JAN 10 1906

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1906. VOL. XXIV—NO. 15—WHOLE NO. 1273.

## War of the Rebellion

### OPENING OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

By JOHN McELROY.

CHAPTER XL.

PORT HUDSON.

**Banks Arrives Before the Stronghold With His Army, and Begins the Investment—Battle of Plains Store—The Garrison—Gen. Banks's Subordinates.**

Jefferson Davis had instructed Pemberton to defend Port Hudson at all hazards, so as to keep open the Red River and maintain that great channel of communication with the Trans-Mississippi country, and which was the only one now remaining to the Southern Confederacy. With the Mississippi from New Orleans to Port Hudson held by the Army of the Gulf while the upper part of the river from Cairo to Vicksburg was completely under the control of the Army of the Tennessee, the 250 miles of country between Vicksburg and Port Hudson was the only bond of union between the portions of the Southern Confederacy east and west of the Mississippi. The Red River was the only highway by which Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas could be reached, and their men and supplies brought to the support of the Confederacy. Pemberton had obeyed his chief's instructions, arming the place with relatively more artillery than there was at Vicksburg, by making extensive fortifications and by stationing there a garrison of over 20,000 men, of whom something over 16,000 were effectives.

In some ways Port Hudson was a stronger position than Vicksburg, though the bluffs were not so high. Where they were 200 or more feet at Vicksburg they were only 80 feet above the water at Port Hudson, but they stood in the arm of a sharp bend, which gave the heavy guns command of a long stretch of river in both directions and enabled them to deliver a raking fire upon any vessels attacking them. The elevation of the works and their relation to the angle of the river were such as to enable them to be worked in great security by their cannoneers. Where the guns on the top of the bluffs at Vicksburg were so high as to have only a plunging fire, those at Port Hudson had just enough elevation to give them the greatest effect, and when they recoiled from the shot they were behind works which securely protected the cannoneers in reloading them. The place was known to steamboat men as Hickey's Landing, and it was a very difficult one, because of the strong eddies and currents. The Confederates had properly appreciated the strength and importance of the position from the time it was first taken up by Breckinridge in August, 1862. Competent engineers had studied it at leisure, discovered all its strong points, and with the abundant slave labor impressed from the neighborhood had made the very most of its advantages. They were not interfered with for months, and so carried out their plans to the last detail. Along the river front they constructed a series of batteries, mounting in all 20 siege guns. On the land side they traced a continuous line of parapets from Ross's Landing, one mile below Port Hudson. This ran eastwardly about one mile to a broad plain, and thence turned northward, following the contour of the ground, at length turned westward into very rough land abounding in gorges and ravines, and finally came back to the river about a half mile north of Port Hudson at the mouth of Thompson's Creek. At the mouth of Thompson's Creek was an impenetrable swamp, which effectually protected the left of the line. The main parapet was of the strongest possible character, having an average thickness of 20 feet and a ditch in front of not less than 15 feet in depth, and was between four and five miles long. It began in an inclosed fort at Ross's Landing. Where the line turned northward was another fort. A third was built at the forks of the roads leading to Baton Rouge and Bayou Sara, and there was a fourth facing Thompson's Creek. The parapet was of sufficient height to protect all the ground behind it, and troops could be moved with great freedom and security from one part of the line to the other. It was defended by 30 pieces of field artillery, besides some heavier guns, and such was the convenience of the ground in the rear that batteries could be rapidly concentrated with the troops from one part of the line upon another.

**The Garrison.**

The paroles show that the following troops composed the garrison at Port Hudson:

Maj. Gen. Frank Gardner.

Line commanders: Brig.-Gen. W. N. R. Beall, Col. W. R. Miles, Col. I. G. W. Steedman.

