Highlights

- The 21st Wisconsin Infantry: Atlanta Campaign, pg. 13
- The Civil War and the Georgia Mountain People, pg. 7
- Way down South in Dixie in 1999, pg. 3

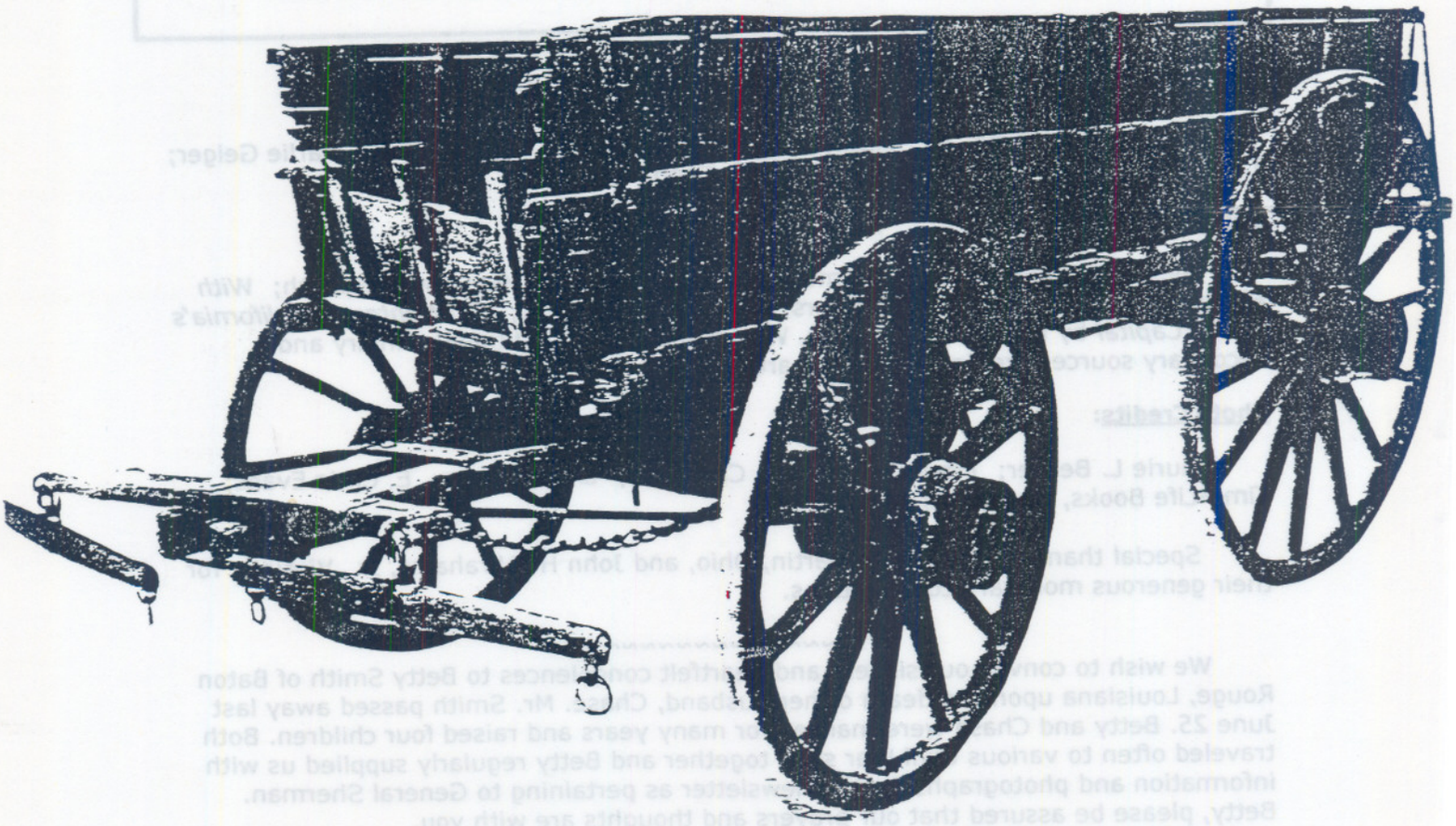
Inside

1 John L. Clem Statue Dedication, pg. 2
2 Sherman's Punch, pg. 26
3 The Sherman Rose Adobe, pg. 26 ... and more

CUMP AND COMPANY

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND FANCIERS OF GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN

Volume 6, No. 4 Jan/ Feb 2000



This wagon was one of 2,500 in Sherman's army that carried food, ammunition, and supplies on the march to the sea. The vehicle, built at a cost of $150, traveled with the Army from the start of the War to the finish; in that time it required only seven dollars' worth of repairs.

Source: Time-Life Books, Sherman's March by David Nevin and the editors of Time-Life Books, Alexandria, VA

TWENTY-FIRST WISCONSIN INFANTRY IN THE CIVIL WAR

Service of John H. Abrahams, Pvt. (1862-1865)

By John H. Abrahams, Jr.

PART 5 - PICKETT'S MILL, KENNESAW, TO ATLANTA

BACKGROUND: This is the fifth in a series summarizing the Civil War services of my grandfather John H. Abrahams after his enlistment in the 21st WI Volunteer Infantry, Company E, in New Holstein, WI. The unit was mustered in service at Fort Bragg in Oshkosh, WI on Sept. 5, 1862. Later that month at Louisville, KY, the 21st WI was placed in the 28th brigade (J. Starkweather's brigade, in General Rousseau's division) in the Army of the Cumberland, and on Oct. 8 was in the front line during the Battle of Perryville, KY and suffered heavy losses. General William Rosecrans replaced General Buell as commander of the Army of the Cumberland with General Thomas second in command; Col. Harrison Hobart became commander of the 21st WI. The 21st WI then was in line of battle at Murfreesboro, TN from Dec. 31, 1862 to Jan 3, 1863, participated in the Tullahoma Campaign including Hoover's Gap, and crossed the TN River about Sept. 1, 1863. In General Baird's First Division (replacing Rousseau), the 21st WI was heavily engaged at Dug Gap south of Chattanooga in mid-Sept. and suffered heavy losses at Chickamauga.

After receiving replacement recruits, the 21st WI was placed under General William T. Sherman and participated in the following actions: the Atlanta Campaign, the battles for Atlanta, the March to the Sea, the Carolinas Campaign and the Battle of Bentonville, and finally the Grand March in Wash., DC, in May, 1865.

PRELUDE TO ATLANTA CAMPAIGN

21st WI at Chickamauga and Chattanooga: The 21st WI was in the front line during the battles for Chickamauga on Sept. 19 and 20 and was the last unit off the field after Snodgrass Hill under General Thomas in an organized retreat. The 21st WI cut its way back to Rossville, GA, and many were captured. The Union army fortified besieged Chattanooga with the 21st WI in line of battle. With the arrival of General Grant, Thomas was appointed to replace Rosecrans as commander of the XIV Corps. In November, with the 21st WI in line of battle, Union reinforcements helped open the supply routes, retook Lookout Mt. in the "Battle above the Clouds", then routed the Confederate army from its strong position on Missionary Ridge east of Chattanooga. The 21st WI went into winter quarters on Lookout Mt. and participated in raids towards Dalton, GA, along with the XIV Corps under General Thomas.

As unique as the Union rout of the Confederate position was at Missionary Ridge, prisoners taken by the Union troops asserted that they thought the entire movement was a review and general drill, that it was too late to send to their camps for reinforcements, and that they were overwhelmed by force of number—a surprise in open daylight (1).

BUILD UP TO ATLANTA CAMPAIGN—January through April, 1864.

The Union army conducted extended reorganization, resupplying, and rebuilding preceding the Atlanta Campaign in early May, 1864. The Union was also securing its position east to Knoxville, TN and west into AL, as well as reinforcing the single railroad track from the mid-west to Bridgeport, AL. The Confederate army was in winter quarters behind strong fortifications at Dalton, GA, where Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston replaced General B. Bragg.

In January 1864, Thomas deployed troops to drive the threatening Confederate General Longstreet back into eastern TN. Sherman's army deployed to Vicksburg, MS and in February destroyed a Confederate build up and all communications in Meridian, MS. The 21st WI was in winter quarters on Lookout Mt., but the winter of 1863-1864 was harsh in north GA, with snow, sleet, freezing rain, and cold winds (2), as confirmed by Burns (3).

During March, Grant was appointed as commander of all Union forces; he appointed Sherman in command of all Union forces between the Allegheny Mts. and the Mississippi River. Sherman moved to Nashville, TN, which became a vast warehouse. Thomas secured the region from eastern TN into AL,

COPYRIGHT REGISTERED
OCT. 19, 2000

and rebuilt the rail lines north and south of Chattanooga for the Atlanta Campaign. By April, Chattanooga had become a hub of Union activity and supplies for the Atlanta Campaign. Near the end of April, Sherman set up the Union army with Thomas (Army of the Cumberland) near the center at Ringgold, GA, the smaller Army of the OH under General Schofield on the north flank near the TN-GA border, and the Army of the Tennessee under General McPherson to the south near Lee and Gordon's Mill.

In May 1864 Grant was prepared to move on General Lee's army in VA and Sherman on Joe Johnston in GA in a coordinated operation in order to prevent the armies from exchanging forces. The Union was concerned that if either Confederate army was victorious, the victor could provide support for the other. But Lee depended on GA for supplies, food, munitions, clothing, and reinforcements (2); further, Atlanta was the center of four converging railroads, and Joe Johnston was considered possibly the south's greatest fighter. Sherman had a greater supply problem than Grant, with a long vulnerable supply line and a much larger theater of operation (4). Atlanta was not much concerned about the beginning of the Campaign, since Dalton was a long distance away, and many grand balls were held in Atlanta during May (1). And the powers in Europe were closely watching the position of these four massive armies, looking for a chance to tip the conflict in favor of the Confederacy. France was seeking an opportunity to defy the Monroe Doctrine; the ministers of Spain were watching with anticipation; the English constantly were watching to determine the success of failure of the four armies (2). The war was dragging on, so many in the north also would push for a negotiated peace if the Union armies faltered, particularly after Lee's recent victories.

21st WI. On May 4, the 21st WI crossed Chattanooga Creek through Rossville Gap to Graysville where it joined General Palmer's XIV Corps.

THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN

The Order of Battle of the Union army under Major General William T. Sherman, May 7 to Sept. 2, 1864 (5,6); all army and corps commanders listed are ranked as major generals:

- Army of the Tennessee; James B. McPherson. Included: XV Corps, John A. Logan; XVI Corps, Grenville M. Dodge; XVII Corps, Francis P. Blair
- Army of the Ohio; John M. Schofield, XXIII Corps
- Army of the Cumberland; George H. Thomas, commander. Included: XIV Corps, John M. Palmer. Other corps: IV Corps, Oliver O. Howard; XX Corps, Joseph Hooker. In the XIV Corps, all division (and brigade) commanders below are listed as brigadier generals.
  First Division, Richard Johnson (XIV Corps). Other divisions: Second Division, Jefferson C. Davis; Third Divison, Absalom Baird.
  First Brigade, William P. Carlin (First Division). Other brigades: Second, J. King; Third, B. Scribner. 21st WI, Lt. Col. Harrison C. Hobart; other units in the First Brigade: 10th WI; 2nd, 33rd, & 94th OH, 15th KY, 42nd & 88th IN, and 104th IL.

WI infantry units serving in Sherman's army in the Atlanta Campaign (5,6):

Army of the Cumberland	IV Corps:	24th, Ltc. West, 2nd Div., 1st Brig.—15th, Maj. Wilson, 3rd Div., 1st Brig.
	XIV Corps:	10th, Capt. Roby, 1st Div., 1st Brig.—21st, Ltc. Hobart, 1st Div., 1st Brig. 1st, Col. Bingham, 1st Div., 3rd Brig.
	XX Corps:	3rd, Col. Hawley, 1st Div., 2nd Brig.—31st, Col. West, 1st Div., 3rd Brig. 22nd, Col. Utley, 3rd Div., 2nd Brig.—26th, Ltc. Winkler, 3rd Div., 3rd Brig.
Army of the Tennessee	XVI Corps:	25th, Col. Montgomery, 4th Div., 2nd Brig.—32nd, Col. DeGroat, 4th Div., 3rd Brig.
	XVII Corps:	16th, Col. Fairchild, 3rd Div., 1st Brig.—17th, McMahon, 3rd Div., 3rd Brig., 12th, Col. Bryant, 4th Div., 1st Brig.
Army of the Ohio	XVII Corps:	10th Battery, Capt. Beebe, 3rd Div., 3rd Brig.—1st Cavalry, Maj. Paine, 1st Div., 2nd Brig.

BATTLES OF DALTON AND RESACA, ACROSS THE ETOWAH RIVER, AND NEW HOPE CHURCH.
The Confederate army was strongly entrenched on the nearly impregnable heights of Rocky Face Ridge (Figure 1) just west of Dalton. As a feint, Thomas demonstrated toward several gaps protecting Dalton. McPherson moved south to cut the Confederate communications at Resaca, but withdrew. On May 8, 1864, the XIV Corps with the 21st WI, threatened Mill Creek Gap at Buzzard's Roost and on May 9, attacked strong Confederates positions, but were repulsed with many casualties. The demonstration continued May 10 and 11. On May 12-13, the bulk of Sherman's army moved through narrow Snake Creek Gap, then turned east to confront heavily fortified Resaca. On May 15, Carlin's brigade with the 21st WI crossed Camp Creek, separating the forces, for a frontal assault which became stalled by mid-day and after suffering heavy losses. Also on May 15, the Union struck the Confederate right flank on the north as a feint while other Union troops to the south crossed the Oostanaula River just south of Resaca, forcing the Confederate army to again retreat and burning the railroad bridge behind them. Joe Johnston also discovered that Union troops planned to bombard his escape bridges (4).

Once across the Oostanaula River, the Confederates took a stand at Cassville, but Union forces drove them across the Etowah River. Sherman halted his army on May 20, to repair the railroad back to Dalton/Resaca and to resupply. On May 23, Sherman's troops crossed the Etowah River where they left the railroad heading south towards Dallas to avoid confronting the Confederates at fortified Allatoona Gap, and to cut the railroad behind the Confederate lines. But Joe Johnston extended and fortified his line south to Dallas. On May 25, Hooker's advanced IV Corps struck strong positions at New Hope Church on a narrow front attempting to capture a vital road intersection but suffered heavy losses in a vicious battle. The remainder of the Army of the Cumberland arrived on May 26, and were ordered to entrench by Thomas.

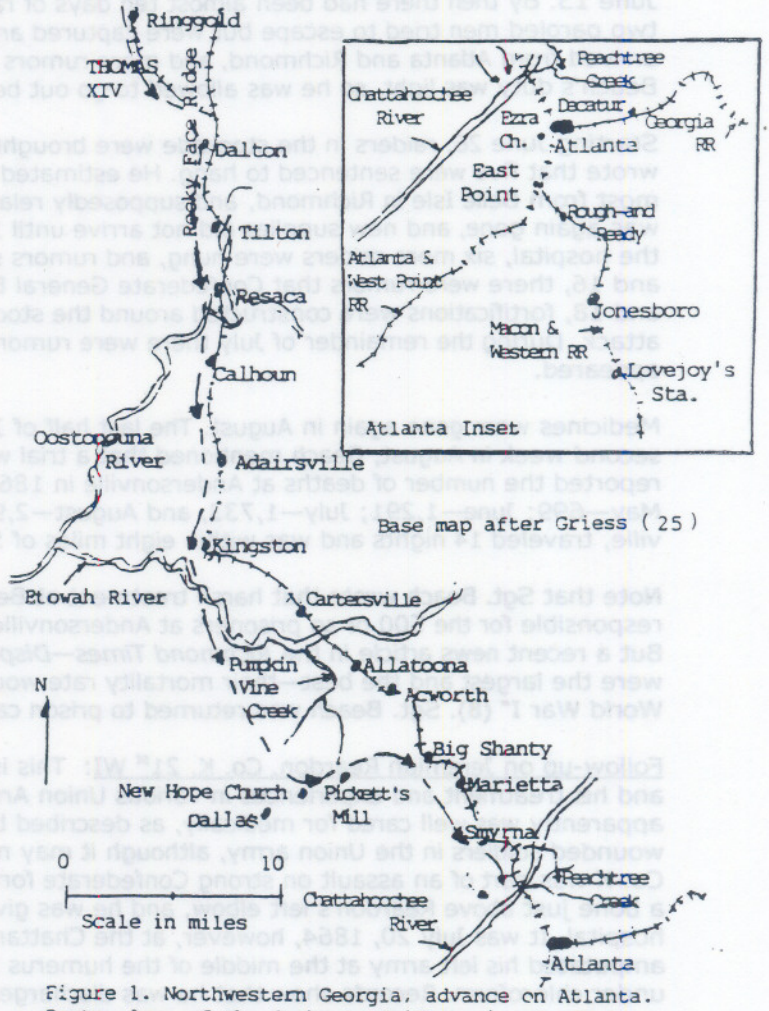


Figure 1. Northwestern Georgia, advance on Atlanta. Route, Army of the Cumberland (Thomas) and XIV Corps

CAPTURE, INJURY, AND SURVIVAL (follow-up).
1st Sgt. Edward Beach, Co. E, 21st WI: Beach was captured during the retreat from the field after Chickamauga; his capture and experiences in Confederate prison camps were described in parts 3 and 4 of this series. This is a follow-up of his diary (7) which described experiences during the days and weeks that Sherman's troops were advancing on Atlanta in May and into the summer of 1864.

