

# **Crossed Sabers:** **Gettysburg Cavalry Scenarios**



**Colorized art courtesy of Marek/Janci Design, publishers of  
*Enduring Valor: Gettysburg in Miniature, Volumes 1 and 2* and  
*Undying Courage: Antietam in Miniature.***

**©Scott Mingus 2010  
The Johnny Reb Gaming Society  
1383 Sterling Drive  
York, Pennsylvania 17404**

**All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any format,  
electronic or written, without written consent of the Johnny Reb Gaming Society.**

## Table of Contents

Battle of Brandy Station – St. James Church action	Page 4
Battle of Brandy Station – Fleetwood Hill action	Page 8
Battle of Brandy Station – Stevensburg action	Page 12
Battle of Aldie, Virginia	Page 15
Skirmish at Goose Creek (Rectors Crossroads, Virginia)	Page 18
Battle of Middleburg, Virginia	Page 21
Battle of Upperville, Virginia	Page 24
Skirmish at Wrightsville, Pennsylvania	Page 28
Battle of Hanover, Pennsylvania	Page 31
Battle of Gettysburg – Buford's Opening Action (First Shot)	Page 35
Battle of Hunterstown, Pennsylvania	Page 38
Battle of Gettysburg – Rummel Farm (East Cavalry Field)	Page 41
Bibliography / Selected Resources	Page 44

