig. Gen. John S. Williams was assigned to command the Dept. of Western Virginia while Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee assumed command of the 2nd Army Corps, the Confederate Army of the Mississippi while Brig. Gen. Andrew Jackson Hamilton was appointed the military governor of Texas.

The Confederate Army of Tennessee was constituted and consisted of the following Army Corps Commanders:

- a) Lieut. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith
- b) Lieut. Gen. Leonidas Polk
- c) Lieut. Gen. William Joseph Hardee

Gen. Joseph E. Johnston was assigned to a command embracing Western North Carolina, Tennessee, Northern Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Eastern Louisiana, which placed Gen. Braxton Bragg in Tennessee, and Lieut. Gen. John C. Pemberton at Vicksburg under his overall command.

Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones was assigned to command of the Trans-Allegheny, or Western Dept. of Virginia and Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder assumed command of the District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

Orders officially assigns Corps Commanders in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia:

- 1st Army Corps: Lieut. Gen. James Longstreet
- 2nd Army Corps: Lieut. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson

The Confederate Dept. of Mississippi and East Louisiana was reorganized as follows:

- a) 1st Confederate Army Corps - Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn
- b) 2nd Confederate Army Corps - Maj. Gen. Sterling Price

Maj. Gen. Arnold Elsey is assigned to command the Richmond, Virginia defenses and Brig. Gen. William Henry Chase Whiting was assigned to command of the defenses of the Cape Fear River, North Carolina.

The Commander of the Confederate District of the Gulf, Maj. Gen. John H. Forney was replaced by Brig. Gen. William W. Mackall and Maj. Gen. Simon B. Buckner, was assigned to command the District of the Gulf, Louisiana. Lieut. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith resumed command of the Dept of East Tennessee while the Confederate Army of the Mississippi new commanders as follows:

- Immediate command: Gen. Braxton Bragg
- 1st Army Corps: Lieut. Gen. Leonidas Polk "Polk's Corps."
- 2nd Army Corps: Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee

Maj. Gen. Franklin Gardner assumed command at Port Hudson, Louisiana and Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn was temporarily in command of the Confederate Army of the Mississippi

Alabama;

The end of the year events involved more Federal occupation in the Western portion of the state. They were protecting the railroad and the frequent cavalry units conducting reconnaissance from Corinth, Mississippi, toward Tusculumbia always involved skirmishes at Cherokee Station and Little Bear Creek.

Arkansas;

There were no less than 13 reported skirmishes, principally along the Northern portion of the state from Helena to Indian Territory and the Federal leaders conducted many expeditions across that area as well. The Federals launched an expedition from Ozark, Missouri and destroyed the saltworks in Yellville, Arkansas.

Gen. John S. Marmaduke, CSA, attempted to link up with Maj. Gen. Thomas Hindman, CSA, and go north into Missouri but there was action at Cane Hill, Boston Mountain and Boonsboro as Brig. Gen. James Gillpatrick, USA, routed the Confederate troops of Brig. Gen. John Sappington Marmaduke, CSA. Brig. Gen. Marmaduke retreated into the Boston Mountains.

Texas Rangers surprised the Federals near Helena and captured 23 outpost pickets and on another occasion killed or captured 18.

At the Battle of Prairie Grove, about 12 miles south of Fayetteville on Illinois Creek. Gen Thomas C. Hindman, CSA fought to a draw with Maj. Gen James Kilpatrick and Francis J. Henon, USA. The total of dead, wounded and missing was 2,500.

Helena became the origin of Federal expeditions into Mississippi. One expedition launched a cavalry raid to the vicinity of Grenada and another to Tallahatchie, Mississippi. They were conducted in coordination with General Grant, who was attempting to capture Vicksburg.

