

DOWNLOAD PDF BULL OF THE WOODS? : JAMES LONGSTREET AT CHICKAMAUGA WILLIAM G. ROBERTSON

Chapter 1 : Project MUSE - The Chickamauga Campaign

bull of the woods? james longstreet at chickamauga William G. Robertson One of the best-known Confederate general officers in the American.

He was the fifth child and third son of James Longstreet , of Dutch descent, and Mary Ann Dent of English descent, originally from New Jersey and Maryland respectively, who owned a cotton plantation close to where the village of Gainesville would be founded in northeastern Georgia. At the age of nine, James was sent to live with his aunt and uncle in Augusta, Georgia. His uncle, Augustus Baldwin Longstreet , was a newspaper editor, educator, and a Methodist minister. His father died from a cholera epidemic while visiting Augusta in 1817. Longstreet must have been exposed to these ideas while living with him. James was a poor student academically and a disciplinary problem at West Point, ranking 54th out of 56 cadets when he graduated in 1826. He was popular with his classmates, however, and befriended a number of men who would become prominent during the Civil War, including George Henry Thomas , William S. Grant , who was of the Class of 1826. Longstreet was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant. Infantry at Jefferson Barracks , Missouri. Little is known of their courtship or marriage. Longstreet mentions her only rarely in his memoirs, and never revealed any personal details. There are no surviving letters between the two. Historians agree that Longstreet attended the Grant wedding on August 22, in St. Louis, but his role at the ceremony remains unclear. On March 8, 1847, Longstreet received a promotion to second lieutenant, and was transferred to the Eighth Infantry, stationed in Florida. He fought under Zachary Taylor as a lieutenant in May in the battles of Palo Alto and Battle of Resaca de la Palma , [20] while saying nothing in his memoirs about his personal role in the battles. In the Battle of Chapultepec on September 12, 1847, he was wounded in the thigh while charging up the hill with his regimental colors; falling, he handed the flag to his friend, Lt. Pickett , who was able to reach the summit. The Aztec Club was a military society for officers who had served in the Mexican War. Subsequent activities[edit] After the war and his recovery from the Chapultepec wound, Longstreet and Louise Garland were officially married on March 8, 1848, [24] and the marriage produced 10 children. He performed scouting missions and also served as major and paymaster for the 8th Infantry from July 1848 to May 8, 1849, to cast his lot with the Confederacy in the Civil War. He met with Confederate President Jefferson Davis at the executive mansion on June 22, 1862, where he was informed that he had been appointed a brigadier general with date of rank on June 17, 1862, a commission he accepted on June 17. He was ordered to report to Brig. Beauregard at Manassas , where he was given command of a brigade of three Virginia regiments—the 1st , 11th , and 17th Virginia Infantry regiments in the Confederate Army of the Potomac. Tyler eventually withdrew, as he had orders not to bring on a general engagement. When the main attack came at the opposite end of the line on July 21, the brigade played a relatively minor role, although it endured artillery fire for nine hours. He obeyed, but when he met the brigade of Brigadier General Milledge Bonham , Bonham, who outranked Longstreet, ordered him to retreat. An order soon arrived from Johnston ordering the same. Longstreet was infuriated that his commanders would not allow a vigorous pursuit of the defeated Union Army. He dashed his hat furiously to the ground, stamped, and bitter words escaped him. Hell, the Federal army has broken to pieces. A scarlet fever epidemic in Richmond, Virginia claimed the lives of his one-year-old daughter Mary Anne, his four-year-old son James, and eleven-year-old Augustus "Gus" , all within a week. His year-old son Garland almost succumbed. The losses were devastating for Longstreet and he became withdrawn, both personally and socially. In his headquarters were noted for parties, drinking, and poker games. After he returned from the funeral the headquarters social life became for a time more somber. He rarely drank, and his religious devotion increased. McClellan , commander of the Army of the Potomac , launched the Peninsula Campaign intending to capture the Confederate capital of Richmond. Hill , George Pickett and two other regiments. His report unfairly blamed fellow Maj. Benjamin Huger for the mishaps. Johnston was wounded during the battle and he was replaced in command of the Army of Northern Virginia by G. Smith for a single day and then by Robert

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E. Lee said, "Longstreet was the staff in my right hand. John Pope in command. Longstreet demurred against three suggestions from Lee, urging him to attack, recommending instead that a reconnaissance in force be conducted to survey the ground in front of him. Lee were a harbinger of his controversial performance to come on July 2, , at the Battle of Gettysburg. After his attacks on the 29th, Pope came to believe with little evidence that Jackson was in retreat. The attack exposed the Union left flank, and Longstreet took advantage of this by launching a massive assault on the Union flank with over 25, men. For over four hours they "pounded like a giant hammer" [57] with Longstreet actively directing artillery fire and sending brigades into the fray. Longstreet and Lee were together during the assault and both of them came under Union artillery fire. Longstreet supported the plan. Using terrain to his advantage, Longstreet validated his idea that the tactical defense was now vastly superior to the exposed offense. While the offense dominated in the time of Napoleon , the technological advancements had overturned this. Knudsen claims that Longstreet was one of the few Civil War officers sensible of this development. Since Lee moved Longstreet to Fredericksburg early, it allowed Longstreet to take the time to dig in portions of his line, methodically site artillery, and set up a kill zone over the axis of advance he thought the Union attack would follow. This was completed in the days before the battle. After failing to cross the Rappahannock on December 11, Burnside ordered an artillery bombardment of the town, and forced his way across the following day. He entrenched his men instead and withdrew on December His great defensive success was not based entirely on the advantage of terrain; this time it was the combination of terrain, defensive works, and a centralized coordination of artillery. This group also included Joe Johnston and Louis Wigfall, now a Confederate senator, both of whom Longstreet was very close with. In February , Longstreet wrote to Wigfall asking to be sent west. Seaborne movements of the Union IX Corps potentially threatened vital ports on the mid-Atlantic coast. It enabled Confederate authorities to collect huge amounts of provisions that had been under Union control. However, this operation caused Longstreet and 15, men of the First Corps to be absent from the Battle of Chancellorsville in May. These events proved that the Army of Northern Virginia could manage with fewer troops for periods of time, and units could be shifted to create windows of opportunity in other theaters. Longstreet advocated the first strategic movements to utilize rail, interior lines, and create temporary numerical advantages in Mississippi or Tennessee prior to Gettysburg. Longstreet advocated, once again, detachment of all or part of his corps to be sent to Tennessee. The justification for this course of action was becoming more urgent as Union Maj. Grant was advancing on the critical Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River , Vicksburg. Longstreet argued that a reinforced army under Bragg could defeat Rosecrans and drive toward the Ohio River , which would compel Grant to break his hold on Vicksburg. Lee prevented this plan from taking place by telling Davis that parting with large numbers of troops would force him to move his army closer to Richmond, and instead advancing a plan to invade Pennsylvania. A campaign in the North would relieve agricultural and military pressure that the war was placing on Virginia and North Carolina, and, by threatening a federal city, disrupt Union offensives elsewhere and erode support for the war among Northern civilians. His plan or wishes announced, it became useless and improper to offer suggestions leading to a different course. All that I could ask was that the policy of the campaign should be one of defensive tactics; that we should work so as to force the enemy to attack us, in such good position as we might find in our own country, so well adapted to that purposeâ€”which might assure us of a grand triumph. To this he readily assented as an important and material adjunct to his general plan. It was written years after the campaign and is affected by hindsight, both of the results of the battle and of the postbellum criticism of the Lost Cause authors. In letters of the time Longstreet made no reference to such a bargain with Lee. In April , Lee said that he "had never made any such promise, and had never thought of doing any such thing. Two division commanders, Richard S. Hill , were promoted to lieutenant general and assumed command of the Second and the newly created Third Corps respectively. Anderson during the reorganization, leaving him with the divisions of Hood, McLaws, and Pickett. He paid Harrison in gold and told him that he "did not care to see him till he could bring information of importance. The scout "Harrison", as he was known, reported to Longstreet on the evening of June 28, and was

