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Chapter 25

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, February 23, 2013, 2:04 PM

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QUESTION -- Morale and Music

by Stephanie Sheets - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 11:31 PM

In 1864, when Union morale was at a desperate low, war songs began to take a turn for depression and loss rather than previous refrains rooting for what is right and Union victory. The 1864 best seller "When This Cruel War Is Over" was a particularly sad tune, which influenced the hearts of many. In what ways did popular music during the Civil War influence public perception of the war and the morale of soldiers?



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ANSWER -- Morale and Music



by Whitney Stevens - Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 3:50 AM

In 1864, a change in the theme of popular homefront war music occurred, especially between the months of July and August of 1864. Music went from "ebullient patriotism to a longing for peace" (McPherson, 760). This was due to the crisis within the Union of their struggle with morale. The new titles of music lacked enthusiasm for the war and showed a desire for the war to be over. Some of the newer songs, included "Tell me, Is My Father Coming Back?", "Bear this Gently To My Mother", and "Yes, I Would the War is Over". Ultimately, citizens grew dreary of the war, looked for an ending and were exhausted from the overwhelming amount of deaths and injuries.

Whitney



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Chapter 25 Question: The Southern decision that was popular with the North

by Mark Gorski - Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 5:20 PM

In July of 1864, Confederate President Davis sent General Bragg to Atlanta to evaluate the situation there. After consulting with Generals Lee & Bragg President Davis made a command decision that prompted Union General Sherman to make the following comments, "The Confederate Government rendered us a most valuable service" and "This is just what we wanted".

What was General Bragg's recommendation?

What advice did General Lee give to President Davis?

What was the command decision made by President Davis and why did it cause

General Sherman to feel the way he did?



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Re: ANSWER: The Southern decision that was popular with the North

S

by Meleah Drews - Sunday, March 10, 2013, 4:11 PM

Davis sent General Bragg to evaluate the situation in Atlanta. Johnston was the leader of the army there and was defending Atlanta from Sherman's forces. Johnston's strategy was one of defense and maintaining position. His battle plans therefore depended very much on Sherman's maneuvers.

When Bragg arrived in Atlanta, he consulted mainly with General Hood who declared, "I regard it as a great misfortune to our country that we failed to give battle to the enemy many miles north of our present position" (p753). Bragg

took this information back to Davis and recommended General Joseph Johnston be replaced with Hood. Hood was a more aggressive battle commander and Davis was in agreement with Bragg's recommendation. Davis however thought it best to give Johnston one more chance and so wired him to ask about his battle plans. When Johnston replied it depends on Sherman's next move, Davis was dissatisfied with the response and immediately replaced Johnston with Hood.

Sherman was delighted with the change in command because he believed that Hood would mount an offensive strike in the open where the Union forces would have a better opportunity. He believed Johnston was too wise to give up the advantage of defensive positioning.

The change in command was not embraced by everyone including General Lee who believed Hood to be too reckless. He was however a fighter, and Davis wanted someone who would fight. If the south was to lose Atlanta, they should not lose it without a fight.

References: Battle Cry of Freedom (p. 752-754)

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New Man In Charge

by Alexander Kristy - Thursday, February 28, 2013, 4:18 PM

Jefferson Davis decided to replace General Johnston, who did he replace him with? Why was this decision a surprise among the confederate soldiers? Why did Davis make the decision to replace Johnston, and what did he think it would mean for the South? The North met this decision happily, why was this and who specifically liked this decision?



