

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

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Campaigns of the
Army of the Potomac

A Critical History of Operations in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania from the Commencement to the Close of the War, 1861-1865.

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CHANGE OF BASE.

The Army of the Potomac Abandons the York River Line, and Takes Up a Position on the James—Bitter Fighting on the Way.

With the transfer of the right wing to the south side of the Chickahominy, the Army of the Potomac turned its back on the Confederate Capital and all the high hopes the advance had inspired. It was no longer a question of taking Richmond, but of making good the retreat to the James, with a victorious enemy in the rear. McClellan had still, however, a certain advantage of his opponent; he had a determined action resolved on during the night of the 27th and already in process of execution; while Lee remained still in doubt as to his adversary's design. He saw that McClellan might still throw his united force to the north side of the Chickahominy and give battle

dealt by Lee on the retreating army in its desperate passage to the James.

SUMNER STAYED MAGRUDER AND SAVED McCLELLAN'S GUNS AND STORES.

Magruder attacked in front with characteristic impetuosity, about 4 in the afternoon, momentarily expecting that Jackson, whose route led to the flank and rear of Savage Station, would arrive to decide the action. But Jackson was delayed nearly all day by the rebuilding of the bridge over the Chickahominy, and did not get up, until Sumner held his own with the stubbornness that marked that soldier; so that Magruder, assailing his position in successive charges till dark, met only bloody repulses. Thus stout Sumner stood at bay, thanks to the barrier he opposed, the mighty caravan of artillery and wagons and ambulances moved swiftly, silently through the melancholy woods and fields, all day and all night, without challenge or encounter, on its winding way to the James. During the night the rear

age hand-to-hand and bayonet fight over the guns, which were finally yielded to the enemy. Meantime, a renewed attempt on the left shattered and doubled up that flank, held by Seymour's Brigade; and the enemy following up, very the routed troops between Sumner and Hooker, till, penetrating too far, he was caught himself on the flank by Hooker's fire, and, driven across Sumner's front, was thrown against McClellan's center, which, with the right, had remained comparatively firm. An advance by Kearny and Hooker now regained a portion of the lost ground, and repulsed all further attacks. Darkness coming on, ended the action.

SAFE ON NEW BASE.

While these events were passing at Glendale, Jackson, detained by the vigorous opposition he met on the other side of White Oak Swamp, could only hear the telltale guns; he was impotent to help. Thus it was that McClellan, holding paralyzed, as it were, the powerful corps of Jackson with his right hand, with his left was free to deal blows at the force menacing his flanks. The action at Glendale insured the integrity of the army, imperilled till that hour. During the night the troops that had checked Jackson and repulsed Longstreet silently withdrew, and when Lee was next able to strike it was at a united front, strongly posted on the heights of Malvern, with assured communication with its new base on the James.

On the following morning (July 1) Lee had his whole force concentrated at the battlefield of New Market Crossroads; but he could not fail even then to realize that, though the pursuit might be continued, it was under circumstances that made the hope of any decided success remote. Still it remained to try the issue of a general battle between the two united armies. The Confederate columns were accordingly put in motion on the morning of the 1st of July, Jackson's Corps leading. A march of a few miles brought the pur-

to the left, and took no part in the engagement. (27) Owing to ignorance of the country on the part of the Confederates, and the difficulty of the ground, the line was not formed until late in the afternoon, though a brisk artillery duel was kept up, and about 3 o'clock a single brigade (Anderson's, of D. H. Hill's Division) attacked Couch's front and was repulsed. (28) As McClellan expected, Lee's purpose was to force the plateau of Malvern to the left. With this view he had massed Jackson's force and the troops under Huger and Magruder well on his right, being resolved to carry the heights by storm. Previously to the attack, the Confederate commander issued an order stating that positions were selected from which his artillery could silence that of his opponent, and as soon as that was done, Armstrong's Brigade of Huger's Division would advance with a shout and carry the battery immediately in his front. This shout was to be the signal for a general advance, and all the troops were then to rush forward with fixed bayonets.

HILL ATTACKS ALONE.

