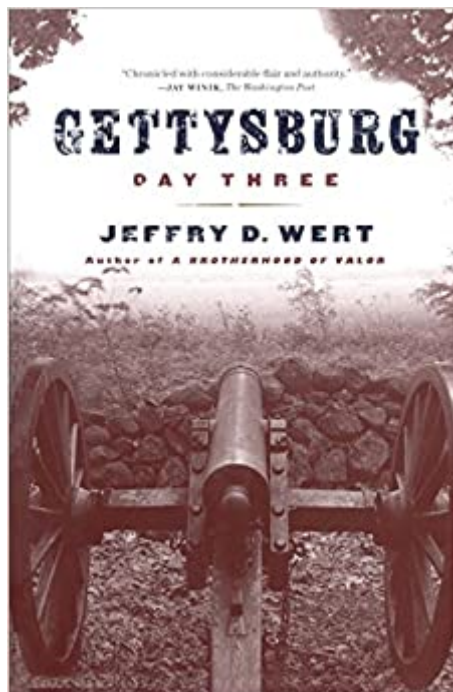


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# Gettysburg, Day Three



## Synopsis

Jeffrey D. Wert re-creates the last day of the bloody Battle of Gettysburg in astonishing detail, taking readers from Meade's council of war to the seven-hour struggle for Culp's Hill -- the most sustained combat of the entire engagement. Drawing on hundreds of sources, including more than 400 manuscript collections, he offers brief excerpts from the letters and diaries of soldiers. He also introduces heroes on both sides of the conflict -- among them General George Greene, the oldest general on the battlefield, who led the Union troops at Culp's Hill. A gripping narrative written in a fresh and lively style, *Gettysburg, Day Three* is an unforgettable rendering of an immortal day in our country's history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jay Winik The Washington Post Chronicled with considerable flair and authority. William D. Bushnell Civil War Book Review A compelling, gripping, and hour-by-hour account...Wert has once again added immeasurably to Civil War scholarship with this masterful story of men at war. Stephen W. Sears author of Chancellorsville A deeply researched, thorough, and rock-solid narrative of the climactic day at Gettysburg, by one of our best...historians. The Dallas Morning News Wert's artistic blend of analysis and narrative, enlivened by telling, firsthand descriptions of the carnage, allows readers to see Gettysburg as never before.

Jeffrey D. Wert is the author of eight previous books on Civil War topics, most recently *Cavalryman of the Lost Cause* and *The Sword of Lincoln*. His articles and essays on the Civil War have

appeared in many publications, including *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *American History Illustrated*, and *Blue and Gray*. A former history teacher at Penns Valley High School, he lives in Centre Hall, Pennsylvania, slightly more than one hour from the battlefield at Gettysburg.

interesting minor reports but no context, no overview of the importance of anything.

Good text, maps and well developed. A staple in my library for trips to the battlefield for visits. Especially like the broad research into the units outside of Pickett's Virginians.

A single-volume narrative account of the third day at Gettysburg. In all honesty, as uncharitable as this sounds, I'm not sure another study of the third day at Gettysburg was needed. Pfanz' magisterial volumes have already covered much of this material in more detail and equal narrative interest. The cavalry battles, which are Wert's addition to his narrative of the third day, are covered here in adequate detail with rather little discussion of their contribution to the battle overall. (I'd recommend Longacre's work for more detail on the cavalry.) Wert does do an excellent job of integrating primary sources throughout his text, bringing his narrative alive. He pays more attention to Pickett(et al.)'s Charge than other events, including the assaults on Culp's Hill, and his account saves its most descriptive language for that event, sometimes slipping over the line into melodrama. His analysis of why the battle turned out as it did seems solid but not revolutionary, with some interesting comments about the limitations of Confederate artillery. I think this would be a useful, engaging read for a person wanting a single-volume account of the Civil War's most famous battlefield moment. For more advanced researchers, I don't think that it replaces preexisting resources.

I read this fine account cover to cover on Christmas day, and will look for more of Wert's histories. It's clear, informative and well-written, using contemporary sources. Though I hold a Masters in history and have read countless Civil War books, I learned a lot. I highly recommend this to the Civil War buff. Robert A. Hall Author: *The Coming Collapse of the American Republic* (All royalties go to a charity to help wounded vets.)

Having read several books on Gettysburg, I read this to fill in some details on the battle sequence and dependencies and another perspective on the key reasons for Confederate defeat. The book provided this but was uneven in style and is clumsy with all the quotes saying the same thing over

and over... about how bad it was for everyone that lived through it. Take aways: The South lost because: (1) Lee's leadership style and communication problems, (2) Disadvantaged ground (3) Too little artillery to complete what they started. Details on battle sequence is useful but disjointed.

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