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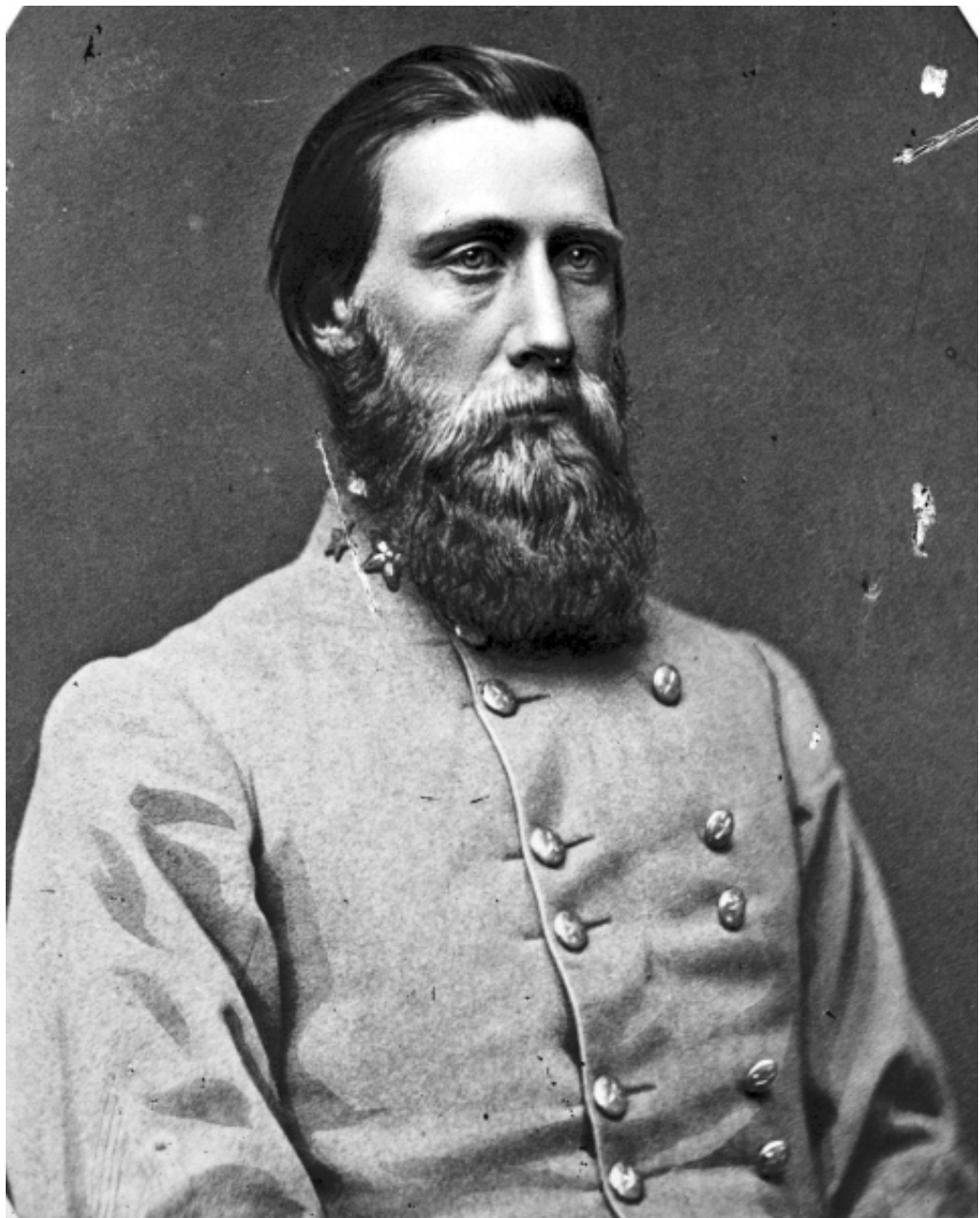
ANSWER

by Ashley Clark - Thursday, March 7, 2013, 12:17 PM

Jefferson Davis claimed that the fall of Atlanta would "open the way for the Federal Army to the Gulf on the one hand, and to Charleston on the other, and close up those rich granaries from which Lee's armies are supplied. It would give them control of our network of railways and thus paralyze our efforts." General Johnston was in charge of defending the city, but displayed a very McClellan-like tactic of not engaging the enemy. As Sherman drew closer, Johnston refused to give fight and gave what Davis took as intent to give up Atlanta, saying that he was attempting to leave the city "in condition to be held by the Georgia militia, that army movements may be freer and wider." Desperate to hold the city, Davis complied to Braxton Bragg's urgings and appointed General John Bell Hood in Johnston's place on July 17th. He hoped that putting the aggressive general in charge would mean an attack on Sherman's army that would (if all went according to plan) drive the Union army back and away from the city.

This came as a surprise to many Confederates, as Hood was considered to be rather reckless and many were content with Johnson's method of holding the city and keeping it defended without enemy engagement to inflict casualties and possibly lose hold. The decision, while supported by Davis' cabinet and Congress, came as upsetting news to the army.

Sherman, however, was elated by the news. He believed that the Confederacy "rendered [them] a most valuable service" by replacing Johnston, giving them a hot-headed general who would likely engage them on even territory, rather than a cautious strategist who would draw them toward trenches and preparations. If Hood proved to be as reckless as his reputation stated, Sherman would likely be able to defeat him and move in on Atlanta.





Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Reconstruction Plans

by Micah Young - Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 10:37 PM

"These crosscutting pressures during August made Lincoln's life a hell." These stated pressures are in regards to Lincoln's reconstruction plans about which he had complaints from both his party and Democrats. A July meeting took place in the Confederate capitol of Richmond in which reconstruction plans were a theme. What were Lincoln's reconstruction aims (three words) and how were results from this meeting ultimately used by Democrats to criticize the President about reconstruction? What was one critique made by certain Republicans about reconstruction?



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Question-Appoint different command-Chapter 25

by Robyn Stevens - Saturday, March 2, 2013, 7:03 PM

During the siege of Atlanta, Bragg urged Davis to replace Johnston. Name the man who was Johnston's replacement and give at least 2 examples of why General Lee thought this action a bad idea and "advised against it" and why this decision would made General Sherman very happy. Did this decision hurt or help the confederacy?