On May 26, 1864, Beach was detailed to the hospital area at Andersonville located outside the stockade, which he described as a nice shady spot. He was required to take the parole of honor that he would not attempt to escape; by the next day he was busy prescribing and issuing medicine. On May 28, he was again hoping that Sherman's cavalry would arrive to help prisoners escape, and again complained of being tired and having difficulty standing. The next day more prisoners arrived and there was increased fever, ague, and scurvy since no vegetables were available.

In early June he wrote that time was passing fast since he had much work to do, but there were now about eighteen thousand prisoners at Andersonville, some two thousand of them quite sick. There were only seven doctors for all, but he was getting to like working with medicine. Then there were rumors that the exchange of prisoners was to start in a month—the rumors persisted for days. On June 7, he talked with Tom Hayter, Co. B of the 21st WI who had escaped at Danville, VA but was recaptured. By June 8, medicine was about gone and deaths increased from the average of 30 a day to 35 a day. On June 10, a doctor left for Macon, GA to replenish medicine supplies and returned on June 13. By then there had been almost ten days of rain, which caused added suffering. On June 18, two paroled men tried to escape but were captured and not seen again. On June 21, more squads arrived from Atlanta and Richmond, and more rumors spread. Medicine was about gone again and Beach's duty was light, so he was allowed to go out berry-picking.

Starting June 26, raiders in the stockade were brought out for trial by Union sgts, and by early July he wrote that five were sentenced to hang. He estimated there were some 500 raiders in the stockade, most from Belle Isle in Richmond, and supposedly related to poor treatment. By July 3, the medicine was again gone, and new supplies did not arrive until July 13. Meanwhile, many more were added to the hospital, six more raiders were hung, and rumors spread that Atlanta was captured. On July 15 and 16, there were rumors that Confederate General Early was shelling Washington, DC. On July 17 and 18, fortifications were constructed around the stockade because Union cavalry was expected to attack. During the remainder of July there were rumors that Union cavalry were approaching, but none appeared.

Medicines were gone again in August. The last half of July and early August were quiet, but during the second week in August, Beach mentioned that a trial was held because of missing whiskey. He reported the number of deaths at Andersonville in 1864 as follows: March—278 deaths; April—544; May—699; June—1,291; July—1,733; and August—2,990. On Sept. 8, Beach escaped from Andersonville, traveled 14 nights and was within eight miles of Sherman's troops when he was recaptured.

Note that Sgt. Beach wrote that harsh treatment at Belle Isle in Richmond was in a large part responsible for the 500 or so prisoners at Andersonville who were known and feared as the raiders. But a recent news article in the *Richmond Times—Dispatch* claims that "—Their Richmond hospitals were the largest and the best—their mortality rate would not be lowered by military hospitals until World War I" (8). Sgt. Beach was returned to prison camp and eventually released.

Follow-up on Jeremiah Reardon, Co. K, 21st WI: This is a review of a wounded veteran of the 21st WI and his treatment and experiences in various Union Army hospitals and some general hospitals. He apparently was well cared for medically, as described below to illustrate medical treatment available to wounded soldiers in the Union army, although it may not be typical. At Resaca, May 14, 1864, when Co. K was part of an assault on strong Confederate fortifications, a bullet passed through his humerus, a bone just above Reardon's left elbow, and he was given immediate treatment at a Chattanooga hospital. It was July 20, 1864, however, at the Chattanooga General Hospital that surgeon M. Graw amputated his left army at the middle of the humerus by a flap operation (flap antere-posteriva) under chloroform. Records show that he was discharged to a hospital in Nashville, TN Aug. 29, then moved to Louisville, KY on Sept. 15, then admitted to Jefferson General Hospital in Jeffersonville, IN. He was transported to Madison, WI on Oct. 17 and furloughed from Harvey Army General Hospital on Oct. 19 then readmitted on Oct. 28. On Feb. 20, 1865 he was sent to Swift General Hospital in Prairie Du Chein, WI.

Reardon was then discharged and a pension awarded for being shot in the elbow joint causing the amputation of the left arm just below the shoulder. The Surgeon General's report indicates Reardon may not have accepted an artificial limb, and "—entitled to the value of an artificial arm."

Reardon settled in Milwaukee, but soon became the proprietor of a confectionery store on the main street in Manitowoc, WI. When courting his future wife, he always had candy for her younger sisters, which included the grandmother of Laurie Becker living in WI (9). In fact, at a recent trip to Resaca for a reenactment, Ms. Becker left three yards of four-inch wide ribbon, with a note, tied to the historical marker near where Jeremiah fought.

He was well liked and supported by friends in the north side of Manitowoc and became a famous one-armed policeman. He apparently was popular with the north side youngsters when he served as one of several night watchmen during the 1870s and 1880s. He even used tactics of befriending a suspect to obtain information; these methods were frowned on in those days but are common in police work now. At one time he was a candidate for a post of Light House Keeper in near-by Two Rivers, WI. (Figure 2a and 2b)

An article in the *Manitowoc Pilot* dated Oct. 14, 1915, announced his death; he had been ill for about a year. His funeral was held at the Presbyterian church where he was sexton for 17 years, and he was interred in Evergreen cemetery. The services were well attended by Civil War comrades, relatives, and others. He was active in the 21st WI Regimental Association and in the Grand Army of the Republic, which performed the cemetery services. He enlisted in August, 1862, served in all battles and campaigns of the 21st WI until he lost his left arm at Resaca, and was discharged in June 1865. He was constantly studying history, particularly about the Civil War. Incidentally, Jeremiah's brother-in-law, Thomas W. Olcott, gave his life at Fredericksburg, VA on May 3, 1863.

Figure 2a:
Reardon family photo taken some time late in 1890 at the Reardon home on North 7th St. Manitowoc, WI
From left:
Jeremiah's wife, Mary Howarth Reardon; daugthers, Nettie Smalley & Edna Reardon; and Jeremiah Reardon.
Edna never married, and Nettie married into a family who was also heavily immersed in the Civil War.

Figure 2b:
Jeremiah Reardon
This photograph of the veteran of the 21st WI was taken right about 1890, or a little earlier.

We are deeply indebted to Laurie L. Becker living in Wisconsin for making these private photographs available to us for publication. Ms. Becker writes that both were given to her by Mary Thompson, the grand-daughter of Jeremiah Reardon and Hershel Smalley, who was also a CW veteran from Wisconsin.

PICKETT'S MILL AND DALLAS.

After Hooker's attack at New Hope Church was refused with losses, both armies were under constant firing and attacks during day light causing heavy losses to both sides (10,11). Sherman then ordered Howard's IV Corps to locate and attack the Confederate right flank, but Joe Johnston was now moving his forces back north and east to keep the Union troops from reaching the railroad. Looking for the Confederate right flank, Howard marched north and east about 2 P.M. on Friday, May 27, 1864 but skirmishers became lost in the dense woods and deep ravines and struggled over ridges; but the troubled Union flanking movement was spotted, and Joe Johnston extended several divisions north and east (6). The Confederates prepared for battle by strengthening their fortifications and placing howitzers in ravines for enfilading fire. The relative strength of the two armies was generally comparable, with 92,000 Union troops in line facing 70,000 Confederate troops (12).

At Pickett's Mill, Wood's division (IV Corps) organized six lines deep in a column while R. Johnson's division (XIV Corps) moved north and east to organize in a similar arrangement to the left beyond Wood's division (11), with Carlin's brigade and the 21st WI behind King's and Scribner's brigades. Weary of marching by now, Hazen's leading brigade of Wood's column marched by compass through thick forest but found it came on the rear of their new entrenched line facing the wrong way instead of arriving behind the Confederate right flank (12). On orders from Howard, it moved another mile east by about 3 P.M. Hazen's brigade moved towards the strong fortifications at 4:30 P.M. but the other brigades in line were not ordered to follow as planned, and the lead brigade was caught in a savage crossfire, losing almost 500 in about 45 minutes and were running low on ammunition (13). Hazen's brigade was now crowded in a ravine 100 yards from the barricaded Confederate lines.

When R. Johnson's column reached its position, Scribner's lead brigade (with the 1st WI) started to move at 5 P.M. (Figure 3), with his left on Pumpkinvine Creek (now Pickett's Mill Creek) but came under strong enfilading fire from the steep hill across the creek. Scribner paused to drive Confederate dismounted cavalry off the hill but lost contact with Hazen's brigade. He was forced to change fronts, but could not drive the infantry. The Confederates counter attacked from strong entrenchments at 5:30 P.M. causing heavy Union losses; Hazen's brigade was forced to withdraw with deliberation that permitted the removal of the wounded (13).

Meanwhile a road was constructed from the Union rear to allow ammunition and artillery to be brought to the weary infantry, and Carlin's brigade with the 21st WI and King's brigade prepared breast-work with Carlin placed on the east side of the creek and King on the west; this was now the newly formed Union line while Scribner's brigade retreated behind. Although repulsed, R. Johnson's division stabilized the line, but Union losses were 1,600 with some 500 to 700 Union soldiers buried along Confederate lines. Sporadic firing continued after 10 P.M., and campfires revealed the woods full of wounded (14). Wood alone suffered about 1,400 casualties with troops getting within only paces of the Confederate line. R. Johnson's losses were less, but he was wounded seriously enough to be temporarily relieved of command. Union vs. Confederate losses were about a 3 : 1 ratio. It appears that if the depth of the two divisions had been used as planned, such that the brigade behind Hazen or the brigades of Carlin and/or King had supported Scribner, the Union troops may well have broken through the Confederate fortifications (15). But a strong position was gained on the Confederate right, and Wood's and Johnson's troops entrenched for the night.

21st WI: That night the 21st WI camped on Pumpkinvine Creek (Pickett's Mill Creek) near Pickett's Mill (16). After dark, while the 21st WI slept on their arms, a rebel deserter crept into its camp (17) and on May 28 informed them that the Confederates were now in the Union rear. The 21st WI then counter marched, with Companies A and E deployed as skirmishers under Capt. Weisbrod and drove the Confederate line from a wooded ridge a short distance away. Losses were four killed and 22 wounded; those wounded in Company E were Cpl. W. Welsh, and Pvts. E. Phillips, P. Schwartz, L. Grotto, H. Barnett, and S. Shelley (18). That night, the 21st WI formed a new line on the ridge where firing continued until June 6 in battle lines 150 paces apart (19). According to Fitch, Hood had conducted a harsh attack on their line on May 30, but was repulsed, although some sources assert that Hood called off his attack. Carlin complimented the 21st WI for its endurance and bravery.

Dallas: On May 28, while Howard held and stabilized his position at Pickett's Mill, the fortified XV and

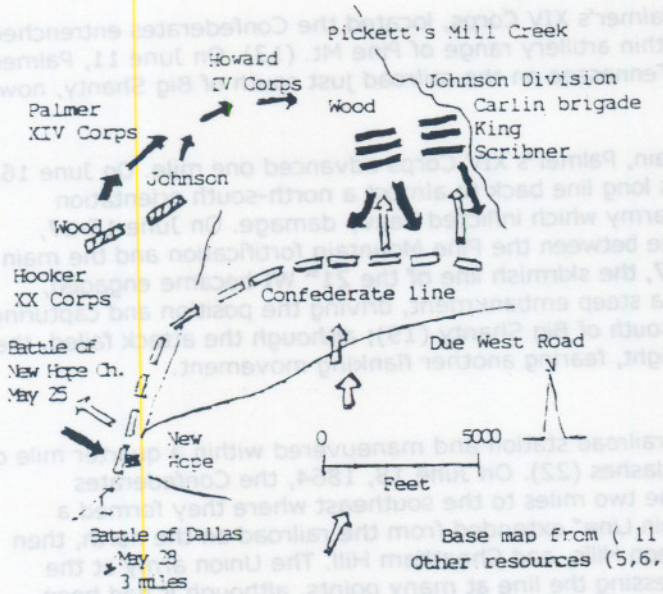


Figure 3. Johnson's Division at Battle of Pickett's Mill May 27, 1864

XVI Corps positions were attacked several miles south from a strong position at Dallas and suffered losses of about 400 casualties and inflicted losses over 600. Both armies became disorganized and confused before Union Gen. Logan rallied his troops which held the position while pinned down until June 1. Even with the near stalemate, enough ground had been gained for Sherman to continue moving towards the railroad and escaping the trap set by the Confederates. The Union captured 1,470 prisoners and received 550 deserters (13). Thomas reported that the Army of the Cumberland had 3,000 casualties since New Hope Church, with losses of 8,426 since the beginning of the campaign. Actions the last week in May and the three severe battles labeled this location the "Hell Hole." Pickett's Mill Historic Site consists of 765 acres of the battlefield, but the battlefields at New Hope Church and Dallas are in private hands (11).

On May 29, 30, and 31, the Confederate army attack the Union left in a series of heavy attacks in an attempt to prevent the Union troops from returning to their supply line where the railroad passed through the town of Acworth. On May 29, there was some seven or eight night attacks near Dallas, although McPherson's three corps managed to move several miles to New Hope Church by June 1 (6). The Allatoona area to the north was composed of rough hills and gorges so Sherman decided to turn the Union army south and to the right and cut Confederate communications with Marietta, GA. The Confederates abandoned Allatoona as the Union fought its way back to the railroad.

JUNE 1864: PICKETT'S MILL CREEK TO KENNESAW MOUNTAIN.

Sherman began moving the army back toward the railroad about June 1, 1864 by skipping one division over another to the east, while slowly pushing back Confederate skirmishers; each army fortified its lines as it advanced. Joe Johnston was forced to give up the Dallas line by June 2 because the Union gained strong footholds, and by June 4 Union troops occupied the former Confederate fortifications. Thomas rested on June 5, and on June 6 moved into position south of Acworth (13); McPherson turned north and repaired the railroad, fortified Allatoona, established a vast depot (20), then rested on June 10. The Confederates were using the south end of the railroad for supplies and transporting wounded.

The Confederates having determined that the Union army would consolidate along the railroad and move towards the Chattahoochee River abandoned its strong position at Dallas and moved to the mountains and hills north and west of Marietta (figure 4). On June 9 the Confederate army placed its left just west of Powder Spring, extending to north and west of Lost Mt., with its right extending across the railroad to north of Kennesaw Station, known as the "ten mile long" first Kennesaw line (6). Sherman's overall movement now was towards the Chattahoochee River, but his problems increased because of lengthening the Union supply line and because the land to the south was broken by ravines and densely wooded (13). It was now raining steadily (21), but on June 11 a supply train arrived near the skirmish line.

21st WI. Carlin's brigade with the 21st WI, under continuous fire until June 6, advanced north and east just behind the Army of the Cumberland, joining it on June 9 where all was quiet. But Union cavalry found the Confederate line a short distance south. On June 10, the 21st WI in line of battle preceded

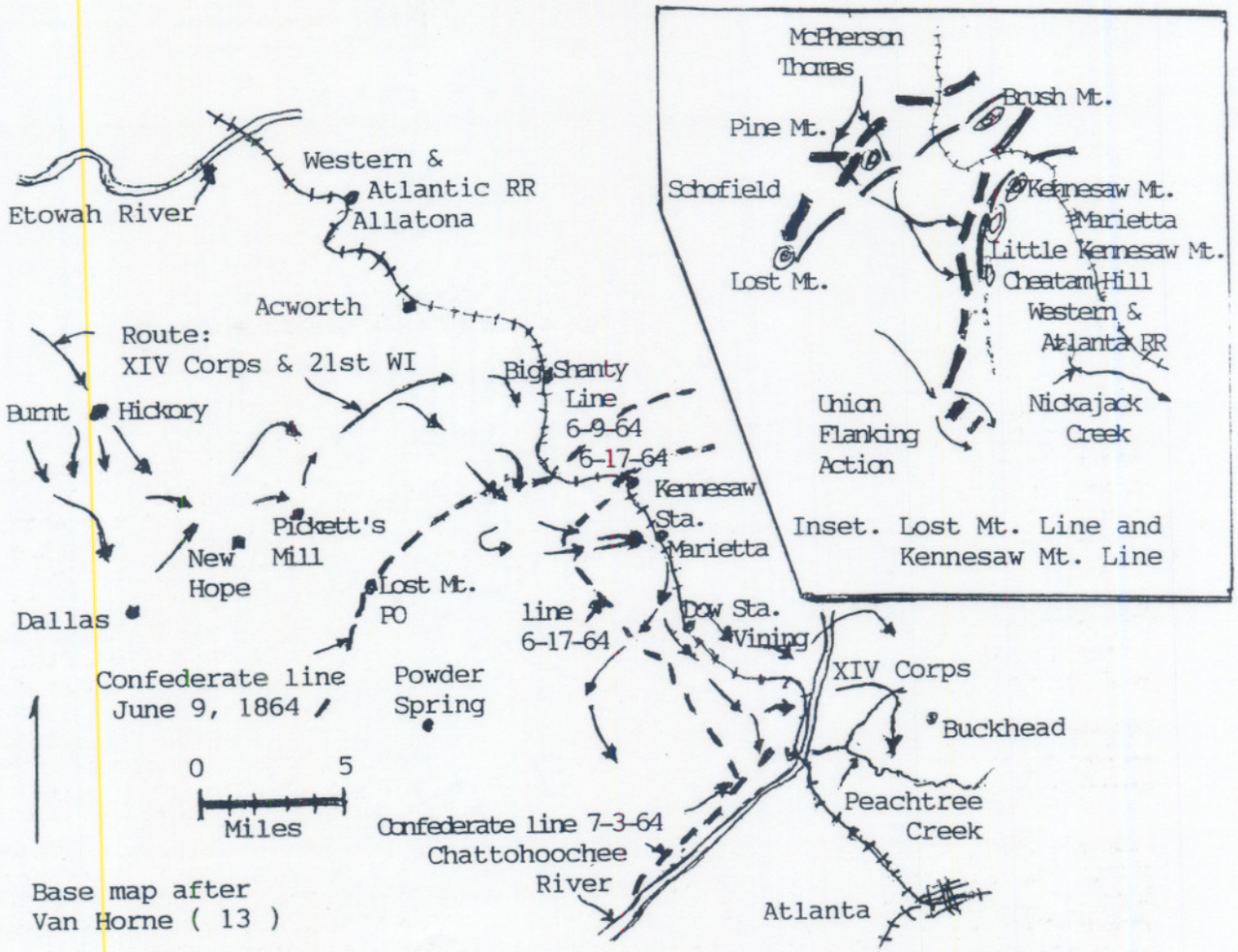


Figure 4. Atlanta Campaign. Routes of Army of the Cumberland and XIV Corps from Burnt Hickory in Late May, 1864 to Chattahoochee River early July 1864.

