

LASSIE MATHURIN

The Battles of Kernstown



LAST FULL MEASURE

The First Battle of Kernstown March 23, 1862

Believing his small army outnumbered the Federal forces at Winchester, Jackson moved to strike and prevent Union reinforcements from leaving the Valley to reinforce McClellan on the Peninsula. Shields division, in fact, outnumbered Jackson more than two-to-one. On the afternoon of March 22nd, Ashby's cavalry and horse artillery skirmished near Kernstown. Shields' arm was broken by a shell fragment, and divisional command went to Col. Nathan Kimball.

At dawn Kimball moved to counter Ashby's advance on the Valley Pike north of Kernstown. Sullivan's and a portion of Kimball's own brigade were advanced, straddling the pike, pushing Ashby south of Hoge's Run, and taking possession of Pritchard's Hill. Ashby's troopers formed a new defensive line, which was later supported by infantry and maintained throughout the battle. Jenks' WV battery A unlimbered on Pritchard's Hill, and responded to Chew's horse artillery in position near the Opequon Church. Around 11am, Jackson's infantry began to concentrate south of Kernstown and it was evident to Kimball that Jackson's army was arriving on the field.

Jackson's infantry was on the field by 2 pm, massed south of Kernstown. Jackson launched a feint toward Kimball's main position along the Pike with a portion of Burks' brigade, to cover a flanking movement to his left along Sand Ridge. Jackson sent Fulkerson's and Garnett's brigades to the ridge, keeping Burks to support Ashby. Three batteries of artillery were positioned on the eastern face of the ridge and engaged the Union batteries on Pritchard's Hill.

Fulkerson advanced on the left, seizing an east-west stone fence on the Glass farm under fire. Garnett came up on Fulkerson's right, extending the battle line from Opequon Creek east across the front of the ridge, then bending back south to cover the artillery. A regiment was deployed across the Middle Road to maintain a connection between the flanks.

Responding to the threat to his right, Kimball moved Tyler's brigade forward from its reserve position near the toll gate at the intersection of the Valley Pike and Cedar Creek Grade to confront Fulkerson and Garnett. As the artillery duel continued, skirmishers closed and the fighting began to heat up.

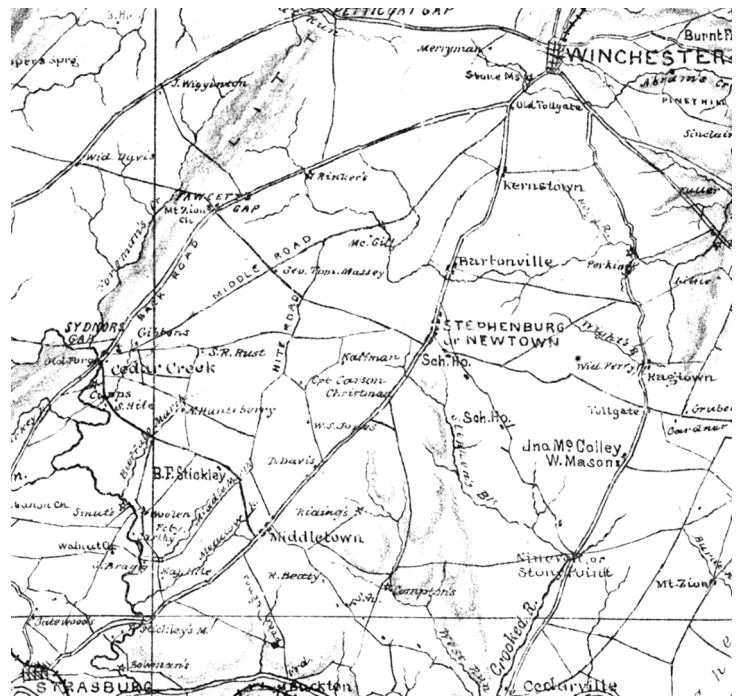
Tyler deployed his five regiments (about 3,000 men) about 4pm, and attacked the Confederate position on Sandy Ridge, supported by the batteries on Pritchard's Hill and a small cavalry force on his far right flank. Several attempts to turn the Confederate left were repulsed with heavy casualties, so Tyler focused on the Confederate center at the crest of the ridge. Realizing that Ashby's activity on the Valley Pike was a diversion, Kimball marched his brigade and part of Sullivan's (about 3,000) to the right, joining with Tyler to assault the Confederate center and right on Sandy Ridge. Garnett's outnumbered brigade lacked the protection of a stone fence like Fulkerson's and began to fall back. Jackson dispatched two

regiments to support Garnett but before they arrived, Garnett had ordered a withdrawal.

