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HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR.

CHAPTER I.

Causes which led to the war.—The Presidential election of 1860.
Secession of slave States.

THE success of the Republican party, in the presidential election of 1860, organized to fight the extension of slavery into newly-formed States and Territories, was the culmination of a long quarrel between the Southern States, where slavery was a "peculiar institution," and the Northern States, where, slavery having long before been given up, a sentiment hostile to it in other sections had been steadily growing for two or three generations.

The election of Lincoln as President, in November, was the determining circumstance which led to the civil war that soon followed. Differences of opinion as to the power to regulate the domestic affairs of the States and Territories was the political issue involved; the protection and development of the institution on which the prosperity of the South almost exclusively depended—negro slavery—was the material interest really at stake.

Congress was the scene in which the controversy was principally waged. Orators like Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison raised their voices against slavery in the rostrum; newspapers published earnest articles on the same subject; books were written to picture the operations of the system, one of them being Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Dickens, the English novelist, added his satire to the agitation by his "American Notes." But the vehicle for the feeling thus aroused was the Federal Legislature. Hither nu-

merously-signed petitions came from the North, asking for the abolition of slavery; and hither came verbal and written protests from the South against interference with what was considered a local matter purely, and an invasion of State rights. Congress itself was a battlefield as early as 1820.

When Missouri was admitted to the Union, a protracted discussion was had, which resulted, in allowing that State to have slaves but prohibiting the institution in new States and Territories north of latitude $36^{\circ} 30'$, or west thereof. Arkansas, which came in later, gave the slave power still greater political influence in the national councils. This was increased further in 1845 by the admission of Texas, which had seceded from Mexico; and a prospect was afforded of more slave States to be erected out of Mexican territory, taken in the war which followed, and extending up north into what is now Colorado. California, also annexed by this war, was admitted as a free State in 1850; but only after prolonged debate, and the adoption of a law facilitating the return, to their owners, of fugitive slaves. New Mexico and Utah were erected into Territories with scarcely less contention. Oregon had been constituted a Territory in 1849 with some such discussion, too.

The fiercest struggle between the slavery and abolition parties was for the control of the region next west of Missouri and Iowa. In 1854 it was divided into Kansas and Nebraska. The Whigs and Republicans in Congress held, in this controversy, that, by the terms of the Missouri Compromise, these Territories were to exclude slavery. The Democrats, the majority of whom came from the South, insisted, on the other hand, that this understanding had been abrogated by certain laws of 1850. Finally, the principle of popular sovereignty, or home rule, expounded by Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois, was adopted regarding Kansas and Nebraska, and the people of those Territories were left free to allow or forbid slavery by their own constitutions, whenever they came into the Union.

Thereupon a race ensued between Northern and Southern settlers to fill up and control Kansas. Nebraska was not contested. For nearly six years the disputed Territory was the scene of much disorder, the colonizers

engaging in many bloody affrays. Two constitutions were adopted by different assemblies. One, framed at Lecompton, allowed slavery, but at a popular election it was voted down. Another, adopted at Wyandot in 1859, prohibited slavery; and with this, in 1861, Kansas finally came into the Union.

So determined had this struggle over slavery been that William H. Seward, as early as 1848, wanted the issue made the chief one in the presidential campaign. Several years later, in the Senate, he spoke of the controversy as an "irrepressible conflict." The more radical Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, in his unsuccessful campaign for the senatorship in 1858, declared solemnly his belief that the "Union could not permanently endure, half slave and half free."

The Southern people, irritated by what they looked upon as impertinent meddling, threatened the lives of such abolitionists as visited their cities; and sympathizers with the South made it uncomfortable for these agitators even in the North.

Two events which greatly embittered feeling between the two sections, were the assault on Senator Sumner, in the Senate chamber, and John Brown's raid into Virginia. The strife in Kansas also agitated the public mind, both at the North and South, increasing the growing animosity between the extremists of both sides, and converting to the ranks of the Republican party large numbers of Northern Democrats, among whom were many eminent men.

When Congress met for its winter session of 1859-60, the triumph of the Free State party in Kansas was already achieved, and the would-be State stood knocking at the door of the Union for admission. The Southern party, finding that the scheme of leaving the people of a State to decide this slavery question for themselves had not worked as they expected, took the position that the Federal Government was bound to protect, in the Territories, any citizens of other States who might go there with slaves, and protect them in their possession, too; in short, that no restriction upon the extension of slavery was constitutional. The foremost champion of this principle was Jefferson Davis, senator from Mississippi, who presented a series of resolutions embodying the idea,

vention met on December 17, and, three days later, adopted an ordinance of secession without dissent. This instrument formally declared the relations between that State and the others dissolved.

A delegate had been sent to Georgia, whose legislature was in session, to advise similar action. Informal but equally strenuous persuasion was exercised in other States also. Special sessions of State legislatures, governors' messages, ardent debates, popular oratory, and other like agencies, were now brought to bear in all the slave States, to secure imitation of South Carolina's example. Much objection was offered to the movement that had now set in. In Georgia, Alexander H. Stephens, a prominent Congressman, took the ground that while the State had the right to secede, it would be inexpedient for her to do so.

The Legislatures of the Southern States passed ordinances of secession from the Union in 1861, in the following order: Mississippi, January 9th; Florida, January 10th; Alabama, January 11th; Georgia, January 19th; Louisiana, January 26th; North Carolina, January 30th; Texas, February 1st; Virginia, April 17th; Arkansas, May 6th. The Legislature of North Carolina voted to submit the question to the people; but reassembling on the 20th of May, accepted it, without doing so. That of Texas voted to submit it to the people, and on March 4th that State was declared by proclamation to be out of the Union. The Legislature of Virginia refused, April 4th, to submit the question to the people; but afterwards voted to do so, and a vote for secession was cast on the 25th of June. The Legislature of Arkansas, April 14th, voted to submit it to the people, but reassembling, passed it on the 6th of May. On the 20th of May, Governor Magoffin proclaimed Kentucky neutral. The Legislature of Missouri assumed a similar position. On June 12th, the Governor of Missouri issued a proclamation for fifty thousand militia "to repel invasion," and fled to the South. The Legislature of Tennessee passed a declaration of independence, to be submitted to the people; and on the 24th of June, the governor proclaimed her out of the Union. On the 21st of June, however, a Union convention was held at Greenville, which issued a declaration of grievances.

Seven of the "Free and Independent Sovereignties," as they considered themselves, which had already left the old Union, quickly formed a new one. Their delegates met at Montgomery February 4th, and by the 8th had organized "The Confederate States of America," with Jefferson Davis of Mississippi for President, and Alexander H. Stephens of Georgia for Vice-President. Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee joined the Confederacy upon declaring themselves out of the Union. These additions to the Confederacy made eleven members in all. The other four States, Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware, either voted to remain neutral, or failed to pass an ordinance of secession; but part of their territory was debatable ground during military operations; and among their citizens were many earnest and active sympathizers with the South.

CHAPTER II.

Plans for a compromise of the difficulties.—Military events of 1861.—Congressional and Executive measures in 1861.

THE South was not allowed to go without some attempt to compromise the difficulty. Andrew Jackson treated nullification and secession as treason. He denied that the Union was a mere league from which any member might withdraw at will. He insisted that the States did surrender part of their sovereignty to the national government when they formed the Union, and that secession was not a constitutional privilege. An attempt to secede, therefore, he held to be an act of violence and a threat of ruin to the Union, to be resisted and punished. So, now, a large element in the North held that no compromise should be assented to; but that vigorous measures should be adopted, in order to bring the Southern States back to their allegiance.

The attitude of the South was well expressed in the remark of one of her statesmen: "All we want is to be let alone." But many Republicans, taking Jackson's view of secession, did not propose to let the South alone,

but to treat her as in rebellion. Others doubted the wisdom of employing force. Some, dazed by what was going on, and uninformed as to Lincoln's purposes, had no views at all. Others would have let them go in peace. Still others were for friendly overtures and pacifying persuasion. All the winter of 1860-61 Congress and the press discussed these issues, the right of secession, the right of the Federal government to coerce a State, and the expediency of concessions.

Two peace schemes were conspicuous among several under consideration. One was the Crittenden Compromise. The Senator from Kentucky, whose name it bore, introduced it. The essential idea of it was a proposed amendment to the Constitution, fixing the old Missouri compromise line, latitude 36° 30', as the division between free and slavery territory in the West, prohibiting Congress from abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State, and providing for a more effectual enforcement of the fugitive-slave law. The other project was submitted to Congress by a peace convention made up of delegates from the various States, called by Governor Wise of Virginia. This body met in February. It adopted a plan forbidding interference with slavery wherever it existed, and allowing new States to decide for themselves whether they would allow slavery, and forbidding the annexation of new territory to the United States without the consent of the South. Neither of these measures was adopted by Congress. Mr. Seward, who, as Lincoln's chief rival in the nominating convention, was looked upon as probable Secretary of State and spokesman for the incoming administration, met them with a third project—to call a national convention to consider what amendments were necessary; but this was rejected also.

Without waiting for these topics to be disposed of, the Senators and Congressmen from the eleven States which had then seceded withdrew from the National Legislature in Washington. South Carolina's senators resigned in November, 1860. Most of the withdrawals were in January following, and a few of them were prefaced by short formal speeches. Jefferson Davis was one of those to indulge in this ceremony. This reduction of the Democratic strength made it practicable to admit Kansas,

the thirty-fourth State, to the Union in February. The Morrill Tariff Act, which Southern free-traders would have antagonized, was also passed; and only the ordinary appropriations, amounting to seventy millions of dollars, were made for the coming year.

Long before the actual outbreak of the war the local State militia had taken possession of nearly every fort, arsenal, navy-yard, revenue-cutter, mint, sub-treasury, custom-house, post-office, and other Federal posts in the South. Anticipating this, Major Robert Anderson, at Fort Moultrie, in Charleston harbor, removed his little garrison of United States troops to Fort Sumter by night in December. Fortress Monroe, at Hampton Roads, Va., was also in Federal hands; Fort Pickens, near Pensacola, and works at Key West and Tortugas, Fla., also; and this was all that was saved. Some thirty forts, hundreds of cannon, and munitions valued at twenty millions of dollars, fell into Southern hands. John B. Floyd, Buchanan's Secretary of War, who afterwards became a Confederate general, was accused of stocking the forts and arsenals in the South quite fully, with the view of thus aiding the cause of secession. The way in which the navy was dispatched to foreign waters during the winter was also thought to be dictated by a desire to help the Confederacy by disabling, for a time, Lincoln's administration.

Mr. Buchanan believed that he had no authority to check secession, and pursued a passive policy, aiming, however, to preserve peace until his successor should come in. Indeed, he practically pledged himself, by a commissioner secretly sent South, to remain neutral.

