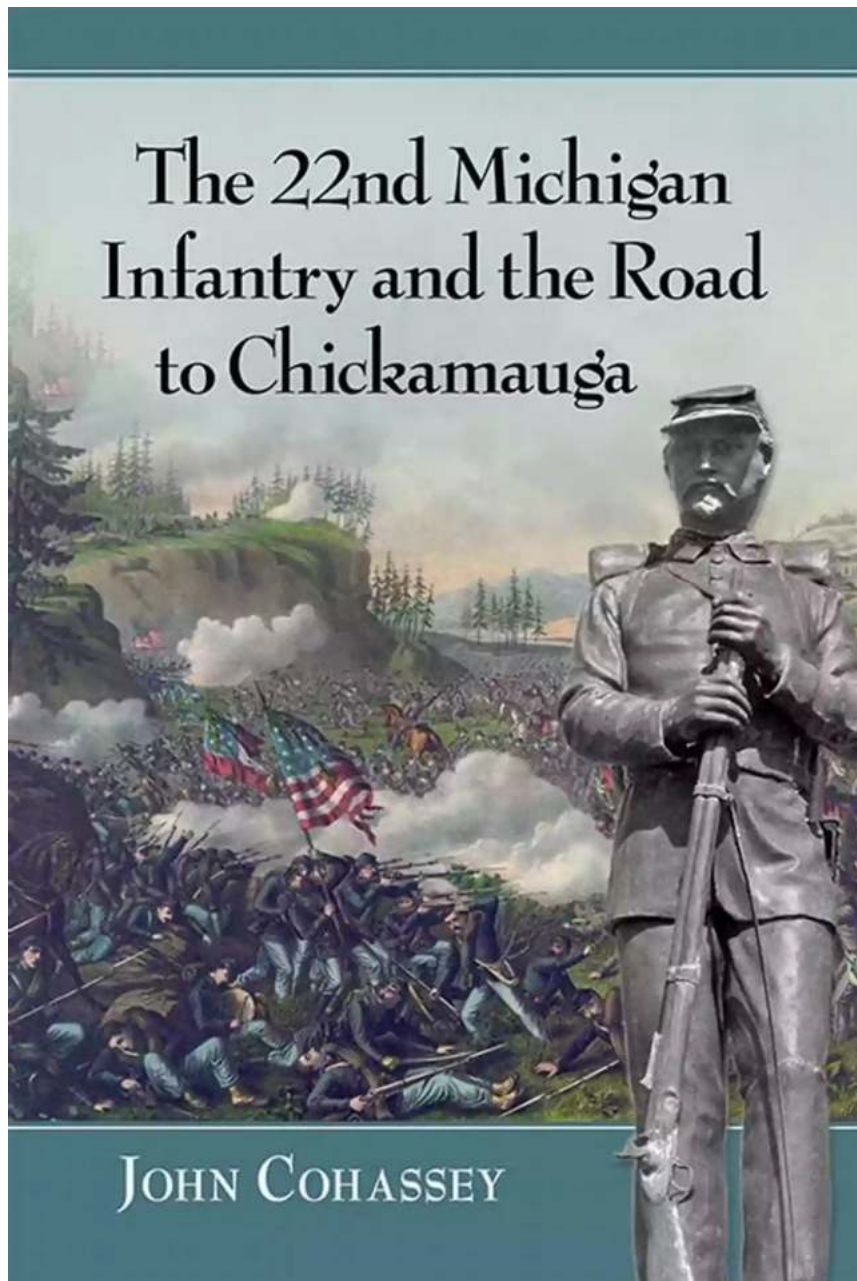


# The Epic Journey of the 22nd Michigan Infantry: From Training Grounds to the Battle of Chickamauga

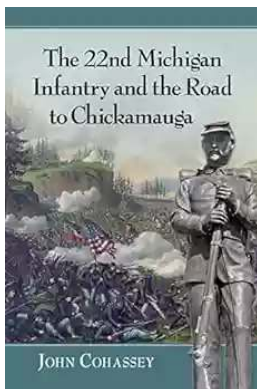


When it comes to the American Civil War, the bravery and sacrifices of the soldiers on both sides of the conflict are awe-inspiring. Among the regiments that

fought for the Union, the 22nd Michigan Infantry stands out as a shining example of resilience, courage, and determination. This article delves into the history and extraordinary journey of the 22nd Michigan Infantry, culminating in their crucial role in the Battle of Chickamauga.

