

**Volume 18**

**Number 015**

**A House Divided: HD 77 Union Spring**  
**1862 – III**

**Lead: One hundred and fifty years ago the Republic was facing its greatest crisis. This continuing series examines the American Civil War. It is "A House Divided."**

**Intro.: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.**

**Content: With the fall of Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River on February 16, 1862, the North had a new hero. U.S. or "Unconditional Surrender" Grant, named for his demand that the garrison at Fort Donelson give up immediately with no**

**conditions, was promoted to Major General and gradually began to orchestrate the collapse of Confederate control of western Tennessee and northern Mississippi. In short order Union forces swept out of Kentucky into Middle Tennessee, forcing the evacuation of Nashville and the fall of the first Confederate state capital.**

**The focus of campaigning became the rail and road center at Corinth Mississippi, seen by both sides as a key Confederate junction, the control of which would seal the fortunes of war in the Mississippi Valley. Henry Halleck sent Grant forward to Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee, just north of the Mississippi line, and ordered Don Carlos Buell to join him**

**there. The Confederates wanted to hit Grant before Buell could join him and tried to get into position to attack but the rebels were as green as the Yankees had been at Bull Run and poorly led, therefore were not in position until late on April 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Confederate Generals Albert Sydney Johnston and Pierre G.T. Beauregard had their men in place finally and planned a pre-dawn attack before Grant could get his men in line. If the general from Galena suffered one fatal flaw, it was that he, Grant, was so focused on what he intended to do to the enemy, that he neglected to anticipate what they were trying to do to him. At Shiloh, they almost did him in.**

# **From Richmond Virginia, this is Dan Roberts.**

## **Resources**

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**<http://eh.net/encyclopedia/article/ransom.civil.war.us>**

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