Figure 4 not included in original as planned AHH

by skirmishers advanced southeasterly with Palmer's XIV Corps, located the Confederates entrenched south east of the Acworth area and moved within artillery range of Pine Mt. (13). On June 11, Palmer's corps moved left to connect the Army of the Tennessee on the railroad just south of Big Shanty, now Kennesaw (6).

21st WI. On June 14, after days of constant rain, Palmer's XIV Corps advanced one mile. On June 16, the Confederates realigned the left side of this long line back to almost a north-south orientation where it was promptly attacked by the Union army which inflicted heavy damage. On June 15-17, Palmer's XIV Corps attempted to drive a wedge between the Pine Mountain fortification and the main Confederate forces around Lost Mt. On June 17, the skirmish line of the 21st WI became engaged, charging through a stream waist deep and up a steep embankment, driving the position and capturing 13 prisoners. Quiner places this skirmish just south of Big Shanty (19); although the attack failed, the Confederates abandoned Pine Mountain that night, fearing another flanking movement.

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN.

Sherman moved his three armies up from the railroad station and maneuvered within a quarter mile of Kennesaw Mt., followed by numerous cavalry clashes (22). On June 18, 1864, the Confederates withdrew from their thin ten-mile long line some two miles to the southeast where they formed a heavily entrenched six-mile "Kennesaw Mountain Line" extended from the railroad on the north, then across Kennesaw Mt., Little Kennesaw Mt., Pigeon Hills, and Cheatham Hill. The Union army at the corps and regiment level probed constantly, pressing the line at many points, although it had been raining most of June. On June 21, Thomas extended the Union line to the right; to counter, Joe Johnston shifted to his left. On June 22, the XIV Corps was in line facing east at the center for the battle at Kolb's Farm, although Hood's attack was just to the south against the XX Corps (5). On June 23, Joe Johnston opened a massive all day bombardment from the Kennesaw peaks onto the Union trenches below, and the troops moved back in disorder (22). The Confederates allowed a short truce while both armies tended their wounded and dead.

21st WI. According to Fitch (16), with artillery fire heavy on both sides, he commanded about 100 men of the 21st WI and charged the Confederate skirmish line in rifle pits and took 14 prisoners, several stands of arms, and established a new line about 200 yards of the Confederate main line.

People in nearby Atlanta were now questioning why Joe Johnston continued to retreat, while the price of food was becoming prohibitive. Odds and ends dishes were being served, some called "blockade pudding" and "Sherman hash" (22). But Joe Johnston's Kennesaw position was almost impregnable; he drew back his left and fortified the complete works with slashings in front of steep slopes and a full sweep of crossfire. The location was perhaps stronger than the Union position at Gettysburg, PA (23), and as strong as the Confederate position at Dalton, GA. No one is certain why Sherman abandoned his successful flanking movement but many have speculated. Sherman for example was becoming concerned about his long supply line, back to Nashville and guarded every foot of the way, and was perhaps tempted to obtain a quick, decisive victory by splitting Confederate forces by a heavy assault (22). Further, the constant marching or flanking movements, particularly in steady rains, became tiring to Union troops (6), so Sherman ordered an assault.

On June 25, Sherman issued an order directing an all-out attack on Kennesaw Mt.; on June 27, at 8 A.M. over 200 Union cannon signaled the attack (10). The major two battles involved Thomas, with heavy losses (24). Palmer's XIV Corps attacked Cheatham ridge to the south, with General Carlin's division attacking eastward just south of the Burnt Hickory Road (6, 24), but not in the main attack. Thomas's massive army advanced on a solid narrow front in the center of the Union line (6, 11) only about 250 yards wide but many regiments deep, passing through rough topography and a thick tangle of underbrush. They were repulsed along the entire line with heavy losses and at places retreated in wild disorder; the entire Battle of Kennesaw Mt. lasted just over three hours, and was over by 11 A.M. (22).

After the battle at Kennesaw Mt., the XIV Corps swung northeast then south through Marietta and beyond paralleling the railroad on the west side (23). On June 27, the Union losses at Kennesaw Mt. were about 3,000, with Confederate losses about one-third (11). But now Atlanta was the only

objective. During June the Army of the Cumberland lost 5,747 troops, including 316 officers killed and wounded, and captured 742 men plus receiving 502 deserters.

The rains stopped; on July 1, Sherman ordered the movement of Union troops to the right to turn the position not carried by the assault. Thomas held entrenchments while other units moved south to threaten the Confederate rear. On July 2, Joe Johnston withdrew his army and by the next morning was moving to new prepared entrenchments along the Chattahoochee River, thus on July 3, the strong Confederate fortifications were found empty. The Army of the Cumberland moved on Marietta while closely pursuing the Confederate army en route to the Atlanta area.

CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER, JULY 1-16, 1864.
The Army of the Cumberland moved down the railroad near Dow Station, then moved south towards the Chattahoochee River. On July 3-4, the Union troops reached the new Confederate line amid heavy skirmishing. On July 4, the Union lines threatened to get behind the Confederate position, so Joe Johnston moved closer to the Chattahoochee River behind Nickajack Creek where the "Johnston's River Line" was established consisting of log forts connected by infantry trenches, another strong position (Figure 5). Palmer's XIV Corps moved southeast paralleling and south of the railroad and the Atlanta Road marching past the Battle of Smyrna fought by Howard's corps (23); then on approaching the river, moved east across the Atlanta Road, and took a position just north of the Confederate line about a mile from the river, straddling the location of current I-85 (5).

21st WI. On July 3, the 21st WI marched through Marietta and went into camp three miles south (16). On July 4th, Lt. Col. Hobart was assigned to command three regiments on the left wing of the First Brigade, and Major M. H. Fitch took command of the 21st WI (19). During July, Brigadier General Jefferson C. Davis became corps commander, General Carlin division commander, and Colonel McCook commanded the brigade, but some accounts differ as to commanders of units in this period.

21st WI. On July 5, Fitch (16), commanding the 10th and 21st WI under fire on the main road to Atlanta about one mile west of the Chattahoochee River, was ordered to locate McPherson far to the south. Deployed as skirmishers, the units followed the Confederate line under fire for a short distance south of Marietta, and coming on strong entrenchments on the north bank of the Chattahoochee River to Ruff's Station, the detachment formed into line of battle and held its position until relieved by a division from the IV Corps.

A follow up assault by Union troops indicated to Sherman that the position was too strong for a direct assault. Sherman along with Thomas observed on July 5 at Vining Station that this was "one of the strongest pieces of field fortifications" (26). Here the Union army rested briefly and extended its communication and accumulated supplies for the advance on Atlanta. In preparation, Thomas demonstrated against the center of Confederate positions and McPherson feinted to the right.

Also on July 5, Sherman sent cavalry to Roswell, 15 miles to the north, but they arrived in time to see the bridge almost destroyed by fire. Some Union troops and horses waded across, but two new bridges were built across by July 8 and Schofield crossed the Chattahoochee River north of the Confederate's right flank and established a beach head while the Union cavalry crossed the River at Roswell. On the night of July 9, Joe Johnston retreated across the Chattahoochee River after burning all bridges, and established a position along Peachtree Creek several miles from Atlanta (18).

Between July 8 and July 17 Union troops bridged the River at six sites; two at Pace's Ferry (26), two at Power's Ferry to the north, and two near Roswell, some to be replaced by trestle bridges. Joe Johnston planned to assault a possible gap between Thomas and Schofield as they were crossing the river, but was relieved of command on July 17 by Confederate President Jeff Davis who appointed the fighter General John Bell Hood because, he explained, Joe Johnston had failed to stop the Union army (28). Sherman read this account in a local newspaper (14).

There are different reactions of military personnel and others regarding the dismissal. The initial and accepted reaction was one of outrage, as indicated in preparation for the 100th anniversary of the battles for Atlanta (29), which reports that Joe Johnston's staff threatened to resign in a body and

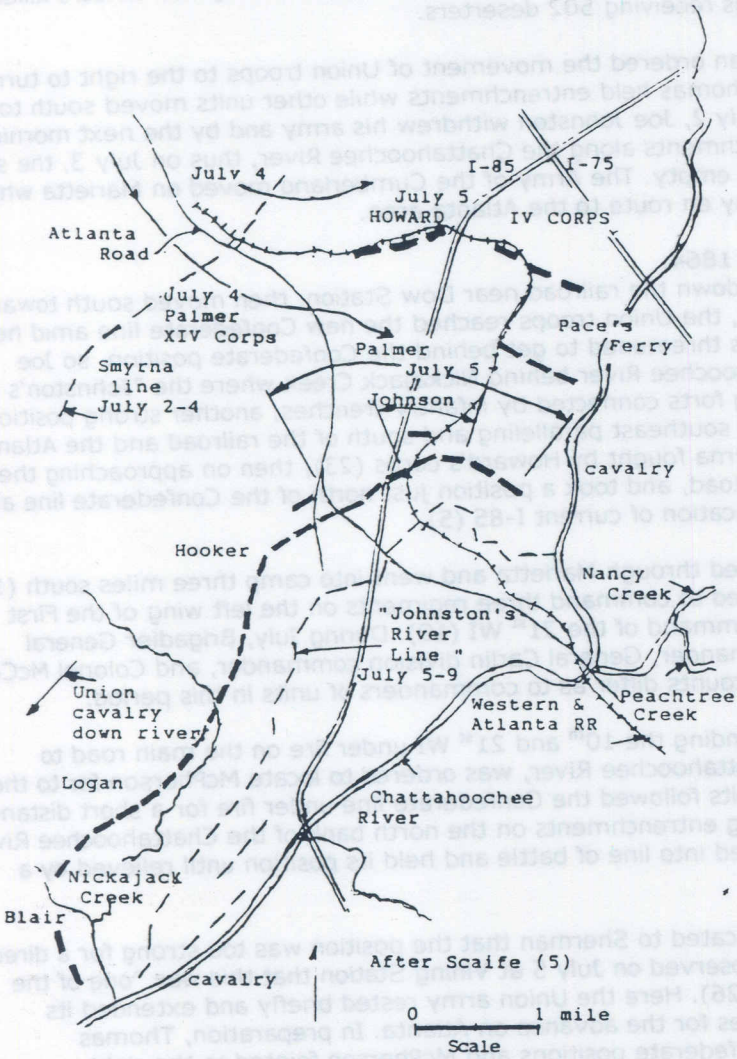


Figure 5 . Confrontation at "Johnston's River Line"
Position of Palmer's XIV Corps and
R. Johnson's 1st Division
July 4 - 9, 1864.

attempted a compromise of sorts for Davis to reconsider. Keys called it "Political skull-duggery" because Hood wrote Bragg that Joe Johnston was incompetent (29). But according to some (27), there has been new thinking of this concern over the last 50 years claiming that Davis had no choice but to dismiss Joe Johnston and perhaps it was over due. Several strong arguments were presented suggesting, among other points, that Joe Johnston so significantly reduced the Confederate chance of holding Atlanta that his dismissal became necessary. Another view was that because of an impasse between Richmond and Joe Johnston, there were no plans of action for the Atlanta Campaign. (30)

Nevertheless, the Atlanta Campaign was considered a masterpiece of both offensive and defensive maneuvers, with Sherman outflanking or threatening the lines of communication of every position occupied by the Confederate army, while Joe Johnston conducted an organized retreat against formidable odds and kept his army between the Union army and Atlanta. According to Ward (31), "Out gunned, out supplied, out numbered almost two to one, Joe Johnston and his Lieutenants could only hope to slow Sherman's advances, and perhaps lure him into making the kind of doomed frontal attack which would help swing the election against Lincoln." He further stated, "Sherman's march was a masterpiece of planning. In a matter of hours, its engineers replaced burned bridges and ripped up rail line."

PEACH TREE CREEK, JULY 19-20, 1864.

Union troops were jubilant to be free of the dismal forests which hampered them for over a month. On July 16, the Army of the Cumberland began crossing the river, with Palmer's XIV Corps and Hooker's XX Corps crossing at Pace's Ferry moving toward Buckhead, then turned south to form the Union right (6). Moving southward along the present Ridgewood Road towards the bridge over Peachtree Creek, Union troops executed a "right wheel" pivot with Thomas on the shortest line (23). Palmer's XIV Corps formed the right, with R. Johnson's 1st Division in the center towards Kyle's Bridge over Nancy Creek, a tributary of Peachtree Creek, and pressed back Confederate skirmishers. On July 17, Palmer's XIV Corps was resisted by General Wheeler's Confederate cavalry, and on July 18, had taken most of the ground north of Peachtree Creek (6) at Ridgewood Road, Moore's Mill Rd. and Howell's Mill Rd. The

21st WI had moved east along Pace's Ferry Road, then south on Howell's Mill Rd., just east of the present I-75, with its right resting on the junction of Nancy's and Peachtree Creek.

On July 19, McCook's (formerly Carlin's) First Brigade of Johnson's 1st Division, including the 21st WI, went to the aid of another division which forced a crossing of Peachtree Creek at Green Bone Creek (6). Baird's 3rd Division (XIV Corps), then made a crossing above Howell's Mill, followed by R. Johnson's 1st Division which was followed by Davis's 2nd Division. The Confederates withdrew but the losses were heavy on both sides. The next attack was on the Union left where Hood tried to push the Union army back into Peachtree Creek, but by now the Union left had entrenched and Thomas had massed artillery and brought reinforcements from Palmer's XIV Corps on the right to support him.

The battle of Peachtree Creek occurred July 20 (Figure 6). That morning the remainder of Palmer's XIV Corps was over the creek, the first corps to get over in full strength; the majority of Thomas's army was over the creek but not entrenched (28), as had the Union left flank. Palmer ordered the XIV Corps to entrench on a front extending from the mouth of the creek on the right to the Howell's Mill Road on the left (19), facing Collier Rd. and to build defensive works. Palmer, on the far right of the Union line, was convinced that the entire Confederate force, preparing to attack, was confronting the Union army. Artillery in the Union center, supervised by Thomas, may have saved the day (14).

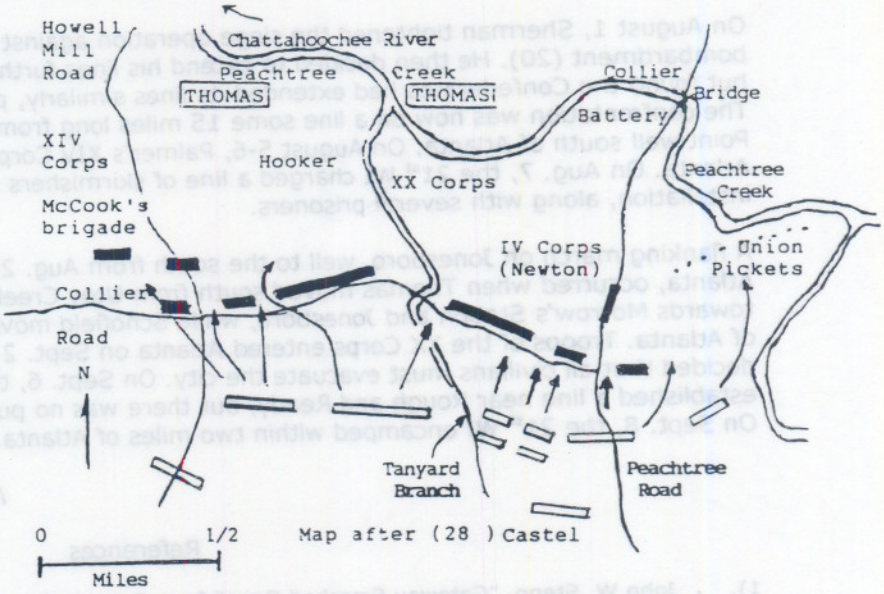


Figure 6. Position of McCook's brigade, XIV Corps, Battle of Peachtree Creek, July 20, 1864.