A skirmish began at Dripping Springs and resulted in the capture of Van Buren where Maj. Cen. James G. Blunt, USA, soundly defeated Maj. Gen. Thomas C. Hindman, CSA, and destroyed the Rebel steamboats, *Notre*, *Key West* and *Rose Douglass*. General Hindman burned the remaining Rebel steamers, *Eva* and *Arkansas*.

California;

Federal scouts from Fort Crook and Fort Churchill in the Nevada Territory searched the area to Honey Lake Valley.

Georgia;

Federal troops destroyed the Confederate saltworks at Kingsbury and skirmished with Confederate forces at Spurling's, on the Sapelo River and another Federal expedition from Beaumont to Dobby River resulted in them capturing around 250,000 board feet of Confederate lumber.

Indian Territory;

There were several Federal expeditions conducted from Fort Ruby, the Nevada Territory, to the Siena Nevada Mountains others around Cherokee County, Indian Territory where skirmishes were reported.

Kansas; There were Federal expeditions from Fort Scott with skirmishes reported involving Quantrill's guerrillas near Cato.

Kentucky;

Numerous skirmishes were reported around the state. Most were related to the activities of Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan's CSA cavalry raiders at or near Picketon, Grantsburg, Burkesville, Tompkinsville, and Tunnel Hill were a few. Union transports were captured by Morgan near Rustenburg and skirmishes reported at Glasgow, Bear Wallow, the Burkesville road, near Green's Chapel, and Bacon Creek, near Munfordville. Morgan captured the Union stockade at Nolin and Boston, but a Rebel guerrilla camp was captured in Powell County. Brig. Gen. Morgan captured Elizabethtown and destroyed a bridge, near President Abraham Lincoln's birthplace and reports of Morgan's other activities lit up the telegraph.

Louisiana;

Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's Federal expedition from Milliken's Bend, LA, to conduct operations against Vicksburg, MS.

Maryland;

Federal forces conducted an expedition from Sharpsburg to Shepherdstown, West Virginia as the Confederates raided Poolesville.

Mississippi;

Mississippi, specifically Vicksburg was General Grant's objective. His operation began in La Grange and Grand Junction, Tennessee. Skirmishing is a byproduct of Armies keeping in contact with their foe and contact was reported almost daily. Grant took Holly Springs and the important railroad depot there. Raids launched from Helena, Arkansas occupied Confederate troops and Holly Springs became a major logistics hub.

Federal troops, under Brig. Gen. Charles Edward Hovey occupied Grenada but were turned back at Coffeeville and Maj. Gen. Grant stalled at Oxford where he learned a Confederate Cavalry Raid was intending to destroy Holly Springs.

General Grant wanted to control the Mobile and Ohio Railroad to support resupply from Holly Springs and Tennessee. The Federal Expedition under the command of Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, embarked from Memphis, Tennessee for Vicksburg the same day Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn Confederate's destroyed the Holly Springs Federal depot. Van Dorn captured 1,500 of Maj. Gen. Grant's men and over \$1,500,000 of military supplies combined with successful raids led by Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest against rail and Federal supply depots in West Tennessee convinced General Grant to withdraw to LaGrange, Tennessee and revise his plan for Vicksburg.

President Jefferson Davis visited Vicksburg to confer with General Pemberton, the Governor and state legislature. On 12 December, the USS Cairo ironclad was sunk on the Yazoo River by a command detonated mine ("torpedo") during a river reconnaissance.

Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, no longer in direct contact with General Grant, began his assault against Vicksburg at Chickasaw Bayou and Snyder's Mill on the Yazoo

River. Sherman's attack at Chickasaw Bluffs was repulsed by the Confederates with massive Federal casualties. Sherman left his dead and wounded in the swampy Bayou.

Missouri;

Federal activity was focused on Quantrill. Operations in Boone County, Jackson County, and Cass County initiated as Quantrill reportedly attacked wagon trains and burned the town of Lamar. In Douglas County, near Vera Cruz, Confederates captured and paroled about 100 Union troops of the Federal Army of the Frontier and the Federals launched an expedition into the southern panhandle and the Northern part of Arkansas. Skirmishes were reported daily and Federal expeditions pursued Rebel guerilla bands including William Clarke Quantrill into Jasper, Barton, La Fayette and other southwestern counties.

