On October 13, 1863, Union troops under Captain William H. Mattingly defeated a Confederate force led by Colonel William L. Jackson at the Battle of Bulltown.

**CSO:** SS.8.22, ELA.8.1

**Investigate the Document:** *(Official Records Series I, Volume 29, Part 1, p. 481; Weston Democrat April 22, 1927)*

1. How many men does Captain Mattingly estimate took part in Colonel William Jackson’s early morning attack?

2. What was Mattingly’s response to the Confederate call for surrender?

3. What highly unusual pet did the Union troops have in their possession that the Confederates attempt to capture?

4. How does Thomas Bland describe Captain Mattingly’s wound? Did he succumb to this wound during the skirmish at Bulltown?

**Think Critically:** Why was the fort at Bulltown of strategic importance to the Confederate Army? What is the legacy of the battle?
The Battle of Bulltown

The Battle of Bulltown took place near the Village of Bulltown and the Little Kanawha River, in Braxton County, in the year 1861. The Confederate forces, under Gen. W. L. Jackson ("Mudwall"), to distinguish him from his illustrious relative, "Stonewall," (Col. W. P. Thompson of Parkersburg, and others, attacked the Federal forces under Capt. W. H. Mattingly, also of Parkersburg.

The order went to Westy by runners sent for aid, and relief for Mattingly's forces, and it turned out, the Federal Surgeon, Dr. Safford, of Parkersburg, was on a leave of absence and there was no surgeon there, I was urged by the Federal authorities at Westy to go to the battlefield and care for the wounded. I got Frank M. Chalfant, a noted druggist and Union man to accompany me knowing that it would be a dangerous trip, both forces had their scouts out and we had to go 27 miles on horseback, with medicines and instruments.

We started and got to the battlefield afternoons. The Confederates were retreating after fighting two days, and making many sutures to capture the town of Milton, and in the big durew works, composed of brush and fence on the hill north of Bulltown. The Federals also had log cabins near, which they occupied and fought from. In one the soldiers had a sort of a pet bear, and the Confederates knew of it, and tried several times to capture the cabin and the bear, and they told it seemed like a "Patriot's bear." I had to fight with the actual forces, and many gunpowder,
SCOUT TO INDIANTOWN, N. C.

dispatches came from White and Mosby, and that Mosby’s men were talking among themselves about a big raid. I send this for what it is worth.

C. R. LOWELL, JR.,
Colonel, Second Massachusetts Cavalry.

Col. J. H. TAYLOR,
Assistance Adjutant-General.

OCTOBER 13, 1863.—Skirmish at Bulltown, W. Va.


BULLTOWN,
October 13, 1863.

SIR: We were attacked this morning at 4.30 o’clock by Col. William L. Jackson, with about 1,000 men and two pieces of artillery. They charged our fortifications on the northeast side. We fell back to our main fortification. They pursued us until within a few yards of our fortifications when we poured it into them strong and repulsed them handsomely, with a loss of not less than 50 killed and wounded. They then sent us a flag of true, ordering us to surrender. I told them to come and take us. They continued fighting until 4.30 o’clock this evening, when they retreated. We gave them 9 of their killed, who were in our line.

We have taken 1 lieutenant and 1 private, who are badly wounded. We captured 2 privates, but they are not wounded. Our casualties are myself, wounded (it is thought mortally) in the thigh, the bone being badly broken, early in the action. You will send by all possible dispatch a surgeon; send best that you can. Send re-enforcements and ammuniition.

Rebels withdrew in the direction of Sutton. Prisoners say they were expecting General Jenkins to assist.

WM. H. MATTINGLY,
Captain, Commanding United States Forces.

Col. N. WILKINSON,
Brigade Commander, Clarksburg.

OCTOBER 13, 1863.—Scout from Great Bridge, Va., to Indiantown, N. C.


GREAT BRIDGE, VA.,
October 13, 1863.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the following as the result of a scout by Maj. C. Kleinz and his battalion, co-operating with a detachment of the Ninety-sixth New York Volunteers commanded by Colonel Cullen.

The infantry skirmished the woods thoroughly along the entire route from Currituck Court-House to Captain Grandy's guerrilla

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