

Chapter 1 : The forgotten rebellion of the Black Seminole Nation

Osceola in the War of the Rebellion. An address delivered at Osceola, Tioga County, Pa., on Friday, May 30th, Item Preview remove-circle Share or Embed This Item.

A sweeping tale of a decades-long struggle against oppression, the movie would show how Horse and the Black Seminoles created the largest haven for runaway slaves in the American South, led the biggest slave revolt in U. What is perhaps most amazing about this story is how it has been overlooked so consistently, not just by filmmakers and popular audiences but by almost every historian of slavery. Now a nonprofessional historian - J. Bird, an administrator at the University of Texas - has written and produced an engrossing multimedia Web documentary, *Rebellion: To see it for johnhorse*. In the process, Bird has illustrated not just an important part of the American past but also one of the ways cyberspace is changing how history is studied and taught. Seminoles migrating from Alabama and Georgia to escape white encroachment and blacks fleeing the bonds of slavery. Both were welcome in Florida. The escaped slaves, in fact, were offered their freedom if they would defend the Spanish crown. Both the Catholic Church and Spanish law treated slavery as an unnatural condition, and both recognized blacks and American Indians as human beings if not equals. More practically, offering sanctuary to English slaves created a human buffer zone and a free fighting force against the British colonists. Mose, north of St. Augustine, was soon established as "the first legally sanctioned free black town in North America. The Seminoles and blacks living there overwhelmingly sided with the British during the conflict, as they had no love for the colonists who had dispossessed and enslaved them. At the end of the war, the Treaty of Versailles returned Florida to Spanish rule in The Southern states did not rest easily with free and armed blacks living nearby and welcoming runaway slaves - especially since those communities were allied with thousands of equally free and armed Indians. From George Washington onward, presidents tried to deal with the "problem. Andrew Jackson invaded Florida, ostensibly to pursue justice against those who had attacked Fort Scott in Georgia. In the process he seized the peninsula for the United States, executing those who opposed him and "cleaning out" many Seminole and Black Seminole villages to make Florida more suitable for annexation. The United States formally purchased the peninsula from Spain the following year. When Jackson became president, he decided to drive the remaining communities out of Florida by force. As Bird explains, "Maroon warriors and plantation slaves played integral roles in the uprising. By April of , the Black Seminoles and their Indian allies had sparked the largest slave rebellion in U. During the war, another leader emerged: In the Black Seminoles agreed to cease fighting and move to the Indian Territory present-day Oklahoma in exchange for legal recognition of their freedom. Once relocated, though, Horse and his people were threatened repeatedly with re-enslavement - by Indians as well as whites - with little or no protection from the law. Attorney General John Y. Mason announced that the United States never had the power to free the Black Seminoles, and that they therefore were still legally slaves. There Horse became a famed colonel in the Mexican army. When slavecatchers from the Republic of Texas attempted to capture the Black Seminoles in Mexico, they met resistance from Mexicans as well as Black Seminoles. In the s, Horse and his people finally gained a legally recognized Mexican homeland in Nacimient. We celebrate the founding fathers for taking up arms against the oppressor, yet nowhere in American history books will students find an example of a community of armed black rebels who successfully fought the tyranny of slavery. One is the inherent difficulty in separating the intertwined threads of the Native American conflict, "maroon war," and slave rebellion that made up the Second Seminole War. Many scholars simply did not attempt to extricate one story from another. But Bird believes there is also an ideological reason most schoolchildren do not know the name John Horse. More recently, Genovese and his scholarship have turned from Marxism toward conservatism. With its cross-referenced sources and attention to detail, *Rebellion* offers a compelling case for Web documentaries as a significant new medium for the writing, dissemination, and revision of history. Bird originally conceived of his project as a film, and he still is pursuing that goal, but the *Rebellion* site is an impressive accomplishment in itself. It would be difficult, for instance, to confuse the "Why does any of this matter? He also takes special care to document his research, while presenting information in a variety of

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formats appropriate for different skill sets and interests, from the introductory to the scholarly, the brief to the in-depth, all labeled in a clear, user-friendly.