This movement uncovered Fulkerson's right to heavy fire and he too retired. The retreat soon became disorganized. The Confederate artillery kept Union forces in the open ground east of Sand Ridge at bay, firing canister, but no fire could be brought to bear along the wooded ridge itself. The Union advance along the crest soon forced the guns to retire as well.

Jackson deployed two regiments (5VA and 42VA) across the ridge to slow the Union advance. Several attacks were repulsed, and for a brief time fighting was hand-to-hand. According to Henderson, the colors of the 5th Ohio changed hands six times. Union cavalry advanced south along the road but were stalled by Confederate cavalry. Eventually, darkness ended the fighting.

Jackson withdrew along "Stone Lane" and south along the Valley Pike. Ashby remained with the cavalry at Bartonville, while the infantry went on to Newtown (Stephens City). The Union forces did not pursue.



First Battle of Kernstown, March 23, 1862

Set-up:

A. Time

The game starts on the March 23, 12pm turn and plays through the 8 pm turn. The Union player has the initiative on the first turn.

B. Victory Conditions

- At the end of the 8 pm turn, a victory check is made, and both players check their VP totals.
- The player with the greater number of VPs than his opponent wins.
- Each player gains a certain number of Victory Points (VP) for accomplishing the following objectives. Players should keep a running total in the spaces provided on the map.

US	CS	Objective
1	1	each eliminated enemy infantry strength point.
2	3	each eliminated enemy cavalry strength point.
4	2	each eliminated enemy artillery strength point.
12	5	eliminated enemy division commander.

C. Special Rules

- Shields** is a division commander, and rolls against his command rating for initiative as an in-command range division commander, with a normal command range for his rank.
- Jackson** is a division commander, and rolls against his command rating for initiative as an in-command range division commander, with a normal command range for his rank.

D. Reinforcements and Organization

- Reinforcements appear according to the Order of Appearance card.
- Artillery begins limbered or unlimbered as shown in the deployment.
- Normal reorganization and recovery rules apply.

E. Deployment: Commander Regiment *·artillery* [d]etached [U]nlimbered

F. Union Deployment

1712 **Shields Kimbal** 84PA *·4US,E* [U]
 2215 14IN [d]
 1412 4OH [d]
 2313 8OH [d]
 1812 67OH
 1813 **Sullivan** 5OH
 0816 39IL [d]
 1815 13IN [d]
 1817 62OH [d]
 1512 *·1OH,L* [U]
 1611 *·WV,A* [U]
 2215 *·WV,B* [U]

G. Confederate Deployment

2711 **Jackson Burks** 21VA *·Waters* [U]
 1806 **Garnett** 33VA
 1906 2VA
 1805 4VA
 2610 5VA [d] *·McLaughlin*
 2209 27VA [d]
 2712 *·Carpenter ·Marye ·Pleasants ·Schumaker* [U]
 2710 1VAbtn
 2811 42VA
 3410 48VA [d]
 1408 **Fulkerson** 23VA 37VA
 2716 7VA Cav
 2514 *·Chew* [U]

First Kernstown Orders of Battle

Valley Army 5
Jackson

J/G Garnett 14	J/G 4 VA 14	J/G 5 VA 24	J/G 27 VA 24	J/G 33 VA 24	J/G Carpenter 2 3 3	J/G McLaughlin 4 3 3	J/G Waters 2 3 3
J/B Burks 13	J/B 1 VA Batt 13	J/B 21 VA 23	J/B 42 VA 23	J/B 48 VA 23	J/B Marye 2 3 3	J/B Pleasants 2 3 3	
J/F Fulkerson 13	J/F 23 VA 13	J/F 37 VA 13	J/F Schumaker 2 3 3				
J/A 7 VA 24	J/A Chew 2 3 3						

