

0. VICTORY AT CHANCELLORSVILLE - Story Preface
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In this image we see the result of Stonewall Jackson's unexpected flank attack at the battle of Chancellorsville. It depicts the collapse of the Union's Eleventh Corps. It is titled: *The stampede of the Eleventh Corps - Berry's Corps Checking the Pursuit*. "Berry's" corps refers to the troops led by Hiram Gregory Berry. The illustration is maintained by the Library of Congress which tells us where it was first published: "Illus. in: *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War* / by Alfred H. Guernsey and Henry M. Alden. Chicago, Ill.: McDonnell Bros., c1868, part 2, p. 494." Click on it for a better view.

In the time of the Civil War, it was difficult to keep Abraham Lincoln (for the USA) and Jefferson Davis (for the CSA) advised of battles and their outcomes. On May 3, although not expressly authorized by General Hooker, Major General Daniel Butterfield (Hooker's chief of staff), sent a telegram to Lincoln, advising that a battle near Chancellorsville had commenced on May 1st:

Though not directed or specially authorized to do so by Genl. Hooker I think it not improper that I should advise you that a battle is in progress.

Despite the early advantages Hooker had enjoyed, things continued to go badly for his Union forces. On May 6th, Hooker sent the president an encrypted telegram advising that his troops had withdrawn across the river. Given Hooker's earlier boast, it must have been one of the most difficult messages the commanding general ever sent.

How was it that the tide had turned so dramatically against Hooker? The U.S. Military Academy's annotated maps are helpful to understand what happened on each day of the Chancellorsville battle:

- The battle area immediately before serious fighting began.
- Situation at dark the first day of the Chancellorsville battle (1st of May, 1863).
- Situation on May 2nd at 6 p.m.
- By noon on the 3rd of May, Hooker's entire force had retreated within the lines held by his commanders Howard, Meade and Reynolds.
- By 4 p.m. that afternoon (May 3rd), Chancellorsville was back in Confederate control.

- Positions held by each side at 6 p.m. on the 4th of May.
- By 5 p.m. on May 6th, while President Lincoln was traveling to meet with General Hooker, the Confederates were firmly in control of the battle area.

Following Hooker's defeat, Edward Morgan sent Abraham Lincoln a telegram (on May 6th) requesting reinforcements:

Nothing will so Cheer the hearts of all good men as the immediate re-inforcement of Genl Hooker by troops from around Washington Fortress Monroe & Suffolk.

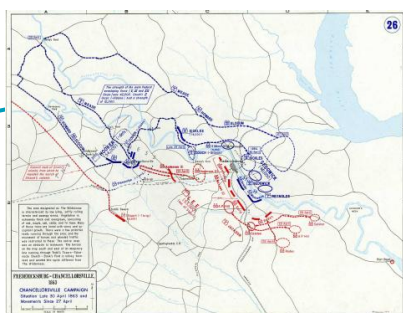
See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/VICTORY-AT-CHANCELLORSVILLE-Gods-and-Generals>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/VICTORY-AT-CHANCELLORSVILLE-Gods-and-Generals>

Media Stream



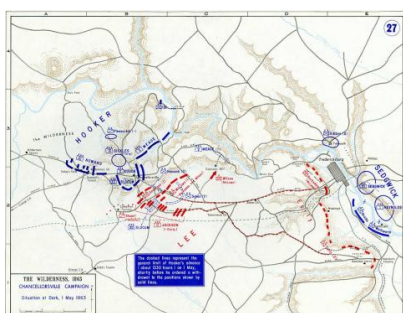
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign

Map online, courtesy U.S. Military Academy's Atlas Collection.

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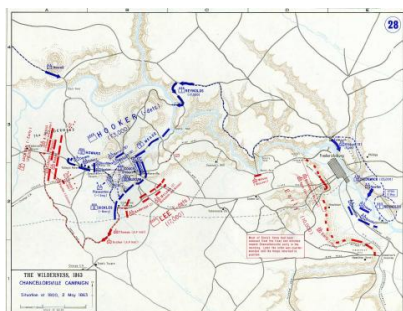
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 2

Map online, courtesy U.S. Military Academy's Atlas Collection.

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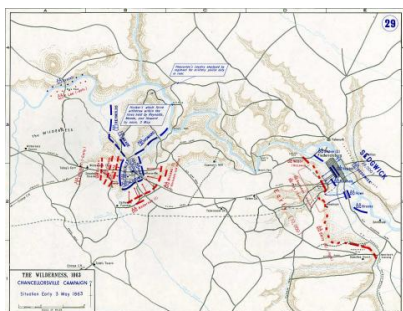
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 3

Map online, courtesy U.S. Military Academy's Atlas Collection.

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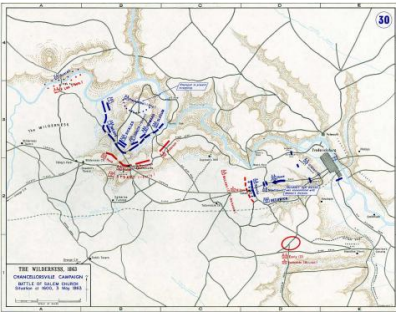
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 4

Map online, courtesy U.S. Military Academy's Atlas Collection.

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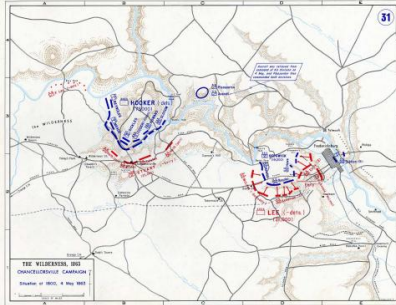
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 5

Map online, courtesy U.S. Military Academy's Atlas Collection.

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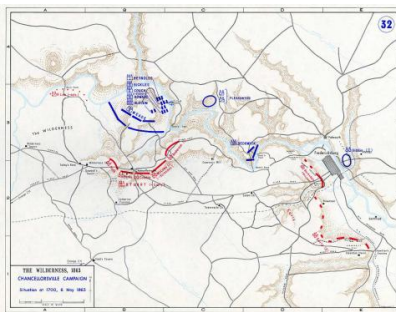
Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 6

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Map of Chancellorsville Campaign - 7

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