THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

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TUESDAY.....MARCH 15, 1887.

Wolseley on Lee.

We republish this morning from *Macmillan's Magazine* for March the text of General Viscount WOLSELEY's article on General ROBERT EDWARD LEE. Extracts from the article were cabled to this country as soon as it appeared in England, and many of our northern contemporaries not only indulged in very harsh criticism of the article, but took occasion to sneer at General WOLSELEY as a soldier. Any fair-minded man who reads the article must admit that it gives no occasion for the indignation and fumings of our northern friends. Certainly it contains nothing in the way of comparison between General LEE and northern generals, or in the way of positive criticism of northern generals, that is more outspoken than some of the things that were said by northern soldiers in the course of lectures on the war delivered in Boston last year. As to sneers at General WOLSELEY as a military man, he can stand them. The article is one of value, and will be read with intense interest in the South. It is the plain, straightforward tribute of one great captain to another. Northern prejudice and the petty jealousy of a little English military coterie to the contrary notwithstanding, no man is more competent than General WOLSELEY to form a just estimate of General LEE's character and genius. The English general is no carpet knight. He has hewn his way with his sword from the position of ensign to that he now occupies, and wherever he has led there honor has been reflected upon British arms. The Burmese war of 1852-'55, the Crimean war, the Indian campaign of 1857-'59, the Chinese war of 1860, the Red river expedition, the Ashantee war, the operations in Lower Egypt, the Nile expedition, all bear testimony that he has risen by right, and not by favoritism. This last-named expedition, though unsuccessful as far as relieving the gallant GORDON was concerned, was one of the boldest in plan and most heroic in execution of modern times. The march from Korti to Metemneh, across the Bahiuda desert, has for endurance and desperate fighting few parallels. It is the man who is crowned with the lustre of such achievements that says ROBERT EDWARD LEE was the greatest soldier of his age, was cast in a grander mould, and made of different and of finer metal than all other men, and was one of the only two true heroes he had ever met. General WOLSELEY's reflections as to the lack of discipline in the Confederate army and what a corps of regulars could have accomplished for either section, his criticism of General LEE's strict obedience to the civil authorities, and his remarks regarding subordinates, were to be expected from a man trained in the school of the English soldier—expected particularly from WOLSELEY. Indeed, in this last-mentioned animadversion he naturally, and perhaps unconsciously, enters a defence of himself, seeing that the fight made on the "WOLSELEY gang" in England is due to the fact that he has always grouped the best soldiers on his personal staff. We repeat that the article is one of value. Nay, more; we believe that General WOLSELEY's estimate of LEE only foreshadows what will be in due time the estimate of impartial history.

The Deal—A Baltimore View.

There are opinions and opinions as to how such a "deal" as that which last week occupied so much of the time and talk of the commercial world would affect the interests of this city. The following is a Baltimore opinion:

"We have held, as long as the Baltimore and Ohio depended solely upon its western traffic, it was a decided disadvantage to the business interests of our city that the terminus of the road should be at New York. We now believe that the proposed connection with the Richmond Terminal system of roads stones for any disadvantage which the extension of the road to New York may have involved. So far as we can judge from the information vouchsafed, we do not hesitate to say that the proposed transfer of the management of the Baltimore and Ohio Company to a syndicate which controls the southern trade will prove a great advantage to the business interests of Baltimore. Baltimore is the natural market for southern produce. This trade, which we formerly possessed, has been diverted from us by the Richmond and Danville Company to Richmond, West Point, Norfolk, and the southern seaboard cities. A close connection between the Baltimore and Ohio and the Terminal system will restore to Baltimore our lost opportunities, and it remains with our merchants to secure and hold this trade by energy and activity. Under the provisions of the inter-State commerce bill there can be no discrimination against us in favor of New York, and as we have the advantage in point of distance and can offer every inducement in selling and buying goods, Baltimore must be immensely benefited by a direct all-rail southern connection."

So say Messrs. JOHN A. HAMBLETON & Co. in their last week's circular. But if the inter-State commerce bill will protect Baltimore against discrimination in favor of New York it will protect Richmond against discrimination in favor of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. How, then, could the "transfer of the management of the Baltimore and Ohio Company to a syndicate controlling the southern trade" prove a great advantage to Baltimore as against Richmond?

The Inter-State Commerce Bill.

We have received the following note:

CRYSTAL HILL, HALIFAX COUNTY, VA., March 11, 1887.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly state in your excellent paper what are the requirements of the "inter-State commerce bill" recently passed by Congress, and to what extent will it affect freight and passenger rates on railroads? and oblige

A CONSTANT READER.