*Osceola In The War Of The Rebellion. An Address Delivered At Osceola, Tioga County, Pa., On Friday, May 30th, [Tubbs Charles , Orville Samuel Kimball] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Sturgis argues that John Horse and the Black Seminoles deserve to be remembered for a number of reasons: They created the largest haven in the U. South for runaway slaves. They led the largest slave revolt in U. They secured the only emancipation of rebellious slaves prior to the U. They formed the largest mass exodus of slaves across the United States and, ultimately, to Mexico. Learn more about this remarkable story that has been overlooked by film makers, popular culture, and, importantly, historians of slavery. This story has fallen through the cracks, in part because it blends the history of Native Americans and of slaves and in part because it represents a blemish in U. But this group of freedom fightersâ€”who ultimately found peace, liberty, and prosperityâ€”is worth remembering. John Horse and the Black Seminoles deserve to be remembered for a number of reasons. Civil War, and they formed the largest mass exodus of slaves across the United States, moving from the Florida Everglades through Indian Territoryâ€”what would become Oklahomaâ€”eventually locating in Mexico where they secured title to their own land. In the early 18th Century, two groups in particular fled the colonial South into Spanish Florida, into the Everglades. And the other group was runaway slaves, people who were fleeing and trying to create a free life for themselves. Both were welcome in Florida and in fact the Spanish crown offered runaway slaves their freedom if they would defend the land for the crown, for the Spanish. So a mixed society emerged in the Everglades of intermarriage, family intermingling between these runaway slaves and the Seminoles. And in fact the first legally sanctioned black free town in the North American continent was in the Spanish Florida Everglades. And they knew that their own slaves felt free to run away and be harbored by this group. They knew that they were welcomed. He went into Florida and claimed it for the United States. When he seized the peninsula he took the opportunity to execute some of the people who opposed him and also to clean out some of the areas of former slaves and Seminoles because he felt this would make it better for annexation. The United States then soon actually bought Florida from the Spanish. When Jackson became president he decided to make sure that the Black Seminole communities were moved out by force. So he pursued this in his policy, his larger policy of Indian removal. This led to the Second Seminole War, which was â€”, and became the largest and costliest of the so called, Indian wars. Because the two communities were tied togetherâ€”that is the former slaves and the Seminolesâ€”when the Seminoles were attacked in the Seminole War, this led to an uprising of the former slaves. In April of , Black Seminoles and their Indian allies moved together to create what was the largest slave rebellion in U. More than plantation slaves ran away from their masters and joined the Black Seminoles, essentially in laying waste to the Florida sugar mills, which were some of the most valuable areas, plantations, in the whole continent. One Seminole leader at the time was the leader Osceola, who is justly remembered by history. Another leader who rose up at this time was John Horse, who was ethnically a Black Seminole and who would ultimately lead his people on a long and trying exodus for freedom. So despite the fact that many of them were runaway slaves, they would have the opportunity to start over again as free individuals. Once they moved from the Everglades to Indian Territory, however, they found that their freedom was under attack both by whites and by other Native Americans. In , a decade after they had made the agreement with the U. This was like opening season on them, basically declaring that they were there for the picking. And so they did the only thing that they could do, they fled once again. Without security in Indian Territory, Horse and his Seminole ally Coacoochee promptly went to Mexico where slavery was already illegal and had been for a couple of decades. There Horse became famous as a general in the Mexican army and his people found a way to make a life. Once they relocated to Mexico, things changed. When slave catchers from the Republic of Texas went over the border to try to find the runaway slaves, now free men, they met resistance not only from the Black Seminoles but also from the Mexicans and the Mexican Army itself. And perhaps most importantly, it really represents a blemish on U. Not only because of the poor treatment of Native America as represented by the Seminole War, not only the poor treatment of African Americans through the device of slavery, but also because this group really did

manage to negotiate a separate peace with the U. I recommend highly the website www.