Garrison troops: 1st Ala., Col. I. G. W. Steedman; Lieut.-Col. M. B. Locke, Maj. Samuel L. Knox; 49th Ala., Maj. T. A. Street; Maury (Tenn.) Artillery (attached to the 12th La. H. A. battalion); 1st Ark. battalion, Lieut.-Col. B. Jones; 10th Ark., Lieut.-Col. M. B. Locke, Lieut.-Col. E. L. Vaughan, Maj. C. M. Cargile; 11th and 17th Ark. (detachment); 12th Ark., Col. T. J. Reid, Jr.; 14th Ark., Lieut.-Col. Pleasant Fowler; 15th Ark., Col. Ben. W. Johnson; 16th Ark., Col. David Provence; 18th Ark., Lieut.-Col. W. N. Parish; 23d Ark., Col. O. P. Lyles; 4th La. (detachment), Capt. Charles T. Whitman; 9th La. battalion (inf't), Capt. R. B. Chinn; 9th La. battalion (Partisan Rangers), Lieut.-Col. J. H. Wingfield, Maj. James De Baum; 12th La. H. A. battalion, Lieut.-Col. P. F. De Gournay; 30th La. (detachment), Capt. T. K. Porter; La. Legion, Col. W. R. Miles, Lieut.-Col. Frederick B. Brand; La. Battery, Capt. R. M. Boone, Capt. S. M. Thomas; La. Battery (Watson), Lieut. E. A. Toledano; 1st Miss., Lieut.-Col. A. S. Hamilton, Maj. Thos. H. Johnston; 39th Miss., Col. W. B. Shelby; Claiborne (Miss.) Light Inf't., Capt. A. J. Lewis; 1st Miss. L. A. (Abbay's, Bradford's and Herod's batteries); Miss. Battery (English's), Lieut. P. J. Noland; Miss. Battery (Seven Stars Art.), Lieut. F. G. W. Coleman; B and G, 1st Tenn. H. A. (attached to 12th La. H. A. battalion), Lieut. Oswald Tilghman and Capt. James A. Fisher; Tenn. battalion (composed of details from 41st, 42d, 48th, 49th, 53d and 55th Tenn. regiments), Capt. S. S. Whiteside.

Cavalry and mounted infantry (operating outside of the post)—Col. John L. Logan, 11th and 17th Ark. (consolidated), 9th Tenn. battalion, Cochran's battalion, Garland's battalion, Hughes's battalion, Stockdale's battalion, Robert's Battery (section).

The above was all that was left of the 20,338 reported present by Frank'n Gardner, March 31.

When Gen. Banks had gone off to Alexandria on his chase after Taylor the danger to Port Hudson was thought to be passed, and Davis hearkened to Bragg's clamor for reinforcements to meet Rosecrans. Troops were sent to him from Port Hudson, and later, when Pemberton was in a state of mind over Grant's audacious rush toward Jackson, he ordered Gregg's and Maxey's Brigades to intercept him at Raymond. They hurried out to throw themselves across McPherson's path, and get a summary and decisive beating. They were driven off toward Jackson, and lost to both Gardner and Pemberton. This reduced the garrison to some 7,000 or 8,000. Gardner claims only 4,652 effectives out of a total of 5,715 present, but this is decisively contradicted by the parole lists. He certainly had in excess of 6,000 effectives—probably nearer 7,000—when Gen. Banks arrived before Port Hudson and began

SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON, LA.
(The figures indicate Union batteries and the Roman numerals rebel batteries.)

his investment. Banks thought, however, that the garrison was smaller than it was, for rumors had been current that the place was being evacuated. Gen. Joe Johnston sent repeated orders to that effect, as he did to Pemberton not to allow himself to be penned up inside of Vicksburg, and Gardner was as reluctant under Jeff Davis's order to abandon that stronghold as Pemberton, under similar orders from the chief of the Confederacy, was to relinquish all that giving up Vicksburg meant. At any rate, the order sent by Johnston May 19 was impossible of execution, because by the time it arrived Banks was placing himself across the roads leading out of Port Hudson.

**Maj.-Gen. Franklin Gardner.**

Maj.-Gen. Franklin Gardner was another of Jefferson Davis's favorites, who had risen very rapidly in the Confederate army. He was a son of Col. Chas. Kitchell Gardner, who was Adjutant-General, U. S. A., in the War of 1812, and the author of the system of designating companies by letters of the alphabet, which was adopted in 1816. Col. Chas. Kitchell Gardner was born in New Jersey, and appointed into the army from New York. His son was born in New York, and appointed to West Point from Iowa. He graduated in 1843 in the same class with Gens. Grant, Franklin, Quinby, Peck, J. J. Reynolds, French, Augur, J. H. Potter, C. S. Hamilton, Steele, Ingalls, Dent and Judah, of the Union army. He was commissioned in the 7th U. S., and won two brevets in Mexico. He married a wealthy Louisiana girl, and cast his lot with the South. The opening of the war found him a Captain in the 10th U. S. and stationed in Utah. He was in such a hurry to join the rebellion that he could not wait to send in his resignation, but left without ceremony, and was dropped from the rolls, May 7, 1861. Jefferson Davis appointed him a Brigadier-General, and then promoted him to Major-General, to rank from Dec. 13, 1862. He seems to have been a fairly able soldier, without any brilliancy or particularly strong traits. He was finally paroled at Meridian, Miss., May 11, 1865, and died April 29, 1873. None of his subordinates at Port Hudson was a man of special note.

