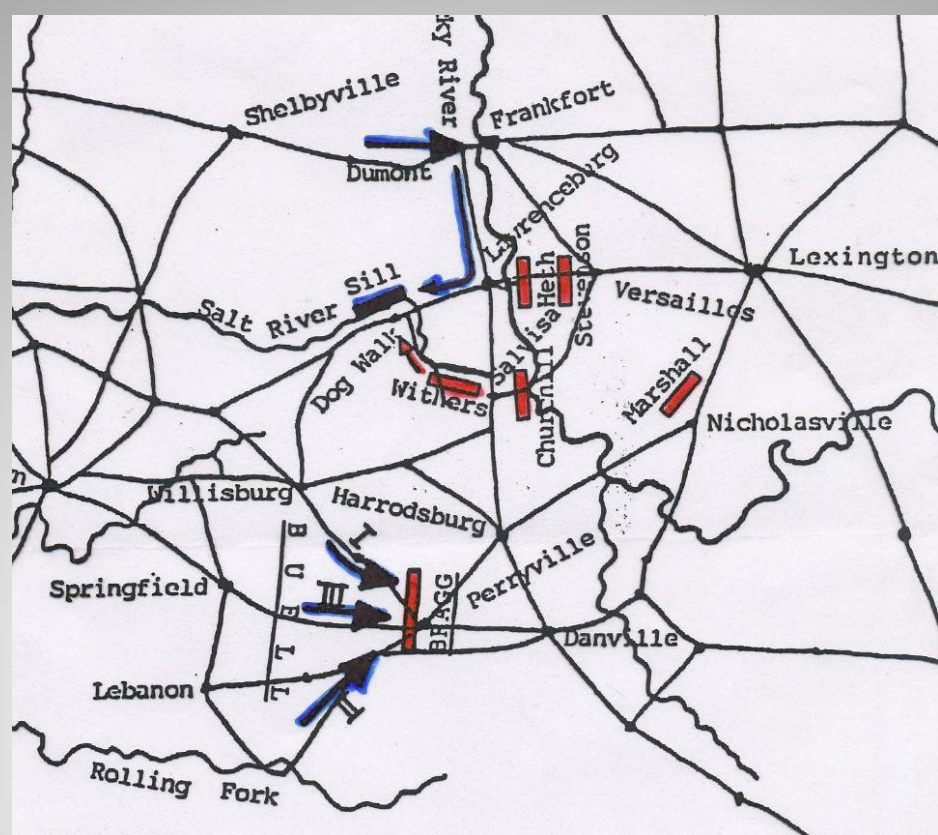


The Civil War in Kentucky

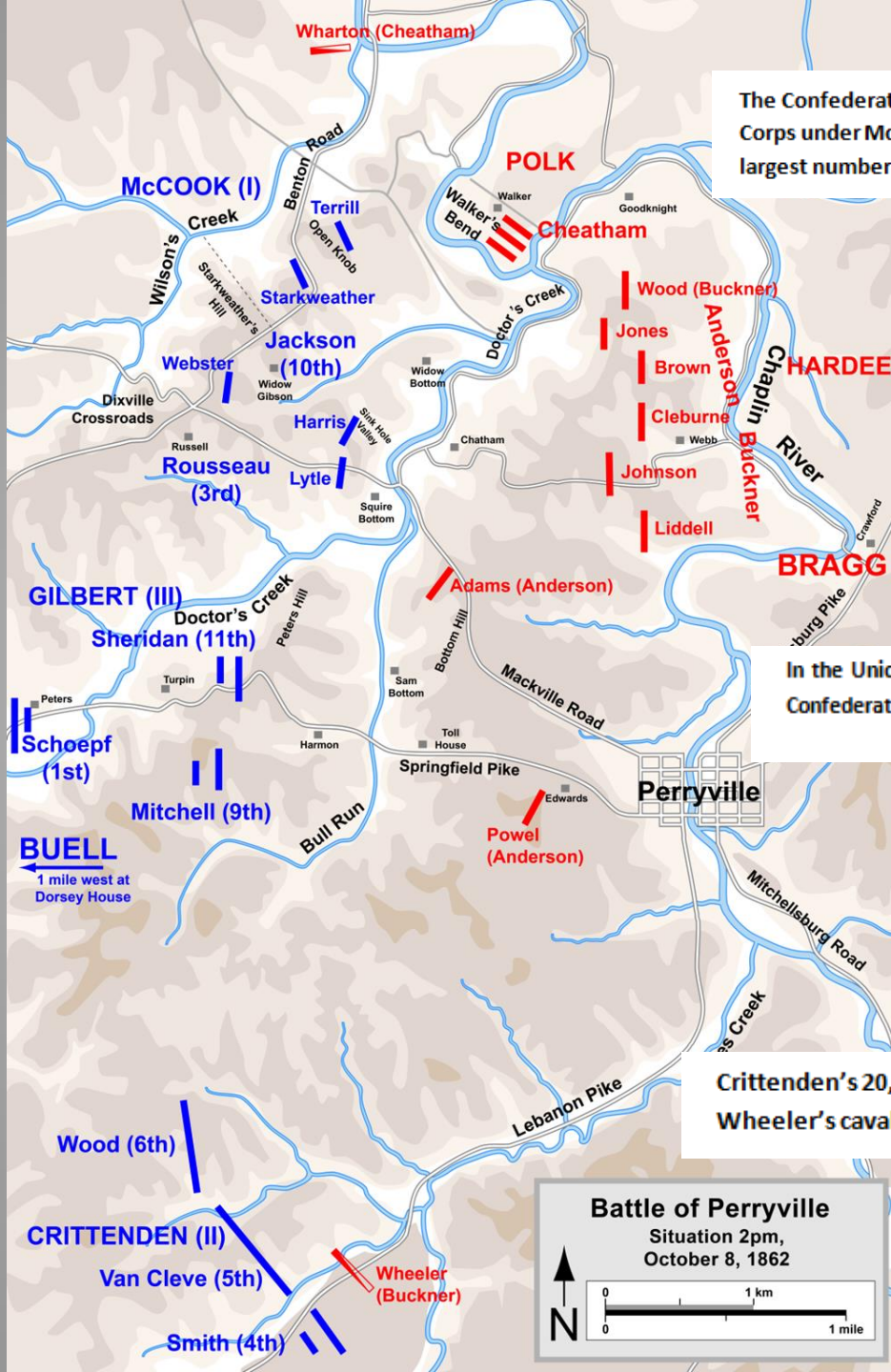
8



At dawn of Oct. 8, forces were as shown here. More than half of the Confederate army in Kentucky was grouped around Versailles and Salvisa, in preparation for an assault on what Bragg thought was the main Union force. It was really the feint, with Sill's division and Dumont's division of raw recruits now starting south to join the main Union army.

Buell had successfully brought his three corps (55,000 men) into a battle line facing Perryville, with three Confederate divisions facing him. Bragg had gone to join these, planning to crush what he thought was the feint before concentrating all forces at Versailles.....

Neither commander really knew exactly what enemy forces were located where!

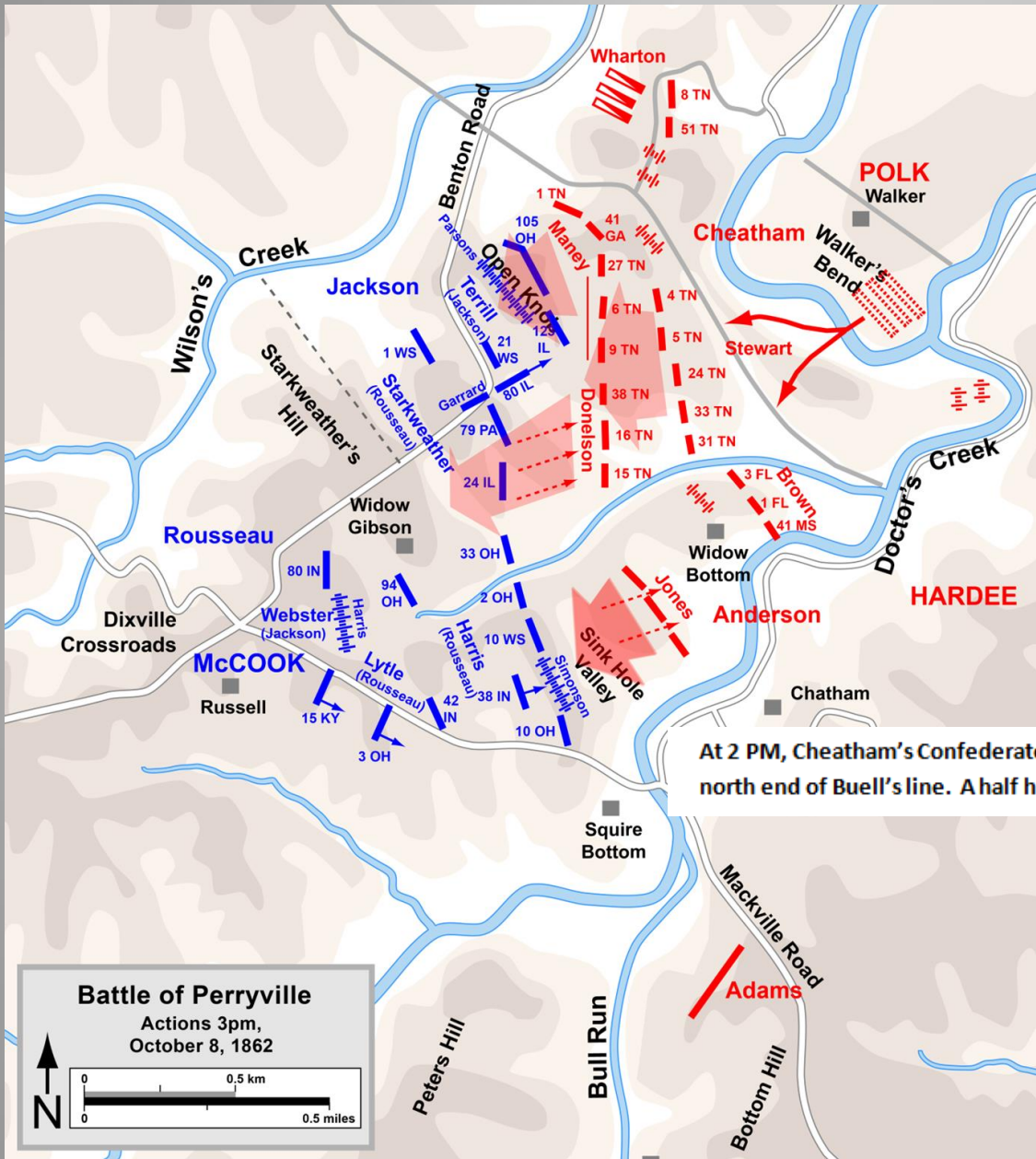


The Confederate army spent the morning of Oct. 8 getting into position for their assault. The Union 1 Corps under McCook would be hit by this assault. It was late getting into position, and it had the largest number of raw recruits in Buell's army.

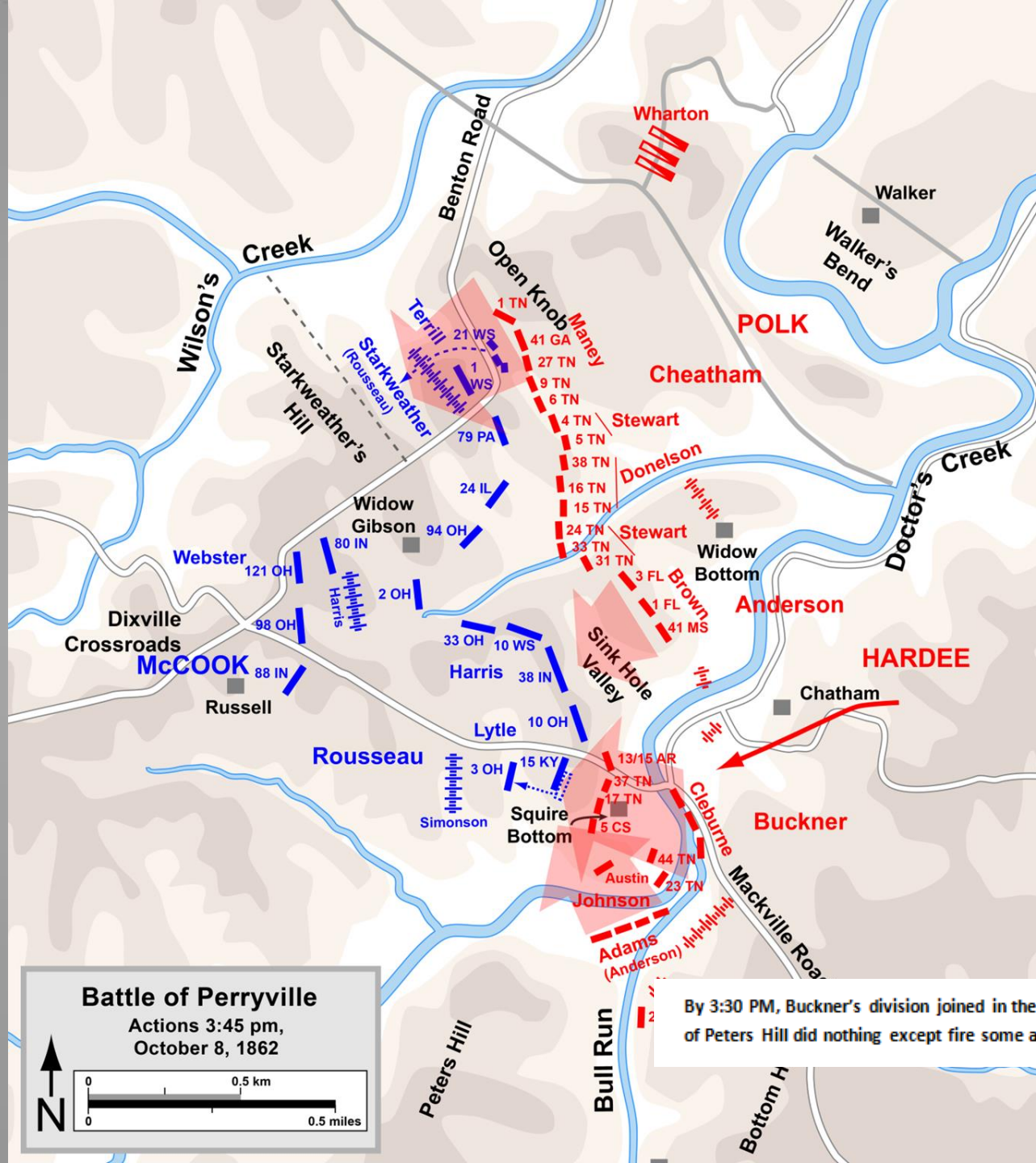
In the Union center, Gilbert's corps had fought briefly in the early morning, driving away a single Confederate brigade. It would then be frozen in position by Buell's orders until late in the day.