Chapter 3 : Tioga County PA Military Records

Internet Archive BookReader Osceola in the War of the Rebellion. An address delivered at Osceola, Tioga County, Pa., on Friday, May 30th, An address delivered at Osceola, Tioga County, Pa., on Friday, May 30th,

The 11th Pennsylvania Infantry was organized at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and mustered in for a three-year enlistment on August 16, under the command of Colonel Charles L. The 11th Pennsylvania Infantry mustered out of service on June 23, Detailed service Edit Moved to Baltimore, Md. Duty at Relay House, Md. Escort stores to Washington July 1â€”5. Join Division at Frederick, Md. Pursuit of Lee July 7â€” Wapping Heights July Bristoe Campaign October 9â€” Advance to line of the Rappahannock November 7â€”8. Brandy Station November 8. Mine Run Campaign November December 2. Demonstration on the Rapidan February 6â€”7, Duty at and near Brandy Station until May. Rapidan Campaign May 4-June Assault on the Salient May North Anna River May 23â€” On line of the Pamunkey May 26â€” Cold Harbor June 1â€” Before Petersburg June 17â€” Siege of Petersburg until July 6. Moved to Baltimore, Md. Battle of Monocacy July 9. Battle of Opequan, Winchester, September Battle of Cedar Creek October Duty at Kernstown until December. Moved to Washington, D. Siege of Petersburg December to April Fort Fisher, Petersburg, March 25, Appomattox Campaign March April 9. Assault on and fall of Petersburg April 2. Appomattox Court House April 9. Surrender of Lee and his army. March to Danville April 23â€”27, and duty there until May March to Richmond, Va. Casualties The regiment lost a total of men during service; 6 officers and 90 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded, 1 officer and 70 enlisted men died of disease. Commanders Colonel Charles L. Sumwalt Colonel Matthew R. Mauck - killed Confederate General A.

Chapter 4 : Osceola, Story Panel 7 of 7 - Part Two, War - Rebellion

In , Osceola led a small group of warriors in the Seminole resistance during the Second Seminole War, when the United States tried to remove the tribe from their lands in Florida to Indian Territory west of the Mississippi River.

The inhabitants of the town of Tallassee were an admixture of Native American, English, Irish, and Scottish ethnicity, while some were African-American blacks. The Creek were among the Southeastern Native Americans who held slaves. Powell was believed to have ancestors from all of these groups. Ann was probably the sister or aunt of Peter McQueen , a prominent Creek leader and warrior. Like his mother, Billy Powell was raised in the Creek tribe. He stayed in the area as a fur trader and married into the Creek tribe, becoming closely involved with this people. After early military skirmishes and the signing of the Treaty of Moultrie Creek , by which the US seized the northern Seminole lands, Osceola and his family moved with the Seminole deeper into the unpopulated wilds of central and southern Florida. With them, he had at least five children. One of his wives was African American, and Osceola fiercely opposed the enslavement of free people. Statue in Silver Springs, Florida Through the s and the turn of the decade, American settlers kept up pressure on the US government to remove the Seminole from Florida to make way for their desired agricultural development. According to legend, Osceola stabbed the treaty with his knife, although there are no contemporary reports of this. In retaliation, the US Indian agent, Wiley Thompson , declared that those chiefs were deposed from their positions. As US relations with the Seminole deteriorated, Thompson forbade the sale of guns and ammunition to them. Osceola, a young warrior rising to prominence, resented this ban. He felt it equated the Seminole with slaves , who were forbidden by law to carry arms. On one occasion Osceola quarreled with Thompson, who had the warrior locked up at Fort King for two nights until he agreed to be more respectful. After his humiliating imprisonment, Osceola secretly prepared vengeance against Thompson. Osceola and his followers shot six others outside Fort King, while another group of Seminole ambushed and killed a column of US Army, more than troops, who were marching from Fort Brooke to Fort King. Americans called this event the Dade Massacre. Jesup suffered a loss of reputation that lasted for the rest of his life; his betrayal of the truce flag has been described as "one of the most disgraceful acts in American military history. They were visited by various townspeople. Laning, and Robert John Curtis, the three artists known to have painted Osceola from life, persuaded the Seminole leader to allow his portrait to be painted despite his being gravely ill. Osceola, having suffered from chronic malaria since , and having acute tonsillitis as well, developed an abscess [27] and died of quinsy [28] on January 30, , three months after his capture. Legacy and honors[edit].