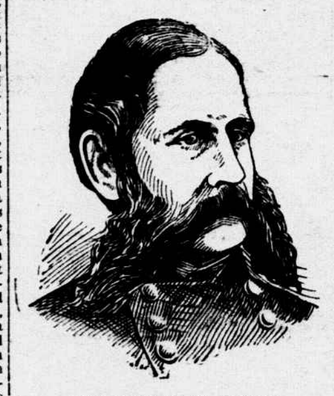
**Action at Plains Store.**

May 18 Gen. Banks ordered Gen. Augur to march with his whole force to the rear of Port Hudson, and cut the escape of the garrison. Augur had already thrown well out Dudley's Brigade and Grierson's Cavalry, who were observing the roads and threatening the enemy. Dudley was at Merritt's plantation, near the junction of the Springfield Landing and Bayou Sara roads, while Grierson was moving about the country after the Confederate cavalry commanded by Col. John L. Logan. Dudley moved up to White's Bayou, a branch of the Comite River, and covered the roads leading out toward Clinton and Jackson. Gen. T. W. Sherman had been ordered up from New Orleans with two brigades, and was expected to disembark at Springfield Landing, and Augur moved the rest of his force up to Dudley to cover this movement. He would also be in position to connect with the forces Gen. Banks was bringing across the river by the way of Bayou Sara. Gen. Gardner had sent out Miles with a battalion, Boone's Battery and Col. S. P. Powers, with the 14th Ark., to observe Augur.

May 21, at 6 o'clock, Augur marched toward the crossing of the Plains Store and Bayou Sara roads, and coming to the edge of the dense magnolia forest encountered the enemy, and the battle of Plains Store began with a sharp artillery fire, lasting an hour. The 48th Mass. was not handled well, and being exposed in column to the artillery fire was thrown into confusion, which was increased by Miles's attacking sharply. The retreat of the 48th Mass. embarrassed the 49th Mass., and for a few minutes the battle went badly, until the 116th N. Y. charged in and restored matters by driving the enemy back. Miles handled his artillery well, and by getting an enfilade fire on Chapin's Brigade was able to make a good retreat to the security of the works. The battle was over before Augur had completed his plans for it. It was necessary for him to act with great caution, since he had his single division to encounter the whole of the force in Port Hudson, and he was careful to get his men into good position. He had reason to anticipate that he would be struck very heavily, and the quick termination of the engagement surprised him. His total loss were 15 men killed, 72 wounded and 25 missing, in all 105. The heaviest part of this fell upon Chapin's Brigade, with Dudley's losing but 18 and Grierson's but two. Miles reported his loss as eight killed, 23 wounded and 58 missing, or 89 in all. Augur had with him his whole force, except the La. Native Guards. He had left the 4th La. Native Guards under Col. Drew in Fort Williams to hold Baton Rouge, with the 1st and 3d La. Native Guards under orders to follow to Port Hudson. As soon as the enemy disappeared Augur resumed his arrangements for a strong defensive position and to open communications with Banks and with Sherman.

**The Army United.**

Gen. Banks, with Grover in the advance of his division, crossed the Mississippi at 2 a. m. on the morning of May 22, and met with no opposition at Bayou Sara, and shortly after establishing themselves a party of cavalry came in with the news of Augur's battle at Plains Store. Fearing that Augur was being severely pressed, Banks hurried on with Grover's Division through a heavy storm of wind and rain until he met the detachments which Augur had thrown out to meet him. These told him the history of the engagement



MAJ.-GEN. C. C. AUGUR.

and that all was now quiet, when Grover went into bivouac near Thompson's Creek, to the northwest of Port Hudson. Paine, in temporary command of Emory's Division, brought his troops across the river and went into bivouac on the Perkins plantation road, a short distance in the rear of Grover. Banks made his headquarters with Grover, while Augur maintained the position he had assumed after the battle of Plains Store. The same day, May 22, Sherman landed at Springfield Landing with Dow's and Nickerson's Brigades, and went into position on the Bayou Sara road to the left of Augur, so that on the night of May 22 the garrison at Port Hudson was effectually cut off from retreat. By May 25 the army was united, and Banks was making his plans for a siege. The feebleness of the blow against Augur at Plains Store convinced all of those around Banks that the garrison was much smaller than it really was, and the prevailing opinion was for an immediate assault.