The 21st WI. During the battle of Peachtree Creek the 104th IL of the 1st Brigade, XIV Corps, posted in advance of the main line, was driven back furiously. Col. McCook, commanded the first line of the brigade and Lt. Col. Hobart the second, including the 21st WI (16). After some confusion, the 21st charged up a hill to support the 104th IL; the line was retaken by a charge of the 10th and 21st WI under command of Hobart (19, 32), with the Confederates leaving their wounded.

Meanwhile, McPherson on the east had worked within about 2 ½ miles of Atlanta but was reluctant to move in further because of Confederate sharpshooters on a hill close by. Sherman was northeast of Atlanta and did not hear the sounds of battle along Peachtree Creek and instead heard only the sounds near McPherson, so assumed that the Confederates were concentrated in the eastern sector. Sherman blamed Thomas for "excessive caution" and did not learn until 6:15 P.M. that the Union right was heavily engaged with the bulk of the Confederate army and that McPherson on the east faced only a token force. This episode is similar to the battle at Resaca where McPherson was rebuffed by a small force (28). Union losses were about 1,900 casualties, most from Palmer's XIV Corps along Howell's Mill Road.

Confederate losses were estimated at some three to five thousand men while sustaining a high proportion of troop losses. The Confederate army thus lost the battle of Peachtree Creek since the Union troops were not driven back into Peachtree Creek as expected by Hood (28). Most blame Hood for attacking too late, when most of the Union troops were across the Chattahoochee River and Peachtree Creek and partially entrenched, then hurling his forces hopelessly in a frontal assault—but, this was only his second day of command.

Newly appointed Hood was not fully prepared to command the entire army in the face of an enemy (14). The attacks were not well coordinated as the Confederate units shifted back and forth in front of the Union army and they were not aware of the strong Union left flank. Hood's methods paralleled those of Confederate General Lee in VA.

SIEGE OF ATLANTA, July and August 1864.
Hood's army was soundly defeated and withdrew into Atlanta, starting in effect the siege of Atlanta. Hood was soundly defeated in two more thrusts against Sherman. The Battle of Atlanta, to the east, took place just two days after the Battle of Peachtree Creek; the Battle of Ezra Church to the west took place July 28. There were also Union cavalry raids to the south and west of Atlanta.

On August 1, Sherman tightened the siege operation against Atlanta and increased the artillery bombardment (20). He then decided to extend his lines further west and south to overlap the railroad but found the Confederates had extended its lines similarly, possibly with the use of local guard forces. The confrontation was now on a line some 15 miles long from the Decatur Road east of Atlanta to East Point well south of Atlanta. On August 5-6, Palmer's XIV Corps was in combat at Utoy Creek west of Atlanta. On Aug. 7, the 21st WI charged a line of skirmishers and captured an extensive field installation, along with several prisoners.

A flanking march on Jonesboro, well to the south from Aug. 25 to 30 to cut railroads in and out of Atlanta, occurred when Thomas moved south from Utoy Creek to Red Oak then southeastward towards Morrow's Station and Jonesboro, while Schofield moved from East Point just five miles south of Atlanta. Troops of the XX Corps entered Atlanta on Sept. 2 and Sherman entered five days later; he decided that all civilians must evacuate the city. On Sept. 6, the XIV Corps moved north and established a line near Rough and Ready, but there was no pursuit of the Confederates to the south. On Sept. 8, the 21st WI encamped within two miles of Atlanta.

Next: Siege of Atlanta—Sherman's March

References

1). John W. Stepp, "Gateway Smashed Open" from *Evening Star*, November 28, 1863, as printed in the *Sunday Magazine, The Washington Star*, November 24, 1963
2). William Key, *The Georgia Campaign*, No. 1, 'Gray Wolf' Holds Giant Blue Python' at Bay, *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution*, April 28, 1957.
3). George T. Burns, paper entitled "Memories of the Past" reading his paper at the Eleventh Annual Reunion of the Twenty First Wisconsin regiment, Kaukauna, WI on July 20-21, 1898, and published in its Proceedings.
4). James J. Cooke, *Union Logistics in the Campaign for Atlanta, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea*, Volumes I & II, series editors, Theodore F. Savas & David A. Woodbury, Copyright 1994 by Savas Woodury Publishers, 1475 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 204, Campbell, CA 95008.
5). William R. Scaife, "Civil War Atlas and Order of Battle," 1997, *Civil War Publications*, Cartersville, GA.
6). William R. Scaife, *The Campaign for Atlanta*, 1985, 1990. PO Box 98094, Atlanta, GA 30359, Printed in USA.
7). Private communication with Tom Selby, great grandson living in MI and Janet Marx, great grand daughter living in ME.
8). Donald McCaig, "Defeated Confederacy Casts a Long Shadow, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, October 31, 1999.
9). Private communication with Laurie Becker living in WI.
10). Ronald H. Bailey (and the Editors of the Time-Life Books), "The Civil War Battles for Atlanta, Sherman Moves East," 1989, Time-Life Books Inc., Alexandria, VA.
11). *The Civil War Battlefield Guide*, The Conservation Fund, Frances H. Kennedy, Editor, 1990. The Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. Includes: The Atlanta Campaign, New Hope Church, Pickett's Mill, and Dallas and Kennesaw Mountain by Jay Luvaas.
12). Jeffrey S. Dean, *The Forgotten "Hell Hole", The Battle of Pickett's Mill, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea*, Volumes I & II, series editors, Theodore F. Savas & David A. Woodbury, Copyright 1994 by Savas Woodbury Publishers, 1475 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 204, Campbell, CA 95008.
13). Thomas Van Horne, U.S.A. *History of the Army of the Cumberland, its Organization, Campaign, and Battles*, and official and other documents furnished by him. Compiled by Blake Magner with new introduction by Peter Cozzins, 1988. Broadfoot Publishing Company, Wilmington, North Carolina.
14). Freeman Cleaves, *Rock of Chickamauga, The Life of George H. Thomas*, 1948 & 1986, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman and London.

16). Michael H. Fitch, *Echoes of the Civil War as I Hear Them,* record of Service in the 6th & 21st Wis. Volunteer Regt., 1905. R. F. Fenno & Company, 9 and 11 East Sixteenth Street, New York.
17). George T. Burns, paper entitled "Memories of the Past" reading his paper at the twelfth Annual Reunion of
[illegible] *History of Wisconsin,* Todd, Larke & Co., Publishers, Chicago.
20). James G. Bogle, "The Western & Atlantic Railroad in the Campaign for Atlanta, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea," Volumes I & II, series editors, Theodore F. Savas & David A. Woodbury, Copyright 1994 by Savas Woodbury Publishers, 1475 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 204, Campbell, CA 95008.
21). Earl Schenk Miers, *The General Who Marched to Hell, William Tecumseh Sherman and His March to Fame and Infamy,* Copyright 1951, Dorset Press, 1990, New York.
22). William Key, "The Georgia Campaign—No. 2, Sherman's 23 Days on 'the Fringes of Hell' *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution*, May 3, 1957.
23). Oliver Otis Howard, Major-General, U.S.A., *The Struggle for Atlanta, The Way to Appomattox, Battles and Leaders of the Civil War,* Edited by Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Biel of the "Century Magazine." Published by Arrangements with A. S. Barnes & Co. Inc., special Contents Copyright 1956, Thomas Yoseloff Inc., Castle Books, New York.
24). William R. Scaife, *War in Georgia, A study of Military Command and Strategy,* First Edition, 1994. Box 98094, Atlanta, GA. Printed in the USA.
25). Thomas E. Griess, Series Editor, *Atlas of the American Civil War.* Copyright 1983 and published by the Nautical Publishing Company of America, 101 W. Read Street, Baltimore, MD21201.
26). David Evans, "The Atlanta Campaign," *Civil War Times Illustrated,* Summer, 1989.
27). Stephen Davis, *A Reappraisal of the Generalship of John Bell Hood in the Battles for Atlanta, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea,* Volumes I & II, series editors, Theodore F. Savas & David A. Woodbury, Copyright 1994 by Savas Woodbury Publishers, 1475 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 204, Campbell, CA 95008.
28). Albert Castel, *The Heavens and Earth Had Suddenly Come Together, The Battle of Peachtree Creek, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea,* Volumes I & II, series editors, Theodore F. Savas & David A. Woodbury, Copyright 1994 by Savas Woodbury Publishers, 1475 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 204, Campbell, CA 95008.
29). William Key, "Georgia Campaign—No. 3, Big Blue Wave Surges Across Peachtree Creek," *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution,* May 12, 1957.
30). R. M. McMurry, "Atlanta Campaign, Rocky Face to the Dallas Line," *Blue & Gray* Magazine, April 1989, Columbus, OH.
31). Geoffrey C. Ward, with Ric Burns and Ken Burns, *The Civil War, An Illustrated History,* Published by Alfred Knopf, Inc., NY, 1990. Distributed by Random House Inc., New York.
32). Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers, *War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865.* Library, Fond Du Lac, WI (393.74 W75).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Nancy Eicher, Jan. 1; Frederic Sherman Cauldwell, Jan. 8; Loretta Pollack, Jan. 14; Judy Huxford, Jan 23; Richard Stewart, Jan. 28; Paul Grafius, Feb. 9; Beverly Smith, Feb. 10; Karen Cauldwell, Feb. 16; Marilyn Hamill DeBaltzo, Feb. 24; and last but not least Dori McCann, Feb. 28.
Congratulations to everyone including those readers whose birthdays are unknown to us and therefore not mentioned here. Perhaps you may want to celebrate with some "Sherman Punch" featured inside this issue!

HAPPY *50th* WEDDING ANNIVERSAY...

To John and Janet Abrahams of Lancaster, Virginia. John, the author of our series on the 21st WI Inf., and his wife, Janet, celebrated 50 years of marriage on December 3, 1999. They have three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Our heartfelt congratulations!

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

1 year (bi-monthly) $15.00

Please send inquiries/ check to:

Dori McCann, 218 Station St., McDonald, PA 15057, ph. & fax: (724) 926-2262

We are always interested in your participation! If you have anything you want to share with our readers, any subject related hobbies, or simply know a story about General Sherman, please let us hear from you.

How to contact us:

Please send submissions to Dori McCann at the above address, or to Doris A. Walker, 7205 Springwater Ct., Fayetteville, NC 28314. Phone & fax: (910) 487-1291. You can also e-mail us at: dwalker214@aol.com

Acknowledgments:

John H. Abrahams, Jr.; Marilyn Hamill DeBaltzo; M. Paulette Fix; Charlie Geiger; J. R. Owen, Jr.; John F. Marszalek; Dori McCann

Sources:

The State (Newspaper), Columbia, SC; *Read 'em and Weep* by S. Spaeth; *With Fire and Sword* by Major S.H.M. Byers; *Assembly*, U.S.M.A.; *Old Monterey, California's Adobe Capital* by Laura Bride Powers. Where applicable, additional primary and secondary sources are listed with the articles.

Photo Credits:

Laurie L. Becker; Frederic Sherman Cauldwell; Linda Geiger; E. Chris Evans; Time-Life Books, *Sherman's March*

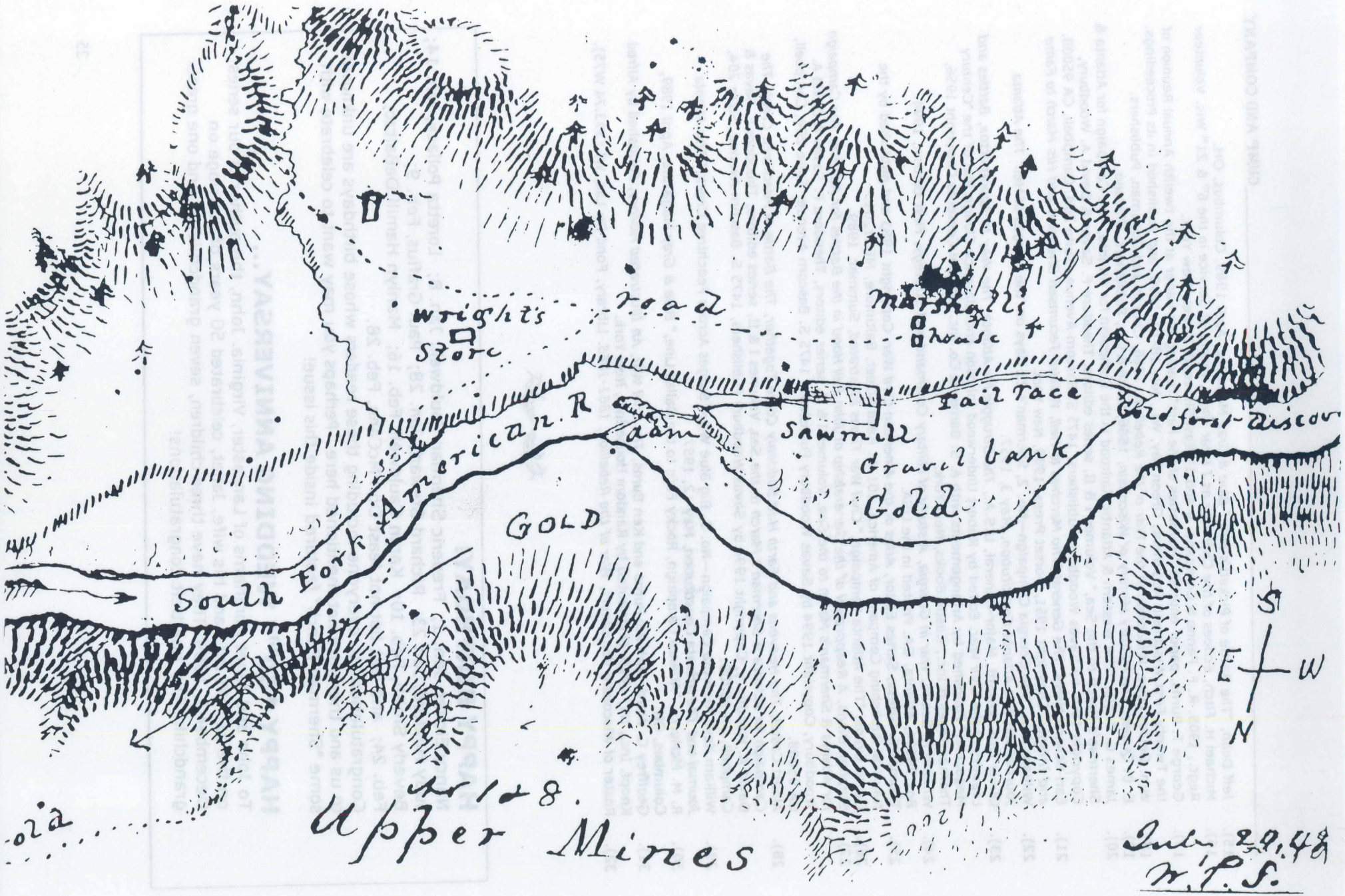
Special thanks to Robert A. Martin, Ohio, and John H. Abrahams, Jr., Virginia, for their generous monetary contributions.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

We wish to convey our sincere and heartfelt condolences to Betty Smith of Baton Rouge, Louisiana upon the death of her husband, Chase. Mr. Smith passed away last June 25. Betty and Chase were married for many years and raised four children. Both traveled often to various Civil War sites together and Betty regularly supplied us with information and photographs for the newsletter as pertaining to General Sherman. Betty, please be assured that our prayers and thoughts are with you.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Editor: Doris A. Walker



GOLD MINES on the South Fork of the American River, California, drawn by Lt. William Tecumseh Sherman - July 20, 1848.

Highlights

- Who Burned Columbia, pg. 3
- I'm Going to Jackson, pg. 7
- 21st Wisconsin Infantry, part 6, pg. 17

Inside

1 In Profile: Private Charles A. Willison, pg. 11

2 The Ranking of Gen. Sherman, pg. 14

3 Could Lincoln be elected Today?, pg. 1 ... and more

CUMP AND COMPANY

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND FANCIERS OF GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN

Volume 6, No. 5 Mar/ Apr 2000

GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

1 year (bi-monthly) $15.00

Please send inquiries/ check to:

Dori McCann, 218 Station St., McDonald, PA 15057, ph. & fax: (724) 926-2262

We are always interested in your participation! If you have anything you want to share with our readers, any subject related hobbies, or simply know a story about General Sherman, please let us hear from you.

