## Some Ohio Generals Not Named Grant, Sherman, or Sheridan

This list contains several, but certainly not all, Civil War generals with significant connections to Ohio. However the criteria for inclusion is subjective and inexact; for instance Custer is included but not McDowell who arguably had as many Buckeye connection as did Custer. However the list is not intended to be scientific but instead should be viewed as being illustrative of the degree of Ohio's participation and contributions to the Federal effort.

**Beatty**, John -- (1828-1914).b: Sandusky. A former bank clerk from Cardington volunteered as a private in the 3<sup>rd</sup> OVI. As a colonel, his 3<sup>rd</sup> OVI was involved in some of the most intense combat at Perryville. He became a BGen. by the time of Stones River. Led his brigade at Snodgrass Hill, briefly commanding the Federal extreme left in Negley's absence, and later at Chattanooga. His private journal offer sometimes-acerbic opinions about a wide range of Army commanders. Resigned his commission in 1864 to resume banking business. After the war he was elected three times to Congress.

Buell, Don Carlos – (1818-98); b: Lowell. USMA '1841 (32/52). Succeeded Sherman in command



at Louisville. Buell possessed many of McClellan's characteristics such as being an excellent disciplinarian, having a robust physique as well as being a hardworking, round-the-clock fastidious administrator. On the other hand, Buell did not share McClellan's charm, glamour, or charisma. Indeed the placid Buell had been described as being the most reserved, distant, and unsociable general in the army. To compound the notion of being distant from much of the Union mainstream, Buell continued to own slaves and was a brother-in-law to C.S.A. General David Twiggs, who in February 1861 as the Federal commander of various departments in the South, surrendered all Union forces and supplies in Texas to the Texas Rangers. As

an inexperienced field commander Buell was cautious to a fault, which led many to believe he lacked sufficient devotion to either the war or to its cause. Beatty compared Buell to having a "dancing-master policy: 'By your leave, my dear sir, we will have a fight; that is if your are sufficiently fortified; no hurry; take your time.'"

By early 1862 Buell was one of the senior generals in the Western theater, ranked only by Halleck and Grant. His army arrived at Pittsburg Landing to reinforce Grant's second day efforts. After Halleck became General-in-Chief in Washington Buell led his army on a sluggish chase of

Bragg through Kentucky, including Perryville – sometimes considered the Confederate's high water mark in the West -- where Buell was confined to an ambulance because of a leg injury. A reporter wrote: "Buell ... cares more for guarding a rebel cabbage patch, or enslaving a liberated Negro, than he does for gaining a triumph over the enemy. ... General Buell is so intensely pro-slavery that I have no doubt he would sacrifice every officer in his district, for the sake of returning to bondage a single slave."

Buell was also tone deaf to political considerations, theretofore considered a military virtue. In particular Buell failed to appreciate the importance of politics and political factors in a civil war where attitudes of a wide spectrum of people could be as important as were territorial gains. After defying Halleck's direct order to advance into east Tennessee Buell was relieved by Lincoln who was looking for generals whose philosophies did not include the soft war art of winning without hurting the enemy too much. An investigative commission – the so-called Buell Commission – was convened but found no basis for action against Buell. Nevertheless upon being replaced by Rosecrans, Buell awaited further orders for more than a year after which he resigned from the army.

Cox, Jacob Dolson (1828-1900) b: in Canada of US parents, his mother tracing her roots to the