Crittenden's 20,000 men spent the day awaiting orders that never came. It was faced by Joe Wheeler's cavalry brigade but did not know this.

Battle of Perryville
 Situation 2pm,
 October 8, 1862



At 2 PM, Cheatham's Confederate division launched a bloody assault against the Union troops at the north end of Buell's line. A half hour later, two of Anderson's brigades joined in.

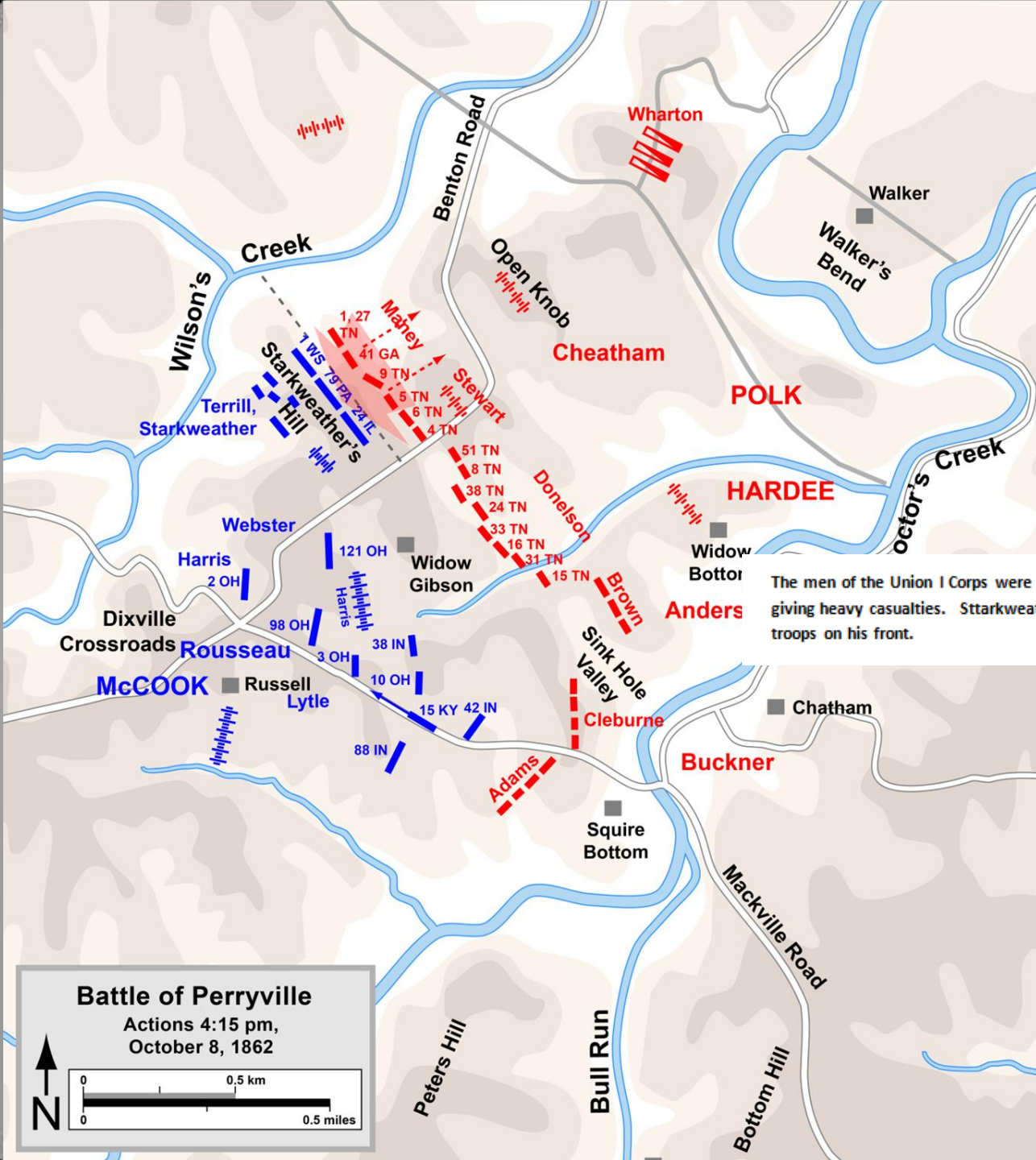


Battle of Perryville
 Actions 3:45 pm,
 October 8, 1862

N

0 0.5 km
 0 0.5 miles

By 3:30 PM, Buckner's division joined in the assault near the Bottom House. The Union forces south of Peters Hill did nothing except fire some artillery toward the Confederates to their north.



The men of the Union I Corps were pushed back about one mile by this powerful assault, taking and giving heavy casualties. Starkweather's brigade was finally able to halt the exhausted Confederate troops on his front.

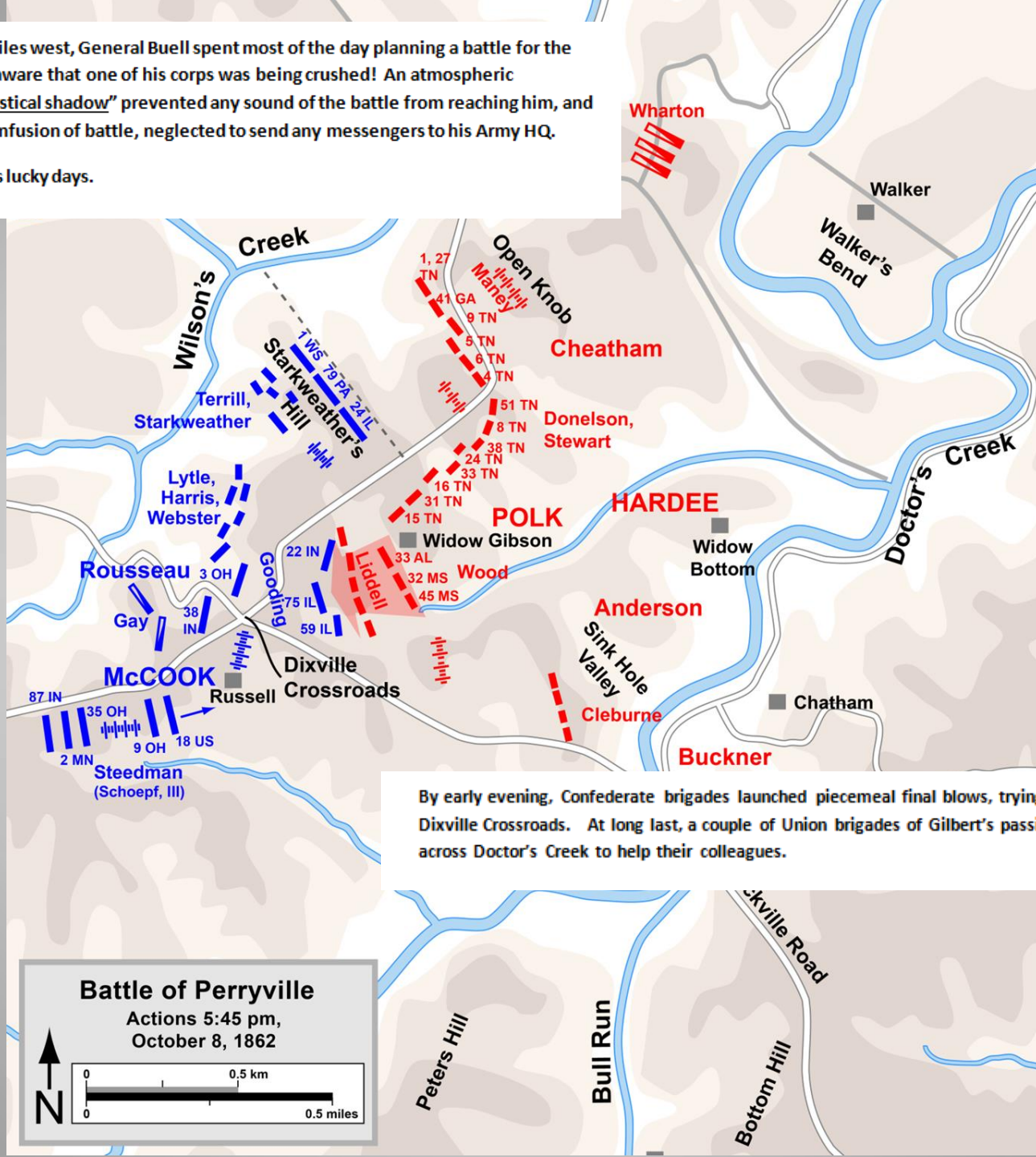
Battle of Perryville
 Actions 4:15 pm,
 October 8, 1862

0 0.5 km
 0 0.5 miles

N

At his headquarters 2 ½ miles west, General Buell spent most of the day planning a battle for the following day. He was unaware that one of his corps was being crushed! An atmospheric phenomenon called “acoustical shadow” prevented any sound of the battle from reaching him, and General McCook, in the confusion of battle, neglected to send any messengers to his Army HQ.

This was not one of Buell’s lucky days.



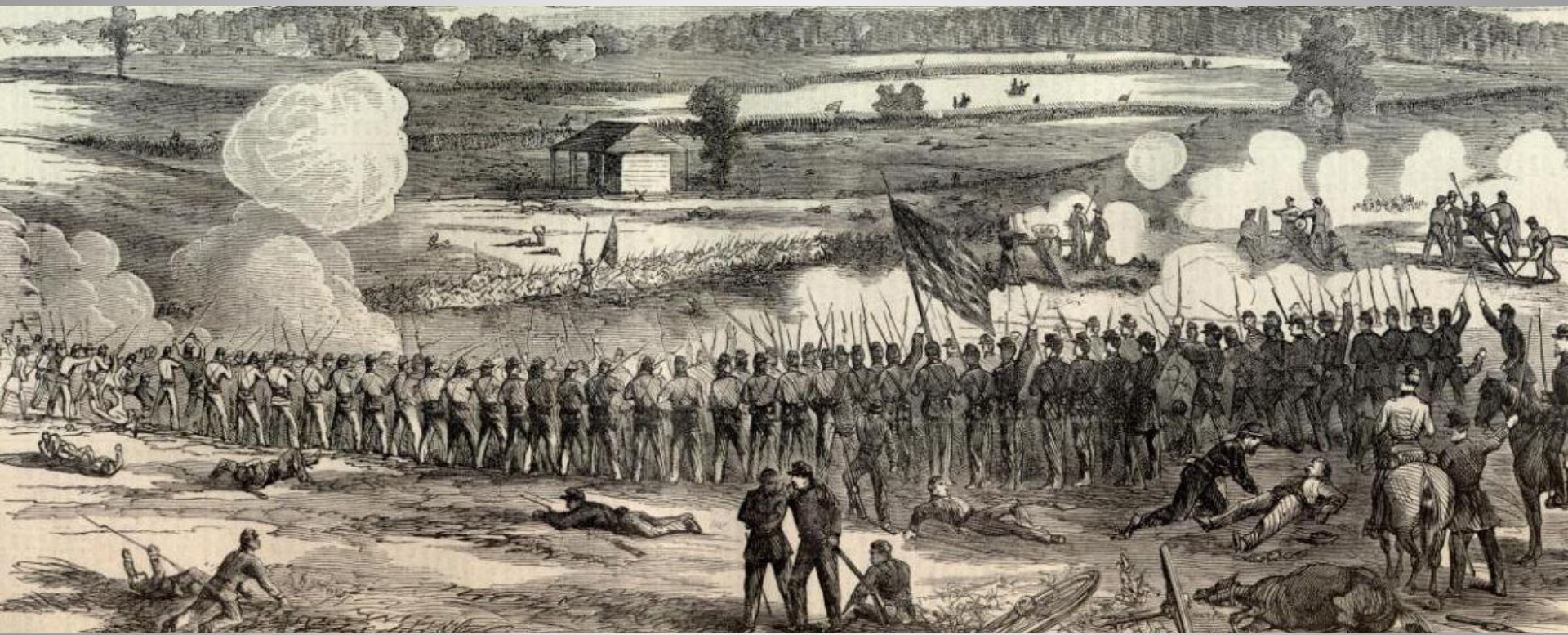
By early evening, Confederate brigades launched piecemeal final blows, trying but failing to reach the Dixville Crossroads. At long last, a couple of Union brigades of Gilbert's passive corps were sent across Doctor's Creek to help their colleagues.