The inter-State commerce bill is thirty pages long. It would occupy a good many columns of the *Dispatch* if we should print it. "A Constant Reader" must get a copy of the law and read it for himself. However, we will quote one of the most important features of the bill, and one which qualifies all the other provisions. It is as follows:

"*Provided, however*, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to the transportation of passengers or property, or to the receiving, delivering, storage, or handling of property, wholly within one State, and not shipped to or from a foreign country from or to any State or Territory as aforesaid."—*Section 1, lines 19 to 24.*

Our correspondent will see from the above that the provisions of the inter-State commerce act do not prohibit the Virginia railroad companies from shipping free passengers or freight taking the road in the State and leaving the road in the State.

In addition to confining the operation of the law to railroads engaged in inter-State commerce and in carrying passengers from one State to another, the 22d section provides as follows:

"Nothing in this act shall apply to the carriage, storage, or handling of property free or at reduced rates for the United States, State, or municipal governments, or for charitable purposes, or to or from fairs and expositions, for exhibition thereat, or the issuance of mileage, excursion, or commutation passenger tickets; nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any common carrier from giving reduced rates to ministers of religion," &c., &c.

The same section allows railroads to give passes to their own employés and to exchange passes with other roads.

We quote the above provision because some persons have supposed that excursion trains, free tickets, and all that sort of thing, had been legislated out of existence. The law, we repeat, does not apply to trains which do not run out of the State, and even those which do run into another State may be full of favored passengers. The common carriers may fix their "reduced rates" to suit themselves.

General Mahone's Position.

Messrs. JOHN A. HAMBLETON & Co. follow in the footsteps of a good many other persons, and repeat in their last circular what General MAHONE was reported to have said about the State debt, as if that utterance showed that he had changed his position on the subject. So far was he from doing this that he expressed his belief that it would be an easy task to convince the bondholders' agents themselves what the real amount of the debt was. We all know what General MAHONE considers that "real amount" to be. His Richmond organ published over and over again what it claimed to be the true amount of Virginia's "just indebtedness." Now, it was this "just indebtedness" that General MAHONE was reported to have said that he would never consent to "repudiate."

Our Baltimore broker-friends, therefore, need not attempt to frighten the Democrats of Virginia into new debt legislation by threatening them with what General MAHONE intends to do in this behalf. Whatever our legislators may do will be done "of their own free will and accord." They will let General MAHONE "gang his ain gait."

The Washington correspondent of the Alexandria *Gazette* writes to that paper that a meeting of the State Central Committee of the Democratic party of Virginia will be held at Richmond on the 24th instant, during the extra session of the Legislature of this State, to determine definitely whether a State Convention of the party shall be held, and if so, to fix the date thereof.

RICHMOND, VA., March 12, 1887.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I have paid in cash one hundred dollars for a commercial traveller's State license. Can I get back the money or any part of it for the unexpired time under the decision of the United States Court?

Yours truly, ARTHUR ROONEY.

We suppose not. The State of Virginia cannot be sued. Besides, the Virginia law has not been declared unconstitutional in any case which arose in this State. It is for the Legislature to decide whether or not any portion of your money shall be refunded.

Messrs. WEST, JOHNSTON & Co. sent to us yesterday, directly after our own copies had come to hand, a copy of *Macmillan* containing the article we print this morning concerning General LEE. It was promptly and kindly done, but the *Dispatch* was "a leetle ahead."

BRIEF COMMENT.

Judging from the amount of butterine said to be offering all over the country the axle-grease business must be dull.

"JAY GOULD is out of speculation, according to his story as told to a reporter." The lambs would better fight shy of Wall street.

A childlike smile illumines the countenance of JAMES G. BLAINE as he watches the SHERMAN boom shrivel beneath the southern sun.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: "During his eight years of service as President THOMAS JEFFERSON never vetoed a measure enacted by Congress." But TOM didn't have Republican boodlers and demagogues to deal with.

It is a common thing to say of a prominent man when he dies that he was good to the reporters. It seems to be forgotten that a great many prominent men owe their prominence to the fact that reporters have been good to them.

New Books.

The Wisdom of the Ancients and New Atlantis. By FRANCIS BACON. New York: CASSELL & CO. 1887. Price in paper 10 cents.

For sale by RANDOLPH & ENGLISH.

Edward Gibbon. By JAMES COTTER MORISON. New York: HARPER & BROTHERS. 1887. Price in paper 25 cents.

This is one of HARPER's series of *English Men of Letters*, edited by JOHN MORLEY.

For sale by RANDOLPH & ENGLISH, who have sent us also *Tid-Bits* for six months—from August, 1886, to January, 1887. Price 25 cents.

Mr. Davis Will Not Visit Washington.

[Washington letter to Baltimore Sun.]