**Banks's Subordinates.**

Serving under Banks were a number of men of high abilities and characters, some of whom had distinguished careers.

Maj.-Gen. Christopher C. Augur, who commanded the First Division, was born in New York and appointed from Michigan, and graduated 16th in the class of 1843, in which U. S. Grant was the 21st and Rufus Ingalls the 32d. He had served creditably in the Mexican War, but escaped a brevet, and at the opening of the rebellion received a commission as Major in the 13th U. S. and a commission as Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Nov. 12, 1861. He commanded a division under Banks in the operations in the Shenandoah Valley, and was severely wounded at Cedar Mountain, for which he received a brevet of Colonel in the Regular Army. He was promoted to Major-General of Volunteers, Aug. 9, 1862, and was assigned to command the left wing of the army in the siege of Port Hudson. Later he was appointed President of the Military Commission at Washington, D. C., and to the command of the Department of Washington and the Twenty-second Corps. He received a brevet of Brigadier-General in the Regular Army for his services at Port Hudson and of Major-General for services during the war, and was retired in 1885 as a Brigadier-General.

Augur's First Brigade was commanded by Col. Edward P. Chapin, of Buffalo, N. Y., and Colonel of the 116th N. Y., a gallant and able officer, who was killed during the siege.

The Second Brigade was commanded by Brig.-Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, a fine engineer officer, who was later to arise to the rank of Major-General commanding a corps, and who was assigned during the siege to command the right wing, with a provisional division being made for him.

The Third Brigade was commanded by Col. Nathan A. M. Dudley, of the 30th Mass., and a Captain in the Regular Army. He rose to be Colonel of the 1st U. S. Cav., received brevets in the Regular Army for Baton Rouge, Port Hudson and for meritorious services during the war, and was retired as a Colonel, Aug. 20, 1889.

The Second Division was commanded by Brig.-Gen. Thomas W. Sherman, a man of more advanced years than his colleagues, as he had graduated from West Point in 1836. He was a Rhode Island man, who had been commissioned in the artillery, was a Captain of a battery which made much reputation in the Mexican War, where he received a brevet for gallantry at Buena Vista, and was a Major in the 3d U. S. Art. at the opening of the rebellion. He was promoted to Brigadier-General of Volunteers, May 17, 1861, and conducted a very successful expedition to Port Royal, Oct. 21, 1861. He later commanded a division in the Army of the Tennessee in the advance upon Corinth, and was then assigned to the command of a division in the Department of the Gulf. He lost his right leg during the siege, and did no more field service. He was brevetted a Brigadier-General, U. S. A., for Port Hudson and Major-General of Volunteers for services during the war. He was retired with the rank of Major-General, Dec. 31, 1870, and died March 16, 1879.

Sherman's First Brigade was commanded by Brig.-Gen. Neal Dow, who had achieved eminence as a Temperance reformer. He was wounded and captured during the siege.

Sherman's Third Brigade was commanded by F. S. Nickerson, of the 14th Me., who was promoted to Brigadier-General.

The Third Division had been commanded by Brig.-Gen. William H. Emory, and a very capable commander he was. He was a Maryland man, and graduated from West Point in the class of 1831 and served during the Mexican War in the Engineers, receiving two brevets for conspicuous gallantry. The opening of the rebellion found him Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st U. S. Cav. Stung by unmerited suspicions of his loyalty, he tendered his resignation, which was accepted, but those who knew him felt that he was too valuable a man to be lost, and they secured his reappointment. He was commissioned Brigadier-General of Volunteers, March 17, 1862, and commanded a brigade on the Peninsular Campaign, receiving a brevet of Colonel for Hanover Court House, and was assigned to the division intended for service in the Department of the Gulf in October, 1862. His health broke down during the Teche Campaign, and Gen. Banks put him in command of the defenses of New Orleans, which was a loss to the army in the field, but a gain to the security of its principal position in the rear.