Battle of Perryville
 Actions 5:45 pm,
 October 8, 1862

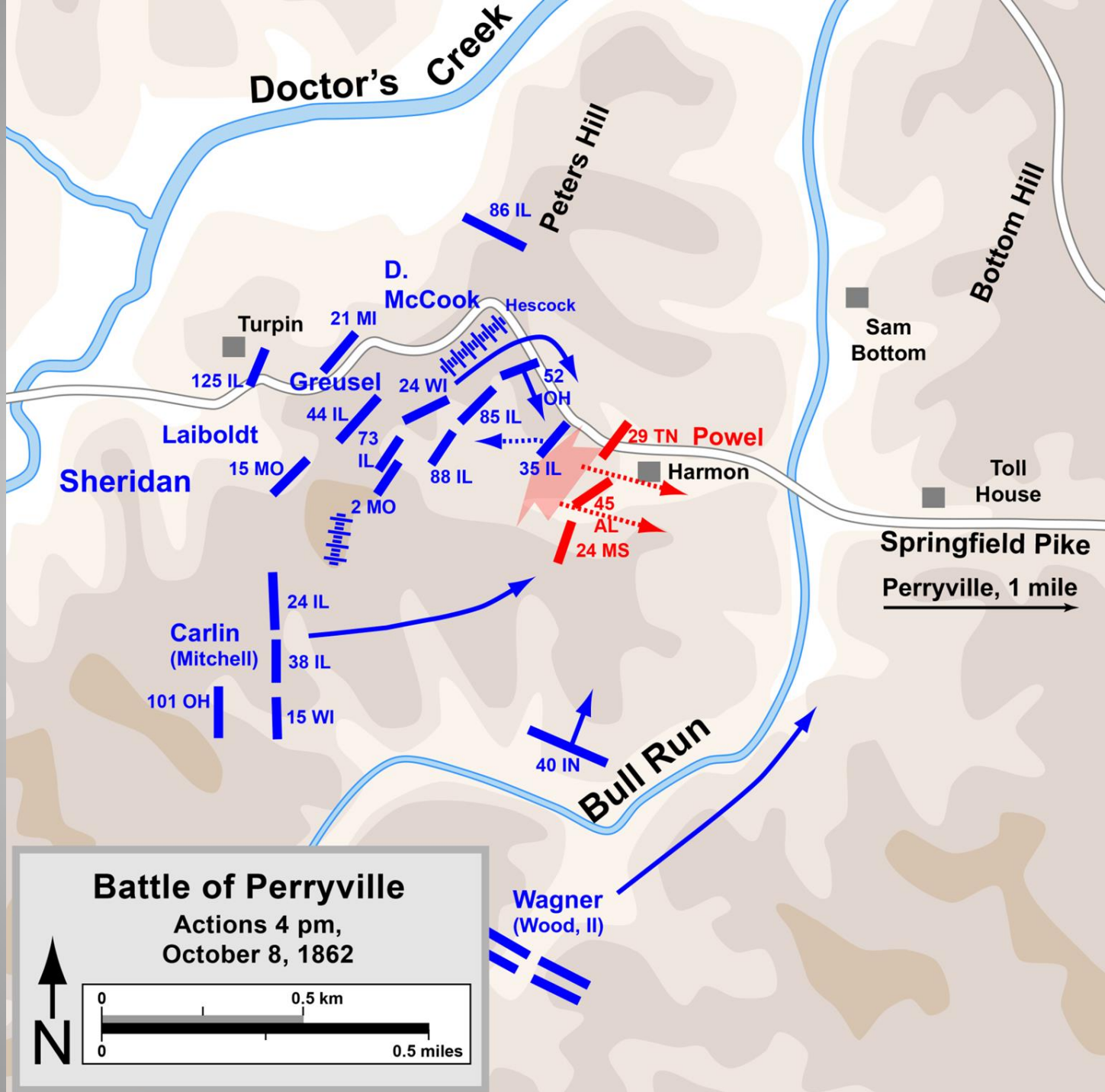
0 0.5 km
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N





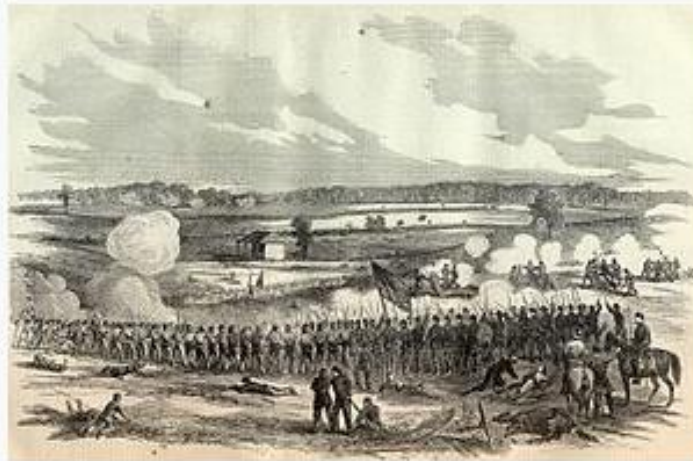




Battle of Perryville

Battle of Chaplin Hills

Part of the [Western Theater of the American Civil War](#)



The Battle of Perryville as depicted in *Harper's Weekly*

Date October 8, 1862

Location Near Perryville, Kentucky

 37°40′31″N 84°58′16″W﻿ / ﻿37.675°N 84.971°W﻿ / 37.675; -84.971


Result Union strategic victory^[1]

Belligerents

 United States

 Confederate States

Commanders and leaders

 Don Carlos Buell

 Braxton Bragg

Units involved

Army of the Ohio

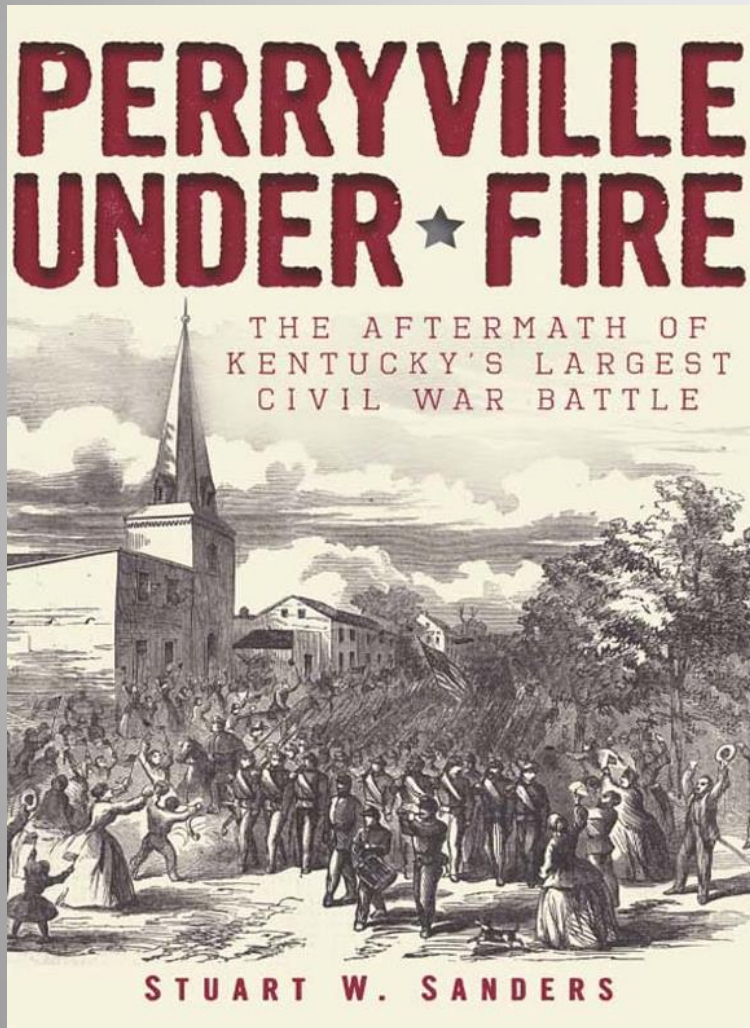
Army of Mississippi^[a]

Strength

55,000^[2]
(22,000 engaged)^[3]

16,000^[4]

THE AFTERMATH OF BATTLE



This excellent recent account describes the events after the battle, and portrays the human cost to all who were involved with it.

THE AFTERMATH

<u>Casualties:</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
--------------------	---------------	----------------	----------------

Union:	894	2,911	471
--------	-----	-------	-----

Confederate:	532	2,641	228
--------------	-----	-------	-----

...these numbers are 1/5 of the total forces engaged in the battle.



Much of the heaviest combat took place on the property of Henry P. Bottom. His house was badly damaged by cannonfire and small-arms bullets. He is said to have hidden in his basement during the fighting. Today the Bottom House has been beautifully restored and is a private residence.



Much of the heaviest combat took place on the property of Henry P. Bottom (“HPB” lots on this map). By the end of October 8, about 900—1,000 corpses from both armies were scattered over his fields. During the next few days and weeks, Union army detachments buried their soldiers by regiment in mass graves. The Confederate dead were left to rot. Bottom, his family, tenant farmers, and slaves collected those bodies and moved them to two mass graves (today under the monument next to the museum).

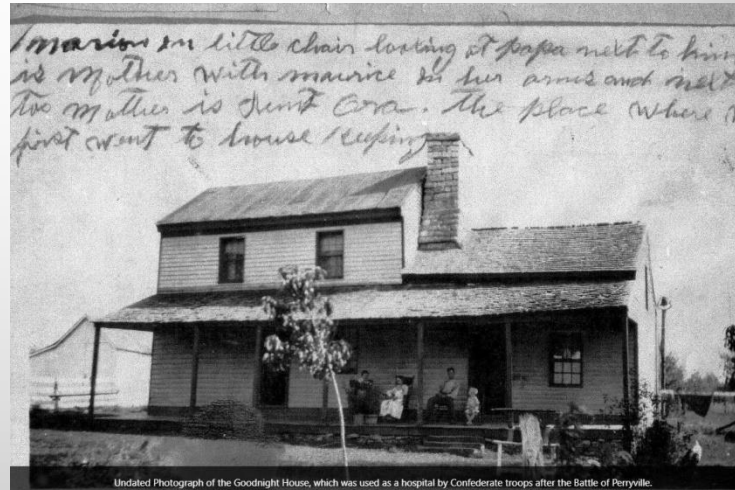


These photographs, taken on other battlefields, give some idea of what the area looked like in later days and weeks.

Every nearby building was filled with the wounded.



Antioch Church, to the west, was used as a Union hospital and packed with bleeding men.



Undated Photograph of the Goodnight House, which was used as a hospital by Confederate troops after the Battle of Perryville.

The Goodnight House, to the east, was used as a Confederate hospital during the hours before the Southern Army withdrew.



Merchant's Row, Perryville....today

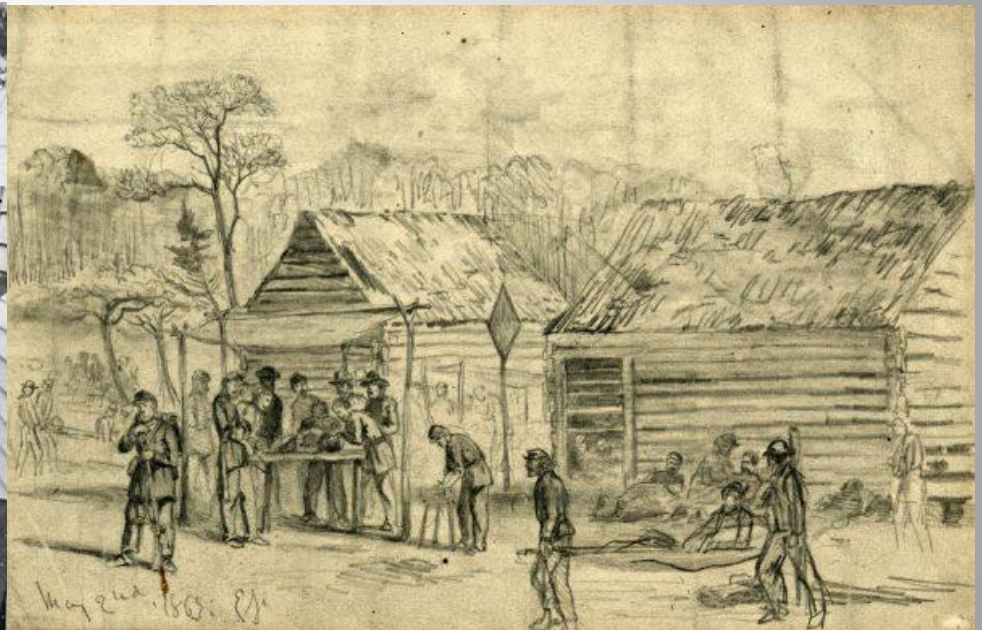
....and in the 1870s.