Chapter 5 : Learn Liberty | Forgotten Rebellion: Black Seminoles and the Largest Slave Revolt in U.S. History

Excerpt from Osceola in the War of the Rebellion: An Address Delivered at Osceola, Tioga County, Pa., On Friday, May 30th, ; To Which Is Appended an Historical Sketch of the Post, and the Service Record of Its Members.

The forgotten rebellion of the Black Seminole Nation February 11, Many Native American Nations formed partnerships and deep relationships with African slaves. Both groups fought for freedom and the right to exist in peace, away from the colonizing forces trying to stomp them out. The Seminole Nation, during a period called the second Spanish period, formed a deep bond with the freed African Slaves of the coastal south, creating a mixed culture known today as Black Seminoles. In 1763, King Charles II of Spain made an edict that escaped African slaves would receive freedom and protection from slave owners if they help defend the Spanish settlers at St. Augustine. Because of this partnership the freed slaves became a militia and they formed a settlement in 1788, the first legally sanctioned free African town in North America. Because of the settlement the African slaves formed relations with the Seminole Nation. They began marrying and trading with one another, creating a new cultural identity that fused many aspects of their culture. However, even though there were some Native Seminoles and African slaves getting married and having children, the majority of Black Seminoles were not Native. One of the things that bound the history of these two groups is both faced utter and complete obliteration. The Seminole Wars began after the American Revolution. When England lost the war, they ceded to the new U. S. In the 1780s, all of the freed slaves living in east or west Florida were forced back into slavery. Then there was a break in the United States effort to destroy the Black settlements. After the War of 1812, however, General Andrew Jackson made destroying these settlements a top priority. The Native and Black communities moved to south and central Florida. In 1810, when Spain lost the rest of Florida to the United States, many of the Black Seminoles understood that it was dangerous to remain there. During this exodus many Black Seminoles were killed or taken back into slavery. The height of this story happens during the Second Seminole War, which began in 1823. The tension between the United States and the Seminole Nation was at a high point and this was also the biggest moment for the African-Seminole alliance. In 1822, Jackson, the anti-Seminole general, was now president and he signed into law the horrific Indian Removal Act, which forced the removal of more than 4,000 Native Seminole people along with plus Black Seminole allies. The Black Seminoles understood that if their Native allies were to be removed they would be forced back into slavery. So they joined forces with the militant Seminole leader Osceola. They recruited African slaves on plantations to fight. From the winter of 1823 to the summer of 1825 Black Seminoles, escaped slaves and Native peoples were fighting alongside one another, destroying sugar plantations and killing U. S. The United States government started to panic. What could be done to stop this increasingly growing and increasingly successful alliance? They came up with a plan to turn the Black Seminoles against the Native Seminoles by promising them that if they turned against their Native allies they would be granted freedom. Very few Black Seminole took this offer. The Black Seminole alliance fought alongside the Seminole Nation until the bitter end. We must remember the struggles that bind us together. The story of how the Black Seminoles fought and died for freedom is something we are still fighting for today. Marine Corp painting depicts Marines searching for Seminoles among the Everglade mangroves during the war Wikimedia.

Chapter 6 : Osceola Genealogy (in Tioga, Pennsylvania)

So they joined forces with the militant Seminole leader Osceola. After the rebellion broke out, many Black Seminole leaders, such as John Caesar, Abraham, and John Horse, played a key role in.