Mayflower. Graduated 1851 from Oberlin as a divinity student. After Oberlin, Cox moved to Warren, Ohio where he practiced law, including briefly as M.D. Leggett's junior partner. Considered by some as being a world class genius, he had been an Ohio state Senator where he became Garfield's close friend; he also became closely acquainted with Thomas Key, later McClellan's chief of staff where he became regarded as Mac's "evil genius." Cox entered the war as a BGen. of militia before rising to the rank of Major General of volunteers. Worked closely with Rosecrans to clear the Kanawha Valley of Confederates. During this period some of his subordinate commanders included George Crook, Hugh Ewing, and Rutherford. Distinguished himself at South Mountain before

assuming 9<sup>th</sup> Corps command upon death of Jesse Reno. At Antietam, Cox became de facto commander of Burnside's 9<sup>th</sup> Corps that had difficulty crossing the creek. Had division command at Atlanta and was line commander at Franklin. For years after Franklin, Cox fussed with Schofield, Opdycke, and Stanley about who deserved the most credit for the victory. Elected in 1865 to a contentious term as governor; he served as Grant's secretary of the interior before breaking with Grant and by 1873 was in political exile. Might be most famous as the foremost participant historian of the Civil War, frequently quoted by other historians and writers of war time memoirs. As an example, for over a century his history of the Atlanta

campaign remained the definitive work of that subject. He eventually became dean of the Cincinnati Law School as well as president of the University of Cincinnati. The Ohio University Press has recently published a biography, *Citizen-General*, written by Eugene D. Schmiel.

Crook, George – (1829-90); b: Montgomery County. USMA '52 (38/43). Although George Crook



was Sheridan's oldest and closest friend the two had radically different personalities. Whereas Little Phil was normally eager and frequently impulsive, Crook was "a notably keen and clear headed man, whose equanimity was rarely, if ever, disturbed, even under the most trying of circumstances." Crook's limited educational opportunities prior to West Point contributed to his modest academic ranking but nevertheless he quickly exhibited an aptitude for battlefield tactics. Prior to the Civil War Crook fought Indians in the Pacific Northwest before being commissioned as a colonel in the 36<sup>th</sup> Ohio at the start of the war. He was an affable, unaffected officer who, unlike most of his comrades, did not smoke or drink, even coffee.

At the beginning of the war Crook was appointed commander of the 36<sup>th</sup> OVI, fighting in western Virginia. Promoted to BGen. September 1862, he led the Kanawha Division at South Mountain and Antietam. Transferred to the Western Theater, he assumed commend of a cavalry division, participating in the Chickamauga campaign, briefly serving as cavalry chief when Stanley became disabled with dysentery. Later pursued Wheeler's cavalry back into Tennessee. Grant then ordered Crook back east where he eventually relieved David Hunter as commander of the Army of West Virginia.

As commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps, Crook was important if not indispensible during Phil Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaign. Later Crook was captured February 21, 1865, in Cumberland, Maryland, by 70 Rebel cavalrymen wearing Union uniforms and was imprisoned in Libby Prison before being exchanged after which on March 26, 1865, Crook became commander of the cavalry corps of the Army of the Potomac. After the Civil War Crook became one of the nation's leading Indian fighters. In 1883 Crook tracked Geronimo down in Mexico before persuading the Indian warrior to surrender. Two years later after Geronimo escaped from his reservation, Crook asked to be relieved when Sheridan ordered Crook to cease a pursuit in order to take defensive postures to prevent further raids. Written after Sheridan's death, Crook's autobiography bitterly criticized his former friend claiming among other things that all the praise heaped upon Little Phil had "caused him to bloat his little carcass with debauchery and dissipation."

**Custer, George Armstrong** -- (1839-76); b: New Romney. USMA June '61 (34/34). Spent early life in Michigan. Became BGen. General of volunteers June 1863. Took part in every battle of Army of Potomac except one. Brevetted for gallantry and meritorious service five times; had 11 horses shot from under him. Killed at Little Big Horn.