The first shot fired at the Stars and Stripes in this contest, perhaps, was that aimed at the steamer *Star* of the West, sent down to Fort Sumter with provisions, in January. She left New York on the 4th, and reached Charleston harbor on the 9th. As she came up the bay that morning, a cannon-ball was sent into her from Fort Moultrie. This was the act of the South Carolina militia. As yet but one State had seceded. There was no Confederacy. Without trying to communicate with Major Anderson the steamer turned about and left the harbor. This was the signal for a rapid occupation of other fortifications by Southern

forces. The first decided act of war came three months later.

On the 11th of April, General G. T. Beauregard demanded of Major Anderson the surrender of Fort Sumter to the Confederate forces, and this being refused, he began a thirty-four hours' bombardment next day. The fort was badly damaged, and Anderson's rations were exhausted, with no prospect of relief. He therefore surrendered.

The news of this aggression thrilled the country. Lincoln immediately called for seventy-five thousand volunteers for three months' service in suppressing the rebellion; and May 3d, for eighty-three thousand, including seamen, for "three years or the war."

Massachusetts and Pennsylvania soldiers were attacked by a mob while passing through Baltimore April 19th, and, one being killed, fired on the rioters, killing eleven.

The war now commenced in earnest. General B. F. Butler commanding Fortress Monroe, at the mouth of James River, attempted, June 10th, to take Bethel Church, near by, without success. General T. A. Morris, with Indiana and Ohio troops, invaded Virginia from Parkersburg, and won a slight victory at Philippi. General George B. McClellan, taking command in Western Virginia, followed this up with another more decisive, at Rich Mountain, July 11th. Another battle, September 14th, won by General W. S. Rosecrans, practically secured to the Union the region now included in West Virginia.

Colonel Lew Wallace drove a small Confederate force from Romney, west of the Blue Ridge, June 11th. General Robert Patterson was thus enabled to safely invade the Shenandoah Valley from the north. He occupied Winchester, and was instructed to keep General Joseph E. Johnston's Confederate troops from going eastward to Manassas, where now the chief battle of the year was to be fought. The main Union army, under General Irwin McDowell, advanced into Virginia in July from Alexandria. A skirmish with Beauregard's troops occurred near Bull Run, the 18th; and a battle ensued the 21st, at Manassas. The invaders seemed victorious at first; but after noon six thousand of Johnston's sol-

diers arrived, and the Union troops fell back in great disorder to Washington. The Confederate loss was two thousand and fifty; Union, about three thousand.

This disaster disheartened the North. Lieutenant-General Scott, commander-in-chief, then resigned. McDowell was promptly superseded by McClellan; and Patterson, for not restraining Johnston, was replaced by General N. P. Banks. McClellan threw two thousand troops across the Potomac at Ball's Bluff in October; but on the 21st, before they could be supported, they were attacked and routed.

Missouri was invaded by Confederates from Texas and Arkansas in the spring. They were defeated by General Nathaniel Lyon at Booneville, June 17th; by General Franz Sigel at Carthage, July 5th; and at Wilson's Creek, August 10th. Lyon was killed there, after apparent victory; and Sigel withdrew. The Confederates took Lexington, which General John C. Fremont recovered October 16th. General David Hunter, and then General H. W. Halleck, succeeded to command in Missouri that fall. Before the year closed the Union forces practically controlled the State.

The Confederates had occupied Columbus, Ky., in the autumn, and Belmont, in Missouri, opposite. General U. S. Grant tried to dislodge them from the latter place, November 7th, but was driven out again by General Polk's men from Columbus.

The Union navy blockaded most of the Southern seaports this year, capturing many inward-bound vessels with war-munitions, and outward-bound vessels with cotton, and helped troops get a foothold along the coast.

Commodore Stringham and General Butler took the forts at Hatteras Inlet, N. C., August 29th; and Commodore Dupont and General Thomas W. Sherman captured those at Port Royal, S. C., November 7th. Next day, Captain Wilkes of the *San Jacinto* stopped the British merchant-steamer *Trent*, from Havana to England, and captured James M. Mason and John Slidell, Confederate commissioners, bound on a diplomatic errand to London. The English people sympathized with the Confederacy strongly. The British Government resented the act; and a declaration of war seemed imminent.

But Lincoln's Secretary of State, Seward, having first secured from England an important admission of the sacredness of neutral flags in time of war, the prisoners were surrendered.

In Congress, practically nothing was done, during the close of Buchanan's administration, having any reference to the war, as the war was not then a certainty. After the attack on Fort Sumter, however, and President Lincoln had called out the troops, suspended the writ of habeas corpus in the insurrectionary districts, declared a blockade of the Southern ports, and taken other measures which he thought the emergency required, he felt the necessity of moral and pecuniary support from Congress, especially as the military operations in May and June began to indicate the seriousness of the conflict already inaugurated. He therefore called an extra session of Congress to meet on the 4th of July. Accordingly it convened on that date, and, after passing measures recommended by the President, adjourned on the 6th of August. One of these, passed on the 17th of July, authorized a national loan for two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and another, passed on the 5th of August, authorized an issue of fifty millions, in Treasury notes. Another, passed in August, provided for confiscating property, in transit or intended for transit to or from insurrectionary States, or designed for use in the promotion of insurrection.

On the 16th of August the President issued a proclamation declaring the seceding States to be in a state of insurrection, prohibiting all commercial intercourse between them and the other parts of the Union without special permission from the Government, under the penalty of the confiscation of all goods or vehicles conveying them; and declaring that all vessels belonging wholly or in part to any citizen of the insurgent States found at sea, or in a part of the United States, after fifteen days from the date of the proclamation, to be forfeited to the United States.

Postal communication with the Confederate States was ordered to be closed on the first of June, and letters directed there to be sent to the dead-letter office.

CHAPTER III.

Military events of 1862.—Congressional and Executive measures in 1862.

MILITARY operations in the West and Southwest commenced early in the year. Colonel J. A. Garfield won a slight victory at Big Sandy River, in Eastern Kentucky, on the 9th of January. Ten days later, General George H. Thomas secured one more decisive at Mill Spring, in the same region. The Confederate general Zollicoffer was killed there. Further operations in that locality were suspended by the commander of that department, General Buell, to await the result of those directed by General Halleck farther west. The latter sent General Grant against Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River, at the southern border of Kentucky; the post was evacuated on the 6th of February, its garrison going to Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland, in Northern Tennessee. Grant pursued with thirty thousand men, and Commodore Foote co-operated with his gun-boats. Foote was wounded in an engagement the 14th; a hard battle ensued the 15th; and on the 16th, General Buckner, commander, surrendered the fort, with ten thousand men as prisoners of war. This was by far the most brilliant and useful victory yet won by Union arms. It practically dislodged the Confederates from Kentucky and Tennessee without another stroke.

Federal troops under Grant then occupied Pittsburg Landing, on the Tennessee, near Northwestern Mississippi. Here they were fiercely assaulted, April 6th, by a Confederate army under General Albert Sidney Johnston, and nearly routed, though Johnston was killed. Buell's supporting column, advancing from Nashville, arrived that night, and next day Grant was able to repel the enemy, who renewed the attack under Beauregard. The losses on each side, the two days, were about ten thousand—much the heaviest yet witnessed in the war.

Upon withdrawing from Columbus, Ky., the Confederates had fortified at Island Number Ten, in the Mis-

Mississippi. Beset by General John Pope, who had taken New Madrid, on the west bank, and by Commodore Foote's fleet, they surrendered April 7th, after twenty-three days' bombardment. Union gun-boats were now able to go down to Memphis, Tenn., which city was peaceably occupied June 6th.

While these operations were being conducted in Kentucky and Tennessee, Union troops led by General Curtis crossed into Arkansas from Southwestern Missouri in March. He was vigorously attacked on the 6th and 7th at Pea Ridge, and held his ground. The enemy lost two generals, McIntosh and McCulloch, but in men the Union losses were heaviest, and Curtis's victory had no practical result.

On the 19th of September, Grant, assisted by Rosecrans, defeated General Sterling Price at Iuka, Northeastern Mississippi. Grant, with part of his troops, withdrew to La Grange, Tenn., leaving Rosecrans to occupy Corinth, Miss., which Price evacuated. Price and Van Dorn attacked Rosecrans here, with superior numbers, October 3d and 4th; but, after a stubborn fight, they fell back defeated.

In December, General William Tecumseh Sherman moved down from Memphis to Chickasaw Bayou, on the Yazoo River, to threaten Vicksburg, Miss.; and Grant, from La Grange, farther east, pushed into Mississippi to support the movement. The latter's communications were cut at Holly Springs by Van Dorn, the 20th, and he was obliged to retreat. Sherman was badly defeated on the 29th, and precipitately took transports on the Mississippi River for Memphis.

Tennessee and Kentucky were again contested this year. General Kirby Smith led one Confederate force rapidly northward in August, taking Richmond, Ky., the 30th, and then Lexington, and the State capital, Frankfort. General Bragg, with another, advanced from Chattanooga, captured four thousand five hundred Union troops at Mumfordsville, Tenn., September 17th, and then tried to join Smith and reach Louisville, Ky. Cincinnati was saved by the exertions of General Lew Wallace; and Buell, coming up from Nashville, headed Bragg off, forcing him to retire. A severe but rather indecisive engagement ensued at Perryville, Ky., Octo-

ber 8th. Bragg then continued his retreat, taking four thousand wagon-loads of spoils from the State.

Rosecrans now succeeded Buell in command at Nashville. Bragg was thirty-two miles southeastward, at Murfreesboro, near which, at Stone River, severe battles were fought, December 31st and January 2d (1863). Bragg was obliged to retire to Tullahoma for the winter. The losses at Stone River were ten or twelve thousand on each side. Rosecrans received hearty official praise for his success.

In the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, in March, General Banks had advanced as far southward as Harrisonburg; but Stonewall Jackson, entering the valley from the eastward at Front Royal, obliged him to hurry back to the Potomac. Fremont, by a similar manœuvre, tried to force Jackson to retreat, but in vain.

The Union blockading fleet in Hampton Roads, Va., was attacked March 8th by a strange-looking monster, fitted out at Norfolk. It was the iron-clad ram Virginia, constructed from the hull of the old war-ship Merrimac. The frigates Congress and Cumberland were sunk by it. The event created a panic in Northern seaports. The next day, however, the Virginia was met by a small new war-vessel called the Monitor, invented by John Ericsson, which arrived in the night from the North. It was iron-clad, and had only a revolving turret, containing heavy guns above deck. This craft, after a five hours' contest, put the Virginia to flight. This brilliant event revolutionized naval architecture, and opened a new route to Richmond for the Union army.