You can find this and other Civil War Arkansas entries at <http://www.arkansascivilwar.com>: August 2, Principal Commanders: Lieutenant Colonel John T. Shelby CS Estimated Casualties: Union victory After losing most of his company the Osceola Hornets, Company G of the Twenty-fifth Mississippi Infantry, later known as the Second Confederate Regiment at the April 6â€™7, , Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee, Captain Charles Bowen returned to Mississippi County in early with orders to seek new conscripts to supplement the dwindling Confederate ranks lost to sickness and death. Due to limited success with recruitment and Union control of the Mississippi River making it difficult to cross , Bowen decided to remain in Mississippi County in order to protect lives and property from the rampant lawlessness that had compromised public safety and commercial activity in Osceola Mississippi County and the surrounding areas. However, events during the summer of indicate that he remained an active participant in the war effort. Burriss led a scouting operation of approximately Union troops that swept through southeastern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas. Although Burriss observed that guerrilla activity was limited in the region, he sought to disrupt the activities of bushwhackers believed to be stealing horses and hiding them in the swamps until they could be safely transported to Rebel forces farther south. In the late afternoon on August 2, , after marching twenty miles through dense swamplands, Burriss and his forces encountered a picket of Confederates camped near Osceola. Continuing their advance, they encountered a company of men commanded by Captain Bowen and Captain Hiram McVeigh an enrolling officer with the Trans-Mississippi Department. There were no casualties on the Union side. However, seven Confederates were killed and twenty-five were taken prisoner, including Captain Bowen. Union troops also captured a significant number of horses, mules, and armaments. Bowen was taken to St. He returned to Mississippi County, re-gathered his company, and continued to operate until his surrender in Osceola in Missouri and the adjoining counties in Arkansas. Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northeastern Arkansas. The War of the Rebellion: Government Printing Office, Arkansas Confederates in the Western Theatre.

Chapter 7 : Osceola, Story Panel 1 of 7 - Part Two, War - Rebellion

Osceola. Even if the story of Osceola's black wife was a fabrication, it was partially based on one of the best known events leading up to the war: the arrest of Osceola in June of

The Second Seminole War 1835-42 followed the refusal of most Seminoles to abandon the reservation that had been specifically established for them north of Lake Okeechobee and to relocate west of the Mississippi River. Whites coveted this land and sought to oust the Seminoles under the 1832 Treaty of Moultrie Creek. Following the end of the First Seminole War 1818 and the transfer of Florida from Spain to the United States, several Seminole leaders, headed by Neamathla, met with territorial governor William Duval and diplomat James Gadsden in September 1823. They signed the Treaty of Moultrie Creek, which obligated the Seminoles to move to a reservation of four million acres in central Florida, with the U. The treaty also stipulated that white settlers could build roads and seek runaway slaves within the reservation. In addition, a few Seminole villages were allowed to remain along the Apalachicola River. However, neither side fully observed the treaty. The government was slow in delivering cash, and incursions by both settlers and Seminoles took place with increasing frequency as time went on. It called for the Seminoles to move within three years to the land assigned to Creek Indians west of the Mississippi if Seminole leaders found the land to be suitable and for the Seminoles to be absorbed by the Creeks. It also required that African Americans living on the Seminole reservation be left behind so that they could be claimed as slaves. A delegation of Seminoles went to the Creek lands and, finding them acceptable, in were coerced into signing the Treaty of Fort Gibson, which affirmed the terms of the earlier treaty. The Seminoles subsequently denied that they had agreed to being removed. General Wiley Thompson was assigned to oversee the removal of the Seminoles in 1832. After learning that they did not intend to leave Florida, he informed the Seminoles that President Jackson had authorized him to remove them by force if necessary. Osceola emerged as a leader among the Seminoles determined to resist resettlement. On December 28, 1835, as Major Francis Dade was leading more than 800 soldiers from Fort Brooke near Tampa to Fort King near present-day Ocala, some Seminoles and their allies ambushed the troops, killing all but three. That same day Osceola also killed Thompson. On December 31 another contingent of some 1,000 soldiers and volunteers, led by General Duncan Clinch, was ambushed on the Withlacoochee River and forced to withdraw. Throughout the war Seminoles attacked plantations, outposts, and supply lines, and they stymied several efforts by the United States to subdue them. Near the end of the year, however, General Thomas Jesup took charge of the U. The tide subsequently began to turn. In October Jesup set up a false truce and captured Osceola and dozens of his followers. In the ensuing battle, the badly outnumbered Seminoles imposed heavy losses but were nonetheless forced to withdraw. The final major engagement, the Battle of the Loixahatchee River, took place in January 1842. A contingent of sailors and soldiers led by Lieutenant Levin Powell encountered a large group of Seminoles and was forced to retreat. A few days later Jesup dispatched some 1,000 men to engage the Seminoles, who fought valiantly but were defeated. Over the next four years, small engagements continued to take place, and increasing numbers of Seminoles were induced or forced to move west to the Creek reservation. By some 3,000 to 4,000 Seminoles had been resettled, and only a few hundred remained.

