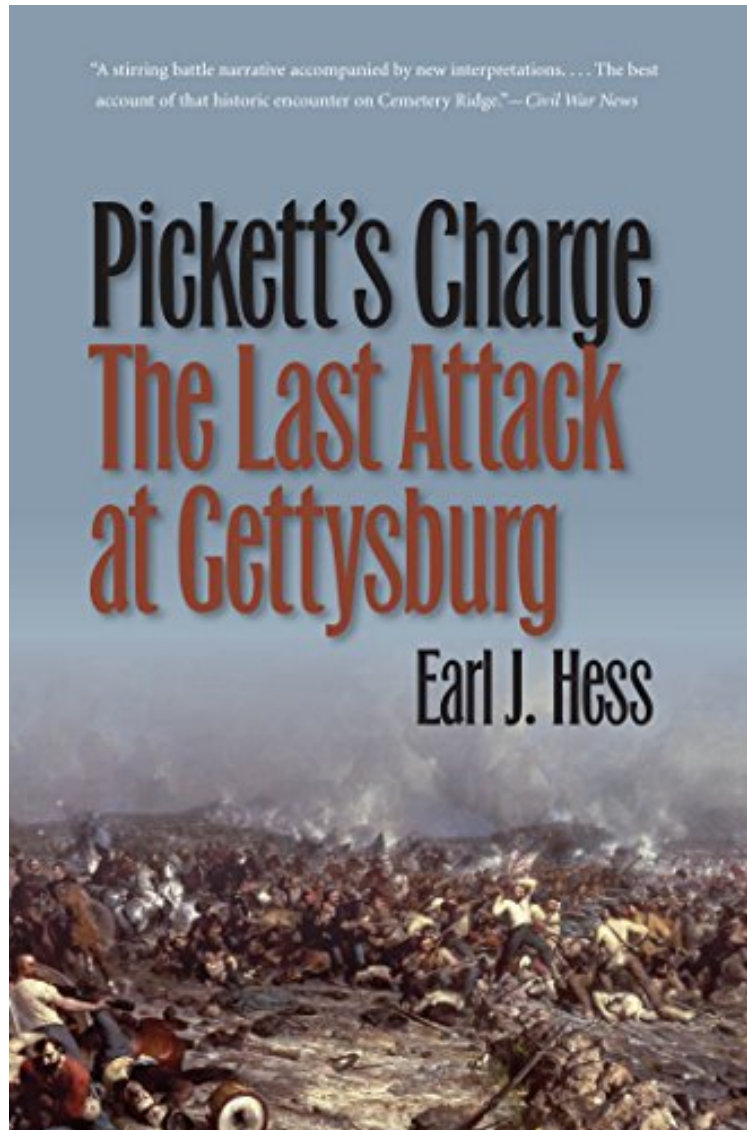


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Pickett's Charge--The Last Attack at Gettysburg (Civil War America)

Earl J. Hess

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#749619 in Books Hess Earl J 2010-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.24 x 1.26 x 6.341, 1.65 #File Name: 080787129X520 pages Pickett's Charge The Last Attack at Gettysburg | File size: 64.Mb

Earl J. Hess : Pickett's Charge--The Last Attack at Gettysburg (Civil War America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pickett's Charge--The Last Attack at Gettysburg (Civil War America):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Definitive study of Pickett's Charge By Robert C. Olson Definitive study of Pickett's Charge Earl Hess's well researched Pickett's Charge--The Last Attack at Gettysburg is the definitive