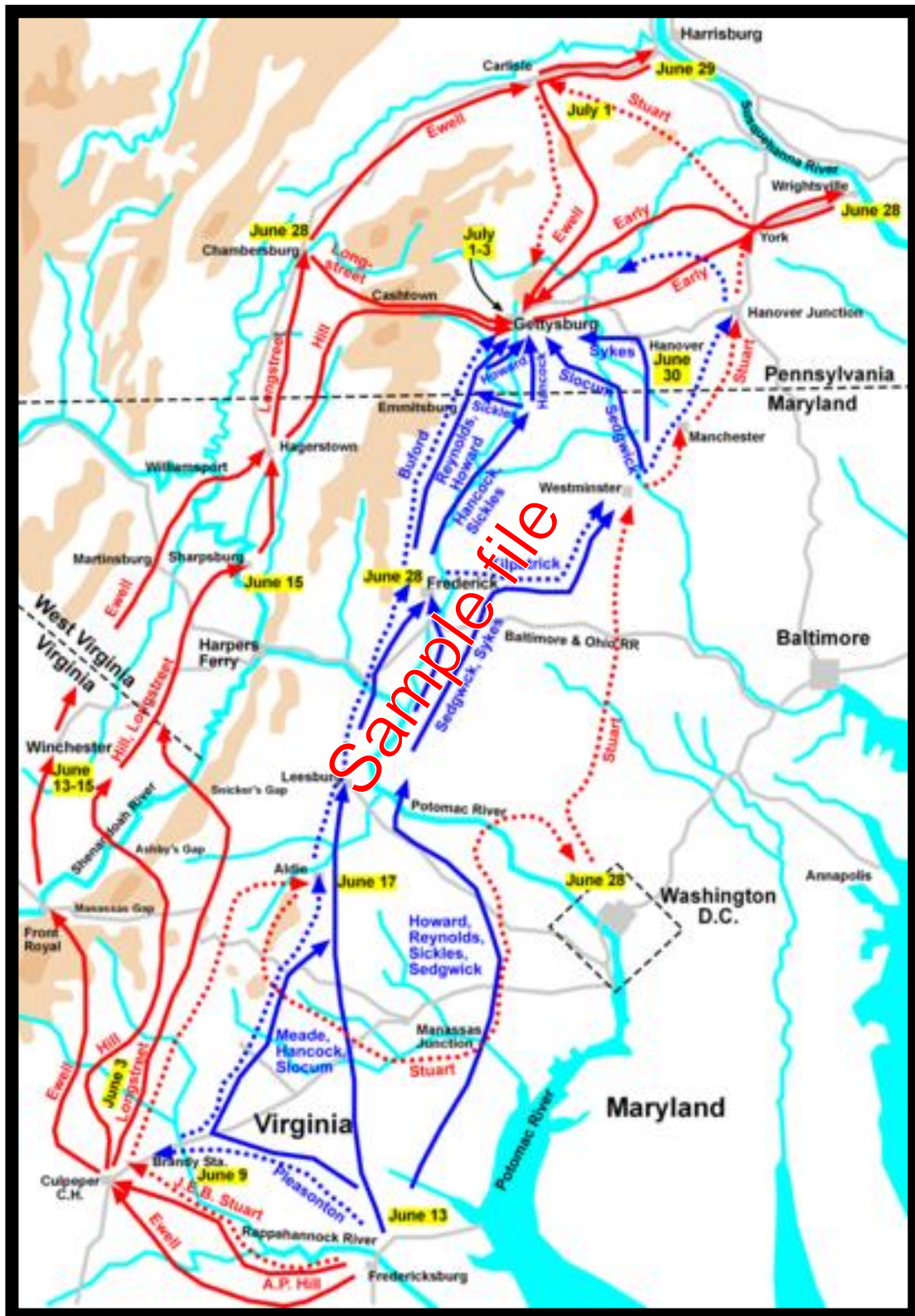


This scenario book is intended to be used for the *Johnny Reb 3* rules system, but is readily modifiable for other regimental-level rules. No attempts have been made to balance the scenarios for playability, but rather in keeping with the spirit of the original *Enduring Valor: Gettysburg in Miniature* series, I have tried to present the scenarios as close to the historical tactical situations as possible. Gamemasters may wish to alter or modify these scenarios accordingly to suit their preferences. Every attempt has been made to use the latest research in terms of unit armament, strengths, deployment, arrival times, etc., but of course, if you find conflicting data or information, feel free to incorporate it into your wargame.

The terrain maps are rather self-explanatory. The dotted black lines are fences; circle patterned black lines are stone walls; thin solid blue lines are streams or rivers; small black boxes represent houses or clusters of farm buildings; solid brown lines are roads; dotted or dashed brown lines are trails or farm lanes; and objectives are yellow stars. Union troops are shown in blue; Confederate in red. Skirmish lines are dotted blue or red lines.

*Questions, suggestions, alterations, etc. may be addressed to the author at [scottmingus@yahoo.com](mailto:scottmingus@yahoo.com).*

## The Gettysburg Campaign



Map drawn by Hal Jespersen for Wikipedia

## **Brandy Station: St. James Church**

**Tuesday, June 9, 1863  
Culpeper County, Virginia**

*"Hundreds of glittering sabers instantly leaped  
from their scabbards..."*

- Pvt. George M. Neese, Chew's Battery

### **BACKGROUND**

*(Courtesy of the National Park Service)*

The Battle of Brandy Station was the largest cavalry battle ever fought on the North American continent. Of the 20,000 soldiers involved, about 17,000 were of the mounted branch. Brandy Station was also the first battle of the war's most famous campaign—Gettysburg.

The Confederates had planned for June 9 to be a day of maneuver rather than of battle. Two of the army's three infantry corps were near Culpeper, six miles southwest of Brandy Station, poised to move into the Shenandoah Valley and thence up to Pennsylvania. Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, at Brandy Station, was to screen this movement with his 9,500-man cavalry division, while the remaining infantry corps held the attention of the Union army at Frederickburg, 35 miles southeast of Brandy Station.

The Federals knew that Confederate cavalry was around Culpeper, but its intelligence had not gathered information of the sizeable infantry force behind the horsemen. Army of the Potomac commander, Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, interpreted the enemy's cavalry presence around Culpeper to be indicative of preparations for a raid of his army's supply lines. Accordingly, he ordered his Cavalry Corps commander, Brig. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, to "break up Stuart's raid in its incipency."

The Confederates apparently did not expect any harassment from the enemy cavalry. The day before the important screening mission was scheduled to occur the Southern troops conducted a grand review for Gen. Robert E. Lee at Inlet Station, just two miles southwest of Brandy Station. Meanwhile, 8,000 Federal cavalrymen, organized into three divisions, and about

3,000 Northern infantrymen were preparing to disrupt the Confederate plans.