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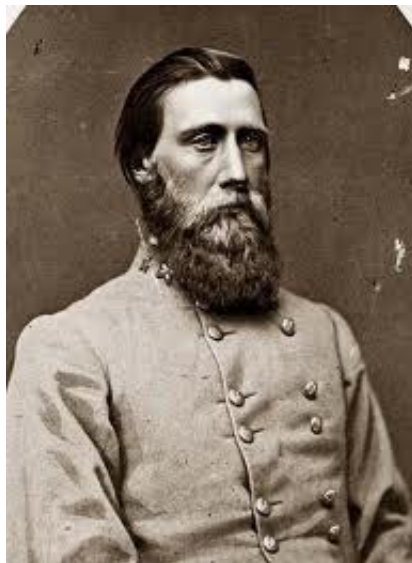


ANSWER: Appoint different command-Chapter 25

by Courtney Merrell - Friday, March 8, 2013, 11:12 PM

Bragg urged Davis to replace Johnston with Hood. General Lee believed this man to be "all lion" and "none of the fox", which means Lee thought Hood was too reckless and not cautious or strategic enough to take over the position Johnston held. But even with strong oppositions from Lee, Davis soon replaced Johnston with Thirty-three-year-old Hood.

The one positive coming from the removal of Johnston was for the Union. Sherman was confident that replacing Johnston, a cautious defensive strategist, with a bold fighter was just what they wanted. Sherman was pleased to fight on open ground, on anything like equal terms, instead of being forced to run up against prepared intrenchments. And sure enough, two days after taking command, Hood tried to destroy the Yankees. After recovering from the initial surprise, the Yankees fought with ferocity and inflicted half as many casualties on Hood's army in one afternoon as it had suffered in ten weeks under Johnston. I'm sure Davis soon regretted his decision to put Hood in charge for the army was eventually sieged and the city fell to the Union hastening the end of the war. Overall, I would say that Hood being appointed negatively affected the Confederates.



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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The Lead Division

by Courtney Merrell - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 10:13 AM

During the siege of Petersburg, Meade (with approval from Grant), ordered Burnside to have white divisions go first before he sent in their black division. What was Meade's reason for the switch? What did Grant later state was the reason for this change?



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ANSWER- The Lead Division

by Robyn Stevens - Monday, March 4, 2013, 11:12 PM

Meade's decision for the switch was his lack of confidence in the inexperienced black soldiers. Later when Grant testified before the Committee of Conduct of the War he mentioned another reason. This reason was made on the basis that "it would then have been said that we were shoving these people ahead to get killed first because we did not care anything about them".



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Question: Brilliant Idea, Disastrous Outcome

by Brendan MacDonald - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 3:39 PM

What famous battle discussed in Chapter 25 *After Four Years of Failure* was in conception the most brilliant stroke of the war; but in execution became a tragic fiasco? Provide specific examples from Ch. 25 of what caused this battle to turn disastrous.



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ANSWER

by Alexander Kristy - Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 3:29 PM

Battle of the Crater. Hours before the mine was set to explode Meade, with Grant's approval, ordered Burnside to send in his white troops in first. It had been set that a black division was to go in first, because they were fresh and the other three divisions Burnside had were tired from the Battle of Wilderness. "Meade's motive seems to have been lack of confidence in the inexperienced black troops, though in later testimony before the Committee on the Conduct of the War Grant mentioned another reason as well: If things went wrong, 'it would then be said...that we were shoving these people ahead to get killed because we did not care anything about them. But that could not be said if we put white troops in front.'" (pg. 759, McPherson). Burnside, demoralized by the last minute change, lost control of the operation. James H. Ledlie, designated to lead the attack, had a mediocre record and a drinking problem. He was chosen by drawing straws. After blowing the mine the Union soldiers were in awe of the destruction and failed to get out of the crater. Instead of moving to the left and right to flank the Confederates they moved into the crater. It was a disaster in which the Union lost 4,000 men and the South lost less than half that.

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QUESTION - Friends in High Places

by Ian MacDonald - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 4:08 PM

Chapter 25 in *Battle Cry of Freedom* describes several secret organizations that

Conspiracy in Canada

Here, as far as we can see, is a band of 20 or 25 men, apparently organized, and busy starting on an expedition for mother and plunder into the very heart of one of the greatest cities of the world. What the great motive could have been is one of those things that possibly will only be known on the last reckoning day, but the reasonable supposition is that plunder was the basis, with the terrible thing that awaits Southern Italy.

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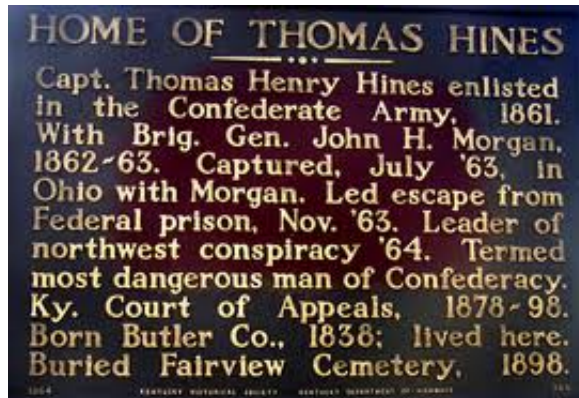
Sum of ratings:2 (1)



Question- Rebel Agents

by Jacob Pusey - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 4:11 PM

After escaping from a Northern prison, Thomas C. Hines returned to the South and convinced the Confederate Congress to appropriate \$5 million for what purpose? What were some of the operations that he and other rebel agents took part in?



