

1863 - 1864

Bigger Battles – High  
Casualties

1864 Election

In 1864, what was the name of the political party Lincoln ran under?

McClellan is dismissed

The election of 1862 keeps the  
Republican Party in control of  
Congress

The Union's objects of dividing the  
south have not been completed

The CSA still hopes for recognition  
from England and France

# After a Year and Half of War

Vicksburg is still holding the Mississippi  
Chattanooga rail junction is the other key for  
CSA

Union is winning the battles in western theatre  
CSA is winning most of the battles in east  
No foreign recognition of the CSA  
Republican Party holds both houses after  
election

AOP badly defeated at Fredericksburg  
Southern economy in shambles

CSA Army –high morale

Union Army – low morale

Most of the south is still intact  
– industry is ramping up

# The Emancipation Proclamation is now In Force

After Fredericksburg, Joe Hooker is placed in command of the Army of the Potomac. He brags that he will whip Robert E. Lee.

“The hen is the wisest of all the animals, because she never cackles until the egg is laid.” Lincoln said of Hooker

# Chancellorsville

Lee's most brilliant victory – outmaneuvered Hooker – Lee repeatedly divided his forces

Stonewall Jackson killed

The Confederates suffered 13,000 casualties (22% of their forces) – The Union 17,000 (15% of their forces).

**Real cost: over confidence of Lee**

# Ulysses S. Grant

Hiram Ulysses Grant

He said the Mexican War was “wicked.” He fought bravely as a regimental quartermaster, at one point riding through enemy fire (likened it to "a hailstorm") to bring ammunition to his men.

Had many failures in his career before rejoining the Army

Cunning and ruthless in war

Almost never doubting or second guessing himself

Illinois Governor appointed him as a colonel of a volunteer regiment-the worst in Illinois

He triumphed in a little battle at Belmont, Missouri, then Fort Henry

Then a magnificent big victory Fort Donelson, all while other Federal generals were being thrashed, one after another

Grant was promoted to Brigadier General and became a Northern hero

# Shiloh

His army was caught by surprise at Shiloh in 1862 and suffered tearful losses before he prevailed and won

Grant was ignominiously labeled a "drunk" and branded an "incompetent."

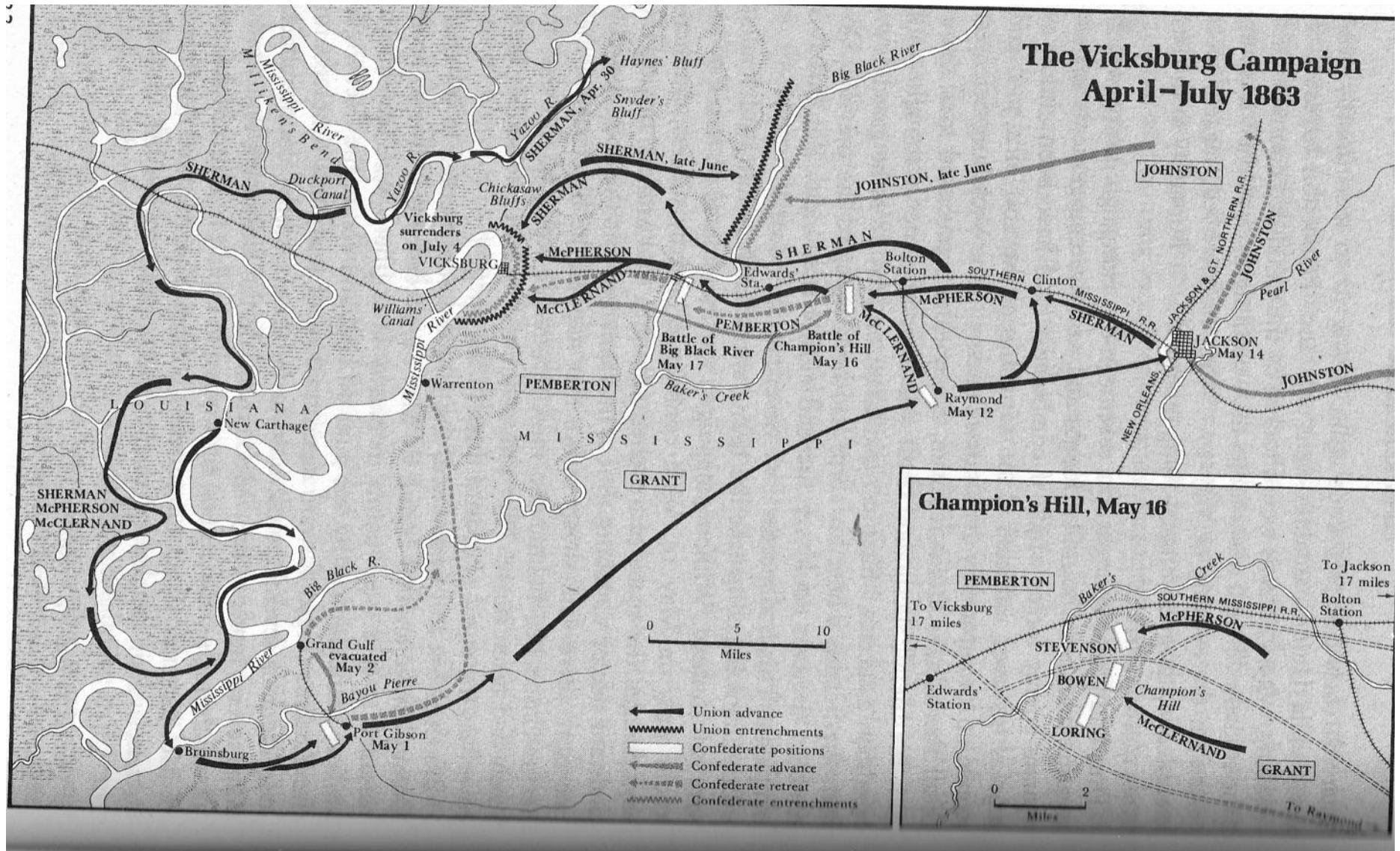
"General Grant. ... is a jackass in the original package. He is a poor drunken imbecile."

