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ESTABLISHED 1877—NEW SERIES.

MAN OF RESOURCE.

active Service of Gen. T. W. Sweeney, as Told by His Letters.

TO TRAP THE "FOX"

The Veteran Hears of Sigel's Discomfiture.

INTO SPRINGFIELD.

Sweeney Takes in Forsyth, and Then Goes on His Way

EDITED BY W. M. SWEENEY (HIS SON), ASTORIA, N. Y.

(Continued from last week.)

PON ARRIVING at Springfield on July 1, Sweeney sent an order to Col. Sigel to move up from Neosho with the brigade under his command, and throw out a strong detachment to Minersville, and prevent the enemy—who Sweeney's scouts informed him were moving in that direction—from escaping into the Indian Territory.

Sweeney also informed him that he (Sweeney) was only waiting for Brown's regiment to come up to join Sigel, which would not be later than the 12th.

On his way to Springfield, Sweeney was obliged to disband and disarm one of the companies of the 3d U. S. R. C. for mutiny, which consequently reduced his force. Sweeney sent an order to Col. Salomon at the same time that he sent one to Sigel to join him also at Springfield. Salomon was then at Sarcoxie.

Upon the receipt of Sweeney's order, Sigel returned the following reply:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, M. V., CAMP NEOSHO, July 4, 1861; 4 a. m. Sir: Your dispatch has been received by me at 4 o'clock p. m., yesterday. My actions will be in accordance with your orders. I shall leave Neosho at 5 a. m. this morning, and march north to Diamond Grove, on the route toward Carthage, for the purpose of investigating the true position of the enemy.

Col. Salomon, with four pieces of artillery, will leave this morning for Springfield. I thought it necessary to accompany him toward the north with the force under my command to secure his march toward the east, and to ascertain the direction in which the enemy is marching.

I left one company at Neosho, as there are no secession troops within 26 miles south of that place. F. SIGEL, To Brig.-Gen. SWEENEY, Commanding Expedition.

Col. Brown, who was stationed at Lebanon, on the receipt of Sweeney's order to report at Springfield, began immediately to make preparations to start. Leaving one company at Lebanon

TO PROTECT THE PLACE, by order of Sweeney he placed on the morning after the receipt of the order, July 4, with seven companies, and stated that he expected to reach Springfield in about two and a half days.

He stated also that he was greatly hampered in his movements in consequence of a lack of adequate transportation and supplies. He states that "the great want of my men is shoes and blankets. Some are already barefoot and without necessary clothing, as the articles supplied them were both deficient in quality and quantity. The men, however, are marching with much spirit."

The following letter, written by Sweeney after his arrival at Springfield, describes the situation at the date of writing:

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST EXPEDITION, Springfield, Mo., July 2, 1861. FRIEND BROWN: I arrived here yesterday, having left St. Louis on the 24th inst. I hoped to get here in time to intercept



CAPT. DAVID S. STANLEY.

Club Jackson, but an afraid the want of energy on the part of my friends in St. Louis, in forwarding our supplies, will prevent our accomplishing that desirable object. I am only waiting for a part of my command, now on its way here, to push forward in a westerly direction, and bag the "fox," who is said to be between Montevalle and Lamar, waiting for Rain to join him in order

TO FORCE HIS WAY into Arkansas, where large forces are concentrating to support him, under Ben McCulloch and other leaders. My force is scattered very much at present, for the purpose of cutting off Jackson's retreat into Arkansas, but it is my intention to bring it together and attack Jackson if I meet him, though his force, they say, numbers 6,000 men, while mine will not exceed 2,300, all told.

However, I'm willing to trust my fortunes to the issue of a battle. I've been very busy since my arrival here, swearing in men, until there are very few, indeed, in this part of the country who have not taken the oath of allegiance to our Government.

I am being constantly importuned to continue the raising of volunteers who desire to act as independent companies but I have very little faith in militia organizations acting independently. Ben McCulloch I knew in the Mexican war. He is a very determined, energetic man, and a hard fighter. Kansas I also know very well. He was at my wedding in Brooklyn after the close of the Mexican war. He is also a good fighter and a man of much ability, and a great deal of dash and éclat in his composition. He is a brother of Gen. W. K. Kelso, who was a professor at West Point before the breaking out of the war.

