



Battles and Leaders of the Civil War: The Confederate Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign (Illustrated)

John S. Mosby

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*Illustrated with maps and pictures of the battle's most famous generals.

Without question, the most famous battle of the Civil War took place outside of the small town of Gettysburg from July 1-3, 1863. Over those three days, nearly 8,000 would die, over 30,000 would be casualties, and the most famous attack of the war, Pickett's Charge, would fail Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

The South would go on to lose the war, and when it did, the importance of Gettysburg as one of the "high tide" marks of the Confederacy became apparent, making the battle all the more important. Former Confederate comrades like James Longstreet and Jubal Early would go on to argue who was responsible for the loss at Gettysburg in the following decades.

The Confederate cavalry played an especially controversial role during the campaign. Given great discretion in his cavalry operations before the battle, JEB Stuart's cavalry was too far removed from the Army of Northern Virginia to warn Lee of the Army of the Potomac's movements. Lee's army inadvertently stumbled into the Union army at Gettysburg, walking blindly into what became the largest battle of the war. Stuart has been heavily criticized ever since, and it is said Lee took him to task when he arrived on the second day, leading Stuart to offer his resignation. Lee didn't accept it, but he would later note in his after battle report that the cavalry had not updated him as to the Army of the Potomac's movements.

Renowned Cavalry officer and partisan John S. Mosby went on to write an article about the Confederate cavalry's role in the campaign that was eventually published in the famous Battles & Leaders series. In an effort to shield Stuart, Mosby accused subordinates of disobeying commands, including Brigadier General Beverly Robertson. Robertson responded to Mosby's charges in the same volume, and both of these articles were put together in Volume III. This edition of Battles & Leaders of the Civil War: The Confederate Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign includes them both. It is also specially formatted with a Table of Contents and pictures of Gettysburg's important commanders.

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