



Franklin and Nashville

By JOHN McELROY.

CHAPTER XIII.

Bate Sent Against Rousseau.

While the rest of his army was settling down to digging intrenchments and building forts, in the frozen soil one-half mile or more in front of the Federal works Hood sent Forrest to operate against the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. On the morning of Dec. 2, as Gen. Bate was on his way

were loaded under the brow of the hill and run up to fire, and, after firing, draw back to reload. This battery fired nearly 500 rounds of solid shot and shell. Col. Johnson, finding his ammunition running low, and the enemy increasing in numbers, made a skillful retreat, accompanied by Lieut. Harter and the unwounded of the garrison, all of whom reached Nashville safely about daylight on Dec. 3. Upon reaching Nashville it was found that



STRIKING SOME ROUGH WEATHER AT NASHVILLE.

from Franklin to Nashville, he received the following order issued to him by Gen. Cheatham, commanding the corps:

"Near Franklin, Dec. 2, 1864; 7 a. m. Gen. Hood directs that you send Bate's Division with one battery of artillery over to Murfreesboro, and direct them to destroy the railroad from Murfreesboro to Nashville, burning all the bridges and taking the blockhouses and then burning them."

"A. P. Mason, Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General."

Bate's force consisted of about 1,600 men, and Col. B. J. Hill, with some 150 cavalry, was ordered to co-operate with him. When seven miles from Murfreesboro Bate learned that instead of being attacked, as he had supposed, Murfreesboro was occupied by a force of between 6,000 and 10,000, under Gen. Rousseau. That night he received a communication direct from Gen. Hood, which read as follows:

"Overton's House, six miles from Nashville, Dec. 2, 1864.

"Major Gen. Bate, Hood directs me to say that citizens report some 5,000 Yankees at Murfreesboro. Gen. Forrest will send some of his cavalry to assist you. You must act according to your judgment under the circumstances, keeping in view the object of your expedition, viz, to destroy the railroad. This report is sent you for what it is worth."

"Very respectfully,

"A. P. Mason, Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General."

Hood sent Bate's Division to co-operate with Forrest in this movement, because it had suffered less than any other at Franklin, and because he wished to make the movement as decisive as possible. Forrest had not appeared in his usual aggressive form since his great achievement at Johnsonville. He himself surrounded on all sides by 75 inferior cavalry, aided at times by the infantry, and had accomplished nothing noteworthy.

Attacks Against the Blockhouses.

The first offensive was against Blockhouse No. 2, five miles from Nashville. This was garrisoned by a detachment of the 15th Ohio, under Lieut. George D. Harter. About 8 o'clock in the morning of Dec. 2, a large force was seen approaching, a majority of whom were dressed in Federal uniform, which presently began to surround the blockhouse. At the same time, a large force, a railroad train was seen coming up from Murfreesboro, and the officer's glass showed that it was loaded with colored troops. The train came in very slowly, and when it reached the bridge the enemy's artillery opened upon it, striking the locomotive and the first car and injuring several men. These troops were the 44th U. S. C. T. and two companies of the 14th U. S. C. T., under the command of Col. Johnson. Col. Johnson did not know at the time that the blockhouse was still garrisoned, and he got his men off the train in good shape and rushed for the blockhouse for protection. He found it filled with the garrison, and as Col. Johnson was short of ammunition Lieut. Harter supplied him with 2,000 rounds, without which his command could have rendered little service in helping to withstand the assault of the Confederates. The enemy at once began to shell from three batteries of artillery. Col. Johnson formed his men near the blockhouse, and sent a party up on the crest of a hill, on which the enemy had stationed a piece of artillery, to silence this and drive the Confederates off. This did not succeed, but Johnson's men, falling back a short distance, rapidly constructed a breast-works of logs and stumps from behind which they kept up a fire. The rebel batteries continued to shell the blockhouse, and Col. Johnson kept his men sharpshooting at the cannoners. The guns were several times silenced. At last, after a long and successful fight, the enemy succeeded in knocking out the wall of the house, which allowed the roof to cave in, and the shells began to enter and kill the men inside. The guns from this battery

an order had been sent Lieut. Harter directing the abandonment of the blockhouse, but the courier had failed to get thru the lines.

On Dec. 3 Blockhouse No. 1, four miles from Nashville, under the command of Lieut. Jacob N. Shaffer, was attacked and after fighting all day, refusing several times to surrender, was finally forced to do so.