The Federals launch an expedition from Rolla to the Ozark Mountains, and farther northwest to Parksville, Neosho, New Madrid, Clarkton, and Sugar Creek Hills, all while, Brig. Gen. John B. Marmaduke's Confederate expedition moved from Lewisburg, Arkansas into Missouri.

North Carolina;

A Federal expedition from New Berne was accompanied by skirmishes at Little Creek and Rawle's Mill. The Confederates returned with a demonstration at New Berne while skirmishes and Federal expeditions were reported at Cole Creek, Goldsborough, and Southwest Creek.

Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, USA, moving from New Berne, captured Kinston and advanced on Goldsborough after contact at White Hall Bridge. The General continued moving through Mount Olive Station, Goshen Swamp, White Hall, and raided Dudley Station, at Goldsborough Bridge, Thompson's Bridge, and skirmished at Elizabeth City.

Tennessee;

The military activities in Tennessee were in response to the aggressive and successful initiative of Nathan Bedford Forest and General Braxton Bragg's assault from Chattanooga to Murfreesborough (Stone's River). While their activities drew attention General Grant's plan to capture Vicksburg, Mississippi would dominate the planning and Federal patrolling in Southwest Tennessee.

There was constant Federal reconnaissance of the railways between Memphis and Nashville. Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, USA. brought the Army of the Cumberland from Kentucky to Nashville, in part, to deploy against Brig. Gen. Forest and the anticipated assault from General Bragg.

A Union courier station was captured on Stone's River as Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee moved from Chattanooga toward Murfreesboro to unite with Maj. Gen. John Cabell Breckinridge, CSA. Bragg arrived in Tullahoma at midmonth.

General Forest was disrupting operations on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and disrupted marshaling resources to counter General Bragg and support General Grant. Union soldiers were constantly threatened by bushwhackers while collecting supplies and often their supply wagons would be taken.

The action at Hartsville resulted in Col. John Hunt Morgan, CSA, inflicting over 2,000 Union casualties under Col. A.B. Moore, USA while General Wheeler, CSA, was

attacking Union forage trains routinely. But General Morgan, it was feared, was coming into Tennessee and the Federal reconnaissance from Edgefield Junction toward Clarksville was hoping to learn if General Morgan was supporting General Bragg and there was contact at Clarksville.

Skirmishing at Dobbins' Ferry, near La Vergne was against Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler's, attacks against a Union forage train.

An incident occurred as Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's Confederate command crossed the Tennessee River at Clifton. It was reported while under a flag of truce the Confederate Cavalry charged and captured Union men. Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans complained to Gen. Braxton Bragg. Bragg responded that his flag carrier was detained by the Federals and therefore he refuses to return the Union POW's.

Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest defeated the Union cavalry at Lexington and in engagements near Jackson, at Carroll Station, Spring Creek, Humboldt, at Railroad Crossing on Forked Deer River, Trenton, Rutherford's Station, Union City, and Wilson Creek Pike.

Texas Rangers harassed the Union foraging parties and captured the advance vidette of Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, USA near Nashville and Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton, CSA cavalry attacked Union foraging party at Brentwood, Petersburg, and Wilson Creek Pike.

Brig. Gen. Samuel P. Carter's, USA, expedition into East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia began by passing through Moccasin Gap and capturing Confederates on the Blountsville road all while skirmishing continued between the forces of General Bragg and General Rosecrans that were about to meet at Murfreesborough. General Carter captured Union and destroyed the railroad bridge across the Holston River and captured Carter's Depot and destroyed the Watauga Railroad Bridge.

