The National Tribune.

"TO CARE FOR HIM WHO HAS BORNE THE BATTLE AND FOR HIS WIDOW AND ORPHANS."

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HISTORY OF THE CORPS.

How They Were Formed and of What Troops Composed.

THE SECOND CORPS.

Regimental Losses at Antietam and Gettysburg.

BRISTOE AND MINE RUN.

Reorganization and Strength of Corps, March, 1864.

LIKE the First Corps, the Second was formed under the provisions of General War Order No. 2, issued by President Lincoln, and dated Washington, March 8, 1862. The order also assigns Brig.-Gen. Edwin V. Sumner to the command.

In pursuance of the above order, a General Order was issued from Headquarters, Army of the Potomac, dated at Fairfax Courthouse, Va., March 13, 1862, announcing the formation of the active portion of the army into corps, and designating the divisions of Richardson, Blenker and Sedgwick to form the Second Corps.

The Second Corps became prominent because of its longer and continuous service, larger organization, hardest fighting, and greatest number of casualties. Within its ranks was the regiment which sustained the greatest numerical loss in any one action; also the regiment which sustained the greatest numerical loss during its term of service; while of the 100 regiments in the Union army which lost the most men in battle, 35 of them belonged to the corps.

The Second Corps took part in the siege of Yorktown, battles of Fair Oaks, Oak Grove, Gaines's Mills, Savage Station, Peach Orchard, White Oak Swamp, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, Morton's Ford, Wilderness, Corbin's Bridge, Po River, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Tolopotomoy, Cold Harbor, assault on Petersburg June 18, Jerusalem Plank Road, Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Poplar Spring Church, Boydton Plank Road, Hatcher's Run, Siege of Petersburg, White Oak Road, Sutherland Station, Sailor's Creek, Farmville, and played a very important part in the last fight of the Army of the Potomac at Appomattox when Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia.

The following was the composition of the corps as originally organized:

BRIG.-GEN. EDWIN V. SUMNER COMMANDING.

Cavalry—8th Ill. and one squadron 6th N. Y.

RICHARDSON'S DIVISION.

Artillery—Clarke's Battery (A and C), 4th U. S., six Napoleon guns; Frank's Battery (G), 1st N. Y., six 10-pounder Parrott guns; Pettit's Battery (B), 1st N. Y., six 10-pounder Parrott guns; Hogan's Battery (A), 2d N. Y., six 10-pounder Parrott guns.

Infantry—Howard's Brigade, 5th N. H., 81st Pa., 61st and 64th N. Y.; Meagher's Brigade, 63d, 69th and 88th N. Y.; French's Brigade, 52d, 57th and 66th N. Y. and 53d Pa.

SEDGWICK'S DIVISION.

Artillery—Kirby's Battery (I), 1st U. S., six Napoleon guns; Tompkins's Battery (A), 1st R. I., six (four 10-pounder Parrotts and two 12-pounder howitzers) guns; Bartlett's Battery (B), 1st R. I., six (four 10-pounder Parrotts and two 12-pounder howitzers) guns; Owen's Battery (G), six 3-inch ordnance guns.

Infantry—Gorman's Brigade, 2d N. Y. S. M. (82d), 15th Mass., 34th N. Y., and 1st Minn., 1st company Andrew Sharpshooters attached to 15th Mass.; Burns's Brigade, 69th, 71st, 72d and 106th Pa.; Dana's Brigade, 19th and 20th Mass., 7th Mich., and 42d N. Y.

Blenker's Division was detached and never joined, being assigned to the Mountain Department March 31. The corps numbered at this time 21,500 men, of whom 18,347 were present for duty.

The first general engagement participated in occurred at Fair Oaks, where the prompt and soldierly action of Gen. Sumner brought the corps on the battlefield in time to retrieve a serious disaster and change a rout into a victory. The casualties of the two divisions engaged in that action amounted to 196 killed, 899 wounded and 90 missing.

Gen. Edwin Vose Sumner, the first commander, was not a graduate of West Point, being appointed a Second Lieutenant of the 2d U. S. Inf. from civil life in 1819. He was promoted First Lieutenant in 1823, Captain 1st Dragoons in 1833, Major 2d Dragoons in 1846, Lieutenant-Colonel 1st Dragoons in 1848, Colonel 1st Cav. in 1855, Brigadier-General in March, 1861, and Major-General in July, 1862. He was brevetted several times for gallantry. He died March 21, 1863.

The corps did splendid fighting in the Seven Days' Battles before Richmond, the two divisions losing 201 killed, 1,195 wounded, and 1,024 missing. Upon the withdrawal of the Army of the Potomac from before Richmond the corps moved to the support of Pope at the second Bull Run, arriving on the field in time to go into position at Chantilly, but did not become engaged.

