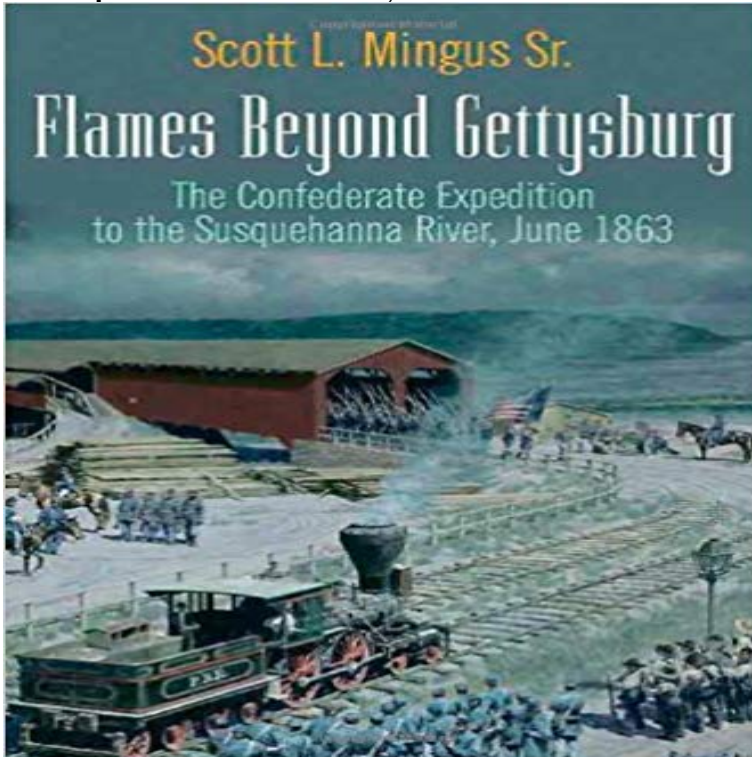


# Flames Beyond Gettysburg: The Confederate Expedition to the Susquehanna River, June 1863



Finalist for the U.S. Army Heritage Foundations 2011 Distinguished Writing Award for the Reprint Category. The Gettysburg Campaign has been examined in minute detail from nearly every aspect but one: the key role played by Richard Ewells Second Corps during the final days in June. Scott Minguss *Flames Beyond Gettysburg: The Confederate Expedition to the Susquehanna River, June 1863* is the first in-depth study of these crucial summer days that not only shaped the course of the Gettysburg Campaign, but altered the course of our nations history. In two powerful columns, Ewells Corps swept toward the strategically important Susquehanna River and the Pennsylvania capital looming beyond. Fear coursed through the local populace while Washington and Harrisburg scrambled to meet the threat. One of Ewells columns included a veteran division under Jubal Early, whose objectives included the capture and ransom of towns and the destruction of railroad bridges and the Hanover Junction rail yard. Earlys most vital mission was the seizure of the Columbia Bridge, which spanned the Susquehanna River between Wrightsville and Columbia. To capture the longest covered bridge in the world would allow Earlys Division to cross into prosperous Lancaster County and move against the capital in Harrisburg from its relatively undefended rear. Along the way, one of Earlys brigades under John Gordon occupied Gettysburg and spilled the first blood there days before the bloodiest battle ever fought on American soil began on July 1. *Flames Beyond Gettysburg* vividly narrates both sides of Ewells drama-filled expedition, including key Southern decisions, the response of the Pennsylvania militiamen and civilians who opposed the Confederates, and the burning of the Columbia Bridge. Minguss study also features detailed driving tours of the

various sites discussed in the book, including the Confederate route of march from Maryland; the June 26 skirmish at Gettysburg and the fight at the Witmer Farm; Lt. Col. Elijah V. Whites cavalry raids on Point-of-Rocks and Hanover Junction; Gordons triumphal march through York; the skirmish at Wrightsville; and the bridge burning. Based upon extensive primary source material and featuring original maps by cartographer Steven Stanley, the fast-paced and gracefully written *Flames Beyond Gettysburg* is a welcomed and important addition to the Gettysburg literature. About the Author: Scott L. Mingus, Sr. is a scientist and executive in the paper and printing industry. He maintains a popular blog on the Civil War history of his home of York County, PA, for the York Daily Record ([yorkblog.com/cannonball](http://yorkblog.com/cannonball)), and is a sanctioned Civil War tour guide for the York County Heritage Trust. Scott is the author of five scenario books on wargaming and together with his wife Debi, publishes CHARGE!, the leading international magazine for Civil War miniature wargaming. REVIEWS Very impressive work! Great research and sources.- Ronald Young, author of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the Civil War. Fabulously written, and the scholarship is very deep . . . it will be the standard work for the Early/Gordon advance into Pennsylvania.- J. David Petruzzi, co-author of Plenty of Blame to go Around: J.E.B. Stuarts Controversial Ride to Gettysburg. The final word on this much overlooked part of the Gettysburg campaign. Insightful work, accurately done. And a good read.- James McClure, author of East of Gettysburg: A Gray Shadow Crosses York County, Pa.

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