Ewing, Thomas, Jr. – (1829-96). B: Lancaster. One of three Ewing brothers whose father,



Thomas Ewing, was a very graduate of Ohio University before becoming a U.S. Senator and cabinet member in three different administrations. All three brothers became Union generals. Tom Junior graduated from Cincinnati Law School in 1855. Prior to the war he had been in a Leavenworth law firm with his brother Hugh and Daniel McCook; upon the outbreak of the war all three joined the Union army, each becoming general. While leading the Border District in Missouri this Ewing issued Order No. 11 depopulating four counties to combat Rebel guerrillas. In September and October he was Rosecrans' deputy commander in St. Louis district. When Sterling Price invaded Missouri in

September 1864, Ewing's heavily outnumbered force was pushed almost all the way to St. Louis in a delaying action until A.J. Smith arrived with additional soldiers.

After the war Tom Ewing represented three of the Lincoln assassination conspirators, saving them from the gallows. He returned to Lancaster in 1870 and narrowly lost the campaign for Ohio governor before moving to New York City in 1881.

Another brother, Hugh, b: 1826 had a drinking problem from his days at West Point, where he failed to graduate because he failed an engineering course; Hugh was said to be the most popular Cadet not to graduate from the Point. (Phil Sheridan was appointed to fill Hugh's empty seat.) During the war Hugh became a colonel in the 30<sup>th</sup> OVI before being taking command of a brigade that captured a summit at South Mountain and holding the left flank at Antietam. Almost immediately started writing to his father to complain about Cox's command. After being appointed BGen. November 1862 Hugh became his brother-in-law's most trusted subordinate, helping Cump trap Joe Johnston in North Carolina. After serving as U.S. Minister to Holland, Hugh returned to a farm near Lancaster where he died in 1905.

Garfield, James A. -- (1831-81). A former Ohio state senator and a close protégé of Salmon P.



Chase, Garfield had a strong dislike for West Pointers. After the war started he helped recruit the 42<sup>nd</sup> OVI. Garfield became Rosecrans 'chief of staff whose duties included acting as liaison with the War Department. Garfield -- who had some command experience in previous battles, including Shiloh -- was also expected to spend long hours during the night arguing with Rosey about religion and politics. During Chickamauga Garfield's other duties meant another aide wrote the confusing order that helped to cause the gap that Longstreet exploited thus precipitating the wild retreat back to Chattanooga. Garfield recommended to Rosecrans that Rosey should return to Chattanooga to oversee those defenses while Garfield would ride to help Thomas. Garfield's ride to join Thomas at Snodgrass

Hill would help propel Garfield all the way to the White House eighteen years later as 20<sup>th</sup> US President (1881).

Even though Garfield was a friend of Irwin McDowell, one of the chief accusers, Garfield presided over the court-martial of Fitz-John Porter and for years resisted Porter's attempt to redeem his record after being cashiered from the army. During this period Garfield cultivated several important Washington connections.

In addition to his military exploits, somewhat exaggerated in the retelling, Garfield had been born in a log cabin near Cleveland, Ohio, after his father died when Garfield was two years old, he lifted himself from poverty to become a teacher, a lay preacher, and a college president at the age of 26 years before entering the field of Ohio politics. Could be described as a consummate politician of burning ambition. In 1880 Garfield became the Republican nominee for President, emerging from a field that included U.S. Grant, seeking a third term after being out of office for four years. Garfield narrowly won the general election by beating the Democratic nominee, Winfield Scott Hancock, one of the great heroes of Gettysburg. However, after only four months in office he was shot by a "an unhinged religious fanatic."; Garfield died 80 days later, probably because of the unclean procedures of his physicians as they probed for the bullet.