Now towards 6 o'clock, Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding one of Jackson's Divisions, heard what he took to be the signal. "While conversing with my brigade commanders," says he, "shouting was heard on our right, followed by the roar of musketry. We all agreed this was the signal determined upon, and I ordered my division to advance. This, as near as I could judge, was about an hour and a half before sundown." (29) But whether the others did not hear what Hill heard, or whether they heard what he heard was not the signal, no advance by them was made; so that when Hill went forward, it was alone. Neither Whiting on the left nor Magruder or Huger on the right moved forward an inch. Hill's attack was directed against the crest of Malvern, bristling with cannon. "Tier after tier of batteries," says he, "were grimly visible on the plateau, rising in the form of an amphitheater." In such cases, where cannons

Short Histories of Notable Regiments

By COL. WM. F. FOX.

FIRST MAINE HEAVY ARTILLERY.

MOTT'S BRIGADE, BIRNEY'S DIVISION, SECOND CORPS.

(1) COL. DANIEL CHAPLIN (Killed); Bvt. Maj. Gen.

(2) COL. RUSSELL B. SHEPHERD; Bvt. Brig. Gen.

COMPANIES.	KILLED AND DIED OF WOUNDS.			DIED OF DISEASE, ACCIDENTS, IN PRISON, &c.			Total Enrollment.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
Field and Staff	1	..	1	1	2	3	22
Company A .....	..	20	20	..	29	29	195
B	3	46	49	..	19	19	198
C	2	39	41	..	30	30	189
D	1	31	32	..	19	19	185
E	2	39	41	..	20	20	176
F	1	36	37	..	18	18	183
G	3	31	34	..	23	23	185
H	2	28	30	..	33	33	202
I	2	39	41	1	12	13	172
K	2	28	30	..	16	16	172
L	4	40	44	..	20	20	161
M .....	..	23	23	..	17	17	162
Totals	23	400	423	258	260	2,202	

Total of killed and wounded, 1,283. 423 killed—19.2 per cent.
Died of disease in Confederate prisons (previously included), 21.

BATTLES.	K. & M. W.	BATTLES.	K. & M. W.
Fredericksburg Pike, Va.	147	Deep Bottom, Va.	5
North Anna, Va.	3	Weldon Railroad, Va.	5
Totopotomoy, Va.	3	Boynton Road, Va.	10
Petersburg Assault, June 16th, 17th.	12	Hatcher's Run, March 25, 1865.	6
Petersburg Assault, June 18th.	210	Sailor's Creek, Va.	5
Jerusalem Road, Va.	5	Picket Line.	2
Siege of Petersburg.	7	Place Unknown.	3

Present, also, at Cold Harbor; Vaughn Road; Farmville; Appomattox.

NOTES.—Of the 2,047 regiments in the Union Army, the First Maine Heavy Artillery sustained the greatest loss in battle. Not only was the number killed the largest, but the percentage of killed was exceeded in only one instance. Again, its loss at Petersburg, June 18th, was the greatest of any one regiment in any one action, during the war. It made the charge that day with about 900 muskets, losing 632* in killed and wounded. Only a month previous, the regiment had suffered a terrible loss in its gallant fight on the Fredericksburg Pike, near Spotsylvania, May 19, 1864, where it lost 82 killed and 394 wounded; total, 476. Among the killed were six officers, and in the battle of June 18th, just referred to, thirteen officers were killed or mortally wounded, besides twelve others who were hit. This regiment was raised, principally, in the Penobscot Valley, and was organized August 21, 1862, as the Eighteenth Maine Infantry. Major Daniel Chaplin, of the Second Maine, was appointed Colonel. He fell, mortally wounded, August 16, 1864, at Strawberry Plains, Va. (Deep Bottom). The regiment left the State on August 24, 1864, and was changed to heavy artillery in December. It remained in the defenses of Washington until May, 1864, when it joined Grant's Army at Spotsylvania. All its losses occurred within a period of ten months. During the spring campaign of 1865, it was in De Trobriand's Brigade of Mott's Division, Second Corps.

*The official report states the loss at 580; the State Reports put it at 601.

FIFTH OHIO INFANTRY.

CANDY'S BRIGADE—GEARY'S DIVISION—TWELFTH CORPS.

(1) COL. SAMUEL H. DUNNING.

