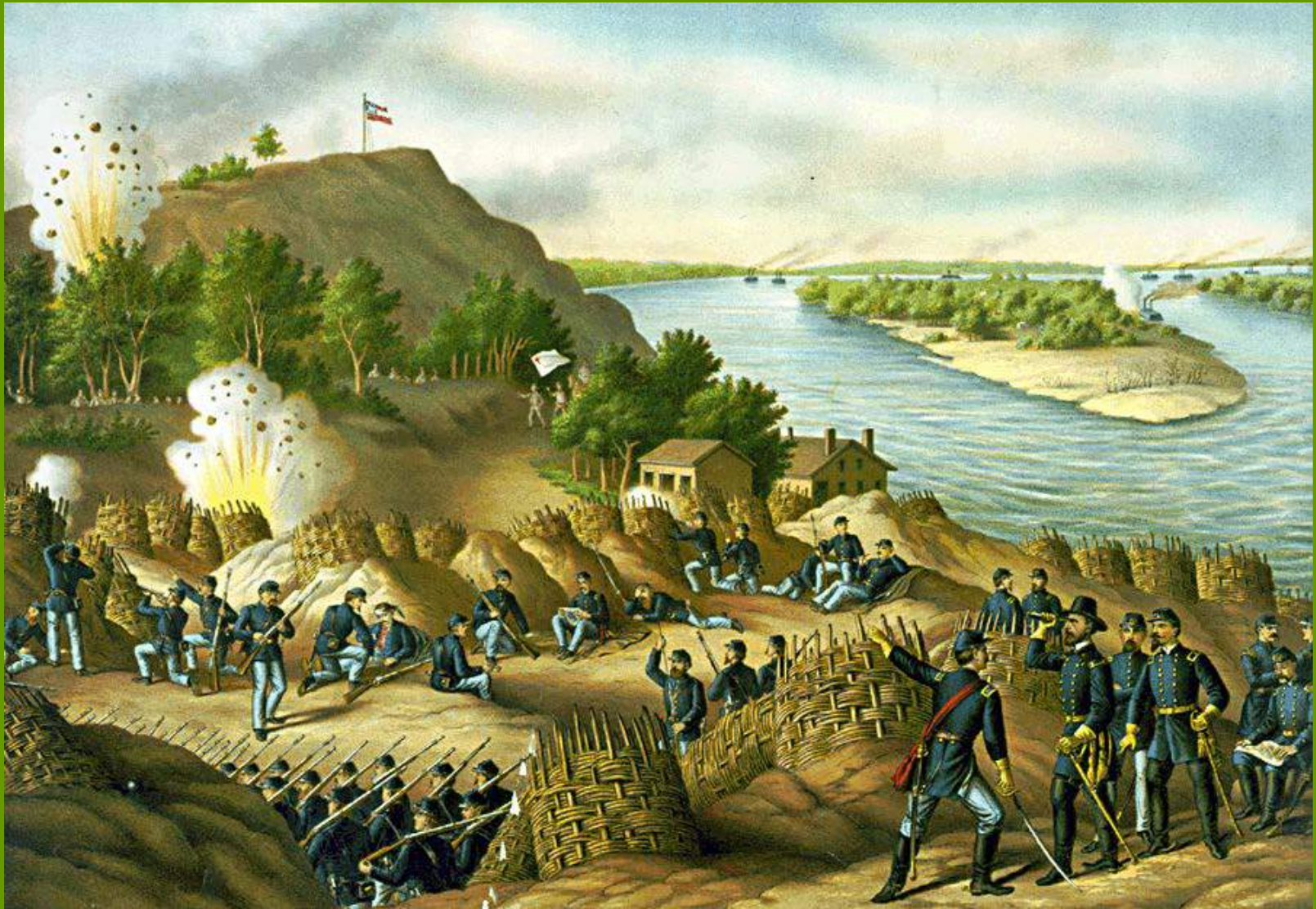


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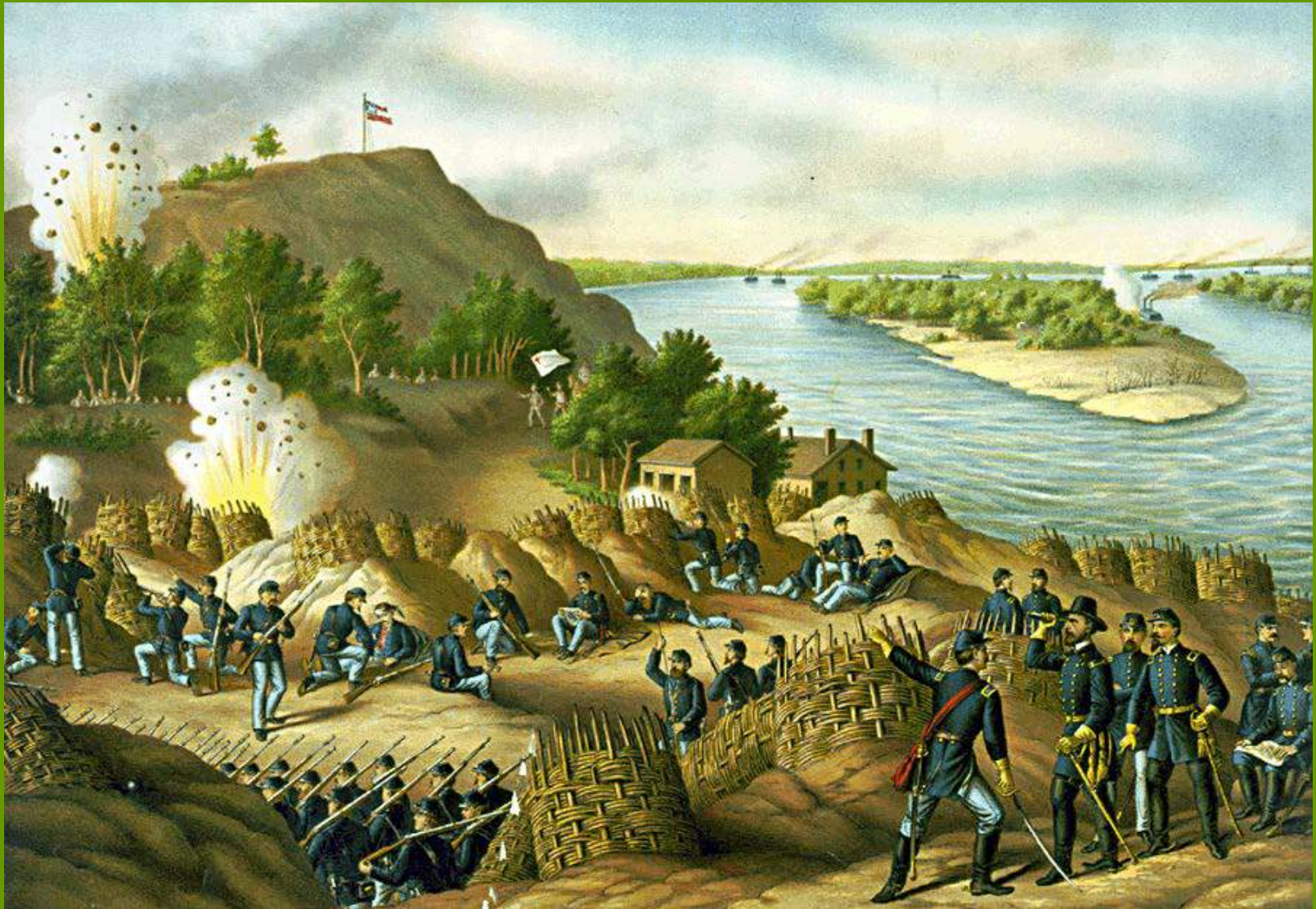


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## Vicksburg



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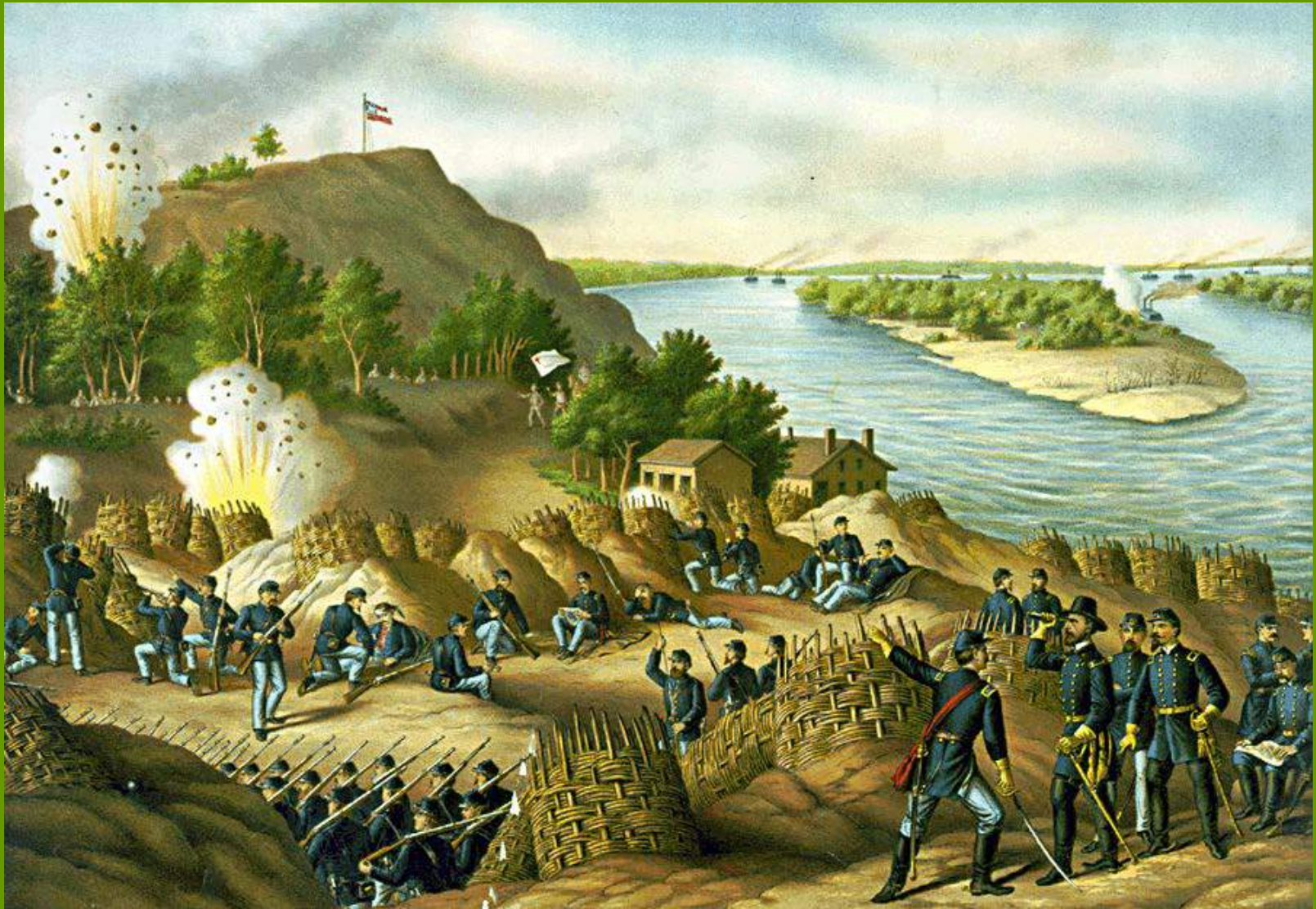
# The American Civil War's Western Theater Part 02



This image shows United States soldiers attempting to attack Confederate earthworks at Vicksburg, Mississippi. This image is titled *The Siege of Vicksburg*. This image was created by Henry Alexander Ogden (1856-1936). This image is courtesy of pixels.com.



