

ESTABLISHED 1877—NEW SERIES.

THE BATTLE-MONTH.

The "Bloody May" of Edgemoor Hundred and Sixty-four.

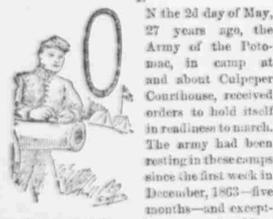
THIRTY DAYS' FIGHTING.

Organization and Condition of the Two Armies.

GRANT TAKES COMMAND.

Across the Rapidan and into the Wilderness.

BY "THE CANNONEER."



On the 23d day of May, 27 years ago, the Army of the Potomac, in camp at and about Culpeper Courthouse, received orders to hold itself in readiness to march.

Gen. Grant's first step was to consolidate these five corps into three. This he did by consolidating the three divisions of the First Corps and the three divisions of the Fifth into two divisions each, and then merging the four in a new corps, which took the number of the Fifth; by consolidating the First Division of the Third Corps with the Second and Third Divisions of the Second Corps, and making a Fourth Division for the Second out of the old Second Division of the Third, and by assigning the Third Division of the Third Corps to be the Third Division of the Sixth, whose former three divisions were consolidated into two, forming the First and Second Divisions of the new Sixth.

THE CAVALRY remained organized in a single corps of three divisions, and though there was a good deal of shifting about of regiments to equalize the strength of brigades and divisions, it is not necessary to trace them here.

When the army went into winter quarters in December, 1862, its make-up was as follows: First Corps, three divisions, seven brigades, 32 regiments, and seven batteries, having 28 guns (five 6-gun and two 4-gun batteries); Second Corps, three divisions, 10 brigades, 49 regiments, and seven batteries, with 42 guns; Third Corps, three divisions, nine brigades, 48 regiments, and eight batteries, having 42 guns; Fifth Corps, three divisions, seven brigades, 21 regiments, and six batteries, having 34 guns; Sixth Corps, three divisions, eight brigades, 37 regiments, and eight batteries, having 40 guns.

There were three divisions of cavalry, embracing seven brigades and 35 regiments, with six horse-batteries, having 24 guns.

The Artillery Reserve was in four brigades, embracing 21 batteries, and having 112 guns.

This was the Army of the Potomac as Grant found it on March 23, 1862, that is to say: Five Army Corps, 15 divisions, 41 brigades, 197 regiments, and 36 batteries, having 195 guns, exclusive of cavalry, reserve artillery, and headquarters troops.

Under Grant's reorganization the composition of the army was as follows: Second Corps: Four divisions, 11 brigades, 77 regiments, and 10 batteries, having 56 guns.

Fifth Corps: Four divisions, 11 brigades, 51 regiments, and eight batteries, having 48 guns.

Sixth Corps: Three divisions, 10 brigades, 40 regiments, and eight batteries, having 46 guns.

The cavalry, as before, was in three divisions, seven brigades, 31 regiments, and six horse-batteries, having 24 guns.

THE ARTILLERY RESERVE was in four brigades, 18 batteries, and 100 guns.

Comparatively speaking, the effect of Grant's consolidation was as follows: Army Corps, from five to three.

Divisions, from 15 to 11.

Regiments, from 197 to 157.

Batteries, from 36 to 24.

Sixth in the First and Third, thus leaving those two, with the Second, intact in regular order. There were also many men of approved military judgment who held that Grant's three large corps were really nothing but Burnside's "Grand Divisions" under another name, and it is easily demonstrable, in the light of events, that they proved to be.

OVERGROWN AND UNWIELDY more than once in the stupor operations that followed. However, entertaining as such discussions may be to the student of history, they possess but little interest for the average reader, and so, perhaps, are out of place here.

The general muster of April 30, 1864, showed the following strength present for duty equipped in the Army of the Potomac:

Table with columns: Corps, etc., Officers, Men, Total.

In addition to this force the Ninth Corps had been brought back from the West during the winter and reorganized at Annapolis, where it was held in readiness either to join the Army of the Potomac by land or cooperate by water in the movement upon Richmond, as might be most expedient.

The Ninth Corps had four divisions, eight brigades, and 39 regiments, besides a provisional brigade of three regiments of infantry, a cavalry brigade of four regiments, and an artillery reserve of six batteries, having 22 guns. Each division of the Ninth Corps also had two batteries attached on the plan prevailing in the Army of the Potomac prior to the early Spring of 1863. Under this organization the strength of the Ninth Corps, on April 30, was 22,762 of all ranks and arms.