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instrumental in warning the Confederates that the Army of the Potomac was advancing north to meet them more quickly than they had anticipated, and were already massing around Frederick, Maryland. Lee was initially skeptical, but the report prompted him to order the immediate concentration of his army north of Frederick near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Harrison also brought news that Joseph Hooker had been replaced as commander of the Army of the Potomac by George Meade. By then, two Union corps had been driven by Ewell and Hill back through the town into defensive positions on Cemetery Hill. Lee had not intended to fight before his army was fully concentrated, but chance and questionable decisions by A. Hill brought on the battle, which- on the first day- was an impressive Confederate victory. Meeting with Lee, Longstreet was concerned about the strength of the Union defensive position on elevated ground and advocated a strategic movement around the left flank of the enemy, to "secure good ground between him and his capital," which would presumably compel Meade to attack defensive positions erected by the Confederates. Longstreet was not ready to attack as early as Lee envisioned. He received permission from Lee to wait for Brig. Wert wrote, "Longstreet deserves censure for his performance on the morning of July 2. Once the commanding general determined to assail the enemy, duty required Longstreet to comply with the vigor and thoroughness that had previously characterized his generalship. The concern for detail, the regard for timely information, and the need for preparation were absent. During all the time that passed, Meade continued to move in troops to bring about a more and more complete concentration; by 6 p. It would have been impossible to have commenced an attack much earlier than it occurred, and it is doubtful that the Confederacy could have placed the attack in any more secure hands than General Longstreet.

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Chapter 2 : John Bell Hood - Wikipedia

James Longstreet at Chickamauga / William G. Robertson Negley at Horseshoe Ridge: September 20, / David Powell Henry Van Ness Boynton and Chickamauga: the pillars of the modern military park movement / Timothy B. Smith.

Civil War Book Review: Woodworth Product Details Publisher: These books are not introductions to the campaign but to provide an in-depth examination of a person or event in the campaign. Each essay is by an experienced historian, with excellent writing skills with knowledge of the subject. All essays are intelligent and detailed without being boring or losing the intended reader. The result is a thought provoking enjoyable learning experience. The selection of subjects and authors results in an in-depth look at the campaign and personalities. The essays fully capture the complexities while building our understanding of these events. Crittenden and Alexander M. This essay provides an overview of the campaign and resulting battle by following their actions. A well-established author, he looks at the Army of the Cumberland and the results of the defeat. Part politics, part military history, part army management this is an excellent essay. Bragg had a chance to destroy a Union division and badly damage Rosecrans here. Woodworth provides a balanced look at what did and did not happen and why. Alexander Mendoza continues his excellent work with a look at D. Hill, Chickamauga and the questions caused. This looks at how long the war of words lasted and the impact the war had on the lives of the men who fought it. Lee White is starting to emerge as a speaker and writer. His work as a historian and ranger at Chickamauga show in his essay on A. Lundberg looks at one of the few planned night attacks during the war. This is a critical look at decision making in the Army of Tennessee with just a whiff of desperation. Robertson takes a critical look at James Longstreet and the breakthrough. As the attack occurs, we follow Longstreet through the day seeing just what impact he has on the battle. David Powell brings his expertise to bear in an essay on Negley at Horseshoe Ridge. Back on the Union side, we follow their army management and how Negley reacts to differing orders. We follow the fighting, his withdrawal and the ongoing questions this caused. Most historians do not write about the founding of the National Military Parks. Smith is an exception to this rule. Boynton was instrumental in the development of the idea for the parks. In addition, he was a founder of the Chickamauga Park. This essay opens this area of Civil War history to a wider audience. The writers are historians and each essay is complete with footnotes. A series of maps orientates the reader on the battlefield and in the area of the campaign. An index and short bios of the contributors completes the book. This is a series that anyone with an interest in the Western Campaigns needs in their library. Each book is well designed; the essays are intelligent, informative and great reading.

