# MOSBY'S WAR REMINISCENCES AND STUART'S CAVALRY CAMPAIGNS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

### ISBN 9780649652327

Mosby's War Reminiscences and Stuart's Cavalry Campaigns by John S. Mosby

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

# **JOHN S. MOSBY**

# MOSBY'S WAR REMINISCENCES AND STUART'S CAVALRY CAMPAIGNS





# Mosby's War Reminiscences

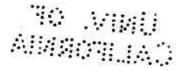
Stuart's Cavalry Campaigns By JOHN S. MOSBY



New York Dodd, Mead and Company

E581 43d M52

COPYRIGHT, 1887, ST GEO. A. JONES & CO.



£35

# CONTENTS.

CHAPTER L	
Opening of Hostilities. Volunteering to serve the Confederacy.  Virginia Brimfull of Patriotism. J. E. B. Stuart showing	PAGE 1
Qualities of a Great Leader of Cavalry	5
CHAPTER II.	
Experiences in the Confederate Cavalry, Adventures on the Picket Line. Capture of a Federal Wagon Train	14
CHAPTER III.	
Christmastide Raids. Why Union Cavairymen once left their Turkeys. Cripples who harassed the Federal Camp by Night. Ben Hatton's Experience as an Unwilling Guide.	
CHAPTER IV.	
Harassing the Army of the Potomac. Exciting Raid in Northern Virginia. The Bucktail Plan to capture Mosby's Command	
CHAPTER V.	
How Major Gilmer tried to capture Mosby's Command. Scared Vermonters hide in a Miller's Wheat Bins. Sorrow changed to Happiness at Middleburg, Va.	
	50
CHAPTER VI.	
Sergeant Ames, of the Fifth New York Cavalry, deserts and joins Mosby. Old Dr. Drake's Saddle-Bags. Capture of a Fed- eral Picket at Herndon Station. The Dash and Excite-	
ment of a Cavalry Skirmish. A Shot in the Dark	64
CHAPTER VII.	
Sudden Attacks upon Federal Cavalry Outposts. A Confederate Blacksmith's Achievements in Arms. A Running Fight.	
How a Repulse was Turned into a Victory. The Sabre as	17:52
a Weapon for Cavalrymen	78

948190

## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER VIIL	V44 V444
The Influence of Martinets and Red Tape on the Confederate Service. A Hand to Hand Fight with Vermont Cavalry. A Close Call. The Remorseless Revolver. Impending De- feat turned into Triumph. The Ludicrous	98
	30
CHAPTER IX.	
In Pursuit. Elaborate Plans made to capture "Mosby." How a Union Major-General deceived himself. A Chase that failed to accomplish its Object. Why a Raid on a Railroad	
was temporarily postponed	**5
CHAPTER X.	
In the Saddle, What saved Hooker's Supplies at Chancellors- ville. Cavalry Skirmishes. Raids against Wagon Trains	
and Rallroad Guards	129
CHAPTER XL	
Raid through the Lines of the Union Army. A Wrecked Train, Brave Spirits who fell by the Little Howitzer	142
CHAPTER XII.	
On the Road to Gettysburg. Raid over the Potomac River into Maryland. Narrow Escape from Capture. Marches at Night in the Union Columns	
in the Onion Columns	154
CHAPTER XIII.	
Gen. Stuart's Raid around the Rear of Hooker's Army. Gen. Longstreet, in the Century Magazine, condemns Stuart's "Wild Ride around the Federal Army." Letter from Gen. Longstreet to Gen. Lee, suggesting Stuart's "Wild Ride around the Federal Army." Stuart acting under Orders	
CHAPTER XIV.	
Stuart's Cavalry. Descriptive of Stuart's Raid around McClel-	
	205

# MOSBY'S WAR REMINISCENCES.

## CHAPTER I.

"Rebellion!

How many a spirit born to bless,

Hath sunk beneath that withering name,

Whom but a day's — an hour's — success

Had wafted to eternal fame." — Tom Moore.

IN April, 1861, I was attending court at Abingdon, Va., when I met a person who had just stepped out of the telegraph office, who informed me that tremendous tidings were passing over the wires. Going in, I inquired of the operator what it was, who told me that Lincoln had issued a proclamation calling out troops. Fort Sumter had fallen two days before. The public mind was already strained to a high pitch of excitement, and it required only a spark to produce an explosion. The indignation aroused by the President's proclamation spread like fire on a prairie, and the laws became silent in the midst of arms. People of every age, sex, and condition were borne away on the tide of excited feeling that swept over the land.

The home of Gov. John B. Floyd, who had resigned as secretary of war under Buchanan, was at Abingdon. I went to his house and told him the news. He immediately issued a call to arms, which resounded like the roll of Ziska's drum among the mountains of southwestern Virginia. Many of the most influential families in that region were descendants of the men who had fought under Morgan and Campbell at Eutaw Springs and King's Mountain. Their military spirit was inflamed by stirring appeals to the memories of the deeds their sires had done. Women, too, came forward to inspire men with a spirit of heroic self-sacrifice, and a devotion that rivalled the maidens of Carthage and Saragossa.

All the pride and affection that Virginians had felt in the traditions of the government which their ancestors had made, and the great inheritance which they had bequeathed, were lost in the overpowering sentiment of sympathy with the people who were threatened with invasion. It is a mistake to suppose that the Virginia people went to war in obedience to any decree of their State, commanding them to go. On the contrary, the people were in a state of armed revolution before the State had acted in its corporate capacity. I went along with the flood like everybody else. A few individuals here and there attempted to breast the storm of passion, and ap-