Chapter 8 : Osceola - Wikipedia

War of the Rebellion. This is 1 book from the set - War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. This is the reprint of the National Historical Society books.

Background[edit] Bands from various tribes in the southeastern United States had moved into the unoccupied lands in Florida in the 18th century. One group of Hitchiti speakers, the Mikasuki, settled around what is now Lake Miccosukee near Tallahassee. The Spanish in St. Augustine began calling the Alachua Creeks Cimarrones, which roughly meant "wild ones" or "runaways", and which is the probable origin of "Seminole". This name was eventually also applied to the other groups in Florida, although the Native Americans still regarded themselves as members of different tribes. The United States disputed the boundaries of West Florida which had been established while the territory was under British control. They accused the Spanish authorities of harboring fugitive slaves and of failing to restrain the Native Americans living in Florida from raiding into the United States. Starting in 1810, the United States occupied and annexed parts of West Florida. Now that Florida belonged to the United States, settlers pressured the government to remove the Seminoles. In 1823 the government negotiated the Treaty of Moultrie Creek with the Seminoles, establishing a reservation for them in the middle of the territory. Six chiefs, however, were allowed to keep their villages along the Apalachicola River. Fort King was built near the reservation agency, at the site of present-day Ocala, Florida. By early 1832 the Army reported that the Seminoles were on the reservation and Florida was peaceful. This peace lasted for five years, during which time there were repeated calls for the Seminoles to be sent west of the Mississippi. The Seminoles were opposed to the move, and especially to the suggestion that they should be placed on the Creek reservation. Most whites regarded the Seminoles as simply Creeks who had recently moved to Florida, while the Seminoles claimed Florida as their home and denied that they had any connection with the Creeks. Spain had given freedom to slaves who escaped to Florida under their rule, although the US did not recognize it. Over the years, those who became known as Black Seminoles established communities near Seminole villages, and the two peoples had close alliances although they maintained separate cultures. Slave catchers argued over the ownership of slaves. New plantations in Florida increased the pool of slaves who could escape to the Seminoles. Instead, Fort King was closed in 1835. The Seminoles, short of food and finding the hunting becoming poorer on the reservation, were wandering off of it more often. In 1830 Congress passed the Indian Removal Act. They wanted to solve the problems with the Seminoles by moving them to west of the Mississippi River. The treaty negotiated there called for the Seminoles to move west, if the land was found to be suitable. They were to be settled on the Creek reservation and become part of the Creek tribe. The delegation of seven chiefs who were to inspect the new reservation did not leave Florida until October 1831. After touring the area for several months and conferring with the Creeks who had already been settled there, on March 28, the seven chiefs signed a statement that the new land was acceptable. They said they did not have the power to decide for all the tribes and bands that resided on the reservation. Army officers claimed that the chiefs had been "wheedled and bullied into signing. The treaty had given the Seminoles three years to move west of the Mississippi. The government interpreted the three years as starting in 1832, and expected the Seminoles to move in 1835. Fort King was reopened in 1834. A new Seminole agent, Wiley Thompson, had been appointed in 1834, and the task of persuading the Seminoles to move fell to him. He called the chiefs together at Fort King in October 1834 to talk to them about the removal to the west. In March 1835 Thompson called the chiefs together to read a letter from President Andrew Jackson to them. In his letter, Jackson said, "Should you A month later the Seminole chiefs told Thompson that they would not move west. Thompson and the chiefs began arguing, and General Clinch had to intervene to prevent bloodshed. Eventually, eight of the chiefs agreed to move west, but asked to delay the move until the end of the year, and Thompson and Clinch agreed. In retaliation, Thompson declared that those chiefs were removed from their positions. As relations with the Seminoles deteriorated, Thompson forbade the sale of guns and ammunition to them. Osceola, a young warrior beginning to be noticed by the whites, was particularly upset by the ban, feeling that it equated Seminoles with slaves and said, "The white man shall not make me black. I will make the white man red with blood; and then blacken him in the sun and