V/1 Shields 4	AWV 30 NY 3 3 3	AWV 1 OH 3 3 3	AWV 5 US, L 3 3 3	AWV 1 WV, E 3 3 3	
V/1/1 Kimball 33	V/1/1 14 IN 33	V/1/1 4 OH 33	V/1/1 8 OH 42	V/1/1 67 OH 32	V/1/1 84 PA 22
V/1/2 Sullivan 33	V/1/2 39 IL 33	V/1/2 13 IN 33	V/1/2 62 OH 33		
V/1/3 Tyler 33	V/1/3 7 IN 33	V/1/3 7 OH 23	V/1/3 29 OH 33	V/1/3 110 PA 22	V/1/3 1 VA 33

LAST FULL MEASURE

The Second Battle of Kernstown July 24, 1864

On the afternoon of 23 July 1864, Confederate cavalry advanced aggressively down the Valley Pike, driving Union cavalry from Newtown (Stephens City) to Kernstown. Crook directed Duval's division to deploy across the pike and clear the town of Confederates, which they did with little difficulty. Crook then withdrew to Winchester behind Abrams Creek, leaving a brigade of cavalry at Kernstown. The Confederate army encamped in the vicinity of Strasburg; Ramseur at Capon Grade, Rodes at Fisher's Mill, Wharton and Gordon on Hupp's Hill. The Confederate cavalry withdrew to the vicinity of Newtown.

The Confederates left their encampments near Strasburg at dawn, and advanced down the Valley Pike. At Bartonsville, Ramseur's division was directed west on side roads to the Middle Road. Gordon, Wharton, and Rodes continued ahead on the pike. Early sent cavalry east and west on a wide-ranging maneuver to converge on Winchester in the Federal rear. The remainder of his cavalry led the advance down the pike, coming up against the main Union force at Kernstown about 10am. By noon, the vanguard of the Confederate infantry reached Kernstown. Gordon deployed to the left of the Valley Pike, Wharton to the right. Ramseur deployed across the Middle Road at Mrs. Massie's house. Rodes moved east from the Pike, following a ravine.

Crook aware that Early's army was approaching, brought two of his three divisions into line just north of Hogg's Run at Kernstown. Mulligan's division held the center behind a stone wall at the Pritchard House, supported by his artillery massed on Pritchard's Hill to his rear. Duval's two brigades were separated and posted on Mulligan's flanks with Hayes' brigade extending the US line east of the Valley Pike.

A strong skirmish line was posted near Opequon Church. Thoburn's division was held in reserve on Pritchard's Hill to the right rear of the main line. The cavalry guarded the flanks.

About noon, Gordon's division advanced in line west of the pike, driving back the skirmishers and closing with the main Union line in the vicinity of Opequon Church. Mulligan's division counterattacked, supported by Hayes on his left and took possession of the churchyard. Soldiers sheltered there from the intense firing behind stone fences and headstones in the cemetery. Gordon regrouped and advanced again, compelling Mulligan to fall back 250 yards to the stone fence along Pritchard's Lane.

Gordon reached Opequon Church but could make no more headway. Artillery was brought up south of the church to engage the Union artillery on Pritchard's Hill. One of Wharton's brigades came into line on Gordon's right. Meanwhile, Crook repositioned his forces. Duval's right flank brigade was moved west, astride Middle Road. Thoburn's division was brought forward to fill the gap between Mulligan and Duval. Elements of Duffie's cavalry

supported the right flank on the Middle Road and picketed the Cedar Creek Grade to the west.

Ramseur's division came onto line from the Middle Road on Gordon's left and advanced. Gordon shifted a brigade to the open ground west of Opequon Church and advanced against Thoburn in conjunction with Ramseur. Without orders, Gordon's brigade attacked and dislodged Union troops sheltering behind stone fences. Thoburn withdrew to the base of Pritchard's Hill, bending his line back to the north, exposing Mulligan's right flank. Ramseur advanced in force, wheeling right to confront Thoburn's line and bringing enfilade fire against Mulligan's line.

Wharton's division moved along the ridge east of the Pike to threaten the Union left held by Hayes. Elements of Averell's cavalry division were in position to delay this maneuver but withdrew without engaging. In conjunction with Ramseur's advance on the Confederate left, Wharton attacked about 3pm and quickly turned the Union left. Hayes retreated to the stone walls that lined the Valley Pike and rallied his brigade, facing east at right angles to the center held by Mulligan.

