

**THE CAMPAIGNS OF
WALKER'S
TEXAS DIVISION.
[NEW YORK-1875]**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649407231

The Campaigns of Walker's Texas Division. [New York-1875] by Joseph Palmer Blessington

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOSEPH PALMER BLESSINGTON

**THE CAMPAIGNS OF
WALKER'S
TEXAS DIVISION.
[NEW YORK-1875]**

THE
CAMPAIGNS
OF
WALKER'S TEXAS DIVISION.

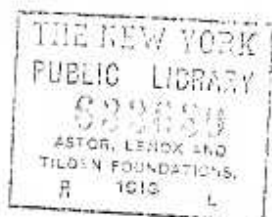
BY A PRIVATE SOLDIER.

L. G. P. Blessington
CONTAINING A

COMPLETE RECORD OF THE CAMPAIGNS IN TEXAS, LOUISIANA AND ARKANSAS;
THE SKIRMISH AT PERKINS' LANDING AND THE BATTLES OF MILLIKEN'S
BEND, BAYOU BOURBEUX, MANSFIELD, PLEASANT HILL, JENKINS'
FERRY, &c., &c., INCLUDING THE FEDERAL'S REPORT OF THE
BATTLES, NAMES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE DIVISION,
DIARY OF MARCHES, CAMP SCENERY, ANECDOTES,
DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY THROUGH
WHICH THE DIVISION MARCHED, &c., &c.

"When on the field of freedom bled,
I press the ashes of the brave;
Marveling that rain, should ever dread,
Thus to wipe out the name of slave;
No deep-drawn sigh, escapes my breath—
No woman drops my eyes disdain;
I weep the gallant hearts, at rest—
I hush the sobs they died in vain."

NEW YORK,
PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR
BY LANGE, LITTLE & CO., PRINTERS,
108 TO 114 Wooster Street.
1875.



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1919, by
J. P. BLESSINGTON,
in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

LANE, LEWIS & CO.,
PRINTERS, 616, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

DEDICATION.

THIS volume, with its many imperfections, is, with feelings of profound respect and admiration for officers and soldiers, and the cause for which they fought, dedicated to Major-General JOHN G. WALKER, and the dead and living of the gallant soldiers of his Division of the Confederate States Army, by one who has had the honor to fight under and with them, but whose rank never exceeded that of a

PRIVATE SOLDIER.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
The Texas Soldier.....	13
CHAPTER II.	
The Private Soldier.....	16
CHAPTER III.	
The Organization of the 16th Texas V. Infantry at Camp Groce.—Description of Camp Groce and Camp Hebert.—Camp Life.—Presentation of Colors.—The Departure.—Reception at Houston.—Camp at Virginia Point.—Camp Scenes and Camp Amusements.—Night Alarm.—Scenes on Picket.....	19
CHAPTER IV.	
Marching Orders.—Return to Camp Groce.—Storm in Camp.—Parting Scenes.—En route for Little Rock.—On the March.—A Review.—Special Order.—Camp Texas.—March through Little Rock.—Description of Little Rock.....	29
CHAPTER V.	
March from Little Rock to Clarendon Heights.—Crossing Grand Prairie.—Camp at Clarendon Heights.—En route for Camp Nelson.—Recrossing Grand Prairie.—Suffering of the Troops.—Arrival at Camp Nelson.—Organization of the Division.—Names of Officers.—Departure of Deshier's Brigade.—Sickness in Camp.—General Review.—Night Alarm.....	40
CHAPTER VI.	
Leave Camp Nelson.—Arrival at Bayou Meto.—Grand Review of the Division.—The Division ordered to Vicksburg.—En route for Van Buren.—Camp near Little Rock.—Spending Christmas in Camp.—Special Order.....	61
CHAPTER VII.	
March from Little Rock to Pine Bluff.—Counter-marching.—General Walker assumes command of the Division.—Hog Stealing.—Description of Pine Bluff.—En route for Arkansas Post.—Dispatches from General Churchill to General Walker.—Surrender of the Arkansas Post.—Camp Freeze-Out.—Picket Duty.—Arrival of General Holmes.—Fortifying at Camp Freeze-Out.....	66
CHAPTER VIII.	
Biographical Sketch of Major-General John G. Walker.....	72
CHAPTER IX.	
Return to Pine Bluff.—Camp Mills and Camp Wright.—Description of Camp Wright.—Card-playing.—General Haws assumes command of the 1st Brigade.—Marching Orders.—General Holmes' Farewell Address to the Division.....	75