Shortly before 5 a.m., Brig. Gen. John Buford's division splashed across the fog-shrouded Rappahannock River at Beverly's Ford, surprising Confederate pickets. Nearby Southern horsemen from Brig. Gen. William "Grumble" Jones' brigade, awakened by the sound of gunfire, rode into the fray partially dressed and often riding bareback. They struck Buford's leading brigade, commanded by Col. Benjamin F. "Grimes" Davis, near a bend in the Beverly's Ford Road and temporarily checked its progress. Davis was killed in the brief melee.

His brigade had been stopped just short of where the Confederate horse artillery was camped, vulnerable to capture. Cannoneers swung one or two guns into position and fired down the road at the Federals, enabling the other pieces to escape and establish the foundation for the subsequent Confederate line. Beckham's artillery unlimbered at the Gee House and at the red brick St. James Church—structures located on two knolls on either side of the Beverly's Ford Road about 1.5 miles from the ford.

Most of Jones' command rallied to the left of this Confederate artillery line, while Wade Hampton's brigade eventually formed to the right. About 8 a.m., the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry suffered the greatest casualties of any regiment participating in the battle, when it (supported by the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry) unsuccessfully charged across an open 800-yard pasture to the very muzzles of the massed guns at St. James Church.

Realizing that the Southern artillery blocking the direct route to Brandy Station was a force to be dislodged, Buford determined to anchor his right on the Hazel River and try to turn the Confederate left. But he found W.H.F. "Rooney" Lee's brigade blocking his advance with some troops on a piece of high ground called Yew Ridge, and some dismounted troopers positioned along a stonewall in front. After sustaining heavy losses, the Federals finally wrested the wall from the Confederates. Fighting ceased at 10 a.m. For the next two hours, Southern gunners sporadically shelled the Federals positioned in the woods around Beverly's Ford Road.

### **THE WARGAME**

The scenario begins at 8 a.m. and ends after the 10 a.m. game turn. Table size is 4x6 feet for *Johnny Reb 3*, 15mm scale. Adjust as needed for other ground scales or rules sets. All units get a +2 opening volley die roll modifier.

### DEPLOYMENT

Set up is as per the map. General Stuart starts on Fleetwood Hill. All cavalry is mounted except for the skirmish lines, which are depicted by single stands from each of Hampton and Devin's regiments.

### TERRAIN

St. James Church is on a plateau marked by small woods, stonewalls, ditches, etc.). Roads are lined with fences. Consider all terrain as BROKEN for movement. Subtract 1" movement for each stream or fence that a unit crosses in open terrain. Roll for combat visibility in full inches in woods.

### VICTORY CONDITIONS

Hold the star point near St. James Church.

### ORDER OF BATTLE

#### Confederate

**Cavalry Division** – Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart +2

#### **Elements of Hampton's Brigade**

Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton III +1

1<sup>st</sup> NC Cavalry – 534 men / 18 figs, MLC, vet

1<sup>st</sup> SC Cavalry – 400 men / 13 figs, P/S, vet

Cobb's (GA) Legion – 420 men / 14 figs, P/S, elite

Jeff Davis (MS) Legion – 280 men / 9 figs, P/S, vet

*Note: The 2<sup>nd</sup> SC Cavalry was picketing the roads leading to Carrico Mill and to Kelly's Ford. The Phillip's Legion (GA) was also detached on picket duty.*

#### **"Laurel" Brigade**

Brig. Gen. William E. "Grumble" Jones +1

6<sup>th</sup> VA Cavalry – 150 men / 5 figs, MLC, vet

7<sup>th</sup> VA Cavalry – 420 men / 14 figs, MLC, vet

11<sup>th</sup> VA Cavalry – 420 men / 14 figs, P/S, vet

12<sup>th</sup> VA Cavalry – 560 men / 19 figs, P/S, vet  
35<sup>th</sup> Btln, VA Cav – 267 men / 9 figs, P/S, elite  
Chew's (VA) Ashby Horse Artillery – 1 section  
3" Rifles, 1 section 12# Napoleons, elite

**Horse Artillery** - Maj. Robert F. Beckham +1

McGregor's (VA) 2<sup>nd</sup> Stuart Horse Artillery – 1 section 3" Rifles, 1 section 12# Napoleons, veteran