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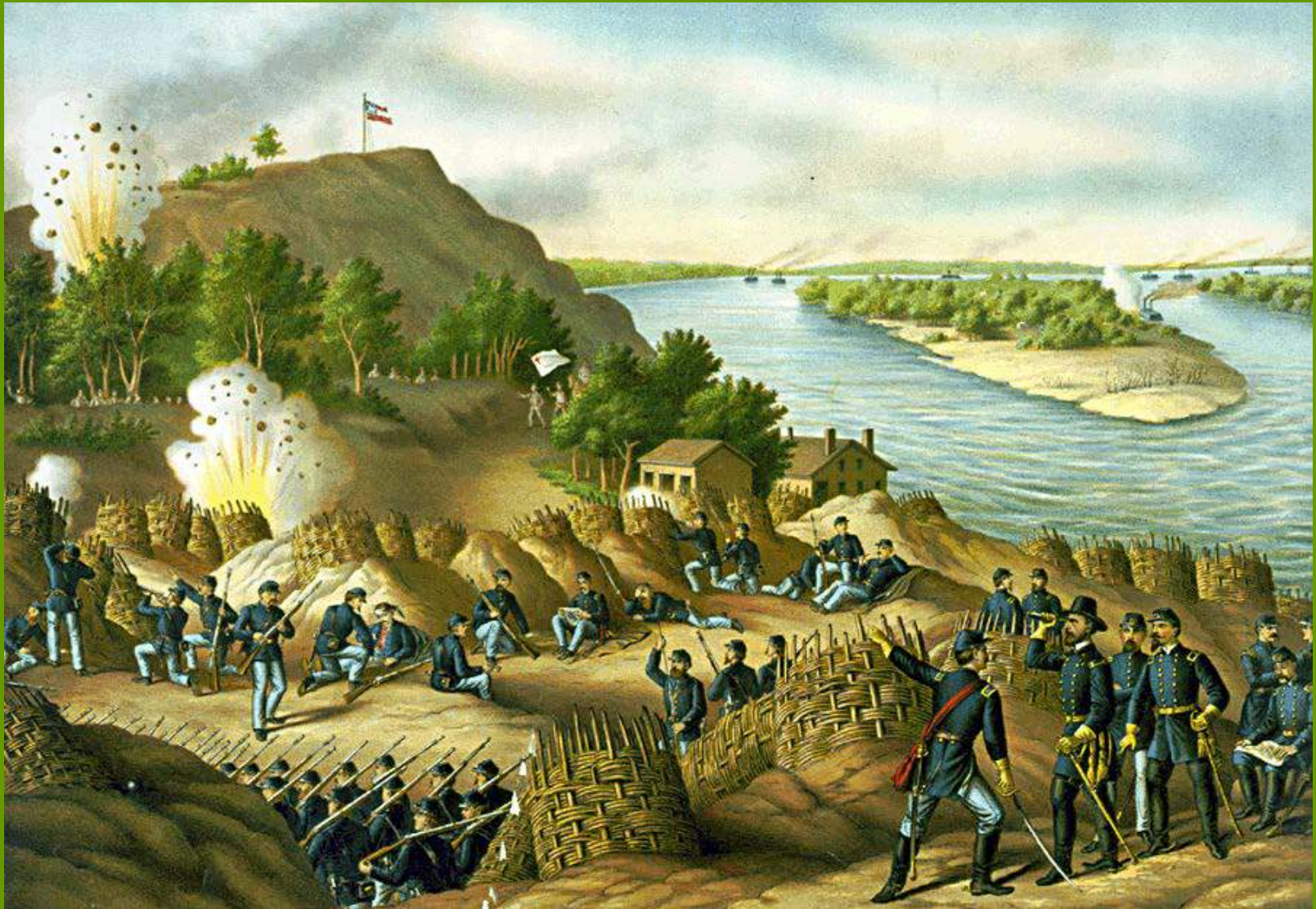


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## Vicksburg



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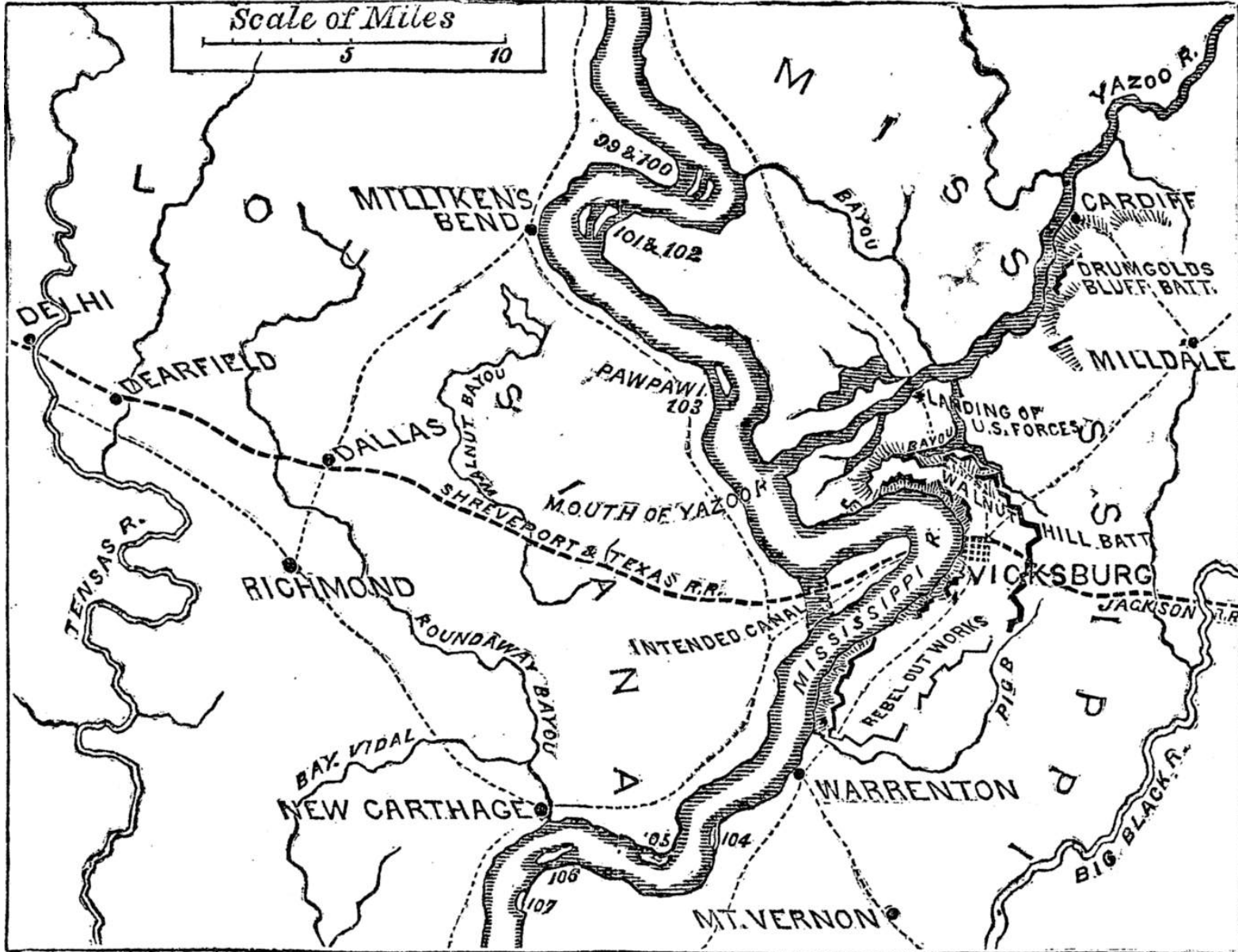
Vicksburg, Mississippi was important because food, cotton, and other supplies poured into Vicksburg and the rest of the South from the West across the Mississippi River.



Major General Ulysses S. Grant's Army of the Tennessee was approaching Vicksburg along the Mississippi from the north. Admiral David Farragut and his naval ships had captured New Orleans and were approaching Vicksburg from the South. This image is courtesy of city-data.com.

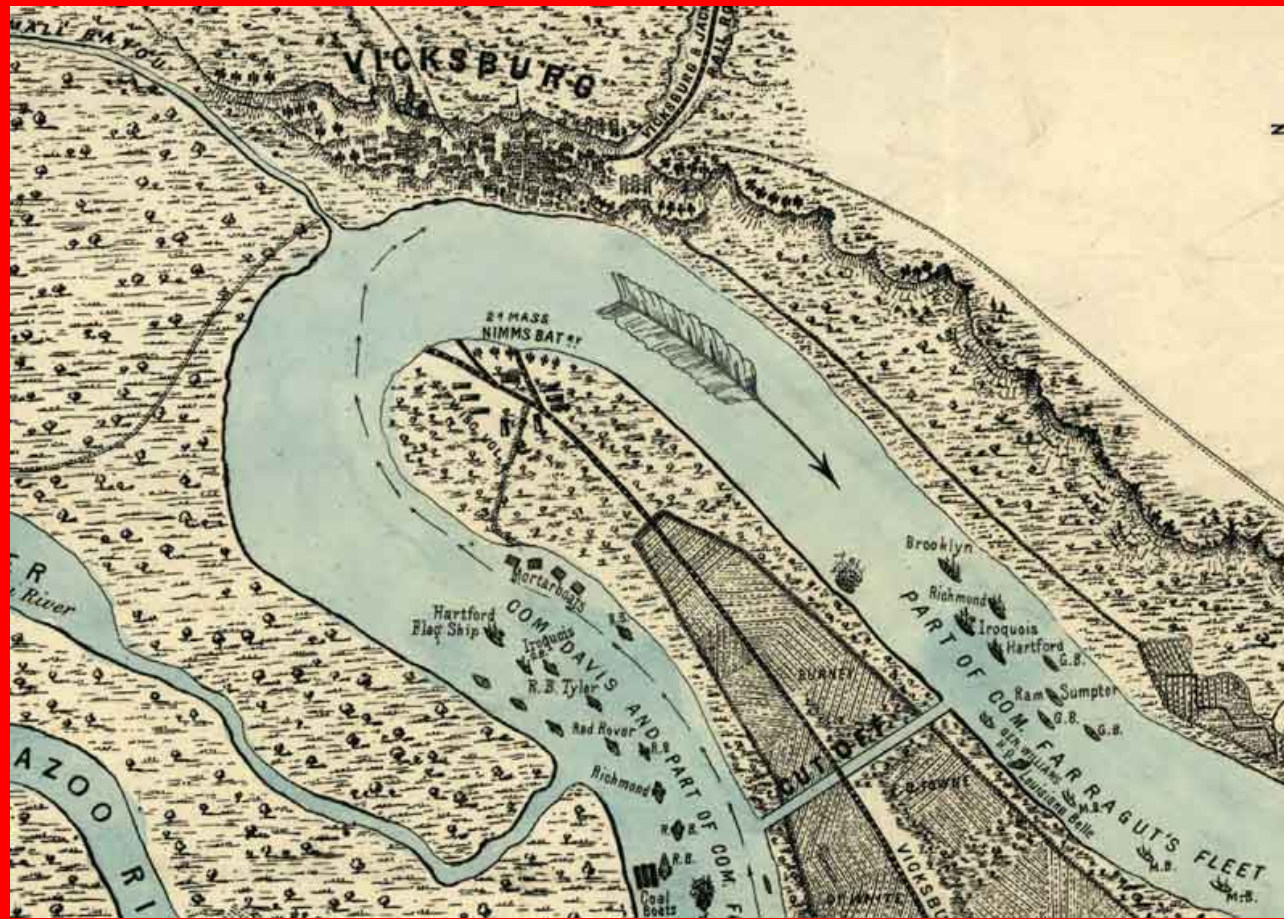


Major General Ulysses S. Grant hoped to seize Vicksburg, quickly, but acres of rivers, bayous and impassable swampland lay between his army and Vicksburg.



Bayous are extremely slow moving rivers or marshy lakes or wetlands. This image of the area around Vicksburg was printed in the January 17, 1863 edition of Harper's Weekly. This image is courtesy of [civil-war-150.com](http://civil-war-150.com).

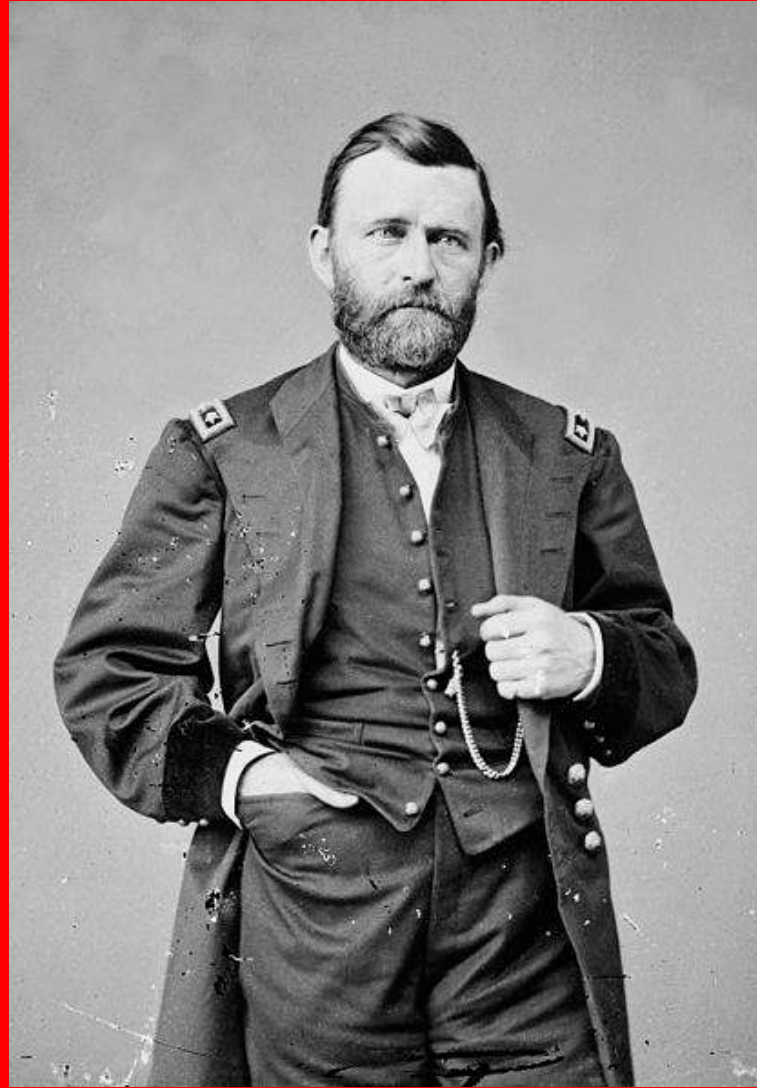
In late 1862 and early 1863 Grant made several attempts to capture Vicksburg, but he failed.