With the rest of the Army of the Potomac the Second Corps participated in the Maryland campaign. On Sept. 16 Brig.-Gen. W. H. French's Division, composed of the following troops, was added to the corps forming the

THIRD DIVISION.

First Brigade—Gen. Nathan Kimball—14th Ind., 8th Ohio, 132d Pa., 7th W. Va.

Second Brigade—Col. Dwight Morris—14th Conn., 108th N. Y., 130th Pa.

Third Brigade—Gen. Max Weber—1st Del., 5th Md., 4th N. Y.

Unattached Artillery—1st N. Y., Battery G; 1st R. I., Batteries B and G.

In the battle of Antietam a prominent part was taken, the casualties amounting to more than double that of any other corps on the field, having a total of 5,138 out of an effective force of 15,000 men. Nearly one-half of these losses occurred in Sedgwick's (Second) Division in its advance on the Dunker Church, an affair which was under Gen. Sumner's personal direction. The Irish Brigade, of Richardson's Division, also sustained a terrible loss in its fight at the "Bloody Lane," but at the same time inflicted a greater loss on Lee's rebels opposing them. Gen. Richardson was killed in this great battle, while Gen. Sedgwick received three severe wounds.

The following table of casualties is taken from the Official Records of the Rebellion:

Command.	Kill'd. Officers.	Kill'd. Enlisted men.	W'n'd. Officers.	W'n'd. Enlisted men.	Cap'd or miss'g Officers.	Cap'd or miss'g Enlisted men.	Aggregate.
Second Corps. Maj.-Gen. Edwin V. Sumner.							
Staff			2				2
Escort. 6th N. Y. Cav., Cos. D and K				1			1
First Division. (1.) Maj.-Gen. Israel B. Richardson. (2.) Brig.-Gen. John C. Caldwell. (3.) Brig.-Gen. Winfield S. Hancock.							
Staff			2				2
First Brigade. Brig.-Gen. John C. Caldwell.							
5th N. H.	1	7	10	92		1	111
7th N. Y.	1	14	1	45			61
61st N. Y.	1	5	2	32		1	41
64th N. Y.		8	1	41			50
81st Pa.	1	6	3	41			51
Total First Brigade	4	40	17	251		2	314
Second Brigade. Brig.-Gen. Thos. F. Meagher.							
Staff			1				1
29th Mass.		7		29		3	39
63d N. Y.	4	31	5	160		2	202
69th N. Y.	4	40	6	146			196
88th N. Y.	2	25	2	73			102
Total Second Brig.	10	103	14	408		5	540
Third Brigade. Col. Jno. R. Brooke.							
2d Del.		12	2	42		2	58
52d N. Y.		4	3	9		2	18
57th N. Y.	3	16	6	73		3	101
66th N. Y.	1	10	1	90		1	103
53d Pa.	1	5	1	17		1	25
Total Third Brigade.	5	47	13	231		9	305
Artillery.							
1st N. Y. L., Bat'ry B		1					1
4th U. S., Bat's A and C				3			3
Total Artillery		1		3			4
Total First Divis'n.	19	191	46	893		16	1,165
Second Division. (1.) Maj.-Gen. John Sedgwick. (2.) Brig.-Gen. O. O. Howard.							
Staff			2				2
First Brigade. Brig.-Gen. Willis A. Gorman.							
15th Mass.	3	54	7	231		23	318
1st Minn.	1	14	4	56		15	90
34th N. Y.	1	32	2	109	1	9	154
82d N. Y. (2d Mil'a).		21	4	88		15	128
Mass. S. S., 1st Co.	2	6		17		1	26
Minn. S. S., 3d Co.				21		3	24
Total First Brigade.	7	127	17	522	1	66	740
Second Brigade. (1.) Brig.-Gen. O. O. Howard. (2.) Col. J. T. Owen.							
69th Pa.	2	17	3	55	1	14	92
71st Pa.	1	25	8	87		18	139
72d Pa.	2	36	5	158		36	237
106th Pa.	1	9	3	60		4	77
Total Second Brig.	6	87	19	360	1	72	545
Third Brigade. (1.) Brig.-Gen. N. J. T. Dana. (2.) Col. N. J. Hall.							
Staff			2				2
19th Mass.	1	7	7	101		30	146
20th Mass.	1	11	8	81		28	124
7th Mich.	3	36	12	166		4	221
42d N. Y.	2	33	8	119	1	18	181
59th N. Y.	3	45	10	143		23	224
Total Third Brigade.	10	132	42	610	1	103	898
Artillery.							
1st R. I. L., Batt'ry A		4		15			19
1st U. S., Battery I				6			6
Total Artillery		4		21			25
Total Second Div'n	23	350	80	1,513	3	241	2,210
Third Division. Brig.-Gen. Wm. H. French.							
First Brigade. Brig.-Gen. Nathan Kimball.							
Staff			1				1
14th Ind.	2	28	9	141			180
8th Ohio	2	30	7	122			161
132d Pa.	2	28	4	110		8	152
7th W. Va.	3	26	4	112			145
Total First Brigade	9	112	25	485		8	639
Second Brigade. Col. Dwight Morris.							
14th Conn.	2	18	3	85		48	156
108th N. Y.	3	23	2	120		47	195
130th Pa.	1	31	8	138			178
Total Second Brig.	6	72	13	343		95	529
Third Brigade. (1.) Brig.-Gen. Max Weber. (2.) Col. Jno. W. Andrews.							
Staff			2				2
1st Del.	3	28	10	172		17	230
5th Md.	1	24	4	119		15	163
4th N. Y.	2	42	6	136		1	187
Total Third Brigade.	6	94	22	427		33	582
Total Third Div'n.	21	278	60	1,255		136	1,750
Unattached Artillery							
1st N. Y. L., Bat'ry G		1		4			5
1st R. I. L., Battery G				5			5
Tot'l Unattached Art		1		9			10
Total Second Corps	63	820	188	3,671	3	393	5,138

