

# Chancellorsville and Gettysburg

By JOHN McELROY.

## CHAPTER XLV.

### ON LOVAL SOIL.

Lee's Great Army Sweeps Over Maryland Into Pennsylvania—Fervid Alarm of the Entire Country—The Army of the Potomac Moves in Swift Pursuit.

More Cavalry Fighting. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart was having more of those unpleasant revelations which had begun for him at Brandy Station. Up to that time, with the Union cavalry scattered here and there, a regiment or a battalion at a place acting as train guards, headquarters guards, aides, etc., Stuart, with his mass of troopers well in hand, would rush from one point to another, overpowering in a few minutes anything that he encountered—sending the fugitives scurrying back until they took

Stuart back thru Ashby's Gap, while Buford was to menace his left. Stuart was four miles from a small stream called Cromwell Creek, and Pleasonton's artillery soon silenced the Confederate guns. The cannoneers, seeing an attack from Barnes's Brigade imminent, abandoned their pieces, which fell into Pleasonton's hands, and were received with great glee as the first guns taken outright from Stuart. Kilpatrick, always a eager, dashed forward in pursuit, and pushed Stuart so hard as to save the bridge across Goose Creek that the Confederate cavalry leader was trying to destroy. Stuart was, however, able to rally his men in a strong position, where he checked Kilpatrick until the infantry came up, when the retreat was resumed. While this was going on Buford attacked Munford and Jones, and the Confederates were in substantially equal numbers, in good position and fought obstinately. Gregg was able to drive

Stuart's Account. Gen. Stuart, in his official report, gives this account of the operations by which he was forced back into the gaps of the Blue Ridge: "Hampton's Brigade arrived on the 20th, too late to attack the enemy, still in possession of the bridge. A continuous rain was also an obstacle to military operations. Skirmishing, however, continued, principally on our left, between Goose Creek, where Col. Bossert, with his regiment (5th Va. Cav.), attacked and drove the enemy's force across the stream in handsome style. He was supported by Brig.-Gen. Jones with a portion of his brigade. "I was extremely anxious now to attack the enemy as early as possible, having since Hampton's arrival received sufficient reinforcement to attack the enemy's caissons, but the morning (21st) being the Sabbath, I recognized my obligation to do no duty other than what was absolutely necessary, and determined, so far as was in my power, to devote it to rest. Not so the enemy, whose guns about 8 a. m. showed that he would not observe it. Had I attacked the enemy, I would have encountered, besides his cavalry, a heavy force of infantry and artillery, and the result would have been disastrous, no doubt. "Hampton's and Robertson's Brigades were moved to the front to a position previously chosen, of great strength against a force of infantry, and against cavalry, although the enemy's advance was held in check gallantly and decidedly for a long time. It soon became evident that the enemy, utterly failed in his attempt to force our lines, had, as usual, brought

for a thin line in Lee's long-drawn-out formation. He had sent out the information which Pleasonton had gained, and instructed him to desist from any further advance. Consequently Pleasonton fell back upon Aldie, where he was reinforced by the 11th and 12th Cavalry. Hooker would send some columns thru the gaps which he could strike, one by one as they emerged, and crush them. Since he could not do this, and had failed to draw Hooker out where he could interpose between him and Washington, he would carry out his original program and project his army boldly into the State. This would make them pay heavily for Hooker's way generalship. Lee had now assembled on the banks of the Potomac a far stronger army than that with which he had entered Maryland the previous year. He had quite 80,000 men in a state of the highest discipline, seasoned by two years' vigorous training in the great school of war. On the other hand, Hooker had about the same number of men immediately under his command, and was handling them with a vigor and ease not displayed by his predecessors. Confident as Lee was of the prowess of his army, he was not very sanguine as to what treatment it would receive at the hands of the Army of the Potomac, and June 23 he wrote Jefferson Davis an urgent letter asking him to send him every available man with a view to which the Confederacy was to be maintained in Virginia. By menacing Washington Beauregard would keep a large army in the fortifications around the city, and thus prevent their joining the force in his front.