How to contact us:

Please send submissions to Dori McCann at the above address, or to Doris A. Walker, 7205 Springwater Ct., Fayetteville, NC 28314. Phone & fax: (910) 487-1291. You can also e-mail us at: dwalker214@aol.com

Acknowledgments:

Paulette Fix; Michael Mason; E. Chris Evans; James Hashman; John H. Eicher; John H. Abrahams, Jr.; John T. McCann; and Doris A. Walker

Sources:

Lincoln Talks: An Oral Biography by Emanuel Hertz; *The Star*; *Lies Across America—what our Historic Sites get wrong* by James. W. Loewen; *A Boy's Service with the 76th Ohio* by Private Charles A. Willison; *Pittsburgh Post—Gazette;* Jefferson F. Davis; *Civil War High Commands* by John H. Eicher; *Marching Through Georgia* by Lee Kennett

Photo Credits:

The Civil War in Depth by Bob Zeller; James Hashman; South Carolina Library; *Harper's Weekly*

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Correction:

In our last issue we published an article entitled *Way Dowr South in Dixie in 1999,* which dealt with the ongoing controversy surrounding the Confederate battle flag flying atop the South Carolina State House. In the opening paragraph on page 3 we erroneously stated that the flag was first hoisted onto the capitol building in 1958. The actual date was 1962. In the article's subsequent chronology the date appeared correctly. We apologize for the oversight.

Editor: Doris R. McCann
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

TWENTY-FIRST WISCONSIN INFANTRY IN THE CIVIL WAR

Service of John H. Abrahams, Pvt. (1862-1865)

By John H. Abrahams, Jr.

PART 6—SIEGE OF ATLANTA AND THE MARCH TO THE SEA

APPROACH TO ATLANTA

The Union army under General William T. Sherman pushed the Confederate army under General Joseph E. Johnston south along the single line Western and Atlanta Railroad from its strong Confederate position at Dalton in northern GA where it wintered until May 1864. Sherman succeeded for the most part by flanking confederate strong positions at Resaca, and Cassville, and by-passing the strong Confederate fortifications at Allatoona when he abandoned the railroad to strike south at Good Hope Church, Pickett's Mill, and Dallas which were believed to be beyond the Confederate left flank. But General Thomas's Army of the Cumberland soon encountered strong fortifications which collectively named this area as the "Hell Hole." Movements of the XIV Corps and the 21st WI are shown on Figure 1. Sherman withdrew laboriously from this location by skipping Union divisions past entrenched Union divisions to return to his rail supply line south of Allatoona, then again confronted Confederate strongholds at the Pine Mountain line and the Kennesaw Mountain line, this being the last massive barrier between the Union army and Atlanta. Atlanta gentry visited Kennesaw Mountain to observe the presumed end of the Union army (1).

Both armies made up much of its losses to date, with the Union army again about 95 thousand after being joined by the XVI Corps and with the Confederate army again about 75 thousand after being joined by the GA militia forces (2). With Joe Johnston on the inside line, the density of the two army entrenchments were similar, although some believed the Confederate forces were thinner near the center and stronger near the flanks. But Joe Johnston was now strongly entrenched on high positions on Kennesaw Mountain and adjacent high country—a major advantage. Sherman had three options at this point (2): a direct attack, a flanking movement, and trenching closer. But the direct attack failed at Good Hope Church; flanking worked further north; and entrenching was a risky tactic used by General Grant at Vicksburg, MS. Striking the supposed thinner Confederate center, a strong narrow attack many columns deep was launched June 26, 1864 which resulted in heavy Union losses. General Palmer's XIV Corps, including the 21st WI with Thomas, gained the edge of felled trees just below Confederate entrenchments but heavy fire forced his troops to seek shelter behind rocks and in depressions (3). They secured sheltered protection and entrenched, with many troops pinned on the mountain side for days.

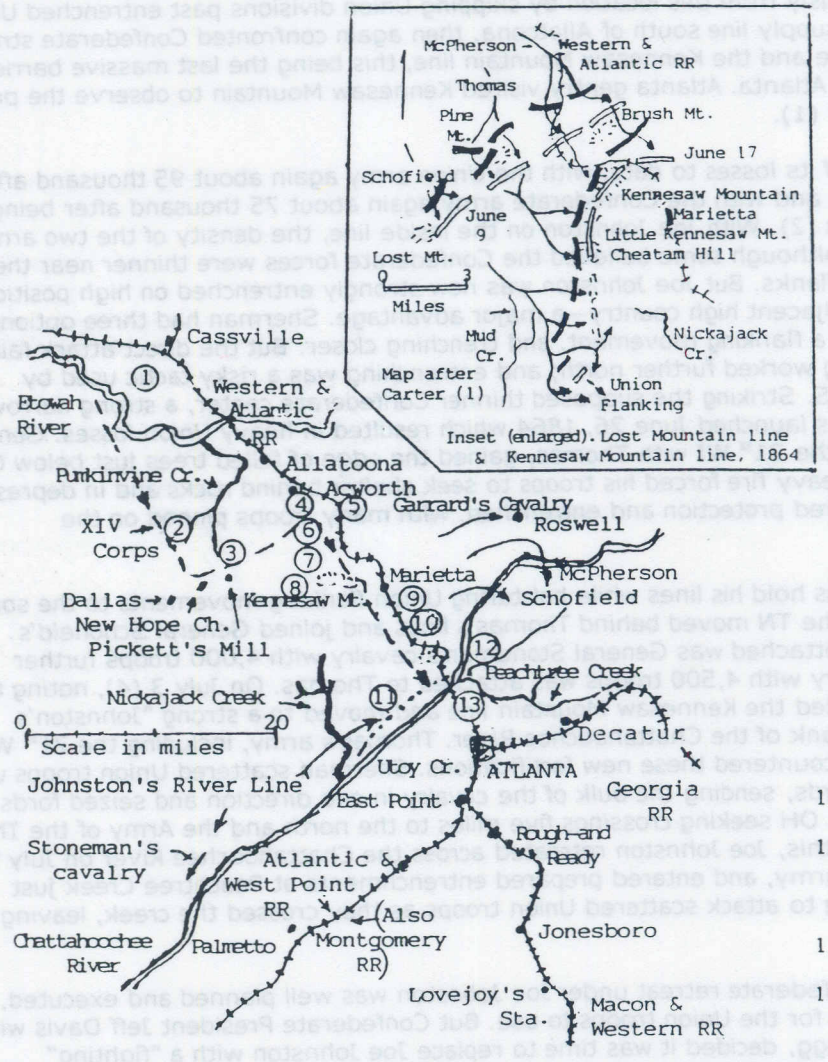
On July 2 Sherman had Thomas hold his lines while bolstering Union flanking movements to the south. General McPherson's army of the TN moved behind Thomas's lines and joined General Schofield's Army of the OH to the south; attached was General Stoneman's cavalry with 4,000 troops further south. General Garrard's cavalry with 4,500 troops was attached to Thomas. On July 3 (4), noting the flanking, Joe Johnston abandoned the Kennesaw Mountain line and moved to a strong "Johnston's River Line" on the northwest bank of the Chattahoochee River. Thomas's army, including the 21st WI, followed closely behind and encountered these new fortifications. Sherman scattered Union troops up and down the river to locate fords, sending the bulk of the cavalry in one direction and seized fords in the other, with the Army of the OH seeking crossings five miles to the north and the Army of the TN some ten miles north. Nothing this, Joe Johnston retreated across the Chattahoochee River on July 9, burned the bridges behind his army, and entered prepared entrenchments at Peachtree Creek just north of Atlanta while preparing to attack scattered Union troops as they crossed the creek, leaving the GA militia to guard Atlanta.

It should be noted that the Confederate retreat under Joe Johnston was well planned and executed, leaving virtually nothing behind for the Union troops to use. But Confederate President Jeff Davis with the help of General Braxton Bragg, decided it was time to replace Joe Johnston with a "fighting" general, and appointed General John B. Hood to head Confederate forces and to strike the Union troops hard north of Atlanta rather than retreat further; by July 10 government stores and offices were being moved for safety to Milledgeville and Macon, GA. Once across the Chattahoochee River, with

COPYRIGHT REGISTERED
OCT. 19, 2000

Palmer's XIV Corps the last to cross, the Union army conducted a giant right wheeling movement with Thomas at the pivot located near where the deep, wide, and muddy Peachtree Creek meets the Chattahoochee River with McPherson on the outer flank (3). Observing this, Hood now in command, noted a gap between Thomas and Schofield and opened a broad, disorganized attack the afternoon of July 20.

Palmer's XIV Corps with the 21st WI was located on the Union right. Union General Hooker's XX Corps, after crossing Peachtree Creek on improvised bridges near the center of Thomas's line, at first retreated leaving a hole in the Union line but Thomas quickly set up a massive artillery barrage which helped repel the Confederate forces which gradually shattered the attacks. The 21st WI and 10th WI counter-charged and drove the Confederates in its front back in confusion, causing them to leave their dead and wounded behind. (5). Confederate losses were heavier than Union losses and a truce was called the next morning to bury the dead; that night Hood started to move his forces from these outer defense lines into prepared Atlanta fortifications.



Locations of 21st WI in XIV Corps (Fitch).

1. Marched from Cassville in north Georgia- May 23
2. Within 3 miles of Dallas
3. Battle of Pickett's Mill May 27-28, 1864
4. Within 3 miles of Acworth June 6, 1864
5. At Acworth - June 9, 1864
6. Advanced one miles along railroad - June 9-17,1864
7. Pine Mountain skirmish - June 18, 1864
8. Line of battle, Kennesaw Mountain - June 22, 1864
9. March through Marietta - July 3, 1864
10. Deployed as skirmishers - July 4, 1864
11. Advance 2 miles to Chattahoochee River line in line of battle Fitch-Command July 5 - 7, 1864
12. Chattahoochee R., McCook July 17, 1864
13. Battle of Peachtree Creek July 20, 1864

Figure 1. Atlanta Campaign: Approach of XIV Corps, Army of the Cumberland, to Atlanta, May 23 to July 20, 1864.

BATTLE OF ATLANTA

21st WI. The 21st WI was heavily engaged on the western sector of the Battle of Peachtree Creek on July 20, 1864; the battle was the first of several Confederate disasters brought on by Hood's head-long attacks, most of which were either delayed or not well coordinated. The 21st WI remained in line of battle north of Atlanta where Palmer's XIV Corps fortified a line west of the railroad from the north leading into the city, so did not take part in the major Battle of Atlanta in the eastern sector.

During the Battle of Peachtree Creek McPherson seized Decatur and cut the GA Railroad between Decatur and Stone Mountain, then moved on Atlanta from the northeast (Figure 2). On July 21 Hood moved eastward from Atlanta to attack McPherson at Bald Hill but found his lines strong; but mostly it was a day of readjusting lines, with Sherman's troops moving closer to Atlanta's fortifications and closing ranks. On the night of July 21 Hood started construction of a new siege line which would be strengthened during the following weeks (6), and that night the Confederate forces started its retreat into the strong Atlanta defenses. Thomas from the north and Schofield from the northeast attempted to break through Confederate trenches but Confederate fortifications were too strong to assault.

Hoping to get behind McPherson's forces, Hood tried a R. E. Lee tactic of splitting forces in face of an enemy. He removed Confederate General Hardee's forces from the northern defense lines and sent them on a forced 15 miles march south through Atlanta (Figure 2), then southeast into unfamiliar, rough country where they became lost and disorganized. Finding guides (6, 7) they moved north on July 22 but no longer with the element of surprise, made repeated attacks on what was to be the rear of McPherson's line—actually the Union left flank. General John Logan, commanding the XV Corps, beat off a series of attacks on McPherson's right flank, and restored the Union lines (6). Realizing this, Hood sent reinforcements from Atlanta which were repulsed with heavy losses. This became known as the Battle of Atlanta, which Sherman called the hardest battle of the campaign; but McPherson, commander of the Army of the TN, was killed. Logan temporarily commanded the Army of the TN east of Atlanta and with the support of Sherman's cannons, rallied the troops and repelled fierce attacks. At 10 A.M. on July 23 a truce was called to bury the dead and tend the wounded. Some Union officers concluded that this attempt by Hood was brilliant and almost succeeded. But Hood had now lost two major battles in two days. According to Sherman (8), losses from Resaca to the siege of Atlanta were:

	Resaca	New Hope Ch/ Pickett's Mill	Kennesaw	Peachtree Cr.	Battle of Atlanta	Totals
Union	2,747	2,400	3,000	1,710	3,641	13,498
Confederate	2,800	3,000	630	4,796	8,499	19,725

The siege of Atlanta had in effect begun, although many set August 1 after the battle of Ezra Church as the start. The death of McPherson caused major adjustments within ranks of Sherman's army over the next month and at a late night meeting on July 22 Sherman tried to stress harmony among his leaders. Logan expected to command the Army of the TN, but after discussions with Thomas and the Administration in Washington, Sherman appointed General O. O. Howard. The rationale was that Logan was good in battles, but Howard better for campaigns (8—Sherman). Hooker was angered at Howard's appointment and resigned, so Sherman replaced him with General H. Slocum as commander of the XX Corps. Other major changes in the upper order of command were made during the siege of Atlanta.

BATTLE OF EZRA CHURCH

21st WI. The 21st WI remained on the front line north of Atlanta during the Battle of Ezra Church, but at that time the XIV Corps was preparing for a major sweep in which Sherman planned to invest the west side of Atlanta and sever the two remaining railroads south of Atlanta. North of Atlanta Sherman had Schofield shift east and south to close with the Army of the TN, and had Thomas shift west and south to extend Union lines southward. On July 25 Fitch (9) wrote that there was constant skirmishing and firing and the 21st WI was in line of battle directly facing the Confederate line at the north edge of Atlanta and that it was possible to look into the city from this point. Every five minutes a 20-pounder was lofted by Union artillery into the city and skirmishing or intense fighting continued through July 26.

On July 27 Sherman had newly appointed Howard (3) sweep from the far northeast sector westward around the lines of Schofield and Thomas, then south. Aware of this sweep, Hood sent General Stephen D. Lee to intercept Howard and General Stewart to swing behind Howard; cautiously

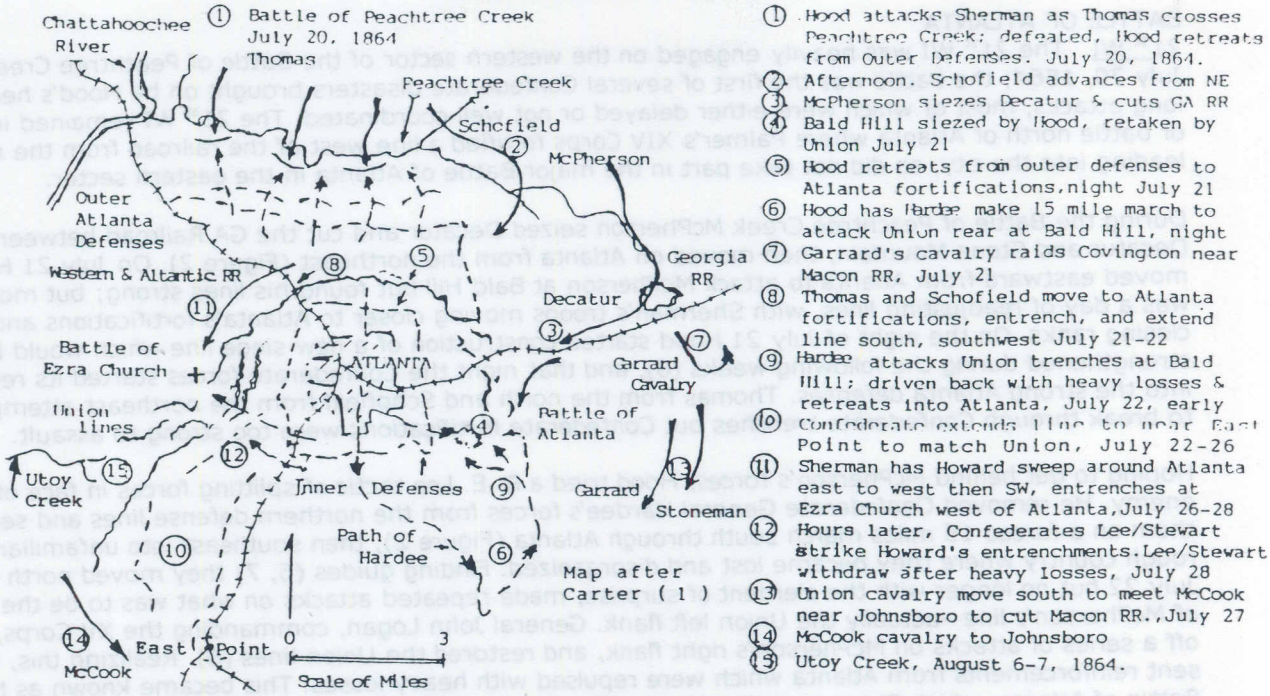


Figure 2. Battles for Atlanta: Movement of Union and Confederate armies from Peachtree Creek July 20, 1864 to Utoy Creek August 6-7, 1864.

constructed makeshift but effective breastworks at the small log chapel of Ezra Church just west of Atlanta (Fig.2). Some of Stephen D. Lee's troops struck Howard just after noon but were mangled, and at 2 P.M. a division of Stewart's was repulsed with heavy losses (6); withdrawal started at 4 P.M. Logan's VX Corps again beat off repeated attacks and he became a hero among the troops. The next morning the Confederate dead were found in rows in front of Union lines, with estimated Confederate losses of 5,000 and Union losses of 600.

