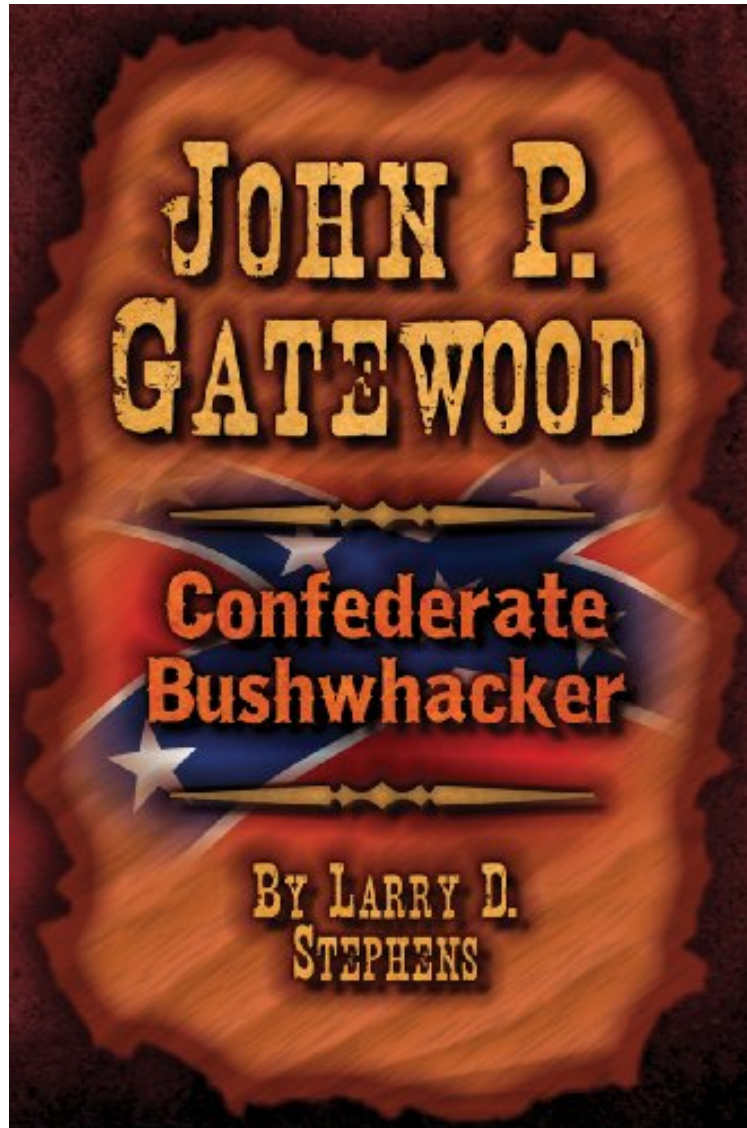


(Mobile ebook) John P. Gatewood: Confederate Bushwhacker

## John P. Gatewood: Confederate Bushwhacker

Larry Stephens

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**Larry Stephens : John P. Gatewood: Confederate Bushwhacker** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John P. Gatewood: Confederate Bushwhacker:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. WELCOME ADDITION BUT MUST QUESTION ACCURACY !!By the magpieFirst off, there is very little info available on John Gatewood. It was nice to find some more stories to fill in the blanks about this man and the wider appalachian conflict during the civil war. To this day ; there is no truly comprehensive book on this subject. If you are interested in it , you collect as many books as you can find and piece it together.This book is a must - have in that regard. I do have some reservations though... some of the highpoints of the

story ; such as the Madden Branch Massacre and Gatewood's defeat at the hands of the 5th and 6th us Tennessee Mounted Infantry are told in a few paragraphs with surprisingly little detail although there is actually a fair amount of it available. The author does not even mention the 5th's involvement or the fact that Gatewood was known to sleep separately from his men for just such an occasion and that it likely saved his life. With the Madden Branch Massacre, he does not relate that those boys were unionist guerillas from the First Georgia Infantry and that they were joining the 5th Mounted Infantry due to the attack that had devastated their comrades in Ellijay two weeks previously and no doubt knew exactly who he was. He goes into no detail on how two of them escaped and what later became of them. There is also some tale involving an attack by Tom Polk Edmondson against these unionist guerillas in January, 1865. He claims that all but twenty-one out of one hundred unionist were killed in this battle. I have never seen any mention of this and all of my research leads me to believe he could only be referring to the November ,1864 surprise attack in Ellijay where a few were killed and about twenty-one were captured. Some of these were hanged in Gainesville as confederate deserters and the rest were paroled by confederate General Wofford. Colonel Ashworth seems to have ended up in a confederate p.o.w camp where he perished. He cites a newspaper article from the time as a primary source; but newspapers are notoriously unreliable sources of fact and should be thoroughly double checked against other available sources. If an error of this size has happened; you kind of have to question the reliability of all the rest of the book which just gives me a headache....Read this book; but take it with a grain of salt and keep it in context with other available sources.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Far Exceeded My ExpectationsBy C. PooleI would highly recommend this book for anyone interested in the civil war history of guerrilla warfare or of the Southern Appalachian region (NE AL, N GA, SE TN, SW NC) in general. Irregular "scouts" like Gatewood operated extensively in this region and seemed to have split their time between harassing invading union forces, rounding up deserters, intimidating killing the region's Union sympathizers, and, unfortunately, simple robbery of even ardent confederate supporters. Gatewood is personally credited with killing upwards of 60 people.I first learned of John P Gatewood while researching the Civil War history of Cherokee County, AL. This county, like most of the ones in the region mentioned, had many citizens that were bitterly opposed to the South's secession. In numerous statements taken from these people after the war, it was clear that they feared Gatewood like the Bogey Man. Simply stating that they were threatened by "the desperado Gatewood" was often enough to establish their bona fides as good Union men during the war.The author does an excellent job of weaving the relatively few facts of John P Gatewood's shadowy life into a very readable story. The author obviously has to make some assumptions at a few points during the book, but he is very transparent as to what is historically documented versus just speculation. I found the book well-researched, entertaining, informative.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating story, well told.By oldlawmanBefore this book, the information about John P. Gatewood that was readily available to the casual reader would probably not have filled a single-spaced page. The author has not only exhaustively researched his subject, but has also woven the information into a very readable book. Living in the southeast Tennessee area near many of the locations where Gatewood plied his deadly trade, I thoroughly enjoyed reading the established details of many incidents which had previously been only rumors, stories, or legends about bushwhacker outrages in the South.