Included you will find my proclamation to the people of this part of the country. The struggle in southwestern Missouri will, in my opinion, assume more importance than in any other part of the country except eastern Virginia. T. W. SWEENEY.

Following is a copy of

THE PROCLAMATION.

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWEST EXPEDITION, Springfield, Mo., July 4, 1861.

To the citizens of Southwest Missouri: You: Governor has striven to cause the State to withdraw from the Union. Failing to accomplish this purpose by legislative enactment, he has already committed treason by levying war against the United States. He has endeavored to have you commit the same crime. Hence he has called for troops to enter the military service of the State—not to aid but to oppose the Government of the United States.

The troops under my command are stationed in your midst by the proper authority of our Government. They are amongst you not as enemies, but as friends and protectors of all loyal citizens.

Should an insurrection of your slaves take place it would be my duty to suppress it, and I should use the force at my command for that purpose. It is my duty to protect all loyal citizens in the enjoyment and possession of all their property—slaves included. That duty shall be performed.

I require all troops and armed men in this part of the State now assembled, and which are arrayed against the Government of the United States, to immediately disperse and return to their homes. If this shall not be done without delay those horses of armed men will be taken prisoners or dispersed.

I request every citizen who acknowledges he owes allegiance to the United States to aid me to prevent the shedding of blood, and to restore peace and quiet to this portion of the State.

Those who have manifested a want of loyalty, either by word or act, toward the Government of the United States, are requested to appear before me, or any officer in command of any post, or any detachment of troops under my command, and take an oath of allegiance to our Government. Gross misrepresentations of the oath, which has already been administered to many of your most respectable citizens, has been made.

No loyal citizen will decline to take such an oath. It is the duty of every good citizen to



ON THE MOUNTAIN PASS.

bear allegiance to the Government, and to support the Constitution of the United States—not to encourage secessionism by word or act, and to obey all legal orders emanating from the constituted authorities of the land. No loyal citizen will bear arms against his Government, or give aid and support to the enemies of the country. Such, in brief, are the obligations required.

I assure you the Government of the United States will deal leniently, yet firmly, with all its citizens who have been misled, and who desire to maintain and preserve the best Government ever devised by human wisdom. T. W. SWEENEY, U. S. A., Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. Brown's regiment arrived in Springfield on the morning of the 7th. At 7:30 the same day Sweeney heard of the defeat of Sigel at Carthage, and the probability that he

WOULD LOSE HIS ARTILLERY and his baggage.

Sweeney immediately ordered the troops to hold themselves in readiness to move at 10 o'clock that night, leaving Maj. C. W. Marsh with a suitable regiment to hold the town during his absence.

Sweeney then sent a dispatch to Col. Sigel informing him that he had heard of his defeat, and would leave Springfield at 10 o'clock that night, and march to his assistance as fast as the men could travel, and for him to hold on to his artillery to the last.

When everything was ready, Col. Brown informed Sweeney that his (Brown's) men refused to march, the reason being that they were too tired. Leaving them behind, Sweeney traveled all that night and next day until he met Sigel's column at Mt. Vernon, 35 miles west of Springfield, the enemy still pressing him.

Immediately a council of war was called, and the officers composing it informed that it was his intention to give the enemy battle in order to restore our prestige, which Sweeney knew would have a good effect upon the people, as well as upon our troops.

He instructed the officers to send in a statement of the condition of their respective commands without delay. Upon examination of the reports he found that the artillery ammunition, with the exception of a few rounds, had been expended, but that there was a sufficient supply on hand for the small arms.

Sweeney sent an express post haste to Springfield with orders to set the foundry to work casting

CANNON-BALLS AND GRAFESHOT, and with instructions to send them to him, together with all the powder of every description that could be found in and around the town. The order was obeyed with alacrity, and on the night of the 9th Sweeney received a dispatch



GEN. BEN McCULLOCH.

from Maj. C. W. Marsh, in command at Springfield, in which he said he had just started a wagon—with an escort of a Sergeant and eight men from Capt. Hollan's company, Home Guards—containing 100 cast-iron balls for a 12-pound Howitzer and 100 cast-iron balls of six-inch caliber. The balls had been cast at the foundry since the receipt of the dispatch of 10 o'clock the day before.