Hart's (SC) Washington Artillery – 1 section mixed guns (1x 3" Rifle, 1x Napoleon), elite

Moorman's (VA) Lynchburg Horse Artillery - 2 sections mixed guns (2x 3" Rifle, 2x Napoleon), veteran



#### Union

**Elements of the Right Wing of the Army of the Potomac's Cavalry Corps** – Brig. Gen. John Buford +2

#### **Elements of 1<sup>st</sup> Division**

Cel. Thomas Devin +1

5<sup>th</sup> Indiana Cav – 360 men / 12 figs, BLC, vet

8<sup>th</sup> New York Cav – 640 men / 21 figs, BLC, vet

9<sup>th</sup> New York Cav (5 companies) – 400 men / 13 figures, BLC, vet

3<sup>rd</sup> West Virginia Cav (2 companies) – 180 men / 6 figs, BLC, vet

#### **Reserve Brigade**

Maj. Charles J. Whiting +1

1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Cav – *not present, guarding*

*communication lines east of the Rappahannock*

2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Cav – 480 men / 16 figures, BLC, vet

5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cav – *on detached duty*

6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cav – 470 men / 16 figures, BLC, veteran

6<sup>th</sup> PA Cav – 400 men / 13 figures, BLC, veteran

#### **Infantry (elements of Ames' select brigade)**

86<sup>th</sup> NY – 290 men / 10 figures, RM, veteran

124<sup>th</sup> NY "Orange Blossoms" – 240 men / 8 figures, RM, veteran

*Note – Beckham's guns had already driven off Devin's scattered sections of artillery support, which are not used in this scenario, nor are Ames' other available infantry regiments.*



“Jine the Cavalry!” was among J.E.B. Stuart’s favorite songs, and became the unofficial theme song of his Confederate cavalry corps. It recounts many of Stuart’s early exploits, including the daring “Ride around the Army of the Potomac” in the early summer of 1862, and the invasion of Pennsylvania in June and July 1863. One of Stuart’s men, Sam Sweeney, was an accomplished banjo player and often serenaded Stuart and his officers during the Gettysburg Campaign.

### JINE THE CAVALRY!

#### CHORUS:

*If you want to have a good time, jine the cavalry!*

*Jine the cavalry! Jine the cavalry!*

*If you want to catch the Devil, if you want to have fun,*

*If you want to smell Hell, jine the cavalry!*

We’re the boys who went around McClellian,  
Went around McClellian, went around  
McClellian!

We’re the boys who went around McClellian,  
Bully boys, hey! Bully boys, ho!

#### CHORUS

We’re the boys who crossed the Potomicum,  
Crossed the Potomicum, crossed the  
Potomicum!

We’re the boys who crossed the Potomicum,  
Bully boys, hey! Bully boys, ho!

#### CHORUS

Then we went into Pennsylvania,  
Into Pennsylvania, into Pennsylvania!  
Then we went into Pennsylvania,  
Bully boys, hey! Bully boys, ho!

#### CHORUS

The big fat Dutch gals hand around the  
breadium,  
Hand around the breadium, hand around the  
breadium!  
The big fat Dutch gals hand around the  
breadium,  
Bully boys, hey! Bully boys, ho!

#### CHORUS

Ol’ Joe Hooker, won’t you come out of The  
Wilderness?  
Come out of The Wilderness, come out of The  
Wilderness?  
Ol’ Joe Hooker, won’t you come out of The  
Wilderness?  
Bully boys, hey! Bully boys, ho!

#### CHORUS

*Lyrics are in the public domain.*

**William E. Jones**, born in Virginia in 1824, was an 1842 graduate of West Point who had served for 15 years as an Indian fighter in the Old West before resigning from the U.S. Army to farm. His nickname “Grumble” came from his irritable disposition. Shortly after his marriage, he survived a shipwreck, but his wife drowned after being washed from his arms. Jones raised a company in the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Cavalry under J.E.B. Stuart, and then became Colonel of the 7<sup>th</sup> VA. He became a general in September 1862, leading the 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade.

Stuart court-martialed him in late 1863 due to an insult, and Jones was re-assigned to the Trans-Mississippi. In 1864, he returned to the east and was killed in the Battle of Piedmont in the Shenandoah Valley.