(2) COL. JOHN H. PATRICK (Killed).

(3) COL. ROBERT KIRKUP.

COMPANIES.	KILLED AND DIED OF WOUNDS.			DIED OF DISEASE, ACCIDENTS, IN PRISON, &c.			Total Enrollment.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
Field and Staff	3	1	4	1	..	1	16
Company A .....	..	15	15	..	7	7	228
B	1	7	8	..	3	3	181
C	1	15	16	..	8	8	180
D .....	..	20	20	..	6	6	135
E	2	18	20	1	7	8	197
F .....	..	14	14	..	7	7	173
G	1	12	13	..	4	4	196
H .....	..	12	12	..	5	5	152
I .....	..	13	13	..	5	5	103
K	1	10	11	..	3	3	190
Totals	9	137	146	2	55	57	1,751

Total of killed and wounded, 537.

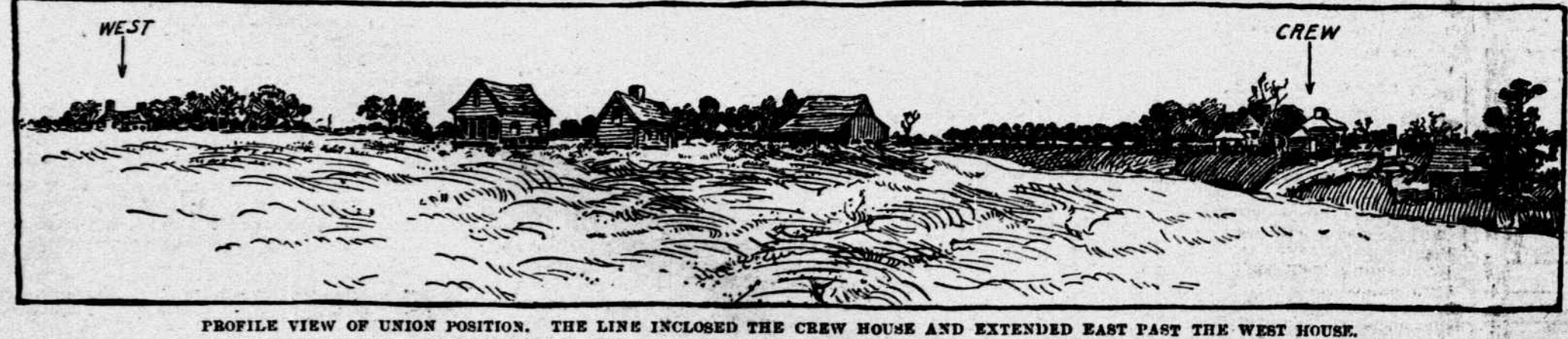
Of the 341 originally enrolled, 129 were killed, or 13.7 per cent.

BATTLES.	K. & M. W.	BATTLES.	K. & M. W.
Scouting Party, Va., Sept. 16, 1861.	1	Culpeper C. H., Va.	1
Romney, W. Va.	2	Dalton, Ga.	1
Kernstown, Va.	23	Resaca, Ga.	5
Port Republic, Va.	13	New Hope Church, Ga.	15
Cedar Mountain, Va.	31	Pine Knob, Ga.	1
Antietam, Md.	16	Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.	4
Dumfries, Va.	3	Peach Tree Creek, Ga.	4
Chancellorsville, Va.	15	Siege of Atlanta, Ga.	5
Gettysburg, Pa.	5	North Edisto, S. C.	1

Present, also, at Lookout Mountain, Tenn.; Rocky Face Ridge, Ga.; Culp's Farm, Ga.; Siege of Savannah; Bentonville, N. C.; The March to the Sea; The Carolinas.

