



This Week in the Civil War - July 27th - August 2nd, 1862

John C. Rigdon

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While many volumes have been written on the war from any number of perspectives and the “top 100 battles” have been dissected in excruciating detail, most of these 6,000 events lie largely unexplored and forgotten.

This work focuses on uncovering and telling those stories. It is not our intent or objective to refight the war, but to uncover and document the stories of these families in the war.

This volume is excerpted from our multi-volume work, “All the Battles of the Civil War” which gives a narrative account of the more than 5,000 events which occurred in the war. This work runs to more than 2,700 pages and forms the basis of our “Historical Sketch and Roster” volumes on each of the more than 6,000 units formed for both the Union and the Confederacy.

This Week in Review

Jul. 27 - Aug. 2, 1862

“If it is a crime to love the South, its cause and its President, then I am a criminal. I would rather lie down in this prison and die than leave it owing allegiance to a government such as yours.”

Once again, Belle Boyd makes her entrance onto the stage of the Civil War. Just last year, at the age of 17, Belle shot and killed a drunken Union soldier who, as she wrote in her memoirs, “addressed my mother and myself in language as offensive as it is possible to conceive. I could stand it no longer...we ladies were obliged to go armed in order to protect ourselves as best we might from insult and outrage.” The commanding officer...inquired into all the circumstances with strict impartiality, and finally said I had ‘done perfectly right.’”

Learning of Gen. Nathaniel Banks' movements, she rode fifteen miles to inform "Stonewall" Jackson who was nearby. Several weeks later when she realized Jackson was about to attack Front Royal, she ran onto the battlefield to provide last minute information about the Union troops. Jackson's aide described seeing "the figure of a woman in white glide swiftly out of town...she seemed...to heed neither weeds nor fences, but waved a bonnet as she came on." Boyd later wrote, "the Federal pickets...immediately fired upon me...my escape was most providential...rifle-balls flew thick and fast about me...so near my feet as to throw dust in my eyes..." Jackson captured the town and acknowledged her contribution and her bravery in a personal note. Boyd was arrested six or seven times, but managed to avoid incarceration until July 29, 1862, when she was finally imprisoned in Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C. She was released a month later as part of a prisoner exchange, but arrested again in July 1863.

Another group who made the news this week were the Indian troops. In a battle at Bayou Banard, Indian Territory, Indian troops from both sides faced each other in a bloody battle which saw the troops under Stand Watie suffer 125 casualties.

Events of the Week

Sunday July 27, 1862

- Claremont, VA
- Savannah, GA
- A Union Flag Displayed in Atlanta
- Rosie the Riveter Civil War Style
- Bayou Bernard, Indian Territory

- Brown's Spring, MO
 - Young's Cross Roads, NC
 - Guntersville, AL
 - Richmond, KY
- Monday, July 28, 1862
- Whitney's Ranch, CA
 - Bollinger's Mill, MO
 - Letter of Joel M. Rivers to Miss Ann Bishop
 - Cross Timbers, MO
 - Moore's Mills, MO
 - Execution of Jeremiah Hoy
- Tuesday, July 29, 1862
- Mount Sterling, KY
 - Capture of Belle Boyd
 - Russellville, KY
 - Arrow Rock, MO
 - Bollinger's Mills, MO
 - Savannah, GA
 - Brownsville, TN
 - Hatchie Bottom, TN
 - Albee's Ranch, CA
- Wednesday, July 30, 1862
- Gen. Morgan's Report
 - Paris, KY
 - Clark's Mill, MO
 - Todd Creek, GA
 - Harrison's Landing, VA
- Thursday, July 31, 1862
- Coggins' Point, VA
- Friday, August 1, 1862
- Harrison's Landing, VA
 - Carnton, MO
 - Newark, MO
 - Orange Court House, VA
 - Ozark, MO
 - Barnett's Ford, VA
 - Haycock's Farm, VA
- Saturday, August 2, 1862
- Clear Creek, MO
 - Ozark, MO
 - Austin, MS
 - Coahoma County, MS
 - Totten's Plantation, MS
 - Tazewell, TN
 - Orange Court House, VA

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