Blockhouse No. 3, near Antioch, commanded by Capt. D. N. Lowrey, 115th Ohio, was attacked on Dec. 3 by artillery, and was pluckily defended. The rebel guns were so placed by the enemy that the most the garrison could do was to occasionally pick off a gunner. This brave little handful of men held out for 36 hours, however, receiving 90 shots, but were finally forced to surrender.

On Dec. 4 Serg't William McKinney, commanding Blockhouse No. 4, was ordered to evacuate, but before the garrison

"Sir: I am informed by your scout (Mr. Lee) that the rebels have retreated. He tells me if there is anything I want, to send a note to you and say what it is. General, I want nothing but liberty. I have been hummed in for 13 days, not daring to put my head outside the blockhouse. The rebel sharpshooters have left, and I feel better. The health of myself and men is good; am ready for any emergency. Gen. Forrest sent in a flag of truce four days ago, demanding the surrender of this house, promising to treat me well and threatening to burn me with Greek fire if I refused. I resolved to believe nothing but the truth, and I feel better. I am General, very respectfully, your obedient servant—H. H. Glosser, First Lieutenant, Co. E, 115th Ohio, Commanding Blockhouse No. 7."

On the morning of Dec. 7 Gen. Bate



BATE'S BAREFOOTED MEN SUFFERED SEVERELY.

son could execute the order it was attacked and compelled to surrender. On Dec. 5 Capt. Lewis F. Hake, commanding at Lavergne, started to withdraw his garrison and move to Murfreesboro as ordered, when he found himself surrounded on all sides by a considerable force of the enemy. A flag of truce was sent in to the garrison, and while this was being considered the question was settled by the enemy planting four pieces of artillery, which bore directly on the command. Col. Hake was therefore obliged to surrender his command, consisting of 75 men, 25 horses and two pieces of artillery.

Lieut. Glosser's Plucky Fight.

The garrisons of Blockhouses Nos. 5 and 6 evacuated their posts, and managed, by taking circuitous routes, to reach Murfreesboro.

Blockhouse No. 7, four miles from Murfreesboro, commanded by Lieut. H.

H. Glosser, 115th Ohio, was attacked Dec. 1 by Bate with a heavy force of infantry and artillery, but gallantly defended by Lieut. Glosser. Seventy-six gun shots were fired at the blockhouse, 32 of which struck it, doing little damage. Gen. Rousseau, commanding at Murfreesboro, sent Gen. Milroy to the garrison's assistance. Milroy took with him the 8th Minn., 61st Ill., the 174th Ohio and a section of the 13th N. Y. Battery. He was joined by the 13th Ind. Cav. Milroy succeeded in driving the enemy some distance and capturing a number of prisoners, when darkness came on to interrupt the fight. Milroy withdrew his men to the south side of the creek, only to find that the enemy had retired. Gen. Bate returned to the attack the next day, but the stubborn little garrison in the blockhouse resisted, and Bate finally gave it up as a bad job and moved around near Murfreesboro, leaving his sharpshooters to annoy the men in the blockhouse. These kept up a constant, vigorous fire during the siege, expending nearly 4,000 rounds of ammunition. After the enemy had finally retreated, Lieut. Glosser sent the following letter to Gen. Milroy:

Blockhouse No. 7, Dec. 18, 1864.

"Major Gen. Milroy,

Just at present Congress is about the whole show in the big city by the Potomac. And at that Congress is holding mighty tight. The House is getting ready to work. The Senate is getting ready to work. All eyes are toward the Capitol.

There is, of course, much thought about measures. As a matter of fact, Washington is greatly interested in the men. Some 40 or 50 newcomers on the legislative stage are under scrutiny. The Democrats who have named the House organization will be the targets of observing folks. It is always interesting to note new men in new posts of moment conduct themselves. That is always a feature of a new Administration of the House. It is always interesting to note new men in new posts of moment conduct themselves. That is always a feature of a new Administration of the House. It is always interesting to note new men in new posts of moment conduct themselves. That is always a feature of a new Administration of the House.

Speaker Clark. Speaker Champ Clark heads the list of interesting notables, as he tries to get himself established in his new and honorable rostrum. His lieutenants and leaders down upon the floor are trying to look and act as though they were used to it. They are not, as everybody who has been much around the Capitol can see, but give 'em time. They may be uncomfortable under their responsibilities, but are entitled to have a chance.