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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ANSWER

by Julie Skinner - Thursday, March 7, 2013, 1:28 PM

Captain Thomas C. Hines had been captured and imprisoned in the Ohio Penitentiary from which he escaped via a tunnel he and others dug, in November 1863. After this, he was able to persuade southern leaders of the potential for Canadian-based sabotage operations for which purpose the confederate congress appropriated \$5 million.

Along with Jacob Thompson and Clement C. Clay, Hines would organize plans to capture a Union gunboat on Lake Erie and liberate Confederate prisoners at Johnson's Island and Camp Douglas. They managed to destroy six military steamboats at St. Louis, an army warehouse at Mattoon, Illinois and several hotels in New York City. They also carried out daring raids across the border, robbing banks in St. Albans, Vermont.

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QUESTION: Battle of the Crater

by Julie Skinner - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 4:11 PM

Meade, with Grant's approval, ordered a last minute change to the battle plan at the Battle of the Crater turning it into one of the biggest fiascos of the war. What was this change? What were Meade and Grant's reason for this change and what effect

t, if any, did it have on the outcome of the battle?



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ANSWER: Battle of the Crater

by Brendan MacDonald - Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 3:18 PM

The last minute change to the battle plan in which led to fiasco was that the attack be carried out by white troops instead of two brigades comprised of black soldiers who had trained for the quick assault that was to be made through the opening the explosion would create. Grant approved Meade's decision to make this change because they did not want to face the wrath of the abolitionists if the assault was unsuccessful giving the appearance that black men had been used as cannon fodder. After the battle started, by the time the black troops were finally sent in, they were ordered down into the crater where regrouping Confederate soldiers slaughtered all of them. By the time the battle had ended, 4,000 Union men had been killed, wounded or captured. The fiasco had no result except to make the war more bitter.

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The Crater

by Jennifer King - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 4:36 PM

What general had great enthusiasm about the mining project which became known as the battle of the Crater? Why did he feel so strongly about it?



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ANSWER

by Jacob Pusey - Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 7:56 PM

The idea for what some say was the most innovative tactic of the war and potentially could have ended the siege of Petersburg came from Colonel Henry Pleasants of the 48th Pennsylvania regiment. Before the war he was a mining engineer and many of his men had experience in coal mines. The mine itself was an engineering marvel at the time because no military tunnel had previously been dug over 400 ft. Their was 511 ft. General Meade and Grant were skeptical about the plan but, were eventually convinced and General Burnside was thrilled. If the plan worked it would likely end the siege and possibly even bring the war to a close making him the hero. He hoped that this would make up for his embarrassing failures at Fredericksburg while he commanded the Army of the Potomac and where he was given the nickname "Butcher of Fredericksburg". The Battle of the Crater which followed the detonation of the explosives at the end of the mine shaft, was a complete disaster for the Northern soldiers and ended with them gaining nothing and losing 4,000 soldiers. Grant called it "the saddest affair I have ever witnessed in the war".

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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QUESTION- homefront war music

by Whitney Stevens - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 5:22 PM

In the months of July and August of 1864, what turn in popular home front war music occurred? What were the obvious reasons for this?



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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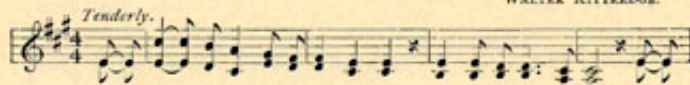
Re: QUESTION- homefront war music

by Jessica Cadenasso - Friday, March 8, 2013, 5:55 PM

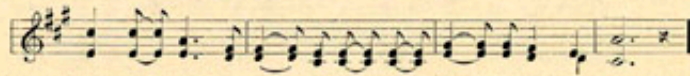
The music turned from lively patriotism songs to longing for peace. The northerners were in a depression, they just wanted the war to be over. "Many of the hearts that are weary tonight, Wishing for the war to cease," from the song *Tenting on the Old Camp Ground*.

TENTING ON THE OLD CAMP GROUND.

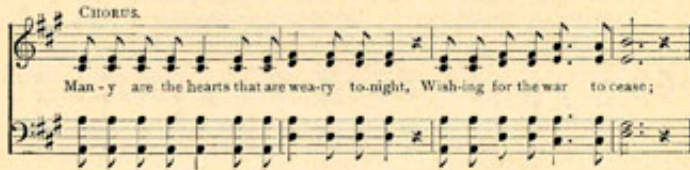
WALTER KITTEREDGE.