McClellan had designed advancing upon Richmond, the Confederate capital, from the north; and in March began pushing forward from the vicinity of Washington, with two hundred thousand men. He had reached the Rappahanock River without serious resistance, when the War Department compelled him to change his plans. Leaving Pope in command on the Rappahannock, he took one hundred and twenty thousand troops by water around to Fortress Monroe, whence, April 4th, he pushed northeastward. A siege reduced Yorktown May 4th and opened most of the peninsula between the James and York rivers to him. Victories at Williamsburg and

West Point enabled him to reach the Chickahominy River before the close of the month. Having crossed it, he pressed on to Fair Oaks (or Seven Pines), within seven miles of Richmond, where the enemy gave battle the 31st and June 1st. After a hard and bloody struggle the Confederates gave way. Their commander, Johnston, was badly wounded. General Robert E. Lee succeeded him, and retained the chief leadership through the rest of the war.

McClellan, instead of following up the enemy, now paused to build bridges and roads, and to shift his base from the York to the James River. General Wool had facilitated this by occupying Norfolk, from Fortress Monroe. McClellan asked for reinforcements at Washington at this juncture, but did not get them. Lee, at this time, had but twenty-five thousand men near Richmond, although his force was estimated at much more. He summoned Stonewall Jackson's force from the Shenandoah Valley, and, thus recruited, assumed the offensive. At Oak Grove, June 25th, he gave battle, without result; renewed the attack, next day, at Mechanicsville, and was repulsed; delivered another blow the 27th, at Gaines's Mill, forcing Fitz-John Porter to give way; did little fighting the 28th; struck the Union forces, both at Savage Station, where Sumner's corps held its ground firmly, and at White Oak Swamp the 29th. Hostilities were less fierce next day.

Meantime, McClellan was retreating towards James River. Here, at Malvern Hill, twelve miles below Richmond, came the most terrible battle of the Peninsular campaign—the last of the Seven Days' Fight. Lee charged the concentrated Union army July 1st, repeatedly and desperately, but could not dislodge it. Ten days later, General H. W. Halleck was made general-in-chief at Washington. He soon directed McClellan to bring back his army, by water, to the Potomac. The transfer was gradually effected late in August.

Lee continued the aggressive, and startled the North. Banks was first defeated, and prevented from helping Pope. The latter was flanked by Stonewall Jackson, who occupied Manassas, capturing valuable stores. Here Pope, who had fallen back from the Rappahannock, attacked him, August 28th and 29th, hoping to rout him

before Lee could come up. The neglect of Fitz-John Porter to support Pope, as directed, made this scheme a failure, and the second battle of Manassas, like the first (in 1861), was a Union disaster. Porter was tried by court-martial, and dismissed from the service. At Chantilly, the Union troops were again defeated, and Generals Kearney and Stevens were killed. Pope and his shattered force having retreated to Washington, Lee advanced without resistance through Frederick and Hagerstown, Md., captured Harper's Ferry, and threatened the national capital.

McClellan, whose magnetism had made him the idol of the Army of the Potomac, and who had shown great mastery of military art in organizing the raw, undisciplined troops which had been given him, had planned a campaign against Richmond early in the year, from the north. With great reluctance he yielded to the command from Washington to abandon it and to undertake the Peninsular campaign. This opened with great promise, but ended in disaster. The result, he felt, was due to the refusal of the War Department to give him needed reinforcements. The North, however, not knowing the merits of the case, but greatly disappointed in the apparent results, judged him severely. When Halleck, summoned in July from St. Louis to Washington to direct all the military operations of the country, ordered McClellan up from the Peninsula to Aquia Creek, on the lower Potomac, the latter was left there inactive, in disgrace. But when Pope was routed at Bull Run, and Maryland was invaded, the hero of Fair Oaks promptly interposed the Army of the Potomac between Washington and the enemy, and reached out to the westward, feeling for the latter. He was fortunate enough to capture a general order of Lee's, September 12th, which revealed the whole Confederate plan. Harper's Ferry was the principal objective point; and the force thrown out towards Washington was a rear-guard for the rest of the Confederate army. On the 14th, this body was attacked by Generals Hatch and Doubleday on South Mountain, and defeated with considerable loss. Franklin also won a victory at another gap in the same ridge. The enemy fell back on Sharpsburg, but meantime continued the movement against Harper's Ferry, which fell next day.

Just west of South Mountain, Antietam Creek runs southwardly into the Potomac. Along this stream McClellan now formed his forces for a decisive conflict. On the 16th, Hooker crossed the stream, got around to the northward of Lee, and secured an advantageous position. Next day the two armies came together at Antietam Creek. Hooker began the battle on the right, and Burnside on the left. Porter, near the centre, was kept in reserve until late in the day. Mansfield, Sumner, and Franklin were to support Hooker. One of the most bitterly contested spots on the field was a cornfield in Hooker's front. Before night it was literally soaked with blood. Ricketts' and Meade's divisions first drove Stonewall Jackson's division across this tract into the woods, with great loss on both sides. Hood coming to Jackson's aid, sent them back with equal carnage. Mansfield now reinforced the Union line, but was struck down, fatally wounded. Hooker rallied the combined corps, but was driven from the field by a painful wound in the foot. Sumner now took command, and brought up fresh troops. Sedgwick now regained the cornfield. He, too, was wounded thrice, and forced personally to retire, and his division at length came back over the bloody soil. Franklin's corps now came up, and Smith's division for a third time took the cornfield, with terrible losses on both sides. Good work was done near the centre now by French and Richardson. Burnside had pushed out towards Sharpsburg, in the morning; but Lee was reinforced by his troops at Harper's Ferry, and drove the Union left back in confusion. General Rodman, while rallying his division, fell mortally wounded, and McClellan claimed the result of the day's conflict as a Union victory, although his lines had been advanced but little. The losses were not far from ten thousand on each side. The next day, McClellan prepared for another advance on the 19th; but when the second day dawned, Lee had disappeared from his front, and was back in Virginia. Pursuit was given cautiously, but not another blow was struck.

A Confederate cavalry force under General J. E. B. Stuart made a complete circuit around the Army of the Potomac about this time, and returned to Virginia in safety.

McClellan's failure to attack soon after the battle of Antietam excited fresh unfavorable criticism, and, in November, while his line was extended along the Rappahannock, he was replaced in command by General Burnside. This officer, before sharing in the battle of Antietam, had co-operated with Commodore Goldsborough in the capture of Roanoke Island. This he had followed up by occupying New-Berne and Beaufort, N. C. The new commander of the Army of the Potomac threw his force across the Rappahannock in December. Lee waited until the work was done. Then, the 13th, he terribly assailed the Union lines. He was bravely but ineffectually met. Two nights later Burnside quietly withdrew.

General Gillmore, April 11th, captured Fort Pulaski, at the mouth of the Savannah River. Admiral Farragut, after a week of hard fighting on the Mississippi, took the forts below New Orleans, and landed General Butler's troops in that city, April 25th.

In February, Congress passed an act for the additional issue of Treasury notes. By it ten millions of dollars in notes for a less denomination than five dollars were authorized to be issued, in addition to the fifty millions previously authorized. These issues were to be receivable for all payments, including customs, that might be due to the government. On the 25th of February, the President approved what was called the Legal Tender Act, passed by Congress. By it, the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to issue notes to the amount of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, not bearing interest, payable in Washington and New York, none to be less than five dollars, but fifty millions of dollars of these to be in lieu of the same amount of Treasury notes issued under the act of July 17, 1861, which were to be taken up as soon as practicable. These notes were to be a legal tender for all debts, public and private, and to be received and paid out by the government for all purposes excepting duties on imports and interest on the public debt: those were to be paid in gold. The bill also authorized the issue of Treasury bonds to the amount of five hundred millions of dollars, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent, payable semi-annually, redeemable at the pleasure of the government after twenty

years from date. These bonds, and all other securities of the United States, to be exempt from taxation by any State or county. In July, another bill was passed authorizing another issue of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars of Treasury notes.

By an act of Congress passed in April, slavery was abolished in the District of Columbia. The act provided for a commission to remunerate loyal owners. Not over three hundred dollars a slave were to be paid, and one million of dollars were appropriated for the purpose. One hundred thousand dollars were also appropriated for their colonization. An act was also passed abolishing slavery in the "Territories of the United States now existing, or which may at any time hereafter be formed or acquired by the United States."

In July, Congress passed an act to collect an internal revenue. A tax was to be imposed upon domestic manufactures, trades, and occupations, and it provided a system of stamps, licenses, income, and other duties. A tax averaging three per cent on manufactured articles was imposed, most of which were enumerated; of those enumerated, distilled spirits were to pay twenty cents per gallon; ales, one dollar per barrel. Licenses, varying from five to two hundred dollars, were imposed upon almost every profession; stamps, from three cents to one dollar upon the paper used for bills of exchange, and from one to twenty dollars upon conveyances of real estate. The income-tax to be three per cent on the excess over six hundred dollars of all incomes up to ten thousand dollars, and five per cent on those greater.

The President, on the 17th of July, approved an act of Congress confiscating the property and emancipating the slaves of all rebels in arms after sixty days, if they did not submit; and on the 25th, he issued a proclamation warning all such persons to return to their allegiance, under pain of the penalties provided for in the act. The bill provided that any person that should be convicted of treason would be punished by death, or, at the discretion of the court, by imprisonment for not less than five years, and a fine of not less than ten thousand dollars; his slaves in either case to be set free. Any person engaging in or aiding rebellion to be punished by imprisonment not exceeding ten years, or a fine

not exceeding ten thousand dollars, or both; his slaves to be set free. Persons found to be guilty of treason to be incapable of holding any office under the United States. It also provided for the seizure of the property of persons holding certain specified civil, naval, or military offices under the Southern Confederacy. Slaves of any person engaged in rebellion, coming in any way into the power of the United States forces, were to be considered prisoners of war, and not again held as slaves. No fugitive slave should be given up, unless the claimant made oath that he had not been engaged in rebellion. By the act, the President was authorized to employ persons of African descent for the suppression of the rebellion, and he might make provision for the colonization of such freed slaves as he should deem expedient.

In July, Congress passed an act increasing duties on imports; also a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish postage and other stamps to the depositories of the United States, to be exchanged for notes, and forbade the issue by any one of tokens, or of checks for less than a dollar, to circulate as money.

On the 1st of July the President, in response to the official request of the Governors of eighteen States, issued a call for three hundred thousand additional men for the army. On the 4th of August an order was issued from the War Department, directing that a draft of three hundred thousand more men should be called into the service of the United States, to serve for nine months, unless previously discharged; and also directing that if any State should not, by the 15th of August, furnish its quota of the three hundred thousand volunteers previously demanded, and authorized by law, the deficiency would also be made up by a special draft from the militia. The six hundred thousand men directed to be furnished by these orders would bring the effective force in the field up to fully a million. It was expected that the special bounties for enlistments which were being offered by the different States would probably furnish all the three hundred thousand volunteers without the necessity of recourse to drafting.