THE DETAILED ORGANIZATION of the Union forces ready to advance on the Confederate Capital May 1, 1864, was as follows:

Provisional Guard—Gen. M. R. Patrick—20th N. Y., Col. T. H. Gates; 3d Pa. Cav., Maj. J. W. Wells; 6th Pa. Cav., Col. R. E. Winslow; 11th Pa. Cav., Col. H. T. Coates.

Engineers—Brig. Gen. H. W. Benson—15th N. Y. Eng., Maj. W. A. Ketchum; 50th N. Y. Eng., Lieut. Col. H. Spaulding; U. S. Eng. Battalion, Capt. Geo. H. Woodell.

Gen. Meade's escort—Oneida (Ind. Co.) cavalry, Capt. D. P. Mann.

SECOND CORPS—Maj. Gen. Hancock. First Division—Brig. Gen. F. C. Barlow. First Brigade—Col. Nelson A. Miles—25th Mich., 6th N. Y., 81st, 14th and 153d Pa.

Second Division—Brig. Gen. John Gibbon. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Alex. S. Webb—15th Me., 1st Co. Andrew (Mass.) Sharpshooters, 10th, 19th and 20th Mass., 7th Mich., 42d, 26th and 63d N. Y.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Joshua T. Owen—12th N. Y., 49th, 71st, 72d and 106th Pa. Third Brigade—Col. Samuel S. Carroll—14th Conn., 1st Del., 14th Ind., 12th N. J., 16th and 108th N. Y., 4th and 8th Ohio, 7th W. Va.

Third Division—Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. J. H. H. Ward—20th Ind., 3d Me., 4th, 8th and 124th N. Y., 9th, 11th and 141st Pa., 2d U. S. Sharpshooters.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Alexander Hayes—4th and 17th Me., 5d and 5th Mich., 93d N. Y., 57th, 6d and 105th Pa., 1st U. S. Sharpshooters.

Fourth Division—Brig. Gen. Gershom Mott. First Brigade—Col. Robert McAllister—1st and 16th Mass., 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th N. J., 20th and 119th Pa.

Second Brigade—Col. Wm. R. Brewster—11th Mass., 75th, 72d, 73d, 74th and 120th N. Y., 54th Pa.

Artillery Brigade—Col. John C. Tidball—6th Me., Capt. Edwin H. Daw; 10th Mass. Battery, Capt. J. Henry Stepper; 1st N. H. Battery, Capt. Fred M. Ripley; 1st N. Y. Battery, G. Capt. Nelson Ames; 4th N. Y. H. A., 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Thos. H. Alcock; 1st Pa., Battery F, Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts; 1st R. I. Battery A, Capt. Wm. A. Arnold; 1st R. I. Battery B, Capt. T. Fred Brown; 4th R. I. Battery E, Lieut. John W. Hooper; 5th U. S. Battery, Capt. Lieut. James Gillis.

FIFTH CORPS—Maj. Gen. Warren. First Division—Brig. Gen. Charles Griffin. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Romeyn B. Ayres—146th N. Y., 19th N. Y., 91st Pa., 153d Pa., 2d Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, 12th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, 17th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, 18th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, 17th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Bartlett—23d Me., 16th Mass., 1st Mich., 16th Mich., 44th N. Y., 52d Pa., 120th Pa.

Third Division—Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson. First Brigade—Col. Samuel H. Leonard—16th Me., 12th Mass., 20th Mass., 10th N. Y.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Henry Baxter—12th Mass., 3d N. Y. 9th (Mich.), 9th N. Y., 11th Pa., 86th Pa., 94th Pa.

Artillery Brigade—Col. Charles S. Wainwright—2d Mass. Battery, Capt. Augustus P. Martin; 5th Mass. Battery, Capt. Charles A. Phillips; 1st N. Y. Battery D, Capt. George B. Winslow; 1st N. Y. Battery E, and L. Lieut. George Brock; 1st N. Y. Battery H, Capt. Charles E. Mink; 4th N. Y. H. A. (2d Battalion), Maj. William Clark; 1st Pa. Battery B, Capt. James H. Cooper; 4th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, R. F. Britton; 5th Reg. (Ind. Reg.) Battalion, R. F. Britton.