It has been widely published that Mr. Jefferson Davis would accompany one of the southern militia companies to Washington on the occasion of the national drill here in May. Ill-natured comments have been made in consequence, although there seems no reason why if Mr. Davis wishes to come to Washington he should not have the same privilege as any one else. But those timid patriots who would see a menace to the liberties of the republic in the presence of Mr. Davis in Washington may calm their fears on reading the following extract from a letter written by him to a friend here:

"I have been invited to go to Washington as the guest of the rifle company of Vicksburg, which I appreciate very much, but I have not thought of going. I never expect to see Washington again. It has been a great many years since I was there, and the country has undergone many changes. It would be pleasant to view the scenes in and about Washington which were once so familiar to me, though I doubt if I would hardly recognize the city now, as it has so improved and grown into a magnificent city. No, I shall never again see Washington. I'm getting too old to travel."

A Man of Nerve.

A Wheeling (W. Va.) telegram says: This afternoon Dan. Conners, a brakeman on the Pan-Handle railroad, while riding on top of a freight car was struck by the channel span of the bridge crossing the Ohio river near Steubenville, and knocked under the wheels. After the train passed he fell from the bridge into the river, a distance of eighty feet, and swam nearly 200 yards before he was rescued. When taken from the water it was discovered that one leg was so badly crushed that it had to be amputated. His recovery is doubtful.

The Western Settler's Chosen Specific.

With every advance of emigration into the far West a new demand is created for Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Newly peopled regions are frequently less salubrious than older settled localities, on account of the miasma which rises from recently cleared land, particularly along the banks of rivers that are subject to freshets. The agricultural or mining emigrant soon learns, when he does not already know, that the Bitters afford the only sure protection against malaria and those disorders of the stomach, liver, and bowels to which climate changes, exposure, and unaccustomed or unhealthy water or diet subject him. Consequently he places an estimate upon this great household specific and preventive commensurate with its intrinsic merits, and is careful to keep on hand a restorative and promoter of health so implicitly to be relied upon in time of need. mh 10-Tu(e)Sa&Tu

WOLSELEY ON LEE

A British Soldier's Estimate of the Confederate Chieftain.

A HERO'S TRIBUTE TO A HERO.

General Lee's Personal Qualities and Military Genius.

THE GREATEST SOLDIER OF HIS AGE.

What He Had to Contend With—The Place He Should Occupy in History.

The following is the text of General Viscount Wolseley's article on General Lee which appears in the March No. of *Macmillan's Magazine:*

The history of the war between the northern and southern States of North America is yet to be written. General Long's work on the great Confederate general is a contribution towards the history of that grand but unsuccessful struggle by the seceding States to shake off all political connection with the Union Government. It will be read with interest as coming from the pen of one who was Lee's military secretary, and its straightforward, soldier-like style will commend it to all readers. It is not my intention to enter upon any narrative of the events which led to that fratricidal war. The unprejudiced outsider will generally admit the sovereign right, both historical and legal, which each State possessed under the Constitution, to leave the Union when its people thought fit to do so. At the same time, of Englishmen who believe that "union is strength," and who are themselves determined that no dismemberment of their own empire shall be allowed, few will find fault with the men of the North for their manly determination, come what might, to resist every effort of their brothers of the South to break up the Union. It was but natural that all Americans should be proud of the empire which the military genius of General Washington had created, despite the efforts of England to retain her colonies.

It is my wish to give a short outline of General Lee's life, and to describe him as I saw him in the autumn of 1862, when at the head of proud and victorious troops he smiled at the notion of defeat by any army that could be sent against him. I desire to make known to the reader not only the renowned soldier, whom I believe to have been the greatest of his age, but to give some insight into the character of one whom I have always considered the most perfect man I ever met. Twenty-one years have passed since the great Secession war ended, but even still angry remembrances of it prevent Americans from taking an impartial view of the contest, and of those who were the leaders in it. Outsiders can best weigh and determine the merits of the chief actors on both sides; but if in this attempt to estimate General Lee's character I offend any one by the outspoken expression of my opinions, I hope I may be forgiven. On one side I can see, in the dogged determination of the North, persevered in to the end through years of recurring failure, the spirit for which the men of Britain have always been remarkable. It is a virtue to which the United States owed its birth in the last century, and its preservation in 1865. It is the quality to which the Anglo-Saxon race is most indebted for its great position in the world. On the other hand I can recognize the chivalrous valor of those gallant men whom Lee led to victory—who fought not only for fatherland and in defence of home, but for those rights most prized by free men. Washington's stalwart soldiers were styled rebels by our King and his ministers, and in like manner the men who wore the gray uniform of the Southern Confederacy were denounced as rebels from the banks of the Potomac to the head waters of the St. Lawrence. Lee's soldiers, well versed as all Americans are in the history of their forefathers' struggle against King George the Third, and believing firmly in the justice of their cause, saw the same virtue in one rebellion that was to be found in the other. This was a point upon which, during my stay in Virginia in 1862, I found every southerner laid the greatest stress. It is a feeling that as yet has not been fully acknowledged by writers on the northern side.