The Second Corps had been terribly used during the Maryland campaign, but they crossed the Potomac into Virginia, where preparations were at once begun for the ill-fated Fredericksburg campaign. Gen. Sumner was promoted to the command of a grand division, composed of the Second and Ninth Corps, and Gen. Darius N. Couch, who had been in command of a division of the Fourth Corps, was appointed commander of the Second Corps to succeed Gen. Sumner. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock succeeded to the command of Richardson's Division, and Gen. Oliver O. Howard took command of Sedgwick's, Gen. Sedgwick being absent on account of wounds received at Antietam.

At the bloody battle of Fredericksburg, which followed the reorganization of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Gen. Burnside, the loss of the Second Corps exceeded that of any other corps in that fierce battle. The corps was ably handled by its new commander, Gen. D. N. Couch, who graduated from West Point in 1846, becoming a Brevet Second Lieutenant, 4th Art., in July of that year. He was promoted Second Lieutenant in February, 1847, and First Lieutenant in December, 1847, for

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gallant and meritorious service at the battle of Buena Vista. He resigned his commission in April, 1855. At the breaking out of the war of the rebellion he raised and became Colonel of the 7th Mass., and was promoted Brigadier-General in May, 1861, and Major-General in July, 1862. He resigned his commission in May, 1865, at the close of hostilities.

The loss of the Second Corps at Fredericksburg, Dec. 11-16, 1862 was 412 killed, 3,214 wounded, and 488 missing. Again the loss fell principally on one division, this time on Hancock's Division, which was principally received in an unsuccessful assault on Marye's Hights; the percentage of loss in the division being very large, that of Caldwell's Brigade being 46 per cent. in killed and wounded.

After the battles of Fredericksburg the grand divisions of the Army of the Potomac were discontinued, and Gen. Sumner being placed on the Retired List on account of age and disabilities, Gen. Couch remained in command of the Second Corps, leading it in the Chancellorsville campaign under Gen. Hooker, his division commanders being Hancock, Gibbon and French. Sedgwick had been promoted to commander of the Sixth Corps, and Howard, who had commanded the Second Division at Fredericksburg, was promoted to the command of the Eleventh Corps.

The principal part of the Second Corps' fighting at Chancellorsville fell on Hancock's Division, its skirmish-line, under Col. Nelson A. Miles, distinguishing itself by a successful resistance to a strong and vigorous attack of the enemy, making one of the most interesting episodes in the history of that very illy-conducted battle, in which there was no concert of action on the part of the various commands, a great part of the troops being but little if at all engaged. Gibbon's Division remained at Fredericksburg during the time the battle was raging at Chancellorsville as a support for Sedgwick's operations, and it sustained very little loss. The total loss of the corps in this battle was 141 killed, 954 wounded and 720 missing—in all 1,815.

Shortly after the battle of Chancellorsville Gen. Couch was relieved at his own request, he feeling outraged by the conduct of Gen. Hooker, and Gen. Winfield S. Hancock was placed in command of the Second Corps, while Gen. Caldwell succeeded Hancock in command of the First Division.

Gen. Hancock graduated from the Military Academy in 1844, and was appointed Brevet Second Lieutenant of the 6th Inf. in July of that year. He was promoted Second Lieutenant in 1846, and served as Regimental Quartermaster and Adjutant until 1855, when he was promoted Captain and Assistant Quartermaster. He was promoted Brigadier-General of Volunteers in 1861, and Major-General in November, 1862, and Brigadier-General in the Regular Army in August, 1864, and Major-General in 1866. He was brevetted several times for gallant and meritorious services in both the Mexican and civil wars, and received the thanks of Congress for conduct at Gettysburg and Spottsylvania. He died Feb. 9, 1886. He was the nominee of the Democratic party for the Presidency in 1880, but was defeated by President Garfield.