Shortly after the receipt of this note the ammunition came to hand. On examination it was found that the bottoms of the wagons containing the balls were burned, the shot not having been allowed sufficient time to cool. The powder was blasting, the only kind to be had.

SWEENEY REMAINED HERE until the morning of the 10th, when, finding the enemy not disposed to attack, and fearing that he might make a detour and get between him and Springfield, which his superior mounted force would enable him to do, Sweeney

COMMENCED FALLING BACK on Springfield, arriving on the afternoon of the 11th, the want of artillery ammunition compelling him to give up the idea of following up the enemy and forcing him to fight.

In a diary of events kept by Sweeney at the time he says he had heard nothing from Gen. Lyon from the time of leaving St. Louis until the 11th of July. On the 10th he had ordered Wyman's regiment to Springfield, when one of the scouts who had fallen in with him on Grand River brought Sweeney a note, written in pencil, informing him that he had heard of Sigel's affair and of its disastrous results, and conjured him to defend Springfield to the last extremity, as it would be of vital importance to him in his future operations.

The messenger also brought verbal news," says Sweeney, "that Lyon was nearly out of provisions, and was making forced marches to join me. I sent him two wagons loaded with provisions, and told him to give himself no uneasiness about Springfield; that I felt confident that I could hold it against any force that I could hold it against any force that I had 2,500 men and eight field-pieces."

Gen. Lyon arrived and encamped at Little York, 10 miles west of Springfield, on the 13th of July, and assumed command of all the United States forces in the Southwest. Lyon had been made Brigadier-General in May.

On the 16th Col. Gratz Brown's regiment and the three companies of McNeil's U. S. R. C. were, at their own request, sent to St. Louis. Indeed, they refused to stay.

This left Sweeney without any of his brigade present, and Gen. Lyon

ASSIGNED HIM TO DUTY as Inspector-General on his staff.

About this time he received the following order from the War Department, which was countermanded by Lyon for the reason that he could not spare Sweeney's services at the time:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, July 5, 1861. Special Orders, No. 112. I, Companies B, E, F, G, and H, 2d Inf., will be replaced as soon as practicable by companies of the 1st Inf., and will be detached to join the Regimental Headquarters at this place. Capt. Sweeney will join his company.

By command of LIEUT.-GEN. SCOTT, E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters, Department West St. Louis, July 9, 1861. Official:

(Capt. Sweeney.) About the same time the following note was received by Sweeney from Senator John S. Phelps, who was unceasing in his valuable aid to the Union cause in Missouri:

SPRINGFIELD, July 9, '61; 5 o'clock a. m. GENERAL: We have information that McBride and Price, who were at White Plains with their men, have gone to Arkansas; also, that those who were at or near Forsyth have gone to that place.

We have ascertained that the 300 men camped south of and near Osageville, have gone to Arkansas, and the men reported to be on the head of Spring River at or near Verona are not there. I am inclined to believe that the latter report was without foundation.

Other scouts are out in direction of Cassville and vicinity, and are expected this morning. JOHN S. PHELPS.

About the 20th, at Gen. Lyon's request, Sweeney took command of about 1,200 men and a section of artillery and two companies of cavalry and moved on to Forsyth, Mo., which is at the head of navigation on the White River, and was a depot for the rebels, and was garrisoned by about 2,000 men.

Franc B. Wilkie, a war correspondent, who accompanied the expedition, gives the following account of it in his book, "Pen and Powder":

"It was toward the close of June, 1861, that Gen. Lyon, who was then at Springfield, sent a small force composed of infantry, cavalry and artillery, under command of Gen. (then Captain) Thomas W. Sweeney, the one-armed Mexican veteran, against a

RENDEZVOUS OF BUSHWHACKERS in Forsyth. The distance is some 40 miles across, or rather around, a slope of the Ozark Mountains.

"It was on this expedition that I first made Capt. Sweeney's acquaintance. He impressed me as a thoroughly fine fellow and a perfect gentleman.

