

History 225

Re: Outline/Notes for BCF

Chpt. Chpt. 22 "Johnny Rebs Chatanooga Blues"

Begins w/ Lincoln's unhappiness over Meade's refusal to sail into Lee after G'burg. Privately he wanted to sack Meade; but he could not remove the "hero of Gettysburg" for public reasons.

Deals with the major western developments in the summer and fall of 1863.

The Union takes Chatanooga, a railroad complex and necessary for the opening into Georgia.

Braxton Bragg's important victory over Rosecrans at Chickamauga. This was the first significant Confederate victory in the West since the war began. But Bragg was not able to capitalize on this to kick the Yankees out of Chatanooga.

Followed by stunning Union victories at Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Point to make here is that details are given that substantiate earlier readings (see Gallagher) on Jeff Davis' inability to find a Confederate Commander who could match Union generals in the West.

Ultimately, Davis sacks Bragg (brings him to Richmond as his chief of staff) and reluctantly reappoints Joe Johnston to high command in the West. Although Davis had little confidence in Johnston, as well he should not; he blamed Johnston for the loss of Vicksburg.

George Thomas (The Rock of Chickamauga) emerges as a steady and reliable Union commander in the western theatre.

Notes some diplomatic victories for the Union:

Bulloch's efforts to get "superweapon" in the Laird "rams" made in England out of dry dock and into the war. The "rams" were seen as counters to the Union blockade, etc. Rulings in England by Palmerston govt. went against Bulloch. Only the Stonewall was finished in France but too late to make a difference.

Napoleon's diplomatic adventuring in Mexico w/ Maximillian protege rule went awry. Napoleon dropped all of his early interests in cooperation with the Confederacy in this Mexican venture.

The 1863 gubernatorial elections in Pennsylvania and Ohio were hot on Lincoln's mind. The Democrats were running peace emocrats in both states--Vallandigham in Ohio and Woodward in Penna. Republicans enjoyed walkover victories in Ohio; significant defeat of Woodward in Penna; and won handily a majority of the seats for the New York state legislature. MCP attributes this to the acceptance by northerners of the EP as a second war aim. This was

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underscored by the New York draft riots and reactions to the ugly racism and anti-Unionism manifested during these four days. Almost simultaneously, came the news of the Union attack on Ft. Wagner and the heroics of the 54th Massachusetts leading the assault on the fort.