During the march of the Army of the Potomac in pursuit of Lee, who had crossed the Potomac and started on the Gettysburg campaign, the brigade of Gen. Alex. Hays joined the corps, and was attached and formed the Third Brigade of the Third Division, Gen. Hays being assigned to the command of that division, Col. Geo. L. Williard succeeding him as Brigade Commander. The brigade was composed of 39th, 111th, 125th, and 126th N. Y.

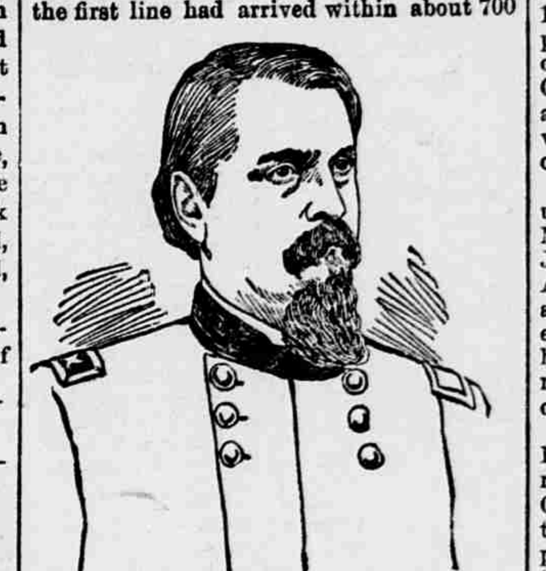
The Second Corps was hotly engaged during the second and third days of the battle of Gettysburg, encountering the hardest fighting in its long experience, and winning there its greatest laurels. On the second day, in the fighting at the Wheatfield, and on the third, in the repulse of the celebrated charge of Pickett's Division, of Longstreet's Corps, which was directed against Hancock's position, better fighting was never done by any troops on any battlefield. The fighting was deadly in the extreme, the percentage of loss in the 1st Minn., of Gibbon's Division, being without an equal in modern warfare. The loss of the corps in this fight was fearful, being 4,350 out of about 10,500 men engaged, although the returns show that there were present for duty equipped 12,363 infantry, 82 cavalry, and 551 artillery. But the terrible marching along dusty roads and in the hot July weather had reduced the strength of the corps through men giving out and the usual number of stragglers, that not many more than 10,000 men were participants of the battle. Gen. Gibbon's Division suffered the most in the great struggle, the percentage of loss in Harrow's Brigade being unusually severe. Gens. Hancock and Gibbon were both seriously wounded, while Zook, Cross, Willard, and Sherrill, who commanded brigades, were killed.

The following table of casualties at Gettysburg is taken from the Official Records of the Rebellion:

Command.	Kill'd Officers.	Kill'd Enlisted men.	W'n'd. Officers.	W'n'd. Enlisted men.	Cap'd or miss'g Officers.	Cap'd or miss'g Enlisted men.	Aggregate.
Second Corps. Maj.-Gen. Winfield S. Hancock. Brig.-Gen. John Gibbon. General Headquarters.							
Staff			8				8
6th N. Y. Cav., Companies D and K		1		3			4
First Division. Brig.-Gen. John C. Caldwell. First Brigade. Col. Edward E. Cross. Col. H. Boyd McKeen.							
Staff			1				1
5th N. H.	1	26	4	49			80
61st N. Y.		6	6	50			62
81st Pa.		5	5	44		8	62
148th Pa.	1	18	6	95		5	125
Total First Brigade	2	55	22	238		13	330
Second Brigade. Col. Patrick Kelly.							
28th Mass.		8	1	56		35	100
63d N. Y.		5	1	9	1	7	23
69th N. Y.		5	1	13		6	25
88th N. Y.	1	6	1	16		4	28
116th Pa.		2		11	1	8	22
Total Sec'd Brigade	1	26	4	105	2	60	198
Third Brigade. Brig.-Gen. Samuel K. Zook. Lieut.-Col. John Fraser.							
Staff	1						1
52d N. Y.	1	1	3	23		10	38
57th N. Y.		4	2	26		2	34
66th N. Y.	2	3	5	24	1	9	44
140th Pa.	3	34	8	136	3	57	241
Total Third Brigade	7	42	18	209	4	78	358
Fourth Brigade. Col. John R. Brooke.							
27th Conn.	2	8	4	19		4	37
2d Del.	2	9	7	54		12	84
64th N. Y.	4	11	7	57		19	98
53d Pa.		7	11	56		6	80
145th Pa.		11	9	60		10	90
Total Fourth Brig.	8	46	38	246		51	389
Total First Division	18	169	82	798	6	202	1,275
Second Division. Brig.-Gen. John Gibbon. Brig.-Gen. William Harrow.							
Staff			3				3
First Brigade. Brig.-Gen. William Harrow. Col. Francis E. Heath.							
Staff			1				1
19th Me.	1	28	11	159		4	203
15th Mass.	3	20	8	89		28	148
1st Minn.	3	47	14	159		1	224
82d N.Y. (2d Militia)	3	42	12	120	1	14	192
Total First Brig.	10	137	46	527	1	47	768
Second Brigade. Brig.-Gen. Alexander S. Webb.							
69th Pa.	4	36	8	72	2	15	137
71st Pa.	2	19	3	55	3	16	98
72d Pa.	2	42	7	139		2	192
106th Pa.	1	'8	9	45		1	64
Total Second Brig.	9	105	27	311	5	34	491
Third Brigade. Col. Norman J. Hall.							
19th Mass.	2	7	9	52		7	77
20th Mass.	2	28	8	86		3	127
7th Mich.	2	19	3	41			65
42d N. Y.		15	6	49		4	74
59th N. Y.		6	3	25			34
Total Third Brig.	6	75	29	253		14	377
Unattached. 1st Co. Mass. Sharpshooters		2		6			8
Total Second Divis'n	25	319	105	1,097	6	95	1,647
Third Division. Brig.-Gen. Alexander Hays. First Brigade. Col. Sam'l S. Carroll.							
14th Ind.		6	8	22			31
4th Ohio	2	7	1	16		5	31
8th Ohio	1	17	10	73		1	102
7th W. Va.		5	1	40		1	47
Total First Brigade	3	35	15	151		7	211
Second Brigade. Col. Thos. A. Smyth. Lieut.-Col. Francis E. Pierce.							
14th Conn.		10	10	42		4	66
1st Del.	1	9	10	44	1	12	77
12th N. J.	2	21	4	79		9	115
10th N. Y. (Battalion)		2		4			6
108th N. Y.	3	13	10	76			102
Total Second Brig.	6	55	34	245	1	25	366
Third Brigade. Col. Geo. L. Willard. Col. Eliakim Sherrill. Lieut.-Col. James M. Bull.							
39th N. Y.	1	14	3	77			95
111th N. Y.	3	55	8	169		14	249
125th N. Y.	2	24	6	98		9	139
126th N. Y.	5	35	9	172		10	231
Total Third Brigade	11	128	26	516		33	714
Total Third Divis'n	20	218	75	912	1	65	1,291
Artillery Brigade. Capt. Jno G. Hazard.							
1st N. Y. L., Bat'y B.	1	9	1	15			26
1st R. I. L., Bat'y A.		3	1	27		1	32
1st R. I. L., Batt'y B.	1	6	1	18		2	28
1st U. S., Battery I		1	1	23			25
4th U. S., Battery A.	1	5	1	31			38
Total Artillery	3	24	5	114		3	149
Total Second Corps	66	731	270	2,924	13	365	4,369

In the battle of the third day, Gen. Lee had, in his survey of the Union lines, to select a place to charge, and hit upon the ground occupied by the Second and Third Divisions of the Second Corps as that upon which the assault should be directed. At precisely 1 o'clock two cannon-shot, in quick succession, gave the signal, and instantly the rebel position for three miles was wrapped in flame and smoke, 140 guns opening at once on the Union lines. This cannonade continued for over two hours, when Gen. Meade's batteries, in obedience to orders, failing to make reply, the rebels ceased firing, and there was a momentary lull in the tempest.

The rebel infantry, which had formed in the edge of the woods, now advanced, a strong line of skirmishers followed by two deployed lines of battle supported at different points by small columns of infantry, the left extending slightly beyond the right of Gen. Alexander Hays's Division, the right being opposite the left of Gen. Gibbon. No attempt was made to check the advance until the first line had arrived within about 700



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yards, when a feeble fire of artillery was opened upon it, but with no material effect. The column pressed on, and when within 200 or 300 yards a destructive fire was opened by the Divisions of Hays and Gibbon, which was returned, and the fight at once became fierce and general. The combat in front of Hays's Division was not of long duration. The rebels soon broke in great disorder, leaving 15 colors and 2,000 prisoners in the hands of that division. In the attack on Gibbon's Division a force led by Gen. Armistead drove back a portion of Webb's Brigade and succeeded in planting their flag on the breastworks of that brigade, a stone wall. This indication of weakness in the lines emboldened the rebels and they pushed forward more pertinaciously, numbers crossing the abandoned breastworks. Webb's Brigade was soon rallied and with other troops filled the breach, and the rebels were unable to go further. Gen. Hancock in his official report says: "The situation was now very peculiar. The men of all the brigades had in some measure lost their regimental organization, but individually they were firm. The ambition of individual commanders to promptly cover the point penetrated by the enemy, the smoke of battle, and the intensity of the close engagement caused this confusion. The point, however, was now covered. In regular formation our line would have stood four ranks deep.

