



# Rebel Chief: The Motley Life of Colonel William Holland Thomas, C.S.A.

*Paul A. Thomsen*

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After the phenomenal success of his first novel *Cold Mountain*, Charles Frazier described his next novel as being based on the life of a white man who was made an Indian chief, served in the government in Washington D.C., fought on the side of the South in the Civil War by leading a band of guerilla warriors, and eventually wound up dying in a mental institution.

That man was William Holland Thomas.

Thomas, a Southerner, has a story that embodies much of the dark side of the American dream in the 19th century. At an early age he was adopted by a local Cherokee tribe as he engaged in trade to support himself and his mother. As the "frontier" moved further west, he acted on behalf of the tribe in their negotiations with the U.S. government. Part Indian agent, part politician he negotiated their treaties and was named a chief. During the Civil War he organized them into a fierce counterinsurgent guerilla band responsible for protecting the mountain passes of North Carolina from Union infestation.

And then after the war it was all down hill.

The government continued its enforced debilitation of the Indian nations, reneged on their previously negotiated treaties, leaving the tribe no choice but to hold Thomas legally responsible. His own business holdings "went south", and pressed by debts and personal hardships he was committed to an asylum until his death years later.

His life serves as a perfect backdrop to the government actions around the border states of the Civil War as well as the programs involved against the American Indian.

It is indeed a fascinating and unseemly part of the American story.

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#### **Jeffrey Brown:**

Precisely why? Because this Rebel Chief: The Motley Life of Colonel William Holland Thomas, C.S.A. is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret it inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking method. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

#### **Charles Brewster:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book particularly book entitled Rebel Chief: The Motley Life of Colonel William Holland Thomas, C.S.A. your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a guide then become one type conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get ahead of. The Rebel Chief: The Motley Life of Colonel William Holland Thomas, C.S.A. giving you another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful data for your better life with this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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#### **Melody Herrera:**

Is it a person who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day by watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Rebel Chief: The Motley Life of Colonel William Holland Thomas, C.S.A. can be the answer, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your free time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

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