rain Later, though, when Osceola was causing trouble, Thompson had him locked up at Fort King for a night. A group of whites assaulted some Indians sitting around a campfire. Two more Indians came up during the assault and opened fire on the whites. Three whites were wounded, and one Indian was killed and one wounded. In November, Chief Charley Emathla, wanting no part of a war, led his people to Fort Brooke, where they were to board ships to go west. This was considered a betrayal by other Seminoles. Osceola met Charley Emathla on the trail and killed him. From an book. Illustration from an book on the murder of a woman by Seminoles As the realization that the Seminoles would resist relocation sank in, Florida began preparing for war. Augustine Militia asked the War Department for the loan of muskets. Five hundred volunteers were mobilized under Brig. Indian war parties raided farms and settlements, and families fled to forts, large towns, or out of the territory altogether. A war party led by Osceola captured a Florida militia supply train, killing eight of its guards and wounding six others. Most of the goods taken were recovered by the militia in another fight a few days later. Sugar plantations along the Atlantic coast south of St. Augustine were destroyed, with many of the slaves on the plantations joining the Seminoles. Army had 11 companies, about soldiers, stationed in Florida. Fort King had only one company of soldiers, and it was feared that they might be overrun by the Seminoles. There were three companies at Fort Brooke, with another two expected momentarily, so it was decided to send two companies to Fort King. On December 23, the two companies, totaling men, left Fort Brooke under the command of Maj. Seminoles shadowed the marching soldiers for five days. On December 28 the Seminoles ambushed the soldiers, and killed all but three of the command, which became known as the Dade Massacre. Only three white men survived; Edwin De Courcey, was hunted down and killed by a Seminole the next day. Joseph Sprague was unharmed and lived quite a while longer, but was not able to give an account of the battle as he had sought immediate refuge in a nearby pond. The Seminoles lost just three men, with five wounded. In his journal he wrote about the discovery and vented his bitter discontent with the conflict: The government is in the wrong, and this is the chief cause of the persevering opposition of the Indians, who have nobly defended their country against our attempt to enforce a fraudulent treaty. The natives used every means to avoid a war, but were forced into it by the tyranny of our government. They were going to a Seminole stronghold called the Cove of the Withlacoochee , an area of many lakes on the southwest side of the Withlacoochee River. When they reached the river, they could not find the ford, and Clinch had his regular troops ferried across the river in a single canoe they had found. Once they were across and had relaxed, the Seminoles attacked. The troops survived only by fixing bayonets and charging the Seminoles, at the cost of four dead and 59 wounded. The militia provided cover as the Army troops withdrew across the river. Augustine at the Battle of Dunlawton. The volunteers lost four men, with thirteen wounded. On the same day 57 U. Marines were dispatched from Key West to help man Fort Brooke. Temporary needs for additional troops were filled by state and territory militias, and by self-organized volunteer units. As news and rumors of the fighting spread, action was taken on many levels. Winfield Scott was placed in charge of the war. Volunteer companies began forming in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. General Gaines put together a force of 1, regulars and volunteers in New Orleans and sailed with them to Fort Brooke. Along the road they found the site of the Dade Massacre, and buried the bodies in three mass graves. The force reached Fort King after nine days, only to find it was very short on supplies. Hoping to accomplish something for his efforts, Gaines took his men on a different route back to Fort Brooke, intending to engage the Seminoles in their stronghold in the Cove of the Withlacoochee River. Due to a lack of knowledge of the country, the Gaines party reached the same point on the Withlacoochee where Clinch had met the Seminoles one-and-a-half months earlier, and it took another day to find the ford while the two sides exchanged gunfire across the river. James Izard was wounded and later died. General Gaines was stuck. He could not cross the river, and if he returned to Fort King his men would be out of rations. Gaines had his men construct a fortification, called Camp Izard, and sent word to General Clinch. Clinch and his men reached Camp Izard on March 6, chasing away the Seminoles. General Scott had begun assembling men and supplies for a grand campaign against the Seminoles. Three columns, totaling 5, men, were to converge on the Cove of the Withlacoochee, trapping the Seminoles with a force large enough to defeat them. Scott would accompany one column, under the command of General Clinch, moving south from Fort Drane. A second column, under Brig.

