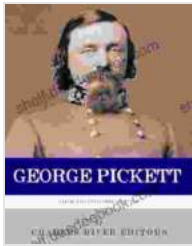


The Life and Legacy of George Pickett



Charging into Immortality: The Life and Legacy of George Pickett by Charles River Editors

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3891 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 274 pages
Lending : Enabled



Early Life and Education



George Edward Pickett was born on January 16, 1825, in Richmond, Virginia. His father, William Pickett, was a wealthy planter and slave-owner, while his mother, Susanna Thornton Pickett, instilled in him a deep sense of Southern pride and honor.

Pickett received his early education at home before attending the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in 1842. He graduated from VMI in 1846 as a top

student and went on to serve with distinction in the Mexican-American War.

Civil War Service

With the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, Pickett resigned from the U.S. Army and joined the Confederate army. He quickly rose through the ranks, and by the time he was promoted to major general in 1863, he was one of the youngest generals in the Confederate army.

Pickett's most famous moment came at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. As part of Robert E. Lee's plan to break through the Union lines, Pickett was ordered to lead a direct assault on the center of the Union position. Despite the overwhelming odds, Pickett's men charged bravely into the face of withering fire.

Pickett's Charge, as it became known, was a disaster. Over 50% of Pickett's men were killed or wounded, and the charge failed to break through the Union lines. Pickett himself was seriously wounded in the battle and was unable to return to combat.

Later Life and Legacy

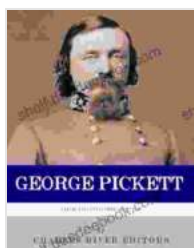
After the war, Pickett retired to Richmond, Virginia, where he worked as a clerk and later as a railroad agent. He never fully recovered from his wounds and died of complications from his injuries on February 17, 1875.

Pickett's legacy is a complex and controversial one. He is celebrated by some as a valiant soldier who fought for his principles, while others condemn him for his role in the Confederate army and for leading the disastrous Pickett's Charge.

Despite the controversy, Pickett remains a fascinating historical figure. His life and legacy offer insights into the complex events of the Civil War and the motivations of those who fought in it.

George Pickett was a complex and controversial figure, whose life and legacy continue to be debated today. Despite the tragic results of Pickett's Charge, his valor and determination have earned him a place in American history.

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