SIXTH CORPS—Maj. Gen. Sedgwick. First Division—Brig. Gen. H. G. Wright. First Brigade—Col. Henry W. Brown—1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 10th, and 10th N. Y.

Second Brigade—Col. Emory Upton—5th Me., 121st N. Y., 56th Pa., 56th Pa.

Third Brigade—Brig. Gen. David A. Russell—6th Me., 4th Pa., 11th Pa., 5th Wis.

Fourth Brigade—Brig. Gen. Alexander Shaler—5th N. Y., 6th N. Y., 122d N. Y., 82d Pa. (detachment).

Second Division—Brig. Gen. W. G. Getty. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Frank Wheaton—62d N. Y., 93d, 98th, 102d, and 126th Pa.

Second Brigade—Col. Lewis A. Grant—24, 31, 4th, 5th, and 6th N. Y.

Third Brigade—Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Nelli—7th Me., 43d, 48th, and 77th N. Y., 61st Pa.

Fourth Brigade—Brig. Gen. Henry L. East—7th, 10th, and 37th Mass., 2d R. I.

Third Division—Brig. Gen. J. B. Ricketts. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Wm. H. Morris—14th N. J., 10th N. Y., 154th N. Y., Col. Thos. Whitcomb.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Truman Seymour—5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

Artillery Brigade—Col. Charles H. Tompkins—4th Me. Battery, Lieut. Melville C. Kimball; 1st N. Y. Battery, Capt. Andrew Cowan; 3d N. Y. Battery, Capt. Wm. A. Hunt; 4th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Wm. H. H. A. (1st Battalion), Maj. Thos. D. Sewall; 5th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Wm. Richard Waterman; 1st R. I. Battery E, Capt. Wm. B. Rhodes; 1st R. I. Battery G, Capt. George W. Adams; 5th U. S. Battery M, Capt. James McKnight.

ARTILLERY RESERVE—Brig. Gen. H. J. Hunt. 3d Me. Battery, Capt. G. T. Stevens; 1st N. J. Battery, Capt. Wm. H. H. A. (2d Battalion), Capt. A. J. Clark; 5th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Elijah Taft; 12th N. Y. Battery, Capt. G. P. McKnight; 1st N. Y. Battery, Capt. A. S. Sheldon; 5th Mass. Battery, Capt. John Higdon; 15th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Patrick Hart; 1st U. S. Battery, Capt. A. M. Randall; 1st U. S. Battery, Capt. Richard Waterman; 1st R. I. Battery E, Capt. Wm. B. Rhodes; 1st R. I. Battery G, Capt. George W. Adams; 5th U. S. Battery M, Capt. James McKnight.

CAVALRY CORPS—Maj. Gen. Sheridan. First Division—Brig. Gen. A. T. Torbert. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. George A. Custer—1st, 5th, 6th and 7th Mich.

Second Brigade—Col. Thomas C. Devin—11th, 6th and 9th N. Y., and 17th Pa.

Reserve Brigade—Brig. Gen. Wesley Merritt—15th N. Y. (1st Dragoon), 6th Pa., 1st, 2d, 5th and 6th U. S.

Second Division—Brig. Gen. D. McM. Davies. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Henry E. Greig, Jr.—1st Mass., 1st N. J., 6th Ohio, 1st Pa.

Second Brigade—Col. J. Irvin Greig—1st Me., 10th N. Y., 2d, 4th, 8th and 16th Pa.

Third Division—Brig. Gen. J. H. Wilson. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Timothy M. Bryan, Jr.—1st Conn., 3d N. Y., 5th N. Y., 1st Pa.

Second Brigade—Col. George H. Chapman—3d Ind., 8th N. Y., 1st Vt., 8th Ill. (Battalion).

Horse Artillery Brigade—Capt. J. M. Robertson—8th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Joseph W. Martin; 2d U. S. Battery B, Lieut. Edward Foster; 2d U. S. Battery C, Lieut. Edward B. Williston; 2d U. S. Battery D, Lieut. A. C. Pennington; 4th U. S. Battery A, Lieut. Rufus King; 4th U. S. Battery B, Lieut. C. F. Frazier.

SIXTH CORPS—Maj. Gen. Burnside. First Division—Brig. Gen. Thos. G. Stevenson. First Brigade—Col. Sumner Carruth—35th, 56th, 57th and 29th Mass., 4th U. S., 10th U. S.