**Harrison,** Benjamin – (1833-1901). B: North Bend, Ohio, grandson of ninth president. After two years at Farmers' College near Cincinnati, Harrison transferred to Miami University in Oxford where he graduated in 1852. During his legal apprenticeship with a Cincinnati law office he moved to Indiana where he practiced law while establishing a political base. Became a colonel with the 70<sup>th</sup> Indiana, the first regiment to step foot in a contested state. Later part of the 20<sup>th</sup>

Corps in Army of Cumberland that saw extensive action in the Atlanta campaign, Harrison assumed brigade command prior to Kennesaw Mountain before being transferred to Nashville; his capture of a four gun battery east of Dalton became part of his political lore. Called "Little Ben" because of his short stature but Harrison was unpopular with troops because he insisted upon turning raw recruits into disciplined soldiers. In February 1865 he was confirmed as a brevet brigadier general. Returning to Indiana he had a prosperous legal career, but suffered occasional political setbacks before 1888 when he defeated Grover Cleveland for president although polling fewer popular votes than did his opponent. (The second shortest man to serve as President, he was the last to sport a full beard.) Four years later despite several successes and reforms Harrison was defeated for re-election by Cleveland.

Hayes. Rutherford – (1822-93). Graduated from Kenyon College and eventually became a successful lawyer in Cincinnati. Named Major with 23<sup>rd</sup> OVI June 27, 1861, serving under Rosecrans in western Virginia. Thereafter remained in Eastern theater sustaining severe wounds at South Mountain. Throughout Hayes was determined, courageous, impetuous, would fight in a dozen major battles and countless other skirmishes and engagements, being wounded a total of four times. Beloved by his troops. While serving in Crook's corps, Hayes led a successful flanking attack at 3<sup>rd</sup> Winchester; about a month later Hayes was almost captured during the Confederates' surprise attack at Cedar Creek. While still on active duty he was elected to House of Representatives but unlike Garfield refused to take his seat until the crisis was over. Served three terms as Ohio governor before becoming 19<sup>th</sup> US President (1877-81), succeeding Grant. He was elected president after a deal with Democrats to end Reconstruction with the withdrawal of troops from the South. Established the nation's first presidential library.

Hazen, William B. -- (1830-93); b: in Vermont but moved with his parents to Ohio when he was



3. Appointed from Ohio USMA '55 (28/34). Hazen was a boyhood friend of Garfield from Hiram. Was severely wounded in fight with Comanches in 1859. At the start of the war he was promoted to Captain with 8<sup>th</sup> OVI before becoming a colonel in the 41<sup>st</sup> OVI. He was known as a hard-driving spit-and-polish commander as "insensible to fatigue as a threshing machine." The army being his life, he was the consummate careerist, seeking out challenges with an eye toward promotion. Served mostly in Western theater, being promoted to BGen. after Perryville. Commanded a brigade at the pivotal "Round Forest," later known as "Hell's Half Acre," at Stones River; was also at

Snodgrass Hill and Chattanooga, his brigade leading the assault that helped open the Cracker Line. After Sherman failed to realize the strength of the enemy ahead of his army at Pickett's Mill during the Atlanta campaign, Hazen was selected by Howard to lead a futile, bloody assault

that Ambrose Bierce, then serving under Hazen, would later characterize as a "criminal blunder." Was a division commander during Sherman's March to the Sea. After the war he offered his opinion that Rosecrans had rashly over-pursued prior to Chickamauga because newspapers had inflated Rosey's political ambitions. He severely criticized War Secretary Robert Lincoln for the failure to authorize timely rescue efforts of Greely's ill-fated Arctic expedition. Also offered testimony in one of the procurement scandals that rocked Grant's administration; this earned him recognition as the senior commanders' "the most-hated man in the army." He died in 1887 at the age of 57 in a diabetic coma.

Leggett, Mortimer Dormer – (1821-96); b: in NY but moved with family to Geauga County when 15 years old. He attended Western Reserve College. Leggett was born into a Quaker family but became a Presbyterian, refusing to drink coffee or smoke or drink liquor. Although educated in medicine he was a law partner to Jacob D. Cox. After serving as an aide to McClellan, Leggett was commissioned as LCol. in 78<sup>th</sup> OVI. Promoted to BGen. Nov 29, 1862, after fighting at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and Corinth. He was considered a first-class warrior who was given the honor of leading the first brigade into Vicksburg before more than a year later given the opportunity of taking Bald Hill overlooking Atlanta. Later Bald Hill was renamed Leggett's Hill in his honor. After Atlanta, Leggett remained in Sherman's command throughout the Savannah campaign. After resigning as a MGen. he returned to Zanesville to resume his law practice before Grant appointed him Commissioner of Patents in 1871. Founded the Brush Electric Company, later absorbed by General Electric.