1. We've tent-ing to-night on the old camp ground, Give us a song to cheer Our
2. We've been tenting to-night on the old camp ground, Thinking of days gone by, Of the
3. We are tired of war on the old camp ground, Man - y are dead and gone. Of the
4. We've been fighting to-night on the old camp ground, Man - y are ly - ing near; Some



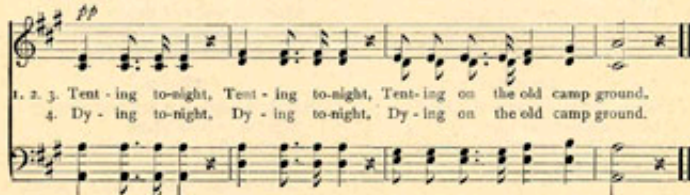
wea - ry hearts, a song of home, And friends we love so dear,
 loved ones at home that gave us the hand, And the tear that said "good - bye."
 brave and true who've left their homes, Oth - ers been wound-ed long,
 are dead and some are dy - ing, Man - y the fall - ing tear.



Man - y are the hearts that are wea-ry to-night, Wish-ing for the war to cease;



Man - y are the hearts look-ing for the right, To see the dawn of peace,



1. 2. 3. Tent - ing to-night, Tent - ing to-night, Tent-ing on the old camp ground.
4. Dy - ing to-night, Dy - ing to-night, Dy - ing on the old camp ground.

Riverside Song Book.

71.2007.083.0068

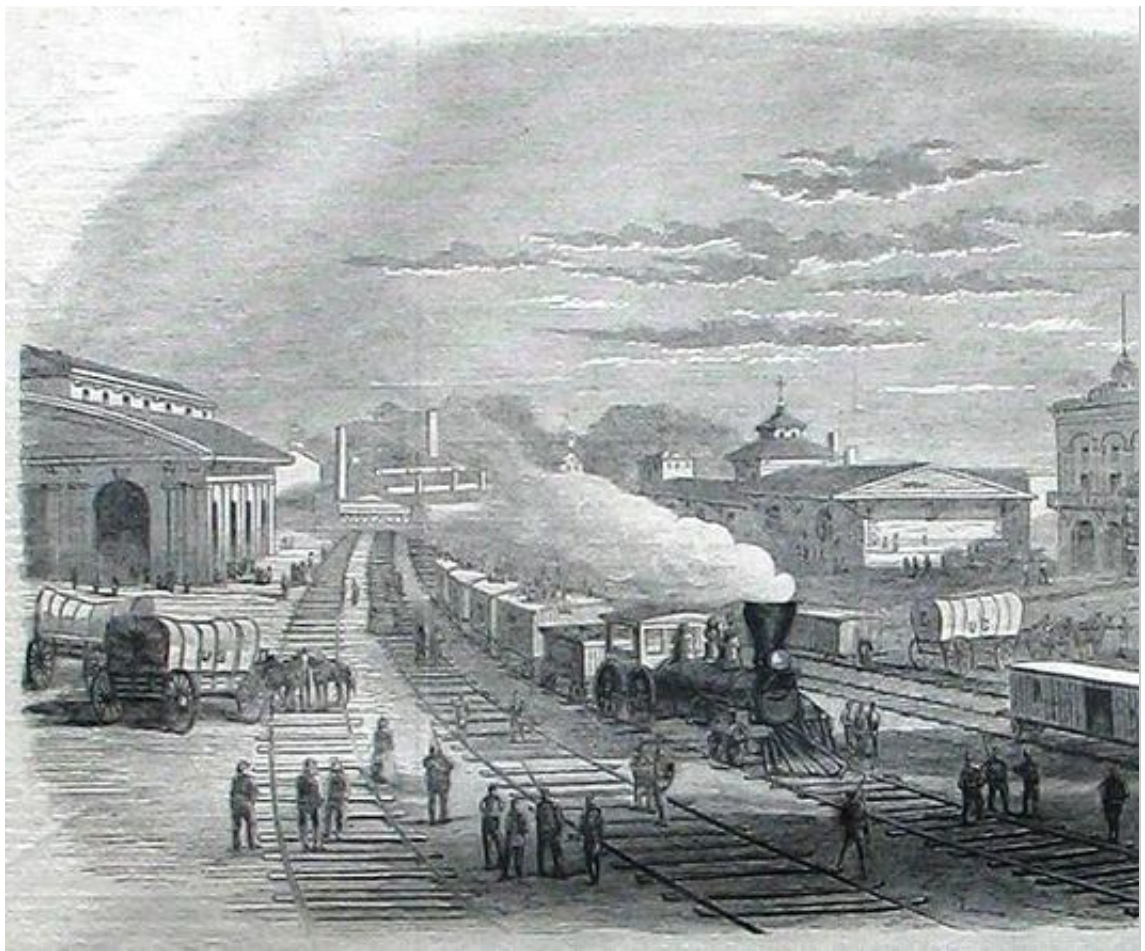
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**Question - Ch. 25**

by Adam Coutts - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 5:37 PM

The fall of this city, said Jefferson Davis, would "open the way for the Federal Army to the Gulf on one hand, and to Charleston on the other...it would give them control of our network...and thus paralyze our efforts." To what city is he referring to and did this have any significant role with Lincoln's re-election?