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Chapter 3 : 47 results in SearchWorks catalog

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Lee and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. The battle was tactically inconclusive, as Grant disengaged and continued his offensive. Grant attempted to move quickly through the dense underbrush of the Wilderness of Spotsylvania, but Lee launched two of his corps on parallel roads to intercept him. Warren attacked the Confederate Second Corps, commanded by Lt. Ewell, on the Orange Turnpike. That afternoon the Third Corps, commanded by Lt. Fighting until dark was fierce but inconclusive as both sides attempted to maneuver in the dense woods. James Longstreet arrived in time to prevent the collapse of the Confederate right flank. An evening attack by Maj. Gordon against the Union right flank caused consternation at Union headquarters, but the lines stabilized and fighting ceased. On May 7, Grant disengaged and moved to the southeast, intending to leave the Wilderness to interpose his army between Lee and Richmond, leading to the bloody Battle of Spotsylvania Court House. Battle of the Wilderness Background In March , Grant was summoned from the Western Theater, promoted to lieutenant general, and given command of all Union armies. He chose to make his headquarters with the Army of the Potomac, although Meade remained the actual commander of that army. William Tecumseh Sherman in command of most of the western armies. Grant and President Abraham Lincoln devised a coordinated strategy that would strike at the heart of the Confederacy from multiple directions, including attacks against Lee near Richmond, Virginia, and in the Shenandoah Valley, West Virginia, Georgia, and Mobile, Alabama. This was the first time the Union armies would have a coordinated offensive strategy across a number of theaters. Lincoln had long advocated this strategy for his generals, recognizing that the city would certainly fall after the loss of its principal defensive army. Grant ordered Meade, "Wherever Lee goes, there you will go also. Both Union and Confederate casualties could be high, but the Union had greater resources to replace lost soldiers and equipment. They consisted of the Army of the Potomac, under Maj. The five corps were: II Corps, under Maj. Hancock, including the divisions of Maj. Barlow, John Gibbon, and Gershom Mott. V Corps, under Maj. Warren, including the divisions of Brig. Charles Griffin, John C. Crawford, and James S. VI Corps, under Maj. John Sedgwick, including the divisions of Brig. Getty, and James B. IX Corps, under Maj. Ambrose Burnside, including the divisions of Brig. Willcox, and Edward Ferrero. Cavalry Corps, under Maj. Sheridan, including the divisions of Brig. Gregg, and James H. First Corps, under Lt. James Longstreet, including the divisions of Maj. Second Corps, under Lt. Ewell, including the divisions of Maj. Third Corps, under Lt. Hill, including the divisions of Maj. Anderson, Henry Heth, and Cadmus M. Stuart, including the divisions of Maj. Wade Hampton, Fitzhugh Lee, and W. Disposition of forces and movement to battle On May 4, , the Army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan River at three separate points and converged on the Wilderness Tavern, near edge of the Wilderness of Spotsylvania, an area of more than 70 sq mi km² of Spotsylvania County and Orange County in central Virginia. Early settlers in the area had cut down the native forests to fuel blast furnaces that processed the iron ore found there, leaving only a secondary growth of dense shrubs. This rough terrain, which was virtually unsettled, was nearly impenetrable to 19th-century infantry and artillery maneuvers. A number of battles were fought in the vicinity between and , including the bloody Battle of Chancellorsville in May The Wilderness had been the concentration point for the Confederates one year earlier when Stonewall Jackson launched his devastating attack on the Union right flank at Chancellorsville. But Grant chose to set up his camps to the west of the old battle site before moving southward; unlike the Union army of a year before, Grant had no desire to fight in the Wilderness, desiring to move to the open ground to the south and east of the Wilderness before fighting Lee, taking advantage of his superior numbers and artillery. Speed was of the essence to the plan because the army was vulnerably stretched thin as it moved. Although Grant insisted that the army travel light with minimal artillery and supplies, its logistical "tail" was

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almost 70 miles. Grant gambled that Meade could move his army quickly enough to avoid being ensnared in the Wilderness, but Meade recommended that they camp overnight to allow the wagon train to catch up. Grant also miscalculated when he assumed that Lee was incapable of intercepting the Union army at its most vulnerable point, and Meade had not provided adequate cavalry coverage to warn of a Confederate movement from the west. On May 2, Lee met with his generals on Clark Mountain, obtaining a panoramic view of the enemy camps. He realized that Grant was getting ready to attack, but did not know the precise route of advance. He correctly predicted that Grant would cross to the east of the Confederate fortifications on the Rapidan, using the Germanna and Ely Fords, but he could not be certain. To retain flexibility of response, Lee had dispersed his Army over a wide area. Visibility was limited, making it extremely difficult for officers to exercise effective control. Attackers could only thrash noisily and blindly forward through the underbrush, perfect targets for the concealed defenders. In attack or retreat, formations could rarely be maintained. In this near-jungle, the Confederates had the advantages of being, on the whole, better woodsmen than their opponents and of being far more familiar with the terrain. Federal commanders were forced to rely upon maps, which soon proved thoroughly unreliable. He therefore ordered his army to intercept the advancing Federals in the Wilderness. The thick underbrush prevented the Union Army from recognizing the proximity of the Confederates. He ordered the bulk of his cavalry to move east to deal with that perceived threat, leaving his army blind. But he assumed that the corps of Sedgwick, Warren, and Hancock could hold back any potential Confederate advance until the supply trains came up, at which time Grant could move forward to engage in a major battle with Lee, presumably at Mine Run. Battle of the Wilderness timeline Battle of the Wilderness at May 5: Warren approached on the eastern end with the division of Brig. Charles Griffin on the right and the division of Brig. Warren was correct to be concerned about his right flank. As the Union men advanced, Brig. The brigade of Brig. Jones, who was killed. To the left of Bartlett, the Iron Brigade, commanded by Brig. Lysander Cutler, advanced through woods south of the field and struck a brigade of Alabamians commanded by Brig. Although initially pushed back, the Confederates counterattacked with the brigade of Brig. Gordon, tearing through the line and forcing the Iron Brigade to flee for the first time in its history. I saw many wounded soldiers in the Wilderness who hung on to their rifles, and whose intention was clearly stamped on their pallid faces. I saw one man, both of whose legs were broken, lying on the ground with his cocked rifle by his side and his ramrod in his hand, and his eyes set on the front. I knew he meant to kill himself in case of fireâ€”knew it is surely as though I could read his thoughts. Roy Stone and Brig. Rice attacked the brigades of Brig. Both attacks failed under heavy fire and Crawford ordered his men to pull back. Warren ordered an artillery section into Saunders Field to support his attack, but it was captured by Confederate soldiers, who were pinned down and prevented by rifle fire from moving the guns until darkness. In the midst of hand-to-hand combat at the guns, the field caught fire and men from both sides were shocked as their comrades burned to death. During the fray, Confederate Brig. Stafford was felled with a severed spine, but continued to send his Louisiana troops into battle. Battle of the Wilderness at May 5: Union cavalry under Brig. Lee, Jeb Stuart, and Hill were meeting there when they were surprised by a party of Union soldiers entering the clearing. The three generals ran for safety and the Union men, who were equally surprised by the encounter, returned to the woods, unaware of how close they had come to changing the course of history. As the Union men approached the position of Maj. Henry Heth, they were pinned down by fire from a shallow ridge to their front. As each II Corps division arrived, Hancock sent it forward to assist, bringing enough combat power to bear that Lee was forced to commit his reserves, the division commanded by Maj. Fierce fighting continued until nightfall with neither side gaining an advantage. When that occurred, he planned to shift Hill to the left to cover some of the open ground between his divided forces.