Three Confederate divisions now moved in concert to envelope the Union center placing Mulligan's division was under fire from three directions. While trying to direct the defense, Mulligan himself fell mortally wounded. "Lay me down and save the colors!" he told the officers who tried to assist him. As the Union center collapsed, soldiers began streaming to the rear. Hayes' brigade stood long enough on the crest of Pritchard's Hill to allow the Union artillery to escape. Elements of Duffie's cavalry counterattacked along the Middle Road long enough for Thoburn's division to retire.

A brigade of Thoburn's division made a stand near the toll gate at the intersection of the Valley Pike and the Cedar Creek Grade, while the rest of Crook's infantry retreated through the streets of Winchester. Rodes' division, in the meantime, crossed from the Valley Pike to the Front Royal Road and marched north to cut off the Federal retreat, meeting light opposition from the Union cavalry. Rodes followed the Federal forces north to Stephenson's Depot, taking hundreds of prisoners until darkness ended the pursuit.

The Confederate cavalry did not advance as Early expected. The disorganized Union army retreated to Bunker Hill where it regrouped. Crook continued the retreat before dawn and eventually reached the Potomac River on July 27th.

Second Battle of Kernstown, July 24, 1864

Set-up:

A. Time

The game starts on the July 24, 1pm turn and plays through the 8 pm turn. The Union player has the initiative on the first turn.

B. Victory Conditions

- At the end of the 8 pm turn, a victory check is made, and both players check their VP totals.
- The player with the greater number of VPs than his opponent wins.
- Each player gains a certain number of Victory Points (VP) for accomplishing the following objectives. Players should keep a running total in the spaces provided on the map.

US	CS	Objective
2	3	each eliminated enemy cavalry strength point.
4	2	each eliminated enemy artillery strength point.
12	5	eliminated enemy division commander.

C. Special Rules

- Crook** is a Corps commander operating independently, and rolls against his command rating as an *in-command* corp commander, with a normal corp commander's command range.
- Early** is an army commander, and rolls against his command rating as an army commander. He is also functions as a corps commander, and may put **Breckinridge** and *any* CS division commander in command.
- Breckinridge** is a corps commander, and rolls against his command rating normally dependent on whether he is in command or not. He may place *any* CS division commander, including **Ramseur's**, in command.

D. Reinforcements and Organization

- Reinforcements appear according to the Order of Appearance card.
- Artillery may begin limbered or unlimbered.
- Normal reorganization and recovery rules apply.

E. Commander Regiment *·artillery* [d]etached [U]imbered

F. Union Deployment

1612 **Crook, Mulligan, Harris**, 23IL, 10WV
1207 **Thoburn** 116OH a & b
1107 **Wells** 170OH
1106 34MA
1006 123OH a & b
1206 5NY HA a & b
1510 **Ely** 2MD
1409 18CT
1609 1WV
1610 4WV
1611 12WV
1416 **Duval Hayes** 23OH
1317 36OH a & b
1415 5WV 13WV *·IOH* [U]
1516 **Linton** 54PA
1613 11&15WV [d]
1513 *·30NY ·5US,L ·1WV,E* [U]
1014 **Duffie Tibbits** 1MDphb Cav
1114 15NY Cav
1115 21NY Cav
1015 12PA Cav
1116 **Higgins** 1NY(Lincoln) Cav
1117 1NYVetVol-20PA-22PA Cav
1214 *·1WV,F* [U]

G. Confederate Deployment

2612 **Early Terry** Stonewall Jones/a&b Stuart
1817 **Breckinridge Patton** 23VA 26VA
1518 **Wharton** 45VA&30VASSBtn
1618 **Forsberg** 51VA
1918 22VA
2217 **Smith** 60VA
2318 36VA
2117 45VABtn 69NC
2411 **Gordon York** LATigers Stafford
2409 **Atkinson** 61GA
2209 13GA 26GA
2310 31GA
2410 38GA 12GAbtn
2309 60GA
2407 **Hoffman** 31&49VA 58VA
2307 13VA 52VA
2205 **Ramseur Johnson** 12NC 20NC
2105 5NC
2306 23NC
2003 **Lewis** 21&57NC
2004 54NC&1NCSS
2104 6NC
1704 **Jackson** 20VA&46btnVACav 19VA&47btnVACav
2315 *·Bryan* [U]
2316 *·Chapman ·Lowrey* [U]

