

The War Between the States: America's Uncivil War

Chapter 20 – Chancellorsville/1863/East/I

Summary:

The Federals attacked at the onset of 1863 both by land and sea. With a choking naval blockade already in place, the U.S. Navy assaulted a series of Carolina and Georgia ports - - most notably Charleston, South Carolina - - with the Confederates fending off most of these thrusts. A much larger force—the largest ever fielded in the Western Hemisphere - - marched by land into central Virginia, aiming for the capital city of Richmond, as had failed campaigns the previous year. Southern forces under Robert E. Lee rose to meet this challenge too, and the two armies hurtled into one another in a thunderous confrontation in the woods and countryside of springtime Virginia.

A war on such a colossal scale as this was bound to drag the civilian into it, and so it did. Spies—male and female—risked their freedom and lives for their countries, and the suffering of the battlefield spread across the towns and cities of the land. That suffering included mass hunger, poverty, riots, and murder as the horrors of war—in a supposedly Christian nation—worked their ghastly consequences on a tortured America.

Identification:

1. Rose O'Neal Greenhow
2. Elizabeth Van Lew
3. Joseph Hooker
4. New York City Draft Riots
5. Richmond Bread Riot

Completion:

1. The Federals launched a powerful naval armada against the key Southern port of _____ in April, 1863, but suffered heavy losses and failed to take it.

2. In the spring of 1863, the latest Federal field commander in the Eastern Theater, Fighting _____, brought an army of _____ thousand men south with him to confront the Confederates in Central Virginia.
3. _____, the Confederate spy known as the “Rebel _____,” provided crucial intelligence that helped the South win the First Battle of _____. Famed Federal detective had her arrested and imprisoned, with her _____, in the _____ Prison in Washington.
4. Female Federal spy _____ received praise from President _____ for providing the most valuable information the U.S. received during the war from the city of _____.
5. Though having won many key battles in 1862 in the East, the Confederate Army of Northern _____ experienced a keen physical _____ through the winter of 1862- 63.
6. Though having lost numerous battles in the East, the _____ might of the North was coming into full swing in 1863.
7. Despite the Federals’ ever-increasing numerical advantages in men and supplies, the Confederates pulled off their most stunning victory yet in May, 1863, at the Battle of _____. It also proved their most costly, as General _____ suffered accidental wounds from his own men and died ten days later.
8. At least _____ Northerners suffered imprisonment from their own U.S. government during the war.
9. The New York City and other Northern draft riots protested the perceived unfair application of the Congressional _____ Act. Many factors contributed to these events, but in New York City, they centered on the themes of _____ and _____.
10. The Border State of _____ suffered a secession movement from itself, which resulted in the pro-Federal state of _____. From that state, approximately _____ thousand men fought in the U.S. armies and another _____ for the Confederacy. Famous Confederates from the area that became this new state included _____ and _____.

11. Factors such as the Federal naval _____ of Southern ports, the Confederacy's lack of manufacturing, and the worthlessness of Southern paper money, also known as _____, contributed to the difficulty of life on the Southern home front.
12. Prominent in the unfolding of the Richmond Bread Riot were a group of _____ who had been protesting the high cost and scarcity of _____. Only the cool poise of _____ ended it without serious bloodshed.

Thought Questions:

1. Give some examples of exploits by female spies during the war that impressed you.
2. Describe the events surrounding the final scenes of Stonewall Jackson's life, and what spiritual lessons they offer.
3. Describe life on the Northern home front during the war.
4. Describe life on the Southern home front during the war.
5. What scenes stand out to you from the riots discussed in this chapter?