**Lytle,** William Haines – (1826-63). A lawyer who fought in Mexican War. When the war began, Hazen was given command of the 19<sup>th</sup> OVI. At Carnifex Ferry in western Virginia, Lytle was struck in the leg by a bullet that also struck his horse that threw off its rider, leaped over the Confederate barricade before dropping dead among the enemy soldiers, who fled. Left on the field as dead at Perryville before being captured. Appointed BGen. November 29, 1862. His brigade, including Beatty's 3<sup>rd</sup> OVI, was part of some of the most intense combat at Perryville. On second day of Chickamauga while panicked soldiers were heading back to Chattanooga, Lytle was shot in the spine leading a charge. Lytle was sitting on the ground in great pain when another bullet passed through his cheek and temple, quickly killing him. Perhaps best remembered as a prolific poet. However the hill where he was killed is named for him.

**McCook**, Alexander – (1831-1903); USMA '52 (30/47). Highest ranking of several of Ohio's 17 "Fighting McCooks." Described as an overgrown schoolboy, his troops nicknamed him "Gut" because of his stout physique. Although a hard fighter who could handle a brigade or a division with competence, McCook proved to be in over his head as a corps commander. Beatty described McCook as a "chucklehead." At Perryville McCook was sluggish in his reaction to the circumstances on either of his flanks. McCook was dilatory in asking for reinforcements but

more importantly failed to apprise the immobilized Buell of the unfavorable, even potentially disastrous situation. In his report Buell blamed Alex McCook for stubbornly believing he could handle the situation by himself. Blamed but eventually exonerated for fiasco at Chickamauga, he remained in the Regular Army, even serving as Sherman's A.D.C. after the war.

Two brothers were killed during the Civil War. Robert (1827-62) was wounded after Mills Springs but continued to command from an ambulance that was ambushed and overturned by guerrillas who killed Robert in cold blood. In revenge, his regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> OVI, wrecked several homes before hanging many culprits.

Alex's father, Daniel McCook (1798-1863) served primarily as a paymaster but was mortally wounded while trying to intercept Morgan's Raiders near Buffington Island on the Ohio River.

McLean, Nathaniel C. -- (1815-1905); b: Warren County. A Cincinnati lawyer, he was appointed Colonel of 75<sup>th</sup> OVI Sept 18, 1861, under authority of John C. Fremont. Appointed to BGen. with rank from November 29, 1862. Had various division commands in Eastern theater, including command of the Ohio Brigade at Chinn Ridge during 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas; the defense of McLean's Ohio Brigade gave Pope enough time to retreat from the field. After Chancellorsville where the Ohio Brigade was caught Stonewall Jackson's onslaught, McLean was transferred to Cincinnati where he served as Burnside's provost marshal. Later he commanded a brigade during the Atlanta campaign when he again came into conflict with Howard after Pickett's Mill on May 27, 1864. Howard had wanted McLean's brigade to provide a diversion for an attack to be led by Hazen. However Howard and McLean still blamed each other for the Chancellorsville debacle and Albert Castel, probably the leading authority on the Atlanta campaign has written that of all the brigade commanders in Sherman's army, McLean was the worse one to assist in Howard's attack. Still later he was part of Sherman's Carolina campaign, taking part at Fort Fisher. After the war he helped to start and build two churches.

**McPherson**, James Birdseye -- (1828-64); b: near Clyde. USMA '53 (1/52). He was named for a friend of his father. McPherson had a long relationship with the Army of the Tennessee, going back as far as January, 1862, when Henry Halleck dispatched McPherson to serve as Sam Grant's chief engineer prior to the attacks on Fort Henry and Fort Donelson. Although never officially recognized as such it was widely suspected, even probable, that Halleck had sent McPherson to learn whether Grant was still drinking on duty.