	PAGE
CHAPTER X.	
The Division moves to Louisiana.—Arrival at Ouachita City.—A New mode of Traveling.—Excursion-trip on the Washita River.—Overland Route to Alexandria.—A Free Ride.—Description of Alexandria.....	70
CHAPTER XI.	
Expedition up the Tensas River.—A Night-march to Perkins' Landing.	85
CHAPTER XII.	
Skirmish at Perkins' Landing.—A Negro Description of the Cannonading.—Official Report of the Skirmish.....	87
CHAPTER XIII.	
The Division crosses the Tensas River.—March to Milliken's Bend and Young's Point.—Scenes before the Battle.....	93
CHAPTER XIV.	
The Battle of Milliken's Bend.—Operations of Haws' Brigade at Young's Point.—General McCulloch's Report of the Battle.—General Walker's Report of his Division at Milliken's Bend and Young's Point.—Federal Report of the Battle.....	95
CHAPTER XV.	
Retreat from Richmond.—Gallant Conduct of the 18th Regiment and Edgar's Battery.—Heroism of a Private Soldier.—Tappan's Brigade to the Rescue.—Arrival at Delhi.....	110
CHAPTER XVI.	
March from Delhi in the direction of Goodrich's Landing.—Texas Cavalry.—Capture of Fort Mond.—Return to Delhi.—The Appearance of the Troops.—Fall of Vicksburg.—Surmises about the Surrender of Vicksburg.—On the Cars.—Arrival at Monroe.....	113
CHAPTER XVII.	
General Walker's Official Reports of the Operations of his Division in Madison and Carroll Parishes.—After the Battle of Milliken's Bend.	119
CHAPTER XVIII.	
March from Monroe to Alexandria.—General McCulloch leaves the Division.—Amusing Anecdotes of an Ordnance Sergeant en route for Berwick Bay.—Operations of General Dick Taylor.—The "Greyhounds" resting.—Capture of Fort Beauregard.—The Greyhounds on the Enemy's Trail.—Preparing for Battle.—Arrival of General Scurry.....	127
CHAPTER XIX.	
The Battle of Bayou Bozbeaux.—Official Report of the Battle.—General Taylor's Congratulatory Address to the Troops of Walker's Division.—Federal Report of the Battle.....	138
CHAPTER XX.	
On the March.—Expedition across the Atchafalaya Bayou.....	150

CHAPTER XXI.	PAGE
General Walker's Report, giving his Reasons for failing to attack Plaquemine.....	155
CHAPTER XXII.	
Re-crossing the Atchafalaya Bayou.—March to Bayou De Glaize and Marksville.—Fortifying at Yellow Bayou.—Spending Christmas in Camp.—Preaching in Camp.—Opening of the New Year.—Match Drill.—General Haws leaves the Division.—Arrival of General Waul.—Cotton Selling.—Operations of Scurry's Brigade.—Landing of the Enemy at Simmsport.....	157
CHAPTER XXIII.	
The Retreat from Yellow Bayou to Mansfield.—General Scurry's Report.—Line of Battle.—Capture of Fort De Russy.—"Bull Battery."—A Stampede.—Arrival of the Enemy at Alexandria.—Forced Marches.—Capture of Edgar's Battery and the 2d Louisiana Cavalry.—Preparing for Battle.—Double-quickling.—Arrival of Green's Cavalry..	160
CHAPTER XXIV.	
The Battle of Mansfield.—Official Report of the Battle.....	183
CHAPTER XXV.	
The Battle of Pleasant Hill.....	193
CHAPTER XXVI.	
Scenes after the Battle.....	201
CHAPTER XXVII.	
General Taylor's and Governor Allen's Addresses to the Army of Western Louisiana.....	203
CHAPTER XXVIII.	
The Federal Report of the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, and the Retreat of the Federal Army.....	207
CHAPTER XXIX.	
Marching Orders.—En route for Camden.—Death of General Tom Green.—Arrival of the 3d Texas Infantry.—Names of the Officers.—March through Shreveport and Minden.—General Kirby Smith's Address.—Operations of the Arkansas and Missouri Cavalry.—Evacuation of Camden.—In pursuit of the Enemy.—Desolation of the Country.—Breakers ahead.....	211
CHAPTER XXX.	
The Battle of Jenkins's Ferry.—The Federal Report of the Battle.....	249
CHAPTER XXXI.	
The Burial of Generals Scurry and Randall.....	256
CHAPTER XXXII.	
Return to Camden.—General Kirby Smith's Address to the Soldiers of the Trans-Mississippi Department.—En route for Alexandria.—Promotions.—General Taylor's Address to the Cavalry and Poinsgnac's Division.—Camp near Alexandria.....	259