NOTES.—Recruited in April, 1861, for the three months service, but before the regiment was fully organized and equipped, the call for three-years men was made, whereupon it volunteered for three years and was mustered in on the 21st of June. It served in West Virginia until March, 1862, when it moved with Shields's Division up the Shenandoah Valley, and participated in the battle of Kernstown, where it lost 18 killed and 32 wounded; also, at Port Republic, where it lost 4 killed, 63 wounded, and 197 captured or missing. At Cedar Mountain, it fought in Geary's Brigade, Augur's Division, with a loss of 14 killed, 104 wounded, and 4 missing, out of 275 engaged. At Antietam it was in Tyndale's (1st) Brigade, Greene's (2d) Division, Twelfth Corps; loss, 11 killed, 35 wounded, and 2 missing. At Chancellorsville, then in Candy's Brigade, it lost 6 killed, 52 wounded, and 24 missing; and at Gettysburg, 2 killed, and 16 wounded. In September, 1863, the regiment accompanied the Twelfth Corps to Tennessee, where it reinforced the Army at Chattanooga, and fought at Lookout Mountain. In April, 1864, the Twelfth Corps was combined with part of the Eleventh Corps and renumbered, becoming the Twentieth, but the regiment still remained in Geary's Division, and the men still wore the white stars on their caps. The Fifth was present at the hard fighting of the Atlanta Campaign, during which Colonel Patrick was killed at the battle of New Hope Church, and Major Henry E. Symmes fell mortally wounded at Kenesaw.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The above pages are reproduced from Col. Fox's famous book, "Regimental Losses." Other pages, giving short histories of notable regiments, will appear from week to week. It is hoped the appearance of these short histories will stimulate comrades to send in material for the preparation of more complete histories of their respective regiments than have yet appeared.



PROFILE VIEW OF UNION POSITION. THE LINE ENCLOSED THE CREW HOUSE AND EXTENDED EAST PAST THE WEST HOUSE.

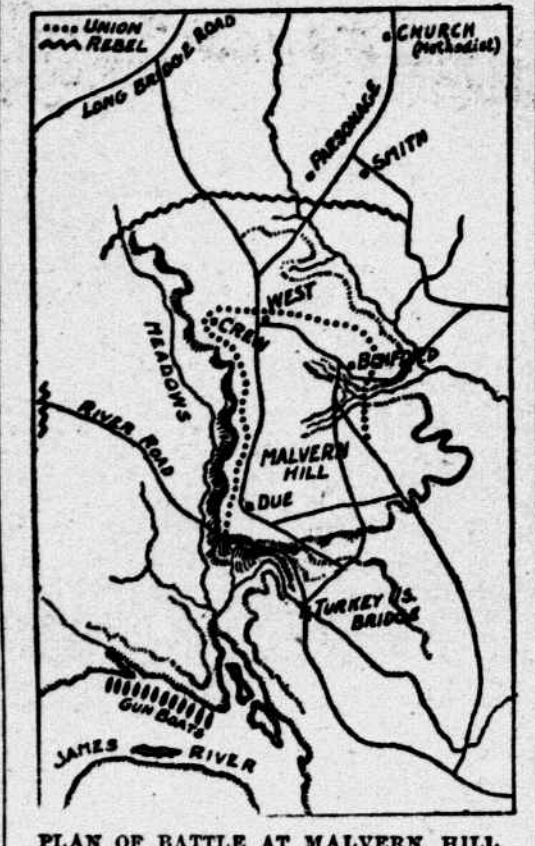
to preserve his communications by the White House; and he saw that holding the same route by which Johnston retreated over the lower bridges of the Chickahominy, he treated up the Peninsula. In either case, it was necessary to hold his entire force in hand on the north side of the river. Yet McClellan had adopted neither of these courses, but one different from either, and which his adversary had not divined, and which it happened that when, on the day after the battle of the Chickahominy—Sunday, the 28th of June—Lee threw forward Ewell's Division and Stuart's Cavalry Corps to seize the York River Railroad, he discovered he had been deceived; for the line of supplies by the York River Railroad had been already abandoned two days before, the water-transportation had been ordered round to the James River, the vast supplies had been run across to the south side of the Chickahominy, and the enemy on his arrival found nothing save the burning piles in which the remnant of stores it had been impossible to carry off were being consumed. In fact, the army was rapidly in motion for the James River; and so skillfully was the retreat masked by the troops holding the line of works on the Richmond side of the Chickahominy, that Magruder and Huger, who had been charged with the duty of watching closely the movements of the Union force, were quite unaware of what was going on. "Late in the afternoon (of the 28th) the enemy's works," says Gen. Lee, "were reported to be fully manned. The strength of these fortifications prevented Gen. Huger and Magruder from discovering what was passing before their front. It was night, in fact, before the movement was disclosed, and next morning (29th), before Longstreet and Hill and Jackson could be sent across to the south side of the Chickahominy, and with Huger and Magruder, put in pursuit. McClellan had gained 24 hours—hours of infinite price in the execution of his delicate and difficult enterprise.

