



The Great Invasion

Winchester, Virginia to Chambersburg, Pa

Led by **Ted Alexander & Jerry Holsworth**

Following his victory at Chancellorsville in May, 1863, General Lee received approval from his government to invade the north. Lee hoped an invasion would fuel the northern peace movement and, at least, disrupt the Union war effort. After the death of Stonewall Jackson, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, had been reorganized into three army corps under Longstreet, Ewell, and A.P. Hill. On June 3, advance troops of the Confederate army left their camps near Fredericksburg and marched west toward the Shenandoah Valley.

By June 13, elements of Ewell's Corps appeared before Winchester. On June 14-15, Ewell attacked the Federal garrison at Winchester and defeated it. After Winchester, Lee's army moved unchecked into the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania.

By June 28, Longstreet and Hill's Corps were at Chambersburg. Divisions of Ewell's corps had crossed the mountains to York and Carlisle, and were preparing to move against Harrisburg. However, Lee learned on this day that the Federal army was at Frederick, and that Hooker had been replaced by General Meade. Lee decided to bring his entire army east of the mountains and offer battle.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Winchester
Stephanson's Depot
Bunker Hill (W. Va.)
Martinsburg,
Williamsport river crossing,
Greencastle
Chambersburg.



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