Although it is likely Grant was aware of McPherson's *sub rosa* mission, Grant quickly became impressed with his new staff officer who demonstrated initiative beyond his formal assignments without stepping on any toes. McPherson, who began viewing Grant as his mentor, served with Grant in subsequent battles, including Shiloh. At the same time McPherson was also renewing and continuing his antebellum friendship with his former West Point

classmate, Sherman whose temperament was opposite in several ways to McPherson's. One of Sherman's pets, McPherson became commander of the Army of the Tennessee before being killed during the Battle of Atlanta.

**Mitchel,** Ornsby McKnight -- (1805 or1810-62); b: KY but moved to Lebanon, Ohio at an early age where he was raised. USMA '29 (15/46). At West Point he was a classmate to R.E. Lee and Joseph e. Johnston. Served in Florida until he resigned in 1832 to teach mathematics and astronomy at Cincinnati College where he helped establish its law school. He was also an attorney, surveyor, and publisher. Named BGen. August 1861. Commanded a division in the Army of the Ohio. Participated in capture of Fort Donelson and Nashville but was best known for authorizing the Great Locomotive Chase. After capturing Huntsville, Alabama without a shot being fired he was promoted to MGen. April, 1862. Because he could not get along with Buell, Mitchel was assigned to command the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps but he died of yellow fever at Beauford, South Carolina shortly after taking command.

**Opdycke,** Emerson – (1830-84); b: Hubbard. A former businessman from Warren, Ohio, he began his military career in Hazen's command. An avowed abolitionist with a surly personality, but one who could fight. As a Captain, he carried his regimental colors (41<sup>st</sup> OVI) to lead a charge at Shiloh. His later regimental command, the 125<sup>th</sup> OVI, was in the defense of Horseshoe Ridge; when Thomas told Opdycke that is position had to be held at all hazards, Opdycke responded, "We will hold this ground or go to Heaven from it." Later he was among the first to reach the crest at Missionary Ridge, and he led an assault at Kennesaw Mountain. He helped to save the day at Franklin when without orders he led his brigade to fill a gap created by Hood's assault, thereby helping to turn the tide.

Rosecrans, William S. -- (1819-98); b: Delaware County. USMA '42 (5/56). Rosecrans resigned



from the Regular Army in 1854 when he had suffered a nervous breakdown; he then successfully pursued various careers in engineering, architecture, and refining of coal and oil. Upon outbreak of Civil War he joined the Ohio militia but soon received a army commission to serve as McClellan's chief subordinate in western Virginia in 1861 when they more or less bested Robert E. Lee. Old Rosey, a big, burly man with an extensive vocabulary of profanity, was energetic and hard working, and enjoyed staying up late at night to discuss religious issues with his staff. Because he consistently demonstrated concern for the welfare of his troops, they responded with affection and respect. Rosecrans continued to serve in western Virginia (later West Virginia) until May 1862 when he was

appointed to take charge of two divisions in Pope's Army of the Mississippi. A short while later in June 1862 when Pope was transferred back east Rosecrans was appointed to succeed Pope. Rosey and Grant got crossways with each other during and after luka and Corinth II, perhaps because Grant suspected Rosecrans planted a press report that Grant had been drinking during luka.

