

Through the Fire and Smoke

Introduction

John Buford was a professional soldier who served in the United States Army for over 30 years. He was a cavalry officer who fought in the Mexican-American War and the Civil War. Buford was a skilled and experienced commander who played a key role in several important battles, including the First Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Gettysburg, and the Battle of the Wilderness.

Buford was born in Kentucky in 1826. He graduated from West Point in 1848 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons. He served in the Mexican-American War, where he was promoted to first lieutenant. After the war, Buford served on the frontier and in the cavalry school at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Buford was a major in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment. He was promoted to brigadier general in September 1861 and given command of a cavalry brigade in the Army of the Potomac. Buford played a key role in the First Battle of Bull Run, where his cavalry helped to cover the Union retreat. He also played a key role in the Battle of Gettysburg, where his cavalry helped to delay the Confederate advance on the first day of the battle.

Buford was a skilled and experienced cavalry officer who was known for his courage and leadership. He was also a fair and just commander who was respected by his troops. Buford died of typhoid fever in 1863 at the age of 37. He is buried in West Point Cemetery.

Buford's legacy is one of courage, leadership, and professionalism. He was a true American hero who served his country with distinction. His story is an inspiration to all who serve in the military.

Book Description

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In this comprehensive biography, Pasquale De Marco tells the story of Buford's life and career.

From his early days as a young officer in the Mexican-American War to his rise to prominence as a cavalry

commander in the Civil War, Buford's story is one of dedication, sacrifice, and achievement.

Pasquale De Marco draws on a wealth of primary and secondary sources to paint a vivid portrait of Buford, the man and the soldier.

Readers will learn about Buford's early life and education, his military service in the Mexican-American War, his marriage and family, and his reputation as a cavalry officer. They will also learn about Buford's role in the Civil War, including his key role in the First Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Gettysburg, and the Battle of the Wilderness.

Through the Fire and Smoke is the definitive biography of John Buford.

It is a must-read for anyone interested in American history, the Civil War, or the history of the United States Army.

Chapter 1: A Man of Honor

Topic 1: Early Life and Education

John Buford was born on March 4, 1826, in Woodford County, Kentucky. He was the son of George and Anne Buford, who were both from prominent Kentucky families. Buford's father was a lawyer and politician who served in the Kentucky legislature. His mother was a devout Christian who instilled in her son a strong sense of morality and duty.

Buford grew up in a close-knit family and received a privileged education. He attended the best schools in Kentucky and excelled in his studies. He was particularly interested in history and mathematics, and he developed a lifelong love of learning.

In 1844, Buford entered the United States Military Academy at West Point. He was a good student and graduated in 1848, ranked 12th in his class. He was

commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons, a cavalry regiment.

Buford's early life and education prepared him well for a career in the military. He was intelligent, disciplined, and ambitious. He was also a natural leader and had a knack for inspiring his troops.

Buford's early military career was spent on the frontier, where he fought against Native American tribes. He also served in the Mexican-American War, where he distinguished himself as a brave and capable officer.

By the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, Buford was a major in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment. He was promoted to brigadier general in September 1861 and given command of a cavalry brigade in the Army of the Potomac. Buford went on to play a key role in many of the most important battles of the Civil War, including the First Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Gettysburg, and the Battle of the Wilderness.

Chapter 1: A Man of Honor

Topic 2: Military Service in the Mexican-American War

John Buford's military service began in 1848 when he graduated from West Point and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons. He served in the Mexican-American War, which lasted from 1846 to 1848.

The Mexican-American War was a conflict between the United States and Mexico over the annexation of Texas. Buford's regiment was part of the Army of the West, which was commanded by General Stephen W. Kearny. The Army of the West marched from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and then on to California.

Buford saw action in several battles during the Mexican-American War, including the Battle of

Sacramento and the Battle of San Pasqual. He was promoted to first lieutenant for his gallantry in action.

After the Mexican-American War, Buford served on the frontier and in the cavalry school at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. He was promoted to captain in 1855.

Buford's service in the Mexican-American War was a valuable experience that prepared him for the Civil War. He learned how to lead troops in combat and how to fight in a variety of terrain. He also gained a reputation for courage and leadership.

Buford's service in the Mexican-American War also helped to shape his views on slavery. He witnessed the brutality of slavery firsthand and became an outspoken opponent of the institution. He believed that slavery was a moral evil and that it had no place in a free and democratic society.

Buford's experiences in the Mexican-American War had a profound impact on his life and career. He

emerged from the war as a seasoned officer and a committed abolitionist. He was ready to play a leading role in the fight for the Union during the Civil War.

Chapter 1: A Man of Honor

Topic 3: Marriage and Family

John Buford was born into a prominent Kentucky family in 1826. His father was a successful businessman and landowner, and his mother was a devout Christian. Buford had two older brothers and two younger sisters. He grew up in a loving and supportive home, and he received a good education.

Buford attended West Point Military Academy, where he graduated in 1848. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons, a cavalry regiment. Buford served in the Mexican-American War, where he was promoted to first lieutenant. After the war, he served on the frontier and in the cavalry school at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

In 1856, Buford married Elizabeth McCook. She was the daughter of a prominent Ohio family. They had two children, a son and a daughter. Buford was a devoted

husband and father. He loved spending time with his family, and he was always there for them.

Buford's family was very important to him. He was a loving husband and father, and he was always there for them. His family was a source of strength and support for him throughout his life.

Buford's wife, Elizabeth, was a strong and independent woman. She was a loving and supportive wife, and she was always there for her husband and children. She was also a skilled horsewoman and an accomplished musician.

Buford's children, John Jr. and Mary, were a source of great joy for him. He loved spending time with them, and he was always proud of their accomplishments. John Jr. followed in his father's footsteps and became a cavalry officer. Mary married a successful businessman, and they had several children.

This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.

Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.

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