Abstract

It was the battle that existed before it existed. Sandwiched between two of the biggest events in American history, the 1863 Muddy Creek Massacre in Wyoming was largely ignored and undocumented. In July of 1863, the Civil War battle of Gettysburg took place, with 50,000 casualties. Later in November of 1863, President Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address at the resting place of all the Civil War soldiers. Between both of these historic events, in August of 1863 the Muddy Creek Massacre occurred. Needless to say, the massacre took a back seat in terms of attention and importance from the military. This report attempts to revive the event, prove its existence, identify the battle site and begin a discussion on its historic value to the American west. A battle, which took place with veracity and bravery by all participants and yet some believe did not happen.