The village of Perryville (pop. 300) was utterly overwhelmed by battle casualties, with every building filled with the wounded. Family food stores were consumed, and clothing confiscated to be torn into desperately needed bandages.

DISEASES

Men weakened by wounds and exposure were very vulnerable to pneumonia, typhus, tetanus, amoebic dysentery, measles, diarrhea...and often died of these diseases.



SANITATION

The drought and water shortage meant that doctors had to work for hours with bloodstained hands and filthy equipment (scalpels etc.).



STRIPPING THE DEAD AND WOUNDED

Confederate soldiers in particular would strip Union dead and wounded of their shoes, trousers, jackets and the contents of their pockets. They took the view that the living needed these items more than the dead and those who were likely to die. They left their discarded ragged clothing next to those whose clothing they took.



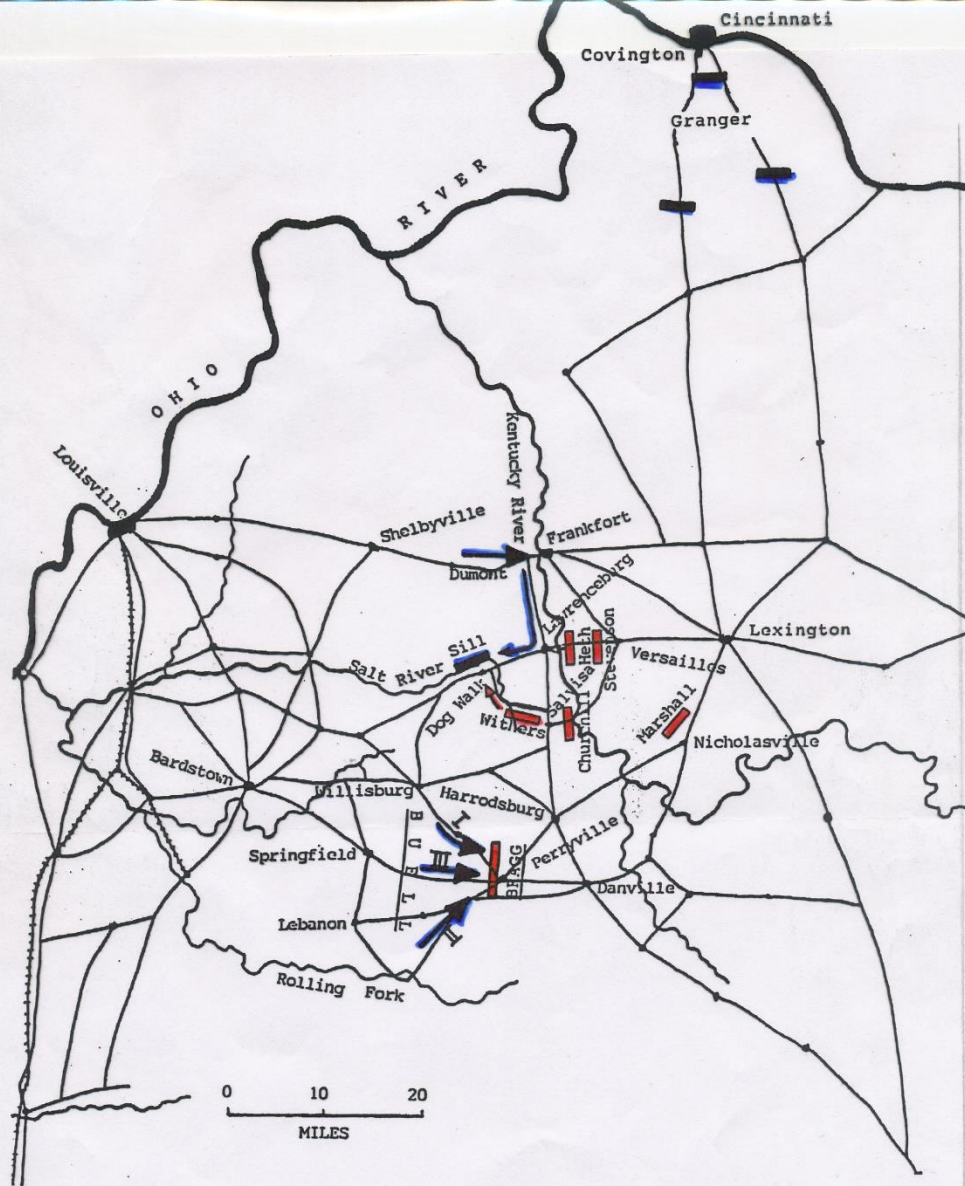
FORAGING ANIMALS

Buzzards, crows, and above all feral pigs fed upon the corpses.

“In one place lay a wounded rebel too helpless to move, and near him lay one of his dead comrades, with the top of his head torn off, and hogs eating his body—the wounded man unable to drive them away.”

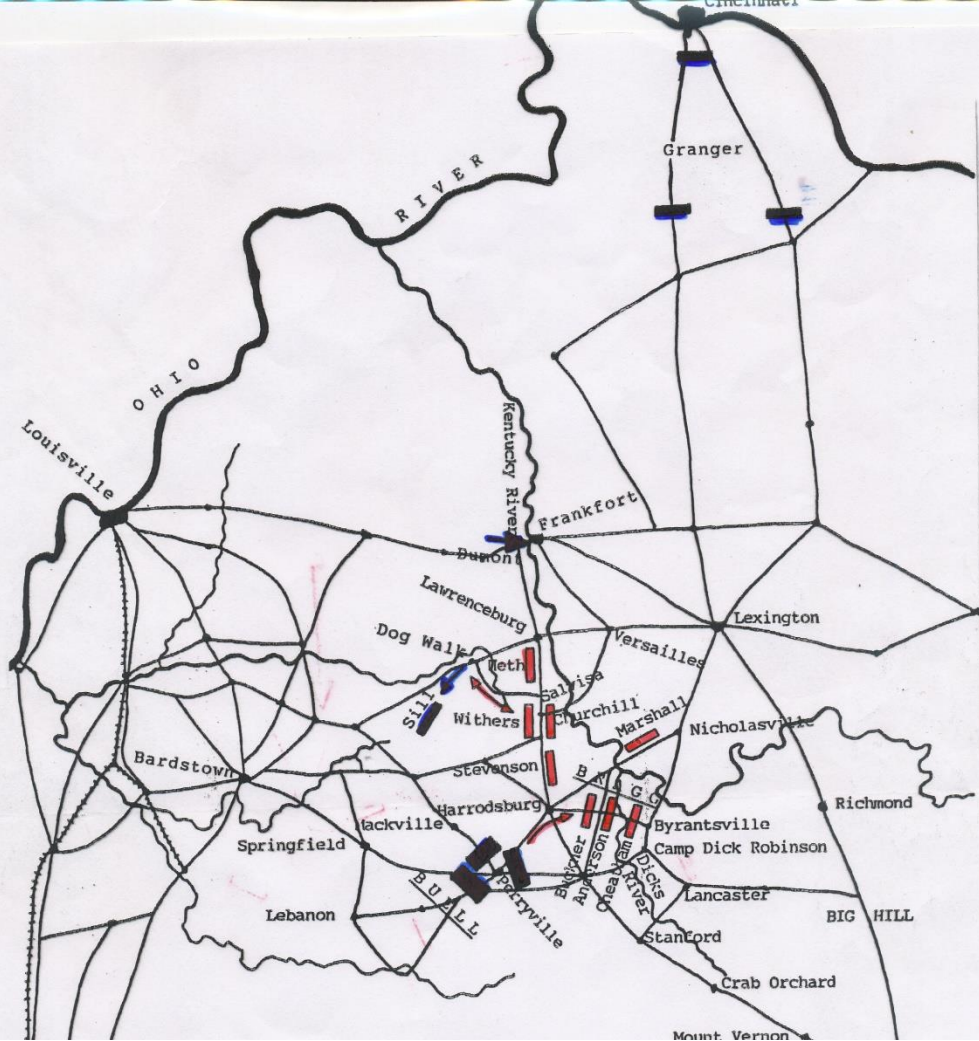
“The disgusting sight of these animals feeding upon human gore was more than sufficient to give them immunity from sacrifice to the hungry of our army. No one could be found sufficiently hardy to talk of eating of the flesh of hogs captured near the battlefield. No! No more than if we were an army of Hebrews.” [i.e. no pork!]





8 OCT 62
THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE

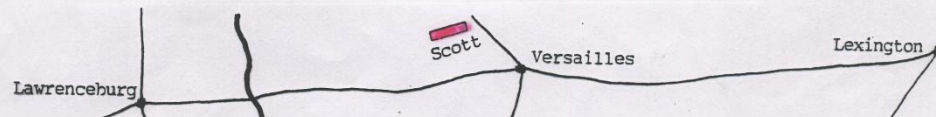
Bragg is Gone



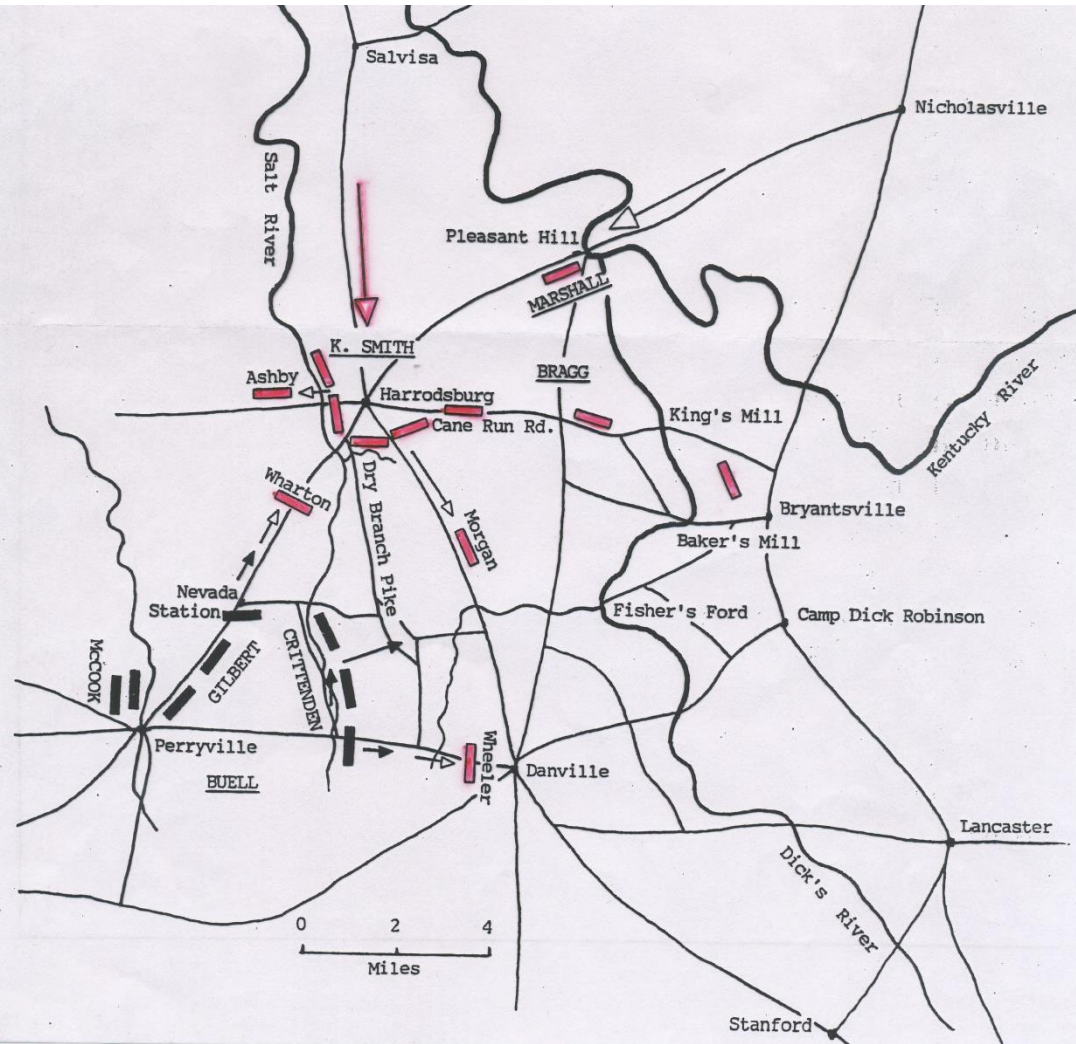
During the evening, General Bragg became aware of the real situation and of the odds he faced here. He ordered a withdrawal of the entire Confederate army toward Harrodsburg, having to abandon the dead and wounded.