the scene of the battle of South Mountain, Sept. 14 and 15, 1862. The next gap, some 10 miles farther north, is less easy of passage, and is traversed by Thad Stevens's famous "Ram's Horn Railroad," running from Gettysburg to Hagerstown. The extension of the Shenandoah Valley north of the Potomac is called the Cumberland Valley, and is drained by the Potomac by several streams, the principal of which are Antietam Creek, Between the South Mountain and the Catoctin Mountain Catoctin Creek runs into the Potomac, the fertile country lying east of the Catoctin Mountain is drained by a considerable stream, entitled the Monocacy River. Farther north the streams run from the South to the North, and several of them draining their respective valleys and affording roadways, but none of them are of any considerable importance. The principal ones are the Conococheague, Broaches and Catoctin Creeks. Ewell reached Carlisle June 27, and sent forward reconnaissances toward Harrisburg. The reconnoissances, toward Harrisburg, were made by the 1st and 2nd Divisions, the people were working with feverish energy to put the city in a state of defense, and the militia was being organized. The 1st Division, under Col. Parsons, was promoted to the rank of Major-General, 1863. Lieut.-Col. Joseph B. Parsons then took command, retaining the same title mustered out. The 10th was first assigned to Devens's Brigade, Couch's Division, Fourth Corps, and at Fair Oaks distinguished itself for gallantry, its Colonel being wounded in that action. Major Ozro Miller took the command, but fell mortally wounded soon after at Malvern Hill. In May, 1864, under Gen. Kautz, the 10th Mass. was in the Fourth Brigade, Gettysburg, Sixth Corps. At the Wilderness, the regiment, under Col. Parsons, lost 21 killed, 195 wounded and two missing—over one-third of those engaged. It lost still heavier at Spotsylvania, where Maj. Dexter F. Parker was mortally wounded, which action was the closest and deadliest of any in which the 10th had been engaged, but the regiment, although before Petersburg when ordered home for muster-out. Out of a total enrollment of 1,218 it lost 134 killed and wounded, or 11 per cent, and 1,084 disease, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

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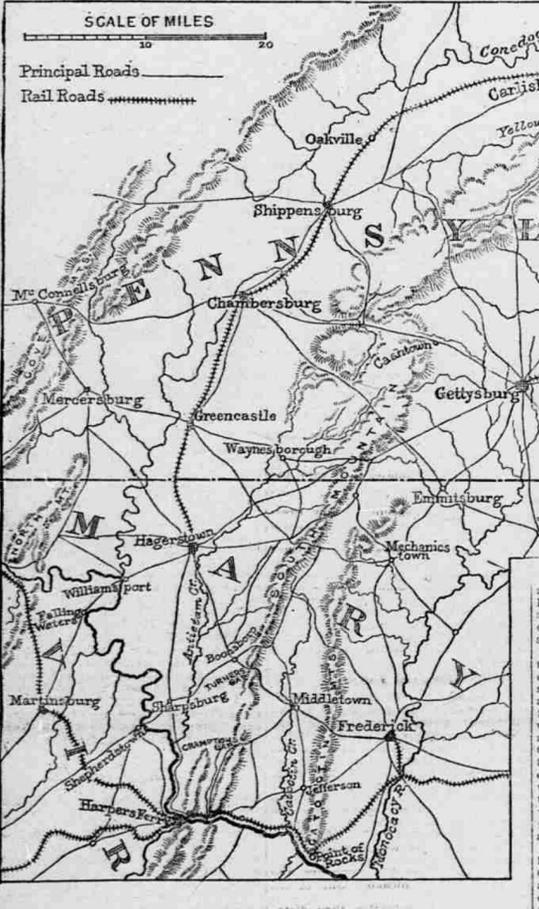
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LEE'S ROUTE INTO PENNSYLVANIA.

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As if it needn't hurry, havin' ages yet to run. When powder starts to burnin', sub, the devil's at his pranks; I praise the Lord we never'll be burnin' it with the Yanks.

Well, sub, the boat is ready, but I reckon that you know it. I ain't Virginia was to urge a gentleman to go. "I've nothin' but a cabin with a truckle bed of hay. But not a place in Dixie are you welcome to stay. You're bound to go. Well, anyhow, we'll stop to pull a cork. And taste some apple brandy like you'll never breathe in York. You needn't mention this; I never paid the tax. But yer it is, and good and strong, whatever else it lacks. What, sub, yer think of South'n men? Shake, stranger, take my thanks! Now, just one mo', and then we'll go—yer's health to all the Yanks!