On the 8th of August, the writ of *habeas corpus* was ordered to be suspended. Orders were also issued for the arrest of all persons who discouraged enlistments.

Another order prohibited the issuance of passports, and newspaper correspondents were not to be allowed with the armies.

On the 22d of September, President Lincoln issued a proclamation abolishing slavery in the Southern States, unless they returned to the Union before the 1st of January following. On the 24th he issued another proclamation suspending the *habeas corpus* in respect to persons held by military authority. This was done to prevent the release of military and state prisoners.

CHAPTER IV.

Military events of 1863.—Congressional and Executive measures of 1863.—Emancipation Proclamation.—Draft riots in New York.

GENERAL BANKS, who succeeded Butler at New Orleans, extended his lines, early in the year, into Southern and Central Louisiana. He also advanced to Baton Rouge, and, in May, laid siege to Port Hudson, a stronghold on the Mississippi River. Severe but unsuccessful assaults were made on the town, the bombardment being partly conducted by Farragut's gun-boats. In September, Banks made an unsuccessful attempt to get into Texas, by water, at Sabine Pass. That State remained in Confederate hands through the war.

In January, Sherman sent McClernand, with Porter's fleet, up the Arkansas River. On the 10th, they took Arkansas Post and five thousand prisoners, after a hard battle. Two days before, Confederates, under Generals Marmaduke and Price, attacked Springfield, Mo., and were repulsed; they had a similar fate at Hartsville, Mo., on the 11th, and at Cape Girardeau, April 26th. A Confederate raiding party, led by Quantrell, burned Lawrence, Kansas, August 13th. General Steele led a Union force into Little Rock, September 10th, and thereafter Arkansas remained in his control.

Early in the year, for three months, Grant operated against Vicksburg, from the region just north of it, trying

to cut a canal across the neck of land where it stands, to let the gun-boats past. This enterprise failed. Accordingly Porter decided to run the batteries, which he did at night, April 16th, without serious damage. The scene was terrible and magnificent, however. Six iron-clads, one wooden gun-boat, and three transports, dropped down the stream quietly, under cover of darkness. But the watchful Confederate picket discovered their approach, and in a few minutes a whole row of batteries along the bluff was flashing and quaking with thunderous discharge. The fleet returned the fire, and silenced a few of the enemy's guns. The roar was deafening, and startled the town of Vicksburg as it had never been startled before. One of the transports was struck and disabled, but towed off by a gun-boat. Another got by unscathed. The third was set afire by a shell striking cotton bales piled up for defence on board of her, and she was abandoned. Five more transports then ran down safely, but a sixth was rendered helpless and sunk. Grant now moved his land forces across to the west bank and marched them down stream. On the 29th the fleet opened a fearful cannonade on Grand Gulf, below Vicksburg, to capture the place that Grant might return here to Mississippi. The Confederate position was too strong and too well defended for this attempt to succeed. The next day, however, the Army of the Tennessee was brought over, a little lower down, to Bruinsburg. Here a brilliant campaign against Vicksburg was begun. In rapid succession he won victories at Port Gibson, forcing the evacuation of Grand Gulf, at Raymond, and then at Jackson, the capital city. This last ended Johnston's effort to reinforce General Pemberton in the beleaguered city. Pemberton made a rally, but was defeated at Champion Hills, May 16th. Grant won another victory at Black River bridge next day. On the 19th and 22d, heavy assaults on the town were repulsed with great carnage. Grant now settled down to a siege, Porter assisting by a heavy bombardment. Starved out, Pemberton surrendered July 4th. Learning of this event, General Gardner yielded Port Hudson to Banks on the 8th. The whole Mississippi River was now open.

During the operations against Vicksburg, Grierson's

Illinois cavalry made a dash from Tennessee, east of Jackson, to Baton Rouge, destroying railroads and other property. Colonel Streight attempted a like raid into Georgia, but was captured by the Confederates under Forrest. General John Morgan, a daring Southern cavalryman, in the summer pushed up through Kentucky, crossed into Indiana, passing thence to Ohio, where he was caught.

General Joseph Hooker, who had done effective service at Antietam, succeeded Burnside in command of the Army of the Potomac after the disaster at Fredericksburg. In the spring he crossed the Rappahannock and Rapidan rivers. Just south of the latter, at Chancellorsville, May 2d, his army received an attack of terrible fury. In this battle Stonewall Jackson was fatally wounded by a volley from his own men. Lee renewed the assault next day. Hooker held his ground for the time, but retreated on the 5th. His loss was seventeen thousand; the Confederates lost five thousand. Just before this event, General Stoneman took his cavalry (Union) across the Rappahannock, dashed down within sight of Richmond, cut Lee's communications, and returned in safety, May 8th.

Lee now gave the North another great fright. He pushed up across the Potomac, reached Chambersburg, Pa., June 22d, and threatened Washington, Baltimore, and Harrisburg. Hooker, whose flank had been turned, followed rapidly. The two armies concentrated at Gettysburg, Pa., for a momentous battle. Here Hooker, at his own request, was relieved of his command. General George Meade succeeded him. The initial contest occurred July 1st. Meade was considerably south of the town, looking for advantageous ground on which to receive Lee. But Buford's troopers and Wadsworth's division of Reynolds's corps, in pushing forward to Seminary Ridge, just west of Gettysburg, came in collision with part of the Confederate corps under Hill. After an engagement was begun, Reynolds brought up his other division, but was himself killed by a sharp-shooter. General Doubleday then took command until Howard arrived with another corps. But Hill was reinforced by Ewell; and after a brave resistance the Union line was driven back. The advantage

was not followed up, except that the Confederates entered the town without opposition. Howard took a position to the southward, on Cemetery Hill, where General Sickles, coming up with his corps at night, joined him. Meade, then at Taneytown, sent Hancock forward to take command, leaving Gibbons to bring that general's corps to the front. Hancock disposed the troops in a horse-shoe-shaped line, Cemetery Hill, nearest Gettysburg, being the toe, Round Top the western heel, and Wolf Hill the eastern heel or right wing. Next day the rest of the Union army was brought up; and Lee was congregating north and west of Gettysburg. Sedgwick was posted on the extreme left on Round Top; Sickles came next a little farther north; Hancock had the centre on Cemetery Hill, looking northward; Slocum was on the right. Lee was again the aggressor, July 2d, although not much was done but to assail Sickles's corps, which had exposed itself by advancing from the position Meade had designed it to occupy. To that ground it was driven back with heavy loss. Slocum received a slight attack that day, but with no material result. The great battle came on the morrow. During the forenoon Lee got his artillery into position for a terrible concentrated fire on Cemetery Hill, the chief point of attack; and shortly after noon these one hundred and fifteen pieces began belching forth their torrent of fire and iron. The Union artillery replied, but the guns becoming heated, their activity abated. Lee now threw forward a solid line of infantry, nearly three miles long, charging not only the Union front on Cemetery Hill, but the left wing around on Round Top. These advances were made with wonderful nerve and force. They were repelled with awful carnage, and renewed with appalling coolness and courage. The desperate struggle lasted for three hours. Each time the enemy came on, the Union line would recede slightly until the Confederates caught the enfilading fire of Meade's guns; and then the flower of Lee's army would be mown down like grass. The assault failed, and the invader had no resort but to return to Virginia, and on July 4th, while Pemberton was surrendering Vicksburg to Grant, the demoralized rebel horde was hurrying back to a place of safety. The

losses in this battle were twenty-three thousand on the Union side, and even more on the other. Sickles lost a leg, and Hancock also was wounded at Gettysburg. Lee made another effort to get north in October, but was checked at Centreville.

Rosecrans remained inactive in Tennessee for six months after his victory at Stone River. Late in June he began a series of flank movements, which crowded Bragg southeastward into Georgia, and occupied Chattanooga. The Confederates, outnumbering him seventy thousand to fifty-five thousand, turned and struck him severely at Chickamauga Creek, Sept. 19th and 20th. General Thomas's corps withstood the attack firmly, and saved the Union army from utter rout. The other corps were driven back in disorder. Thomas finally withdrew to the Tennessee River into Chattanooga, where the Army of the Cumberland was strongly intrenched. This triumph of Bragg gave new joy to the South, and caused much anxiety in Washington, as there was some uncertainty whether even Chattanooga could now be held. During his Vicksburg campaign, Grant had advised demonstrations by Rosecrans earlier than July, so as either to call off such of Bragg's troops as had been sent into Mississippi to help Johnston, or to invade Georgia while Bragg was himself weakened. But Bragg was able to strengthen himself by recovering his forces from the west before his attack at Chickamauga; for this was two months and a half after Vicksburg fell. He was still further recruited by Longstreet's corps from Virginia.

In October, the authorities at Washington created "the Division of the Central Mississippi," embracing the Department of the Tennessee, whose army had done the work about Vicksburg, the Department of the Cumberland, commanded by Rosecrans, and the Department of the Ohio, then under Burnside, who was at Knoxville, Tenn. The whole was committed to Grant, the hero of Vicksburg. Grant recognized the great strategic value of Chattanooga, and before reaching that point in person, telegraphed to Thomas, who succeeded Rosecrans in command of the Army of the Cumberland, to hold the place at all hazards. Burnside, at Knoxville, was in considerable peril at this time; but Grant decided

that he could best relieve him by defeating Bragg at Chattanooga; and all efforts were devoted to this work. The little town on the Tennessee, close to the border of Georgia, was now the centre of all interest. Hooker, whose great valor and impetuosity had won him the pseudonym of "Fighting Joe Hooker," was sent from the Army of the Potomac with parts of two corps into Tennessee. Grant had ordered Sherman, who succeeded him in command of the Army of the Tennessee, to repair the railroads in Northern Mississippi and Alabama, and in Western and Southern Tennessee, so as to improve the facilities for sending supplies to Chattanooga and Knoxville. But after considerable work had been done, Grant grew impatient to strike a blow at Chattanooga. As Bragg had detached Longstreet's corps and had sent it eastward of Chattanooga up to Knoxville, it seemed possible that Burnside, who was making a heroic and skilful resistance, might be overcome before Grant could assist him. Accordingly Sherman was ordered to drop work on the railroads and come with his troops to the scene of action. Meantime such dispositions of troops had been made around Chattanooga as to open up the way for rations; and the starving, ragged army of Thomas was again well-fed, well-clothed, cheerful, and courageous. Just south of the Tennessee River is a long narrow hill known as Missionary Ridge. Off to the eastward is Chickamauga Creek, running northward into the Tennessee. West of the ridge is Chattanooga Creek, also northward bound; and across the valley rises Lookout Mountain, another loftier range, which, like Missionary Ridge, trends away to the southwestward. In October, Hooker had been thrown across the river from the north, west of Lookout Mountain, and, after some fighting, he gained a good foothold there. One of the amusing incidents of that task was the alarm given to a force of Confederates, in a night engagement, by the rattling harness of mules which frightened Union teamsters had cut from their wagons, but which stampeded towards the enemy's camp. Hooker held the right of Grant's line. Thomas was at the centre in Chattanooga, on the south bank of the river, just west of the head of Missionary Ridge. To the east and north of that mountain, on Grant's left, Sherman was to operate when he