When it comes to interesting new men who absorb the attention of Washington, and to some extent also of the country, there is the Senate, with nearly a score of brand-new Senators. Every one of them must be placed before adequate estimates and correct opinions about the course of the Senate in given matter can be had. It takes time to look over and "size up" such an impressive aggregation of men, most of whom are not themselves known to the public attitude toward the public business coming to them for determination. The President has had his eye upon these new Senators, and he is sure to have every new Senator as a dinner guest at the White House. All the new Senators are looking forward to this evening, but such things as I could see; and as I could not see the Greek fire I thought I would wait until I did.

Wise folks who were passing the bills of the extra session of Congress thru the Senate, and who were under the giving the country a rest are subsiding. That, too, when the extra session is only a few days old. They are still talking about the extra session, but they will do to impel Congress to such conclusions as speed adjustment, although nothing what extravagant persons are saying toward the Capitol or in the programs are forming. The leaders are deploying their forces. The engagement will come soon enough, but to satisfy the most combative of men.

All the intimations that the Senate, with its narrow and uncertain Republican majority, would simply turn up its heels and let the Democrats run the Democratic House in practically everything except the Canadian reciprocity are already discounted. The opinion which the Republican Senators carry give consideration to the revisions of the woolen and cotton schedules and to the revisions of whatever other tariff schedules the Democrats in the House attempt. Perhaps the Senate may not vote in favor of all the revising that the Democrats want. They probably will try to cut the woolen and cotton schedules, and in most of the cases might prefer not to reduce at all.

Nevertheless the Republican Senate is beginning to reason that it must take final action on the program of legislation which the House sends over. The Senate will not ignore the work which a legislative body representing a very decisive popular sentiment has undertaken. The Senate will not react unfavorably both upon the Senate and upon the Republican Party. At least this is the kind of reasoning one hears now among the Republican leaders. They are not proclaiming their opinions from the house tops. It is too early for them to be saying what their plans are. The House Democrats are entitled to the privilege of first outlining in detail.

Delay in Revising the Schedules. There will be much urging of delay as to the revision of some schedules. The plan to let the House have the first appearance to many legislators and even to some Democrats. It appeals to such men as Representative D. J. McGillivuddy, of the Second Maine District. Of course, Mr. McGillivuddy's district comprises the manufacturing cities of Lewiston and Auburn, where there is much cotton and woolen manufacturing. The House Democrats, as a majority, however, will certainly lower the wool and woolen duties in the near future, and the Democrats will fight the question out for itself.

The likelihood that the Senate will decide to face the music and consider the House program opens up prospects of a long session, which may easily extend up into the early autumn. The President has indicated that he thinks the Senate should consider this legislation, and if he adheres to this opinion there will be practically no doubt that the Senate will tackle several bills. He has already written a letter to Representative McCall, setting forth that he has not decided to prorogue Congress if by this time the President would come together and to operate together. Some Southerners may be loath to abandon high protection for certain local industries, such as fruit raisings in Florida, will not be affected by the tariff bills of the session. The enactment of Canadian reciprocity will virtually assure free lumber. That caused several Democratic Senators to vote with Republicans on the tariff in the last Congress. On the tariff matters at least at this session the Democrats of the Senate probably will have little difficulty in agreeing.

House Democrats between the eyes. The Republicans have a long and yet forming in Congress. The membership is too much engaged in organization squabbles. Quite another week of inspection assumed, during which the rank and file of Senators and Representatives will simply mark time. House Democrats are preparing bills, embodying the majority's program, and getting into the legislative hopper any day, but of necessity it must be several days before the heavy machinery begins to run on the program.

It is really a great big job to get a new Congress going. Some folks supposed that the delay would be less than that, because the Democratic majority had selected its Speaker two or three months in advance, and because the committee assignments for the majority had been made. It is not upon before the extra session was called to order. The Republican minority, of course, is largely to blame for the present inaction, but there was a way apparently of avoiding it. Their minority leader must perform have a little time to make up the minority lists for committee assignments, and to get the legislation can be undertaken till the committees are complete.

But the time has not been lost. While the House has been busy with its organization and making a great to-do because they have been allowed smaller committee representation than they want, the Ways and Means Democrats are deep in activities over the preparation of tariff bills. They are holding two and three sessions a day, and keeping busy sessions about what they are doing. Meanwhile the Democrats of other committees are whipping into shape bills to comply with the caucus program.