Second Brigade—Col. Daniel Leavenworth—3d Me., 2d Mass., 10th Pa., 2d U. S. Sharpshooters.

Artillery—2d Me. Battery, Capt. Albert F. Thomas; 12th Mass. Battery, Capt. J. W. H. Wright.

Second Division—Brig. Gen. Robert H. Potter. First Brigade—Brig. Gen. Zenas L. Brist—20th Mass., 53d N. Y., 45th Pa., 48th Pa., 7th R. I.

Second Brigade—Col. Simon G. Griffin—31st Me., 32d Me., 4th and 11th N. H., 17th Vt.

Artillery—11th Mass. Battery, Capt. Edward J. Jones; 19th N. Y. Battery, Capt. Edward W. Rogers.

Third Division—Brig. Gen. Orlando B. Willcox. First Brigade—Col. John P. Hartman—2d, 8th, 17th and 27th Mich., 10th N. Y., 51st Pa.

Second Brigade—Brig. Gen. Chas. C. Chesnut—1st Mich. Sharpshooters, 26th Mich., 79th N. Y., 60th Ohio, 6th Pa.

deal was camped mainly about Orange Courthouse, where Gen. Lee's headquarters were, which was 18 miles from Culpeper. The organization of the Confederate army, without going into details, was as follows:

First Corps—Longstreet—three divisions, 15 brigades, 61 regiments, and 14 batteries, having 56 guns.

Second Corps—Ewell—three divisions, 12 brigades, 58 regiments, and 18 batteries, having 68 guns.

Third Corps—A. P. Hill—three divisions, 13 brigades, 61 regiments, and 20 batteries, having 72 serviceable guns.

This is an army of three corps, nine divisions, 28 brigades, 192 regiments, and 52 batteries, having 196 guns.

The Confederate cavalry was in three divisions, seven brigades, 25 regiments, and they had four batteries of horse artillery (such as it was), with 16 guns.

One of Longstreet's Divisions—THAT OF GEN. PICKETT—was absent, and did not join the main force until a week or so later. It had four brigades, 20 regiments, so that, on May 1, the rebel army consisted of eight divisions, 31 brigades, 162 regiments, with 196 guns, besides their cavalry.

No exact official data as to the numerical strength of this force are in existence, but every effort has been made by military statisticians on both sides since the war to arrive at a fair estimate.

The Return of April 20, 1864, which includes the corps of Hill and Ewell, the Cavalry Corps of Stuart and the Maryland Brigade, shows 51,617 of all arms, exclusive of Longstreet's Corps, which, with Pickett's Division absent, is stated by Gen. Charles W. Field to have been, within a hundred or two more or less, 12,600 strong. This would make a total force actually present at Orange Courthouse and Gordonsville of 67,000 men, in round numbers, of whom about 63,000 were infantry and artillery. So, in general terms, it may be stated as an incontrovertible fact that the two armies "went into the Wilderness" at a ratio of five to three in favor of the Union force. Under ordinary conditions this disparity would have been immediately conclusive, in view of the similarity of the two armies in the martial average of their personnel. The fact that it was not so was due to causes and conditions which I hope to make clear in succeeding pages.

At this point it seems proper to offer a few reflections as to the morale of the two armies on the eve of the fight.

LAST AND GREATEST GRAPPLE. At the time under consideration the Army of the Potomac was incomparably at its best as a fighting force; not as strong in numbers as on other occasions, but stronger in the skill and experience of its officers, in the drill and discipline of its men, in the perfection of its supply system, than ever before or after.

Of the 100,000 infantry and artillery available for battle, about 49,000 were recruits of 1862 and the early months of 1864. But these had been absorbed in regiments and batteries manned by 60,000 veterans of the Peninsula, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg—men who had learned the soldier's trade in the practical school of battle; men who knew how to be steady in action, calm in victory, and stoical in defeat. The officers who commanded these men were of tried and approved skill, courage and bearing, and, with rare exceptions, had the complete confidence and esteem of their troops.

