

Civil War Artillery At Gettysburg: Unraveling the Thunderous Impact

The Roaring Cannons of Gettysburg

The thunderous roar of artillery reverberated through the rolling hills of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, forever etching itself into the annals of military history. In the pivotal three-day battle, artillery played a pivotal role, shaping the course of the conflict and claiming countless lives.



Civil War Artillery at Gettysburg by Paul R. Wylie

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

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Strategy and Tactics

Both Union and Confederate commanders recognized the strategic importance of artillery. Union forces, under General George Meade, massed their cannons on elevated positions known as Seminary Ridge and Cemetery Ridge. These positions provided a commanding view of the battlefield and allowed for devastating fire on the Confederate infantry.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee, on the other hand, dispersed his artillery along the length of his lines. This tactic aimed to prevent a Union breakthrough and provide covering fire for his infantry.

Devastating Weaponry

The artillery batteries at Gettysburg employed an array of deadly weapons. Smoothbore guns, such as the 12-pounder Napoleon, fired solid shot and shell at infantry formations. Rifled guns, notably the 3-inch Ordnance Rifle,

had greater range and accuracy, capable of decimating enemy artillery and sharpshooters.



Union artillerymen served as the backbone of the Union victory.

The Battle's Fury

On July 1, 1863, artillery exchanges escalated into a furious cannonade. The Union's massed artillery on Seminary Ridge nearly overwhelmed the Confederate lines. On the second day, Pickett's Charge, a valiant infantry assault by the Confederates, was decimated by a barrage of Union artillery fire.

The third and final day of the battle saw a relentless artillery duel that ravaged the countryside. In the twilight of the day, a Union bombardment

set fire to Confederate wagons, casting an eerie glow over the battlefield.

Consequences and Legacy

The artillery bombardment at Gettysburg was unprecedented in the American Civil War. Over 200,000 artillery rounds were fired, resulting in an estimated 25,000 casualties. The sheer scale of the artillery fire destroyed buildings, uprooted trees, and left a lasting mark on the landscape.



The Battle of Gettysburg stands as a testament to the destructive power of artillery. It demonstrated the increasing sophistication and lethality of military technology and foreshadowed the future of warfare. The lessons learned at Gettysburg continue to shape artillery tactics and doctrine to this day.

"Civil War Artillery At Gettysburg" captures the awe-inspiring and terrifying impact of artillery on the battlefield. Through detailed accounts, vivid descriptions, and striking visuals, the book immerses readers in the heart of one of the most pivotal battles in American history. It is a captivating read for anyone interested in the Civil War, military history, or the enduring legacy of artillery warfare.

Free Download your copy today and witness the thunderous artillery that forever changed the course of the American Civil War.

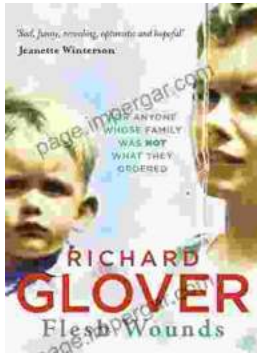


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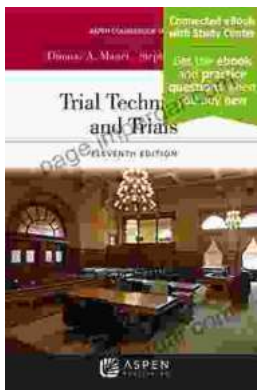
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