This image shows the canal planned by Major General Ulysses S. Grant and his staff to enable them to capture city of Vicksburg. It was to alter the course of the Mississippi River and bypass the Confederate guns at Vicksburg. It was also a way to keep Grant's men busy as he decided on a clear strategy to take the city. Sunstroke and disease took a toll on the soldiers and African Americans that were employed in constructing the canal. When the canal flooded with sediment and backwater the project was abandoned. This painting is titled "View of Vicksburg and Plan of the canal, Fortifications & Vicinity." It was created in 1863 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Finally in May 1863, Ulysses S. Grant decided to go around the swamps surrounding Vicksburg.



His efforts are now recognized as one of the most remarkable campaigns in military history. This image shows Grant in the uniform of a Lieutenant General. This image is credited to Mathew Brady (1822-1896) and was taken circa 1864. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



The plan was for Grant's army to march east deep into enemy territory and capture Jackson, Mississippi, to stop the Confederates there from interfering.



Using this plan, his army could approach Vicksburg on dry ground. This image is courtesy of pbs.org.



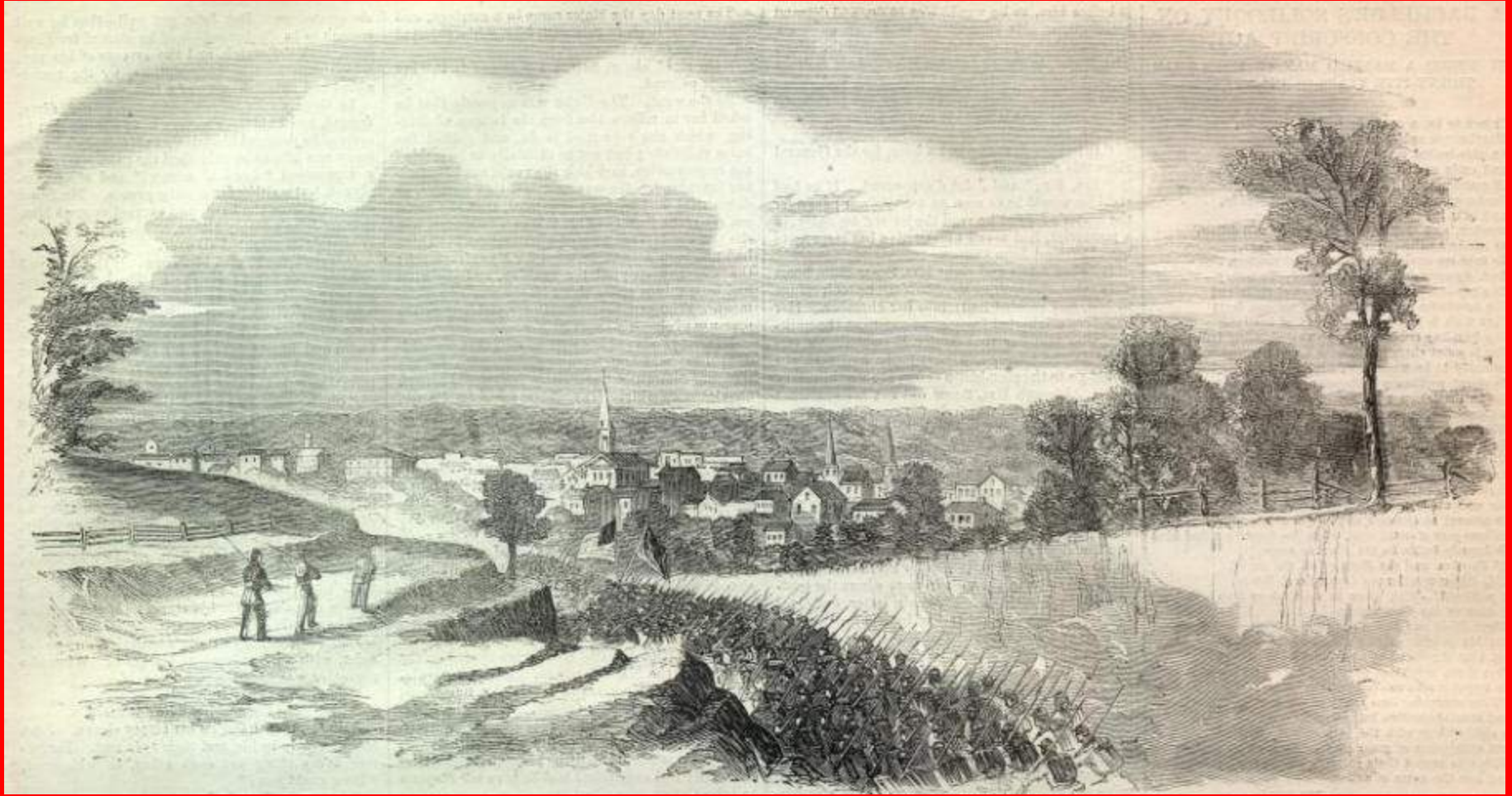
After transporting his forces down the Mississippi River to just below Vicksburg, he started inland.



Grant marched his troops overland on the west side of the Mississippi River. He sent his naval ships down the river past the Confederate batteries at Vicksburg. The gunboats, closest to Vicksburg, protected transport ships. When well below Vicksburg, the transport ships were used to carry Grant's soldiers from the west side to the east side of the Mississippi. This image is titled "Admiral Porter's Fleet Running the Rebel Blockade of the Mississippi at Vicksburg, April 16<sup>th</sup> 1863." This image is courtesy of [boundless.com](https://www.boundless.com).

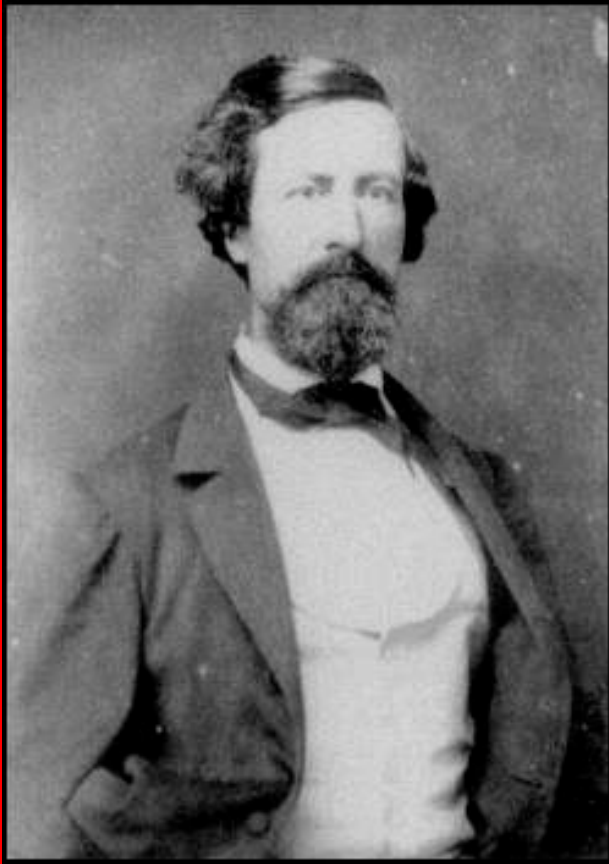


Against the established rules of military science and the advice of his staff, Grant cut loose from his base of supplies.



Grant permitted the Union soldiers only as much food as they could carry or steal along the way. This image is titled "General Logan Entering Port Gibson, Mississippi." It was created for the May 30, 1863 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of [sonofthesouth.net](http://sonofthesouth.net).

The Confederate commander of Vicksburg at first stayed behind his fortifications, thinking Grant was trying to trick him into moving into the open.



Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton (1814-1881) was the commander of Confederate forces during the Siege of Vicksburg. He made his headquarters in this house, the Willis-Cowan House, during the siege. This image shows the house circa 1890. Pemberton was from Pennsylvania, but married a woman from Virginia. He decided to join the Confederacy when the war began. He had two brothers fight for the United States during the war. The image on the left courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. The image on the right was created by the Detroit Publishing Company. It is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



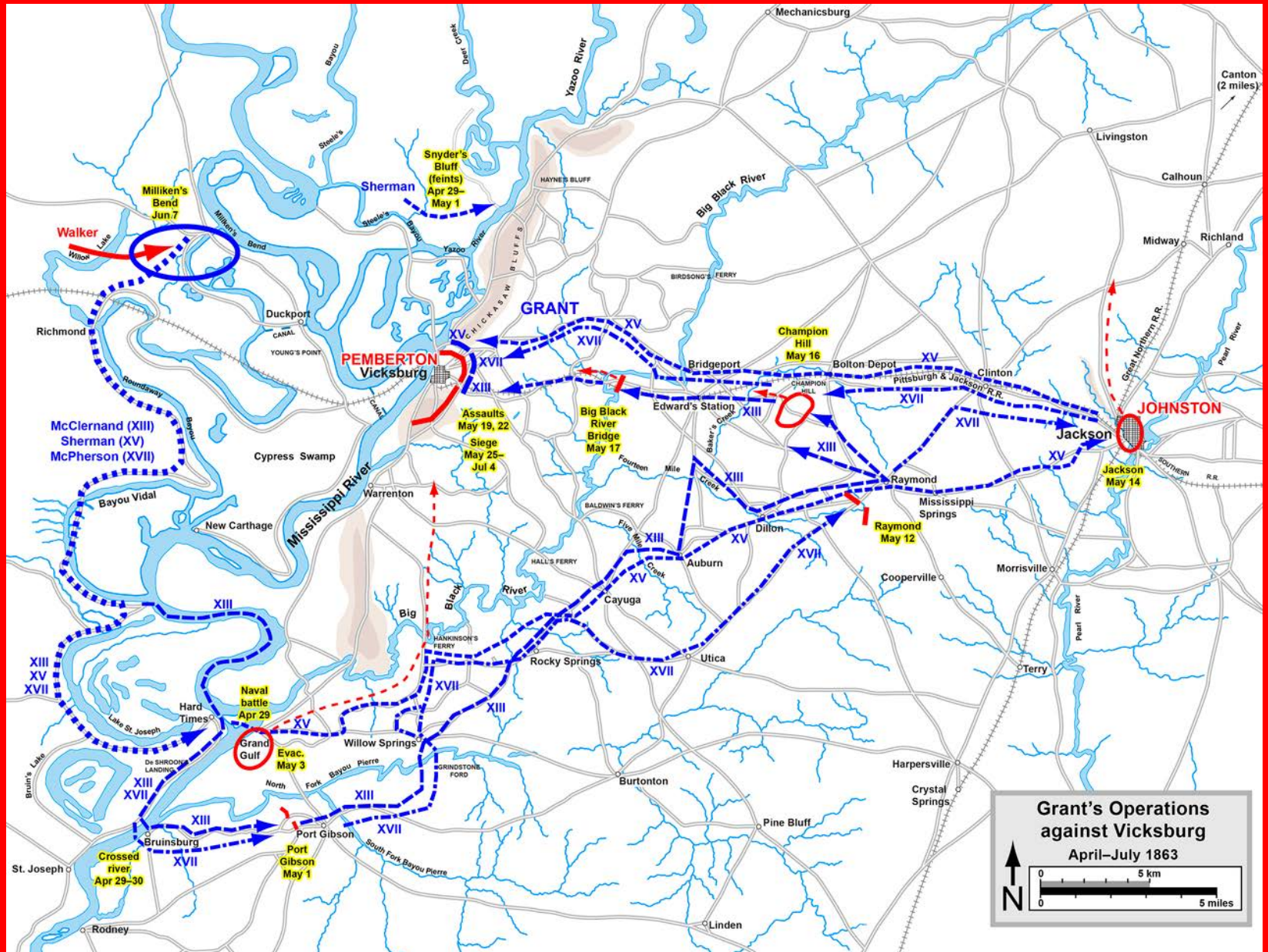
Moving quickly, Union forces reached Jackson almost without opposition.