The Battle of Stone's River, or Murfreesborough Tennessee began as Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, advanced towards Gen. Braxton Bragg at Murfreesboro.

General Rosecrans was distracted by mutiny of the Anderson Cavalry, around Nashville. They were men from Pennsylvania.

Maj. Gen. Forrest engaged Federal troops at Huntingdon, on the Jefferson Pike and the Murfreesborough Pike, at Stewart's Creek Bridge, Triune, Lizard's, between Triune and Murfreesborough, Clarksburg, Jefferson, La Vergne, Nolensville, Rock Spring, Red Mound, or Parker's Cross-Roads,

The Battle of Stone's River, or Murfreesboro was initiated by Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee's troops, under Gen. Braxton Bragg upon attacking Maj. Gen. William Starke Rosecrans and days later ends in a Confederate loss.

Texas;

Near Matagorda a party from the US mortar vessel, *Henry James*, were captured after they went ashore to purchase food for the crew while at Padre Island and Confederates, testing the depth of the channel, were pursued by Federal ships. The Confederates returned to shore and fired upon the Federals, who retreat: Later the same Confederates captured some Federal launches. All in one day yet Galveston was occupied by Union forces.

Utah, Nevada, New Mexico Territory;

A Federal expedition from Camp Douglas to the Cache Valley in Utah Territory results in a skirmish.

Virginia;

President Lincoln takes a personal interest in the planning for Federal operations to end the year. And there is an abundance of skirmishing as the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac are about to meet.

Skirmish occurs at Castleman's Ferry, near Snicker's Gap, as Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan marches onward into Virginia and more at Ashby's Gap as Maj. Gen. James Longstreet's Army Corps and Gen. Robert E. Lee arrive at Culpeper Court-House to front McClellan's advance, currently at Warrenton. Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson's Army Corps remained in the Shenandoah Valley.

Federal cavalry conduct reconnaissance and skirmishes at, Snicker's Gap, Manassas Gap, Markham's Station, Salem, Barbee's Cross-Roads, Augusta, Bath, and Highland Counties, at Pendleton and Pocahontas Counties in West Virginia as Brig. Gen. John H. Milroy, USA, sweeps the countryside, capturing 75 head of cattle.

At Fredericksburg Union cavalry charge under Col. Ulric Dahlgren, USA, through the city and Gen. Robert E. Lee, CSA, holds a court of inquiry, into possible negligence on the part of his pickets; no charges are lodged.

At Philmont Rebel cavalry capture the town and the tail end of a long Federal supply train, while at Corbin's Cross-Roads, near Aumsville Gen. Robert E. Lee orders Maj. Gen. JEB Stuart, to advance his cavalry to detect, if any, Federals had crossed the Rappahannock River.

The Orange and Alexandria Railroad and operations about Suffolk include skirmishes at: Providence Church and at Blackwater Bridge at Zuni.

Numerous skirmishes occur around the Rappahannock River and across from Fredericksburg with the arrival of the Army of the Potomac. The surrender of Fredericksburg is demanded by Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside and refused by the mayor as Lieut. Gen. Thomas Stonewall Jackson moves his Army Corps from the Shenandoah Valley to link up with Gen. Robert E. Lee, and Lieut. Gen. James Longstreet who are already at Fredericksburg behind entrenched positions.

The Federals destroyed the Confederate Salt Works in Matthews County and conducted reconnaissance from Williamsburg toward the Chickahominy River under authority of Maj. Gen. John A. Dix. USA.

The Federal reconnaissance from Chantilly to Snicker's Ferry and Berryville, and skirmishes meets resistance and Union pickets are captured near Dumfries.

The Battle of Fredericksburg begins as Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside's forces, under Maj. Gens. Edwin V. Sumner and William B. Franklin, USA, occupy Fredericksburg after driving back Brig. Gen. William Barksdale's, CSA, sharpshooters who were contesting the laying of Union pontoon bridges across the Rappahannock River.

