

**"STONEWALL JACKSON" A  
THESAURUS OF ANECDOTES OF  
AND INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF  
LIEUT. GENERAL JONATHAN  
JAKSON, C.S.A**

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"Stonewall Jackson" a thesaurus of anecdotes of and incidents in the life of Lieut. General Jonathan Jackson, c.s.a by Elihu S. Riley

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**ELIHU S. RILEY**

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# "STONEWALL JACKSON"

A THESAURUS OF ANECDOTES OF AND INCIDENTS  
IN THE LIFE OF LIEUT-GENERAL THOMAS  
JONATHAN JACKSON, C. S. A.

BY ELIHU S. RILEY, I. H. D.

AUTHOR OF

"THE NATIONAL DEBT THAT AMERICAN PROTESTANTS OWE TO THEIR BRETHERN OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH;" "AN AMERICAN SATYR—THE MORBID MISCONSTRUCTION AND MALEVOLENT MISREPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN CATHOLICS A MENACE TO THE REPUBLIC;" "MARYLAND—THE PIONEER OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY;" "THE ANCIENT CITY—A HISTORY OF ANNAPOLIS IN MARYLAND;" "FIRST CITIZEN AND ANTILOH;" "A HISTORY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND;" "YE ANTIENNT CAPITAL OF MARYLAND;" "RILEY'S HISTORIC MAP OF ANNAPOLIS;" "YORKTOWN," A HISTORIC DRAMA; CO-EDITOR OF "THE BENCH AND BAR OF MARYLAND;" AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND."

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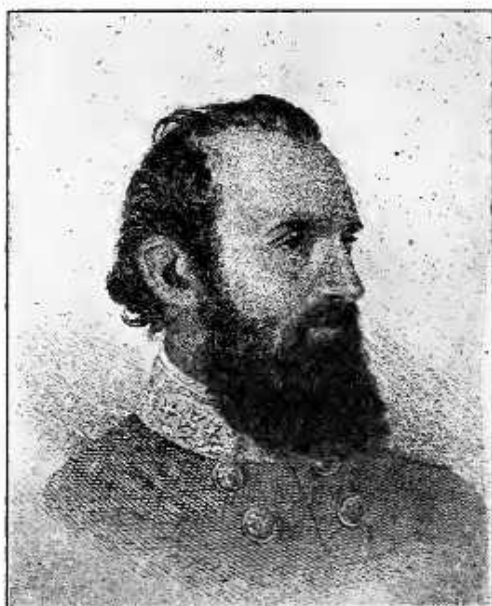
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1920.

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND.



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THOMAS JONATHAN JACKSON  
Confederate States Army

## P R E F A C E .

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What a man says and what a man does are the indices of his worth, character and accomplishments. Hence, biography is the most interesting and instructive of literary work. It informs us of men—the highest type of creation on earth and the companions of our daily life—the custodians, in an exalted degree, of our happiness, and the friends or foes, as our intercourse makes them, of our progress, our success and our liberties.

These anecdotes of, and incidents in the life of, General Thomas Jonathan Jackson, of the Confederate States Army, present the reflex of his life. He is the vital force in them, and his real character is displayed by them in the strongest and yet the simplest language possible. They are living words. They show him acting in the moving drama of life. They are what he was.

Numbers of these anecdotes and incidents about him have never before seen the light of print. They were gathered by the author from the lips of men who belonged to the invincible band of that immortal Corps that he in life commanded—the Stonewall Brigade.

Thomas Jonathan Jackson was a product of the American people. His fadeless renown is the legacy of all America. The family quarrel is over. It has strengthened the bonds of Union. All martial deeds and prowess exhibited in that mighty contest, belong to every patriotic citizen. The preservation of the wonderful annals of Stonewall Jackson's brilliant achievements is a sacred duty to the South, the Union and to all mankind.

It is the hope of the author of this volume that the facts and incidents in the splendid life and lustrous career of Thomas Jonathan Jackson, related in this book, may prompt the youth who read them to emulate the glowing virtues and to imitate the noble example of the Christian warrior of whom they are written.

ELJHU S. RILEY.

Annapolis, Md. May 17, 1920.