The press clamored for Grant's head

"I can't spare this man, he fights" – Lincoln

# Vicksburg

## The Vicksburg Campaign April - July 1863



Vicksburg lived in hope of rescue by Johnston –  
“Davis can’t intend to sacrifice us”

Davis had no more reinforcements to send

Lee needed every soldier in Virginia for his impending  
invasion of Pennsylvania

Lee’s commitment to Davis and other senior  
Confederacy Leaders

The Union ultimately won the war by victories in the  
West

The Confederacy more than once came close to  
winning it in the East

In the Spring of 1863 Lee has scored his greatest  
victory

The summer was his greatest failure.

# Gettysburg

July 1, 1863

Meade has taken control of the Army of the  
Potomac

J.E.B. Stuart is elsewhere

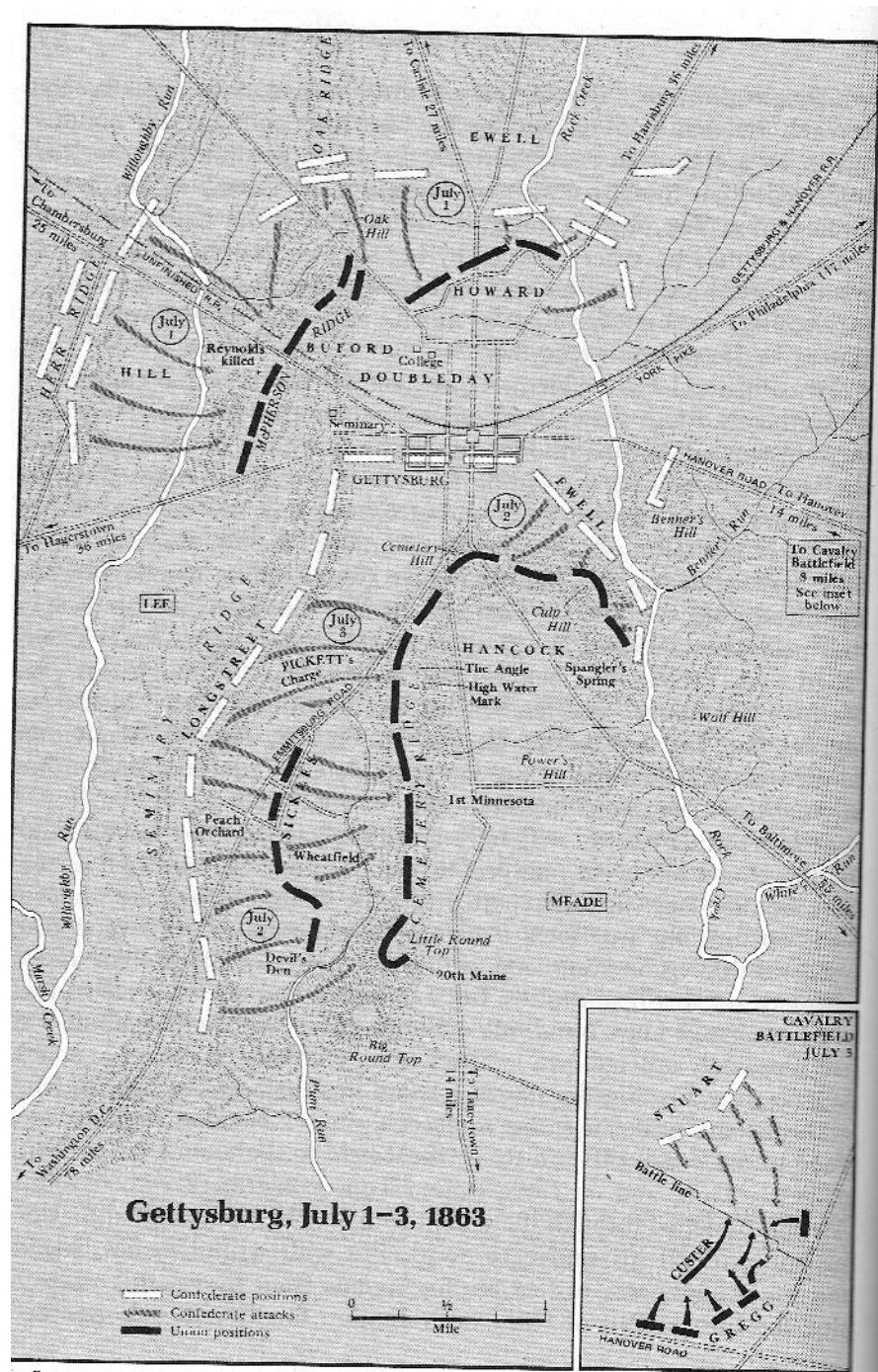
Chance encounter at a crossroads

Bufo rd's Cavalry

Union and CSA amass troops

Union has high ground – superior defensive  
position

Longstreet's advice ignored



July 2, 1863

Little Round Top

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain

Attach Fails

Lee's blunder



July 3, 1863

Lee's intransigence

Longstreet didn't want to look

Artillery barrage

Pickett's Charge - "Fredericksburg"

Retreat

History rewrite - blame Longstreet

July 4, 1863

Vicksburg surrenders

Lee does not retreat immediately

# The Grey Fox Escapes

Meade is cautious or fooled

Lincoln is desperate for an advance

The heavy rains have delayed Lee

Potomac is swollen

Once again, Lincoln hears from a Union  
General that the Confederate Army has  
been removed from United States land

# Aftermath

The results of this victory are: priceless. The charm of Robert Lee's invincibility is broken. The Army of the Potomac has at last found general that can handle it. And has stood nobly up to its terrible work inspire of its long disheartening list of hard fought failure

George Templeton Strong