In the earlier years of the war, men, fresh from home and peaceful pursuits, had galled under the restraints of discipline; had been subject to great extremes of elation and depression, and, to cut a long story short, had been fighting the war as they had been wont to wage Presidential campaigns; that is to say, with great enthusiasm while the brass band was playing and the torchlight procession passing, but with corresponding collapse when the "returns began to come in." But now they had become

SULLEN, CYNICAL, APATHETIC. They had learned that war is a serious business, and had schooled themselves to its stern vicissitudes. The tender sentimentality which in 1861, '62, and even early in '63, found expression in the multitude of what we used to call "mother songs"—which were in fact little else than symptoms of "nostalgia," commonly known as homesickness—had become almost a butt for jeers among the veterans of 1864! The average old campaigner, callous to the horrors of his calling; inclined, as a rule, to spend his spare hours at cards rather than the catchstick, and more wont to rebuke his feelings in the tumult of revelry than in the consolations of religion. This may not be a pleasant picture, but it is on the whole a truthful one.

In the purely military sense it is doubtful if the spirit of MARTIAL SELF-CONFIDENCE OR WARLIKE SELF-RELIANCE

ever ran as high in any army as in the Army of the Potomac in the Spring of 1864. Party politics, that bane of the Army in its earlier years, had died out, and political discussions, so rife in 1861, '62, were never heard in camp now. Everyone had settled down to the grim conclusion that the only way to get through with the business was by whipping the rebel army and destroying the Confederate Government, and that they were there for that purpose exclusively. As for Grant, the veterans regarded him simply as they did one another—in the light of his record. They did not go into transports of ecstasy over him, as they had done two years before over McClellan. There was a quite general feeling among the veterans that they had overdone the "Young Napoleon" business in their days of military inexperience, and that the time to display enthusiasm about a commander is after the battle, if ever.

The equipment of the Army of the Potomac left nothing to be desired. Every warlike appliance that ingenuity could invent, experience approve or money buy had literally been lavished upon it. The Spring of 1864 had been unusually backward; in fact, one of the heaviest snows ever known in

Virginia had fallen the last of March or first of April. But during the last week in April it came off clear and warm; the roads dried rapidly, so that, when the Army took up its line of march for the fords of the Rapidan, it seemed that

EVERY AUGURY WAS PROPITIOUS. In conclusion of this topic, it may be said that at this time the average man of the Army was quite as grim, taciturn and in earnest as Grant himself ever dared be, and while there was neither enthusiasm nor affection on either side, there was a good deal of strong, masculine respect on both sides; so that the commander and his troops were of one mind.

The morale of the Confederate troops, in their camps 18 miles away, was equally high, but from other causes and of a different quality. They were willing and anxious to fight and still more so of their prowess, but their zeal was that of desperation and their nerve that of the losing gambler who lays his last stake on a copped card with a full resolve to smile if it turns against him!

From Gettysburg to the Rapidan had been a period of 10 months, during which Lee's army had not suffered any reverses or been seriously disturbed by any. The Confederate Government had availed itself in that long respite, by every means known to ingenious and unhampered despotism, to pour into Lee's hands the last man and the utmost resource of the South. His word had become law. Modest and unpretentious as he was, the sheer force of his lofty character and the quiet power of his marvelous nature had made him

IMPERIAL IN THE CONFEDERACY, the so-called Congress of the South was as much under his command as his cavalry escort, and Mr. Jefferson Davis was little more than a general chief clerk in the administration of Lee's army. Never before in history had the resources of a people been laid at the feet of a military chieftain so utterly and without so cheerfully as the South laid her last man at the feet of Robert E. Lee. And probably never before had a chieftain been personally more worthy of such sacrifice. As a General, considering the warlike tools he had to work with, he had done almost miracles. And, desperate as their cause was, without discussing its merits, if there could possibly be justification for the persistence of the South after Vicksburg, Gettysburg, and Mission Ridge, it was that they still had Lee in command. But if he was the sole hope of the civil South, what shall be said of his relation to his army? To them he was idol, prophet, priest, and king! If there were exceptions to this rule they were so few and powerless that silence was safety. And yet Lee exercised this stupendous power almost without effort and entirely without art. I have often thought that students of history, in endeavor to analyze the springs of human action which could have produced the unheeded fortitude of the Southern people in rebellion, never grant anything like due weight to the—in my judgment—unequaled and incomprehensible personality of Gen. Lee.