Rosecrans was appointed to replace Buell, and despite frequent criticism from Washington for being too cautious, Rosecrans' campaign across Tennessee, including Stone's River and Tullahoma, and Georgia was going well until Bragg successfully counterattacked at Chickamauga. During his eleven month stint as commander of the Army of the Cumberland, Rosecrans developed a significant number of innovations, some—particularly his logistical and topographical concepts – endured long after he was no longer in command. Even before Chickamauga Rosecrans' tone deafness to political nuance caused him to become crossways with his superiors, including Grant and Secretary of War Stanton. After being relieved of command by Grant at Chattanooga, Rosecrans "awaited orders" until January 30, 1864 when he was assigned command of the Department of Missouri. Twice elected to Congress, he later served as registrar of the U.S. Treasury. The historian Peter Cozzens says that Rosecrans was "perhaps ... the only true genius to command a Union army in the field." One of 15 Army officers given the Thanks of Congress (for Stones River).

Schenck, Robert C. – (1809-90); b: Warren County. A Congressman until becoming Minister to Brazil in 1851. A graduate of Miami of Ohio who perhaps made the first speech endorsing Lincoln before helping to deliver important votes for Lincoln in 1860. Very early in the war the Northern press castigated Schenck after he led a brief reconnaissance outside the Washington defenses at Big Bethel but had to fall back in disorder after being ambushed by Confederates near Vienna, VA. Served under Rosecrans in western Virginia. Schenck also fought at 1<sup>st</sup> Bull Run. After being wounded at Chinn Ridge during 2<sup>nd</sup> Bull Run, Schenck retired from the Army to campaign against Vallandigham. Grant appointed Schenck as ambassador to England where he became involved in a scandal over an alleged mining fraud.

**Sill,** Joshua Woodrow – (1831-62); b: Chillicothe. USMA '53 (3/52). After resigning from the Regular Army earlier in the year he was commissioned as a colonel in the 33<sup>rd</sup> OVI. Served in western Virginia theater. Became a brigadier in August 1862 while in western theater. Led his division on a diversion during Perrysburg. Was a wing commander during Stone's River, Tennessee, where he was killed. His West Point classmate, Phil Sheridan, named Fort Sill in his honor.

**Smith,** William Sooy (1830-1916); b: Tarlton. USMA '56 (6/52), but before entering West Point he graduated from Ohio University. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Smith joined the 13<sup>th</sup> OVI,

becoming its colonel. Appointed BGen. of volunteers April '62 after Shiloh. Had various commands in Western theater. During Sherman's Meridian raid Smith's cavalry command was defeated by a much smaller cavalry unit led by Nathan Bedford Forrest, cited by some as Forrest's "glorious achievement." Thereafter he and Sherman argued for years about the reasons for this defeat. He resigned his commission in July 1864 to become one of the first bridge builders to use steel instead of wrought iron.

Stanley, David Sloan – (1828-1902); b: Cedar Valley. USMA '52 (9/43). Upon replacing Buell, Rosecrans made important organizational change by uniting his cavalry under Stanley's single command. Stanley, another alcoholic, -- Thomas considered him a worthless drunk -- was a veteran of Indian fighting as well as the Kansas border wars, and had commanded infantry division including those at luka and Corinth II. Although it would still be some time before the Union cavalry would reach parity with the Rebels, Stanley's organizing of his brigades and his insistence upon extensive drilling, coupled with arming his troopers with swords, revolvers, and the latest models of carbines, meant that the gap soon begin to close. However, Stanley was bedfast with dysentery during much of Chickamauga and was transferred to infantry command after Chickamauga.

Stanley had extensive experience in the Western theater, eventually becoming 4th Corps commander. Notwithstanding the relative inactivity of the Army of the Tennessee at Jonesboro and notwithstanding all the hours spent earlier that afternoon by Stanley's 4<sup>th</sup> Corps in destroying additional track, Sherman unfairly blamed Stanley's slowness as the principle reason why Hardee was not bagged. For several years Stanley continued to contest Sherman's contention that Stanley's 4<sup>th</sup> Corps had been slow coming to Jonesboro on September 2. According to Stanley's own memoirs the fault was Sherman's "want of generalship in using a large force to destroy a useless railroad – useless to Hood's army – when that force should have been hastened to hunt up the enemy and to attack him at once." Finally as some measure of concession, in Sherman's 1886 revision of his *Memoirs*, Sherman – by then retired from the army -- allowed the inclusion of an appendix with Stanley's and others' version of Jonesboro.