"Rebellion, foul dishonoring word,
Whose wrongful blight so oft hath stained
The holiest cause that tongue or sword
Of mortal ever lost or gained.
How many a spirit born to bless
Hath sunk beneath thy withering name,
Whom but a day's, an hour's success,
Had wafted to eternal fame."

TWO FIGURES.

As a looker-on I feel that both parties in the war have so much to be proud of that both can afford to hear what impartial Englishmen or foreigners have to say about it. Inflated and bubble reputations were acquired during its progress, few of which will bear the test of time. The idol momentarily set up, often for political reasons, crumbles in time into the dust from which its limbs were perhaps originally moulded. To me, however, two figures stand out in that history towering above all others, both cast in hard metal that will be forever proof against the belittling efforts of all future detractors. One, General Lee, the great soldier; the other, Mr. Lincoln, the far-seeing statesman of iron will, of undinching determination. Each is a good representative of the genius that characterized his country. As I study the history of the Secession war, these seem to me the two men who influenced it most, and who will be recognized as its greatest heroes when future generations of American historians record its stirring events with impartiality.

General Lee came from the class of landed gentry that has furnished England at all times with her most able and distinguished leaders. The first of his family who went to America was Richard Lee, who in 1641 became Colonial Secretary to the Governor of Virginia. The family settled in Westmoreland, one of the most lovely counties in that historic State, and members of it from time to time held high positions in the Government. Several of the family distinguished themselves during the War of Independence, amongst whom was Henry, the father of General Robert Lee. He raised a mounted corps known as "Lee's Legion," in command of which he obtained the reputation of being an able and gallant soldier. He was nicknamed by his comrades "Light-Horse Harry." He was three times Governor of his native State. To him is attributed the authorship of the eulogy on General Washington, in which occurs the so-often-quoted sentence: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," praise that with equal truth might have been subsequently applied to his own distinguished son.

BOYHOOD.

The subject of this slight sketch, Robert Edward Lee, was born January 9, 1807, at the family place of Stratford, in the county of Westmoreland, State of Virginia. When only a few years old his parents moved to the small town of Alexandria, which is on the right bank of the Potomac river nearly opposite Washington, but a little below it.

He was but a boy of eleven when his father died, leaving his family in straightened circumstances. Like many other great commanders he was in consequence brought up in comparative poverty, a condition which has been pronounced by the greatest of them as the best training for soldiers. During his early years he attended a day school near his home in Alexandria. He was thus able in his leisure hours to help his invalid mother in all her household concerns, and to afford her that watchful care which, owing to her very delicate health, she so much needed. She was a clever, highly-gifted woman, and by her fond care his character was formed and stamped with honest truthfulness. By her he was taught never to forget that he was well-born, and that, as a gentleman, honor must be his guiding-star through life. It was from her lips he learnt his Bible, from her teaching he drank in the sincere belief in revealed religion which he never lost. It was she who imbued her great son with an ineradicable belief in the efficacy of prayer, and in the reality of God's interposition in the every-day affairs of the true believer. No son ever returned a mother's love with more heartfelt intensity. She was his idol, and he worshipped her with the deep-seated, inborn love which is known only to the son in whom filial affection is strengthened by respect and personal admiration for the woman who bore him. He was her all in all, or, as she described it, he was both son and daughter to her. He watched over her in weary hours of pain, and served her with all that soft tenderness which was such a marked trait in the character of this great stern leader of men.

A MODEL YOUTH.

He seems to have been throughout his boyhood and early youth perfect in disposition, in bearing, and in conduct—a model of all that was noble, honorable, and manly. Of the early life of very few great men can this be said. Many who have left behind the greatest reputations for usefulness, in whom middle age was a model of virtue and perhaps of noble self-denial, began their career in a whirlwind of wild excess. Often again we find that, like Nero, the virtuous youth develops into the middle-aged fiend, who leaves behind him a name to be execrated for all time. It would be difficult to find in history a great man, be he soldier or statesman, with a character so irreproachable throughout his whole life as that which in boyhood, youth, manhood, and to his death, distinguished Robert Lee from all contemporaries.

He entered the Military Academy of West Point at the age of eighteen, where he worked hard, became adjutant of the cadet corps, and finally graduated at the head of his class. There he mastered the theory of war, and studied the campaigns of the great masters in that most ancient of all sciences. Whatever he did, even as a boy, he did thoroughly, with order and method. Even at this early age he was the model Christian gentleman in thought, word, and deed. Careful and exact in the obedience he rendered his superiors, but remarkable for that dignity of deportment which all through his career struck strangers with admiring respect.

MARRIAGE.