Jackson is the state capital of Mississippi. Grant's soldiers in his Army of the Tennessee reached Jackson within two weeks after crossing the Mississippi River. This image is titled "Battle of Jackson, Mississippi— Gallant Charge of the 17<sup>th</sup> Iowa, 80<sup>th</sup> Ohio, and 10<sup>th</sup> Missouri, Supported by the First and Third Brigades of the Seventh Division." This image was sketched by A.E. Mathews of the 31<sup>st</sup> Ohio Infantry Regiment. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Then Grant turned and fought his way back west to the outskirts of Vicksburg.



In 17 days his troops marched 180 miles and won five battles against larger forces. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



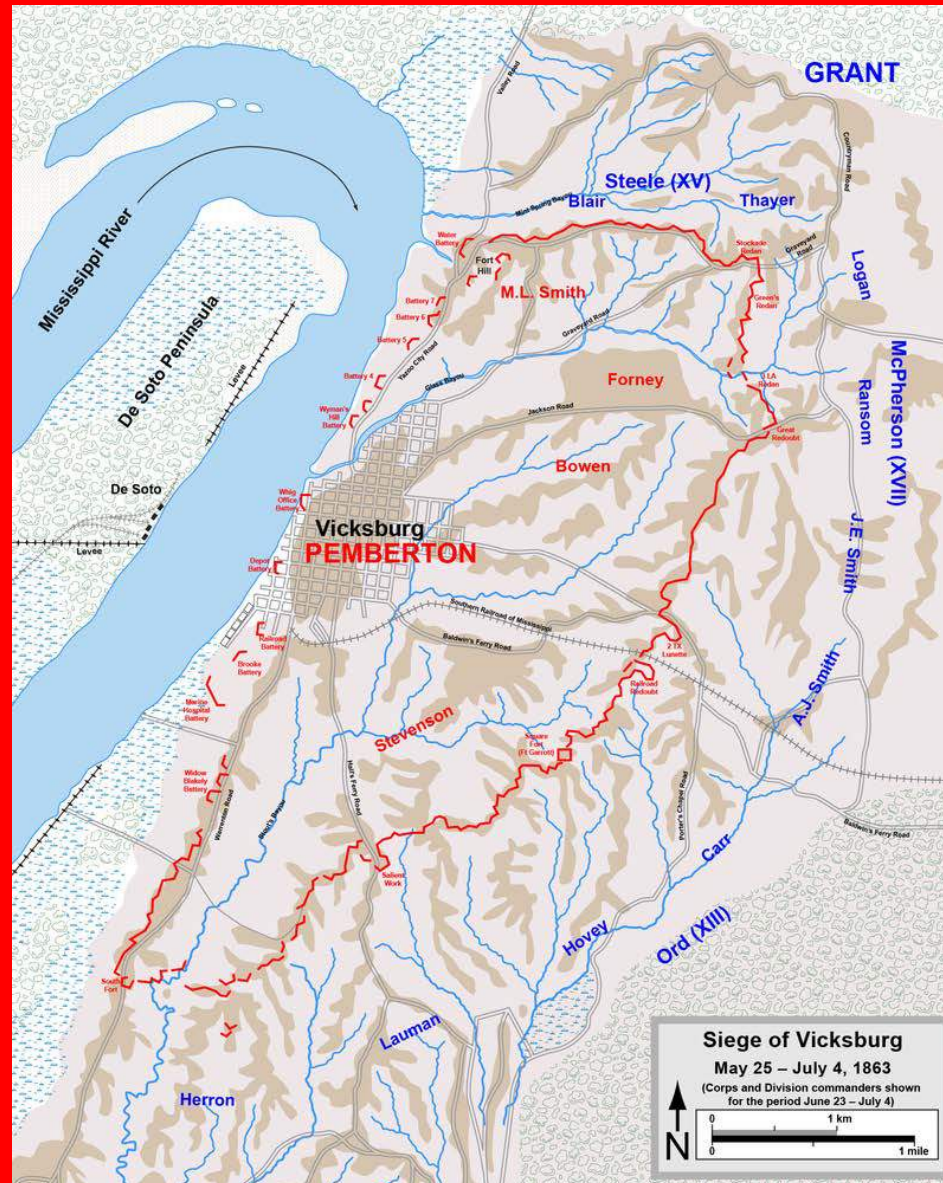
Grant tried to take Vicksburg with a frontal attack but failed.



This image is titled "First at Vicksburg." It depicts the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 13<sup>th</sup> United States Infantry Regiment assaulting Confederate earthworks on May 19, 1863. Although they went farther than any other Union soldiers that day, they suffered 43% casualties. Their attack was eventually repulsed. This image is courtesy of the United States Army Center of Military History and of Wikimedia Commons.



Grant then began a siege, or blockade of the city.



The siege forced Confederate soldiers and citizens to stay in the city while cutting off all of their food and supplies. The siege lines for the United States are in blue, and the Confederate States' siege lines are in red. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



The Confederates would have to surrender or starve.



This image shows the Shirley House which was located in the United States battle lines during the Siege of Vicksburg. This image is titled "Quarters of Logan's Division in the Trenches in Front of Vicksburg." It shows the earthworks and shelters built by Union soldiers to protect them from the elements, and from Confederate artillery fire. This image was created in 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Federal gunboats and artillery shelled the city day and night for more than six weeks.



This image shows a mortar scow anchored in the Mississippi river and firing into the city of Vicksburg during the siege. The projectiles that came out of the mortars were 13 inches wide, weighed 197 pounds, and could fire their projectiles as far as two and a half miles. This image was created for Frank Leslie's *Famous Leaders and Battle Scenes of the Civil War*, which was published in 1896. This image is courtesy of [mississippiconfederates.com](http://mississippiconfederates.com).



# The terrified population of Vicksburg dug in and hid in caves to escape Union shells.



This image shows a Southern woman praying in a makeshift home within a cave during the bombardment of Vicksburg. This image is titled "Cave Life in Vicksburg" It was created by Adalbert John Volck (1828-1912) in 1864 for V. Blada's *War Sketches*, which were published in Baltimore, Maryland and London, England. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

# Starving Vicksburg residents ate horses, mules, dogs, and rats.



Both “whites” and African Americans dug into the ground to create one to two room caves. The main rule in constructing the caves is that they had to face away from the river where the Union gunboats were located, although this would not help one escape fire from Grant’s army on the land side. Some caves were connected with others for a quick escape in case your cave collapsed. Many citizens outfitted their caves with furniture from their houses. Although caves were sometimes used in the daytime, most citizens spent their nights in their caves. This image is courtesy of [muhsblackhats.edublogs.org](http://muhsblackhats.edublogs.org).



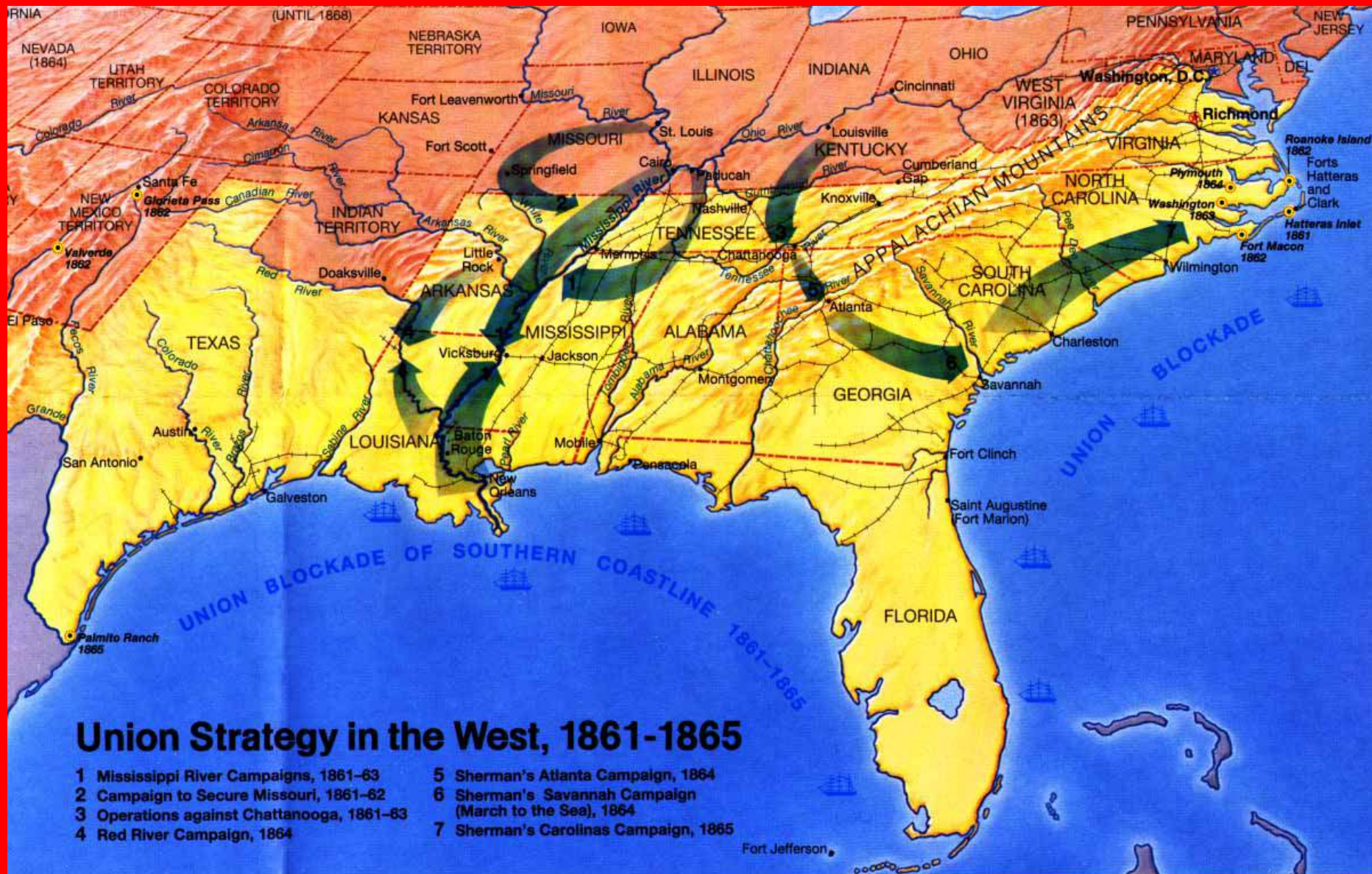
Hungry and battered, the Confederates surrendered on July 4, 1863, the day after the Southern defeat at Gettysburg.



This image shows United States Major General Ulysses S. Grant on the left and Confederate Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton on the right discussing the terms of surrender between their lines on July 3, 1863 (the same day as Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg). This image is titled "Interview Between Grant and Pemberton." This image was created for *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War*. It was published in 1894 by the Puritan Press in Chicago, Illinois. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



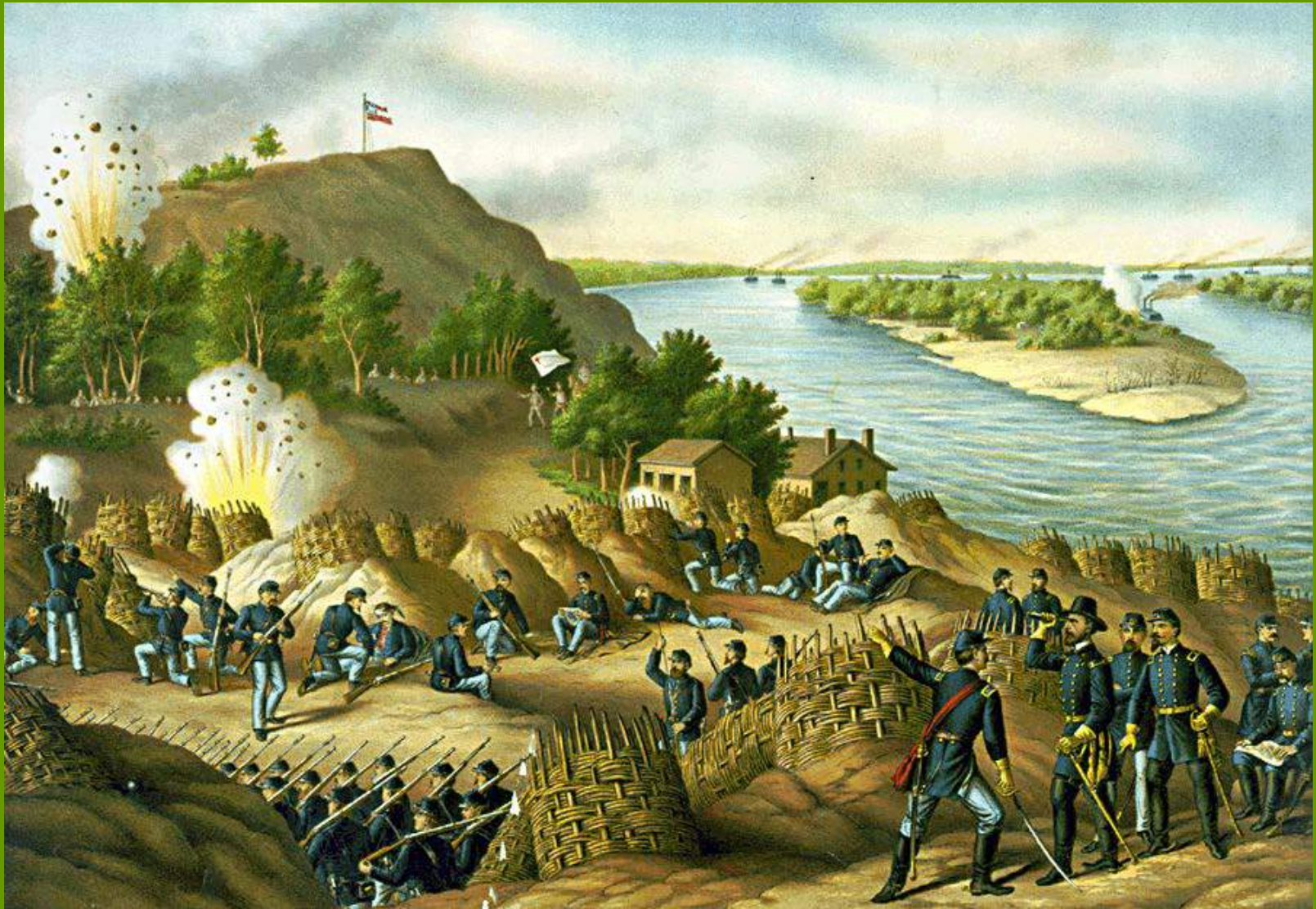
The Union split the South in half and now controlled the Mississippi River.