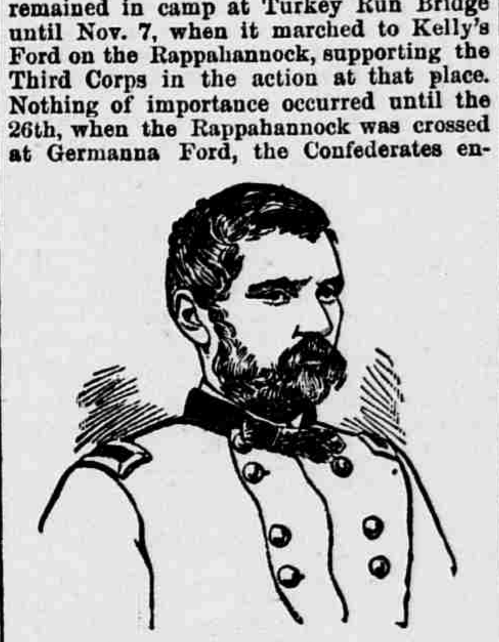
"The colors of the different regiments were now advanced, waving in defiance of the long line of battle-flags presented by the enemy. The men pressed firmly after them under the energetic commands and examples of their officers, and after a few moments of desperate fighting the enemy's troops were repulsed, threw down their arms and sought safety in flight or throwing themselves on the ground to escape our fire."

Gibbon's Division secured 12 stand of colors and about 2,500 prisoners, making a total of 27 stand of colors and 4,500 prisoners captured by the corps.

On the 3d of July Brig.-Gen. Wm. Hays was assigned to and continued in command of the corps until Aug. 13, when he was superseded by Maj.-Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren. Gen. Warren was a graduate of West Point, appointed Lieutenant in the Topographical Engineers July 1, 1850. At the outbreak of the war he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the 5th N. Y., and was subsequently promoted to the Colonelcy. On Sept. 26, 1862, he was appointed Brigadier-General, and on May 3, 1863, Major-General of Volunteers. He died Aug. 3, 1882.

After the battle of Gettysburg the corps remained upon the ridge that it had so well defended until the evening of the 5th when it moved in the pursuit of the Confederate army, and on the 11th took a position to the left of the Fifth Corps, confronting the Confederate army, then encamped around Williamsport. After the escape of the rebels into Virginia, the corps with the Union forces moved at a leisurely pace, and on Aug. 30 was in position commanding the fords on the Rappahannock, as follows: First Division, Gen. Caldwell at United States Ford; Second Division, Gen. Webb, at Banks's Ford; Third Division, Gen. Owen, in reserve at Hartwood. On the 13th of September the movement from the Rappahannock to the Rapidan commenced. The 9th of October found the corps on the hights behind Culpeper. During the Bristoe campaign, commencing that day and ending on the 22d, it fought in the engagements at Auburn and Bristoe Station and in many skirmishes, losing two officers and 48 men killed, 29 officers and 306 men wounded and one man missing. The strength of the corps was 587 officers and 8,243 enlisted men in the ranks; 32 pieces of artillery, manned by 16 officers and 537 enlisted men, and no cavalry.

After the close of the campaign the corps remained in camp at Turkey Run Bridge until Nov. 7, when it marched to Kelly's Ford on the Rappahannock, supporting the Third Corps in the action at that place. Nothing of importance occurred until the 26th, when the Rappahannock was crossed at Germanna Ford, the Confederates en-



JOHN GIBBON.

gaged in brisk skirmishes on the 27th at Robertson's Tavern, and on the 28th along Mine Run. On the 29th a movement was made through Robertson's Tavern around the left of the army, and position taken to the left of the plank road across Mine Run in front of the rebel works, losing during the movement 50 killed and wounded. A general assault had been planned for the 30th, and all preparations made. Gen. Warren's command had been increased by two divisions of the Third Corps, and was to begin the assault at 8 a. m. Finding, however, that the enemy's line had been reinforced during the night with all the troops and artillery that could be placed in position, breastworks, epaulements and abatis perfected, he decided not to attack, and the operations of the day were suspended. After remaining quiet during the day and the 1st of December, the corps on the night of the 1st withdrew across the Rapidan by Culpeper Mine Ford, and on the 7th was in camp at Cole's Hill, near Stevensburg, Va. Casualties during the campaign, two officers and 10 men killed, 13 officers and 139 men wounded, three officers and 115 men captured or missing.