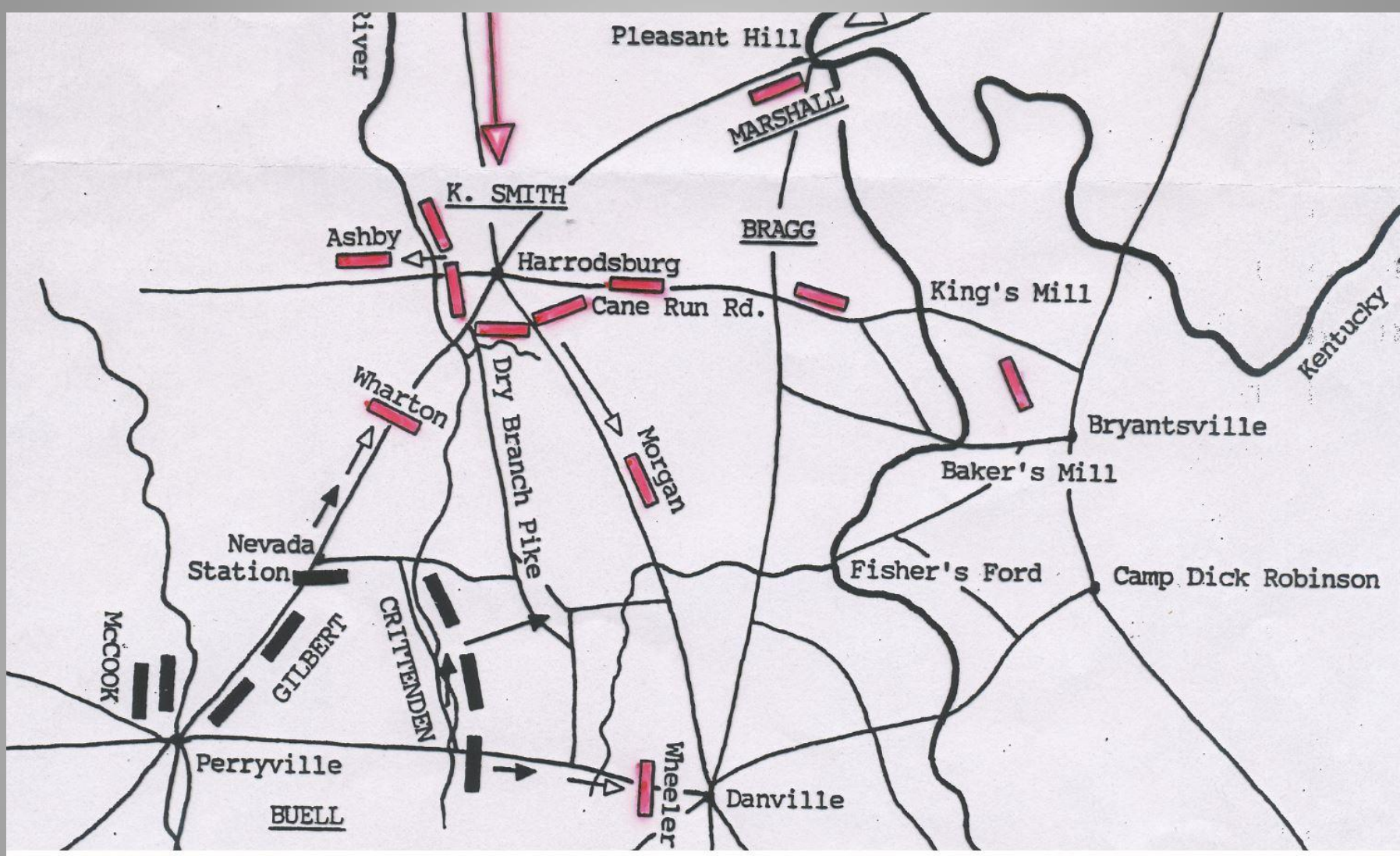
9 OCT 62

Altar of Patriotism



Two days after the battle, Gilbert's and Crittenden's corps advanced cautiously toward Harrodsburg, while McCook's badly damaged corps remained at Perryville.





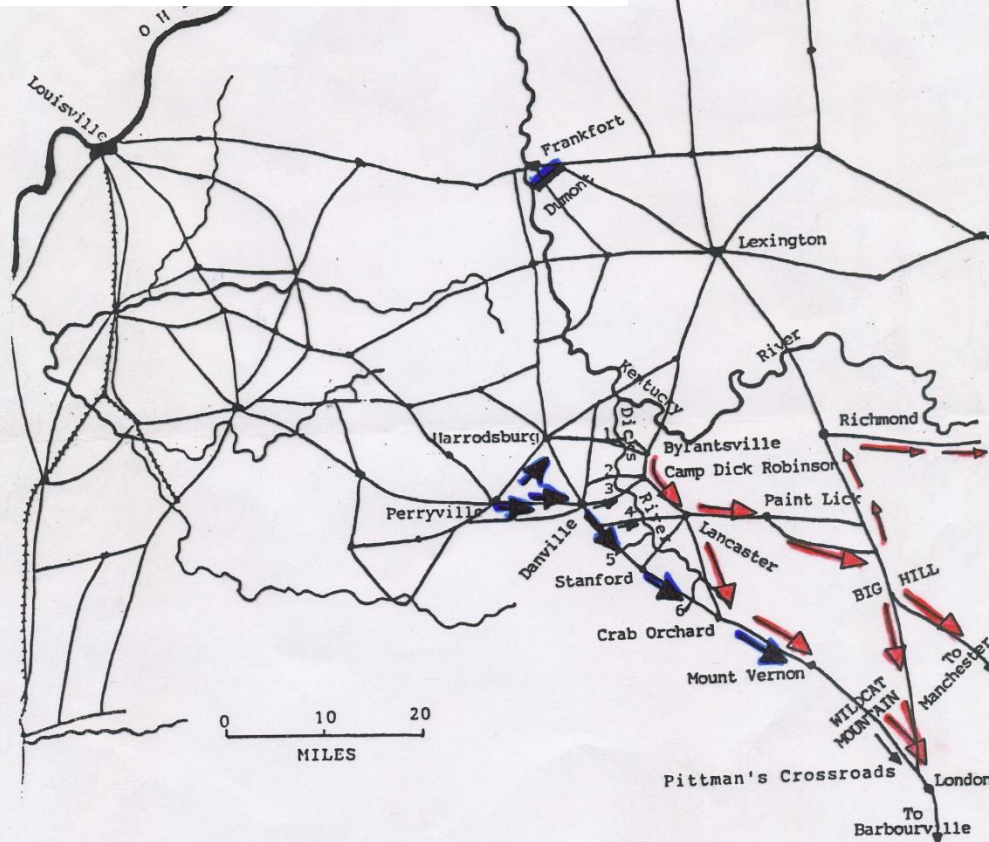
Bragg finally had all the Confederate forces grouped together, awaiting a "battle of Harrodsburg" that never came. Both commanders would need to desire battle to bring one about, and neither one really did at this point.



10 Oct 62

Altar of Patriotism

On October 11, Bragg (realizing how easy it would be for Buell to cut him off from any escape route to Tennessee) ordered the Confederate Army to march toward Cumberland Gap.

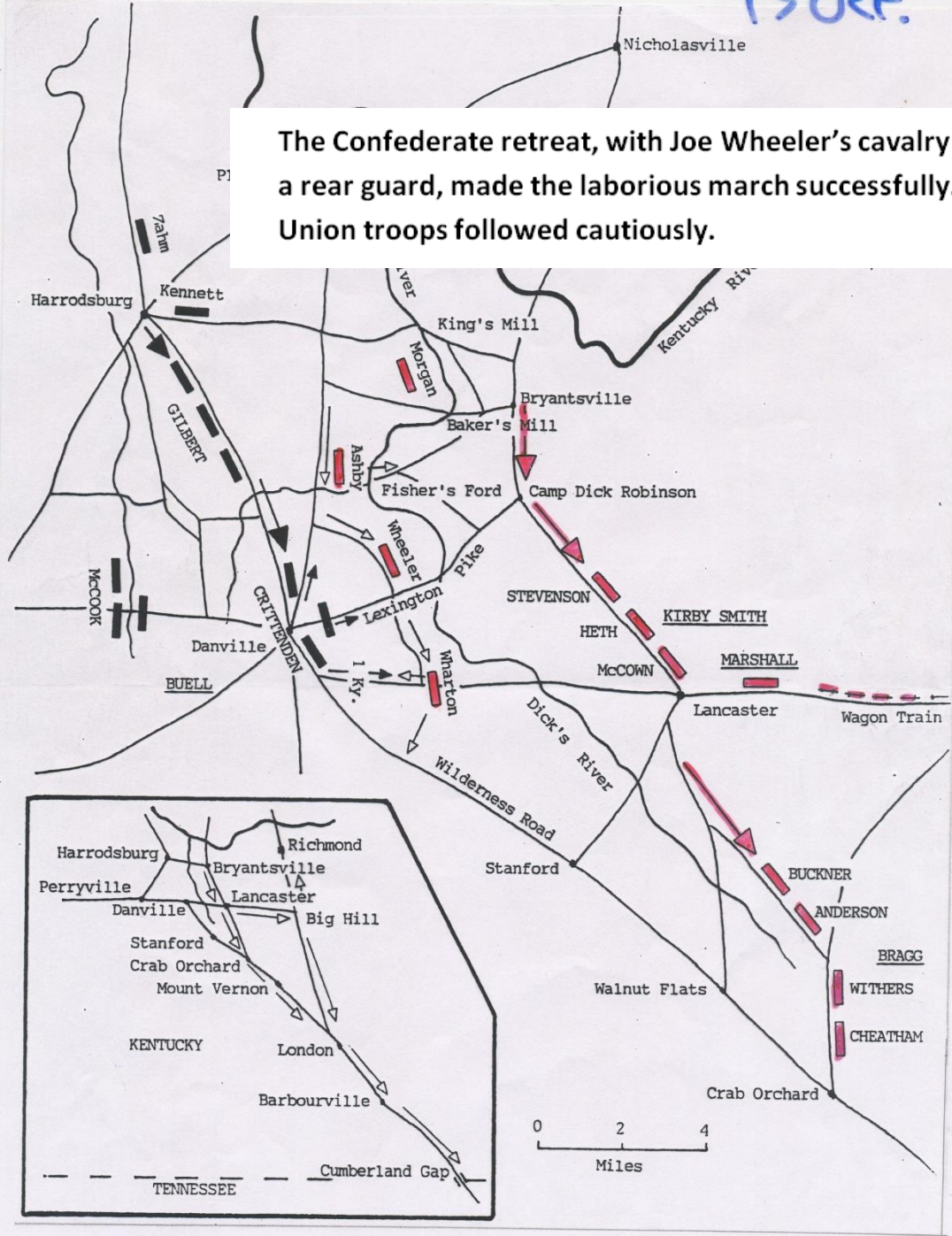


11-22 Oct-62

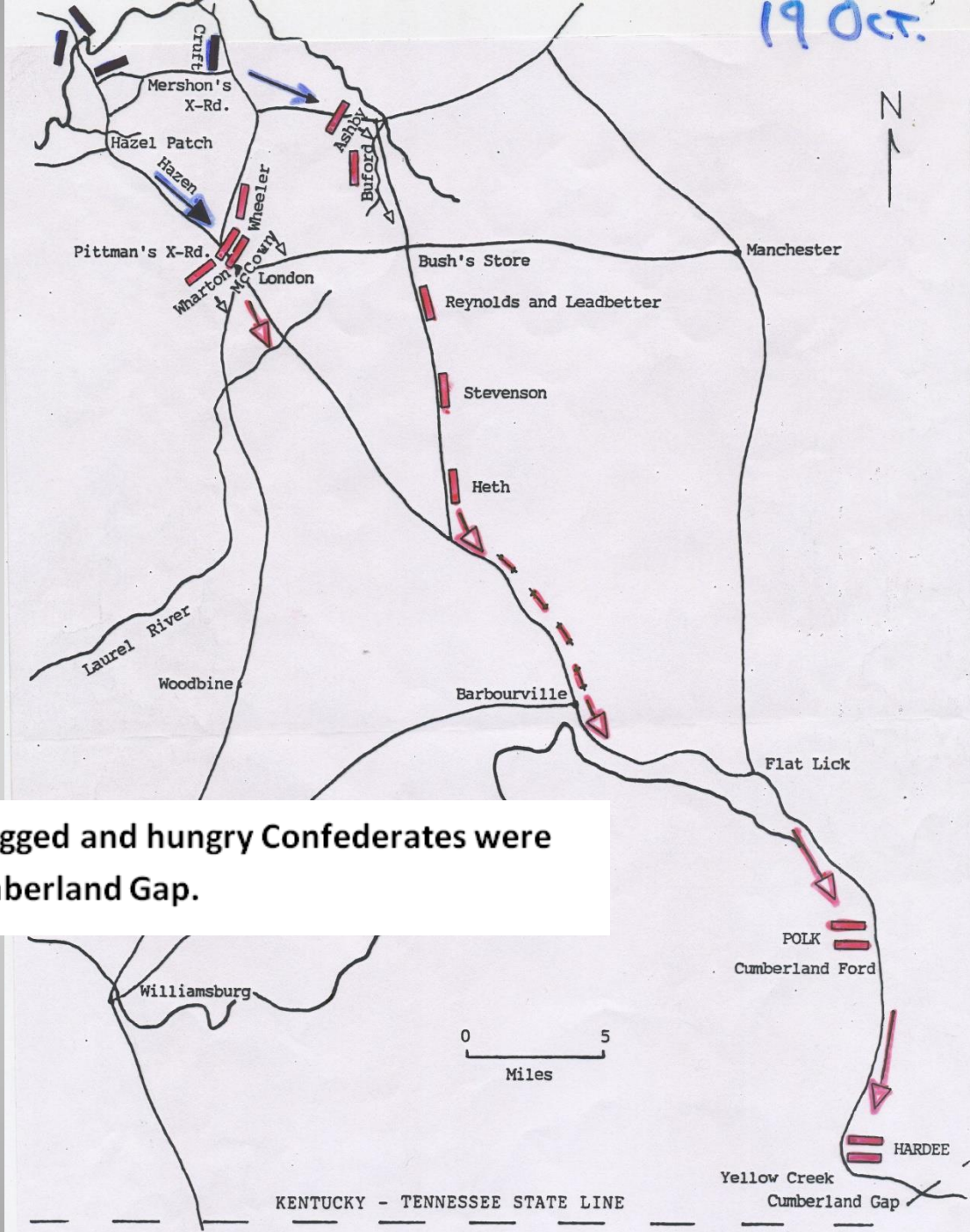
The Campaign Ends

13 Oct.

The Confederate retreat, with Joe Wheeler's cavalry providing a rear guard, made the laborious march successfully. Buell's Union troops followed cautiously.