The Confederacy began to collapse. Splitting the South in half along the Mississippi River was a part of Major General Winfield Scott's Anaconda Plan in 1861. This image is courtesy of [americancivilwar.com](http://americancivilwar.com).



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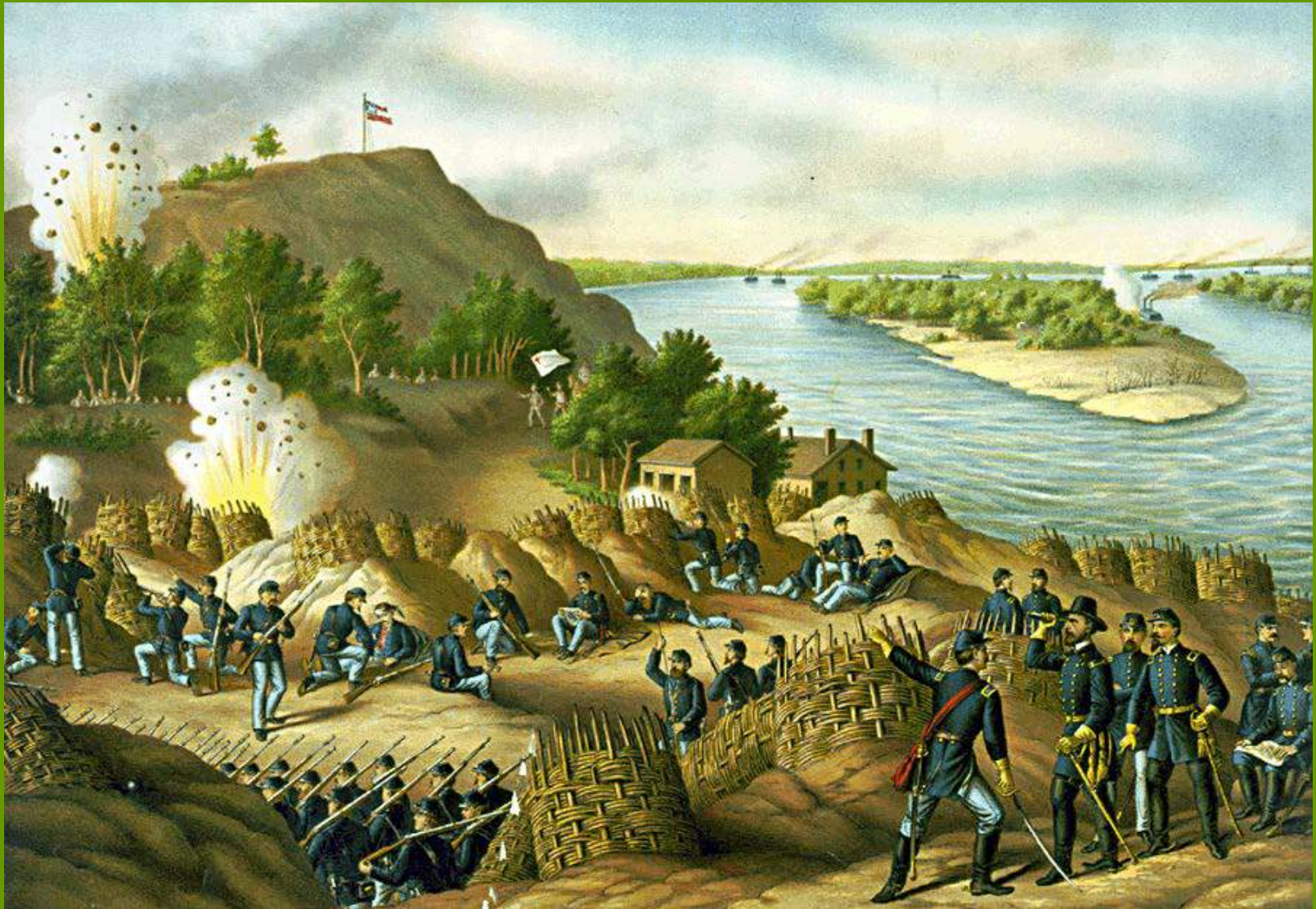


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## Vicksburg



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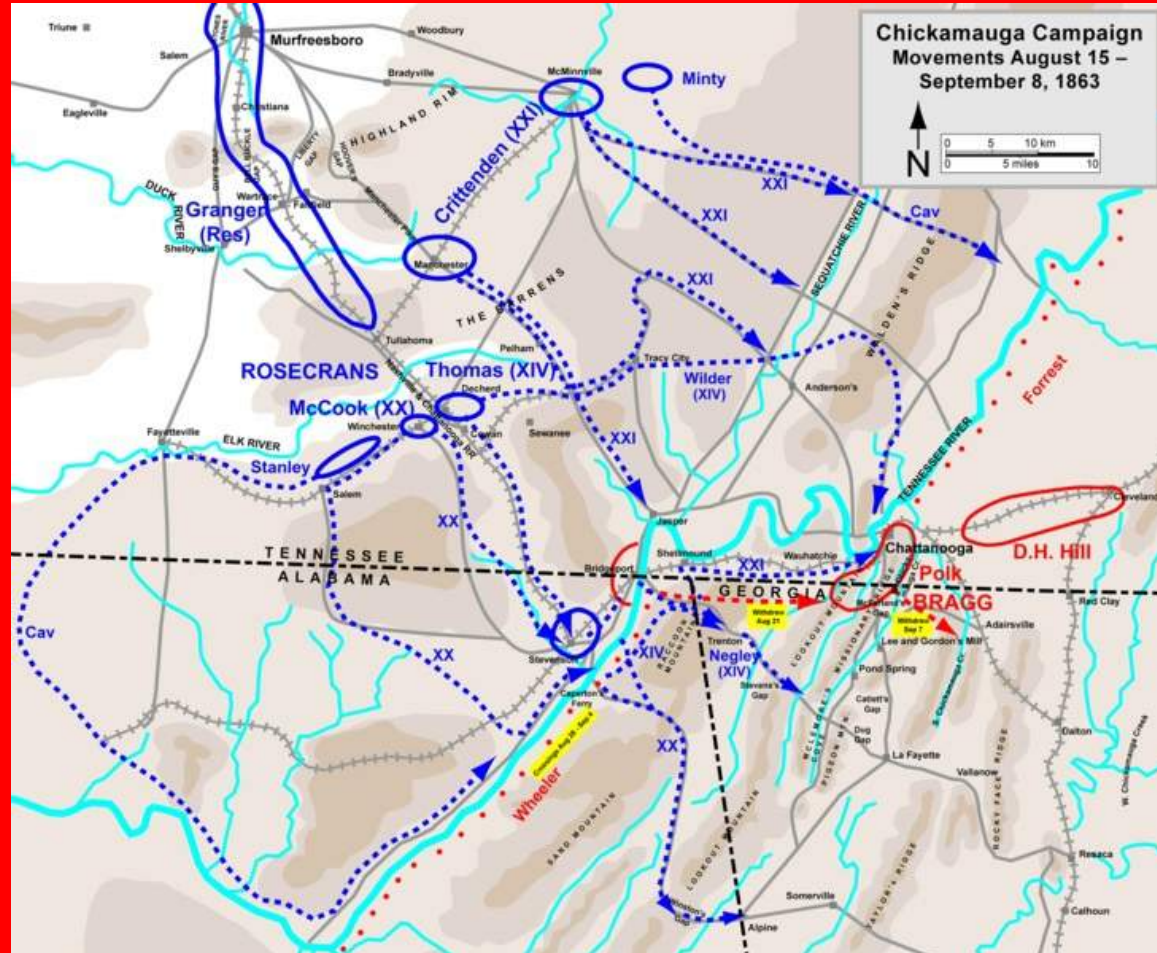
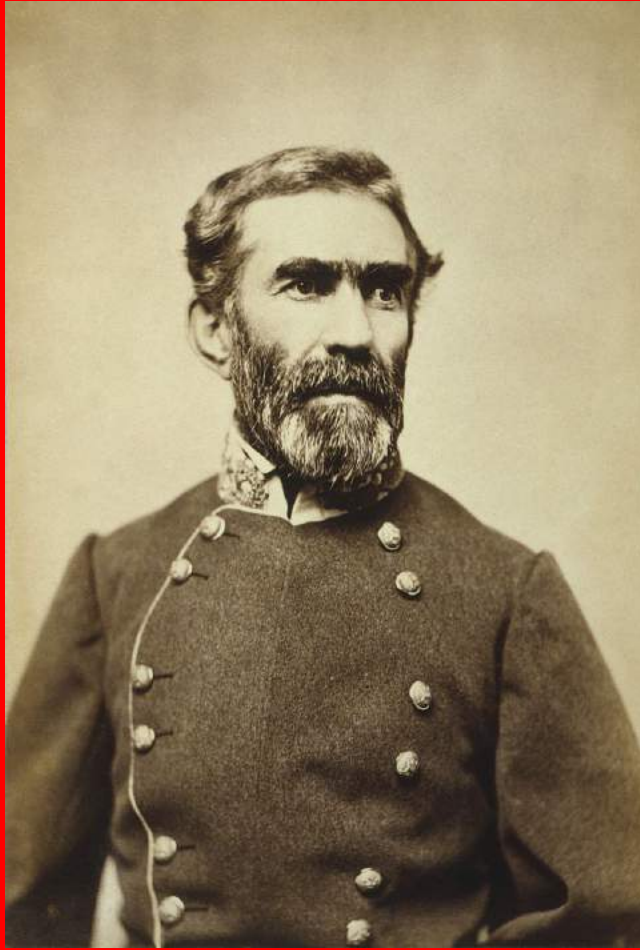


Union forces now attempted to cut the Confederacy again—through eastern Tennessee and Georgia.



They aimed to capture Chattanooga, a rail center on the Tennessee-Georgia border. This image is courtesy of city-data.com.

While Grant's army began to occupy Vicksburg, other Union troops chased General Braxton Bragg and his Confederates from Chattanooga.



Braxton Bragg (1817-1876) commanded the Confederate Army of Tennessee during the Chickamauga and Chattanooga campaign. The United States Army of the Cumberland under William Rosecrans pretended they were going to attack Chattanooga from the north, which in actuality, they were maneuvering to attack it from the south. Once Bragg realized he had been fooled, he retreated south into Georgia. These images are courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



But in mid-September, 1863, the Confederates rallied and beat the Yankees in a bloody battle at nearby Chickamauga Creek.



General Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army of Tennessee was reinforced from Confederates in Mississippi, and from Confederates who had fought at Gettysburg. This image is titled "Battle of Chickamauga." It was created circa 1890 by Kurz & Allison. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



This would prove to be the Confederates' last important victory in the Civil War.