He left West Point when twenty-two, having gained its highest honors, and at once obtained a commission in the engineers. Two years afterwards he married the granddaughter and heiress of Mrs. Custis, whose second husband had been General Washington, but by whom she left no children. It was a great match for a poor subaltern officer, as his wife was heiress to a very extensive property and to a large number of slaves. She was clever, very well educated, and a general favorite; he was handsome, tall, well made, with a graceful figure, and a good rider; his manners were at once easy and captivating. These young people had long known one another, and each was the other's first love. She brought with her as part of her fortune General Washington's beautiful property of Arlington, situated on the picturesque wooded heights that overhang the Potomac river, opposite the capital to which the great Washington had given his name. In talking to me of the northern troops, whose conduct in Virginia was then denounced by every local paper, no bitter expression passed his lips, but tears filled his eyes as he referred to the destruction of his place that had been the cherished home of the father of the United States. He could forgive their cutting down his trees, their wanton conversion of his pleasure-grounds into a grave-yard; but he could never forget their reckless plunder of all the camp equipment and other relics of General Washington that Arlington House had contained.

Robert Lee first saw active service during the American war with Mexico in 1846, where he was wounded, and evinced a remarkable talent for war that brought himself prominently into notice. He was afterwards engaged in operations against hostile Indians, and obtained the reputation in his army of being an able officer of great promise. General Scott, then the general of greatest repute in the United States, was especially attracted by the zeal and soldierly instinct of the young captain of engineers, and frequently employed him on distant expeditions that required cool nerve, confidence, and plenty of common-sense. It is a curious fact that throughout the Mexican war General Scott, in his dispatches and reports, made frequent mention of three officers—Lee, Beauregard, and McClellan—whose names became household words in America afterwards, during the great southern struggle for independence. General Scott had the highest opinion of Lee's military genius, and did not hesitate to ascribe much of his success in Mexico as due to Lee's "skill, valor, and undaunted energy." Indeed, subsequently, when the day came that these two men should part, each to take a different side in the horrible contest before them, General Scott is said to have urged Mr. Lincoln's Government to secure Lee at any price, alleging he "would be worth fifty thousand men to them." His valuable services were duly recognized at Washington by more than one step of brevet promotion. He obtained the rank of colonel and was given command of a cavalry regiment shortly afterwards.

I must now pass to the most important epoch of his life, when the southern States left the Union and set up a government of their own. Mr. Lincoln was in 1860 elected President of the United States in the Abolitionist interest. Both parties were so angry that thoughtful men soon began to see war alone could end this bitter dispute. Shipwreck was before the vessel of State which General Washington had built and guided with so much care during his long and hard-fought contest. Civil war stared the American citizen in the face, and Lee's heart was well nigh broken at the prospect. Early in 1861 the seven cotton States passed acts declaring their withdrawal from the Union, and their establishment of an independent republic, under the title of "The Confederate States of America." This declaration of independence was in reality a revolution—war alone could ever again bring all the States together.

VIEWS OF SECESSION.

Lee viewed this secession with horror. Until the month of April, when Virginia, his own dearly-cherished State, joined the Confederacy, he clung fondly to the hope that the gulf which separated the North from the South might yet be bridged over. He believed the dissolution of the Union to be a dire calamity not only for his own country, but for civilization and all mankind. "Still," he said, "a Union that can only be maintained by swords and bayonets, and in which strife and civil war are to take the place of brotherly love and kindness, has no charm for me." In common with all southerners he firmly believed that each of the old States had a legal and indisputable right by its individual constitution, and by its act of union, to leave at will the great union into which each had separately entered as a sovereign State. This was with him an article of faith of which he was as sure as of any divine truths he found in the Bible. This fact must be kept always in mind by those who would rightly understand his character, or the course he pursued in 1861. He loved the Union for which his father and family in the previous century had fought so hard and done so much. But he loved his own state still more. She was the sovereign to whom in the first place he owed allegiance, and whose orders, as expressed through her legally constituted government, he was, he felt, bound in law, in honor, and in love to obey without doubt or hesitation. This belief was the mainspring that kept the Southern Confederacy going, as it was also the corner-stone of its constitution.

SUMTER.

In April, 1861, at Fort Sumter, Charleston harbor, the first shot was fired in a war that was only ended in April, 1865, by the surrender of General Lee's army at Appomattox Courthouse, in Virginia. In duration, it is the longest war waged since the great Napoleon's power was finally crushed at Waterloo. As the heroic struggle of a small population that was cut off from all outside help against a great, populous, and very rich republic, with every market in the world open to it, and to whom all Europe was a recruiting-ground, this secession war stands out prominently in the history of the world. When the vast numbers of men put into the field by the northern States, and the scale upon which their operations were carried on, are duly considered, it must be regarded as a war fully equal in magnitude to the successful invasion of France by Germany in 1870. If the mind be allowed to speculate on the course that events will take in centuries to come, as they flow surely on with varying swiftness to the ocean of the unknown future, the influence which the result of this Confederate war is bound to exercise upon man's future history will seem very great. Think of what a power the re-United States will be in another century! Of what it will be in the twenty-first century of the Christian era! If, as many believe, China is destined to absorb all Asia and then to overrun Europe, may it not be in the possible future that Armageddon, the final contest between heathendom and Christianity, may be fought out between China and North America? Had secession been victorious, it is tolerably certain that the United States would have broken up still further, and instead of the present magnificent and English-speaking empire, we should now see in its place a number of small powers with separate interests.