Brig.-Gen. William Dwight commanded Emory's Division temporarily, and then succeeded to the command of Sherman's. He had been a cadet at West Point from 1849 to 1853, and entered the army as the Lieutenant-Colonel of the 70th N. Y., became Colonel and was promoted to Brigadier-General, Nov. 29, 1862. He was a man of much firmness and decision of character, and did good work on the Teche Campaign as afterward. Banks had issued a very stringent order against plundering. While in the Teche country Dwight, then distant from the main column, caught a member of the 131st N. Y. absent from his regiment with strong circumstantial evidence that he had been engaged in the nefarious work. Dwight did not bother to call a court-martial or to communicate with the commanding General, but ordered the man shot to death in front of his brigade at sunset, an action which caused a great deal of comment in the army, but which Banks afterward sustained. The division was assigned permanently to Brig.-Gen. Halbert E. Paine, a Wisconsin man, who had been Colonel of the 4th Wis. Cav., and promoted to Brigadier-General. He was severely wounded during the siege and lost a leg.

The First Brigade was commanded by Col. Timothy Ingraham, of the 38th Mass., who was brevetted a Brigadier-General.

The Second Brigade was commanded by Col. Hawkes Fearing, Colonel of the 8th N. H.

The Third Brigade was commanded by Col. Oliver P. Gooding, Colonel of the 31st Mass.

The Fourth Division was commanded by Brig.-Gen. Cuvier Grover, a Maine man, who graduated from West Point the fourth in the class of 1850, and was appointed to the artillery. The outbreak of the rebellion found him a Captain in the 10th U. S., and he was appointed a Brigadier-General of Volunteers, April 14, 1862. He commanded a brigade on the Peninsular Campaign, and received brevets for Williamsburg and Fair Oaks. He was sent to the Department of the Gulf in December, 1862, and assigned to the command of a division in the Nineteenth Corps, which he retained throughout the siege, the Red River Campaign the next year and the operations in the Shenandoah Valley, receiving a brevet of Major-General of Volunteers for Winchester and Fisher's Hill and Brigadier-General, U. S. A., for Cedar Creek, and Major-General, U. S. A., for services during the war. He died June 6, 1885.

His First Brigade was commanded by Col. Richard E. Holcomb, of the 1st La., who was killed during the siege.

The Second Brigade was commanded by Col. William K. Kimball, of the 12th Me.

The Third Brigade by Col. Henry W. Birge, 13th Conn., an officer of unusual merit, who was promoted to Brigadier-

(Continued on page six.)

## DESTRUCTION OF HOOD'S ARMY.

### Thomas and Schofield Foil Hood's Plans—Schofield's Masterly Retreat—Narrow Escape at Spring Hill—The Frightful Slaughter at Franklin—The End Comes Before Nashville.

By LEVI T. SCOFIELD, Captain, U. S. V.

While Sherman's army was in Cherokee County, Ala., Gen. Hood remained at a respectful distance, near Florence, on the Tennessee River. But when our great General started with the larger portion of his army for the Atlantic Coast Hood believed that the way was left open for him to lead his army where he pleased, and it would be an easy matter to sweep away anything that would oppose him in his triumphal march to Nashville, Louisville and Cincinnati.

**Two Able Generals.**

He little counted on the brains and opposing qualities of the two able Generals that were left behind to watch his movements—Thomas and Scofield. The two branches of Sherman's army parted at Gaylesville, Sherman accompanying the larger portion to the seacoast and sending the Twenty-third and Fourth Corps to Resaca and Dalton, where they took trains and were transported by rail to Nashville and then to Pulaski.

This campaign was commenced in the beginning of November, 1864. During the second week of November we reached Pulaski. This movement was ordered by Thomas, and was under the direct command of Schofield. The object was to watch, oppose and retard Hood, while Thomas was scraping together detachments of troops in the rear; also, to remount, equip and place his cavalry on a better footing to cope with the same branch of Hood's army. We were at the same time waiting for A. J. Smith's Corps to arrive from the West, and this command, together with new organizations, would swell our force to an equal or larger number than Hood's, and enable us to face him, or even overcome him.

Hood, however, was not inclined to wait for our preparations, and was ordered by Beauregard, who was his superior in command, to push forward from Florence, which he did on the 20th of November, expecting to flank Schofield at Lawrenceburg and cut off his retreat by rail from Pulaski. Capron's, Croxton's and Hatch's Cavalry were covering his front and on the lookout, and sent word to Schofield, who immediately prepared to fall back to Columbia, as he was not occupying a strategic point.