The line of retreat to the James passes across White Oak Swamp, and the difficulty of the passage for the retreating army with its enormous trains was, at least, partially compensated by the barrier it opposed to reconnaissance and flank attacks by the pursuing foe. Keyes's Corps, which had been holding the position on the margin of White Oak Swamp, naturally took the advance, and, traversing this region, had by noon of the 28th seized strong positions on the opposite side to cover the passage of the troops and impeding them. Then followed the long train of 5,000 wagons, with a herd of 2,500 beef-cattle, all of which had to traverse the morass by one narrow defile. It was successfully accomplished, however, and, during the same night, Porter's Corps headed towards the James. Meanwhile, to allow the trains to get well on their way, Sumner's Corps and Heintzelman's Corps and Stuart's Cavalry, and the lower end of the York River Railroad, were ordered to remain on the Richmond side of the White Oak Swamp during the whole of the 29th and until dark, in a position covering the roads from Richmond, and covering also Savage Station on the railroad.

LEE IN PURSUIT.

Upon learning definitely the withdrawal of the army, Lee, on the morning of the 29th, put his columns in motion in pursuit. Magruder and Huger were ordered to follow up on the Williamsburg and Charles City roads, while Longstreet and A. P. Hill were to cross the Chickahominy at New Bridge, and move by flank routes near the James, so as to intercept the retreat; and Jackson, making the passage at Grapevine Bridge, was to sweep down the south bank of the Chickahominy.

Now, when Sumner, on the morning of the 29th, learnt that the enemy was recrossing the Chickahominy and advancing in the direction of Savage Station, he moved his corps from the position it had held at Allen's farm to that place, uniting there with Smith's Division of Franklin's Corps. Heintzelman, who held position on the left of Sumner, had been ordered to hold the Williamsburg road; but, when Sumner shifted his force on to Savage Station, Heintzelman fell back entirely and crossed White Oak Swamp. Thus, when Magruder pushed forward on the Williamsburg road, he found, in consequence of Heintzelman's withdrawal, no force to oppose; and Sumner, who was not aware of Heintzelman's retirement, was surprised to find the enemy debouching on his front at Savage Station. Such were the circumstances that, on the afternoon of the 29th, brought on the action known as the battle of Savage Station—an action that forms the second of the series of blows



PLAN OF BATTLE AT MALVERN HILL.

LEE'S PLAN OF ATTACK.

Lee formed his line with Jackson's Division (20) on the left, and those under Magruder and Huger on the right. P. Hill and Longstreet were held in reserve.

22. "The 60th Va. crossed bayonets with the enemy, who obstinately contested the possession of these guns." Report of Gen. A. P. Hill: Reports of the Army of Northern Virginia, vol. i, p. 177.

Gen. McClellan is more magniloquent in his account: "Bayonets were crossed and locked in the struggle; bayonet wounds were freely given and received. I saw skulls crushed by the heavy blow of the butt of the musket; and in short, the desperate parries and parries of life or death encounter, proving indeed that Greek had met Greek when the Alabama boys fell upon the sons of Pennsylvania." McClellan's Report, Pennsylvania Reserves in the Peninsula, pamphlet, p. 5.

23. "A heavy cannonading in front announced the engagement of Gen. Longstreet at Frazier's farm, and made me eager to press forward, but the marshy character of the soil, the destruction of the bridge over the marsh and creek, and the strong position of the enemy for defending the passage, prevented my advancing till the following morning." Jackson's Report: Reports of the Army of Northern Virginia, vol. i, p. 134.

24. Lee's Report: Reports of the Army of Northern Virginia, vol. i, p. 12.

25. McClellan's Report, p. 138.

26. Divisions of Jackson, Ewell, Whiting, and D. H. Hill.

(Continued on sixth page.)