came up. This was not until late in November. On the morning of the 24th, long before daybreak, part of Sherman's men were brought down into their position, on pontoons from up stream, off to the northeastward, having come around in Grant's rear. They built bridges quickly, north of Missionary Ridge, and got artillery, Sheridan's cavalry, and the rest of the infantry across. An advance was then made upon the enemy's works at the foot of the hill, and, after some desperate fighting, an advantageous position was secured. Grant stood on top of an eminence called Orchard Knob, watching operations with a glass. Considerable cloudiness obscured the view through the forenoon; but he could get occasional glimpses of what was going on, and had better hints from the noise of musketry and artillery. Thomas, whose army Grant was not ready to use, stood beside him much of the time. Hooker, off to the westward, achieved the principal conquest of the day. His movements were concealed from Bragg's watchmen on Lookout Mountain by the low clouds. But when, in force, he approached that ridge on its western flank, the enemy's pickets discovered him, and resistance was promptly offered. The slope was steep, broken, and wooded, and difficult to climb even if no foe were there. But such enthusiasm pervaded the Union ranks that they charged up the mountain until, at 2 p.m., its very summit was reached. This action has been called "The Battle above the Clouds." Next day (Nov. 25th), the Union advance was renewed. Hooker came eastward across the valley to Missionary Ridge, but was so long delayed by the enemy's destruction of bridges over Chattanooga Creek, that his co-operation was not of much assistance. Grant was again on Orchard Knob watching the scene. The day was clear. Thomas was beside him, his army still waiting for the order to strike. Grant did not intend to give this until Sherman had turned Bragg's right as Hooker had turned the left. Part of Sherman's force was on the eastern flank of Missionary Ridge, near the head, and part on the western. Both soon carried some positions in their front. Bragg concentrated his troops at this point, massing heavily against Sherman. Such was the latter's peril, that Grant sent Sheridan's and Wood's divisions to the

scene, with material effect. Sherman now carried the ridge gallantly, and sent Bragg flying. Sheridan, continuing pursuit, dashed off to the southeastward, near Chickamauga Creek, intercepted part of the retreating army, and took a lot of prisoners and stores. The Union loss in the two days' fight was five thousand six hundred men. Bragg lost more heavily, but chiefly in prisoners. The victory gave great relief to the anxious North, especially to the authorities in Washington. The fruits of past victories were secure; the enemy were driven still further south, into the Gulf States; and an important step had been gained in encircling what was left of the Confederacy.

The campaign had been one of the most difficult and skilfully planned which the Union forces had waged; and its result inspired increased confidence in the generalship of Grant. Coming in the same year with Vicksburg, and after the disappointments in Virginia, it led to Grant's promotion to the full command of the Union armies three months later. Burnside, who had been sadly beleaguered, but had held out successfully, was easily relieved after the victories of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Sherman was sent to his assistance; but before help arrived Longstreet was retreating into Virginia.

The Confederate cruiser Nashville was sunk by a Union iron-clad, while running the blockade at the mouth of the Savannah River in March. Another, the Georgia, was captured at sea by the Niagara, Captain Craven, August 11th. Many other captures, less conspicuous, were made by the fleet. Dupont tried to take Charleston, in April, with a naval expedition, but failed. In June, General Gillmore and Admiral Dahlgren laid siege to the forts in that harbor from Morris and Folly Islands. Fort Wagner was vainly stormed, July 18th. That work and Fort Gregg were evacuated September 6th. Monitors then came up and bombarded Fort Sumter.

On the 1st of January, the President issued an Emancipation Proclamation. It specified Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (certain parishes excepted), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (West Virginia and other portions excepted)

as the rebellious States to which the proclamation applied. The excepted parts were "for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued." It then declared as follows: "And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said States or parts of States are and henceforth shall be FREE, and that the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons. And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared free, to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defence; and I recommend to them that in all cases, when allowed, they labor for reasonable wages. And I further declare and make known that such persons, of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States, to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service. And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and favor of Almighty God." The number of slaves declared free by this proclamation was about three millions and one hundred and twenty thousand; the number excepted by it, about eight hundred and thirty thousand. Partly by way of anticipating this proclamation, Mr. Davis, as President of the Confederate States, issued a proclamation on the 22d of December, in which, among other orders, he directed that negro slaves captured in arms should be delivered over to the authorities of the States to which they belong, to be dealt with according to the laws of those States; and all commissioned officers of the United States, when found serving in company with insurgent slaves, should be treated in the same manner. As the laws of all the slaveholding States punished by death insurgent slaves and those who aided them, this order was equivalent to threatening capital punishment to all slaves in arms and the white officers commanding them.

On the 3d of March, the President approved a financial bill passed by Congress. The first section of the act authorized a loan of three hundred millions for the current fiscal year, and six hundred millions for the ensuing

fiscal year, for which bonds should be issued, to be payable at such times as the Secretary of the Treasury might elect, not less than ten nor more than forty years. The second section authorized the issue of Treasury notes to the amount of four hundred millions, to run not more than three years, and bear interest at the rate of six per cent, and to be legal tender. The third section authorized the Secretary to issue one hundred and fifty millions of Treasury notes without interest. The bill also authorized the issue of fractional currency to the amount of fifty millions. To help a market for the bonds, another act was passed authorizing the creation of National Banks. By it, banking associations could be formed by any number of persons not less than five. Not less than one third of the capital of the banks paid in should be invested in United States bonds, for which circulating notes to the value of ninety per cent of the current value of such bonds might be issued to the banks, the government to hold the bonds in trust, as security for those issues, the total amount of the bank-notes not to exceed three hundred millions; and they were made lawful money for all purposes excepting custom duties and interest on the public debt. The banks were to pay the government semi-annually one per cent on the circulating notes to pay the expenses of making them.

Congress passed another act, commonly called the "Conscription Act." By it, it was provided that all able-bodied male citizens, and persons of foreign birth who had declared their intention of becoming citizens, and who had voted between the ages of twenty and forty-five, were liable to be called into service, unless specially excepted. The exceptions were those who were physically or mentally incapable, a few specified officers of the National and State Governments, and the following classes of persons: the only son of a widow or of aged or infirm parents, dependent on his labor for support; when there were two or more sons of aged or infirm parents, dependent upon them for support, the father, or if he be dead the mother, might select one who should be exempt; the only brother of children without father or mother, under twelve years of age, dependent upon him for support; the father of motherless children under

twelve years of age, dependent upon his labor for support; where of the same family and household a father and one or more sons in the military service of the United States, two of the same family and household were to be exempt. Those persons liable to conscription were to be divided into two classes; the first class comprising all below thirty-five years of age, and all unmarried persons between thirty-five and forty-five years of age. The second class comprised married persons between thirty-five and forty-five, and were not to be called into service until the first class had been exhausted. It was also provided that any person actually drafted might be discharged from draft by furnishing an acceptable substitute, or by paying a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, to be fixed by the Secretary of War. The entire population of the loyal States, at the breaking out of the war, liable to enrolment under the Conscription law, after deducting all exemptions, was fully four millions. Another act empowered the President to issue letters of marque and reprisal.

On the 15th of June, the President issued a call for one hundred thousand volunteers to repel the invasion by the Confederates. On the 15th of October, the President made a call for three hundred thousand men, those raised to be deducted from the quotas set for the next draft. The deficiencies to be made good by the States by a new draft to be made on January 5, 1864.

The President in December accompanied his message to Congress with a proclamation of amnesty to the Confederates, stating his purpose to be to present the States wherein the national authority had been suspended, and loyal State Governments had been subverted, a mode in and by which the national authority and loyal State Governments might be reinstated. Specified exceptions to the amnesty proclamation were stated.

On the 3d of June, a "peace meeting" was held in New York, instituted by leading Democrats. One of the resolutions passed, declared it was recommended by the meeting, that there should be a suspension of hostilities between the contending armies of the divided sections of the country, and that a convention of the States composing the Confederate States, and a separate convention of the loyal States, be held to finally settle and determine in

what manner and by what mode the contending sections should be reconciled.

A serious riot broke out in New York on the morning of the 13th of July. At the outset it was a demonstration against the draft, which was then in progress in the ninth district, inhabited mainly by laborers, a great proportion of whom were of foreign birth. They had been wrought to exasperation against the clause in the bill which allowed a person whose name was drawn to purchase exemption by the payment of three hundred dollars. When the drawing commenced on the 13th, a sudden attack was made by an armed mob upon the office. The wheel was destroyed, the lists scattered, and the building set on fire. The excitement spread throughout the city, crowds gathered everywhere, with no apparent object; but during the day the movement seemed to be controlled by leaders in two general directions. The first was an attack upon the negroes; the second an assault upon every one who was supposed to be in any way concerned in the draft, or prominently identified with the Republican party. The militia regiments, which had always been relied upon to uphold public order in case of emergency, had been sent to Pennsylvania to withstand the Confederate invasion; and the only guardians left for the public peace were the regular police and a few hundred soldiers who garrisoned the forts. These were too few to protect the dozen miles between the extremities of the city. The mob, dispersed in one quarter, would reassemble at another, and for four days the city seemed given up to their control. The outrages committed during this time were numerous and aggravated. Negroes were assaulted, beaten to death, mutilated, and hanged; building after building was sacked and burned; gangs of desperadoes patrolled the streets, levying contributions, and ordering places of business to be closed. A Colored Orphan Asylum, sheltering some hundreds of children, was sacked and burned. After the first day, the riot, which was at first directed against the draft, took a new turn. The entire mass of scoundrelism in the city seemed to have been let loose for indiscriminate plunder. Women, half-grown boys, and children were foremost in the work of robbery, and no man felt safe from attack. Gradually the bands of rioters were dispersed, and the peace

of the city was restored. Fully a hundred persons were killed, and property to an immense amount was destroyed.

CHAPTER V.

Military events in 1864.—Congressional and Executive measures in 1864.

GENERAL BANKS, with Porter's gun-boats co-operating, went up Red River, in Louisiana, early this year. He took Natchitoches March 19th, but was defeated at Mansfield April 8th, and Pleasant Hill the 9th. He then abandoned the campaign. General Canby succeeded him in command.

From Vicksburg Sherman sent out one force into Eastern Mississippi to cut railroads and burn cotton, in February; and General A. J. Smith led another thither from Tennessee. Forrest made an incursion into Kentucky from the South, unsuccessfully attacking Paducah in March, withdrawing to Tennessee, taking Fort Pillow by storm, slaughtering the garrison, half negroes, and then retreating.