We left our camps and started on the Columbia pike on the 22d, and marched to Lynnville, where we were joined by Wagner's Division, Fourth Corps. On the afternoon of the 23d we marched to the junction of the Mt. Pleasant and Shelbyville roads. Before daylight of the 24th we were ordered to march to Columbia, and arrived there just after sunrise. We were met south of the town by an officer of Ruger's staff, who informed us that Capron's cavalry were pouring into the town, and the Confederates were not far behind them. Gen. Cox took in the situation at once, and with the instinct of an engineer, knowing the lay of the ground, he decided not to enter the town, but the head of the column then coming up was double-quicked by a diagonal short-cut around the town, and arrived on the Mt. Pleasant pike just in the nick of time to meet the tail end of Capron's fagged-out cavalrymen, closely pursued by Forrest's exultant troopers. A Captain on a splendid black charger was in the advance, shooting our men in the back of their heads with his revolver. He was dropped from his saddle by the first infantryman that crossed the road. The plucky 100th Ohio was in one short minute deployed as skirmishers and advanced rapidly to meet them; but, as usual when cavalry meet an infantry line, they stopped.

Gen. Cox's Division was soon in position, and before noon Gen. Stanley, with the Fourth Corps, approached Columbia by a parallel road, and with the addition of Strickland's Brigade, Ruger's Division, Twenty-third Corps, and reinforcements of cavalrymen, who met us here, we were in better shape as to numbers than we were at Pulaski.

Our stay at first in this position was rather monotonous, with nothing but cavalry in our front and an occasional skirmish to liven us up. When Hood's head of column arrived we had a little more excitement, with artillery practice; but they evidently did not like the looks of our position, for they made no demonstrations leading to an assault, but kept our cavalry on the flanks uneasy, as though they contemplated flanking us out of our position.

**Schofield's Anxiety.**

Schofield was anxious to preserve the railroad and wagon-road bridges across Duck River, which he could only do by remaining on the townside; but he knew, too, that the importance would matter little if Hood should cross the river and get between him and Nashville; so, at the end of two days, after dark, Cox's Division was crossed over to the north side of the river, and works thrown up for the batteries to protect the bridge crossings. Two days later the balance of our troops were brought over, and to prevent the enemy using the bridges they were destroyed; but that did not prevent some of the venturesome crossing right in our teeth, and our pickets had considerable trouble from the enemy's skirmishers. Their annoyance was so great that Gen. Cox determined to drive them into the river, and sent word to his inspecting Officer that the troops should charge them with the bayonet, and demonstrate right there whether the iron candlesticks they were carrying around with them could be turned to any other use as implements of war or not. The attempt failed, because the men were too well covered by the skirmishers on the opposite bank.

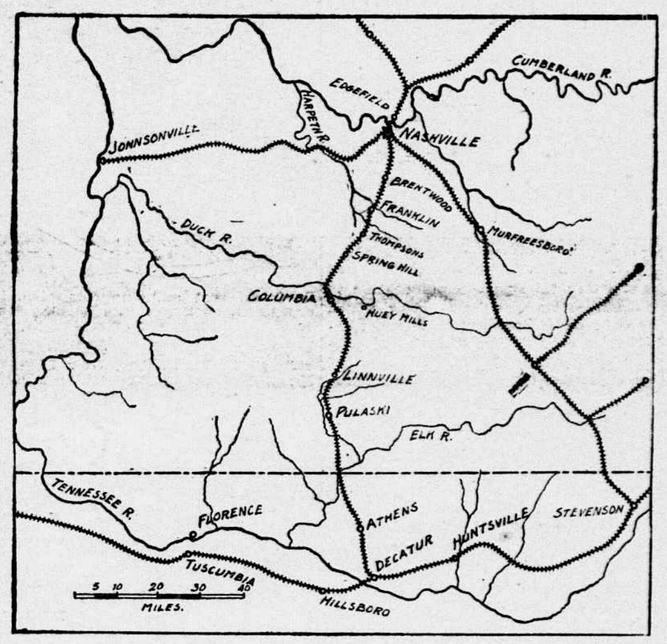
**The Momentous Night March.**

Col. Lyman Bridges, Chief of Artillery of the Fourth Corps, had charge of and posted the batteries on the left of the pike, and Maj. W. T. Goodspeed, Assistant Chief of Artillery, had charge of the batteries on the right, which were handled so admirably against the assaulting lines of Cheatham's Corps. Darkness was now approaching, and Stewart's Corps of four divisions arrived, and, together with Cheatham's command, went into bivouac for the night.