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Chapter 25 – Answer – The Fall of the City

by Mark Gorski - Thursday, March 7, 2013, 11:57 AM

The city Mr. Davis was referring to was Atlanta, Georgia.

Atlanta was a strategic railroad hub even before the war. The railroads connected Atlanta with nearly every major city in the Confederacy.

During the war foundries, factories, munitions plants and supply depots sprang up there and by the time Sherman began threatening Atlanta the city's population had nearly doubled to 20,000.

The north viewed Atlanta as a great prize second only to Richmond and waited with anticipation for news that General Sherman had captured the city.

President Lincoln knew that the loss of Atlanta would greatly demoralize southerners while energizing northerners but as the summer ground on and Atlanta remained in confederate hands public sentiment in the north steadily slipped away from Lincoln and the war effort. This gave traction to northern Peace Democrats and the Copperheads. So much traction that George B. McClellan was nominated as the Democratic candidate to oppose Lincoln in

November.

By the middle of August Mr. Lincoln began to seriously doubt his re-election, fully expecting McClellan to be the next President.

Then, on September 2nd, with Confederate forces having been pulled out of the city, Atlanta surrendered to General Sherman.

By September 4th most Northerners had heard the news and by the middle of September northern sentiment began to turn back towards the war effort and President Lincoln.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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QUESTION - Atlanta

by Ryan Lundberg - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 6:04 PM

The Confederacy put great effort into defending Atlanta. What were both the practical, and symbolic reasons for this?



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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ANSWER - Atlanta

by Ian MacDonald - Friday, March 8, 2013, 11:30 AM

Atlanta was such an important location for the Confederates for several reasons. Not only was it one of the last major cities that the South had control of, but it also contained many factories and supply depots. President Davis feared that if the Union gained control of Atlanta, that it would allow them to reach other important locations for the Confederates. The Union would have access to a network of railways and therefore be able to paralyze the South's efforts. The Confederacy had also invested so much effort in defending the city that it also became a symbol of resistance and nationality second to Richmond. The re-election of President Lincoln was also another huge event that in many

ways hinged on the Unions victory at Atlanta. If Lincoln had not been re-elected, the outcome of the war may have been drastically different.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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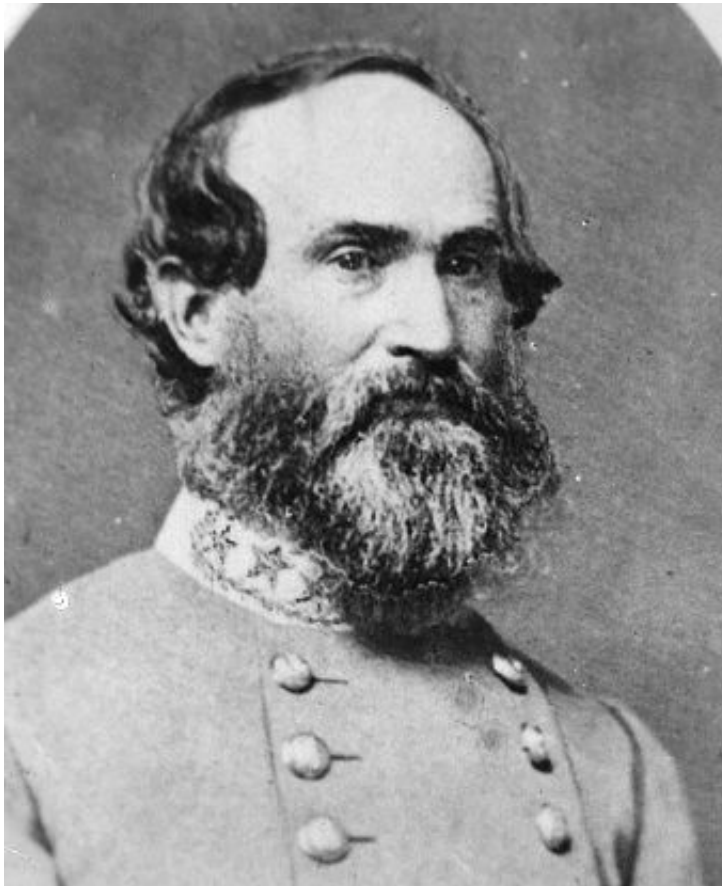


Question-Rebel assault

by Chance Cornish - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 7:54 PM

Question #5

Grant's siege on Petersburg seemed to be moving slower than molasses uphill in the winter and in late June 1864, things seemed to be turning for the worst. The rebels resisted a union infantry and cavalry raid on Lee's supply lines to Richmond. Grant's 2nd corps took heavy losses and performed poorly and now he had to send his best remaining corps, the 6th corps, off to repulse a possible assault. What/ where was this rebel heading?