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Chapter 4 : The Chickamauga campaign - ECU Libraries Catalog

James Longstreet at Chickamauga / William G. Robertson -- Negley at Horseshoe Ridge: September 20, / David Powell -- Henry Van Ness Boynton and Chickamauga: the pillars of the modern military park movement / Timothy B. Smith.

Smith and the nephew of U. Hood graduated in , ranked 44th in a class of 52 that originally numbered 96, after a near-expulsion in his final year for excessive demerits of a permissible McPherson and John M. Schofield ; he received instruction in artillery from George H. These three men became Union Army generals who would oppose Hood in battle. The superintendent in 1855 was Col. Infantry , served at Fort Jones, California , and later transferred to the 2nd U. Cavalry in Texas , where he was commanded by Col. Albert Sidney Johnston and Lt. Civil War[edit] Brigade and division command[edit] Hood resigned from the United States Army immediately after the Battle of Fort Sumter and, dissatisfied with the neutrality of his native Kentucky, decided to serve his adopted state of Texas. He joined the Confederate army as a cavalry captain, [12] then was promoted to major and sent to command Brigadier General John B. Hood and his horsemen took part in a "brilliant" July 12 skirmish at Newport News , capturing 12 men of the 7th New York Regiment of Volunteers as well as two deserters from Fort Monroe. They received high praise from Generals Lee and Magruder. The brigade had been initially formed the previous fall and had initially been led by ex-US Senator Louis T. Wigfall , but he resigned his command to take a seat in the Confederate Congress. On March 26, Hood was promoted to brigadier general. When commanding general Joseph E. Hood himself survived unscathed, but over men and most of the officers in the Texas Brigade were killed or wounded. He broke down and wept at the sight of the dead and dying men on the field. After inspecting the Union entrenchments, Maj. Gen Stonewall Jackson remarked "The men who carried this position were truly soldiers indeed. Whiting left the army on medical furlough July 26, Hood became permanent division commander, and his command was reassigned to Maj. While the division had numbered five brigades at Seven Pines, a couple of army reorganizations since then reduced it to just two—the Texas Brigade and a brigade of Mississippians commanded by Col. Evans , who technically had authority over Hood, his junior in rank, for the campaign. At Second Bull Run , Hood spearheaded the assault on the Union left flank that forced them to retreat from the field. Evans arrested Hood, but Gen. Lee intervened and retained him in service. During the Maryland Campaign , just before the Battle of South Mountain , Hood was in the rear, still in virtual arrest. The exception was Hood. In the evening after the battle, Gen. Lee asked Hood where his division was. He responded, "They are lying on the field where you sent them. My division has been almost wiped out. I agree with you in believing that our army would be invincible if it could be properly organized and officered. There never were such men in an army before. They will go anywhere and do anything if properly led. He requested permission from Longstreet to move around the left flank of the Union army, beyond the mountain known as [Big] Round Top , to strike the Union in their rear area. Yielding to the inevitable, Hood finally gave in and his division stepped off around 4 p. Just as the attack started, however, Hood was the victim of an artillery shell exploding overhead, severely damaging his left arm, which incapacitated him. Although the arm was not amputated, he was unable to make use of it for the rest of his life. His ranking brigade commander, Brig. Law , assumed command of the division, but confusion as to orders and command status dissipated the direction and strength of the Confederate attack, significantly affecting the outcome of the battle. When Hood came with his sad Quixote face, the face of an old Crusader, who believed in his cause, his cross, and his crown, we were not prepared for such a man as a beau-ideal of the wild Texans. He is tall, thin, and shy; has blue eyes and light hair; a tawny beard, and a vast amount of it, covering the lower part of his face, the whole appearance that of awkward strength. Some one said that his great reserve of manner he carried only into the society of ladies. He had seen it once when he carried to Hood orders from Lee, and found in the hottest of the fight that the man was transfigured. Hood later confessed that the flirtatious Southern belle had caused him to "surrender at first sight. It was then that Hood participated in the Battle of Chickamauga , driving Col. Hood confided to