# "STONEWALL JACKSON"

## CHAPTER ONE.

### STONEWALL JACKSON'S MAXIMS OF MILITARY STRATEGY.

**Description of Jackson's Maxims of Military Strategy, by Gen. John M. Imboden, C. S. A.—Statement of Jackson's View of War by Dr. Hunter McGuire—Jackson's Knowledge of the Operations of the Enemy—Jackson Made Himself the Master of the Topography of the Country in Which He Was Operating—Jackson's Tactics—Account of in Lecture by One of His Staff, Capt. James Power Smith.**

**Stonewall Jackson's Maxims of Military Strategy.**—"Jackson's military operations were always unexpected and mysterious. In my personal intercourse with him in the early part of the war, before he had become famous, he often said there were two things never to be lost sight of by a military commander—'Always mystify, mislead, and surprise the enemy, if possible; and, when you strike and overcome him, never let up in the pursuit so long as your men have strength to follow; for an army routed, if hotly pursued, becomes panic-stricken, and can thus be destroyed by half their number. The other rule is, never fight against heavy odds, if, by any possible manoeuvring, you can hurl your own force on only a part, and that the weakest part, of your enemy and crush it. Such tactics will win every time, and a small army may thus destroy a large one in detail, and repeated victory will make it invincible.' His celerity of movement was a simple matter. He never broke down his men by too-long-continued marching. He rested his whole column very often, but only for a few minutes at a time. I remember that he liked to see the men lie down flat on the ground to rest, and would say, 'A man rests all over when he lies down'."—*General John M. Imboden, in Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, Vol. 2, pp. 297-8.*

"His (Jackson's) view of war and its necessities was of the sternest. 'War means fighting; to fight is the duty of a soldier; march swiftly, strike the foe with all your strength and take away from him everything you can. Injure him in every possible way, and do it quickly.'" Jackson's words as recorded by his Surgeon-General, Dr. Hunter McGuire.

**Jackson's Knowledge of the Operations of the Enemy.**—"Jackson's knowledge of what the enemy were doing or about to do was sometimes very wonderful. I have already stated what he said to President Davis at the first Manassas, 'Give me twenty thousand fresh troops tomorrow, and I'll capture Washington', and it turned out afterward that he was right and that with the number he asked he could easily have captured Washington."—*Dr. Hunter McGuire.*

**Jackson Made Himself the Master of the Topography of the Country in Which He was Operating.**—"He (Jackson) kept the most minute knowledge of the topography of the country in which he was campaigning, and the roads over which he might move, and often when his men were asleep in their bivouac, he was riding to and fro inspecting the country and the roads. \* \* \*

"But when he began to ask me which side of certain creeks were the highest, and whether there was not a 'blind road,' turning off at this point or that, and showed the most perfect familiarity with the country, and the roads, I had to interrupt him by saying: 'Excuse me, General, I thought I knew not only every road, but every footpath in that region, but I find that you really know more about them than I do, and I can give you no information that would be valuable to you.'"—*Chaplain J. Wm. Jones, C. S. A., South. Hist. Mag., Vol. 35, p. 91.*

**Jackson's Tactics.**—"He mystified and deceived his enemy by concealment from his own generals and his own staff. We were led to believe things very far from his purpose. Major Hotchkiss, his topographical engineer, told me that the General would for hours study the map in one direction, and would at daylight move in the opposite direction."—*James Power Smith, a member of his staff, in a lecture.*

It has been handed down orally that General Jackson also said, "You must do something that the other fellow thinks nobody but a fool would do."

## CHAPTER TWO.

**JACKSON'S APPOINTMENT TO WEST POINT.**

**A Village Blacksmith Opened the Way to Stonewall Jackson's Great Military Career—A Leading Lawyer in His Family Gave Jackson a Special Letter—Jackson Resolved to Go to Washington Immediately—The Secretary of War Gives Jackson the Appointment—Jackson Illy Prepared, But Passed the Examination—Jackson Stood Low in His Studies in the First Term—Studies Gunfire by the Light of the Grate—He Rose Steadily in His Class—None of the Classes Possessed More Than Jackson the Respect and Confidence of All—Jackson Was Surprised That He Passed the First Exam.—Jackson Had a Ready Word in Answer, and Presented a Fine Soldiery Appearance—Graduated in 1846, at the Age of 22.**

**Jackson's Appointment to West Point.**—It was the village blacksmith who opened the way to Stonewall Jackson's great military career. A youth, from the same Congressional district in which Jackson lived, had resigned from West Point because he found the demands of its curriculum too severe for him. It was the talk of the neighborhood. One day while shoeing the horse of young Jackson's uncle, the thoughtful smithy said to him: "Now here is a good chance for Tom Jackson, as he is so anxious to get an education." His Uncle Cummins was pleased at the suggestion, and, on reaching home, informed Thomas of the opportunity to obtain an appointment to West Point. Thomas received the proposition with enthusiasm, and immediately commenced to secure the open cadetship. Legion were the friends of this manly and independent young man, and all were ready to aid him. They joined in a letter to the Hon. Samuel Hays, the member of the House of Representatives from the district, petitioning him to have Thomas appointed.

A leading lawyer, connected with his own family, Thomas asked to give him a special letter. This friend, for he proved his friendship in the end, asked him "if he did not fear that his education was not sufficient to enable him to enter and sustain himself at West Point?" Jackson's countenance momentarily fell; but quickly recovering himself, he answered: "I know that I shall have the application necessary to succeed; I hope that I have the capacity; at least, I am determined to try, and I want you to help me." His friend gave him a strong