refuge behind the jeering infantry. Things had changed as much now as in the Frenchman's story, where he remarked that it was immense fun to hunt the tiger, but quite the reverse of funny to have the tiger hunt you. The Confederate cavalry had been hunting the tiger with great success for two years, but now the tiger was hunting them with a vengeance. The fight at Aldie showed the same aggressive temper on the part of the Union horsemen which they had manifested at Brandy Station, and Stuart, smarting under his ill-success, took up a strong position at Middleburg with Robertson's and Chambers's Divisions, and sent an urgent call for Jones to bring up his brigade from the Rappahannock with all haste. Hooker, being extremely anxious to know more of Lee's movements, if possible to learn whether he meditated coming thru the gaps of the Blue Ridge against Washington or moving into Maryland, ordered Pleasonton to push Stuart back thru the gaps. He sent the Fifth Corps forward toward Aldie to give weight to the cavalry. Barnes's Division went to Aldie and reported to Pleasonton. June 18 Pleasonton went to Middleburg with hostile intentions, but Stuart, not having received reinforcements from either Hampton or Jones, declined to fight, and fell back toward Rector's Crossroads. The next day Pleasonton pushed on after him with the Fourth and Sixth Corps on the left. Stuart felt his prestige waning and realized that it was imperative to do something to recover it, and therefore determined upon a fight. Hoping that the dash and spirit of his soldiers and his old luck would bring good fortune. He formed in line of battle about one mile from Middleburg, with his center on a piece of woods in the middle of open fields. Behind this rose a hill upon which he placed his artillery. As soon as Gen. Gregg came in sight of the enemy he detected a weak place in the line, against which he sent a heavy force of dismounted men from the two brigades. This force, advancing being doubled up Stuart's left, which went back in a good deal of disorder, so much so in fact that Stuart's defeat would have been complete had it not been for the 9th Va. Cavalry, and the artillery on the hill. The 9th Va. charged with great spirit into Gregg's men, who were broken by the rapid pursuit and with the assistance of the artillery checked the pursuers. Gregg fell back into the wood, and took strong position there, from which Stuart vainly attempted to drive him. At last, having suffered a much greater loss than he had inflicted, Stuart was reluctantly compelled to order a retreat, which was made in good order, with no pursuit on the part of Gregg. The Fighting at Upperville. During the day Buford came upon Munford, who was watching the road between Aldie and Snicker's Gap, and drove him back. Jones and Hampton finally reached Stuart, who determined to take the offensive, but before he could do so Pleasonton was upon him again with Gregg's Division, supported by Strong Vincent's Brigade from the Fifth Corps. The object was to push

them. As they retreated Gamble's Brigade did some brilliant work in charging their rear, inflicting great loss upon them. Stuart, sending word to Jones and Munford to fall back on Upperville, drew off his other troops to that point, where he formed an imposing line in the broad open plain. He had 12 or 13 regiments in the same men who had made the proud display on June 11 before the admiring Lee at Brandy Station. They were as fine horsemen as the world had ever seen, and there, intermingling in the melee the dismounted Confederates were in the fields on one side of the road, using their muskets whenever they saw a chance, while a similar line of Union men were in the fields on the other side of the road, occupied in the same way. Hampton was finally driven back, and Robertson covering Stuart had lost eight miles since the fight had begun, and he was now holding on desperately to the village of Upperville, which commanded Ashby's Gap. On the other hand, Pleasonton's men were worn out, as they would have been with the exciting events of the day, and the infantry had been left far behind. Buford was pursuing Munford and Jones hotly, as these fell back toward Paris to join Stuart. Buford's scouts climbed the Blue Ridge, and from the summit of the trees and rocks had a full view of the Shenandoah Valley as far as Winchester and Harper's Ferry. From their elevated position they could see Ewell's great columns of infantry marching forward by a long, narrow column, equally long, which Longstreet was sending to join Ewell in the Valley. The valley which Stuart had been fighting so hard to throw over the movements of Lee's army was now pierced. In spite of his bravest efforts, the Union cavalry had driven him from every position, and had secured at last the information that Hooker was most anxious to obtain. This was a great triumph for the hitherto ridiculed cavalry, and henceforth nobody thought of repeating the offer of a reward for the sight of a dead man with spurs on. The confidence of the Union cavalrymen in themselves and their leaders grew hourly. They had learned the value of the saber and of charging him, and from that time onward the offensive was to come mainly from the Union side. The Confederates could not show up a line anywhere without expecting the charge would be made by the Union cavalry. The fighting had cost about 600 men on each side.

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Flag Raising at Englewood, Ga. Editor National Tribune: About 40 people were in Englewood, Ga., to present a flag to the Englewood school, Miss Susie Myers teacher. The meeting was called to order by the teacher, who introduced the program, also the Instructor of Colony Corps, 2, Fitzgerald, Ga., who then called the program, which was excellent, the short, on account of which sickness among the scholars, mumps and measles having nearly suspended the school. First was prayer by the Rev. Horne, then "America," "Columbia," recitations, solos, duets, etc., the program, also the Instructor of Colony Corps, 2, Fitzgerald, Ga., who then called the program, which was excellent, the short, on account of which sickness among the scholars, mumps and measles having nearly suspended the school. First was prayer by the Rev. 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