Within a week or 10 days the House should be burning with legislative activity. The announcement of Republican Statesmen that the House will be followed by numerous committee meetings, although these meetings will be confined strictly to committees that are preparing legislation, which has to do with the caucus program. It is expected that the various measures will be put forward so rapidly the House will have busy sessions even in the week. Once it has enacted its program, much will be heard about the responsibility for the prolongation of the session, and the blame will be laid on the Democrats for not acting more promptly.

Breaking in New Employees. The importance of complete organization before the House undertakes business is apparent. The selection of several hundred employees alone takes some time. During the past week there has been a good deal of talk about the House was in session that it seemed a wonder the public did not walk right in upon the floor. Most Republican Democrats have gone home because they know their tenure is about ended, and they have no further interest in attending to duty. Their places cannot be filled properly in a few days, even in a few days. New men must be broken in at the Speaker's desk—new reading clerks, new journal clerks, new tally clerks, and so on. It is not surprising that the House has been selected, but the formalities of appointment require a week or two before Congress has actually assembled. And when every appointee is in his place and the ponderous machinery has been manned at every essential point it will be a week or two before the House and co-operation in the working committees and also to arrange effective team work upon the floor. The Democratic Representatives are all ready at the constructive tasks to which they have been set. This is apparent in the timidity and the lack of assurance which the Republican Senators carry. Of course, after a little, when the stress and strain of a few wrangles have passed, they will gain confidence in themselves. They will start to stop the machinery like veterans of a decade. And, all in all, it is just as well that no bills are yet ready for consideration. The new members of the House must have time to accustom themselves to the surroundings.

Probably the significance of the Bailey and anti-Bailey factions among the Senate Democrats has been over-emphasized. There was a very stiff fight to be fought over the selection of a minority leader, with Senator Bailey of Texas, working like a beaver on one side and William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska, working like a beaver on the other side. Those who expect Democratic dissensions over the tariff, however, may be disappointed. It cannot be successfully denied that there is a very strong desire among all Senate Democrats to work together and make the most of the party opportunity now at hand. They will not quarrel over the minority leadership which will be virtually forgotten a month from now.

There will be red-hot work and plenty of it in the Senate for a while. In the meantime the Republican leaders are trying to bring their factions together. There is little warrant for saying that in this they have hope of success. When it comes to voting upon tariff the regulars and insurgents will probably be found wide apart. But very earnest work is under way now to the least to preserve the semblance of a united organization. The vacancies in the Senate committees will probably be filled up quite to the satisfaction of the insurgents.

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CONGRESS THE WHOLE SHOW.

Both Houses in the Throes of Reorganization—A Long Session in Prospect—Revising the Tariff Schedules—A Big Job to Get a New Congress Going—Breaking in New Employees—Faction Troubles in the Senate.

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What Do You Think of That? CANADIAN RECIPROCITY.

The President Deeply in Earnest For It—Recalcitrants Being Brought into Line—The Session Will Be Political.

The Washington mind, it must be admitted, is and has been more on things political than on things legislative. However, there will be legislation before the Congressional shindy is over. Here and there one hears it said the Canadian reciprocity bill will not be enacted into law. No one can discount the tremendous opposition to it. The same story is heard all the way along the border States from the Province of Ontario and the State of Maine clear across the country to Washington State. Probably the reciprocity bill will pass. The Administration is tremendously in earnest for it. The President hazarded an extra session of Congress to get it. The vote in the House will be overwhelmingly in favor. Probably all Democrats, with an occasional exception, perhaps, will be for it. Representative Ebenezer J. Hill, of Connecticut, after a recent caucus, now claims that a majority of the Republican membership is for it.

Some think that the reciprocity bill will be rushed thru the House early, the Democrats, after much backing and filling and many worries, having concluded that early action would be best. The President is not so much in a hurry. He has seen the last word has been said and the vote on reciprocity is reached. "Uncle Moses" says that the period of reciprocity debate in the Senate will be curtailed as much as possible. And yet there will be plenty for the Senate to talk about this bill. The bill will be enacted after reciprocity has been disposed of.

The extra session of Congress is a few days old, as already stated, but already the uppermost thought in regard to it is political. Every forenoon and every afternoon at the Capitol there are thousands of tongues wagging about the reciprocity bill. It is a matter of tariff revision. Of course, in one legislative task. Nevertheless and notwithstanding the fact that the President is in a hurry, perhaps, right up to the adjournment of Senate and House months hence.

