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WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1897.

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ESTABLISHED 1877—NEW SERIES.



MEMOIRS of General William T. Sherman

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF

FEDERALS IN SAVANNAH.

Work of Sherman and Thomas Appreciated by Lincoln.

ESTIMATING THE LOSSES.

Large Number of Confederates Taken Prisoners.

CONGRESS THANKS SHERMAN.

Some Letters of Important Historical Bearing.

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CHAPTER XX—(continued).

MEANTIME, ON THE 15TH and 16th of December, were fought in front of Nashville the great battles in which Gen. Thomas so nobly fulfilled his promise to ruin Hood, the details of which are fully given in his own official reports, long since published. Rumors of these great victories reached us at Savannah by piecemeal, but his official report came on the 24th of December, with a letter from Gen. Grant, giving in general terms the events up to the 18th, and I wrote at once through my Chief of Staff, Gen. Webster, to Gen. Thomas, complimenting him in the highest terms.

His brilliant victory at Nashville was necessary to mine at Savannah to make a complete whole, and this fact was perfectly comprehended by Mr. Lincoln, who recognized it fully in his personal letter of Dec. 26, hereinbefore quoted at length, and which is also claimed at the time, in my Special Field Order No. 6, of Jan. 8, 1865, here given:

[Special Field Order No. 6.] HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD, SAVANNAH, GA., JAN. 8, 1865. The General commanding announces to the troops composing the Military Division of the Mississippi that he has received from the President of the United States, and from Lieut.-Gen. Grant, letters of appreciation and commendation of the campaign just closed, resulting in the capture of Savannah and the defeat of Hood's army in Tennessee.

In order that all may understand the importance of events which have occurred, I have written to the effect that Mr. Davis, the head of the rebellion, has been captured, and his army near Palmetto, and commanded it to remain in place and also to ruin and destroy us, by a series of measures which he thought would be effective. That army, by a rapid march, gained our position near Big Shanty, and afterward Dalton. We pursued it, and it moved so rapidly that we could not overtake it, and Gen. Hood led his army successfully over toward Mississippi, in hope to decoy us out of Georgia. But we were not thus to be led away by him, and preferred to lead and control events ourselves. Gens. Thomas and Schofield, commanding the departments to our rear, returned to their posts and prepared to decoy Gen. Hood into their meshes, while we came on to complete the original journey. We quietly and deliberately destroyed Atlanta and all the railroads which the enemy had used to carry on war against us, occupied his State Capital, and then captured his commercial capital, which had been so strongly fortified from the sea as to defy approach from that quarter. Almost at the moment of our victory, our entry into Savannah came the welcome and expected news that our comrades in Tennessee had also fulfilled nobly and well their part—had defeated Gen. Hood to Nashville and turned on him, defeating his army thoroughly, capturing all his artillery, great numbers of prisoners, and were still pursuing the fragments down in Alabama. So complete a success in military operations, extending over half a continent, is an achievement that entitles it to a place in the military history of the world. The armies serving in Georgia and Tennessee, as well as the local garrisons of Beaufort, Bridgeport, Chattahoochee, and Murfreesboro, are alike entitled to the common honors, and each regiment may inscribe on its colors at pleasure the word "Savannah" or "Nashville." The General commanding embraces in the same general sense, the operations of the cavalry under Gens. Stoueaman, Burbridge, and Gillen, that penetrated into southwest Virginia and paralyzed the efforts of the enemy to disturb the peace and safety of East Tennessee. Instead of being put on the defensive, we have at all points assumed the bold offensive, and have completely thwarted the designs of the enemies of our country.

By order of Maj.-Gen. W. T. Sherman, L. M. DAYTON, Aid-de-Camp.

END OF THE MARCH TO THE SEA.

Here terminated the "March to the Sea," and I only add a few letters, selected out of many, to illustrate the general feeling of rejoicing throughout the country at the time. I only regarded the march from Atlanta to Savannah as a "shift of base," as the transfer of a strong army, which had no opponent, and had finished its then work, from the interior to a point on the sea-coast, from which it could achieve other important results. I considered this march as a means to an end, and not as an essential act of war. Still, then, as now, the March to the Sea was generally regarded as something extraordinary.