Chapter 9 : Sacking of Osceola, Mo. | American Civil War Forums

Osceola allegedly knifing the treaty of Fort Gibson, from the drawing in Andrew Welch's sketchbook of Seminole history, A Narrative of the Early Days and Remembrances of Oeceola Nikkanoche. Florida Photographic Collection.

Not all of the Indian wars of the nineteenth century occurred on the Western frontier. One notable exception was the Seminole War of in which this Southern tribe was led by the great warrior Osceola, who also was known by the name As-se-he-ho-lar. A remarkable strategist, Osceola mastermind a highly effective program of harassment against the U. Army in the great, eerie swampland that is today the Everglades National Monument. Osceola was not born a chief nor was he ever so named by formal election. He was born in Georgia, near the Chattahoochee River, in the country of the Creeks. His name means Black Drink Crier. As a young man Osceola evidenced qualities of leadership, and was a leader in opposing the cession of the Seminole lands of Florida to the United States. He advocated passive and non-violent resistance until , when his wife, the daughter of a fugitive slave who had been hiding among the Indians, was seized and taken away as a slave. Osceola angrily upbraided the Indian agent, General Wiley Thompson, who ordered him chained and imprisoned in irons for six days. Secreting the women, children and old men of the tribe in the depths of the Everglades, safe for a long time from the vengeance of his enemies, Osceola carried on his rebellion with skill and daring. From hiding he emerged to strike at such strongholds as Fort Drane and Micanopy. Major Dade took a detachment into the jungle to attack Osceola and were cut off. Only two or three men escaped. General Gaines was unsuccessful in routing the Indian raiders, as were his various successors. The terrified white populace demanded more drastic action, and the war became one of the most savage in American history. Operations were stepped up-Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott were among the noted generals thrown eventually into the conflict-but the outnumbered Seminoles clung doggedly to their land, making capital use of the almost impenetrable fastness of the Everglades to baffle their pursuers. The Seminoles had been subdued in by General Andrew Jackson, who used the tactic of destroying their villages until they were forced to submit. This second war was another matter; it was impossible to raze villages that could not be found. It was only through treachery that the wily Osceola could be brought to bay. When the Indian leader and some of his followers appeared, they were seized and imprisoned. Osceola and several of his men were imprisoned at Saint Augustine and later were moved to Fort Moultrie, South Carolina. The Indian leader brooded over the manner of his betrayal and despite his youth and strength, died only a few months later, on January 30, The Seminoles did not formally accept peace with the United States until , long after all the other tribes had capitulated. The books presented are for their historical value only and are not the opinions of the Webmasters of the site. The webpages may be linked to but shall not be reproduced on another site without written permission from NaNations or their author. Images may not be linked to in any manner or method. Anyone may use the information provided here freely for personal use only. If you plan on publishing your personal information to the web please give proper credit to our site for providing this information.