About this time Gen. Cox's Division, which had been under a heavy artillery fire all day from Hood's guns stationed in and near Columbia, started for Spring Hill, leaving Wood and Kimball, who had been ordered to follow soon after. This night march was a very rapid one, and, with the exception of a halt at Rutherford Creek to help out some artillery and teams that were there clogged, the distance to Spring Hill, about 12 miles, was made at the rate of four miles an hour. The rear guards were ordered positively to use the bayonet on fence-corner stragglers, and the orders were in several instances obeyed. When the General and staff reached Spring Hill we were stopped on the road by Col. George Northrup, of a Kentucky regiment of infantry. He cautioned us, "Hist!"—with finger to his lips—not to speak above a whisper, and pointed to the campfires within sight of the road. We could plainly see that soldiers standing there were Johnnies, and in the quiet of the night could hear their voices. An officer was left to repeat the caution to the advancing column.

A little further along on the road we found Gen. Stanley at his headquarters, from whom we learned the whole situation. We waited for Gen. Schofield to come back from Thompson's Station, where he had gone with one of Ruger's brigades, on a report that the enemy had reached the road there. Orders were again given at midnight to march immediately to Franklin, and Gen. Cox's Division to lead the advance. Keeping up the long, steady stride of four miles an hour, in the clear starlight, without meeting a soul on the road, we reached Franklin about 3 o'clock in the morning, awoke Col. Carter, and made headquarters at his little brick cottage, the last house in the southern suburbs of the town, on the Columbia pike.

While sitting out in front of the house, waiting for the head of column to arrive, everything was as still as the grave, and there was time to ponder on what the following day would bring forth. Very few, perhaps, anticipated the dreadful and bloody outcome, but rather looked for another flank movement, as at Columbia. Presently the tramp of horses in the distance and the rattle of tincups against bayonets told us that the troops were coming. They were marching by the left flank, and the Third Division of the Twenty-third Corps was led into position in that order on the east side of the pike; Stiles, commanding Henderson's Brigade, first, Casement next, and Reilly last, all facing south. Gen. Cox was placed in command of the two divisions, his own and Ruger's, and was instructed, as soon as the troops could get a short breathing spell, to strongly intrench themselves.




MAP OF THE OPERATIONS IN NORTH ALABAMA AND MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

**The Stand South of the River.**

It was considered necessary by Gen. Schofield to make our stand on the south side of the town and river, so that the artillery and trains could mass in the streets of the village while a wagon-road bridge was being built and planks put on the railroad bridge for their transfer across. Gen. Schofield had the previous day sent an urgent request to Thomas to ship a pontoon bridge to Franklin for the Harpeth Crossing, and expected to find it there, but in this was disappointed. In this embarrassing situation there was nothing to do but construct the bridges with the meager facilities at hand; so, with his Engineer Battalion and details of troops, the work was performed, requiring his constant personal attention. He remained in this position during the engagement, so as to better superintend the crossing, and at the same time be near the railroad and telegraph station, while from Fort Granger, immediately above on the bluff, he had perfect command of the entire battlefield, and could direct the fire of the artillery stationed there with him.

During the forenoon the troops kept pouring in, accompanied by artillery and wagon trains. Wood's Division of the Fourth Corps took up position on the north bank of the Harpeth; Kimball's Division of the same corps was ordered to report to Gen. Cox, and was by him placed in line on the right of the Twenty-third Corps, with its flank resting on the Harpeth River. Two brigades of Wagner's Division, Fourth Corps (Lane's and Conrad's), were countermarched, and placed something over 100 rods in our front, across the Columbia pike, to watch the approach of the enemy, and to their right and front, on a little knoll, a section of Marshall's Battery, supported by an infantry regiment. Opdycke's Brigade, of the same division, which had been acting as rear guard from Spring Hill, passed along our line, and took up position in reserve behind Carter's Hill. The two regiments of Reilly's Brigade that were left back in the skirmish line at Duck River arrived and formed the second line behind the main works. The batteries of the Fourth Corps were placed in our main line. They were ordered to report to Gen. Cox, to take the place of the Twenty-third Corps' artillery that had been posted on the north side of the river, as it was the first on the ground, and it was the intention at that hour to have all the artillery pass over as it arrived.