The result of these final and almost superhuman efforts to recruit and equip their army had by May, 1864, brought it to a generally better state of armament, equipment and supply than it had ever known before. It was not so strong in numbers as on the Peninsula in 1862, or as in the Pennsylvania invasion of 1863, but what it lacked in numbers it more than made up in the conditions above described, so that the army which Lee moved so promptly to strike our flank in the Wilderness was indubitably the most formidable force that ever rallied under the ill-starred flag of rebellion.

(To be continued.)

THE BROTHERS. BY W. W. STONE, COMMANDER OF COL. CAMP 602.

The sun shone down on Shiloh, red with grieving at the sight Of Grant's proud army flying from that dreadful Sunday fight;

Behind them, wounded comrades wrestling with the Angel Death, Beneath the glare of sunlight breathing out their dying breath.

Two brothers fought that Sunday for the flag they loved so well, And side by side retreating, bravely fighting, bleed the red.

Their comrades saw the brothers, mangled, bleeding on the right; Alas! the rebel onset left no safety but in flight.

Alas! who can paint the horrors of that awful Sabbath day, As the brothers lay there meaning, while their life blood ebbed away.

"Oh, mother, dear!" cried Harry, softly, "Charles is gone away, You'd better send for father, dear, and mother, will you pray?"

"Thy growing dark! Why, mother, dear, I hear the ocean roll! Please, mother, sing those verses, 'Jesus, lover of my soul.'"

Alas! his eyes stare sightless upward in the glare of day, While Death his warning rattles, showing he has marked his prey.

With mingled moan and sobbing, Charles drags his mangled bones Beside his dying brother. There in tender, broken tones

He calls upon his mother's favorite boy, A sweet, and smile Lights up the pallid features. "Mother!" whispered Harry, "while Your hand is on my forehead, sing of Jesus as he bore the cross."

And deaf to earthly dangers, Charles's praises upward soar. With streaming eyes he faltered: "Jesus, lover of my soul,"

And then his voice grew stronger—"Let me to Thy bosom fly," "Dear mother!" whispered Harry—"While the waters o'er me roll,"

A sharp, convulsive gasping—"While the temple feet still is high," The death drops down his forehead—"Hide me, oh, my Saviour, hide!"

His hands are wandering feebly—"Till the storm of life is past," Are angels whispering passwords—"Safe into the haven guide,"

The soft eyes open wildly—"Oh! receive my soul at last!" A sigh, and all is over. Steel may clash and cannon roar—

All pass them by unheeded. Angels bear those spirits pure, And when on Monday morning Grant and Sherman onward bore

Our comrades found those brothers, sleeping, deaf to war's alarms, Asleep, we know, in Jesus, locked in each the other's arms.

Experiences AND Adventures

IN DISTANT LANDS.

Two Deer Hunting Expeditions in Russian Siberia.

ON OCTAGONAL WHEELS.

Enough Adventure, but Not of the Right Sort.

BY T. DIX BOLLES, U. S. N. (REPRINTED, 1887.)

PART I. THE naval station of Enns on the Pacific coast of Siberia, Vladivostok, was at the time I visited it simply a small village of perhaps 20 houses and two or three stores.

The greater number of its inhabitants were convicts, whose times had expired, but who preferred to remain. They were not much better than wild beasts, and the holes they lived in could hardly be called homes.

One of the storekeepers, a German, who applied the ship, incidentally mentioned that in the country, near his saw-mill, there was fine deer-shooting. In answer to our questions he professed his fondness for hunting, but acknowledged that, as it was more than 25 miles by water to the mill, he seldom went. As the ship had a steam-launch the distance was nothing to us, so inviting him to come with us and bring a native hunter and his dog, we offered to provide everything else and transport the party.

He of course accepted with promptness, and said that by the second day, early, he could be ready. As there were

PLENTY OF TROUT in the stream we soon had six volunteers—two hunters, four fishermen. This, with servant and the two from shore, made as large a party as a single boat could well carry, with provisions, bedding and utensils.

Our commanding officer permitted us to use the steam-launch, and we towed a small skiff for landing purposes.

The next day was spent in preparation, and by evening we had everything packed and in the boats, ready for a very early start. The boats had to go six miles around a point, while we were to land at the town, cross a narrow way of land, and then embark. In this way we could start the boats before day, and then take our own time about leaving.

Rifles and fish-rods were all we took, as small game could not be fired at, if we hoped for larger. It was late in September, and the days were short, the nights frosty, for Vlad