Second Kernstown

Orders of Battle

Valley E Early 5	King Bryan 2	King Chapman 2	King Lowrey 2
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E/Ra
Ramscur
4

E/Ra/H Hoffman 3	E/Ra/H 13 VA 3	E/Ra/H 31 & 49 VA 3	E/Ra/H 52 VA 2	E/Ra/H 58 VA 2
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E/Ra/J Johnston 3	E/Ra/J 5 NC 3	E/Ra/J 12 NC 3	E/Ra/J 20 NC 2	E/Ra/J 23 NC 3
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E/Ra/Lw Lewis 6	E/Ra/Lw 6 NC 3	E/Ra/Lw 21 & 57 NC 5	E/Ra/Lw 84 NG & 1 NC Bn SS 5
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Valley B
Breckinridge
4

B/W
Wharton
3

B/W/F Forsberg 6	B/W/F 45 VA & 30 VA 88 Bn 3	B/W/F 51 VA 5
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B/W/P Patton 4	B/W/P 22 VA 4	B/W/P 23 VA 4	B/W/P 26 VA 4
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B/W/S Smith 4	B/W/S 36 VA 4	B/W/S 45 VA Bn 5	B/W/S 60 VA 7	B/W/S 69 NC 2
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B/G
Gordon
5

B/G/A Atkinson 3	B/G/A 12 GA Bn 3	B/G/A 13 GA 3	B/G/A 26 GA 4	B/G/A 31 GA 6	B/G/A 38 GA 5	B/G/A 60 GA 5	B/G/A 61 GA 3
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B/G/Y York 3	B/G/Y LA Tigers 3	B/G/Y Stafford 5
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B/G/T Terry 4	B/G/T Stonewall 5	B/G/T Jones a 4	B/G/T Jones b 4	B/G/T Stewart 3
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C/V/J Jackson 6	C/V/J 19 VA & 47 VA Bn 3	C/V/J 20 VA & 46 VA Bn 3
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Army of WV Crook 4	AWV 30 NY 3	AWV 1 OH 3	AWV 5 US, L 3	AWV 1 WV, E 3
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AWV/1
Thorburn
4

AWV/1/1 Wells 8	AWV/1/1 34 MA 5	AWV/1/1 116 OH a 5	AWV/1/1 116 OH b 5	AWV/1/1 123 OH a 5	AWV/1/1 123 OH b 5	AWV/1/1 170 OH 4	AWV/1/1 5 NY HA a 7	AWV/1/1 5 NY HA b 7
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AWV/1/2 Ely 4	AWV/1/2 18 CT 4	AWV/1/2 2 MD 4	AWV/1/2 1 WV 4	AWV/1/2 4 WV 4	AWV/1/2 12 WV 4
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AWV/2
Duval
4

AWV/2/1 Hayes 7	AWV/2/1 23 OH 3	AWV/2/1 36 OH a 6	AWV/2/1 36 OH b 6	AWV/2/1 5 WV 4	AWV/2/1 13 WV 6
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AWV/2/2 Johnson 5	AWV/2/2 34 OH 7	AWV/2/2 91 OH 7	AWV/2/2 9 WV 4	AWV/2/2 14 WV 4
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AWV/3
Mulligan
4

AWV/3/1 Harris 3	AWV/3/1 23 IL 6	AWV/3/1 10 WV 2
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AWV/3/2 Linton 6	AWV/3/2 54 PA 4	AWV/3/2 11 & 15 WV 4
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AWV/C1
Duffie
4

AWV/C1/1 Tibbits *	AWV/C1/1 1 MD PHB *3	AWV/C1/1 15 NY *3	AWV/C1/1 21 NY *3	AWV/C1/1 12 PA *3
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AWV/C1/2 Higgins *	AWV/C1/2 1 NYVV 20 & 23 PA *4	AWV/C1/2 1 NY Lincoln *4
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