Enough has transpired already to indicate clearly that both parties are ready to play. There is a great zest for the same. It will probably be the fastest and most furious political game this generation of American citizens has seen. For the young folks have grown up since the narrow marginal days of the late 80s when Harrison and Cleveland were at either end of the presidential teter board.

In the humbleness of staggering defeat, the dignified, high minded, straight thinking Administration is entirely willing to dabble politically. Those who may be high Administration places know as well as the average citizen that the situation has become indeed desperate. They can see how all the general signs point to a Democratic President in 1913, and they want to prevent such a campaign conquest. All the Republicans of might, in National Council are willing to harness and confuse the Democrats in an eminently respectable sort of fashion, of course. If by this, or any other process, they can wrest a little advantage they will spring gleefully before the country with it.

Wm. Jennings Bryan. The Democratic brethren are playing for their political lives. They want to make a good record at legislation. They want to do nothing to offend the independent trusting constituencies that had wearied of Republican rule. Political considerations, while secondary to a good legislative record, are exceedingly prominent under the

crowns of the Democratic leaders of Senate and House. It was hardly coincidence that Representative William Jennings Bryan happened down Washington way to make a Y. M. C. A. speech and then journey over to Burlington, N. J., for a talkfest in which Gov. Wilson also participates. Just about the time that the extra session of Congress was assembling, which the Republicans expect to come in May, there would have been events in this quarter of the world to draw Mr. Bryan just the same. And by the same token it was not a coincidence that Gov. Harmon, of Ohio, had to come down to Washington to appear before the Supreme Court about the time that Congress convened.

There is a great Democratic buoyancy about things political. The Presidential campaign of 1912 is already beginning to be talked about. It is both parties in it no small part with a view to that contest. The Democrats have announced their legislative program, which the Republicans expect to resist as a general proposition. But Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, hastened to offer the Canadian reciprocity bill and also the bill for public campaign expenses before election, in advance of the introduction of bills by the Democrats. It is not inconceivable that Mr. McCall had an understanding with some Republicans about this—perhaps with a Republican in the White House with whom he is on tolerably familiar and friendly terms.

It Will Be a Political Session. A political session of Congress it will be from start to finish. The cards will be dealt, writing metaphorically, in the early months when the House enacts its legislation. The fine points of the great game will be in the closing months when the program is up to the Senate. The moment Congress adjourns both parties will rush to the country with their respective claims as to what was done wisely or unwisely. It is many years since so many political entities of both parties were congregated together. Shrewd generals are on the eminences, as shrewd as any other party can command for service. Subordinates from every debatable State are already beginning to "show up" in Washington. A marked migration of politicians this way all during the Spring and Summer is certain. The coming and the going of these gentry will rival in prominence the movements of men, who come to sound in Congressional cars the dangers of reducing tariff duties. Northern Democrats in the Senate are disposed to flock by themselves. It may be going too far to assert that they are forming a Democratic faction of their own, but it looks something that way. They prefer the lead of Bryan, the Peerless One, to the counsel of Senator Joseph W. Bailey, of Texas. The recent big fight in the Senate over the choice of a minority leader indicates as much.

Senator Martin a Minority Leader. Senator Thomas Martin of Virginia, who now becomes the minority leader, the choice of Senator Bailey and the Democratic conservatives and not the first choice of Bryan. To be sure some of the "progressive" Democrats in the Senate voted for Senator Martin, because he had served so much longer than Senator B. F. Shively, of Indiana, whom the Northern Democrats preferred, and, also, because there was a feeling that an injustice would be done Senator Martin if he were defeated for the leadership. He has a hard primary fight on his hands this Autumn and it will determine whether he is to be re-elected for another six years' term. These considerations did not weigh with the Democratic Senators from Maine, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, Nebraska, Montana, Nevada and Oregon. They resent intimations that Democratic Senators are disposed on occasion to "stand in" with old time Republicans and propose to strike out distinctly for themselves. The fight has been so hot that the scars will not likely disappear for some time, and the fact remains that the only hard fought contest of the extra session thus far has been in the Senate, and that the House Democrats have kept the lid on their differences, that was not possible in the Senate. Republicans have gotten a lot of satisfaction out of this Democratic row. They have been able to switch conversation about Republican insurgents off to conversation about Conservative Democrats and progressive Democrats. The opportunity has been a soothing one in Republican quarters. Misery loves company. The head men of a political party are always annoyed when there is evident lack of discipline in case the Democrats are a thorn in the flesh. People outside of Washington have

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