Second in importance only to the advance on Richmond, and first, perhaps, in practical results this year, was the work accomplished by William Tecumseh Sherman. When, in March, Grant was transferred to the supreme command of the Union armies, the hero of Missionary Ridge was promoted from his charge of the Army of the Tennessee to that of the division of the Central Mississippi, which now included not only his old command and the armies of the Cumberland and the Ohio, but also that of the Arkansas. Sherman was in Memphis at this time. He went East to confer with the lieutenant-general about their future operations, and then proceeded to Chattanooga to lay out his work.

He began his march southward early in May, with nearly one hundred thousand men; this number diminished through casualties, and the posting of forces to guard his line of communications. Johnston, in his front with Hardee's, Hood's, and Polk's corps, mustered be-

tween fifty thousand and sixty thousand at the outset, but increased those figures somewhat as he fell back. Bragg, after his defeat the previous November, had been retired from command in Georgia. Atlanta, an important railroad centre in the heart of that State, and the site of valuable manufactories and machine-shops, was Sherman's objective point. In his advance of one hundred and twenty miles or more he had several severe engagements. There was considerable fighting before Dalton May 7th, but by a flank movement the retirement of Johnston was forced three or four days later. On the 15th a lively contest occurred near Resaca, to which the Confederates had withdrawn. They were finally driven from the town, and the Union advance entered next day. Manœuvring and fighting near Dallas occupied the next fortnight, at the end of which Johnston was again forced, by being flanked, to retreat. The next stand was made near Kenesaw Mountain and its neighbors, Lost and Pine mountains, twenty miles from Atlanta. The Confederates had here a strong position. Sherman crowded them from the 14th to the 27th of June. On the first day, Polk, the Louisiana bishop and general, was killed by a cannon-ball while making observations with Johnston and Hardee. On the last, Sherman made an attack, which was repulsed with much slaughter. He now resorted to his favorite tactics. A flanking column was thrown onward to the Chattahoochee next day, and at nightfall it compelled an evacuation of the much-contested Kenesaw. Johnston held the stream until July 10th, and then withdrew inside his formidable intrenchments around Atlanta. He was here deprived of his command for a time by Jefferson Davis, who did not esteem him as highly as others did; and Hood was assigned to the defence of the Gate City. While the Union troops were making another advance, on the 20th, they were repulsed, and General McPherson, commanding one of Sherman's corps, was killed. General John A. Logan succeeded to the command. Sherman again tried to force the enemy on the 22d, and met with another hard blow, though before night he had changed his defeat into victory. His loss, however, was nearly four thousand, while Hood suffered to an even greater extent.

Raids for the destruction of railroads were now planned

and executed by Sherman. A cavalry expedition to Macon, with a view to liberate Union prisoners at Andersonville, was also undertaken by Stoneman, but with disastrous results. On the 27th a flanking force was pushed forward on the Union right, under Howard, now commanding the Army of the Tennessee. Logan's corps caught the worst of the sudden charge with which Hood retaliated. Again and again the Confederates came up, but they were mown down murderously. At length, after a loss estimated at five thousand, Hood ceased to strike, and Howard held his ground.

Nearly a month later, after various cavalry raids, Sherman broke camp in front of Atlanta, moved rapidly around by the westward to the south of the city. On the last night of August, the Confederates blew up their magazines, burned their stores, destroyed their machine-shops and foundries, and abandoned the place to Sherman. During the next few weeks, by aggressive raids to the northward, Hood threatened most of the Union posts all the way up to Resaca, but Sherman reinforced and saved them. He would not, however, allow himself to be drawn out of the State. Hood at length withdrew into Northern Alabama.

Mobile was a point of great interest this season. The city is at the head of a bay thirty miles or more long and from ten to twenty miles wide. Long sand-bars nearly close the entrance, with an opening between them not more than two miles across. This was guarded by Fort Gaines on the west and Fort Morgan on the right. Before this gateway Admiral Farragut, who had conducted the conquest of New Orleans two years before, appeared on August 4th. He had a fleet of fourteen men-of-war, besides four iron-clads. The wooden vessels were fastened together in couples, and Farragut was lashed to the mast-head of the flag-ship Hartford more easily to superintend the action. Next day the fleet ran the gauntlet of the forts, and encountered the fire of several Confederate vessels inside the bay, returning the attack with great spirit. The engagement was furious, and the air was filled with cannon-balls. One Federal iron-clad, the *Tecumseh*, was sunk by a torpedo; but a rebel gun-boat was driven ashore, and another put to flight up the bay. The rebel ram *Tennessee*, however, proved a formidable antagonist,

and only after several wooden vessels had damaged themselves by butting her, and the iron clads had come to the rescue, was she forced to surrender.

Farragut now devoted himself to the land forces. On the 9th he compelled Fort Gaines to surrender, and on the 22d Fort Morgan followed. No attempt was made at this time to capture the city of Mobile, although Sherman had hoped it would be done, and a supporting column thrown out to co-operate with him in Georgia. But an important port into which blockade-runners were bringing supplies was effectually closed up, and Farragut added to his laurels.

In November, Sherman began his famous "March to the Sea," a movement of singular boldness. Having sent his sick back to Chattanooga, and reinforced Thomas at Nashville, he destroyed the remaining iron-works in Atlanta, tore up all the neighboring railroads, cut the telegraph-wire which had taken his messages to Washington, and, on the 14th, started southeastward. He formed two columns, under Generals Howard and Blair, with cavalry out on the wings, and advanced without meeting much resistance. He rendered all railroads useless, and subsisted on the country through which he passed. By spreading out over a broad region, he concealed his strength and position, and misled the enemy as to his plans. No great concentration against him was therefore practicable. Finally, on December 10th, he reached the rear of Savannah. Already Union troops held Fort Pulaski, at the mouth of Savannah River. The town was now in peril, and on the 20th Hardee abandoned it and moved up to Charleston. Sherman took possession two days later. This result of the mysterious and risky disappearance from Atlanta awakened great enthusiasm in the North.

As had been anticipated, Hood, in Northern Alabama, organized a campaign against Nashville even before Sherman started for the sea. But Thomas was amply warned and well supported. Sherman had perfect confidence in his lieutenant, and this was justified by the event. Hood, first crushing Schofield at Franklin, advanced to the capital of Tennessee. Here, falling upon him December 15th, Thomas routed him completely,

taking twenty-five thousand prisoners. Bragg, with a mere handful of men, escaped to Alabama.

Grant was made lieutenant-general March 2d, and placed in command of all the Union armies. Having laid out Sherman's campaign, as nearly as he could in advance, he took the offensive himself in Virginia in May. Accompanying Meade's veterans of the Army of the Potomac, he advanced from Culpepper on the 3d. Just south of the Rapidan, in the Wilderness, not far from the battlefield of Chancellorsville, he met Lee on the 5th, and for three days, with stubborn energy and awful slaughter, he fought the Confederates there, but could not drive them from their intrenchments. Not discouraged by their resistance, nor by any possible criticism of his sacrifice of life, he declared that he meant to "fight it out on this line if it took all summer." He now moved to the left, and, beginning again on the 9th, he renewed the attack at Spotsylvania Court-House, fighting for four days. Here Hancock took four thousand prisoners one day. Advancing further to the left, Grant renewed the struggle at Cold Harbor, June 1st, and continued it three days. Up to date he had lost sixty thousand men, and Lee thirty-five thousand. Unable to turn Lee's flank and get at Richmond from the north, he decided to push on and attack from the south. At Bermuda Hundred, June 15th, he joined Butler, who, with the Army of the James, had pushed up from Fortress Monroe, and approached Petersburg. Lee came to its defence before a severe blow had been struck. Sheridan's cavalry carefully examined the whole Confederate line from north of Richmond to south of Petersburg to find a weak spot without avail. Near the latter town, July 30, under a Confederate fort, a mine was exploded, and colored troops were then pushed into the gap to break the line, but without success. Warren was sent out on the Weldon road to cut Southern connections, and some other minor blows were struck, without much result. Meade's and Butler's losses in this campaign were one hundred thousand. Lee was too much occupied to make another northward movement.

The Shenandoah Valley was the scene of more contests during the whole war, perhaps, than any other region of its size; and some of the most brilliant exploits

of the opposing forces there were performed this year. Early, the daring and skilful Confederate commander there, defeated first Sigel and then Hunter in May and June, and then made a bold raid on Washington. He had no such force at his command as that which McClellan turned back from Antietam in 1862, or Meade repulsed at Gettysburg the following summer; but it was a startling movement, nevertheless. It came early in July, just after Grant had forced Lee down near Richmond, and when few troops were left near the Federal capital. Early's advance came within seven miles of the latter city. Checked at Monocacy, on the 9th, by Lew Wallace, he was subsequently driven back into Virginia by Wright's corps, which opportunely arrived.

To put an end to this distracting business, Grant sent Sheridan, whom he had come to value highly after the latter's service in the Chattanooga campaign, to take command in the valley. The bold young commander quietly waited, a little south of Harper's Ferry, until he got word from his superior officer to "Go in!" A vigorous attack was made on Early at Winchester, September 19th, and, after a hard-fought battle, in which the cavalry gave material help, Sheridan forced the enemy through and out of the town, and chased him up the valley. Resistance was again encountered and overcome; and the Union advance did not stop until Harrisonburg was reached.

To preclude any more trouble from a Confederate force in the valley, Sheridan now destroyed the means of subsistence. The autumn crops were harvested, and these were destroyed along the whole line where they could not be carried off. Then Sheridan fell back, and, leaving his army intrenched at Cedar Creek, ran up to Washington to confer with the authorities.

Early had followed the invaders down the valley, however, and discovered their commander's absence. This chance was improved with a well-planned attack. The Union soldiers were surprised in their camps before breakfast, October 19th, by a flank movement, and the left and centre of their line driven in. General Wright, ranking officer, whose corps was on the right, stayed the retreat two or three miles back, and tried to reorganize the shattered army.

Meantime Sheridan was on his way back from Washington. He had slept in Winchester over-night, twenty miles away. One of the first sounds that greeted his ears as he started on his southward way in the morning was artillery, and he quickly divined that a battle was in progress. Alert and fiery, he put spurs to his steed, and rode furiously on. In an hour or two he began to meet the fugitives always to be seen in the rear of such a battle as Cedar Creek, and, his zeal and anxiety increasing, he urged his horse to the top of its speed. The outlook at the front was gloomy enough when the Union commander came up. On the way he had reproved and encouraged the frightened stragglers, and persuaded many of them to return. But when he finally dashed on to the hesitating, imperfectly-restored line which Wright had formed, a wonderful change came over his command. He was a man of such magnetism and so idolized by his men that, as he rode down past them, shouting that he was going to take them back to their abandoned camps that night, his own enthusiasm and courage was imparted to the whole army. Long after noon, the formation being at last completed, he began his advance. Back to Cedar Creek the Union line now swept, carrying everything before it, and working worse disaster upon the apparently victorious Confederates than they had accomplished in the morning. So badly demoralized was Early's army by this defeat that it never again tried to reoccupy the valley. "Sheridan's Ride," that so brilliantly turned the tide of battle on this occasion, has been celebrated in a well-known poem.