Events have succeeded one another with disastrous rapidity. One brief month ago we were apparently at the point of success. Lee was in Pennsylvania threatening Harrisburgh [sic] and even Philadelphia. Vicksburgh [sic] seemed to laugh at Grant's efforts to scorn Port Hudson had beaten off Banks' force. Now the picture is just as sombre [sic] as it was bright then....It seems incredible that human power could effect such a change in so brief a space. Yesterday we rode on the pinnacle of success-today absolute ruin seems to be our portion. The Confederacy totters to its destruction.

Chief of CSA Ordinance

## Massachusetts 54<sup>th</sup>

A minor raid along a South Carolina river in January 1863.

“Nobody knows anything about these men who has not seen them in battle,” wrote Higginson leader of the raid

Gov. Andrew (Mass) enlisted enough men to form two regiments, the 54<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> of Mass.

The attack on Battery (Fort) Wagner was a failure but the men fought well with bravery.

180,000 black soldiers were now ready for combat

In the four months after Gettysburg. Prices jumped nearly 70 percent. “Yesterday flour sold at auction at \$100 per barrel: today it sells for \$120.” wrote a resident of Richmond in November

"A genteel suit of clothes cannot be had now for less than 700...."

"Every night robberies of poultry, salt meats, and even of cows and hogs are occurring..."

"the irretrievable bankruptcy of the national finances. The tenacity with which the President [Davis] holds to men in whom the country has lost all confidence, the scarcity of means or support ...are producing deep disgust---I have never actually despaired of the cause, priceless. holy as it is, but my faith....is yielding to a sense of hopelessness."

1864

Bloodiest year of the war

Grant - Lieutenant General (last held by  
George Washington)

Sherman takes over the western armies

Meade remained in charge of his army

Phil Sheridan came east to take over its  
cavalry

Union's three best generals-Grant, Sherman,  
and Sheridan are ready to fight

# Southern Strategy

Southern armies could hold out until  
the election

Whether Lincoln “shall ever be elected or  
not depends upon the battle-fields of  
1864... If the tyrant in Washington is  
defeated, his infamous policy will be  
defeated with him.”