This image is titled 'Battle of Chickamauga.' It depicts Confederates advancing up Snodgrass Hill and Horseshoe Ridge towards the United States line held by soldiers under Major General George Henry Thomas (1816-1870) on Sunday September 20, 1863. This image was created by Alfred Waud (1828-1891). This photograph is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



# The Union army pulled back from Chickamauga to Chattanooga.



This image shows Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1863. In 1860 the population of Chattanooga was 3500 people, or just 1000 more than Gettysburg, Pennsylvania's population in 1860. Cameron Hill is the smaller hill on the opposite bank of the Tennessee River. Lookout Mountain is the large hill in the right background. This image is titled "Chattanooga From the North Bank of the Tennessee." It was created in September, 1863 for *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

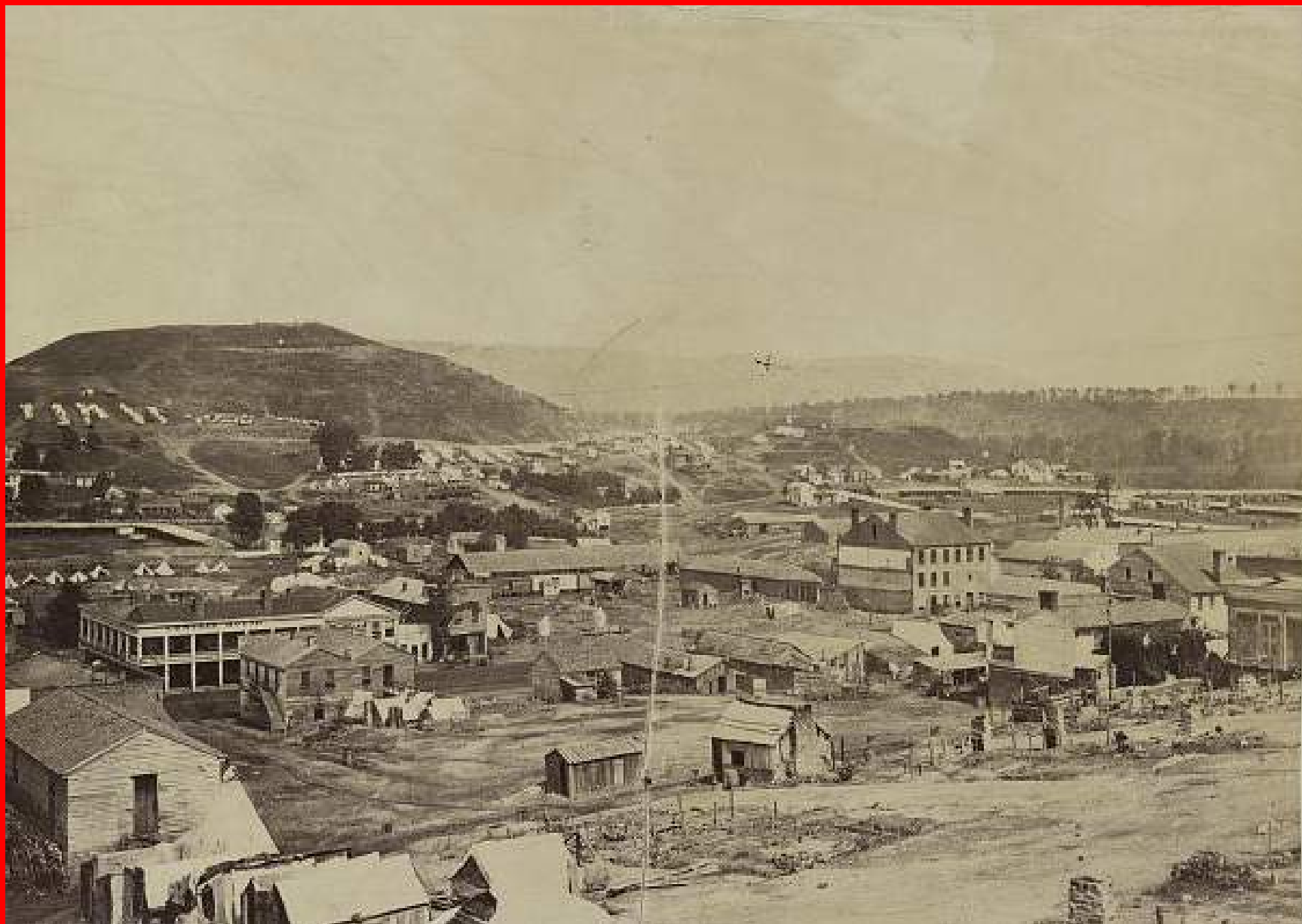
The Confederates started to surround them and waited for them to surrender.



This image shows a cannon representing a Confederate battery on Lookout Mountain overlooking Chattanooga. Confederates had the high ground around Chattanooga at Lookout Mountain, Orchard Knob, and Missionary Ridge. This image is courtesy of [tripadvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com).



Inside Chattanooga the Union soldiers, without food, began to starve.



This image shows Chattanooga, Tennessee circa 1864. Cameron Hill is in the left background. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

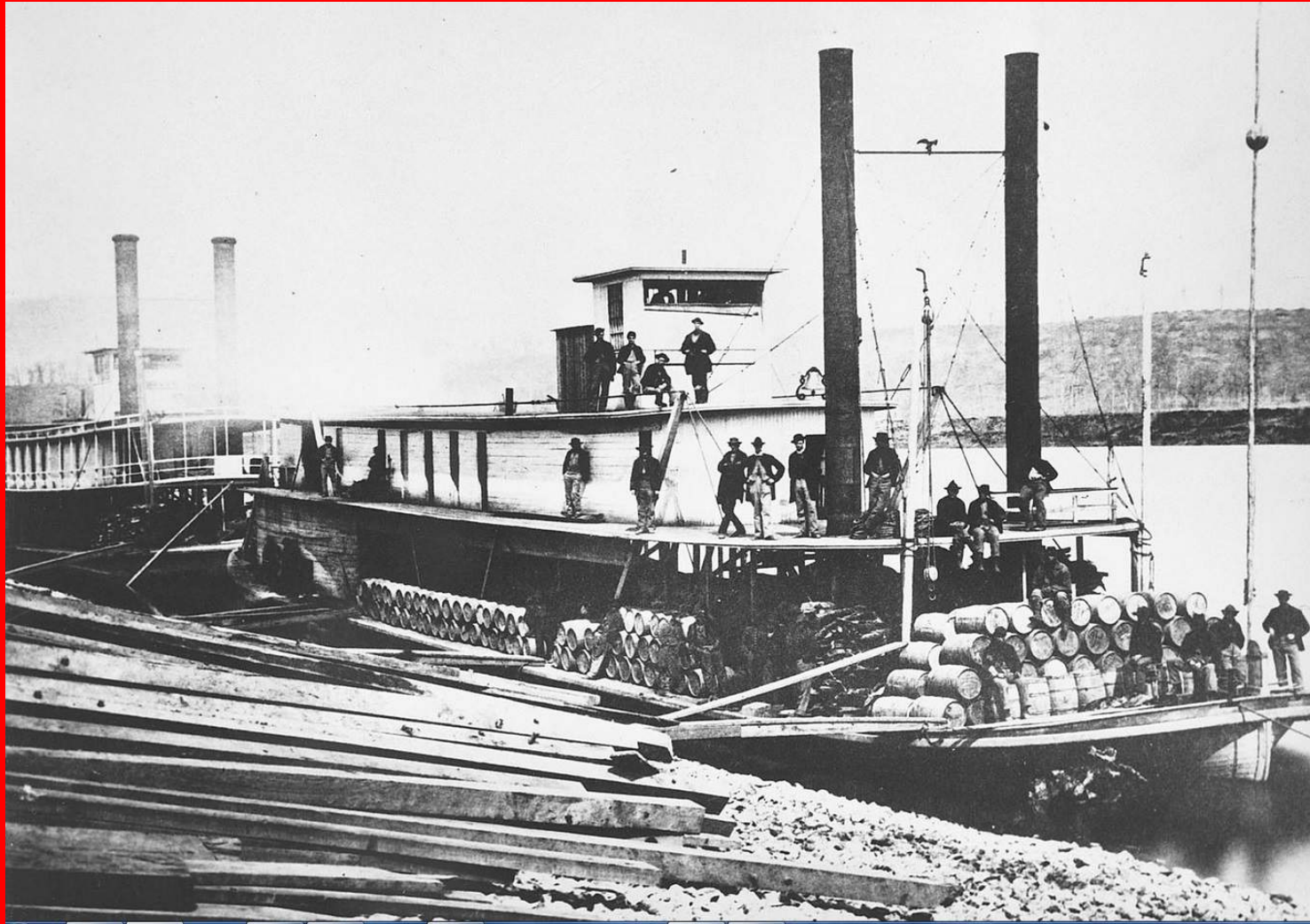
Trains carrying relief troops sped from the east, and Grant's troops arrived from the west to bolster the forces.



This image is titled "Chattanooga, Tenn. U.S. Military Train at Depot: Lookout Mountain in Background." Grant's soldiers arrived from Vicksburg, and Grant was appointed to overall command at Chattanooga. Union soldiers who had fought at Gettysburg also arrived at Chattanooga, under the command of Joseph Hooker. This image was created circa 1864. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



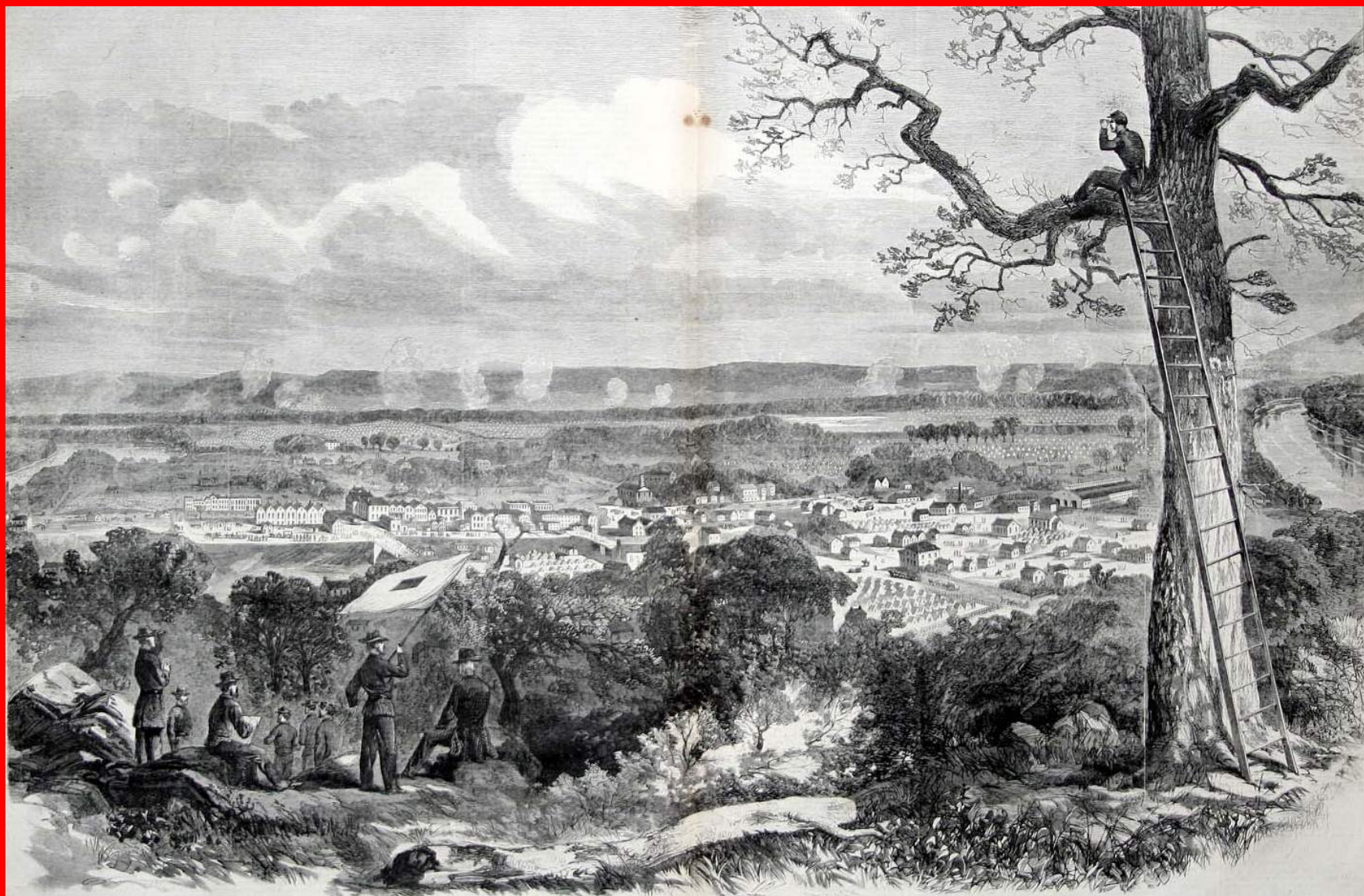
To feed the trapped army, Grant opened up a “cracker line”—the soldiers’ name for a supply route.



After opening the “cracker line,” Grant made plans on defeating the Confederates at Chattanooga. This photograph shows the *USS Chattanooga*, a steamship built by Union soldiers to bring supplies to Chattanooga. The *USS Chattanooga* is shown at Bridgeport, Alabama in 1863 where the railroad unloaded its supplies onto the steamship. This image is courtesy of the University of Wisconsin and of [usmrr.blogspot.com](http://usmrr.blogspot.com).