SLAVERY.

Most certainly it was the existence of slavery in the South that gave rise to the bitter antagonism of feeling which led to secession. But it was not to secure emancipation that the North took up arms, although during the progress of the war Mr. Lincoln proclaimed it, for the purpose of striking his enemy a serious blow. Lee hated slavery, but, as he explained to me, he thought it wicked to give freedom suddenly to some millions of people who were incapable of using it with profit to themselves or the State. He assured me he had long intended to gradually give his slaves their liberty. He believed the institution to be a moral and political evil, and more hurtful to the white than to the black man. He had a strong affection for the negro, but he deprecated any sudden or violent interference on the part of the State between master and slave. Nothing would have induced him to fight for the continuance of slavery: indeed he declared that had he owned every slave in the South, he would willingly give them all up if by so doing he could preserve the Union. He was opposed to secession, and to prevent it he would willingly sacrifice everything except honor and duty, which forbid him to desert his State. When in April, 1861, she formally and by an act of her Legislature left the Union, he resigned his commission in the United States army with the intention of retiring into private life. He endeavored to choose what was right. Every personal interest bid him throw in his lot with the Union. His property lay so close to Washington that it was certain to be destroyed and swept of every slave, as belonging to a rebel. But the die was cast: he forsook everything for principle and the stern duty it entailed. Then came that final temptation which opened out before him a vista of power and importance greater than that which any man since Washington had held in America. General Long's book proves beyond all further doubt that he was offered the post of commander-in-chief of the Federal army. General Scott, his great friend and leader, whom he loved and respected, then commanding that army, used all his influence to persuade him to throw in his lot with the North, but to no purpose. Nothing would induce him to have any part in the invasion of his own State, much as he abhorred the war into which he felt she was rushing. His love of country, his unselfish patriotism, caused him to relinquish home, fortune, a certain future, in fact everything, for her sake.

ACCEPTING COMMANDER-IN-CHIEFSHIP.

He was not, however, to remain a spectator of the coming conflict; he was too well known to his countrymen in Virginia as the officer in whom the Federal army had the most confidence. The State of Virginia appointed him major-general and commander-in-chief of all her military forces. In open and crowded convention he formally accepted that position, saying, with all that dignity and grace of manner which distinguished him, that he did so "trusting in Almighty God, an approving conscience, and the aid of my fellow-citizens." The scene was most impressive; there were present all the leading men of Virginia and representatives of all the first families in a State where great store was attached to gentle birth, and where society was very exclusive. General Lee's presence commanded respect, even from strangers, by a calm, self-possessed dignity, the like of which I have never seen in other men. Naturally of strong passions, he kept them under perfect control by that iron and determined will of which his expression and his face gave evidence. As this tall, handsome soldier stood before his countrymen he was the picture of the ideal patriot, unconscious and self-possessed in his strength. He indulged in no theatrical display of feeling. There was in his face and about him that placid resolve which bespoke great confidence in self, and which in his case—one knows not how—quickly communicated its magnetic influence to others. He was then just fifty-four years old, the age of Marlborough when he destroyed the French army at Blenheim: in many ways and on many points these two great men much resembled each other. Both were of dignified and commanding exterior: eminently handsome, with a figure tall, graceful, and erect, whilst a muscular, square-built frame bespoke great activity of body. The charm of manner, which I have mentioned as very winning in Lee, was possessed in the highest degree by Marlborough. Both, at the outset of their great career of victory, were regarded as essentially national commanders. Both had married young, and were faithful husbands and devoted fathers. Both had in all their campaigns the same belief in an ever-watchful Providence, in whose help they trusted implicitly, and for whose interposition they prayed at all times. They were gifted with the same military instinct, the same genius for war. The power of fascinating those with whom they were associated, the spell which they cast over their soldiers, who believed almost superstitiously in their certainty of victory, their contempt of danger, their daring courage, constitute a parallel that is difficult to equal between any other two great men of modern times.

ANTICIPATED A LONG STRUGGLE.