Georgia Newspaper

"if we can only subsist " giving an opportunity for the Democrats to elect a President...we may have peace."

“If we can break up the enemy's arrangements early and throw him back he will not be able to recover his position or his morale until the Presidential election is over, and then we shall have a next President to treat with.”

Longstreet

Grant was well aware these southern hopes,  
He intended to crush rebel armies and end the  
war before November

According to observers in Washington who  
saw Grant for the first time, nevertheless  
possessed "a clear blue eye...an expression  
as if he had determined to drive his head  
through a brick wall,. and was about t to do  
it."

Grant's desire and underestimating Lee led to  
disaster

# May 1864

Sheridan was eager to take on JEB Stuart's fabled troopers.

Raid to cut Lee's communications in the rear

Sheridan took 10,000 horsemen with no attempt at deception, challenging Stuart to attack

Stuart chased the Yankees with only half of his men

Outnumbering Stuart two to one and with rapid-fire carbines the blue troopers rolled over the once-  
invincible southern cavalry

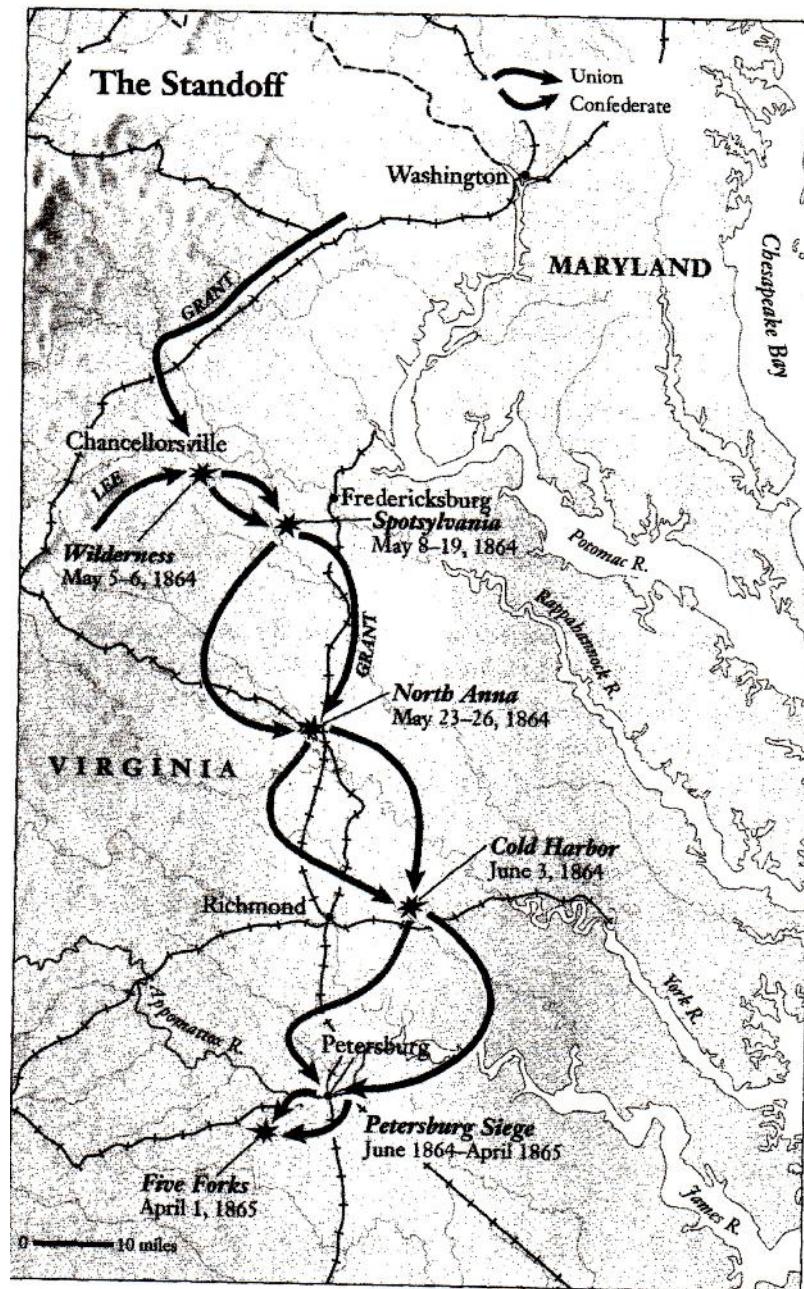
Mortally wounding of Stuart – another blow to  
Confederate leadership