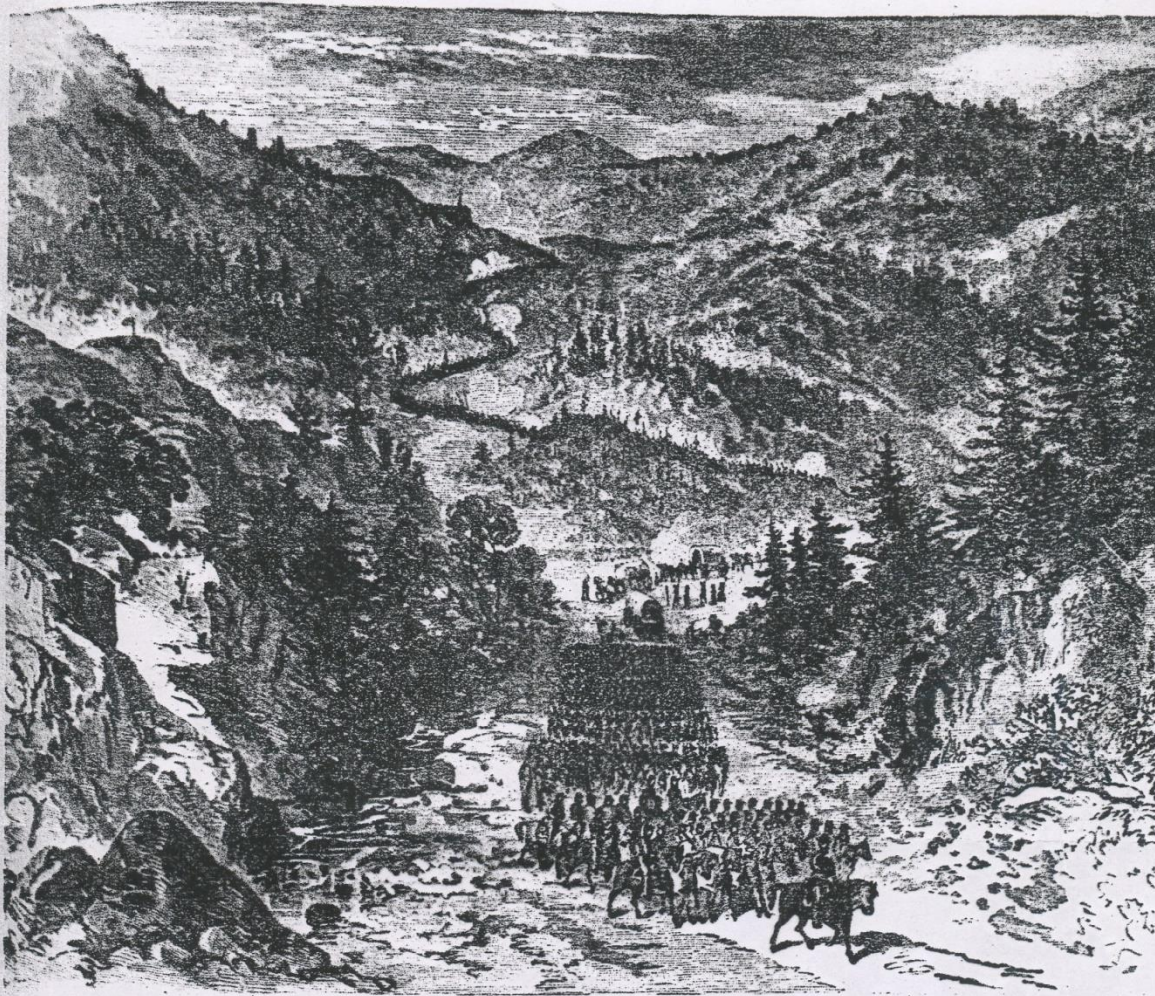


19 Oct.

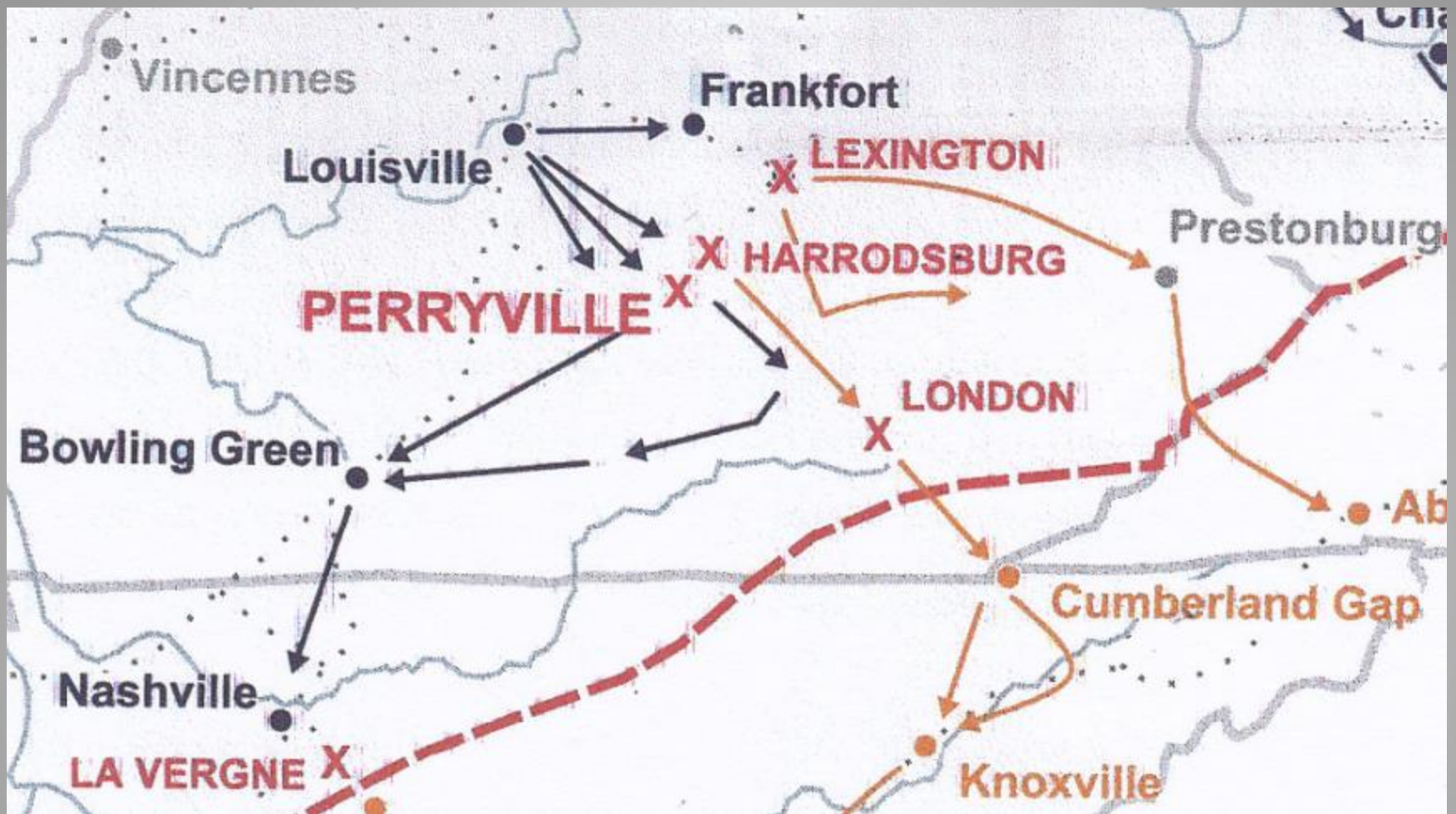


By Oct. 19, the ragged and hungry Confederates were approaching Cumberland Gap.

KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE STATE LINE

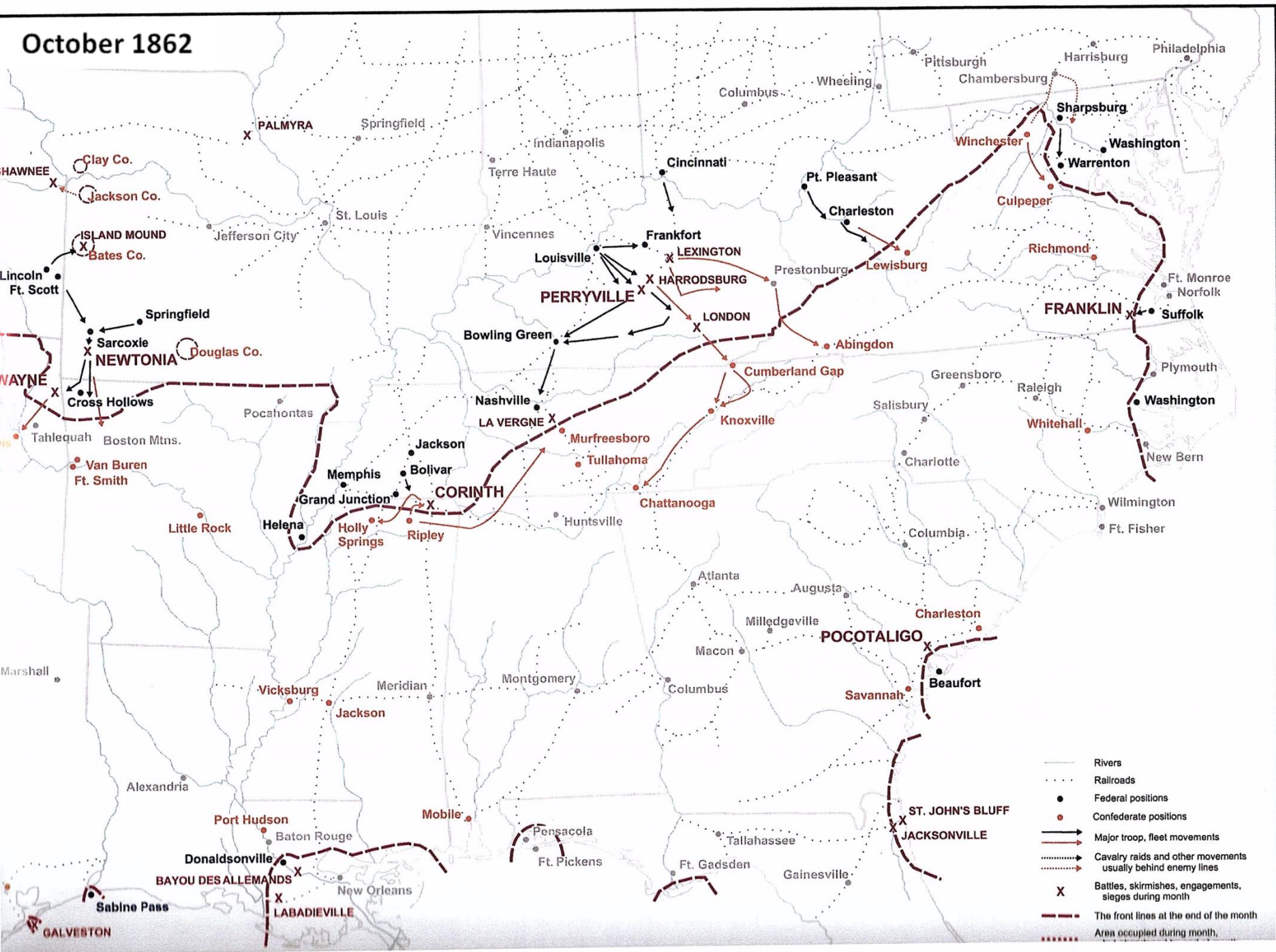


Cumberland Gap was wanted by both armies. Confederates, shown in this drawing took the Gap in 1861; it changed hands three times in two years.