From the first Lee anticipated a long and bloody struggle, although from the bombastic oratory of self-elected politicians and patriots the people were led to believe that the whole business would be settled in a few weeks. This folly led to a serious evil—namely, the enlistment of soldiers for only ninety days. Lee, who understood war, pleaded in favor of the engagement being for the term of the war, but he pleaded in vain. To add to his military difficulties, the politicians insisted upon the officers being elected by their men. This was a point which, in describing to me the constitution of his army, Lee most deplored. When war bursts upon a country unused to that ordeal, and therefore unskilled in preparing for it, the frothy babbling of politicians too often forces the nation into silly measures to its serious injury during the ensuing operations. That no great military success can be achieved quickly by an improvised army is a lesson that of all others is made most clear by the narrative of this war on both sides. All through its earlier phases the press, both northern and southern, called loudly, and oftentimes angrily, for quick results. It is this impatience of the people, which the press is able to emphasize so strongly, that drives many weak generals into immature action. Lee as well as others at this time had to submit to the sneers which foolish men circulated widely in the daily newspapers. It is quite certain that under the existing condition of things no Fabius would be tolerated, and that the far-seeing military policy which triumphed at Torres Vedras would not be submitted to by the English public of to-day. Lee was not, however, a man whom any amount of irresponsible writing could force beyond the pace he knew to be most conducive to ultimate success.

ORGANIZING THE ARMY.

The formation of an army with the means alone at his disposal was a colossal task. Everything had to be created by this extraordinary man. The South was an agricultural, not a manufacturing country, and the resources of foreign lands were denied it by the blockade of its ports maintained by the fleet of the United States. Lee was a thorough man of business, quick in decision, yet methodical in all he did. He knew what he wanted. He knew what an army should be, and how it should be organized, both in a purely military as well as an administrative sense. In about two months he had created a little army of fifty thousand men, animated by a lofty patriotism and courage that made them unconquerable by any similarly-constituted army. In another month this army at Bull Run gained a complete victory over the northern invaders, who were driven back across the Potomac like herds of frightened sheep. As the Federals ran they threw away their arms, and everything—guns, tents, wagons, &c.—was abandoned to the victors. The arms, ammunition, and equipment then taken were real godsends to those engaged in the organization of the southern armies. Thenceforward a battle to the Confederates meant a new supply of everything an army required. It may be truthfully said that practically the Government at Washington had to provide and pay for the arms and equipment of its enemies as well as for all that its own enormous armies required. The day I presented myself in General Lee's camp, as I stood at the door of his tent awaiting admission, I was amused to find it stamped as belonging to a colonel of a New Jersey regiment. I remarked upon this to General Lee, who laughingly said, "Yes, I think you will find that all our tents, guns, and even the men's pouches are similarly marked as having belonged to the United States army." Some time afterwards when General Pope and his brave invading army had been sent back flying across the Maryland frontier I overheard this conversation between two Confederate soldiers: "Have you heard the news? Lee has resigned!" "Good G—!" was the reply, "What for?" "He has resigned because he says he cannot feed and supply his army any longer, now that his commissary, General Pope, has been removed." Mr. Lincoln had just dismissed General Pope, replacing him by General McClellan.

BULL RUN.

The Confederates did not follow up their victory at Bull Run. A rapid and daring advance would have given them possession of Washington—their enemy's capital. Political considerations at Richmond were allowed to outweigh the very evident military expediency of reaping a solid advantage from this their first great success. Often afterwards, when this attempt to allay the angry feelings of the North against the act of secession had entirely failed, was this action of their political rulers lamented by the Confederate commanders.

In this article to attempt even a sketch of the subsequent military operations is not to be thought of. Both sides fought well, and both have such true reason to be proud of their achievements that they can now afford to bear the professional criticisms of their English friends in the same spirit that we Britishers have learnt to read of the many defeats inflicted upon our arms by General Washington.

SUBORDINATES.

What most strikes the regular soldier in these campaigns of General Lee is the inefficient manner in which both he and his opponents were often served by their subordinate commanders, and how badly the staff and outpost work generally was performed on both sides. It is most difficult to move with an effective precision young armies constituted as these were during this war. The direction and movement of large bodies of newly-raised troops, even when victorious, is never easy, is often impossible. Over and over again was the South apparently "within a stone's throw of independence," as it has been many times remarked, when, from want of a thoroughly good staff to organize pursuit, the occasion was lost, and the enemy allowed to escape. Lee's combinations to secure victory were the conception of a truly great strategist, and, when they had been effected, his tactics were also almost always everything that could be desired up to the moment of victory, but there his action seemed to stop abruptly. Was ever an army so hopelessly at the mercy of another as that of McClellan when he began his retreat to Harrison's Landing after the seven days' fighting round Richmond? What commander could wish to have his foe in a "tighter place" than Burnside was in after his disastrous attack upon Lee at Fredericksburg? Yet in both instances the northern commander got safely away, and other similar instances could be mentioned. The critical military student of this war who knows the power which regular troops, well officered and well directed by a thoroughly efficient staff, place in the hands of an able general, and who has acquired an intimate and complete knowledge of what these two contending American armies were really like, will, I think, agree that from first to last the coöperation of even one army corps of regular troops would have given complete victory to whichever side it fought on. I felt this when I visited the South, and during the progress of the war I heard the same opinion expressed by many others who had inspected the contending armies. I say this with no wish to detract in any way from the courage or other fighting qualities of the troops engaged. I yield to none in my admiration of their warlike achievements; but I cannot blind myself to the hyperbole of writers who refer to these armies as the finest that have ever existed

NO BITTER FEELING.