Soldier or vicious killer? Examine history to decide. As a very young man bent on revenge after his sister's rape and murder, John P. Gatewood deserts the Confederate forces and returns to his Tennessee home. There he joins a group of Confederate bushwhackers and, as the "Red Headed Beast of Georgia, " carries out a bloody rampage of strikes against Union sympathizers, both military and civilian alike. This closely researched study tells his story from boyhood to the postwar years and his attempt to adapt to civilian life. A fascinating read for any history buff!

From the Inside FlapJohn P. Gatewood was one of the South's most controversial and feared guerrilla fighters. He grew into adulthood against the backdrop of Southern neighbors with opposing views, as Confederate loyalists and Union supporters began to distinguish themselves. These conflicts shattered longstanding friendships, creating some of the most vicious blood feuds in American history. During the turbulent Civil War era, the mutual paranoia that permeated entire communities fueled the retribution, pitting neighbor against neighbor. The Gatewood family controlled extensive property in the East Tennessee Mountains in a region known as Lincoln Country-an area filled with Union sympathizers. His family, however, were loyal Confederates; they hailed from a long line of prosperous Virginia tobacco farmers and slave-holders. Once the war began and Tennessee split its allegiance, a fiercely loyal sixteen-year-old John enlisted, leaving his parents and younger sister behind. When he snuck away from camp to visit his family almost two years later, disaster had already struck.His beloved sister had been raped and killed by Yankee soldiers. Gatewood's vow to revenge his sister by punishing both Yankees and Yankee sympathizers would take his life on a terrifying path. He became a formidable bushwhacker, standing at six feet tall with wild red hair and cold blue eyes. A leader of guerilla soldiers, he hunted, robbed, and viciously killed anyone perceived as a Yankee supporter. His brutal journey of revenge and his mysterious post-war years are chronicled here in fascinating detail.Larry D. Stephens is a reference librarian at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Georgia. Born and reared in Marietta, Georgia, he grew up within a stone's throw of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. His close

proximity to the battlefields sparked his life-long interest in the American Civil War. He attended Georgia Southern University, where he earned a BA in history, and the University of West Georgia, where he earned a MEd in social studies education. He taught high school history for a number of years in Decatur, Georgia, before returning to college to earn a MS in library and information studies from Clark Atlanta University. He has written several other books on the Civil War and is a Civil War reenactor. Stephens lives in Rome, Georgia.

From the Back Cover John Pemberton Gatewood of Fentress County, Tennessee, evolved into one of the deadliest guerrilla leaders of the Confederacy. Exploits attributed to Gatewood have painted him as both a vicious, unprincipled killer and a soldier fiercely loyal to his family and to those who shared his commitment to the Confederacy. His descent into what many considered barbaric behavior began after family tragedy drove him to join Champ Ferguson as a bushwhacker. Personally murdering more than sixty people, he and his men cut a swath of destruction through east Tennessee, northwest Georgia, and northeast Alabama. Gatewood even garnered the attention of Gen. William T. Sherman, who put a bounty on his head. Now, for the first time, Gatewood's riveting, full-length biography has been told by Civil War author Larry D. Stephens. The man who would become revered and reviled as the "Red-Headed Beast" was still a long-haired adolescent at the outbreak of hostilities in 1861. Stephens builds a compelling narrative, capturing Gatewood's life from his early days as a prosperous farmer's son in the Wolf River Valley to his enlistment in the Confederate cavalry and eventual career as a blood-thirsty bushwhacker. The story ends with Gatewood's mysterious post-war life as a Texas outlaw.

Author Larry D. Stephens became interested in the American Civil War as a boy, growing up in the shadow of Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield. His background as a high school history teacher and subsequent work as a research librarian have given him a unique ability to craft the facts he uncovers into a compelling narrative. His meticulous research has uncovered, at long last, John P. Gatewood's true history.

About the Author Larry D. Stephens is a reference librarian at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Georgia. Born and raised in Marietta, Georgia, he grew up within a stone's throw of Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park and became interested in the American Civil War as a boy. He holds a BA in History and a MEd in Social Studies Education. He taught high school history before returning to college to earn an MS in Library and Information Studies. Stephens is a frequent speaker and has written several other books on the Civil War.