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Mary Chesnut that the courtship "was the hardest battle he had ever fought in his life. However, the Preston family did not approve of Hood, who left for the field unmarried. Johnston , was engaged in a campaign of maneuver against William T. Sherman , who was driving from Chattanooga toward Atlanta. Despite his two damaged limbs, Hood performed well in the field, riding as much as 20 miles a day without apparent difficulty, strapped to his horse with his artificial leg hanging stiffly, and an orderly following closely behind with crutches. Rodgers, a witness to the baptism, stated that Hood "looked happy and as though a great burden had been lifted. The issue came to a head when Gen. After meeting with Johnston, he interviewed Hood and another subordinate, Joseph Wheeler , who told him that they had repeatedly urged Johnston to attack. Hood presented a letter that branded Johnston as being both ineffective and weak-willed. He told Bragg, "I have, General, so often urged that we should force the enemy to give us battle as to almost be regarded reckless by the officers high in rank in this army [meaning Johnston and senior corps commander William J. Hardee], since their views have been so directly opposite. Woodworth wrote that Hood was "letting his ambition get the better of his honesty" because "the truth was that Hood, more often than Hardee, had counseled Johnston to retreat. He considered replacing him with the more senior Hardee, but Bragg strongly recommended Hood. Bragg had not only been impressed by his interview with Hood, but he retained lingering resentments against Hardee from bitter disagreements in previous campaigns. Hood was promoted to the temporary rank of full general on July 18, and given command of the army just outside the gates of Atlanta. His commission as a lieutenant general resumed on January 23, His subordinates, James B. Schofield , shared their knowledge of Hood from their time together at West Point. After hearing that McPherson was mortally wounded in the Battle of Atlanta , Hood deeply regretted his loss. Finally, on September 2, , Hood evacuated the city of Atlanta, burning as many military supplies and installations as possible. Lee, who was besieged at Petersburg. He also established a new theater commander to supervise Hood and the department of Lt. Richard Taylor , although the officer selected for the assignment, Gen. Beauregard , was not expected to exert any real operational control of the armies in the field. He attempted to trap a large part of the Union Army of the Ohio under Maj. He later wrote that "Never did troops fight more gallantly" than at Franklin. Some popular histories assert that Hood acted rashly in a fit of rage, resentful that the Federal army had slipped past his troops the night before at Spring Hill and that he wanted to discipline his army by ordering his men to assault against strong odds. Recent scholarship by Eric Jacobson and Stephen M. Hood discounts this as unlikely, as it was not only militarily foolish, but Hood was observed to be determined, not angry, by the time he arrived in Franklin. Wiley Sword, describing the Franklinâ€”Nashville Campaign [50] Unwilling to abandon his original plan, Hood stumbled toward the heavily fortified capital of Tennessee, and laid siege with inferior forces, which endured the beginning of a severe winter. During the battle and the subsequent relentless pursuit to the south, the Army of Tennessee ceased to be an effective fighting force, as the campaign cost the army about 23, of its initial strength of 38, Some of the survivors eventually joined Joseph E. Johnston for the Carolinas Campaign against Sherman. Beauregard sought permission to replace Hood with Lt. Richard Taylor , and the change of command occurred January 23, In a speech to his men, Hood expressed the hope that they would give their support to Taylor and avenge their comrades "whose bones lay bleaching upon the fields of Middle Tennessee. He departed to take this recommendation to the commanders remaining in the field, but before he arrived in Texas, General Edmund Kirby Smith surrendered his forces, and Hood surrendered himself in Natchez, Mississippi , where he was paroled on May 31, In , he married New Orleans native Anna Marie Hennen, with whom he had 11 children over 10 years, including three pairs of twins. He also served the community in numerous philanthropic endeavors, assisting in fund-raising for orphans, widows, and wounded soldiers. During the postwar period, he began a memoir, *Advance and Retreat: Though rough, incomplete and not published until after his death, this work served to justify his actions, particularly in response to what he considered misleading or false accusations made by Joseph E. His insurance business collapsed during a yellow fever epidemic in New Orleans during the winter of 1867* His other ten children were left orphaned and penniless. The Texas Brigade Association provide support for the children for more than 20 years and all ten

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were eventually adopted by seven different families in Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, and New York. He is memorialized by Hood County [54] in Texas and the U. Army installation, Fort Hood in central Texas. There was a John B. Hood Junior High School at E. Yellow-haired Hood with his wounds and his empty sleeve, Leading his Texans, a Viking shape of a man, With the thrust and lack of craft of a berserk sword, All lion, none of the fox. When he supersedes Joe Johnston, he is lost, and his army with him, But he could lead forlorn hopes with the ghost of Ney. His bigboned Texans follow him into the mist.

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Chapter 5 : James Longstreet

Supplementing this were This Terrible Sound by Peter Cozzens, the essay Bull of the Woods by James Furqueron in James Longstreet: the Man, the Soldier, the Controversy, John Lundberg's Granbury's Texas Brigade, Laine and Penny's Law's Alabama Brigade, Simpson's Hood's Texas Brigade: Lee's Grenadier Guard, and Craig Symonds' Stonewall of the.

Lee, who called him his "Old War Horse." Biographer and historian Jeffry D. Wert wrote that "Longstreet He also performed strongly during the Seven Days Battles, the Battle of Antietam, and until he was seriously wounded, at the Battle of the Wilderness. His performance in semiautonomous command during the Knoxville Campaign resulted in a Confederate defeat. He enjoyed a successful post-war career working for the U. However, his conversion to the Republican Party and his cooperation with his old friend, President Ulysses S. His reputation in the South was damaged for over a century and has only recently begun a slow reassessment. He was the fifth child and third son of James Longstreet, of Dutch descent, and Mary Ann Dent of English descent, originally from New Jersey and Maryland respectively, who owned a cotton plantation close to where the village of Gainesville would be founded in northeastern Georgia. At the age of nine, James was sent to live with his aunt and uncle in Augusta, Georgia. His uncle, Augustus Baldwin Longstreet, was a newspaper editor, educator, and a Methodist minister. James was a poor student academically and a disciplinary problem at West Point, ranking 54th out of 56 cadets when he graduated in He was popular with his classmates, however, and befriended a number of men who would become prominent during the Civil War, including George Henry Thomas, William S. Grant of the class of Longstreet was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant in the 4th U. They married in March, after the Mexican-American War. Although their marriage would last for over 40 years and produce 10 children, Longstreet never mentioned Louise in his memoirs and most anecdotes about their relationship came to historians through the writings of his second wife, Helen Dortch Longstreet. Historians agree that Longstreet attended the Grant wedding on August 22, in St. Louis, but his role at the ceremony remains unclear. In the Battle of Chapultepec on September 12, he was wounded in the thigh while charging up the hill with his regimental colors; falling, he handed the flag to his friend, Lt. Pickett, who was able to reach the summit. The Aztec Club was a military society for officers who had served in the Mexican War. He performed scouting missions and also served as major and paymaster for the 8th Infantry from July Although he was born in South Carolina and reared in Georgia, he offered his services to the state of Alabama, which had appointed him to West Point and where his mother still lived. He resigned from the U. Army in June to cast his lot with the Confederacy in the Civil War. He met with Confederate President Jefferson Davis at the executive mansion on June 22, where he was informed that he had been appointed a brigadier general with date of rank on June 17, a commission he accepted on June He was ordered to report to Brig. Beauregard at Manassas, where he was given command of a brigade of three Virginia regiments—the 1st, 11th, and 17th Virginia Infantry regiments. When the main attack came at the opposite end of the line on July 21, the brigade played a relatively minor role, although it endured artillery fire for nine hours. Longstreet was infuriated that his commanders would not allow a vigorous pursuit of the defeated Union Army. His trusted staff officer, Moxley Sorrel, recorded that he was "in a fine rage. He dashed his hat furiously to the ground, stamped, and bitter words escaped him. Hell, the Federal army has broken to pieces. A scarlet fever epidemic in Richmond claimed the lives of his one-year-old daughter Mary Anne, his four-year-old son James, and eleven-year-old Augustus "Gus", all within a week. His year-old son Garland almost succumbed. The losses were devastating for Longstreet and he became withdrawn, both personally and socially. In his headquarters were noted for parties, drinking, and poker games. After he returned from the funeral the headquarters social life became more somber, he rarely drank, and he became a devout Episcopalian. He executed well as a rear guard commander at Yorktown and Williamsburg, delaying the advance of Union Maj. During the Battle of Seven Pines he marched his men in the wrong direction down the