# The Rebels held the hills and ridges around Chattanooga.



This image is titled "General View of Chattanooga and Union Encampments— Rebel Army Beyond Belt of Timber— From Our Signal Station." The signal station was located on Cameron Hill. The ridge line in the distance is Missionary Ridge. This image was sketched by Theodore R. Davis for the November 28, 1863 issue of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of [sonofthesouth.net](http://sonofthesouth.net).

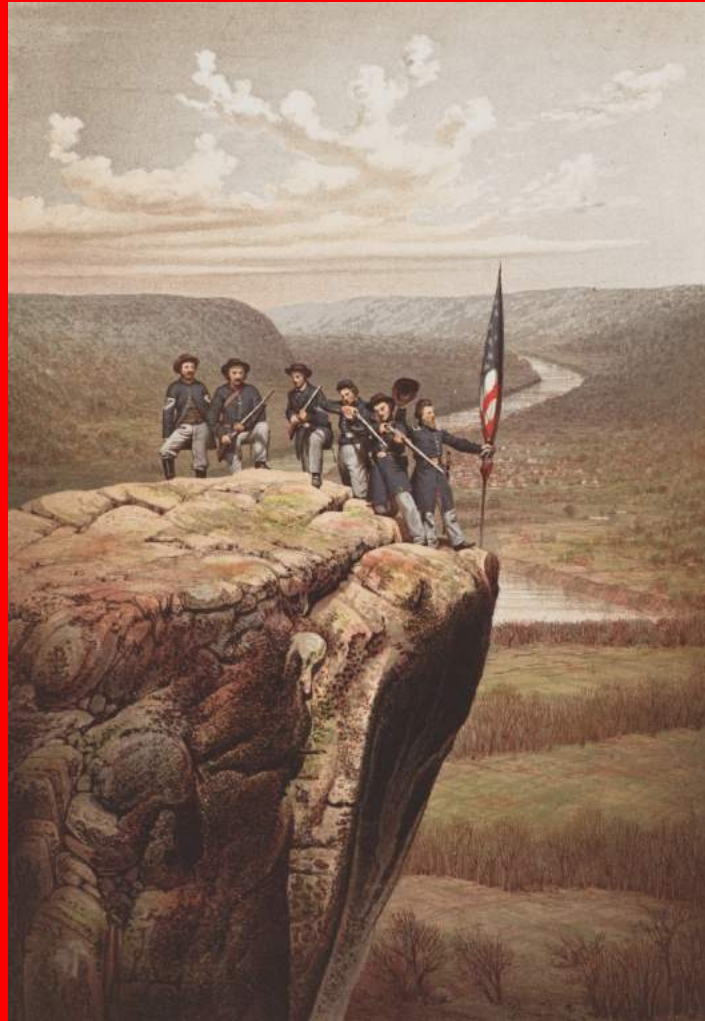


On November 24, 1863 Union troops under General Hooker scrambled up a ridge called Lookout Mountain and routed a small Confederate force.



This image is titled "Battle of Lookout Mountain." It shows most of the fighting for Lookout Mountain took place along the slopes, not on the summit of the mountain. This image was created by Kurz & Allison in 1889. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

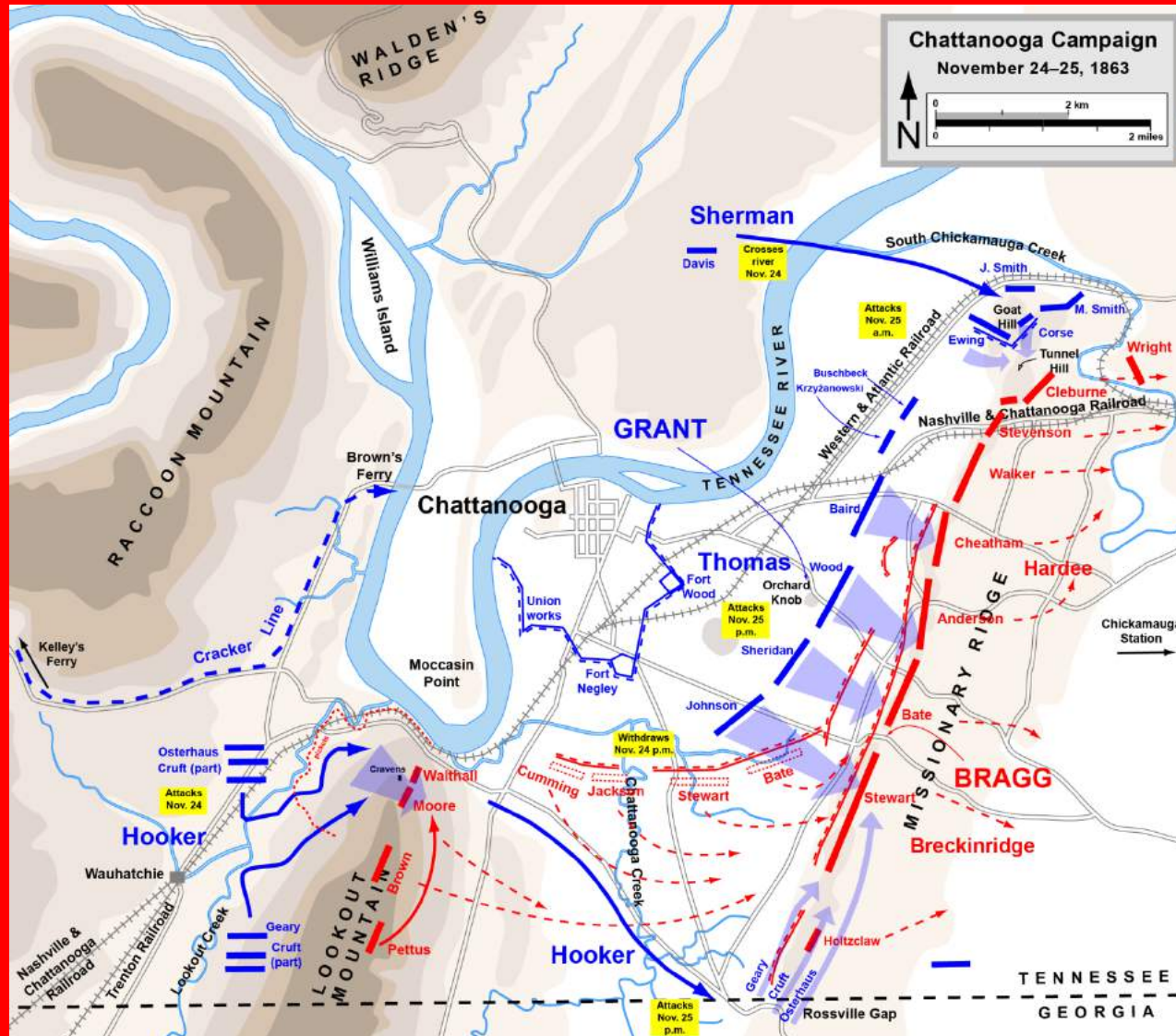
The next morning the Union soldiers in Chattanooga cheered to see the Stars and Stripes waving from the mountaintop.



The Battle of Lookout Mountain took place on November 24, 1863. The next morning, soldiers from the 8<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Infantry Regiment, not knowing if the Confederates had left the mountain climbed it and planted the United States Flag. The soldiers who accomplished this feat were photographed in the same spot. They were led by Captain John Wilson, who is shown on the right holding the flag. This is a colorized image of the photograph. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Meanwhile, General William Tecumseh Sherman and his Union troops attacked the northern flank of the main Confederate force on Missionary Ridge.



Grant wanted to divert the Confederate's attention from Sherman's troops (who had fought at Vicksburg) on the Union left and Hooker's troops (who had fought at Gettysburg and Lookout Mountain) on the Union right. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Because he didn't think they were very good, Grant ordered Union soldiers who had been defeated at Chickamauga to only charge halfway up the center of the ridge.



This image is titled "Battle of Chattanooga." It depicts three Union officers standing on the highest ground of Orchard Knob facing Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. The three officers are from left: Major General Gordon Granger, Major General Ulysses S. Grant, and Major General George H. Thomas. This painting was created by Thure de Thulstrup (1848-1930) for L. Prang & Co. circa 1880. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



The Union soldiers, frustrated and angry from their defeat at Chickamauga, did not stop halfway as ordered.



This image is titled "Battle of Missionary Ridge." This lithograph was created by Kurz and Allison in 1886. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



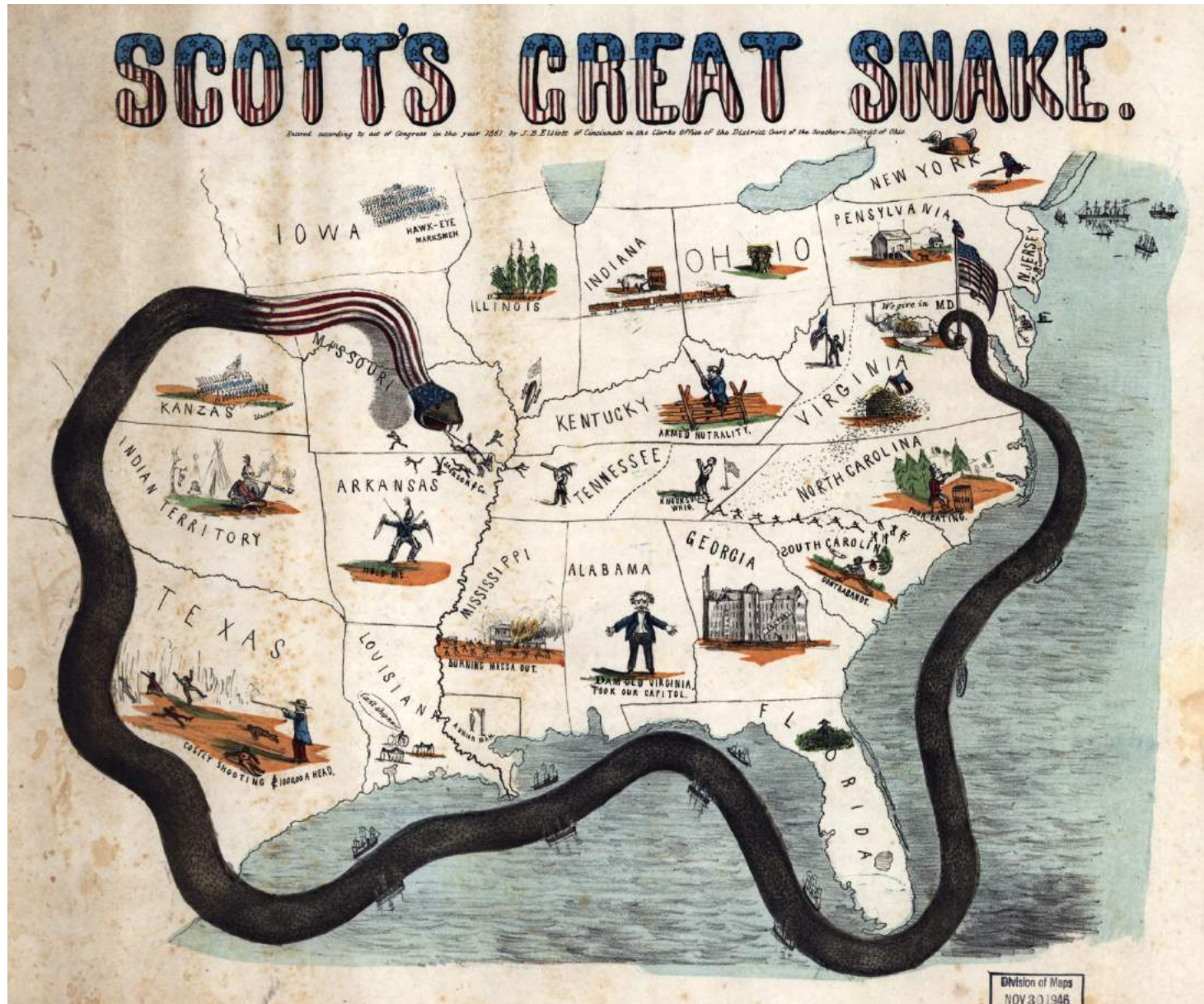
The Union soldiers continued up the steep slopes in one of the most remarkable charges in military history.



Chanting "Chickamauga! Chickamauga!" they reached the top and scattered the confused Confederates. This image is titled "Battle of Mission Ridge, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1863." This image was created by the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company (notice their advertisement on the bottom left of the painting) in 1886. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.



# The Confederate army at Chattanooga retreated to Georgia.



The United States had now achieved two of its four goals of Major General Winfield Scott's Anaconda Plan. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



First, their naval blockade had cut off European supplies to the South.



This image is titled "View of Ship Island, Louisiana— By Our Special Artist on Board the "Sagamore." This image was created for the February 8, 1862 edition of *Harper's Weekly*. This image is courtesy of [sonofthesouth.net](http://sonofthesouth.net).