## The Birth of the 22nd Michigan Infantry

The 22nd Michigan Infantry was formed in August 1862, as the Union army desperately sought to reinforce its ranks with fresh troops. Comprised of brave men from various Michigan counties, the regiment quickly established a reputation for their discipline and dedication. Under the command of Colonel Henry Morrow, the 22nd Michigan Infantry embarked on a remarkable journey.



## The 22nd Michigan Infantry and the Road to Chickamauga by Victoria Panton Bacon (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 7175 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 200 pages



## Training Days and Early Engagements

Following their formation, the 22nd Michigan Infantry underwent rigorous training, preparing them for the battles to come. From learning the basics of drill formations to honing their marksmanship skills, the regiment tirelessly prepared for war.

Their first major engagement arrived in December 1862, at the Battle of Stones River in Tennessee. The 22nd Michigan Infantry displayed their mettle, holding the front lines under intense Confederate fire. Despite heavy losses, their steadfastness and fighting spirit earned them immense respect from their comrades and superiors.

## **Marching Toward the Turning Point**

After the Battle of Stones River, the 22nd Michigan Infantry continued to march forward, participating in several skirmishes and battles along the way. Their next significant engagement occurred during the Tullahoma Campaign in the summer of 1863. Though facing a seasoned Confederate army, the 22nd Michigan Infantry showcased their determination and resilience.

However, it was the approaching Battle of Chickamauga that would etch their name in the annals of history forever.

## **The Battle of Chickamauga**

September 18, 1863, marked the beginning of one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War - the Battle of Chickamauga. The 22nd Michigan Infantry, along with the rest of the Union army, faced off against Confederate forces under the command of General Braxton Bragg.

The 22nd Michigan Infantry played a pivotal role in the battle, holding the line against fierce Confederate assaults. Amidst heavy casualties and a relentless enemy, the regiment fought valiantly, ensuring the Union army's position remained intact.

On the second day of the battle, the 22nd Michigan Infantry faced overwhelming odds as Confederate forces launched a ferocious assault against their weakened

lines. Stubbornly refusing to yield, the regiment's heroic defense prevented a complete collapse and enabled the Union forces to establish a new defensive position.

## **A Tribute to Courage and Sacrifice**

The Battle of Chickamauga ended in a defeat for the Union army, but the 22nd Michigan Infantry's bravery and resilience were undeniable. Despite the staggering loss of life on both sides, their unwavering commitment to their cause became the stuff of legends.

The regiment's valor during the battle earned them numerous accolades, including a heartfelt commendation from General George H. Thomas, who commended their "undaunted bravery in repelling the assaults of the enemy."

## **The Legacy Lives On**

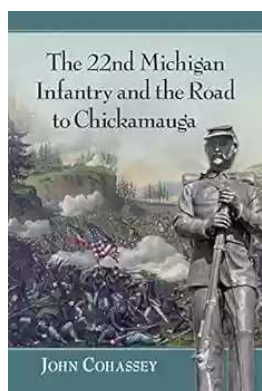
The 22nd Michigan Infantry's journey did not end at Chickamauga. The regiment continued to fight in subsequent battles, playing its part in the ultimate victory of the Union forces. They served with distinction until the end of the war, leaving an indelible mark on the history of the United States.

Today, the legacy of the 22nd Michigan Infantry lives on, forever commemorating their sacrifice and presenting a testament to the human spirit's triumph over adversity. Their story serves as a reminder of the extraordinary bravery displayed by those who fought to preserve the Union and ensure a future of freedom for all Americans.

The 22nd Michigan Infantry's path from training grounds to the Battle of Chickamauga was marked by unwavering commitment, valor, and sacrifice. Their

exceptional journey, encompassing numerous battles and enduring hardships, is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Union soldiers during the Civil War.

Today, we remember and honor the men of the 22nd Michigan Infantry, forever grateful for their contributions in shaping the course of history.



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Called upon to take a hill at the 1863 Battle of Chickamauga, the untested 22nd Michigan Infantry helped to save General George H. Thomas' right flank. Formed in 1862, the regiment witnessed slavery and encountered runaways in the border state of Kentucky, faced near starvation during the siege of Chattanooga and marched to Atlanta as General Thomas' provost guard.

This history explores the 22nd's day-to-day experiences in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia. The author describes the challenges faced by volunteer farm boys, shopkeepers, school teachers and lawyers as they faced death, disease and starvation on battlefields and in Confederate prisons.



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