Confederate President Jeff Davis, who earlier gave Hood a command to strike hard and fast, now after three major losses urged Hood not to attack entrenched positions. But there are some who point out that Hood did not necessarily order attacks against fortified positions. As stated by Davis (10), Confederate attacks at Peachtree Creek were to be made as Thomas crossed the creek, but were delayed for hours by Hood's subordinates. Further, attacks on the Union left flank were to be made at McPherson's line during the Battle of Atlanta which was thought to be "in the air," but became misdirected because Hardee became lost in rough country after a 15-mile night march. At Ezra's Church Lee was to strike a mobile O. O. Howard before his forces had a chance to entrench.

SIEGE OF ATLANTA, LATE JULY TO AUGUST 25, 1864.

At the same time Union cavalry were to conduct what was to be a coordinated attack converging on Lovejoy Station south of Atlanta with McCook's cavalry on the west, with the 1st WI acting as a screen (6) and Stoneman's cavalry on the east. McCook burned 500 to 1,000 Confederate wagons and killed 800 to 1,500 animals (1, 11) and four miles of telegraph wire near Fayetteville (6) then continued east to meet Stoneman, but Stoneman diverted his attack to Macon and Andersonville. Confederate General Wheeler's cavalry split his forces and devastated McCook's troops returning north, and captured Stoneman and most of his cavalry.

Seizure of the Macon RR had become Sherman's vital objective of the Campaign (1) and he now determined that his infantry must complete the process of investing Atlanta although he lacked the troops to surround the strong fortifications located about 1-1/2 miles from Atlanta's center. With about

30 miles of the Georgia RR to the east ripped up, Union troops continued south to isolate the city by focusing on the remaining railroads to the south (11). On August 10, Hood sent Wheeler's cavalry to raid the Union railroad supply line north as far as TN but found the railroad and stations as far north as Nashville well guarded by thousands of Union troops; but Hood now lost use of his cavalry around Atlanta.

The Civil War was considered the first railroad war which made possible the rapid movement of troops and supplies for armies over long distances (12). But the railroads in the south with some nine thousand miles of rail lines compared to the north's 22 thousand, were built for light equipment, were under capitalized, and poorly equipped. Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, VA was the only location capable of building heavy duty equipment and rails, and that plant was converted to the production of ordinance. A further complication was that due to local rivalries, these short rail lines commonly were unable to connect to each other, providing local merchants a good living shuttling both cargo and passengers from track to track.

By 1860 GA had over 1,400 miles of rail lines, used to transport crops between coastal cities and the Piedmont, to service gold mines at Dahlonega, to lumbering sites both north and south of Atlanta, and similar needs. Four lines converged at Atlanta, leading to development of industries such as foundries, mills, various trades, maintenance, and various professionals. Still, Atlanta was controlled by land gentry, and with a weak central government, the Confederacy never faced up to its true need for industrialization and a reliable rail system. Conversely, the Union took control of its rail lines and created a Railroad Bureau to oversee the use of the U. S. Military Railroads.

BATTLE OF UTOY CREEK

The Union army had now been in battles and skirmishes for over three months, and during July the Army of the Cumberland lost 3,709 men. On August 1 Sherman intensified the siege operations against Atlanta and increased the artillery bombardment (6, 13); he considered the city a fort and soon brought siege guns from Chattanooga. Strong reconnaissance by Palmer's XIV Corps showed that Confederate lines were being extended west and south, possibly with the use of local guard troops, to match the new Union lines. The lines of confrontation were now some 15 miles long, extending from the Decatur Road east of Atlanta to East point south and west of Atlanta. On Aug. 4 Sherman ordered Schofield to push his troops and those of Palmer's XIV Corps across Utoy Creek.

21st WI. On Aug. 3, General Carlin who had been on leave, returned and assumed command of the brigade. On August 6-7 Palmer's XIV Corps was in combat at Utoy Creek supporting Schofield south and west of Atlanta, with General Carlin's First Brigade on the far left (Figure 3) of the Union line. According to Fitch (9), on Aug. 7 Carlin ordered two companies to charge a line of skirmishers in rifle pits. About 4 P.M. the lines advanced about 500 yards to a hill west of Utoy Creek and about 200 yards from the Confederate line. On meeting stiff resistance, the other six companies joined the charge and the brigade gained possession of the hill and carried two lines of rifle pits under heavy fire, with the 21st WI carrying the second line. Several prisoners were taken and 13 men in the 21st WI were wounded including Capt. Turner of Company D. This forward position was under heavy fire of shell and canister which lasted several hours, killing and wounding several officers and men. On Aug. 12 the 21st WI was withdrawn from the front line and located on a hill near McKnight's 5th WI Battery, but the forward position was held by the brigade until Aug. 21 at 8 P.M. when it moved further south.

After the raid on Aug. 6-7, Palmer resigned since he objected to taking orders from his junior officer, Schofield, and Sherman replaced him with General Jefferson C. Davis. Some believe that Palmer's sluggish support during this battle may have contributed to Union losses at Utoy Creek and gave the Confederate forces time to strengthen their works (14).

END OF SIEGE: LATE AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 1864.

LATE AUGUST. On August 18 Grant declared a ban on the exchange of prisoners, so Union soldiers captured at Atlanta increased the number of prisoners at near-by Macon and Andersonville (1). Sherman continued his move south during the last week in August; on Aug. 25 he pulled all Union troops from lines north of Atlanta, moved supplies to the Chattahoochee River and posted the XX Corps under Slocum, its new commander, to guard the river crossings, then provided rations for

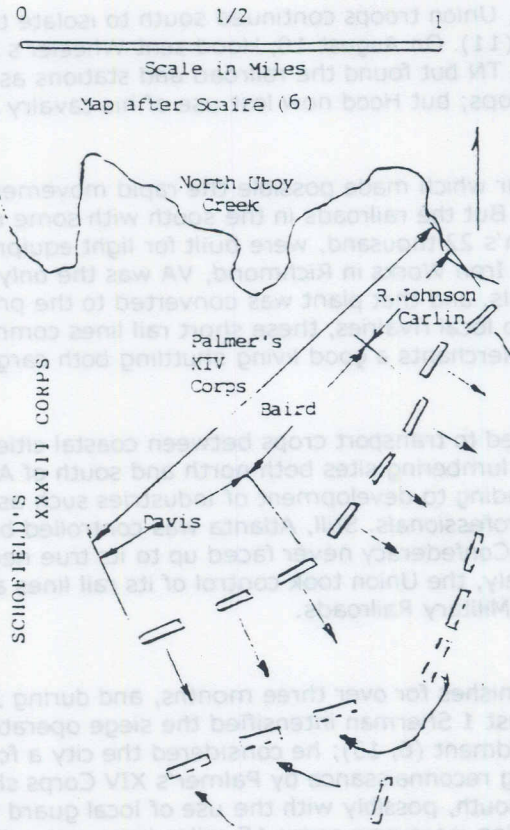


Figure 3. Position of Calins's brigade, with 21st WI, at Battle of Utoy Creek, August 6-7, 1864.

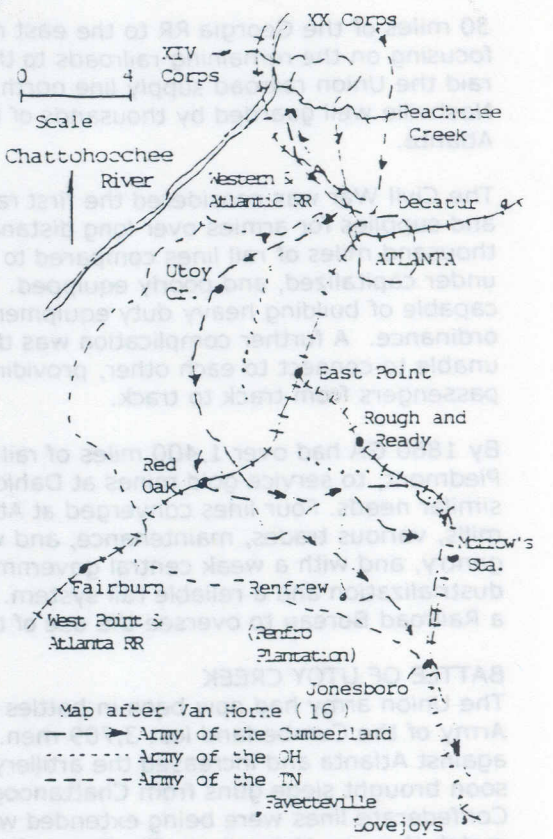


Figure 4. Movement around Atlanta, Army of the Cumberland (XIV Corps) and Army of the OH & Army of the TN. July and August, 1864

60,000 troops to start his move. Thus on Aug. 27 Hood was convinced that the siege was lifted and civilians began returning to the city (1). On Aug. 28, however, Howard moved from the trenches at Ezra Church then west to face south on Thomas's right. With Schofield at the pivot near Utoy Creek, these armies conducted a grand left wheel-like movement to the south and east with Thomas and Howard stopping on Aug. 29 to destroy over six miles of rails of the Atlanta and West Point RR (11). Thomas moved south from Utoy Creek with the XIV Corps swinging behind the lines near Atlanta south to Red Oak (Figure 4). Thomas then continued southeastward towards Morrow's Station on the Macon and Western RR on a wide front, then turned to Jonesboro, while Schofield moved from East Point just five miles south of Atlanta. Howard, already under way, took an outside loop far to the west then south past Fairburn to reach Jonesboro first. On Aug. 30-31 Hardee moved within two miles of Renfrew, where Thomas's troops were in line of battle. (15).

21st WI. As detailed by Fitch (9), on Aug. 28 the 21st WI approached the Atlantic and West Point RR (locally called the Montgomery RR) six miles west of East Point, and on Aug. 29 deployed as skirmishers in front of the brigade, moving east along the railroad driving the rebel cavalry two miles; the unit then moved back to its point of origin. On the afternoon of Aug. 28 the XIV Corps with the 21st WI reached its designated camp near Red Oak (14). Carlin's division (formerly R. Johnson's) was moved south to Renfrew (Renfro Plantation) in line of battle to cover the wagon trains and support the IV Corps when Hardee and Lee passed near-by.

21st WI. On Aug. 30 Hood learned that Slocum's XX Corps was advancing on Atlanta, and started to move Confederate troops south; Hood started preparations to evacuate Atlanta by burning warehouses

and ordinance. The same day Howard and Thomas continued east on a six mile front. The divisions of Morgan, Baird, and Carlin formed in line of battle to move down the Macon and Western RR towards Jonesboro (16), following the Confederate forces closely. On Aug. 31 at 3 P.M. Howard's Army of the TN was attacked, while Schofield's Army of the OH reached the town of Rough and Ready north of Jonesboro and scattered an entrenched Confederate cavalry unit protecting the railroad. Schofield and Thomas twisted rails on the march to Jonesboro. Davis's XIV Corps hit Hardee hard near Jonesboro, took a Confederate works along with many prisoners. But Hardee escaped south and entrenched at Loveyjoy Station (4).

SEPTEMBER. On Sept. 1 Sherman ordered all units to move on Jonesboro; Carlin's division rejoined Thomas at Jonesboro. About 4 P.M. on Sept. 1 Davis's XIV Corps reached Jonesboro and attempted to flank the small Confederate force for the battle of Jonesboro, but was held off (6, 16). The brigade with the 21st WI was not in this last action (9). Davis's XIV Corps deployed for action and at 5 P.M. the several Corps moved forward in a general attack. During the night Hardee escaped south six miles to Lovejoy Station and again entrenched. Thomas moved south, but the XIV Corps was detailed to bury the dead and collect materials left by the Confederates. From the west, Carlin's division and others pushed several Confederate units back against the railroad tracks at the point of an inverted "V" strong point. (11).

But the railroad had been cut and Hood started to evacuate Atlanta at 5 P.M. on Sept. 1. The Confederate cavalry destroyed 81 freight carloads of ammunition and 7 locomotives near downtown Atlanta, signaling the fall of Atlanta. On Sept. 2 the Mayor of Atlanta surrendered the city under a white flag to Slocum. Troops of the XX Corps entered Atlanta from the north on Sept. 2. On Sept. 3 Sherman ordered Slocum to remove all stores in Atlanta to Allatoona and Marietta, then entered Atlanta on Sept. 7 (1); he decided that all civilians must evacuate the city.

21st WI. On Sept. 6 the XIV Corps with the 21st WI moved north and established a line near Rough and Ready, but there was no pursuit of the Confederates to the south. On Sept. 8 the 21st WI encamped within two miles of Atlanta (9) with the XIV Corps just right of the Campbellstown Road (16). Losses of the 21st WI in the Atlanta Campaign were 112 killed and wounded; 110 disabled by disease and fatigue (17).

The fall of Atlanta was hailed as a milestone in the north, and assured the reelection of President Lincoln in November. Almost 80 percent of the 21st WI voted for President Lincoln by absentee Ballot. The Confederate army lost about 20,000 men in the Atlanta area so its army was greatly depleted. At the end of September, the Confederate army was estimated at about 35,000 men, while the Union army listed 81,758 (6). Total losses for the entire Atlanta Campaign, after Missionary Ridge, were 31,687 for the Union, and 34,979 for the Confederates.

PLANNING FOR THE MARCH TO THE SEA, OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 1864.
After abandoning Atlanta, the remainder of Hood's forces fled north and west, sending several divisions against Allatoona Pass along the railroad in north GA. The Battle at Allatoona Pass was a bloody standoff, as both forces reportedly lost up to one third of the troops engaged. After Atlanta was secured, Sherman on Oct. 1 left the XX Corps to defend the city, and pursued the Hood forces as far north as Resaca and recaptured many of the places along the railroad that were fought over during the Atlanta Campaign. Several divisions reached as far as Tullahoma to protect the railroad supply line and the north was again most concerned about another invasion; Hood could not be brought to battle.

21st WI. From Oct. 3 to Oct. 21, the 21st WI under Capt. C. H. Walker (9) took part in the rapid pursuit of Hood as his forces raided the rear and communications of the Union army as far as Chattanooga and northern AL, but Hood's forces moved too fast. Sherman moved adjacent to the railroad to protect it. The 21st WI camped at Gaylesville, AL on Oct. 21, then marched to Rome, GA, and arrived in Kingston, GA on Nov. 2 and camped. Returning from leave, Fitch met Hobart in Chattanooga, who was meeting with Thomas to replenish the ranks of the 21st WI. The ranks of the 1st and 10th WI were depleted and the remainder of some 250 were to be transferred into the 21st WI, for a total of about 450 men (9). At this point, the rank of Lt. Col. for Hobart was raised to Colonel and that of Major Fitch was raised to Lt. Colonel. During this period a Chaplain in the 21st WI carried by train $27,000 which

had been accumulated by his troops to be distributed to their families in WI.

21st WI. On Nov. 12 the 21st WI left Kingston for Atlanta, passing through Cartersville, Allatoona, Acworth, and Big Shanty. It left Big Shanty Nov. 14 and passed through Marietta where now Major (as of Nov. 6) Walker was waiting with 45 troops from the 10th WI for a total of over 400 troops in the 21st WI. Arriving Nov. 15, they observed the City of Atlanta burning all night.

Sherman realized that the threat of the remaining forces under Hood needed to be dealt with firmly before he could make final plans for his proposed march to Savannah. One decision was that the railroad supply line back through GA and TN must be severed to release these troops for use on the march. President Lincoln was concerned that such a march could be a possible cause of British intervention in the war (Davis—18). But as these arguments persisted, Sherman had enough concerns of his own due to the flight of Hood back into north GA and beyond, over territory recently fought over by the two armies. The other decision was that a major Union presence must be established north of Hood to prevent any danger of invading the north. For this duty, Thomas was chosen to be stationed at Nashville, TN for several reasons. One was that Thomas was known for his famous defensive abilities such as at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga; another was that Sherman and Grant did not believe Thomas had the type of aggressive personality required on a march of this nature.

Sherman sent Thomas through Chattanooga to Nashville, TN with selected divisions, not including the 21st WI, to keep to the north of Hood's forces and to assure Sherman that Hood would not again move on Atlanta after Sherman moved east out of Atlanta. On Sept. 24 Confederate President Jefferson Davis in a speech at Macon, GA had stated that the Confederate army would again move north, and on Oct. 3 in Montgomery AL he stated that "We must beat Sherman. We must march in TN, and, push the enemy back to the banks of the Ohio." Sherman read these speeches and considered himself forewarned on future movements of the Confederacy as they related to his planned march to Savannah designed to cut the Confederacy into sections, remove GA as a major supplier of Confederate military resources, and show the world how hollow the south was inside. The Confederate manpower was on battle fronts, particularly in VA. Sherman's famous words were "I can make the march and make Georgia howl." (4).

According to Scaife (19), Grant continued to urge Sherman to "ruin Hood" before leaving northern GA, and Confederate President Davis continued to urge Hood to defeat Sherman "in detail" before marching into TN (20). By late October it was believed that Hood's forces moved into northern AL, which opened the way for Sherman's famous March to the Sea from Atlanta (14). For almost three months Sherman's troops occupied Atlanta, and he said "I will make the interior of GA feel the weight of war," and hoped to hasten the end of the war. After long debates with Grant and President Lincoln by wire, Sherman was finally given official permission for his long planned March to the Sea, and all was ready by early November... From his position at Kingston, Sherman sent all stores (4), sick, and non-combatants (20) to Chattanooga, and ordered his officers and medical staff to weed out all feeble and faint hearted, and developed a force with true veterans (21). Studies show that during the Savannah Campaign Sherman's army averaged less than two percent unfit for duty on any given day.