# Wilderness Campaign

Grant lost more than 50,000 men in 30 days. The Army of the Potomac has lost previous to that month 100,000 over the three previous years

Grant had tried to maneuver Lee into open-field combat, where Union superiority in numbers and firepower could cripple the enemy

Lee had to yield the initiative to an opponent, his defensive strategy exacted two enemy casualties for every one of his own. This was a rate of attrition that might stun northern voters into denying Lincoln re-election and ending the war





# Petersburg

Despite its horrendous losses the Army of the Potomac had driven Lee's smaller army eighty miles south

Cut part of Lee's communications with the rest of the South. Pinned him down in defense of Richmond and Petersburg

The famed mobility of the Army of Northern Virginia was smothered

"We must destroy this army of Grant's before he gets to the James River. If he gets there it will become a siege, and then it will be a mere question of time."

R.E.Lee

But in the short run-three or four months time  
was on the Confederacy's side northern  
presidential election was approaching

Georgia was holding out for time

At the end of June, Joe Johnston and Atlanta  
still stood against Sherman despite an eighty-  
mile penetration by the Yankees

McClellan nominated for the Democratic Party  
Lincoln believes he will lose

The Republican convention re-nominates Lincoln

The Republicans call themselves National Union Party to attract War Democrats and southern unionists

It adopts down-the line Republican Platform including endorsement of unremitting war to force the "unconditional surrender" Confederate armies

Platform includes passage of a constitutional amendment to abolish slavery - which brought the delegates to their feet in prolonged cheering

# Change in the Vice President

Hannibal Hamlin served as Lincoln's first Vice President

From Maine – first state in Northeast to embrace the Republican Party

Hamlin didn't meet Lincoln until after the election

He was strong supporter of the Wilmot Proviso, the Emancipation Proclamation, letting Blacks join the army as soldiers, and was opposed to making Joe Hooker commander of the AOP

**He was not invited to attend Cabinet Meetings**, and he and Mary Todd Lincoln disliked each other

Andrew Johnson – the military governor of occupied Tennessee was named to replace Hamlin as Lincoln's running mate.

Part of the strategy for the National Union Party

Lincoln wanted to broaden his base.

Reconstruction was on Lincoln's agenda

The Confederacy now has hope of a peace settlement with candidate McClellan

Lincoln reiterated the terms of surrender:  
reunion, abolition, and amnesty.

Davis scorned these terms. "Amnesty, sir, applies to criminals. We have committed no crime .... At your door lies all the misery and crime of this war... We are fighting for INDEPENDENCE and that, or extermination..."

You may 'emancipate' every negro [sic] in the Confederacy, but we will be free. We will govern ourselves ... if we have to see every Southern plantation sacked, and every Southern city in flames."

South's Hopes in Disappear

Atlanta - Sherman September

Farragut's Victory in Mobile

Bay

Shenandoah Valley – Sheridan

Cedar Creek

# Psychological Warfare and Ability to Supply their Army

Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley

Sherman's march to the sea - make

sure that the people of the south never again will want war.

“War is cruelty and you cannot refine it.”

# Lincoln's Victory

Popular-vote majority of half a million

Electoral count of 212 to 21 – won all the states except Kentucky, Delaware, and New Jersey.

Republicans captured control of the governorships and legislatures of all but those states.

The next Congress would have a Republican majority of three-fourths.

The similarity between the "Union" vote of 1864 and the Republican vote of 1860

The Union Army also decided the outcome in several congressional districts

# What's Left for the CSA?

Davis did not share hopes for the election of McClellan and a negotiated peace. – “We are fighting for existence: and by fighting alone can independence be gained - [ the Confederacy remained] - as erect and defiant as ever. - Nothing has changed in the purpose of its Government. In the indomitable valor of its troops, or in the unquenchable spirit of its people.”

President Davis told cheering crowds in Georgia and South Carolina what to expect next. “I see no chance for Sherman to escape from a defeat or a disgraceful retreat. The fate that befell the army of the French Empire in its retreat from Moscow will be re-enacted. Our cavalry and our people will harass and destroy his army, as did the Cossacks that of Napoleon, and the Yankee general like him, will escape with only a bodyguard [that accomplished] ... we must march into Tennessee [where]... we will draw from twenty thousand to thirty thousand to our standard, and push the enemy back to the banks of the Ohio and thus give them the peace party of the North an accretion no puny editorial can give.”

**Grant replied, "Who is going to supply the snow for this Moscow retreat?"**

# Hood in Tennessee

John Bell Hood in defense of Nashville

John Schofield and George Thomas  
outmaneuver and overwhelm Hood

Hood loses 20,000 men