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something anomalous, something out of the usual order of events; whereas, in fact, I simply moved from Atlanta to Savannah, as one step in the direction of Richmond, a movement that had to be met and defeated, or the war was necessarily at an end.

Were I to express my measure of the relative importance of the March to the Sea, and of that from Savannah northward, I would place the former at 1, and the latter at 10, or the maximum.

I now close this long chapter by giving a tabular statement of the losses during the march, and the number of prisoners captured. The property captured consisted of horses and mules by the thousand, and of quantities of subsistence stores that aggregate very large, but may be measured with sufficient accuracy by assuming that 65,000 men obtained abundant food for about 40 days, and 35,000 animals were fed for a like period, so as to reach Savannah in splendid flesh and condition.

STATEMENT OF CASUALTIES AND PRISONERS CAPTURED BY THE ARMY IN THE FIELD, CAMPAIGN OF GEORGIA.

Category	Enlisted Men	Officers	Total
KILLED, WOUNDED, MISSING	13,242	84	13,326
KILLED, WOUNDED	11,172	3	11,175
MISSING	2,070	81	2,151
CAPTURED	606	662	1,268
Enlisted Men	482	409	891
Officers	124	153	277
Total	1,774	562	2,336

L. M. DAYTON, Assistant Adjutant-General.

old command, and five days ago entered Bristol. I did think the best thing to do was to bring the greater part of your army here, and wipe out Lee. The matter, however, is now completely taken has shaken me in that opinion. I doubt whether you may not accomplish more toward that result where you are than if brought here, especially as I am informed, since my arrival in the city, that it would take about two months to get you here with all the other calls there are for ocean transportation. I want to get your views about this, or give us nearly the whole South. My own opinion is that Lee is averse to going out of Virginia, and if he goes, the South will not want Richmond to be the last place surrendered. If he has such views it may be well to indulge him until we get everything else in our hands.

Congratulating you and the army again upon the splendid results of your campaign, the like of which is not read of in past history, I subscribe myself, more than ever, if possible, your friend.

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, SAVANNAH, GA., Dec. 26, 1864. Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, Savannah (via Hilton Head).

GENERAL: Lieut.-Gen. Grant informs me that he has received from the President of the United States, and from Lieut.-Gen. Grant, letters of appreciation and commendation of the campaign just closed, resulting in the capture of Savannah and the defeat of Hood's army in Tennessee.

In order that all may understand the importance of events which have occurred, I have written to the effect that Mr. Davis, the head of the rebellion, has been captured, and his army near Palmetto, and commanded it to remain in place and also to ruin and destroy us, by a series of measures which he thought would be effective.

By order of Maj.-Gen. W. T. Sherman, L. M. DAYTON, Aid-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, Dec. 18, 1864. Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, Savannah (via Hilton Head).

MY DEAR GENERAL: Yours of the 13th, by Maj. Anderson, is just received. I congratulate you on your splendid success, and shall very soon expect to hear of the crowning work of your campaign—the capture of Savannah.

Gen. Thomas has defeated Hood, near Nashville, and it is hoped that he will completely crush Lee, near Richmond, at last accounts, was trying to form a junction near Murfreesboro, but as Thomas is between them, Breckinridge must either retreat or be defeated.

Gen. Rosecrans made very bad work of it in Missouri, allowing Price with a small force to overrun the State and destroy millions of property.

Orders have been issued for all officers and detachments having three months or more to serve to rejoin our army via Savannah. Those having less than three months to serve will be retained by Gen. Thomas.

Should you capture Charleston I hope that by some accident the place may be destroyed, and, if a little salt should be sown upon its site, it may prevent the growth of future crops of nullification and secession.

Yours truly, H. W. HALLECK, Major-General, Chief of Staff.

[Confidential.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1864.

Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have just received and read, I need not tell you with how much gratification, your letter to Gen. Halleck. I congratulate you and the brave officers and men under your command on the successful termination of your most brilliant campaign. I never had a doubt of the result. When apprehensions for your safety were expressed by the President, I assured him with the army you had, and you in command of it, there was no danger but you would strike bottom on salt-water some place; that I would not feel the same security—in fact, would not have intrusted the expedition to any other living commander. It has been very hard work to get Thomas to attack Hood. I gave him the most peremptory order, and had started to go there myself, before he got off. He has done magnificently, however, since he started. Up to last night, 5,000 prisoners and 49 pieces of captured artillery, besides many wagons and innumerable small arms, had been received in Nashville. This is exclusive of the enemy's loss at Franklin, which amounted to 13 general officers killed, wounded, and captured. The enemy probably lost 5,000 men at Franklin, and 10,000 in the last three days' operations. Breckinridge is said to be making for Murfreesboro.

I think he is in a most excellent place. Stoneman has nearly wiped out John Morgan's

same experience. To be sure, Jeff Davis has his people under pretty good discipline, but I think faith in him is much shaken in Georgia, and before we have done with her South Carolina will not be quite so treacherous.

I will bear in mind your hint as to Charleston, and do not think "salt" will be necessary. When I move the Fifteenth Corps will be on the right of the right wing, and their position will naturally bring them into Charleston first; and, if you have watched the history of that corps, you will have remarked that they generally do their work pretty well. The truth is, the whole army is burning with an insatiable desire to wreak vengeance upon South Carolina. I almost tremble at her fate, but feel that she deserves all that seems in store for her.

Many and many a person in Georgia asked me why we did not go to South Carolina, and when I answered that we were en route for you will make these people feel the utmost severities of war will pardon you for your desolation of Georgia.

I look upon Columbia as quite as bad as Charleston, and I doubt if we shall spare the public buildings there, as we did at Milledgeville.

I have been so busy lately that I have not yet made my official report, and I think I had better wait until I get my subordinate reports before attempting it, as I am anxious to explain clearly not only the reasons for every step, but the amount of execution done, and this I cannot do until I get the subordinate reports; for columns, and, of course, I could only be present with one, and generally that one engaged in destroying railroads.

This work of destruction was performed better than usual, because I had an engineer regiment provided with claws to twist the bars after being heated. Such bars can never be used again, and the only way in which a railroad line can be reconstructed across Georgia is to make a new road from Fairburn Station (24 miles southwest of Atlanta) to Madison, a distance of 100 miles; and before that can be

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD, SAVANNAH, GA., Dec. 24, 1864. Maj.-Gen. HALLECK, Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I had the pleasure of receiving

your two letters of the 16th and 18th instant to-day, and feel more than usually flattered by the high encomiums you have passed on me. I am also very glad that Gen. Grant has changed his mind about embarking my troops for James River, leaving me free to make the broad swath you describe through South and North Carolina, and still more gratified at the news from Thomas, in Tennessee, because it fulfills my plan, which I contemplated his being able to dislodge Hood, in case he returned north of the Tennessee River. So, I think, on the whole, I can chuckle over Jeff Davis's disappointment in not turning my Atlanta campaign into a Georgia disaster.

I have just finished a long letter to Gen. Grant, and have explained to him that we are engaged in shifting our base from the Ogeechee to the Savannah River, dismantling all the forts made by the enemy to bear upon the water channel, transferring the heavy ordnance, etc., to Fort Pulaski and Hilton Head, and in remodeling the enemy's interior lines to suit our future plans and purposes.

I would turn across the country, which I have made this winter, and which will put me in the Spring on the Roanoke, in direct communication with Gen. Grant on James River.

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, CITY POINT, VA., Dec. 26, 1864. Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, Savannah, Ga.

GENERAL: Your very interesting letter of the 22d inst., brought by Maj. Gray, of Gen. Foster's staff, is just at hand. As the Major started back at once, I can do no more at present than simply acknowledge its receipt.

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, SAVANNAH, GA., Dec. 24, 1864. Lieut.-Gen. U. S. GRANT, City Point, Va.