The most destructive of the rebel cruisers, several of which were built in British ports, was the Alabama. She captured sixty-six prizes, worth ten million dollars, in her short career. Raphael Semmes commanded her. She encountered the Union frigate Kearsarge, Captain Winslow, near Cherbourg, France, June 19th, and was sent to the bottom. Her officers and crew were picked up by the friendly English yacht Deerhound, which came out to see the fight. Another Confederate cruiser, the Florida, was taken at Bahia, Brazil, by the Wachusett, Captain Collins.

A daring and useful feat was performed by a boat's crew commanded by Lieutenant Cushing of the Navy,

October 27th. The rebel ram *Albatross*, in the name of that name, had been making destructive raids upon a Union shipping down on the coast, and it was a formidable obstacle to any invasion of that region. Approaching stealthily, by night, Lieutenant Cushing planted a huge torpedo under her, and blew her up.

Congress, in February, passed an act modifying the existing Enrolment bill in some particulars. It authorized the President to call for as many men into service as the necessity might require, and drafts to be ordered if the quotas were not filled. Substitutes might be furnished by those enrolled; all persons under forty years to be enrolled; drafted persons could furnish substitutes; commuters exempted only from the special draft; all male persons of African descent, between twenty and forty-five, whether citizens or not, to be enrolled; and colored troops not to be assigned as State troops, but to be mustered into regiments or companies as United States volunteers.

Congress, in March, passed an act establishing a Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs. By it all questions relating to persons of African descent were to be determined, with authority to make regulations for their employment and treatment on abandoned plantations.

Congress passed a bill reviving the grade of lieutenant-general, which was approved by the President, who at once appointed General Grant to the position, and, on the 9th of March, gave him, in person, his commission. Subsequently, the President approved a bill creating the rank of vice-admiral, of equal grade with that of lieutenant-general in the army. Admiral Farragut was given the position.

Authority was given the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds not exceeding two hundred millions of dollars, payable in five or forty years in coin, and bearing interest not exceeding six per cent, payable in coin. Subsequently, another bill was passed authorizing the issue of four hundred millions of bonds of like tenor, or, in lieu of an equal amount of bonds, the Secretary of the Treasury might issue two hundred millions in Treasury notes, in denomination of not less than ten dollars, payable in three years, and bearing interest at the rate of seven and three tenths per cent per annum, payable in

lawful money," and to be a legal tender to the same extent as United States notes.

An act was approved by the President, on the 3d of June, amending the National Bank Act. by which the entire issue of notes for circulation under the act was confined to three hundred millions; the banks to be allowed to charge seven per cent interest on loans; and no bank established under the act to have a capital less than one hundred thousand dollars, and, if located in a city of more than fifty thousand inhabitants, not less than two hundred thousand dollars.

The Fugitive Slave Acts of Congress, passed in the years 1793 and 1850, were repealed by act of Congress approved by the President on the 28th of June.

A new Tariff Act went into effect on the 4th of July. Among the articles specified, teas were to be charged a duty of twenty-five cents per pound; sugar, according to grade, three to five cents; brandies, two dollars and fifty cents per gallon; other spirits, two dollars per gallon; champagnes, not less than six dollars a dozen for quarts; spirituous liquors not enumerated, 100 per cent upon the value; ales, porter, and beer in bottles, thirty-five cents, not bottled, twenty cents per gallon; cigars, from seventy five cents to three dollars per pound, besides from 20 to 60 per cent *ad valorem*; tobacco, thirty-five to fifty cents per pound; iron, various rates, but none less than 33 per cent on the value; coal, from forty to one hundred and twenty-five cents a ton; lead, on an average, two cents a pound; gems, unset, 10 per cent; wools, from three to ten cents, according to grade, with 10 per cent additional *ad valorem*; woollen goods, various specified rates, none less than 50 per cent on the value, and many more than this; cotton, two cents per pound; cotton manufactures, from five to seven and one half cents per square yard, besides from 10 to 35 per cent *ad valorem*; linens, 35 to 40 per cent; silk, 25 to 40 per cent; silk goods, generally, 60 per cent; china and earthenware, 40 to 45 per cent; books, 25 per cent; fancy soaps, ten cents a pound, and 25 per cent *ad valorem*; and plain soaps one cent a pound and 30 per cent *ad valorem*.

An Internal Revenue Law was passed, imposing licenses upon every trade and profession, varying from the presumed amount of business; discrimination being

made against liquor-dealers, shows, lotteries, gift enterprises, and the like. Every person whose profession was not specially enumerated was to pay a license of ten dollars if his business should bring an income of one thousand dollars. Every possible legal document, to be valid, was required to be stamped; all patent medicines and similar preparations were made subject to excise, the general principle being to impose one cent for every twenty five cents of the price of the article; almost every article of manufacture was noted with a special tax, amounting as nearly as possible to five per cent on the value; railroads, express companies, and similar branches of business, to pay from two to five per cent of their gross receipts, and a special tax was imposed upon many articles of show and luxury.

An act was passed guaranteeing to certain States, whose governments had been overthrown or usurped, a republican form of government, and authorizing the President to appoint Provisional Governors for such States until regular State Governments should be established.

On the 1st of February, the President ordered a draft of five hundred thousand men, to begin on the 10th of March, to serve for three years or the war. On the 15th of March, he made a call for two hundred thousand volunteers; on the 18th of July, for five hundred thousand more; and on the 20th of December, for three hundred thousand.

On the 19th of October, the town of St. Albans, in Vermont, about fifteen miles from the Canadian frontier, was subjected to a raid, accompanied by bloodshed, by armed Confederates entering the State from Canada. They overpowered the employees of three banks, seized over two hundred thousand dollars in money, and, stealing all the horses they could in the streets and livery-stables, escaped into Canada.

The city of Detroit was thrown into great excitement, on the 30th of October, by a report that a raid on the city was to be made during the night by armed parties of the enemy from Canada. Soldiers were called out; artillery was brought from the barracks and posted in the streets; the steam fire-engines were made ready for sud-

den use, and the depots and public buildings guarded. No enemy, however, appeared.

On the 18th of May, the *Journal of Commerce* and the *World*, New York City newspapers, were suppressed by order of the President, and their editors directed to be arrested. A forged proclamation, purporting to be issued by the President, calling for half a million more troops, was distributed to all the city papers the night before, and was published in these two only, its character having been suspected. The arrest of the editors was subsequently vacated by the President's order. The forgers were discovered and imprisoned.

Several attempts to fire the city of New York caused great excitement, in the belief that they were made by the Confederates, and an order was issued that all persons residing in the city should register themselves or be treated as spies. One person was arrested for setting fire to several hotels; he confessed his crime, and was executed.

At the Presidential election, held in the fall, the Republican party re-elected Abraham Lincoln, as President, and Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee, was chosen Vice-President.

CHAPTER VI.

Surrender of Lee.—Surrender of Johnston.—Close of hostilities.
—Assassination of President Lincoln.—Conclusion.

THE military operations, early in the year, brought the war to a speedy conclusion. Grant began operations late in the winter. With the idea of cutting Lee off completely, he proposed that Sheridan should push southward from the Shenandoah Valley to Lynchburg, in Southwestern Virginia, and connect with the Union lines extending westward, south of Petersburg. In February this was undertaken. Sheridan advanced with such rapidity as to annihilate Early's force at Waynesboro, and the Confederate commander barely escaped in person. Lee was too well prepared, however, for the consummation of Sheridan's plan, and the proposed

junction west of Petersburg could not be effected. The Army of the Shenandoah was therefore brought around, north of Richmond, in March, to assist the armies of the Potomac and the James in their operations, not, however, until he had destroyed manufactories, stores, and bridges at Charlottesville and the vicinity.

Lee did not wait for Grant to begin, but himself assumed the offensive early in the spring. One of the principal Union works east of Petersburg, Fort Steedman, was suddenly charged by an infantry force, commanded by General Gordon, March 25th, and taken without much resistance. The captors turned the guns, which were now in their hands, upon Fort Haskell, and upon the latter another charge was made. A cut in Grant's line was imminent. The demonstration promised to call to this point Union troops that were threatening Lee's right and rear, south of Petersburg, and thus enable the Confederate commander to regain the Weldon road which Meade had seized in the winter. But the assault on Fort Haskell failed, and two thousand of the assailants were captured. Meade improved this chance to make an attack himself, off to the Union left, and gained some ground that day.

Warren and Humphreys, each with a corps, were sent out to the southwest of Petersburg, with Sheridan and his ten thousand cavalry still further to the south, to turn Lee's right, if possible. The possibility of the Confederate army withdrawing into North Carolina and helping Johnston deliver a crushing blow to Sherman was perceived by Grant, who also realized that Lee's supplies must come from that quarter. Hence this movement. Warren encountered considerable opposition March 29th, but advanced beyond Hatcher's Run. Sheridan sent out a force next day from Dinwiddie to Five Forks; where Lee's right was strongly intrenched. No attempt to drive it in was made, however. On the 31st Lee tried to crowd Warren back, but without success. Sheridan meantime took Five Forks. From this position his cavalry were driven, however, before night. Next morning Sheridan advanced again from Dinwiddie to Five Forks, regaining his lost ground. The final stroke there was not delivered until nightfall, when Warren's troops, which were put at Sheridan's disposal, were hurled

against the enemy in a fearful charge. Over five thousand prisoners were taken, and Lee's right wing was badly damaged.

That very night Grant's artillery before Petersburg began a terrific bombardment of the town; and the slowly closing grasp of the besieging army was contracted still further next day by a series of vigorous charges. Wright, Parke, Humphreys, and Ord drove the stubborn Confederates from their intrenchments at several points, while Sheridan crowded in a little more to the southwest. When night fell, Lee's lines were broken in three places, and Petersburg was at Grant's mercy.

The next day, April 2d, was Sunday. Jefferson Davis sat in his pew in church when, at 11 A.M., a messenger brought him a dispatch from Lee, revealing the situation. The downfall of Petersburg, now practically assured, meant the downfall of Richmond. Acting on this intelligence, Mr. Davis and the leading officers of the Confederacy prepared for rapid departure, which was effected that night southwestward by the Danville Railroad. Great confusion prevailed in the Confederate capital, where the utmost effort was made by those who could to escape and remove their worldly goods. That night the few troops left there were withdrawn, and the city set on fire at several points. General Weitzel, commanding the Union troops in front of the city, suspected what was taking place from the sound of explosions and from the distant lights. Captured rebel pickets and deserters revealed the truth before dawn, and by 6 A.M. Weitzel rode into Richmond, over which the Stars and Stripes were soon floating.