FOLLOW-UP ON SOLDIERS FROM 21st WI

PAROLE OF EDWARD BEACH AFTER ANDERSONVILLE, and POSTWAR: This is the last of four sections describing the problems of Edward Beach of Company E, captured as the 21st WI retreated with Thomas after his famous stand at Snodgrass Hill the day of the Battle of Chickamauga. He worked as a medical technician after reaching Andersonville but was moved several times as Sherman's army approached Atlanta. He later escaped but was recaptured within several weeks and returned to Andersonville. This section examines his path of parole from the Confederacy and his history of medical problems he developed due to his confinement and malnutrition.

Beach was returned to Andersonville on Sept. 26 and sent to Savannah the next day. On Oct. 12 he was sent to Mullen, GA and noted that only one in seven of the Chickamauga prisoners were left. In a letter dated April 1,1865 he wrote of being paroled by the Confederates near Vicksburg, MS, after eight days of travel. The U. S. Christian Commission issued him personal items such as pen and paper,

soap, etc. A document dated April 6, 1865 places him at Benton Barracks, MO, where a 30-day furlough was granted to Dundas, WI. Another document mentions his discharge on June 8, 1865 at Camp Washburn in Milwaukee, WI.

A "Declaration for Invalid Pension" issued Oct. 22, 1896 notes that the pension was denied; it was awarded later and discontinued at death. It presents an interesting view of a veteran after being a prisoner of war for 19 months. In a report signed by a physician he was diagnosed with malnutrition due to gastroenteric catarrh and that he suffered physical hardships for the remainder of his life. This inflammation of the gastric tract could have caused lifelong inability to digest food, caused by uric acid distheis that was diagnosed. High levels of uric acid indicates inability to excrete the impurities of protein metabolism from the blood to the kidney. Over long periods, this could cause failure of kidney or liver which can affect nerves and heart functions. It allows the vital organs to become poisoned by the unexcreted byproducts of metabolism, which also caused Beach's partial deafness of the left ear and weak eyes.

Beach was a student in Appleton, WI when he enlisted in the 21st WI in 1862; after service he attended Business College in Appleton, and the National Spencerian Business College in Milwaukee in 1866. He married Elizabeth W. Hammond on Oct. 28, 1868 and had three children, one being a son, Lowell Hammond Beach, great grandfather of Tom Selby living in MI and Janet Marx living in ME (22). He worked mostly as a Certified Public Accountant and bank auditor, with a period as proprietor of a flour mill. He died Nov. 8, 1908 in Milwaukee. A letter dated Nov. 10 regarding Beach from J. H. Woodnorth, also a veteran of the 21st WI and Colonel and Commandant at the Wisconsin Veterans Home, stated in part "...but never since his confinement in Andersonville as a prisoner has he enjoyed good health."

According to Janet Marx, great granddaughter of Beach and an RN in ME, it may be possible that the experience of Beach as a prisoner of war and in later life was unique, but it probably is representative of thousands of Union soldiers and may parallel the experiences by veterans of more recent wars such as Vietnam where after returning home never got over their horrible experiences and had trouble moving on.

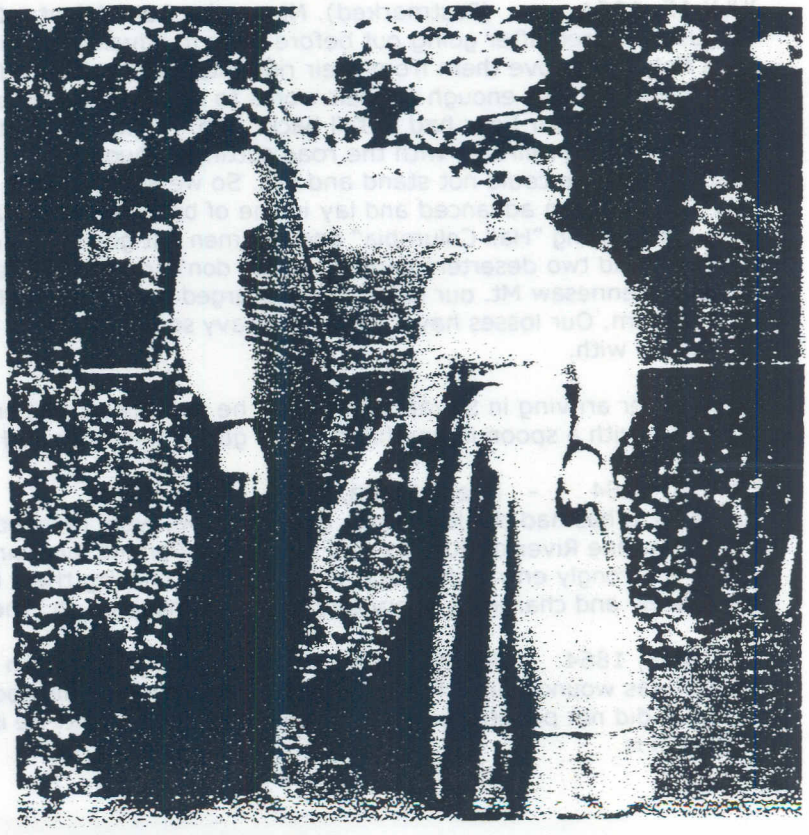


Figure 5.

Edward Beach and his daughter, Marion Bessie Beach Bourns, between 1903-1907, Milwaukee, WI

LETTERS OF CHARLES KNAPP, COMPANY K (23): The following is a summary of a series of letters from Charles Knapp of Company K, 21st WI, to his parents living in Two Rivers, WI. The letters start when the regiment was in winter camp on Lookout Mountain in north GA. These comments and excerpts are paraphrased for brevity and clarity.

MARCH 31, 1864 - We were in a scouting party and marched 12 miles, but found only widows.

MAY 1, 1864 - This is the last writing from the mountain. We are packed and should march to the front tomorrow. We expect forward movements soon.

MAY 20, 1864 - Seven miles south of Kinston, GA.
We have been marching since morning, and the rebs are skedadeling (as fast) as possible. There has been brisk firing on the left. General Baird's division, just ahead of us, are building breast-works. Two rebs were captured and say the rebels are demoralized, if you can believe them. The cavalry keeps bring in prisoners, claiming to have captured about 800 yesterday.

JUNE 24, 1864 - We were released from the front day before yesterday and just returned this morning, building breast-works that will resist a solid shot. The rebs have artillery on top of a large hill and sending solid shot and shell into our works, resulting in one man killed in our regiment by a 24 pounder. No damage yesterday but one shot went through a tent. We have been fighting for 15 days but I think the rebs will leave by next Sunday—since is the day they generally leave. We thought they left last Sunday and advanced two miles and came on a strong position. Day before yesterday General Hooker charged their works and took a strong position and the rebs charged three times but could not retake the position. The next day our troops buried over 400 of them. On the 20th I heard the loudest cannonading that we have heard in campaign; we have six or seven batteries on the left within a mile firing as fast they could. It made us very uncomfortable. It is reported that we will open up on them this afternoon with 150 guns which should make them jump in their holes. There is so much low ground and swamps that its hard to flank them.

JULY 15, 1864 - (Postmarked). Nine miles from Atlanta, GA, 1 pm.
We just returned after going out before noon to advance the lines, and advanced the lines across an open field and drove them from their rifle-pits. They advanced and drove our boys back. Our line to the left got in close enough to their works to count 11 pieces of artillery, but the rebs made a flanking movement and our boys had to fall back. Also, I think we will try again tomorrow. Our line was formed parallel with the railroad, with the road cutting through a small hill with banks about 120 feet high and so steep that we could not stand and fire. So we went to work with our bayonets and made a foot hold; but we soon advanced and lay in line of battle for about an hour, then returned to camp. There a band was playing "Hail Columbia" and the men felt good. One of the regiments on the line captured 70 prisoners and two deserters came in—they don't trouble themselves to fight, but surrender. At the battle of Kennesaw Mt. our skirmishers charged their pits and found 11 of them with their guns piled behind them. Our losses have not been heavy so far—4 killed, 4 wounded, so the total is 84 of the 361 we started with.

NOTE: After arriving in Savannah in Dec., he mentioned that on July 4 they had bean soup on the skirmish line, with a spoon in one hand and a gun in the other and staying behind a tree to escape bullets.

JULY 24, 1864 - Near Atlanta, GA.
Our brigade has had the lead since the 4th but we were relieved the night below. We crossed the Chattahoochee River on July 11 and have been fighting ever since, and are within 1—1/2 miles of the city. It is strongly entrenched and we have been shelling them for two days. The rebs are fighting desperately and charge us every day but don't made much. They charged our lines but we repulsed.

AUGUST 8, 1864 - A letter from Captain Walker was written to Mr. Knapp in Two Rivers, WI. Charley was wounded in a fight yesterday. A ball grazed his abdomen cutting the skin about four inches. It did not penetrate at all and the injury was slight. He is well attended and in good spirits, as he always is.

NOVEMBER 1 (?), 1864 - Kingston, GA.
We have had a hard time lately. It is raining and cold, and the roads are awful. I expected we will go to Atlanta from here and after a few days rest will go to Savannah, GA., and we will have a hard march.

NOTE: From Savannah in December he wrote they arrived in Atlanta Nov. 12 and burned the city; a "splendid" sight to see a city burn.

DECEMBER 15, 1864 - Near Savannah, in swamps.
We left Kingston Nov. 12, have marched 360 miles. We reached Atlanta, Nov. 15, started marching the morning of Nov. 16, and reached Savannah on Dec. 12. On Dec. 13 the 2nd Division of the 15th AC charged Fort McAllister and took it, opening communications with the Fleet of Admiral Farragut. Twenty seven of our men that were taken prisoner came in last night, saying the reb forces don't exceed 15,000 men. The troops enjoyed the march but had 20—1/2 days ration for the 26 day march, although we had all the sweet potatoes and meat we could eat—until they reached the Savannah River. Since that time we were on one quarter rations and expect better soon, but are concerned that all will be sick if remaining in those alligator swamps for long.

NOTE: Knapp asked for newspapers to tell whether Lincoln was reelected and offered to send some confederate money.

FINAL PLANNING FOR MARCH TO THE SEA, NOVEMBER, 1864.
On Nov. 8 Sherman in Kingston, GA issued Special Field Order # 119 announcing the March to the Sea and on Nov. 9 issued Special Field Order # 120 that there would be two wings, with the XIV and XX Corps under General Slocum on the north, or left wing, and the XV and XVII Corps on the south, or right wing under Howard (19). A front up to 60 miles wide would be formed, with five thousand cavalry concentrated first south of the right wing threatening Macon, GA, then move to covered feinting actions north of the left wing (18).

In some detail, the Order also stated that: four nearly parallel roads out of Atlanta would be used, converging later at selected points; there would be no general train of supplies, each corps having its own; the army would forage liberally at the brigade level; only corps commanders had the power to destroy private property; animals could be appropriated freely, but with some discrimination; other details.

WI units. There were nine infantry units and two batteries serving from WI on the March to the Sea, compared to 14 infantry divisions; one battery cavalry, and one cavalry unit in the Campaign for Atlanta. The 21st WI was the only WI unit in the XIV Corps, now called the Army of GA. Showing only WI units, the Order of Battle in Sherman's March to the Sea, November 15 to December 21, 1864 was as follows (6, 19):

RIGHT WING - Major General Oliver Otis Howard, commanding two corps
- XV Corps - Major General Peter J. Osterhaus, commanding four divisions;
  - 12th WI Battery, Capt. Wm. Zickerick; 4th Division, 3rd Brigade
- XVII Corps - Major General Francis P. Blair, commanding four divisions;
  - 25th WI Inf., Ltc. Jeremiah M. Rush: 1st Division, 2nd Brigade
  - 32nd WI Inf., Col. Charles S. DeGroat: 1st Division, 3rd Brigade
  - 12th WI Inf., Ltc. James K. Proudfit: 3rd Division, 1st Brigade
  - 16th WI Inf., Maj. William F. Dawes: 3rd Division, 1st Brigade
  - 17th WI Inf., Maj. Patrick H. McCauley: 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade

LEFT WING - Major General Henry W. Slocum, commanding two corps
- XX Corps - Brig. General Alpheus S. Williams, commanding three divisions;
  - 3rd WI Inf., Col. William Hawley: 1st Division, 2nd Brigade
  - 31st WI Inf., Col. Francis H. West: 1st Division, 3rd Brigade
  - 22nd WI Inf., Ltc. Edward Bloodgood: 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade

XIV Corps - Brevet Major General Jefferson C. Davis, commanding three divisions;
1st Division, Brig. Genl. William P. Carlin (3 brigades);
1st Brigade, Col. Harrison C. Hobart
21st WI Inf., Ltc. Michael H. Fitch: along with 10th IL, 42nd & 88th IN, and 33rd & 94th OH.
3rd Division, 3rd Brigade: 5th WI Battery, Lt. Joseph McKnight;
Cavalry, 3rd Division—Brig. Gen. Hugh Judson Kilpatrick—19th WI Horse Artillery, Capt. John Daizell

Part of Sherman's freedom of movement from Atlanta was because Grant's forces held the main forces of the Confederacy under General Robert E. Lee in VA, and Thomas kept Hood's army occupied in TN, so neither Confederate army could release troops to confront Sherman. His army would move east and southeast towards Savannah to destroy Confederate stores, railroads, and food supplies, as the Union army reduced the south's ability to carry on extended warfare by burning its infrastructure munitions capabilities (24).

On November 12 Sherman left his headquarters in Kingston and started his return to Atlanta via Cartersville, where he sent his last dispatch to Thomas in Nashville (20), and reached Atlanta on Nov. 14. One of the last tasks was to complete the destruction of the remaining Atlanta military threat after the Confederate army did what considerable destruction it had time to do. Sherman then cut all supplies from the long railroad line, thus turning his back on a hostile army.

The XIV Corps commanded by Davis left Marietta and entered Atlanta for new equipment and supplies, then moved towards Decatur in preparation for the March to the Sea. But Carlin and most troops feared and disliked Davis, who apparently was harsh and unreasonable. This distrust would cause serious problems later for Carlin, particularly at the Battle of Bentonville during the march through the Carolinas in March 1865.

MARCH TO THE SEA, ADVANCE ON SAVANNAH, NOVEMBER 1864.
In a series of articles in *Cump and Company*, starting with the Sept/Oct issue, 1997, C. Geiger provided an informative nearly day-to-day description of locations where Sherman camped during the March to the Sea, as well as locations of historical markers. He also summarizes the Battle of Griswoldville in the March/April 1999 issue and the storming of Fort McAllister in the Jan/Feb 1997 issue. These were actions of the right wing during the March to the Sea, which are not discussed herein; they provide a good summary of progress.

Sherman as taking enormous risks—the Union army were turning their backs on a hostile army, cutting its supply lifeline, and entering hostile territory (24). This Sherman did with confidence, after thorough preparation. The army tore up large sections of railroad tracks, burned many stations, destroyed much moving railroad stock, and lived off the land. Sherman was considered a Terrorist by GA civilians, but the black population flocked to his army.

The men on the march consisted of 55,255 carefully hand-picked infantry veterans, 4,588 cavalry, with 1,759 artillerymen, and 68 guns (20). Wagons were at a minimum, each soldier carried forty rounds of ammunition. The Union forces on the march included, 14,468 horses, 19,410 mules, 2,520 wagons, and 440 ambulances (9). The 21st WI had one of these wagons, and there was one ammunition wagon for each 100 men. The army was very well fed, until reaching the swamp land west of Savannah, and lived off the country-side for 29 days. An objective of Sherman's was to avoid conflict (18).

ATLANTA TO MILLEDGEVILLE. On Nov. 15 three corps started their move out of the ruined city eastward, where all would live off the land; the XV and XVII Corps of the right wing moving southeast toward Macon, then bending more to the east (Figure 6), and the XX Corps, far left of the left wing, traveling directly east through Decatur. The XX Corps camped on the Georgia RR south of Stone Mt., then the next day tore up two miles of track east of Stone Mt. and headed in the general direction of Augusta (19). The XIV Corps left about 7 A.M. on Nov. 16 accompanied by Sherman with his staff, and

infantry and cavalry escort, and a regimental band (25) following the same route of the XX Corps but bearing more south. That night the advance units of the XIV Corps camped at Lithonia.