study of Gettysburg's final bloody battle on July 3, 1863. Hess spares no investigative resource in his exhaustive examination of all aspects of this crucial doomed attack. He breaks the attack down along chronological stages while examining all personal and logistical aspects. Mr. Hess further examines all tactical and strategic components of the doomed attack while comparing pros and cons of the event's reality in conjunction with other various possible outcomes. Could Pickett's Charge have worked? What if Pickett's Charge had broken the Union's center, what then? These and a myriad of other cogent questions were both asked and answered by Mr. Hess. Yes, the book is mind-numbing in its exhaustive detail but that is the beauty of this definitive history. Reading it I found myself totally immersed in the events of that hot July day when Marse Robert sent his wonderful boys to assault the unassailable, knowing that the possibility of victory was slight but still doing their duty in light of the most difficult of odds. Could success have been achieved? Yes, but everything had to go perfectly--IT DIDN'T. Mr. Hess's up close and personal examination of this horrific event was both illuminating and instructive. 5+ stars for a very well done historical monograph of the first order. Excellent in-depth analysis of not only the attack but also of the individuals involved. I liked how Mr. Hess informed the reader what happened to the various players after Gettysburg. I also liked how Mr. Hess discussed the insider bickering that follows every major historical event. Nothing ends with the last shot, there are always loose ends, blame, intrigue, what-ifs, dissembling, parsing, misinformation and yes even disinformation. History is written by the victors. Further, history is not what happened per se but rather what was /is written down. Mr. Hess cuts through the fog of Pickett's Charge to present an accurate portrayal of those most difficult hours on a very hot July 3rd afternoon. Good use of maps to keep the reader orientated and wonderful presentation of photographs to give the reader a personal connection to the men involved. Abundant facts and statistics that gives depth to the author's assertions and What If scenarios. I liked that Mr. Hess did NOT write from the typical POST analysis "the-attack-was-doomed" view. Rather, he presented the facts with clarity and critical analysis, and viewed the event from the perspective of the historical times involved. Mr. Hess is not a revisionist, but rather a critical chronicler of the event--A historical objectivist if you will. Most refreshing compared to the plethora of nuanced, subjective, historical relativism that dominates so many "sophisticated" histories today. Still, as I read Hess's account of Pickett's, Pettigrew's, and Trimble's men stepping off into glory I couldn't help but think of the immortal words of William Faulkner from his novel *Intruder in the Dust*, "....This Time. Maybe This Time..." Must read for Civil War history buffs. This is the definitive study of Pickett's Charge and will only gain in historical stature. Well done Earl Hess. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Well done history of a famous event By R Colton Earl Hess has written an excellent history of the last major event at Gettysburg. He explains how the charge was conceived and then poorly planned and executed. Lee and his officers (with the exception of Longstreet, who knew better) were overconfident. They felt they could beat any Union Army. Clearly Meade and some his subordinates such as Winfield Scott Hancock were better at Gettysburg and their troops were just as good as the Confederate troops. This Union victory along with Grant's at Vicksburg confirmed the inevitable Union victory in the War of the Rebellion. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Tracy T. Anthony great product

Sweeping away many of the myths that have long surrounded Pickett's Charge, Earl Hess offers the definitive history of the most famous military action of the Civil War. He transforms exhaustive research into a moving narrative account of the assault from both Union and Confederate perspectives, analyzing its planning, execution, aftermath, and legacy.

Hess sweeps away the accumulated myths about Pickett's Charge to provide the definitive history of the engagement. . . Drawing on exhaustive research, especially in unpublished personal accounts, he creates a moving narrative of the attack from both Union and Confederate perspectives, analyzing its planning, execution, aftermath, and legacy.--McCormick Messenger Easily stands above all comparable accounts of the last fatal act of the Gettysburg drama. . . . [It is] thoroughly researched.--Allen C. Guelzo, *The Barnes Noble* This book is probably the best book on Pickett's Charge that has been written to date. . . . Hess's writing is clear and lucid, and very descriptive of the horrible battlefield conditions during this storied attack and repulse. . . . His book will stand on its own merit for a long time to come. It's a must-have title for any Gettysburg collection.--*Journal of Military History* [Hess] utilizes a wide range of primary sources penned by the participants themselves from before the attack began through postwar remembrances. . . From this perspective we have not only a fuller appreciation of what the participants experienced, but also a more accurate picture of the charge's significance in the larger context of war.--*Civil War Times* Hess provides a stirring battle narrative accompanied by new interpretations tracing the hows and whys of what has been called Pickett's Charge. . . . A successful combination of familiar and not so well known accounts. . . . Very readable with a liberal use of maps and illustrations to accompany the text. . . . A necessary read for anyone interested in the Gettysburg Campaign or military history. . . . The best account of that historic encounter on Cemetery Ridge.--*Civil War News* Here we are told again and better of the best-known day of the war, in a beautifully written account. . . . No prior account captures with such integrity and historical accuracy the horror and valor of the best-known infantry assault of the war. This book imparts a palpable understanding and appreciation of the roles played by men of all ranks, both

sides, the brave, the foolish, the cowardly, the opportunistic.--Virginia Quarterly Well illustrated with scenes from the battlefield and portraits of the principal figures. . . . The writing is crisp and clear. Pickett's Charge is a valuable addition to the Civil War shelf.--Washington TimesHess brings an impressive outpouring of new and old sources to bear in a strong narrative of the attack and its repulse that is rich in detail, quotes and personal accounts, with excellent accompanying maps and photographs. . . . This is a good book.--Washington Post Book World Given the volume of publications on Gettysburg, it is difficult to write something that is fresh and original on the battle. Earl Hess has succeeded in doing this. I have no doubt that this work will take its place as the new standard on Pickett's Charge.--D. Scott Hartwig, Historian, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania From the Inside FlapSweeping away many of the myths that shroud Pickett's Charge, Hess offers the definitive history of the most famous military action of the Civil War. He transforms exhaustive research into a moving narrative account of the assault from both Union and Confederate perspectives, analyzing its planning, execution, aftermath, and legacy.