A few days later President Lincoln came down there in person for a brief visit, and then returned to his tragic fate in Washington. Petersburg was also evacuated, silently, on the 2d of April, and on the 3d was occupied by the forces immediately in its front. But Grant was massing off to the southwestward, with Griffin's (formerly Warren's) corps at Sutherland's, ten miles west of the town, and Sheridan ten miles further in the same direction. Lee, forced out of his splendid earthworks, with a starving, much disjointed army, was now trying to save his men by pushing westward or southward. If he could, he wanted to go down the Danville road

toward North Carolina, or at best move westward along the Appomattox River. Awaiting supplies, he concentrated at Amelia Court-House, while Sheridan, pushing on, seized the Danville road at Jetersville, where nearly the whole Union army was gathered on the 6th. The previous night Lee had pushed on to the westward, trying to find a point where he could get down to the southward; but Sheridan outstripped him, and two or three wagon trains and some prisoners were taken. Ewell's corps was cut off from the Confederate army and captured after a plucky resistance, and Ewell and four other generals were taken.

Reduced by starvation, as well as strategy and superior force, Lee was now virtually overcome. Grant demanded his surrender, on the 7th, to avoid further bloodshed, and Sheridan emphasized it by capturing valuable supply-trains coming to Lee's relief, and then swinging around in Lee's front at Appomattox Court-House. This was the final stroke. Next day Lee replied to Grant by proposing a conference on the 9th. This was held underneath an apple-tree, and the surrender was there arranged. Lee and his officers were to retain their swords, and the Confederate soldiers were to keep their horses. "You will need them for your spring ploughing," Grant said. And the vanquished army was allowed to disperse and go home, unmolested so long as its men refrained from further hostility to the Federal government.

General Terry led an expedition, in January, against Fort Fisher, near Wilmington, N. C., and carried the work by storm the 15th. General Butler had tried it in the preceding month, and failed. Fugitive Confederates now blew up their cruisers Tallahassee and Chickamauga, to prevent their capture. Both were British built, less than a year old, and had ravaged the shipping on the Atlantic coast. The Chickamauga destroyed thirty-three vessels during her short career, causing a loss of five hundred thousand dollars. The blockading fleet, during this winter, as through previous years, had been vigilant and successful at the rapidly diminishing number of Confederate ports, and had made numerous valuable captures. During the war no less than one hundred and fifty blockade-runners, inward-bound, laden

with arms, ammunition, clothing, railroad iron, and other useful products for the conduct of the Confederate campaigns, or outward-bound, with cargoes of cotton worth nearly or quite a dollar a pound, were caught, and sent North to be sold. A large share of the proceeds went as prize-money to the captors. Most of the commerce thus broken up was with England, and the losses fell largely on the people of that country.

Sherman started northward from Savannah in February. He occupied Columbia, S. C., the 17th. The town was destroyed that night by fire, started, it was said, by smouldering tufts blown about from cotton which Wade Hampton burned on evacuating. Hardee evacuated Charleston the same day, and on the 18th the Union forces in the harbor occupied it. As Sherman advanced, Union troops from Wilmington, Newberne, and other points near the coast, joined him. A Union cavalry raid from Eastern Tennessee into North Carolina, by Stoneman, also facilitated his progress. After meeting occasional resistance from Johnston, he occupied Raleigh, April 13th. Negotiations for surrender were begun, but delayed by consideration of civil as well as military matters. The former were finally ruled out, and the last Confederate army laid down its arms April 26th.

Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, was taken prisoner while fleeing through Georgia, in May, and sent to Fortress Monroe for confinement, where he remained as prisoner two years, when he was released on bail. In 1868 he was included in the general amnesty.

The leading event of the year, taking precedence of all others, even military, was the assassination of President Lincoln by J. Wilkes Booth, an actor by profession, on the evening of the 14th of April, at Ford's Theatre in Washington. Mr. Lincoln, accompanied by his wife, Major Rathbone, and Miss Morris, occupied a box at the theatre, that evening. The door of the box opened inward, and was approached by a narrow passage. The box was about twelve feet above the stage, looking directly upon it. Booth, being well known in the theatre, had free access to all parts of the building at any hour, and was perfectly acquainted with all its arrangements and the ways of entrance and exit. His arrange-

ments were carefully made: a small hole had been bored in the door opening from the passage into the box, through which could be had a complete view of the interior of the box. Outside of the theatre, near the private entrance to the stage, he had a horse in waiting, and close by was an accomplice, mounted, and ready to accompany him after his escape from the theatre. About half-past nine, Booth silently, and unperceived by the occupants, entered the box and fastened the door behind him. At this time, as Booth knew, the action of the piece required the stage to be vacant for a moment. All eyes were turned to the stage, waiting for the entrance of the next actor. At that instant the report of a pistol was heard, and Rathbone turning saw through the smoke a man between the door and the President. He sprang up and grappled him; but the man making a thrust with a large knife and inflicting a severe wound wrested himself away and rushed to the front of the box. Rathbone endeavored to seize him again, but only caught hold of his clothes as he leaped over the railing upon the stage. His spur caught in the folds of a flag, and was torn off, and he fell nearly prostrate, receiving a severe injury. Notwithstanding this, he sprung to his feet, brandished his knife, shouted "*Sic semper tyrannis,*" and rushed through the coulisses, by passages well known to him, to the rear exit of the stage, before the spectators were aware of what had occurred. The man, however, was identified as Booth by several actors who saw him on the stage. The interval between the shot and the leap of Booth to the stage was hardly thirty seconds. The ball entered just behind the President's left ear, driving fragments of bone before it, and lodged in the brain. The President was carried to a private house opposite the theatre. He was unconscious from the moment of the shot, and died early the next morning.

Just about the time when the President was assassinated, a man presented himself at the residence of Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State, who was lying in his bedroom in a critical state from injuries received from having been thrown from his carriage. Pushing abruptly past the servant, who hesitated to admit him, the man made his way toward the sick-room. Before reaching the room the slight disturbance had aroused

several persons in the house. Foremost of these was a son of the Secretary. He received a blow from a heavy pistol, which fractured his skull and left him insensible. The man then reached the door of Mr. Seward's room. Within were a daughter of the Secretary, and George Robinson, a soldier, who was attending the invalid. Robinson, hearing the disturbance, opened the door and received a passing stab from the assassin, who rushed to the bedside of Mr. Seward and endeavored to strike him with a knife. Robinson grappled with him, and a severe struggle ensued. The assailant, a very powerful man, seemed bent upon reaching Mr. Seward. He succeeded in striking him slightly two or three times; but the wounded man managed to roll from the bed to the floor. The struggle had now aroused the house; and the assassin broke away, rushed downstairs, mounted a horse at the door, and made his escape.

The whole detective force of the government was at once called into requisition to arrest the assassins. Various circumstances led to the belief that the assailant of Mr. Seward was John Surratt, whose mother, a resident of Washington, had made her house a rendezvous for disloyalists. Her house was seized. Before daylight on the morning of the 18th a man dressed as a laborer came to the door and was arrested. He said his name was Payne; that he was a common laborer, born in Virginia, and had been engaged to repair a gutter of the house. His statements were unsatisfactory and contradictory. He was found to be in disguise, his light hair dyed black. He was in the end fully identified as the man who attacked Mr. Seward.

Meanwhile the energies of the government were directed to the arrest of Booth. It was discovered that he rode some thirty miles into a part of Maryland where the inhabitants were notoriously disloyal. His wounded leg was dressed by a physician, who furnished him with a crutch. Crippled as he was, Booth worked his way for ten days, hiding in swamps by the way, and more than once narrowly escaping discovery, accompanied all the while by a companion named Herrold. The pair at length got across the Potomac into Virginia. By means of information volunteered by blacks, and extorted from whites, the fugitives were traced to a house

near Bowling Green. The pursuers, twenty-seven in number, were led by Colonel Conger. Among them was Boston Corbitt, a sergeant in the cavalry. Booth and Herrold were hidden in a barn. They were called upon to surrender. A long parley ensued, for the pursuers wished to take the fugitives alive. Herrold gave himself up and came out; Booth refused; fire was set to the dry straw in the barn. Booth, brought to bay, wished to sell his life dearly. Leaning on his crutch, he was in the act of aiming at one of his pursuers, when his fire was anticipated by a pistol-shot from Corbitt, who had watched his movements through an opening in the boarding. Booth died after suffering intensely for four hours.

Of those found upon trial as having been the accomplices of Booth, and abettors in his escape, four were hung on the 7th of July, three were sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for life, and one for six years.

The murder of the President aroused a feeling of regret deeper than was ever before known in our history. Men and papers who had opposed his policy and vilified him personally, now vied with his adherents in lauding the rare wisdom and goodness which marked his conduct and character. It was decided that his body should be interred at his home, in Springfield, Ill. The long journey was one great funeral procession, lasting from the 21st of April, when the embalmed body left Washington, till the 4th of May, when it was entombed at Springfield. The ceremonies at New York, on the 25th of April, were by far the most imposing ever known in that city. It was estimated that sixty thousand people marched in the procession.

By the death of Mr. Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, elected as Vice-President, became the President of the United States, taking the oath of office on the 15th of April.

An act was passed by Congress chartering the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company at Washington. The last war loan of \$600,000,000, to be exempt from taxation, was authorized in March, just before Lee's surrender.

A resolution submitted by Congress to the several States for approval in March, as an amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery in the United States, was

ratified by three fourths as required, and went into effect in December. The proposed amendment was rejected by Delaware, Kentucky, and New Jersey.

The civil war being ended in April, measures were necessary to bring the seceded States back into their proper relation with the Union, and protect the emancipated colored people therein from possible violence. President Johnson framed a plan of Reconstruction, which resembled that which Lincoln had contemplated. It was to appoint provisional governors in the Southern States, who were to call conventions of the people, which in turn were to order elections of complete State governments. The conventions were required to declare the acts of secession null and void; to declare slavery forever abolished; to repudiate the State debts incurred in aid of the rebellion, and to provide that the State officers elected should be safe and loyal men. If the reorganization failed, troops were to be on hand in every State to maintain order and authority. To aid this plan, April 29th, the President by proclamation opened the Southern ports to trade, except in arms, uniforms, and railroad and telegraph material, these restrictions being all removed subsequently. May 29th, a proclamation was issued granting "amnesty and pardon, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves" and lawful confiscations, to all the Southern people, except to specified classes of the leaders and officials of the rebellion. In May, June, and July the provisional governors were appointed, except in Tennessee, Louisiana, Virginia, and Arkansas, where the existing State governments were accepted as satisfactory. The plan of reorganization as outlined above was carried out at once, and before the end of the year State governments were in operation in every State. In a few months' time the social and commercial relations of the South with the rest of the country were thus re-established.