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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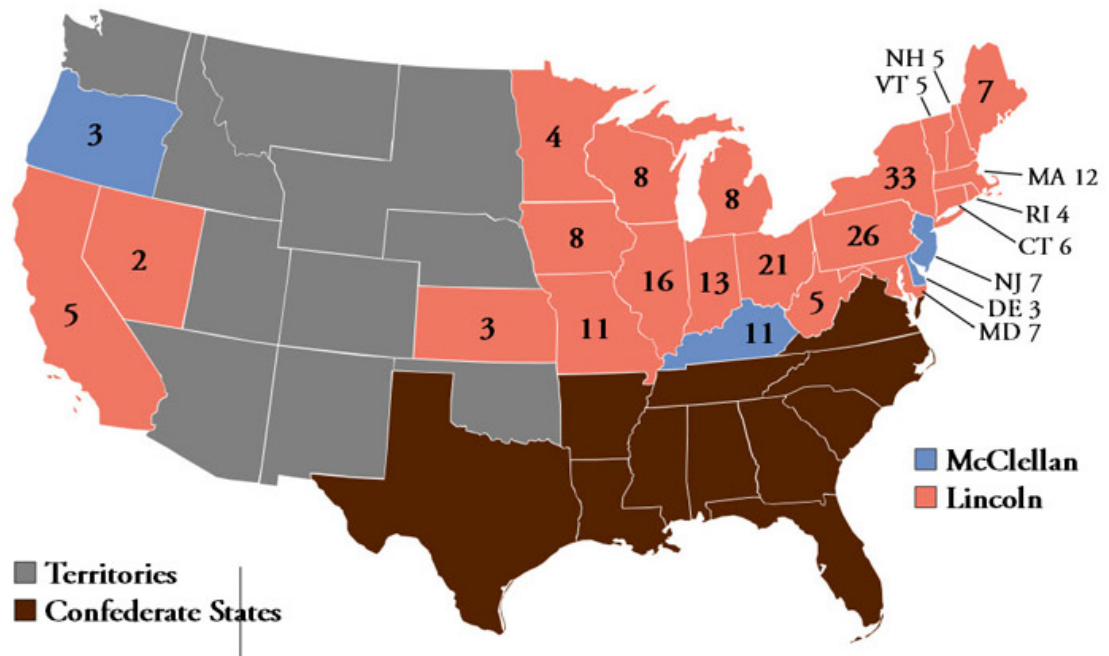
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Question-- Why Not McClellan?  



by Ashley Clark - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 8:22 PM

The state of the Union and the current standing of the war in 1864 took a great toll on Lincoln's administration. Many painted him as some sort of monster that was the very representation of the war, and citizens took on the belief that to re-elect Lincoln was to ask for a continuation of the war. Candidate George McClellan advocated for peace and promised a swift and easy end to the conflict, swearing that he would "insist upon exhausting all and every means to secure peace without further bloodshed." To many, this was the way out that they had been looking for. Despite all this, Lincoln pulled a landslide victory against McClellan. What are some of the factors that proved him the better candidate? What are some of the factors that could have led voters to shy away from McClellan?



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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ANSWER -- Why Not McClellan? P S

by Adam Coutts - Saturday, March 9, 2013, 1:00 PM

In the Election of 1864, Lincoln himself believed that he had very little chance of being re-elected, the Confederate forces had several victories under their belt: Battle of Mansfield, the Battle of the Crater, and the Battle of Cold Harbor. In addition, the war was continuing to take a very high toll. The prospect of a long and bloody war started to make the idea of "peace at all cost" offered by the Copperheads look more desirable. Because of this, McClellan was thought to be a heavy favorite to win the election. Unfortunately for Lincoln, John C. Fremont's campaign got off to a good start as well.

However many events, both political and militarily, fell into place that

made Lincoln's re-election inevitable. For one thing, the Democrats had to confront the severe internal strains within their party at the Democratic National Convention. The political compromises made there were contradictory and made McClellan's campaign inconsistent and difficult.

Another thing, the Democratic National Convention influenced Fremont's campaign. Fremont was appalled at the Democratic platform, which he described as "union with slavery". After several weeks of discussions with Cochrane and his supporters, Fremont withdrew from the race in September 1864. In his statement, Fremont declared that winning the Civil War was too important to divide the Republican vote. Although he still felt Lincoln was not going far enough, the defeat of McClellan was of the greatest necessity. General Cochrane, who was a War Democrat, agreed and also withdrew with Fremont. McClellan's chances of victory faded after Fremont withdrew from the presidential race.

Finally with the fall of Atlanta on September 2nd, there no longer was any question that Union military victory was inevitable and close at hand. In the end, the Union Party mobilized the full strength of both the Republicans and the War Democrats under its slogan "Don't change horses in the middle of a stream." It was energized as Lincoln made emancipation the central issue, and state Republican parties stressed the fickleness of the Copperheads.