By the middle of the afternoon our trains were nearly all across the river, and it was intended the troops should follow by dark, and accompany them during the night toward Nashville. But it seemed that Gen. Hood had another program marked out for us. When his sleepy army awoke at Spring Hill, and he found how nicely Schofield's command had passed him during the night, and an examination by daylight showed how easily he could have cut us in two at any time during the night, or headed us off entirely the previous afternoon, if he had known our exact situation, he was so chagrined that he cursed everybody, high and low, censured Cheatham, Cleburne and the entire force that were present for not taking possession of the road, and made his whole army understand that they must make up for that blunder at the next opportunity, and that the time must be soon. So he pushed on in pursuit, their cavalry occasionally attacking our trains and burning a wagon or two, until they came up with our rear guard, about noon, at Winstead Hills. Stewart's Corps moved on to the right, toward Lewisburg pike, turning Opdycke's flank, when he fell slowly back to the town. Gen. Cheatham, with his corps, moved by the Columbia pike and formed in line north of Winstead Hills. From our position the officers and horses could be plainly seen on this range of hills, a little more than two miles away, as though studying our position. Bate's Division marched over to Carter's Creek pike and formed behind the Bostwick house. Stewart's Corps moved over to the McGavock house, where the first skirmish-firing was heard in the grove; it was by Reilly's men, who had gone there for logs to put on the earthworks.

**Firing Begins.**

Firing now commenced over on the right, where Vates was forming, and the guns stationed on the pike poured in volley after volley with great rapidity. Gen. Cox rode over to Stiles's Brigade, which was on higher ground, and from the parapet, with his field-glass, watched the advancing lines until they ran over Wagner's men. He then mounted his horse and pushed for the center, where he arrived just in time to go forward with Opdycke when the break commenced. The suspense now was growing, for we knew there was to be a battle; but, oh! what a comfort to know that we, who in the Georgia campaign had to do most of the bucking against fortifications, were on the right side of the works, and in such a splendid position, with a gentle slope away from us, and not even a mullein-stalk to obstruct our fire for a good third of a mile. Our men felt that now was their time for wiping out many an old score.

Gen. Cox's Engineer Officer, the writer, was standing on the parapet of the 100th Ohio, the first one on the left of the Columbia pike, urging the men to strengthen their works, and talking with Gen. Wagner at this time. The General was reclining on his elbow, with a staff or crutch in his hand; he had fallen with his horse and was lame. They remarked that the musketry firing was becoming more rapid, also from the two guns in front. By and by a staff officer rode fast from one of the brigades, and reported to Wagner excitedly:

"The enemy are forming in heavy columns; we can see them distinctly in the open timber and all along our front."

Wagner said, firmly, "Stand there and fight them;" and then, turning to the Engineer Officer, said, "And that stubbed, curly-headed Dutchman will fight them, too," meaning one of his brigade commanders.

"But, General," the officer said, "the orders are not to stand except against cavalry and skirmishers, but to fall back behind the main line, if a general engagement is threatened."

In a short time another officer rode in from the right in great haste, and told him the rebels were advancing in heavy force. He received the same order. The officer added: "But Hood's entire army is coming."

Then Wagner struck the ground with his stick, and said: "Never mind; fight them."

But even after this they had time to come back in good order if they had been allowed to. The artillery section had fixed prolonge and fired as they fell back to the advanced rifle-pits, leaving their dead, but bringing in their wounded.

The horses then brought the guns in on an easy trot. As they turned in around the short earthwork covering the gap across the pike, Alec Clinton, one of the gunners, jumped off the limber, his face black with powder smoke, and said, with a grim smile:

"Old —— is let loose and coming out there."

**The Break.**

In a short time we could see a commotion in our advanced brigades, but only an occasional dropping back, and soon we noticed the right of Stewart's command wrapped around Conrad's left, and then our men rose up and the break commenced. The right of Cheatham's Corps came sweeping over the little rise of ground on which the low ramparts were built, in what appeared a solid human wave. And such a racket! Their shouting seemed to show such confidence as men would have who had been led to believe that the line they were assaulting was a weak one. It was a grand sight, such as would make a lifelong impression on the mind of any man to see such a charge. As forerunners, well in advance, could be seen a line of jack-rabbits, bounding along for a few leaps, and then they would stop and look and listen, but scamper off again, as though convinced that this was the most impenetrable line of beaters-in that had ever given them chase; and quails by the thousand in coveys here and there would rise and settle and rise and turn again to the sunlight that called them back; but, no, they were frightened by

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