During Schofield's march to Nashville he sent a division with Stanley forward to Spring Hill to reinforce its small garrison and to block Hood's advance toward Franklin and Nashville. Schofield also had the foresight to send his army's supply train of 800 wagons, together with 40 guns, along the turnpike with Stanley's force. Stanley's van arrived at Spring Hill at approximately half past noon on November 29, 1864 and immediately began to establish two defensive lines. (Stanley called it "the biggest day's work I ever accomplished for the United States.") Soldiers of the existing garrison augmented by one of Stanley's brigades constituted the first of these lines. This line of 4,000 soldiers – north of the village and across the turnpike – almost immediately engaged in a skirmish with Forrest's troopers who had to withdraw around

3:00 p.m. after multiple charges exhausted their ammunition. At first Forrest refused to believe he would be facing much infantry but after being repulsed by the hail of bullets Forrest turned to a subordinate to remark, "They was in there sure enough, wasn't they ...?"

When Thomas had a farewell review of the 4<sup>th</sup> Corps Stanley led the march. In 1893 Stanley was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions at Franklin.

Steedman, James Blair – (1817-83). Born in Pennsylvania, and orphaned at thirteen, but served as a Douglas Democrat from Toledo in the Ohio legislature. Confirmed as a BGen. July 17, 1862, Steedman, a former printer sometimes described as being fat, loud, profane, and argumentative, had several brigade and division commands in the Western theater including Perryville where his hard charging brigade helped secure a victory. Later, taking two of Steedman's brigades with him, Gordon Granger began to march at the double quick southward to the sound of the guns at Snodgrass Hill, eventually marching through one of the fields of battle still cluttered with fallen soldiers and detritus of battle (and 1,500 soldiers retreating with fragments of Negley's division). Steedman's division lost one-fifth of its numbers in 20 minutes. Steedman, who had a horse shot from under him, was severely wounded but wanted to make sure his obituary correctly spelled his name.

Despite his heroic stand at Chickamauga he did not have his promotion to MGen. confirmed by the Senate until the spring of 1864. Steedman's conservative views on emancipation, which he had expressed in several articles, might have played a role in that delay.

In 1878 at 62 years of age he married his third wife, 17, a union that produced three children.

Weitzel, Godfrey - (1835-84); born in Germany but his parents migrated to Cincinnati where he was educated in the city schools. USMA '55 (2/34). Various engineering assignments until Sept 1863. He had been commander of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Corps but on December, 1864 he took command of 25<sup>th</sup> Corps, consisting of two divisions of United States Colored Troops. As Butler's subordinate, Weitzel participated in the ill-fated first battle at Fort Fisher. (Butler thought Weitzel, at the age of 29, was too young and experienced to handle the operation.) After Butler was relieved of further duty Weitzel was named commander of the northern sector of the Petersburg siege across or near Richmond, and was part of the pursuit to Appomattox. After a hard night of marching Weitzel's Black troops reinforced the final line of defense to prevent Lee's only chance to escape at Appomattox.

Remained as an engineer in the Regular Army after the Civil War.

**Woods,** Charles Robert (1827-85); b: Newark. USMA '52 (20/43). Was part of the futile effort to relieve Fort Sumter. After the war began he served in the Western theater, including Vicksburg. Promoted to BGen. August 4, 1863, after which he held command posts at Chattanooga, during

Atlanta campaign and March to the Sea. He was with Sherman when Johnston surrendered meaning Woods was present before the war began was well as when it was over. After the war he continued serving in the West to fight Indians. His older brother, William Burnam **Woods,** also served in Union army, many times in his brother's units, and was brevetted to BGen. after the war. William was later appointed to U.S. Supreme Court.