Second, by taking control of the Mississippi River, the Union had split the Confederacy.



Southerners had lost the rivers and railways that carried food from western farms to the troops in the West and the East. This image is titled "Admiral Farragut's Fleet Engaging the Rebel Batteries at Port Hudson, March 14<sup>th</sup> 1863." Port Hudson is in Louisiana. This image was created by Currier and Ives circa 1863. This image is courtesy of the Library of Congress.

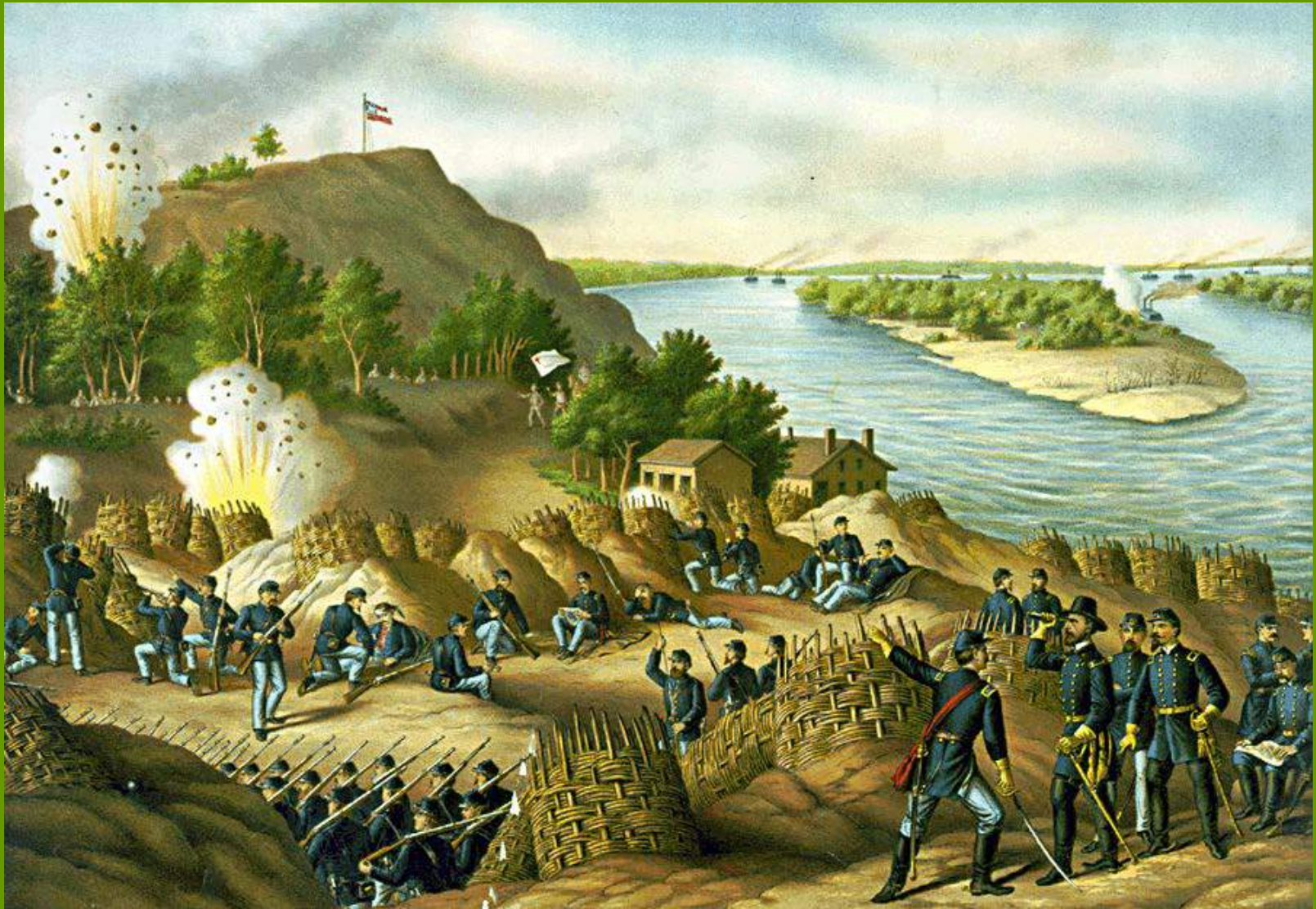
In addition, the Union driven the Confederates from much of eastern Tennessee.



Now Northerners prepared to finish goal number three, continue to split the South in half on a line from Tennessee through Georgia, and the fourth goal: to capture Richmond, Virginia. This image is courtesy of pbs.org.



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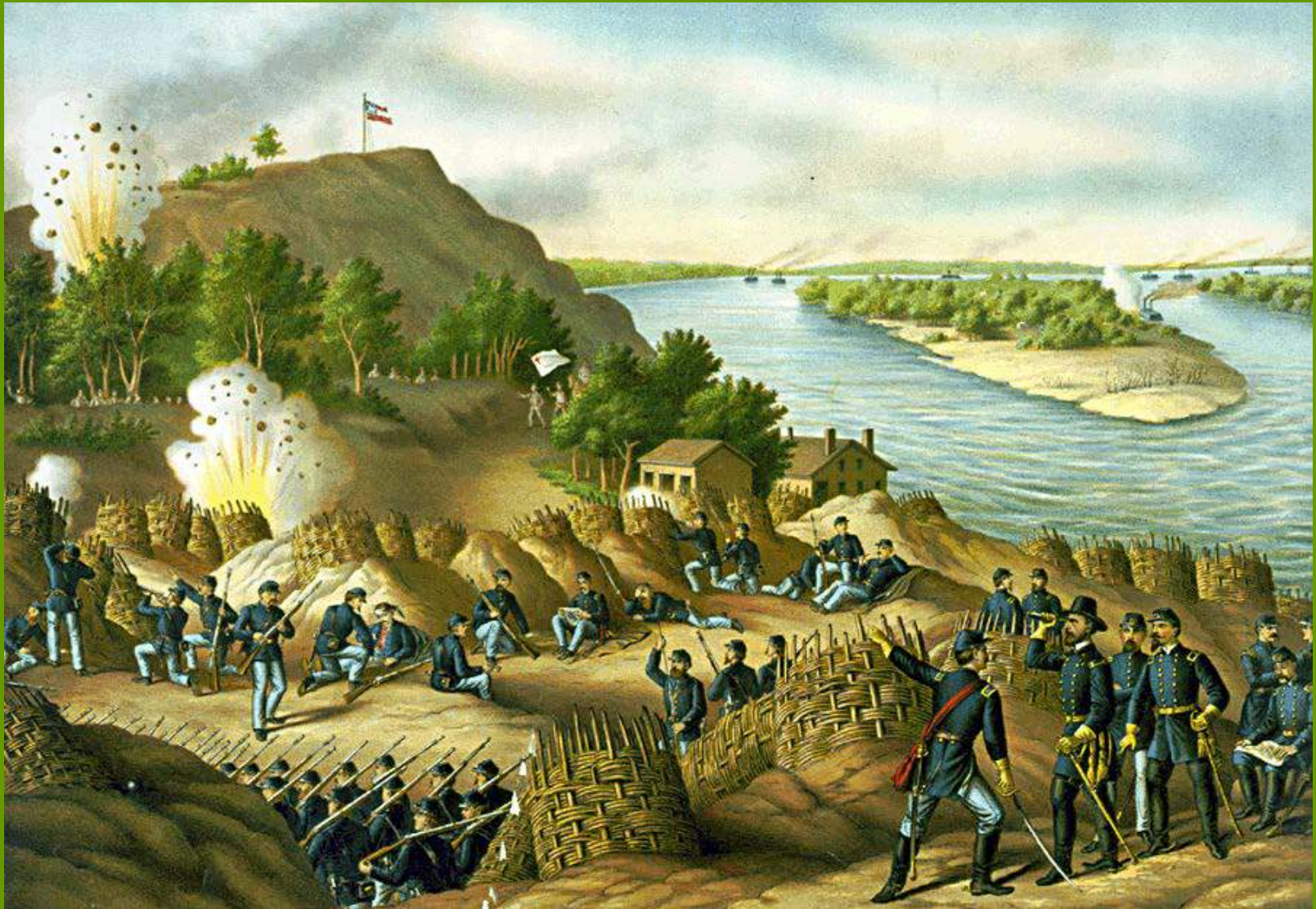


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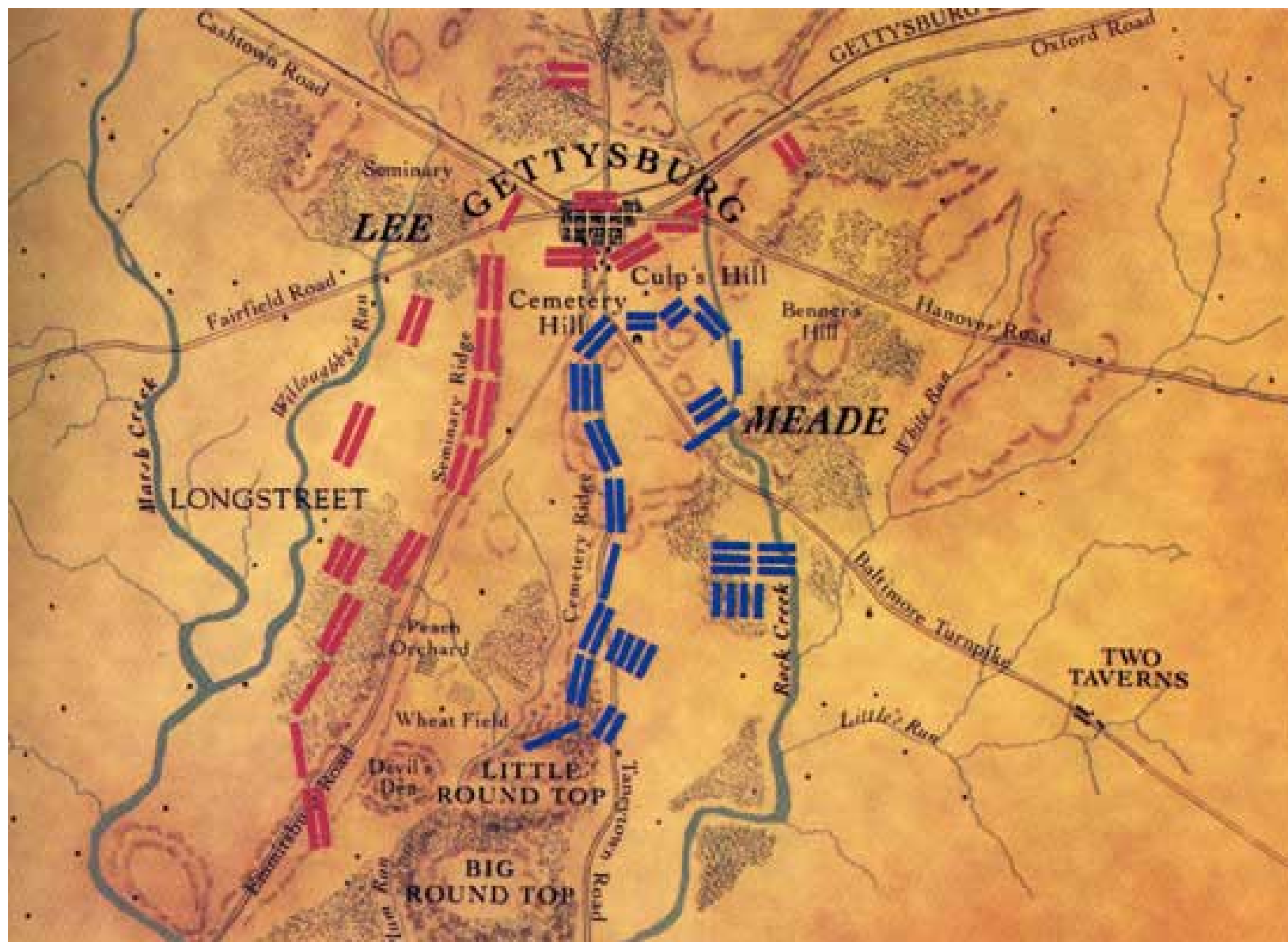
## Vicksburg



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The Union Army's battleline ran about 3 miles along Cemetery Ridge, with Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill at one end, and hills called Round Top and Little Round Top at the other.



The Union line at Gettysburg, shown in blue, is now commonly called the "fishhook line" because of its shape. This image is courtesy of pbs.org.

# United States Army Rank Game

Lieutenant General

Brigadier General

Colonel

Lieutenant Colonel

Major

Captain

First Lieutenant

Second Lieutenant

First Sergeant

Sergeant

Corporal

Private



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Lieutenant General

Brigadier General

Colonel

Lieutenant Colonel

Major

Captain

First Lieutenant

Second Lieutenant

First Sergeant

Sergeant

Corporal

Private