Also leaving little to chance, federal officials arranged liberal furloughs for Union soldiers – a source of significant support for Lincoln. Soldiers in the army gave more than 70% of their vote to Lincoln.

Only 25 states participated since 11 Southern states were currently at war with the Union. Three new states participated for the first time: Kansas, Nevada, and West Virginia. McClellan won just three states: Kentucky, Delaware, and his home state of New Jersey.



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GRAND, NATIONAL UNION BANNER FOR 1864.
LIBERTY, UNION AND VICTORY.



GRAND NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

PEACE! UNION! AND VICTORY!



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McClellan, Democratic candidate for president  

by Meleah Drews - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 8:48 PM

McClellan was elected as the Democratic candidate for president. What was his plan to end the war and how did it differ from Lincoln's?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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ANSWER - McClellan, Democratic candidate for president  

by Ryan Lundberg - Saturday, March 9, 2013, 3:47 PM

It appears that McClellan's plans to end the war were somewhat divided

between public and private sentiment. McClellan was widely known as a War Democrat, and in a speech given at West Point, he seemingly sanctioned the cause of Union through military victory. Behind the scenes however, McClellan's principal adviser assured doubters that "the General is for peace, not war...If he is nominated, he would prefer to restore the Union by peaceful means, rather than by war." (771). McClellan himself reportedly told a St. Louis businessman on August 24: "If I am elected, I will recommend an immediate armistice and a call for a convention of all the states and insist up exhausting all and every means to secure peace without further bloodshed." Ultimately, McClellan ran on the platform of unimpaired state's rights (slavery), and the Federal Union to be restored through peace. (772). This of course differed from Lincoln finally refusing to sacrifice abolition as a condition of peace. (770). His peace terms were Union and emancipation.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

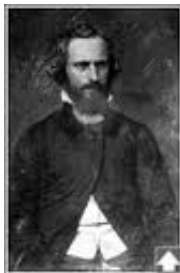
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Re: Chapter 25

by Jessica Cadenasso - Sunday, March 3, 2013, 10:07 PM

The Niagara Falls conference came to nothing due to Clay and Holcombe couldn't negotiate peace terms, Why were they in Canada and what did the confederacy do after that conference that was false?



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Chapter 25

by Micah Young - Friday, March 8, 2013, 12:00 AM

The Niagara Falls peace conference took place on July 18 in Niagara Falls, Canada. Horace Greeley, editor and founder of the New York Tribune, America's most influential newspaper from the 1840s to the 1870s (wikipedia) and John Hay, Lincoln's private secretary represented Lincoln and the North at

the meeting. Despite the fact that the meeting is termed a peace conference, the meeting was not actually about negotiating peace and the Southern agents, Clement Clay and James Holcombe did not have authority from Jefferson Davis to negotiate any peace terms.

The meeting was, therefore, primarily about propaganda. Realizing that the Confederacy could not defeat the North militarily, Confederate leaders plotted to win politically and to sway Northern sentiment against the war and war goals. To assist in this, beginning in early in 1864 Davis' administration financed Canadian based operations. The Niagara Falls peace convention was one case where the Confederates essentially fooled the administration into a meeting from which they could use Lincoln's terms for peace against him. Lincoln was privy to Confederate motivations, and though he had his own plans for how the terms of this meeting would be established, on this occasion the Confederate agents out maneuvered him.

Much of the fault for this failed meeting should be put on Greeley; he was weary of the long casualty lists produced by the war, and he disagreed ardently and frequently with how Lincoln managed the war. When a Confederate agent named William Cornell Jewitt proposed a meeting to settle some terms of peace between both sides Greeley responded by contacting the president. Lincoln replied in a letter which contained two preconditions: restoration of union and emancipation. "Your letter of the 7th, with enclosures, received. If you can find any person anywhere professing to have any proposition of Jefferson Davis, in writing, for peace, embracing the restoration of the Union and abandonment of slavery, whatever else it may embrace, say to him he may come to me with you; and that if he really brings such proposition, he shall, at least, have safe conduct with the paper (and without publicity, if he chooses) to the point where you shall have to meet him. The same if there be two or more persons" (dickallison.wordpress). However, Greeley, did not include Lincoln's two conditions in his correspondence with the agents. When this was discovered Lincoln rebuffed Greeley. The reason the Southern agents included Greeley in their plot was likely so that if Lincoln were to have ignored the Southern agents requesting a peace conference, he would have reported it; this could have made Lincoln look like the war monger that Greeley considered him to be and it would have strengthened the Democratic party and their chances for election. Lincoln and the much respected newspaper man were now even more at odds. The two Southern agents gave exaggerated and fabricated reports of the meeting to Democratic newspapers which then criticized the president. Ultimately, the newspaper press that came from these events seemed to unite and strengthened Democrats and strain or divide Republicans.

<http://dickallison.wordpress.com/2011/04/17/the-great-niagara-peace-debacle/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horace_Greeley

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