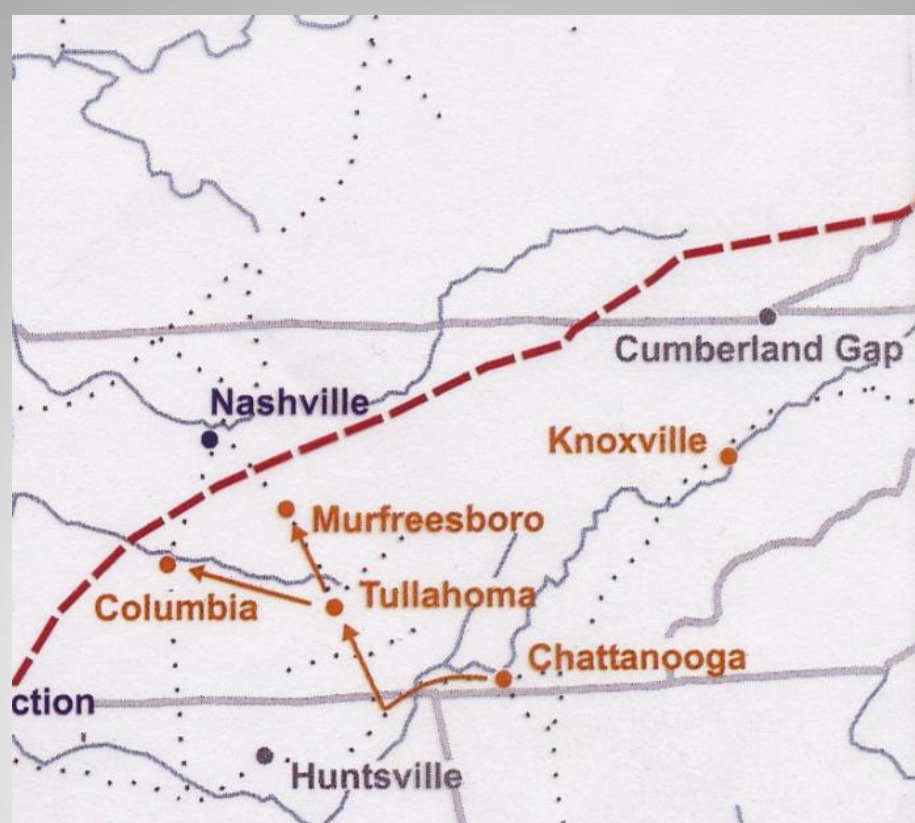


Bragg's army successfully reached Knoxville and the railroad line. Buell, resisting intense pressure from Washington to pursue Bragg and occupy East Tennessee, turned away and headed toward Nashville. He argued vehemently that there was no way to supply his large army in a countryside stripped absolutely bare of foodstuffs, and with wagons trying to use the dreadful Wilderness Road.

October 1862



- Rivers
- Railroads
- Federal positions
- Confederate positions
- Major troop, fleet movements
- - - Cavalry raids and other movements usually behind enemy lines
- X Battles, skirmishes, engagements, sieges during month
- - - - The front lines at the end of the month
- Area occupied during month



By early November, Bragg's army had moved back to Middle Tennessee and the Union army was in Nashville.

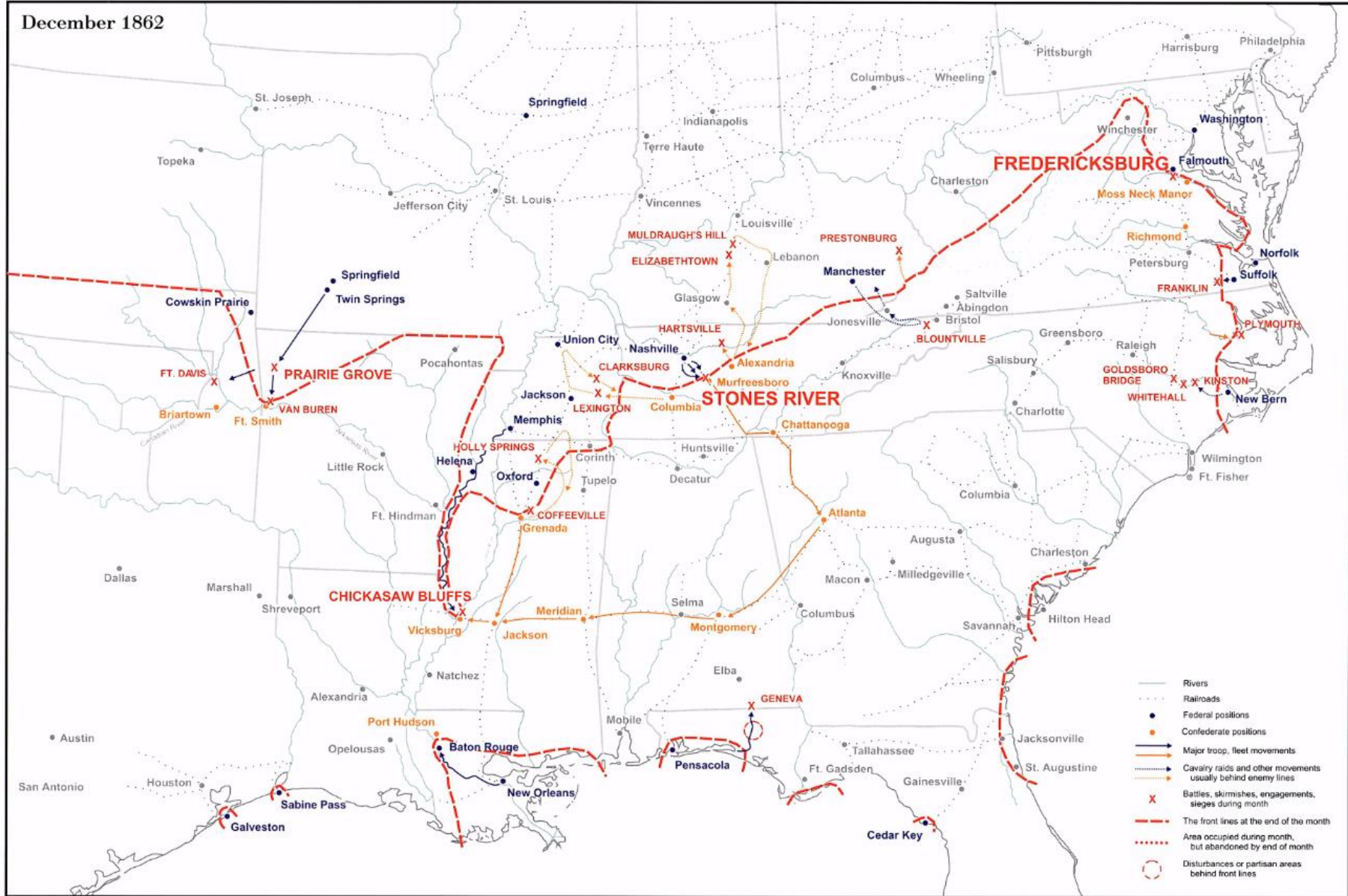
The campaign had failed to bring Kentucky into the Confederacy. It did remove the Union threat to the Deep South, delaying the fall of Chattanooga for nearly another year.



Major General William S. Rosecrans

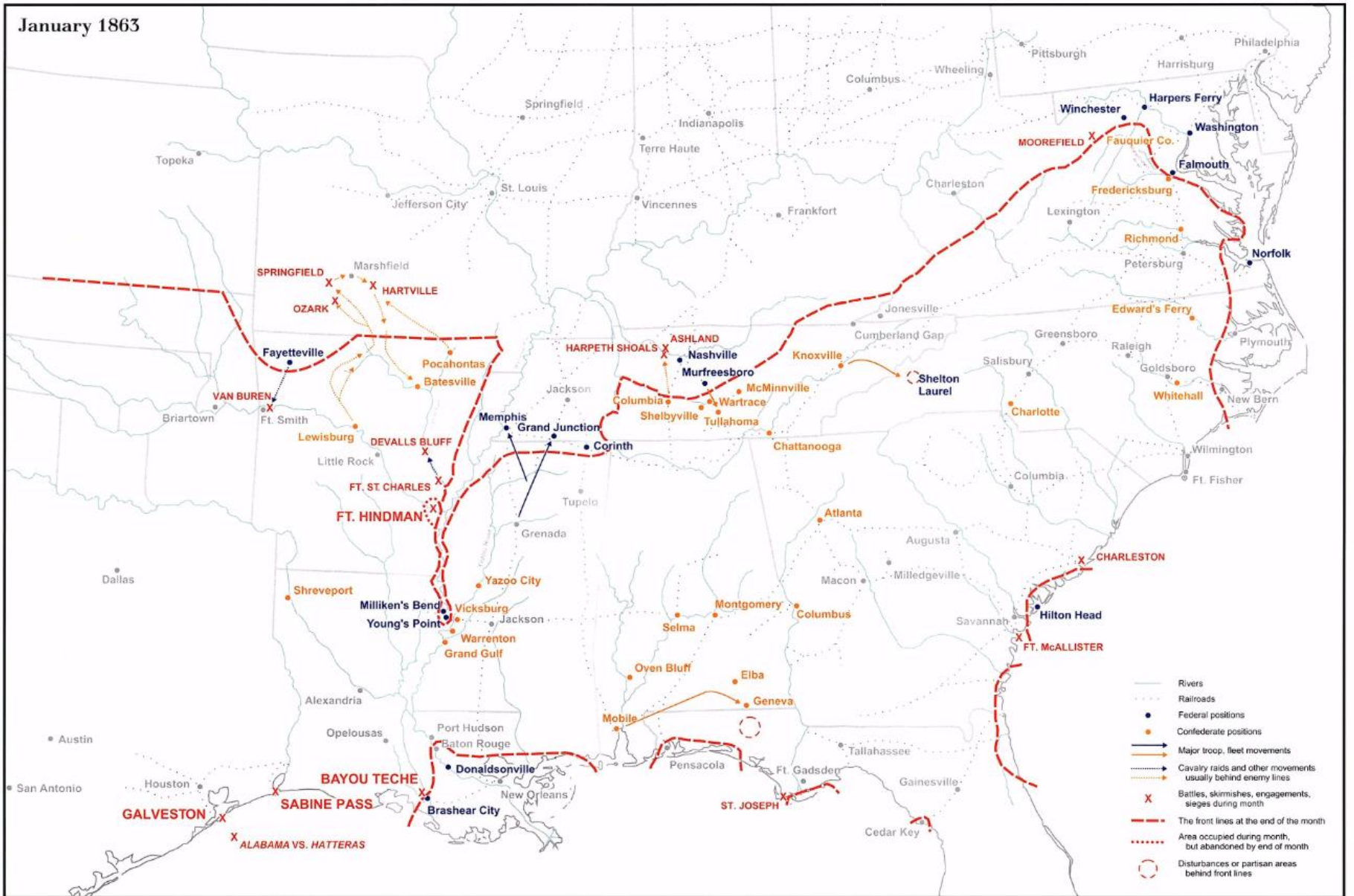
On October 24, Buell was relieved from command of the Army of the Ohio and replaced by Maj. Gen **William Rosecrans**. A military committee investigated Buell's conduct during and after Perryville, but came to no conclusions, and Buell considered his reputation vindicated as he did not compromise his principles in waging war.

December 1862



- Rivers
- Railroads
- Federal positions
- Confederate positions
- Major troop, fleet movements
- Cavalry raids and other movements usually behind enemy lines
- X Battles, skirmishes, engagements, sieges during month
- - - Front lines at the end of the month
- Area occupied during month, but abandoned by end of month
- Disturbances or partisan areas behind front lines

January 1863



The Buell Commission

The official stance at the very end of this proceeding, when suggested by the Army Chief of Staff in Washington to dissolve, though opinioned, brought no charges. We must assume it had the blessing of Secretary Stanton. He had ordered Halleck to issue Special Orders No. 356 on Nov. 20, 1862, which stated:

"A Military Commission will convene at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 27th instant [November 1862] to investigate and report upon the operations of the army under the command of Major-General D. C. Buell, U. S. Volunteers, in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Detail for the Commission—

1. Major-General Lewis Wallace, U. S. Volunteers.
2. Major-General Edward O. C. Ord, U. S. Volunteers.
3. Brigadier-General Albin Schoepf, U. S. Volunteers.
4. Brigadier-General N. J. T. Dana, U. S. Volunteers.
5. Brigadier-General Daniel Tyler, U. S. Volunteers
6. Major Donn Piatt, aide-de-camp, judge-advocate and recorder.

The Commission will adjourn from place to place as may be deemed advisable, for the convenience of taking testimony and will report an opinion in the case."

To investigate General Buell's operations in Kentucky and Tennessee is the stated purpose of the commission. It was decided to focus on six points of consideration, which should be crucial in the examination (parameters).

1. The overall operation of the Army, its efficiency, movements, etc.
2. Suffering Kentucky to be invaded by the Rebels. In other words, what was the chief cause for being outmaneuvered.
3. The failure to relieve Munfordville. Along the direct line between Nashville and Louisville, Colonel J. T. Wilder was made to surrender due to no relief nor support to his position from the Army.
4. The battle of Perryville and the conduct of Buell and the Army there.
5. Permitting the Rebel Army to escape from Kentucky. All orders of command on review, terrain, perspective judgements.
6. Touch any other topic beneficial to the service and make a full report on it.
7. Discover General Buell's loyalty, policy, and whether it deviates from the Administration.