The corps remained in camp at Cole's Hill until Feb. 6, when, at 7 a. m. it moved to Morton's Ford, on the Rapidan., Brig.-Gen. John C. Caldwell temporarily in command. At 4 p. m. Gen. Warren resumed command, and severe skirmishing ensued, the Confederates shelling from their batteries for an hour after dark. Casualties, 10 enlisted men killed, 16 officers and 193 men wounded, one officer and 49 men captured or missing.

During the remainder of the month of February and until April 30 the command remained in camp near Stevensburg, Va. Gen. Hancock, who had been absent since the battle of Gettysburg except for a short period—Dec. 29, 1863, to Jan. 8, 1864—returned and resumed command on March 24, and on the 26th the organization of the corps was effected. The following was the composition and strength of the command on March 31, 1864:

MAJ.-GEN. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK COMMANDING.

Artillery Brigade—Col. J. C. Tidball commanding—K, 4th Art.; C and I, 5th Art.; 10th Mass.; A and B, 1st R. I.; B, 1st N. J.; G, 1st N. Y.; 12th N. Y.; F, 1st Pa., and 1st battalion of the 4th N. Y. H. A.

First Division—Brig.-Gen. Francis C. Barlow commanding. First Brigade—Col. N. A. Miles commanding—61st N. Y.; 81st, 140th, 183d Pa.; 26th Mich. Second Brigade—Col. Thomas A. Smyth commanding—28th Mass.; 63d, 69th, 88th N. Y.; 116th Pa. Third Brigade—Col. Paul Frank commanding—39th, 52d, 57th, 111th, 125th, 126th N. Y., and a detachment of the 7th N. Y. Fourth Brigade—Col. John R. Brooke commanding—2d Del.; 53d, 145th, 148th Pa.; 64th, 66th N. Y. Strength, 12,250.

Second Division—Brig.-Gen. John Gibbon commanding. First Brigade—Brig.-Gen. Alex. S. Webb commanding—19th Me.; 15th 19th, 20th Mass.; 42d, 59th, 82d N. Y.; 7th Mich. Second Brigade—Brig.-Gen. J. T. Owen commanding—69th, 71st, 72d, 106th Pa.; 152d N. Y. Third Brigade—Col. S. S. Carroll commanding—4th, 8th Ohio; 14th Ind.; 7th W. Va.; 108th N. Y.; 10th N. Y. Battalion; 1st Del.; 14th Conn.; 12th N. J. Strength, 11,367.

Third Divison—Maj.-Gen. David B. Birney commanding. First Brigade—Brig.-Gen. J. H. Hobart Ward commanding—3d Me.; 40th, 86th, 124th N. Y.; 99th, 110th,

GEN. DARIUS N. COUCH.

141st Pa.; 20th Ind., 2d U. S. Sharpshooters. Second Brigade—Brig.-Gen. Alexander Hays commanding—4th, 17th Me.; 3d, 5th Mich.; 57th, 63d, 68th, 105th Pa.; 1st U. S. Sharpshooters. Strength, 10,174.

Fourth Division—Brig.-Gen. Joseph B. Carr commanding. First Brigade—Brig.-Gen. Gershom Mott commanding—5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th N. J.; 26th, 115th Pa.; 1st., 16th Mass. Second Brigade—Col. W. R. Brewster commanding—70th, 71st, 72d, 73d, 74th, 120th N. Y.; 11th Mass.; 84th Pa. Strength, 8,503.

Gen. Carr was succeeded in command of the Fourth Division by Gen. Mott. The aggregate force was distributed as follows: Present for duty 23,877; on extra or daily duty, 4,422; sick, 1,278; in arrest or confinement, 152; absent, 13,306. Total, 43,035.

The 68th Pa. was detached in April; the 114th Pa. was permanently detained at Headquarters Army of the Potomac. The 26th Wis., 184th Pa. and 6th Minn. were assigned March 21, 1864; the 36th Wis. was subsequently substituted for the 26th; the 6th Minn. never joined; the 184th Pa. joined during the campaign.

By the close of April the strength of the corps had increased to an aggregate of 46,363. Present for duty, 28,854.

(To be continued.)

SCOUTING ADVENTURES

Opening Communications Between Meade's and Lee's Armies.

OUTWITTING GILMORE.

The Guerrilla Chief Feeds the Scouts and Helps Them Along.

TAKEN BY MOSBY.