YOUR LETTER OF Dec. 18th is just received. I feel very much gratified at receiving the handsome commendation you pay my army. I will, in General Orders, convey to the officers and men the thanks of your noble

I am also pleased that you have modified your former orders, for I feared that the transportation by sea would very much disturb the unity and morale of my army, now so perfectly organized, breaking up in our course as heretofore reported, completes the first part of our game, and fulfills a great part of your instructions; and we are now engaged in dismantling the rebel interior lines between us and Grant, leaving Richmond in the hands of the latter. This would not alarm me, for I have an army which I think can maneuver, and I would force him to attack me at a disadvantage, and I would be on his heels; and, if the worst came to the worst, I can fight my way down to Albatraz Sound or Newbern.

I think the place has come now when we should attempt the boldest moves, and my experience is that they are easier of execution than more timid ones, because the enemy is disconcerted by them—as, for instance, my recent campaign.

I also doubt the wisdom of concentration beyond a certain extent, for the roads of this country limit the amount of men that can be brought to bear in any one day, and do not endow me with a general can handle more than 60,000 men in battle.

I think our campaign of the last month, as well as every step I take from this point northward, has been a most successful one upon Lee's army, as though we were operating within the sound of his artillery.

I am very anxious that Thomas should follow up his success to the very utmost point, by orders to him before Pitt Kingdon were, after beating Hood, to follow him as far as Columbia, Miss., or Selma, Ala., both of which lie in districts of country which are rich in corn and wheat.

I attach more importance to these deep incursions into the enemy's country, because this war differs from European wars in this particular: we are not only fighting hostile armies, but a hostile people, and must make old and young, rich and poor, feel the hard hand of war, as well as their organized armies. I know that this recent movement of mine through Georgia has had a wonderful effect in this respect. Thousands who had been deceived by their lying newspapers to believe that we were being whipped all the time now realize the truth, and have no appetite for a repetition of the



HOW HARDER LEFT SAVANNAH.

I propose to be on the road from Augusta to Charleston, which is a continuation of the escape, but really am not to blame. I moved as quickly as possible to close up the "Union Causeway," but intervening obstacles were such that, before I could get troops on the road, Hardee had slipped out.

Still, I know that the men that were in Savannah will be lost in a measure to Jeff Davis, for the Georgia troops, under Gen. W. Smith, declared they would not fight in South Carolina, and they have gone north, en route for Augusta, and I have reason to believe the North Carolina troops have gone to Wilmington; in other words, they are scattered. I have reason to believe that Beauregard was present in Savannah at the time of its evacuation, and think that he and Hardee are now in Charleston, making preparations for what they suppose will be my next step.

Please say to the President that I have received his kind message (through Col. Markland), and feel thankful for his high favor. If I disappoin him in the future, it shall not be from want of zeal or love to the cause.

From you I expect a full and frank criticism of my plans for the future, which I may be able to correct errors before it is too late. I do not wish to be rash, but want to give my views to the President, and to you, as well as to the House of Representatives is published to the army.

[Public Resolution—No. 4.] Joint resolution tendering the thanks of the people and of Congress to Maj.-Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, and the officers and soldiers of his command, for their gallant conduct in their brilliant movement through Georgia.

By order of the Secretary of War, W. A. NICHOLS, Assistant Adjutant-General. (To be continued.)

Bravery. [Endward Kipling, in "The Companion."] There is bravery in the early morning, when it takes great courage merely to leave the warm blankets; on foot and on horse; empty or full; sick or well; coolness of brain that thinks out a plan at dawn and holds to it all through the long, murderous day; bravery of mind that forces the crazy body to sit still and do nothing, except show a good example; sheer recklessness, rejoicing strength that hacks through a crowd of amazed men and comes out grinning on the other side; enduring spirit that wears through a long siege, never losing heart or manners or temper; quick, flashing bravery to sit still and do nothing, except show a good example; sheer recklessness, rejoicing strength that hacks through a crowd of amazed men and comes out grinning on the other side; enduring spirit that wears through a long siege, never losing heart or manners or temper; quick, flashing bravery to sit still and do nothing, except show a good example; sheer recklessness, rejoicing strength that hacks through a crowd of amazed men and comes out grinning on the other side; 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