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, the Court investigation submitted negative opinions on Buell's leadership to all points listed except No.#7. They found him in conformity with current National Policy, and dismissed any challenge to his loyalty as preposterous; yet with such overwhelming criticism on how the Army was handled, no charges were brought against General Buell. Excepting the preliminaries, the Court had convened on December 1, 1862 and lasted through to April 15, 1863. Henry Halleck sums up the final expectation on May 20, 1863 to Army Headquarters in Washington, stating;
"As the Commission has reported no charges against Major-General D. C. Buell nor recommended any further proceedings I respectfully recommend that the Commission be dissolved, and the officers, as well as General Buell, be ordered to other duty." [pg. 12, see above].

Terms of Parole:

Colonel Lytle's testimony to the Buell Commission

Question. When you were taken prisoner could you form any estimate of the numbers of the enemy ?

I could not.

Question. Did you know their line of retreat, what roads they went by, where their force lay, and where they arrived that night ?

I have some delicacy in testifying to these points under the terms of my parole. I can state that I was very much surprised that we were not re-enforced that day, and also that no advance was made the next morning.

Question. What reason can you give that prevents you answering these questions ?

My impression is that there is a provision in the terms of the parole "that I shall not reveal anything that I might have discovered within the line of the enemy." I therefore decline to testify on these points.

Question. How many days were you in the hands of the enemy ?

The battle was fought on Wednesday, the first week of October. I was paroled the next day, and returned to our lines on Friday night and immediately reported at General Buell's headquarters.

Question. Where were General Buell's headquarters ?

They were on the Harrodsburg pike, beyond the position we occupied, near the road. When I returned I was in a buggy; I returned by way of Danville.

Question. Where were you at the time you received your parole ?

I was at Harrodsburg.

Here the court desired the witness to produce the parole, to which the witness assented.

The day following the colonel produced the parole.

Copy of the parole.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE MISS., *Harrodsburg, Oct. 9, 1862.*

I, Wm. H. Lytle, Army of the United States, having been taken prisoner by the Confederate States Army and this day paroled, whereof this is witness, do swear that I will not bear arms against the Confederate States, nor will I in any way aid or abet its enemies, until I am regularly exchanged, under the penalty of death; nor will I disclose anything that I have seen or heard in said Confederate States Army to its prejudice.

WM. H. LYTLE,

Colonel, Commanding Seventeenth Brigade, Third Division.

Sworn to and subscribed before me October 9, 1862.

SAM'L K. HAYS,

Major, C. S. Army.

The Commission adjourned to meet December 4, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Terms of Parole: A Different View

Major Cotter's testimony to the Buell Commission

Question. Where did you find General Buell's headquarters ?

I went out upon the pike leading from Perryville to Harrodsburg and found General Buell's headquarters to the left of the pike.

Question. How far from Perryville ?

I should judge it to be 2 or 2½ miles.

Question. Upon what day did you see General Buell ?

On the morning of the 11th of October.

Question. Did you report to General Buell that you saw Buckner, Hardee, and Cheatham going down toward Camp Dick Robinson ?

I do not recollect whether I did or not. It was but a short time after daylight that I got there, and I felt it necessary for him to know what information I had obtained, and do not know whether I told him I saw the forces retreating to Camp Dick Robinson or not on the morning of the 9th.

Question. Did you consider it right to violate your parole as you did in reporting to General Buell in regard to the movements of the enemy ?

General BUELL. I object to the question, Mr. President. It is not necessary for any purpose of this investigation, and it is not the province of the judge-advocate to admonish this officer. I presume the Commission itself will not undertake to admonish him.

The JUDGE-ADVOCATE. The witness appears upon the stand precisely as any other witness would do and gives us a statement of facts. I have a right to inquire into his status as I would into that of any witness coming before this or any court. Now, I want to know whether this witness considers it right to violate his oath given under those circumstances; if he does, it may have a decided influence in the estimate of the facts he lays before us.

General BUELL. I desire to express my astonishment and my regret that this method should be adopted of instructing officers in regard to their duties. I do not think it is necessary nor do I think it is in good taste.

The court was cleared; when, after discussion, it was resolved that the objection should be sustained.

Question. State to the Commission whether you consider that you violated your parole in giving that information to General Buell.

No, sir; I did not.

Question. Did it turn out subsequently that the information you gave was correct ?

I do not know, sir. I left the same day for the rear. I wished to remain, but was not allowed.

By General SCHOEPF :

Question. Were you with General McCook during the battle of the

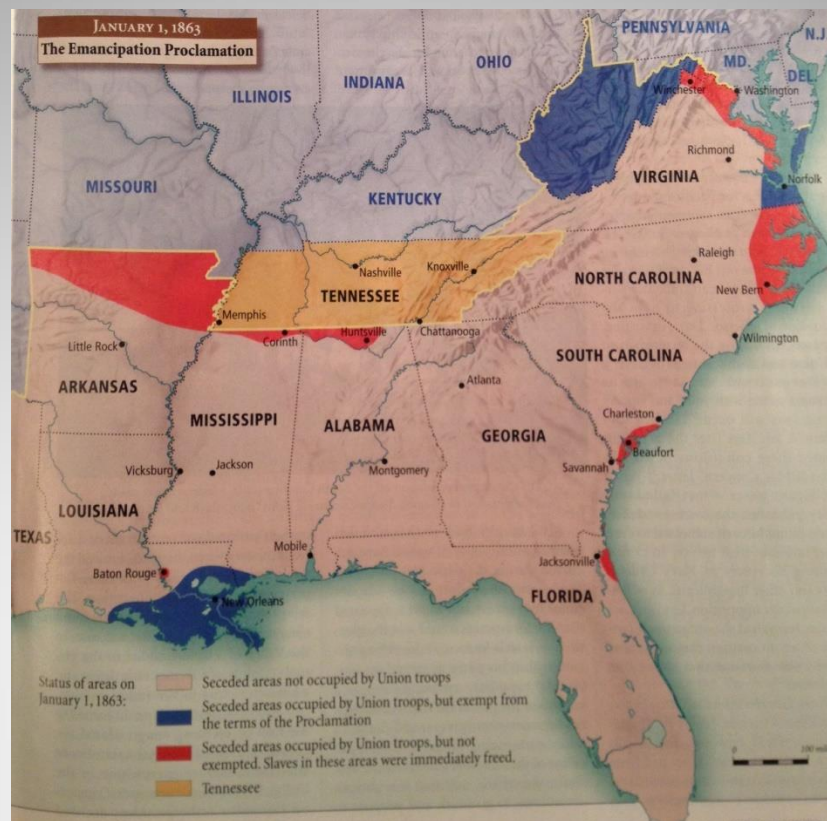
The End of Slavery in Kentucky



During the summer and fall of 1862, as the number of slaves fleeing to Union lines increased dramatically, three conditions combined to transform this growing migration into a serious problem.



The first was the impressment of large numbers of blacks, free and slave, by both the Confederate and the Union armies for military labor. Wherever the two armies went, they impressed black laborers, disrupting families, and creating refugees.



In the midst of the Confederate invasion of Kentucky, President Abraham Lincoln on September 22, 1862, issued his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, followed by the final notice on January 1, 1863. Even though the action legally did not affect Kentucky, Lincoln had created a second condition that encouraged slaves to flee from their owners. White Kentuckians bitterly denounced the president, and the state legislature rejected the document. But, once the proclamation was generally known, slaves became less hesitant to enter Federal lines, and many Union officers, in turn, became indifferent to whether an impressed slave's owner was a Union or a Confederate sympathizer.



From impressment, it was also only a short step to recruiting blacks as soldiers, the third and most important condition that resulted in the influx of slaves into Union lines. The federal government had rejected offers of free blacks to enlist at the outbreak of the war, and Lincoln assured slaveholders in 1861 that the war would not affect the “peculiar institution.” The need for troops, however, forced the president in December 1862 to authorize the use of black troops, but, fearing the adverse reaction of Kentuckians, he exempted the Bluegrass State.¹⁶

By mid-1863, when the federal government began actively recruiting blacks, but before Lincoln authorized recruitment in the commonwealth, many Kentucky slaves enlisted at Union recruiting stations outside the state. They hurried by the thousands to Union camps in Tennessee or crossed the Ohio River to join the army on free soil.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION FOR ENLISTED SLAVE.

No. _____

'I, Henry Harried, a loyal citizen, and
a resident of _____ County of _____ State of

Kentucky, hereby claim compensation, under the provisions of
section 24, Act approved February 24, 1864, and Section 2, Act approved July 28, 1866, for my
slave Anderson Amitt enlisted

186 _____, at _____

by rd
in the 123rd Infantry Regiment U. S. Colored Troops

Co. B certificate of enlistment, and a descriptive list, as required, accompany
this application. That I did not acquire said slaves subsequent to said enlistment, but had a
valid title to him at the date of said enlistment, and previous thereto: I having acquired my
title to him and my ownership over him as follows, to-wit: _____

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"Alters the entire field of Civil War memory study. . .
A masterful work of scholarship."—*Civil War Book Review*

Anne E. Marshall

CREATING A
Confederate Kentucky

THE LOST CAUSE AND CIVIL WAR

MEMORY IN A BORDER STATE



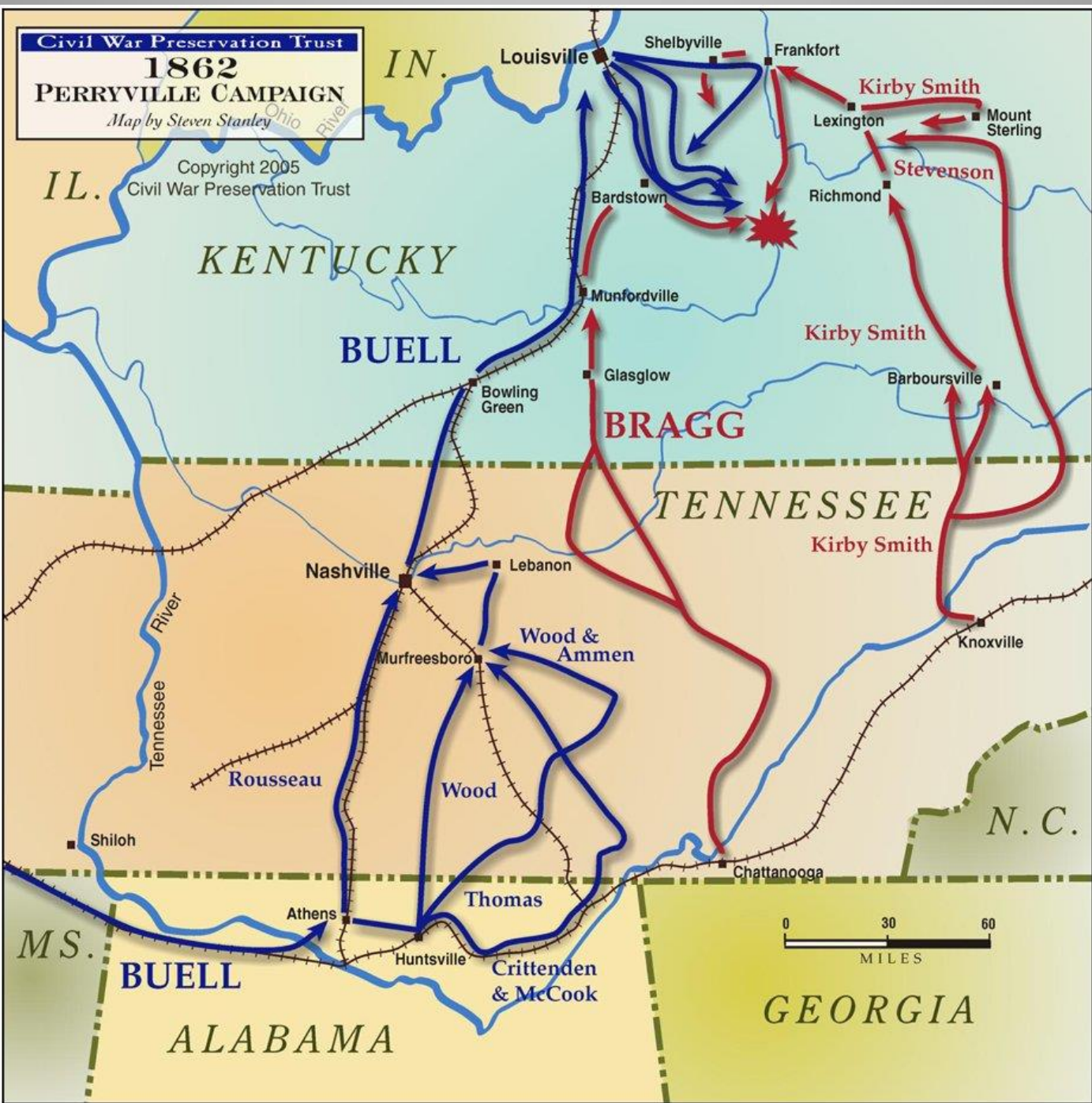
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After the Perryville Campaign, no major Confederate army ever returned to Kentucky. Cavalry raids and guerrilla warfare continued.

By war's end, many Kentuckians had come to regret the changes that the war brought about, above all the end of slavery and the challenge to white supremacy. It has often been said that "Kentucky only joined the Confederacy after the Civil War had ended."

Civil War Preservation Trust
1862
PERRYVILLE CAMPAIGN
Map by Steven Stanley

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Civil War Preservation Trust





THE CIVIL WAR 1860-1865

