

Gary W. Gallagher, Antietam: Essays on the 1862 Md. Campaign(1989)

Introductory essay by Gallagher is xeroxed along w/ his concluding essay.

Dennis E. Frye, "Drama Between the Rivers"

Essay deals w/ the Confeds. taking of Harpers Ferry.

Robert Krick, "Army of No. Virginia: . . . Why is Should Not Have Been at Sharpsburg"

Krick repeats points made by Gallagher in his essay. Notes that Lee had fewer men at Sharpsburg than in any other of his major battles.

Why the shortage: (1)appalling failure of the Quartermaster service of CSA and the collapse of the logistical arm of the CSA. He notes the want of shoes. Rebs were short of shoes at Fredericksburg and some marched in the snow; same during bad winter of 1863/4 in East Tennessee; and then at G'burg one of the reasons for their presence at this x-roads town was to find shoes. But the shortage was greatest during the 1862 campaign into Maryland.

The CSA commissary system failed the troops during this campaign. Food was short rations and in some cases there was no food at all. Some Rebs referred to '62 as "The Green Corn Campaign." Forced to forage and green corn was one of the staples--intestinal and stomach problems not excluding diarrhea.

Notes comments by Marylanders on the appearance of Lee's army as a ragtag bunch of tattered demones--shoeless and obviously undernourished. Pinched faced and sallow. . . A sorry lot they were.

The crying problem of stragglers and deserters. The numbers were scandalous. Perhaps one-third of the Army of No. Virginia were not accountable for the battle. Lee never faced this again until the end of the war./ Lee was privately furious at the collapse of discipline that allowed for straggling. After Antietam Lee wrote to Jeff. Davis and the abuse and even suggested that the death penalty for straggling be instituted. This from Lee!!!

Reasons for straggling: speculation (1) Among some troops like North Carolinians was the great unease of invading the North. it was one thing to defeat the homeland but quit another to invade the country of a foreign nation. (2)Troops were not happy w/ their new commander. Lee's aggressive tactics of attack had produced high casualties and some of his men were leery about his "rash" use of manpower. Remember that Lee took over from Johnston and J did not have Lee's sense of the attack!!!!

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A. Wilson Greene, "I Fought the Battle Splendidly:" G. McClellan and the Maryland Campaign.

Deals with the failures of McClellan. His continual overexaggeration of the strength of Lee's army. He estimated that the Army of Virginia was 200,000 strong giving Lee a 3 to obne advantage. He could not possibily believed this.

His failure to take advantage of the Lost Orders. He waited 18 hours rather than attack Lee when his forces were divided into three--Harpers Ferry, Longstreet at Hagerstown, and Lee near Sharpsburg.

McClellan allowed to slip thru his fingertips the best opportunity ever offered to a Union general during the course of the war to destroy the Confederacy's principal army in the field. Then to have moved on and taken Richmond.