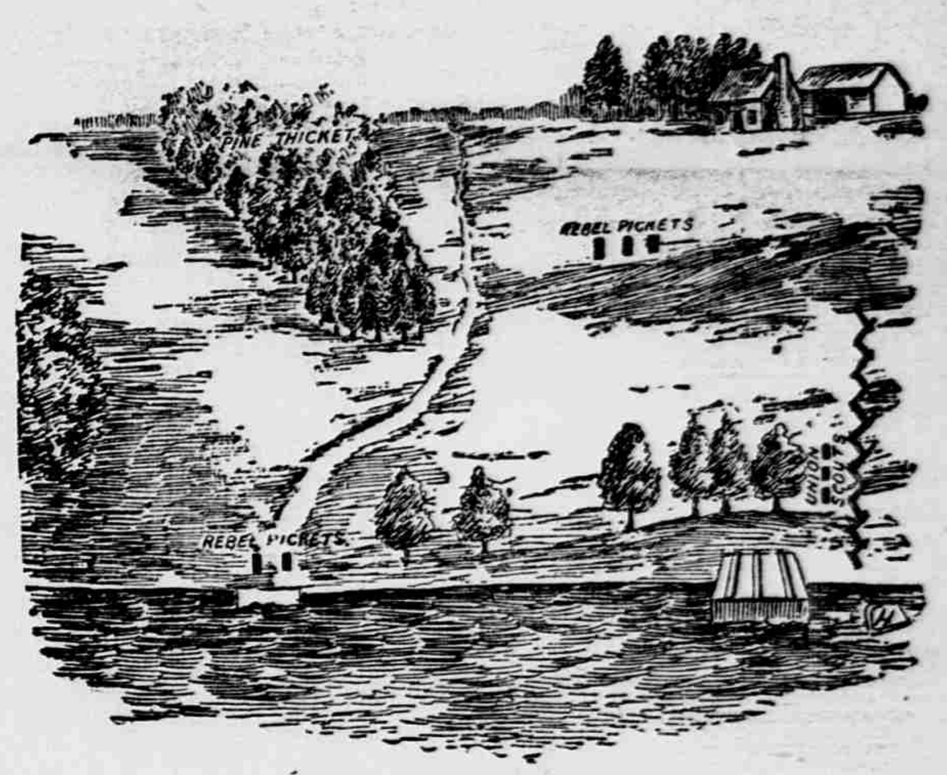
Getting the Guards Drunk and Escaping to Our Lines.

BY JUDSON KNIGHT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE sketch accompanying this is designed by the writer to illustrate an incident that happened soon after the return of the Army of the Potomac from the Mine Run campaign. During that campaign a party of scouts from Army Headquarters found themselves in the vicinity of "Old Vidersville," in the neighborhood of a farmhouse that looked as though food for both man and beast might be procured. Upon the party riding up to the house they were met by an old Virginia farmer,

who anxiously asked if they were "Yankees." He was told that they were, to which he replied: "I am mighty glad to see you-all."

"Oh! give us a rest; we have heard that kind of talk before," was the reply from some of the scouts. The old farmer looked anxiously and rapidly from one to another, and a shade of fear swept over his face as he observed the motley dress of several of the



PLACE OF CROSSING.

party, until his eyes rested upon one who wore a full Federal uniform. He scrutinized him carefully, while the boys were still chaffing him, and, addressing him personally, said: "Are you Yankees?" "Yes, we are!" And the reply was so emphatic and made in such a tone as though the speaker was proud of the fact and of the chance of telling one whom he supposed to be an

ENEMY OF HIS GOVERNMENT,

that his face instantly cleared and all could see that his assertion of "I am mighty glad to see you all" was a fact.

"Come, gentlemen, light," was his next salutation; and they "lit."

"Can you furnish us a dinner and a feed for our horses?"

"Yes, and glad to do it, too."

While discussing the news the old farmer said: "I am glad you-all came out here today, for I have a son that I want you-all to take with you when you leave here."

He was told that it could not be done, as there was no spare horse for his son to ride.

"Never mind about the horse. I have got as good a horse as any of you-all, and he can have him, if you will only take him along with you."

All hands saw by this time the old man was a Unionist, and in dead earnest. He told the party his son had been in a neighboring State, and had been able to keep out of the army until the previous June, when he was conscripted and allowed to go home to join a Virginia regiment. He had been home about six months, hid in one of the chambers, and had not been out of doors in daylight in all that time. Stepping to the stairway he called him down. His son was about 32 years of age, and about five feet 10 inches in hight, and as white as ghosts are supposed to be, from his enforced seclusion during all those weeks. He was taken along, and when Gen. Meade fell back across the Rapidan he went with us.

Some time during the month of December, 1863, it was concluded at Headquarters that if we could find a good crossing just above or below Jacob's or Germania Fords, we would start a line between Headquarters of our army and Headquarters of the Army of Northern Virginia, by sending relays of men to the house of the old Unionist, whose name I am not going to divulge; neither shall I tell the name of his son, but in future will refer to him as "Bob."