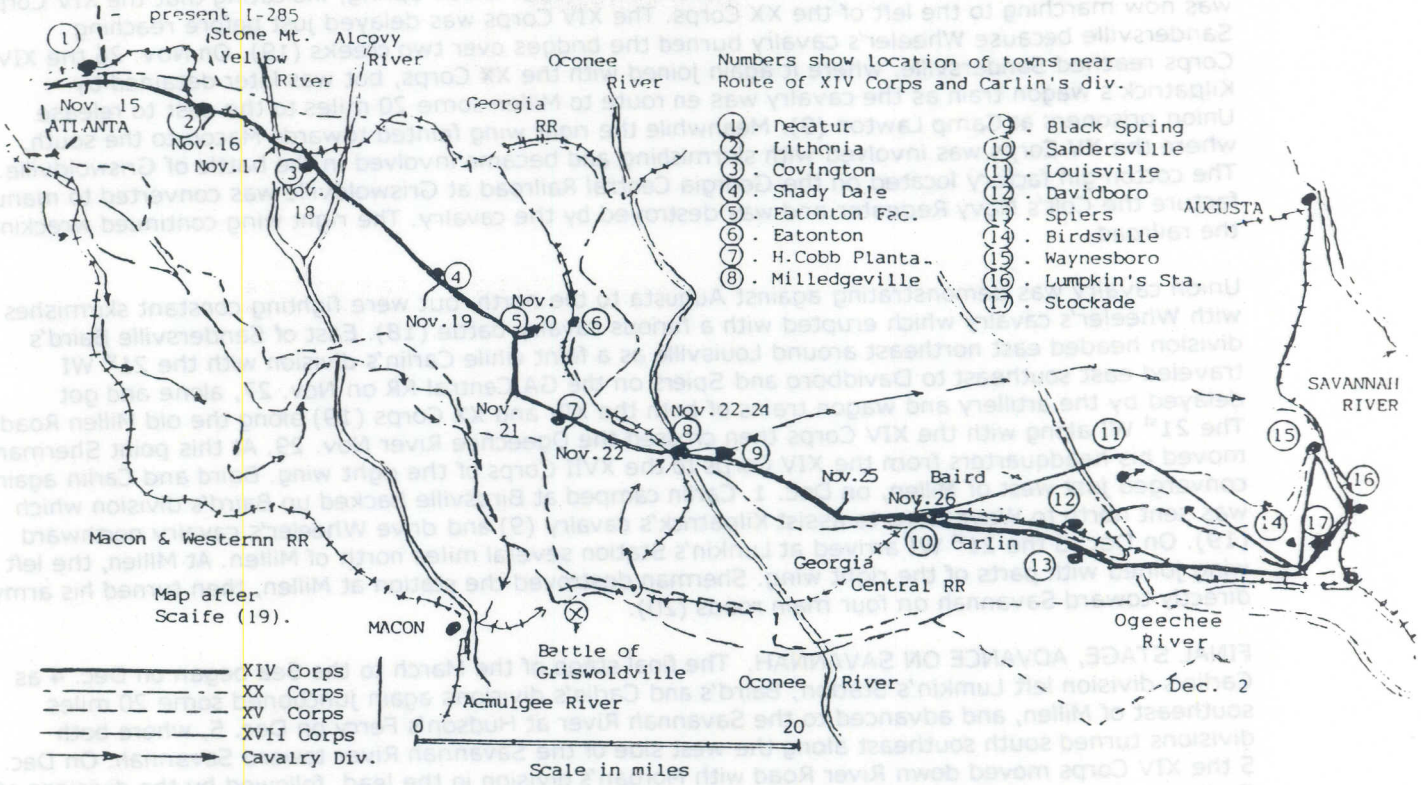


Figure 6. Route of XIV Corps with Carlin's division, Atlanta to Milledgeville to Millen, GA, March to the Sea Nov. 15 to Dec.3, 1864.

On Nov. 17 the XIV Corps (Figure 6) with the 21st WI destroyed the railroad from Lithonia to the Yellow River, crossing the river on two long pontoon bridges. On Nov. 18 they reached Covington destroying the railroad as they marched and crossed the Ulcotauchee-Alcovy River on the same pontoon bridges, then marched southeast to Shady Dale on Nov. 19 (16). At this point they learned through some southern papers that Lincoln had been reelected Nov. 6 (9). They reached Eatonton factory on Nov. 20 just west of Eatonton destroyed the manufacturing facilities.

They zig-zagged south on Nov. 21 then east and camped about ten miles west of Milledgeville on Nov. 22; then learned that they were on the plantation of Confederate Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commander of the Military District of GA (9). Sherman ordered destruction of everything except the slaves quarters. On Nov. 23 the XIV and the XX Corps met three miles from Milledgeville where the legislature had been in session as late as Nov. 19 (18), and, along with Sherman, marched into town with a parade and celebrated at the Governor's mansion. Sherman made his headquarters in the abandoned Governor's mansion, and General Slocum made his headquarters in the Milledgeville Hotel. The State Arsenal was burned and the powder magazine blown up (19). Confederate cavalry followed closely behind Sherman's troop movement looking for stragglers; some 200 had been captured en route to Milledgeville (18). But a change came over the otherwise carefree troops when they saw the horrors of Andersonville after several escapees arrived at Milledgeville and they later viewed the stark prisoner facility at Millen (24).

MILLEDGEVILLE TO MILLEN. Within the first week Sherman slowed the march to ten miles a day from fifteen (18). The 21st WI and the XIV Corps, still accompanied by Sherman, left Milledgeville on Nov. 24 marching northeast according to Fitch (9), then through Black Spring, indicating that the XIV Corps was now marching to the left of the XX Corps. The XIV Corps was delayed just before reaching Sandersville because Wheeler's cavalry burned the bridges over two creeks (19). On Nov. 26 the XIV Corps reached Sandersville, where it again joined with the XX Corps, but was later detained by Kilpatrick's wagon train as the cavalry was en route to Millen some 20 miles to the east to release Union prisoners at Camp Lawton (9). Meanwhile the right wing feinted towards Macon to the south, where the XV Corps was involved with skirmishing and became involved in the battle of Griswoldville. The cotton gin factory located on the Georgia Central Railroad at Griswoldville was converted to manufacture the Colt's Navy Repeater and was destroyed by the cavalry. The right wing continued wrecking the railroad.

Union cavalry was demonstrating against Augusta to the north, but were fighting constant skirmishes with Wheeler's cavalry which erupted with a furious cavalry battle (18). East of Sandersville Baird's division headed east northeast around Louisville as a feint while Carlin's division with the 21st WI traveled east southeast to Davidboro and Spiers on the GA Central RR on Nov. 27, alone and got delayed by the artillery and wagon trains of both the XIV and XX Corps (19) along the old Millen Road. The 21st WI along with the XIV Corps then crossed the Ogeechee River Nov. 29. At this point Sherman moved his headquarters from the XIV Corps to the XVII Corps of the right wing. Baird and Carlin again converged just west of Millen, on Dec. 1. Carlin camped at Birdsville backed up Baird's division which was sent north to Wayesboro to assist Kilpatrick's cavalry (9) and drive Wheeler's cavalry northward (19). On Dec. 3 the 21st WI arrived at Lunkin's Station several miles north of Millen. At Millen, the left wing joined with parts of the right wing. Sherman destroyed the station at Millen, then turned his army directly toward Savannah on four main roads (20).

FINAL STAGE, ADVANCE ON SAVANNAH. The final stage of the March to the Sea began on Dec. 4 as Carlin's division left Lumkin's Station; Baird's and Carlin's divisions again junctioned some 20 miles southeast of Millen, and advanced to the Savannah River at Hudson's Ferry on Dec. 5, where both divisions turned south southeast along the west side of the Savannah River toward Savannah. On Dec. 5 the XIV Corps moved down River Road with Morgan's division in the lead, followed by the divisions of Carlin and Baird, then Kilpatrick's cavalry, all without wagons, arriving at Savannah on Dec. 11. The left wing reached a canal outside Savannah, where it entrenched (9).

Plundering reached a peak of activity between Milledgeville and Millen, partly because the Union army was converging on Millen and needed provisions for the entire army, and partly because some units were ranging far from the main body of troops and were enjoying their freedom (20). As stated by Fitch (9), stragglers surrounded the army like a swarm of flies. The XIV, XX, and XVII Corps advanced to Savannah in the narrowing triangle between the Ogeechee and Savannah Rivers. This was rice growing country with its broad, sluggish tidal marches; with short supplies, the troops soon learned how to hull rice which they subsequently lived on for over a week (18).

Next, Advance on and occupation of Savannah. Preparations for the Carolinas Campaign

---

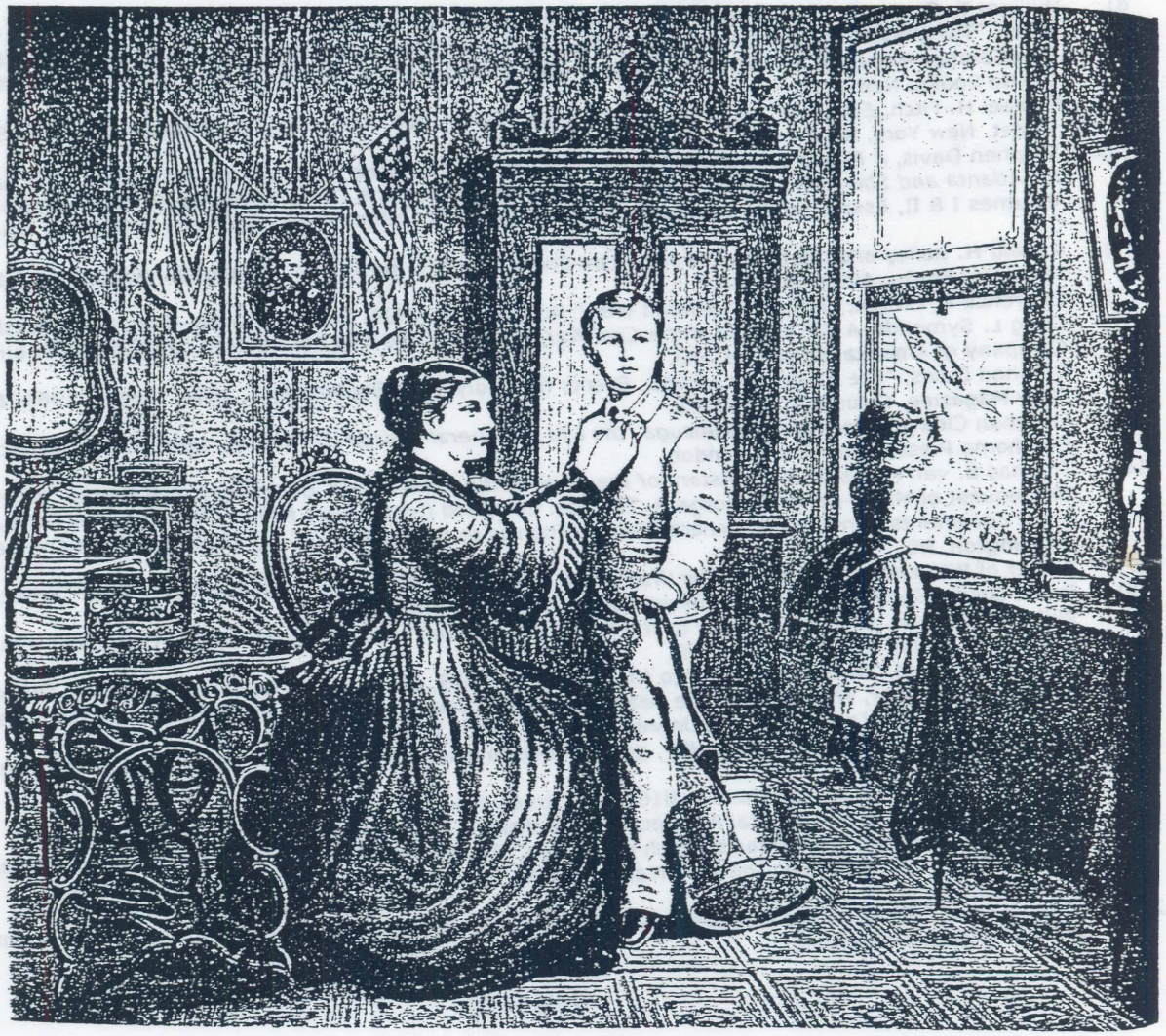
REFERENCES—IN ORDER OF PRESENTATION

1). Samuel Carter III, *The Siege of Atlanta, 1864*, 1973, Bonanza Books, New York.
2). Charlie Geiger, "The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Strategy and Results," Vol. 5, No. 2, Sept/Oct 1998, *Cump & Company*, 118 Hastings Ave. Oakdale, PA 15071.
3). Oliver O. Howard, "The Struggle for Atlanta", "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War", "The Way to Appomattox," 1956. Edited by Robert Underwood Johnston and Clarence Clough Biel of *The Century Magazine*, Published with arrangement with A.S. Barnes & Co., Inc., Thomas Yoseloff, Inc., Castle Books, New York.

4). Lloyd Lewis, *Sherman Fighting Prophet*, 1932, Konecky & Konecky, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010 Reprinted by special arrangement by William S. Konecky Associate, Inc.
5). Wm. DeLoss Love, *Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion: A history of the Regiments and batteries the State has sent to the field,* 1866. Chicago: Church and Goodman, Publishers; Milwaukee, A. Whittmore; New York, Sheldon & Co.
6). William R. Scaife, *The Campaign for Atlanta*, 1990, third edition, PO Box 98094, Atlanta, GA 30359.
7). William Key, "Epic battle of Atlanta Lost, The Georgia Campaign," No. 4, Sunday, May 19, 1957, *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution.*
8). William T. Sherman, "The Grand Strategy of the last Year of the War," "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War," "The Way to Appomattox," 1956. Edited by Robert Underwood Johnston and Clarence Clough Biel of *The Century Magazine."* Published with arrangement with A. S. Barnes & Co. Inc., Thomas Yoseloff, Inc., Castle Books, New York.
9). Michael H. Fitch, *Echoes of the Civil War as I Hear Them*, 1905. R. F. Fenno & Company, 9 and 11 Sixteenth Street, New York, N.Y.
10). Stephen Davis, *A Reappraisal of the Generalship of John Bell Hood in the Battles for Atlanta, The Campaign for Atlanta and Sherman's March to the Sea.* Theodore P. Savas & David P. Woodbury, Series Editor, Volumes I & II, Essays on the American Civil War, Copyright 1994, Savas Woodbury Publishers, Campbell, CA.
11). Ronald H. Bailey and the Editors of Time-Life Books, "Battles for Atlanta," "Sherman moves east," 1989. Time-Life Books, Alexandria, VA.
12). Lawrence R. Duffee, "The First Railroad War," November 6, 1999. *The Free Lance—Star*, Fredericksburg, VA.
13). Craig L. Symonds, *A Battle Atlas of the Civil War*, Copyright 1983 by the Nautical and Aviation Publishing Company of America, Baltimore, MD.
14). Stephen Davis, "The Battles for Atlanta, Events from July 10 to September 2, 1864," August 1989, *Blue & Gray* Magazine, Columbus, OH43228.
15). Freeman Cleaves, *Rock of Chickamauga, the Life of General George H. Thomas,* 1948, The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman and London.
16). Thomas B. van Horne, U.S.A., *History of the Army of the Cumberland, Campaigns, and Battles.* Written at the request of Major-General George H. Thomas. Compiled from private Military Journals, and Official and other documents furnished by General George Thomas to the author. Vol. II, 1968, Broadfoot Company, Wilmington, NC.
17). Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers, "The War of the Rebellion, 1861—1865," 1886. Library, Fond Du Lac, WI.
18). Burke Davis, *Sherman's March*, Copyright 1980. Random House, New York.
19). William R. Scaife, *Sherman's March to the Sea*, 1989. Printed by Washington Printing Company, USA, William R. Scaife, Atlanta, GA. 30359.
20). William R. Scaife, "Sherman's March to the Sea," Dec. 1989, *Blue & Gray* Magazine, Columbus, OH. 43228.
21). Joseph T. Glatthaar, *The March to the Sea and Beyond,* "Sherman's Troops in the Savannah and Carolina Campaigns," 1985, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, & London.
22). Private communication with Tom Selby, great grandson living in MI and Janet Marx, great granddaughter living in ME.
23). State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706.
24). Charles E. Vetter, "A Sociological Perspective of William T. Sherman's March Through Georgia, The Campaign for Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea," Theodore P. Savas & David P. Woodbury, Series Editors, Vol. I & II, Essays on the American Civil War. Copyright 1994, Savas Woodbury Publishers, Campbell, CA.
25). William Keys, "Sherman Marches to the Sea, The Georgia Campaign," June 2, 1957. *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution.*

Coming Event ...

The Old Courthouse in Lancaster, Ohio, will be the site of a mock Court Martial of W. T. Sherman on September 30, 2000. Don't let the term "Court Martial" confuse you; it will be strictly within the realm of the acceptable and staged by "supporters" of our great hero. Two renowned professors/authors will serve as prosecutor and defender with "Sherman" present, of course. The day will also include tours of the Sherman House Museum and other Cump-related sites. We hope that many of our readers will be able to attend. Information on hotels and motels in the Lancaster area and other pertinent information will be provided. Look for a complete update and how to obtain tickets for the day in our coming issue...



By the turn of the century, the celebration of St. Patrick's Day with parades and banquets had become a distinctly American custom, with everyone, no matter what nationality, wearing a bit o' green. Here, a Victorian mother pins a shamrock on her son's lapel while his sister waves to the marchers. An Irish Brigade flag adorned with Ireland's national symbol, a harp, hangs above the portrait along with the American flag.

Photo Source: ***Harper's Weekly***