Federal reconnaissance was attempting to locate the Confederate forces from Yorktown to Gloucester, Matthews, King and Queen, Middlesex Counties, and Loudoun County.

Confederates raided Poolesville, Maryland on the 14th.

At Fredericksburg, Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederates, under Lieut. Gens. James Longstreet and Thomas Stonewall Jackson, repel Burnside's onslaught on the Stone Wall and Marye's Heights as Federals under Maj. Gens. Edwin Sumner, William B. Franklin and Joseph Hooker witness great slaughter to the charging Union men. Total casualties are near 18,000. Subsequently, Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside withdraws the Army of the Potomac across the Rappahannock River to Stafford Heights.

A Federal reconnaissance gets to the Diazene Bridge and Burnt Ordinary, near Richmond as President Abraham Lincoln met with Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, to discuss the recent battle, chain of events, and actions taken by various officers, at Fredericksburg.

Skirmishes continue near Warrenton and the Federals raid Dumfries and Fairfax Station, near Occoquan, at Fairfax Court-House, Chantilly, and Frying Pan.

West Virginia;

West Virginia is not the battle ground it was in the first year of the war but does entertain skirmishing at Martinsburg when Col. John Daniel Imboden's, CSA, expedition begins from his camp on South Fort, Hardy County, into Tucker County, captures Saint George.

The Federals recon from Bolivar Heights to Rippon and into Greenbrier County and skirmishing is noted on the South Fork of the Potomac between Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, USA, and Col. John Daniel Imboden, CSA, Partisan Rangers. Skirmishes continue at Charlestown, Jefferson County, near Halltown, and at Newtown.

A Federal expedition from Summerville, Cold Knob Mountain and skirmish at Lewis' Mill and on Sinking Creek while another Federal recon from Bolivar Heights to Charlestown includes skirmishing at Cockrill's Mill. Other skirmishes reported at Moorefield, Darkesville, Warrenton, and Halltown.

Navy Operations;

Federal naval operations on Berwick Bay, Louisiana resulted in the capture of the Rebel steamer, *A.B. Seger* while Confederate and Federal forces fired at each other at Petite Anse Island and as the local Partisan Rangers attacked and killed men aboard the Federal steamer *Brown*.

The Federals conducted an expedition along the coasts of Georgia and East Florida, aboard the steamer, *Darlington*, between Saint Simon's Island and Fernandina with the intent to destroy Confederate saltworks and the rebel coastline picket stations.

The US steamer, *Ellis*, was captured by the Confederates on the New River and they attack and partially burn, Plymouth, in North Carolina. The US ironclad, *Southfield* was disabled in the attack. They also captured the steamboat, *New River*, near New River Landing in Louisiana.

Port Royal, near and west of Fredericksburg, Virginia was attacked by Union gunboats.

The Federal warship, *Vanderbilt*, failed to capture the *CSS Alabama*. Instead, the *CSS Alabama* captured and burned the vessel, *Parker Cook*, near the Leeward Islands, Atlantic Ocean.

A skirmish on the Tallahatchie River, Mississippi resulted in the destruction the steamer, *New Moon*.

Reference: *The Chronological Tracing of the American Civil War per the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion*, by Ronald A. Mosocco, 1995, James River Publications, Williamsburg, Virginia.

- **Nooks & Crannies;** Learn about the Civil War at [Nooks & Crannies – Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table \(www.tvcwrt.org\)](http://www.tvcwrt.org); Check out; All Roads Lead to Richmond, by Emil Posey

Little Round Table:

Next UP:

December 9, at 6:30 pm; How Developments in Missouri Shaped the War, *Led by Fred Forst*



Many Thanks! To Leland Free for his excellent insight into General Wheeler’s life after the Civil War.

Leland Free inspects the miniature soldier presented by Ed Kennedy.

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- Marjorie Reeves, Reception Coordinator
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- Master Projectionist **(We need help)**