Those who know how difficult it is to supply our own militia and volunteer forces with efficient officers can appreciate what difficulties General Lee had to overcome in the formation of the army he so often led to victory. He had about him able assistants, who, like himself, had received an excellent military education at West Point. To the experienced soldier it is no matter of surprise, but to the general reader it will be of interest to know that, on either side in this war, almost every general whose name will be remembered in the future had been educated at that military school, and had been trained in the old regular army of the United States. In talking to me of all the Federal generals Lee mentioned McClellan with most respect and regard. He spoke bitterly of none—a remarkable fact, as at that time men on both sides were wont to heap the most violent terms of abuse upon their respective enemies. He thus reproved a clergyman who had spoken in his sermon very bitterly of their enemies: "I have fought against the people of the North because I believed they were seeking to wrest from the South her dearest rights, but I have never cherished towards them bitter or vindictive feelings, and I have never seen the day when I did not pray for them." I asked him how many men he had at the battle of Antietam, from which he had then recently returned. He said he had never had, during that whole day, more than about 30,000 men in line, although he had behind him a small army of tired troops and of shoeless stragglers who never came up during the battle. He estimated McClellan's army at about 100,000 men. A friend of mine, who at that same time was at the Federal headquarters, there made similar inquiries. General McClellan's reply corroborated the correctness of Lee's estimate of the Federal numbers at Antietam, but he said he thought the Confederate army was a little stronger than that under his command. I mention this because both these generals were most truthful men, and whatever they stated can be implicitly relied on. I also refer to it because the usual proportion throughout the war between the contending sides in each action ranged from about twice to three times more Federals than there were Confederates engaged. With reference to the relative numbers employed on both sides, the following amusing story was told to me at the time. A deputation from some of the New England States had attended at the White House and laid their business before the President. As they were leaving Mr. Lincoln's room one of the delegates turned round and said: "Mr. President, I should very much like to know what you reckon to be the number of rebels in arms against us." Mr. Lincoln, without a moment's hesitation, replied: "Sir, I have the best possible reason for knowing the number to be one million of men, for whenever one of our generals engages a rebel army he reports that he has encountered a force twice his strength; now, I know we have half a million of soldiers in the field, so I am bound to believe the rebels have twice that number."

As a student of war I would fain linger over the interesting lessons to be learned from Lee's campaigns; of the same race as both belligerents, I could with the utmost pleasure dwell upon the many brilliant feats of arms on both sides; but I cannot do so here.

THE END.

The end came at last, when the well-supplied North, rich enough to pay recruits, no matter where they came from, a bounty of over five hundred dollars a head, triumphed over an exhausted South, hemmed in on all sides, and even cut off from all communication with the outside world. The desperate though drawn battle of Gettysburg was the death-knell of southern independence; and General Sherman's splendid but almost unopposed march to the sea showed the world that all further resistance on the part of the Confederate States could only be a profitless waste of blood. In the thirty-five days of fighting near Richmond which ended the war of 1865, General Grant's army numbered one hundred and ninety thousand, that of Lee only fifty-one thousand men. Every man lost by the former was easily replaced, but an exhausted South could find no more soldiers. "The right of self-government," which Washington won, and for which Lee fought, was no longer to be a watchword to stir men's blood in the United States. The South was humbled and beaten by its own flesh and blood in the North, and it is difficult to know which to admire most, the good sense with which the result was accepted in the so-called Confederate States, or the wise magnanimity displayed by the victors. The wounds are now healed on both sides: northerners and southerners are now once more a united people, with a future before them to which no other nation can aspire. If the English-speaking people of the earth cannot all acknowledge the same sovereign, they can, and I am sure they will, at least combine to work in the interests of truth and of peace, for the good of mankind. The wise men on both sides of the Atlantic will take care to chase away all passing clouds that may at any time throw a shadow of dispute or discord between the two great families into which our race is divided.

SOFTNESS OF HEART.

Like all men Lee had his faults; like all the greatest of generals he sometimes made mistakes. His nature shrank with such horror from the dread of wounding the feelings of others, that upon occasions he left men in positions of responsibility to which