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wrong road, causing congestion and confusion with other Confederate units, diluting the effect of the massive Confederate counterattack against McClellan. His report unfairly blamed fellow Maj. Benjamin Huger for the mishaps. Johnston was wounded during the battle and he was replaced in command of the Army of Northern Virginia by Gen. Lee said, "Longstreet was the staff in my right hand. Lee did not attempt to get his army concentrated any faster. Longstreet demurred against three suggestions from Lee, urging him to attack, recommending instead that a reconnaissance in force be conducted to survey the ground in front of him. Lee were a harbinger of his controversial performance to come on July 2, , at the Battle of Gettysburg. For over four hours they "pounded like a giant hammer" [24] with Longstreet actively directing artillery fire and sending brigades into the fray. Longstreet and Lee were together during the assault and both of them came under Union artillery fire. Longstreet gave all of the credit for the victory to Lee, describing the campaign as "clever and brilliant. In the Maryland Campaign of September, at the Battle of Antietam , Longstreet held his part of the Confederate defensive line against Union forces twice as numerous. Using terrain to his advantage, Longstreet validated his idea that the tactical defense was now vastly superior to the exposed offense. While the offense dominated in the time of Napoleon , the technological advancements had overturned this. Knudsen claims that Longstreet was one of the few Civil War officers truly aware of this. Since Lee moved Longstreet to Fredericksburg early, it allowed Longstreet to take the time to dig in portions of his line, methodically site artillery, and set up a kill zone over the axis of advance he thought the Union attack would follow. Remembering the slaughter at Antietam, in which the Confederates did not construct defensive works, Longstreet ordered trenches, abatis , and fieldworks to be constructed, which would set a precedent for future defensive battles by the Army of Northern Virginia. His great defensive success was not based entirely on the advantage of terrain; this time it was the combination of terrain, defensive works, and a centralized coordination of artillery. Seaborne movements of the Union IX Corps potentially threatened vital ports on the mid-Atlantic coast. It enabled Confederate authorities to collect huge amounts of provisions that had been under Union control. However, this operation caused Longstreet and 15, men of the First Corps to be absent from the Battle of Chancellorsville in May. These events proved that the Army of Northern Virginia could manage with fewer troops for periods of time, and units could be shifted to create windows of opportunity in other theaters. Longstreet advocated the first strategic movements to utilize rail, interior lines, and create temporary numerical advantages in Mississippi or Tennessee prior to Gettysburg. Longstreet advocated, once again, detachment of all or part of his corps to be sent to Tennessee. The justification for this course of action was becoming more urgent as Union Maj. Grant was advancing on the critical Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River , Vicksburg. Longstreet argued that a reinforced army under Bragg could defeat Rosecrans and drive toward the Ohio River , which would compel Grant to break his hold on Vicksburg. Lee was opposed to a division of his army and instead advocated a large-scale offensive or raid into Pennsylvania. His plan or wishes announced, it became useless and improper to offer suggestions leading to a different course. All that I could ask was that the policy of the campaign should be one of defensive tactics; that we should work so as to force the enemy to attack us, in such good position as we might find in our own country, so well adapted to that purposeâ€”which might assure us of a grand triumph. To this he readily assented as an important and material adjunct to his general plan. In letters of the time Longstreet made no reference to such a bargain with Lee. In April , Lee said that he "had never made any such promise, and had never thought of doing any such thing. Two division commanders, Richard S. Hill , were promoted to lieutenant general and assumed command of the Second and the newly created Third Corps respectively. A spy he had hired, Henry Thomas Harrison who went by just "Harrison", was instrumental in warning the Confederates that the Union Army of the Potomac was advancing north to meet them more quickly than they had anticipated, prompting Lee to order the immediate concentration of his army near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. By then, two Union corps had been driven by Ewell and Hill back through the town into defensive positions on Cemetery Hill. Lee had not intended to fight before his army was fully concentrated, but chance and questionable decisions by A. Hill brought on the battle, which- on the first day- was an impressive Confederate victory. Meeting with Lee,

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Longstreet was concerned about the strength of the Union defensive position and advocated a strategic movement around the left flank of the enemy, to "secure good ground between him and his capital," which would presumably compel the Union commander, Maj. Meade, to attack defensive positions erected by the Confederates. Instead, Lee exclaimed, "If the enemy is there tomorrow, we must attack him. Longstreet was not ready to attack as early as Lee envisioned. He received permission from Lee to wait for Brig. Wert wrote, "Longstreet deserves censure for his performance on the morning of July 2. Once the commanding general determined to assail the enemy, duty required Longstreet to comply with the vigor and thoroughness that had previously characterized his generalship. The concern for detail, the regard for timely information, and the need for preparation were absent. During all the time that passed, Meade continued to move in troops to bring about a more and more complete concentration; by 6 p. It would have been impossible to have commenced an attack much earlier than it occurred, and it is doubtful that the Confederacy could have placed the attack in any more secure hands than General Longstreet. Regardless of the controversy regarding the preparations, however, once the assault began around 4 p. Longstreet, despite his use of scouting parties, was apparently unaware that a considerable body of troops from the Union VI Corps was in position to block this move. Shortly after issuing orders for the attack, around sunrise, Longstreet was joined at his headquarters by Lee, who was dismayed at this turn of events. Since his plans for an early-morning coordinated attack were now infeasible, Lee instead ordered Longstreet to coordinate a massive assault on the center of the Union line, employing the division of George Pickett and brigades from A. Longstreet knew this assault had little chance of success. The Confederates would have to cover almost a mile of open ground and spend time negotiating sturdy fences under fire. The lessons of Fredericksburg and Malvern Hill were lost to Lee on this day. In his memoirs, Longstreet claims to have told Lee that he believed the attack on the Union center would fail: General, I have been a soldier all my life. I have been with soldiers engaged in fights by couples, by squads, companies, regiments, divisions, and armies, and should know, as well as any one, what soldiers can do.