"When the road was not straight down the side of an almost perpendicular spur of the mountains, it was up some other spur of equal perpendicularity. * * *

"The weather was variable; sometimes it was so hot that the men fell out of the ranks, heated by the savage heat. An hour later a terrific thunder-storm went howling through the mountains, and apparently so very near to us that one could, as it were, thrust out his arm and grasp

THE HOT THUNDERBOLTS which clove the air like a million enormous and eccentric rockets.

The dense roars of the thunder seemed to impinge on the walls and explode with a fresh burst of sound, as if some infernal species of percussive shell. * * *

"Three-quarters of a mile north of Forsyth the road we were following issues from the wooded mountains and descends smoothly and somewhat precipitately through a cultivated region. At the foot of the descent a stream crosses the road and a little farther on empties into White River.

"A mile or so back from the city on this road our advance had been met by two mounted men. One of these was captured; the other, termed

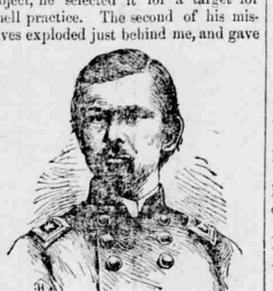
FLED DOWN THE ROAD to Forsyth, and escaped.

"Sweeney immediately ordered the cavalry to the front, with instructions to charge into the town with a view to striking the enemy before he could vacate.

"The force was made up of Regulars, and numbered not over 100 men. As they passed I saw that many had taken off their hats and tied handkerchiefs about their heads. Belts were being tightened and sabers loosened. * * *

"After the cavalry had entered the town, word was sent back to a section of artillery in the rear

WITH ORDER TO ITS OFFICER to hurry up and bring his pieces to bear on the town. The officer was Lieut. George Sokalski, who was quite deaf, and who understood the order to be to 'fire' on the town. He did so, and the Courthouse being the most conspicuous object, he selected it for a target for shell practice. The second of his missiles exploded just behind me, and gave



GEN. FRANZ SIGEL.

me my first experience to the sensations of death."

Gen. Sweeney's report to Lyon states: "From the best information I could gather the loss of the enemy in killed was eight or ten, and in wounded must have been several times that number. Among the dead was Capt. Jackson, who took an active part in the skirmish.

"Our own loss consisted of two men wounded, neither of them dangerously, and four horses killed, including the one shot from under Capt. David S. Stanley. Three prisoners were taken on the day of the action and two on the day following.

"The entire affair lasted about an hour, and both the officers and the men engaged exhibited great coolness and courage. With the town we also captured seven horses and a quantity of arms and supplies. * * *

"The arms and munitions of war were distributed among the Home Guards of the County, and the clothing and provisions among our troops, of which they stood in great need. * * *

"I remained in Forsyth till noon of the 23d, receiving the captured property, and then took up the line of march for Springfield, which I reached at 2 p. m. of Thursday, the 25th inst." (To be continued.)

MEN AND EVENTS.

Recollections of Distinguished Generals of the Civil War.

GRANT VS. SHERMAN.

Thomas Regarded as the Wheel Horse of the Army.

FIGHTING MCCOOKS.

A Story About Justice Harlan, of the Supreme Court

GEN. R. W. JOHNSON.

DURING THE progress of the late civil strife I was thrown with many officers whose names will ever be connected with the downfall of the great rebellion. Grant and Sherman, two of the most conspicuous figures of the war, and who were bosom friends in war and peace, were as unlike as day and night.

Grant had no nerves, while Sherman was all nerves. Grant never gave himself any concern about an enemy he could not see, while a concealed foe was more dreadful to Sherman than one in full view.

Grant's strategy consisted in getting as near an enemy as possible, and then "moving on his works without delay." Sherman was more of a strategist, and believed in surprising an enemy by a masterly move by which he would attack him on the flank or rear.

The silent man reached Richmond by more fighting than strategy. Sherman reached Atlanta by more strategy than fighting. Grant was less selfish. It will be remembered that the terms upon which Sherman accepted the surrender of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston were

NOT APPROVED at Washington, and Grant was dispatched to relieve him, and demand of Johnston an unconditional surrender.