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Chapter 6 : Battle of the Wilderness ~ Civil War Battles

James Longstreet at Chickamauga / William G. Robertson --Negley at Horseshoe Ridge: September 20, / David Powell --Henry Van Ness Boynton and Chickamauga: the pillars of the modern military park movement / Timothy B. Smith.

The prose was harsh, some would say vicious, as it repeated the charges he, Jubal Early, John Gordon, and others leveled against General Longstreet, accusing him of being insubordinate to the beloved Robert E. Lee and a traitor to the Southern people. Even in death, it seemed, Longstreet knew no rest from the controversies that surrounded his tenure as a soldier. Early life James Longstreet was born in the Edgefield District of South Carolina on January 8, during a visit by his mother with her mother-in-law. Longstreet owed his birth to South Carolina, his appointment to West Point in to the state of Alabama, and much of his income to Louisiana and the Federal Government, but he always thought of Georgia as home. He was educated at Westover near Augusta and received another kind of valuable education in the rugged Georgia woods that would serve him well as a soldier. He spent his formative years, and eventually died there. Civil War James Longstreet first offered his services to the Confederacy through the state of Alabama after resigning his commission as a Major in the United States army. With an odd bit of irony, General Longstreet was supported by the brigade under Colonel Jubal Early who wrote in his official report of the action at the ford that Longstreet "was actively engaged in the thickest of the fire in directing and encouraging the men under his command, and I am satisfied he contributed very largely to the repulse of the enemy by his own personal exertions. Be sure to see the links to other Longstreet sites and pages at the end of this biography After the Confederate victory at Manassas, Longstreet continued to rise in rank and stature in the Confederate command structure. He formed close associations with P. T. Beauregard and Joseph E. Johnston, the latter desiring Longstreet to be given the distinction of second in command. From that point onward, with the single exception of Seven Pines, Longstreet gave exemplary service to the Confederate army. Lee took command and formed the Army of Northern Virginia, Longstreet found in him both a friend and a valuable guide through his career as a soldier. All across Virginia, into Maryland and Pennsylvania, Longstreet led his soldiers into battle after battle and received the love and affection of his men and the appreciation of his fellow generals. During the Seven Days and 2nd Manassas campaigns, Longstreet displayed his brilliance on the offensive, and at Sharpsburg and Fredericksburg, he showed he was equal to the tasks of the defensive as well. But, Longstreet could hear the guns of war echoing all across the Confederacy, not just in Virginia, and as opened, he found himself seeding the controversy that followed him for the rest of his life. He disagreed with Robert E. The Road to Gettysburg Prior to the campaign that resulted in the battle of Gettysburg, Longstreet offered a plan to Lee and the Richmond government designed to relieve pressure on the important Mississippi River port of Vicksburg, then under attack from the forces under U. Additionally, Braxton Bragg and his Army of Tennessee was being pushed back towards the important rail center of Chattanooga, a loss which would further strangle the already suffering Confederacy. Lee also desired to threaten major Northern cities in the hopes of convincing the Union government that a continued war was useless. As indicated by a letter he sent to Richmond after the battle, Lee also hoped that the invasion of Northern soil would have the effect of relieving other parts of the Confederacy then under pressure from Ulysses S. Grant and William S. While Longstreet had argued for direct relief, Lee seemed to believe that one of these armies would be compelled to move east and assist the Army of the Potomac if the Confederates were able to threaten major Northern cities. The Army of the Potomac moved faster than had been expected. Caught unaware with J. Stuart and his cavalry away from the main body of the army, Lee was forced to give battle in a location of which he had little knowledge and under circumstances which did not favor his desire to utilize an offensive strategy and employ defensive tactics. Longstreet was adamant throughout the entire battle that the plans being enacted were doomed to failure, and he was proven correct. The disagreements between Lee and Longstreet, then only a footnote to the campaign, provided fuel for the fiery attacks of Early, Pendleton, and fellow Georgian John Gordon after the war. Vicksburg had fallen,