When he reached Sherman he told him what to do, and allowed him to manage the case himself. This gave Sherman the credit of receiving the surrender of Johnston's army. Would Sherman have been as magnanimous with Grant?

I believe Grant was the most unselfish man I ever knew. He declined to take Lee's sword at his surrender, and allowed the officers and men of the surrendered army to retain possession of their

GEN. W. T. SHERMAN, horses, wagons, etc. Soon after the battle of Shiloh, in which I did not participate, I rode over the battlefield to locate, if possible, the various commands on the day of battle. I met a man riding a clay-bank stallion, and he said to me:

"As far as I know, you have the only horse in this army that I prefer to my own. How will you swap?"

Supposing him to be a horse-fancier, I asked him his name. He replied:

"Gen. Richard W. Johnson, writer of the above, was a native of Kentucky. He became a cadet in the Military Academy, July 1, 1814, whence he graduated 13th in his class. He was made Brevet Second Lieutenant in the 6th Inf. July 1, 1818. He was transferred to the 1st Inf. June 10, 1850, with commission as Second Lieutenant; made First Lieutenant in the 2d Cav. in March, 1855, having served two years before as Regimental Adjutant in the former regiment. He was Regimental Quartermaster from June 12, 1855, to Sept. 30, 1856. He was promoted Captain Dec. 1 of the latter year, and was transferred to the 5th Cav. in August, 1861.

During all this period he conducted himself gallantly in Indian warfare on the frontier. He was in the action at Falling Waters, Va., July 2, 1861, and in the following Tennessee and Mississippi campaigns. He was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel 3d Ky. Cav. Aug. 28, 1861, and Oct. 11 was promoted Brigadier-General of Volunteers. Gen. Johnson was engaged in the movement to Pittsburg Landing, and in the advance and siege of Corinth. He was promoted Major 4th Cav. July 17, 1862. He had charge of a division in the Army of the Ohio in the Tennessee campaign from December, 1862, to September, 1863, participating in the battle of Stone River. He was in advance on Tullahoma, June 24 to July 4, 1863, and fought at Liberty Gap.

He was brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel in the Regular service for gallant and meritorious service at Chickamauga. In November, 1863, he was brevetted Colonel for services at the battle of Chattanooga. He commanded a division in the Army of the Cumberland in the invasion of Georgia. He was made Brevet Major-General U. S. Vol. for gallant services before Nashville; Brevet Brigadier-General U. S. Army for services at the battle of Nashville, and March 13, 1865, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army for services in the field during the rebellion.

Gen. Johnson was mustered out of the volunteer service Jan. 15, 1865. He was retired with the rank of Major-General Oct. 12, 1867, and on account of later legislation was retired as Brigadier-General March 3, 1875. He is now living at St. Paul, Minn.

GEN. JOHN M. SCOTFIELD was the coolest and most self-possessed of any of the Generals with whom I was thrown. I never saw him in the least excited; he was always ready for any emergency, and had many points in common with Gen. Thomas, "the Rock of Chickamauga," my beautiful ideal of a thorough soldier.

When he withdrew his army from Franklin and passed on to Nashville he coolly MARCHED THROUGH THE ENEMY'S CAMP, and some of his soldiers, it is said, lighted their pipes at the campfires of Cheat-ham's Division of the Confederate army, which had been sent by Hood to cut off the retreat of the Federal forces. His recent promotion to the grade of Lieutenant-General is a fitting tribute to his worth as a man and a soldier.

Few officers in the army did more faithful service than Gen. David S. Stanley. When he commanded cavalry he was the "eyes and ears" of the army. When in command of infantry he was always in the forefront of battle, and no troops did more faithful and effective service than those under his

leadership. I knew him at West Point, and he was the same

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GEN. STANLEY.

GEN. A. McD. McCook belonged to the celebrated fighting family of that name, and on many hard-fought fields he showed himself worthy of his name. In battle he was always to be found where the fighting was the hardest. His keen eye enabled him to detect weak points in his line, and his quick mind always suggested a remedy in time to avert disaster.