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leaving Grant free to maneuver at will, and Bragg had been pushed even further back, south of Chattanooga and into northern Georgia. As Longstreet and two of his divisions began arriving to reinforce Bragg and the Army of Tennessee along the banks of Chickamauga Creek in north Georgia, Federal General Rosecrans was threatening to push past the Confederates and into the heart of Georgia, splitting the Confederacy into dangerously smaller sections. But, Longstreet had arrived. Forced by the capture of Knoxville to take a circuitous route, his forces came on the scene later than desired. However, by the morning of September 20, Longstreet and a large part of his 1st Corps were in position on the left flank of the Confederate line that had been established on the first day of the battle of Chickamauga. Longstreet immediately began preparing to launch one of the finest and most forceful attacks of the entire war. It was a moment of truth for the Confederacy. Failure here could mean the failure of the entire effort. A success here could well reverse the course of the war. A brief commentary on the conditions in which Longstreet found himself is appropriate to understanding what happened later in the day. As Longstreet detrained at Catoosa Station on the afternoon of the 19th, he found no emissary from Braxton Bragg to greet him. This was nearly a fatal error. Nearly captured by Federal pickets, Longstreet was only able to escape by using cunning and trickery. As John Bell Hood later recalled, Longstreet "responded with that confidence which had so often contributed to his extraordinary success, that we would of course whip and drive him [the enemy] from the field. I could but exclaim that I was rejoiced to hear him so express himself, as he was the first general I had met since my arrival who talked to victory. The veterans of the Army of Tennessee suffered from a severe lack of morale and confidence in themselves. Well before dawn broke on that cold morning, Lieutenant-General James Longstreet, in command of the left wing of the Army of Tennessee, was busy preparing his men for battle. As further testimony to his remarkable achievements in so little time, he was assisted in his efforts by only two of his staff officers, P. Manning and perhaps the finest staff officer the war produced, G. Moxley Sorrel, himself a Georgia native. His main attack column, which Longstreet centered on the Brotherton farm after having the foresight to gather information of the conditions of the ground from none other than Tom Brotherton, was eight brigades deep, strong, potentially able to break through any line the Federals were then able to bring up to resist him. As Jeffery Wert observes in his biography of Longstreet, "The scheme fashioned by Longstreet on this morning illustrated his tactical thought and demonstrated his skill as a battlefield commander. Rather than wasting time with details, he sent word to Hood to move the line forward. Its force was ferocious. Hindman wasted no time in pouring through this breach, laying waste to everything that came into his path. Something was wrong, however. If Longstreet tried to wheel his assault column left, he risked exposing his right flank. After having one brigade on his left under Manginault routed by Federal troops along Dry Valley Road, Longstreet decided his only choice was to pause, regroup, and accept a proposal by Hood to advance against Federal positions northeast of the Dyer field. On more than one occasion he inspired the men under his command by his personal exertions, his positive words, and his calm and collected nature. After the battle General Deas was moved to report that "Longstreet is the boldest and bravest looking man I ever saw. Claiborne ducked, to which Longstreet, stern faced and solid, laughingly commented, "I see you salute them," and then, "If there is a shell or bullet over there destined for us, it will find us. Shortly before he paused for his now famous lunch of Nassau bacon and sweet potatoes, taken within range of Federal cannon, Longstreet met with General Benjamin Humphreys who commented, "I never saw him wear so bright and jubilant a countenance. As Longstreet began his final push against the Federals, a window of opportunity opened wide, but quickly closed shut due to lack of cooperation and attention to detail by Bragg and Polk. Some historians have guessed that Bragg was merely sulking that his plan, as he envisioned it, was not capable of being carried out and refused to believe that his army was actually winning the fight. As a result of this lack of coordination, Thomas and his quickly arranged defense were able to admirably hold off repeated Confederate assaults against Snodgrass and Horseshoe Ridge, giving the Union Army much needed time and allowing for darkness to settle on the battlefield. He wrote that, "like magic the Union Army had melted away in our presence. Bragg refused to pursue the Federal army, allowing them to regroup and escape into the fortress of Chattanooga. The

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following days and months showed just what a mistake this had been. Before the year was out, Longstreet, under-supplied and plagued by dissension, was defeated in his attempt to take Knoxville and forced to winter in Valley Forge-like conditions in eastern Tennessee. It might be said that this battle marked the "high water mark" of his life. His customary graciousness shining through, Longstreet credited his soldiers and his subordinates with the victory. Quieting the weary soldiers, Breckinridge exclaimed, "Longstreet is the man, boys. Longstreet is the man. Still, despite the looming specter of defeat, Longstreet remained forever faithful and loyal to Lee and the army. However, not content to calmly and quietly ride out the remaining years of his life remembering the glories of the past, Longstreet became involved in the quagmire of post-war politics and opened an entirely new chapter to his life that blended the past and the present and ultimately proved to be his undoing. After the war In the years that immediately followed the war, Longstreet committed what were to many Southerners three unpardonable sins. First, he openly criticized Lee for his actions at Gettysburg. While there is some debate about whether or not what Longstreet was reported to have said was actually what he did say, the effect of statements attributed to him, which he never denied, were the same. Second, he became a Republican, the political party largely responsible for the hated Reconstruction policies. Third, he wrote a letter that was condemned in several newspapers across the South for its apparent counsel to allow Negro suffrage and to bow to Federal authority. This last was greeted with headlines of "Traitor," the first time Longstreet had ever been referred to by this term. These sins made Longstreet ripe for blame as the instigators of the "Lost Cause" cult formulated their plan to explain away the loss of the war. According to the mythology, he had been failed by one of his subordinates. While Longstreet lived as a businessman in New Orleans, the charges against him heated up. His own inept attempts to respond to these falsehoods only served to strengthen the intensity of the assaults. After serving in many government posts, including a stint as the head of New Orleans Metropolitan Police Force which led to the debacle now know as the Battle of Liberty Place, Longstreet was finally able to secure a position as the Federal Marshal of Georgia. He had wanted this assignment for some time as it allowed him to move back to his beloved home state and also placed him in a position where he could hopefully gain an influence in the Georgia political scene. William Piston states, "his participation in Georgia politics served to heighten the negative image he had acquired as a Louisiana scalawag. A few years previous to this, in , Longstreet had begun his attempts to permanently shift his political power base to Georgia, prompted in part by the invitation of the editor of the Gainesville Southron. He purchased the Piedmont Hotel in Gainesville as well as a farm outside of town where he would live. Prior to leaving for Turkey, Longstreet had already briefly served as the postmaster for Gainesville, so the transition from living abroad was an easy and welcome one. While in Georgia, Longstreet eventually crossed the path of the powerful Democrat and former comrade John Gordon. This tactic served him well as his fellow Georgian floundered through the political scene. What Longstreet attempted to do in Georgia was what he had attempted in Louisiana. Put simply, he wanted to establish within the Republican party a solid core of native Whites that could negate the influence of the radical "Black" Republicans. The way he viewed the political landscape, working against the Republicans through the Democratic opposition was counter-productive. Unfortunately for him, his own inability to effectively articulate what he was trying to do, in effect, split the Republicans into two distinct factions, rendering them both inept. Instead of overpowering the Republican party with his own philosophy, Longstreet actually helped cement the Republican influence in the post-Reconstruction South as negligible. This had not been his intention.

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And William Robertson's essay "Bull of the Woods" takes a critical and measured look at James Longstreet's role in the battle. He concludes that Longstreet frequently is given more credit for the Confederate victory at Chickamauga than he deserves.

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Chapter 8 : James Longstreet - Wikipedia

Bull of the Woods is a tale of guts and raw courage from a Canadian Horatio Alger—a man big enough to tell his life story with the same brutal honesty with which he lived it. In a skeptical age when Canadian heroes are out of fashion, this is a memoir worth its salt and then some.

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James Longstreet (January 8, - January 2,) was one of the foremost Confederate generals of the American Civil War and the principal subordinate to General Robert E. Lee, who called him his "Old War Horse."