At Stone River his command was attacked by the entire army of the enemy, excepting Breckinridge's Division. At midnight before the battle he knew the position of the enemy's line of battle, and so reported to Gen. Rosecrans, who was so intent upon carrying out his original order of battle that he would not change his plans, and the result of this was to leave McCook's Corps to fight the entire army of the enemy, with the exception of the division of Breckinridge.

THE FINAL ISSUE of such an unequal contest could be readily divined. But through all and over all he bore himself with conspicuous gallantry. Subsequently he was appointed Brigadier-General in the Regular Army, and received his deserved promotion to the grade of Major-General.

Gen. Absalom Baird was a classmate of mine, and hence I knew him well. He commanded a division in the same corps with me, and performed effective service wherever and whenever he was called into action. He was a fine disciplinarian, and his command was well drilled and ever ready for service. Always cool and collected, he never lost control of himself in the heat of battle, but was at all times in the front personally directing the movements of his command.

After a battle HE FIRST THOUGHT OF HIS WOUNDED, and gave himself no rest until he was satisfied they were receiving the attention they required. Such a commander endears himself to his men, and hence it is not difficult to account for his great popularity in the army, and particularly with those under his command. After the war he became Inspector-General of the Army, which position he held till his retirement. Gen. John M. Palmer, a lawyer by profession, entered the volunteer service as Colonel of an Illinois regiment. By his bravery and close application to his duties he rose to the rank of Brigadier-General, and was subsequently promoted to the grade of Major-General for gallantry on the field of battle. At the request of Gen. JOHN M. PALMER, Gen. Thomas he was assigned to the command of the Fourteenth Corps, and became my corps commander. In the exercise of this command he proved himself eminently fitted and qualified for it. After the war he was elected Governor of his State.

"Grant." "W" said I, "Gen. Grant?"

"Yes," said he, "that is what they call me."

That was my first introduction to the GREATEST SOLDIER of the war—greatest because the most successful.

Away back in 1850 Philip H. Sheridan and I were Lieutenants at Fort Duncan, Tex. He was an active, enterprising young officer, prompt in discharge of duty, always ready for any undertaking that promised adventure; but if anyone had been called upon to select from the Lieutenants stationed at the post the future General of the Army, I doubt if Sheridan would have been chosen in preference to any one of the dozen Lieutenants associated with him.

No one saw in the modest Lieutenant the future able and gallant leader which he proved himself to be when the time came for him to show his mettle and his man-hood.

Men who never reach the summit of their professions, claim a want of opportunities as an excuse. Sheridan made his opportunities as he went along. He did not wait for something to turn up, but he

TURNED UP SOMETHING every day.

Mr. Lincoln, in describing him to a friend, said: "He can stand flat-footed and without stooping scratch his ankles. He can get higher up in his coat and lower down in his trousers than any man I ever saw. He is the blackest white man on the face of the earth, and is afraid of nothing in the world."

Maj.-Gen. George H. Thomas was the old, reliable wheel horse of the army, slow but sure. He never made a mistake and never lost a battle. For 13 years we were together, and I was as intimate with him as any one not of his own family. A truer or braver man never lived.

Naturally reticent and of a stern exterior, there throbbled in his manly bosom a heart as soft and tender as ever beat within the breast of man. It was Thomas at Nashville who made Sherman's march to the sea a success. Had he been defeated, Hood, with his

NEEDY AND DESPERATE battalions, would have pushed on to the Ohio River. The country would not have been satisfied with the exchange, and it is not likely that "Marching Through Georgia" would have been rendered immortal in prose and verse.

Thomas was one of the most methodical men I ever knew. He had a place for everything, and his duties were performed with the regularity of clock-work. It is remarkable that he never saw Mr. Lincoln. He crossed to the south side of the Ohio River in 1861, and did not go north of it till after the close of the war and the assassination of the President. He was not absent a single day from his command from the day Fort Sumter was fired upon till the last enemy laid down his arms.

Lieut.-Gen. John M. Schofield was the coolest and most self-possessed of any of the Generals with whom I was thrown. I never saw him in the least excited; he was always ready for any emergency, and had many points in common with Gen. Thomas, "the Rock of Chickamauga," my beautiful ideal of a thorough soldier.

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